John J. Frederick, MD ’51, GME ’58, pays tribute to surgery program that greatly benefitted him
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It was gratifying to catch up with so many of you at our 49th Annual Alumni Association Clinical Conference in Tucson in early March. I always look forward to renewing acquaintances, learning what you’re doing, and sharing our accomplishments and what’s new and exciting at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Throughout 2014, we continued to enhance and expand collaboration among our missions and departments. We solicited ideas from faculty and staff and moved forward with potential growth and differentiation strategies – a number of which I have shared with you in recent columns. Our local clinical partnerships with Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, Froedtert Health, the Zablocki VA Medical Center and the Blood Research Institute continue to strengthen. And we have expanded our clinical reach into Green Bay, the Fox Valley and Central Wisconsin through partnerships with health systems there, including the creation of new residency programs in psychiatry and family medicine.

Our research enterprise has been challenged by decreasing external funding from the NIH, but our research faculty remain very competitive and highly productive compared to our national peers. Last year, we created a School of Medicine Research Council to facilitate expansive, system-based thinking and strategic planning related to our research enterprise – resulting in several exciting new initiatives. We continue to enhance collaboration between our Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and our Medical School on a new Student Information System project to connect students, faculty and staff across all MCW campuses and schools, as well as several other cooperative educational endeavors.

Perhaps most exciting of all is that we have begun accepting medical students for the first matriculating class at the Medical College of Wisconsin-Green Bay, beginning in July 2015. We also received notification from the Higher Learning Commission that it had approved the MCW-Central Wisconsin location; this means we are one step closer to being able to recruit students there for matriculation in July 2016.

I know that as alumni, you are proud of our achievements and growth as an institution – just as we are immensely proud of your partnership in the work we do and the legacy you have left for us as physicians, scientists, educators and community leaders.

John R. Raymond, Sr., MD
President and CEO

ASSOCIATION MESSAGE

Throughout our lives, we spend a considerable amount of time looking forward – to future career endeavors, new advancements in our specialties and family milestones. We shouldn’t neglect those moments, however, when we can reflect on the circumstances and the individuals who helped us on our journey. MCW’s Alumni Weekend is such a moment.

I encourage all of you who are celebrating reunions this year to share in this wonderful event on Friday-Saturday, May 1-2. I’ve had the pleasure of working on both my 10- and 15-year reunion committees, and enjoyed reconnecting with classmates and seeing what’s new at MCW. The Friday night banquet offers the opportunity to socialize and reminisce. Saturday morning events include a bountiful brunch and a CME program where you can meet the students who have been awarded your class scholarships. Saturday night is reserved for private class dinners hosted by MCW leaders. If you plan to attend, I urge you to register now. The Alumni Association (alumni@mcw.edu) is happy to resend your registration materials.

I also would like to highlight an Alumni Association effort that is of particular interest to me because of its focus on student programs. As a student, I had the honor of serving as president of the Student Assembly – and I fondly remember the support it received from the Alumni Association. The Association’s efforts have greatly expanded, and now include funding for Graduate School and resident events. Traditional events sponsored each year by the Alumni Association include a luncheon during Registration Week, a dinner following Match Day, financial awards for the Graduate School poster session winners, the “Host an Applicant” program and the Medical School yearbook.

One of the most important items in the Association’s budget covers “Miscellaneous Student Programs,” in which money is set aside for “unfunded” student activities. This program is a wonderful way to connect with students and help them round out their education. According to Bill Schultz, Alumni Association Executive Director, 30-40 students from various student organizations visit the Alumni Association Office every year to pitch their programs and projects because they lack funding. It’s a great feeling to not let them go away empty-handed and a great way for the Alumni Association to assist current students, just as it assisted all of us back in the day.

I hope to see you during Alumni Weekend 2015!

Timothy A. Crummy, MD ’97
Alumni Association President
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Department of Defense to fund $5.5 million MCW concussion study

MCW has received a four-year, $5.5 million grant from the United States Department of Defense to develop a full understanding of concussion. The integrated investigation will piggyback on concussion research already taking place at MCW.

Michael McCrea, PhD, professor of neurosurgery and neurology and director of brain research at MCW, is the primary investigator on the grant.

The study of 900 athletes will integrate data from head impact sensors, blood biomarkers, advanced neuroimaging, genetic testing and clinical outcomes to develop a deep understanding of the causes and clinical recovery of concussion.

Ultimately, the project will further advance knowledge of concussion and improve clinical care in military, sports and civilian populations.

MCW researchers to study treatment reporting tools for breast cancer care

MCW has received a four-year, $2.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health’s National Cancer Institute to investigate the comparative effectiveness of two strategies aimed at reducing the use of ineffective or unproven breast cancer care.

Ann Nattinger, MD, MPH, the Lady Riders’ Breast Cancer Research Professor, chief of general internal medicine, and director of the Center for Patient Care and Outcomes Research (PCOR); and Liliana Pezzin, PhD, JD, professor of general internal medicine and a member of PCOR, are the primary investigators on the grant.

The two will compare the effectiveness of basic public reporting to that of an enhanced system which incorporates the use of a smart phone/web-based application designed to reduce the use of breast cancer treatments recognized as unnecessary by the Choosing Wisely® campaign and the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

The results of this analysis will be particularly pertinent as the healthcare industry moves toward an Accountable Care Organization environment in which there are financial disincentives for ineffective care. According to the Congressional Budget Office, 30% of all healthcare provided is “unnecessary” – which is defined as services that do not improve the patient’s health.

MCW to investigate the heart risks of space travel

MCW will determine the risk of developing degenerative heart disease from exposure to space radiation, funded by a four-year, $1.8 million grant from NASA.

John Baker, PhD, professor of cardiothoracic surgery at MCW and an investigator at the Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin Research Institute, is the primary investigator on the grant.

NASA is actively planning human space missions that might include trips to an asteroid, the moon or Mars.

This would require astronauts to live for prolonged periods of time outside the earth’s protective atmosphere, where they might be exposed to space radiation from high-energy galactic cosmic rays and lower energy solar particle events.

To that end, the project includes the development of a model of disease progression which will help determine at what levels and at what duration radiation damage might occur.
MCW researchers to investigate the treatment of chronic myeloid leukemia

MCW will investigate the use of tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) in treating chronic myeloid leukemia (CML), funded by a five-year, $3.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health’s National Cancer Institute.

The primary investigators on the grant are Ehab Atallah, MD, associate professor of medicine (hematology/oncology) and Kathryn Flynn, PhD, associate professor of medicine (general internal medicine).

CML starts in the blood-forming cells of the bone marrow. The leukemia cells build up over time and can invade almost any organ in the body. The American Cancer Society estimates about 6,000 cases of CML emerged in the United States in 2014, resulting in 800 deaths. The prevalence of CML is projected to continue to rise.

Treatment with tyrosine kinase inhibitors has dramatically improved the survival of CML patients, leading to an increase in their use. However, extended TKI treatment is costly and there are significant side effects. Small studies suggest patients treated with TKIs will maintain the treatment’s response to the cancer even after discontinuing the therapy. In this project, Drs. Atallah and Flynn will discontinue TKI therapy for 170 willing and eligible CML patients and monitor them closely for three years.

NIH funds diversity summer research program at MCW

MCW has received a five-year, $760,000 grant from the NIH’s National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to fund MCW’s Diversity Summer Health Research Program. The program aims to increase the number of under-represented individuals pursuing careers in biomedical and health-related fields by offering students opportunities in stimulating, hands-on laboratory experiences supervised by MCW researchers.

Dawn Bragg, PhD, associate dean for student affairs/diversity and associate professor of pediatrics, and Jeannette Vasquez-Vivar, PhD, professor of biophysics and associate director of the redox biology program, are the principal investigators.

For the 10-week summer program, MCW will recruit undergraduate students from diverse populations who are under-represented in health sciences. Qualified students accepted into the program are “matched” with faculty investigators to participate in research projects in cardiovascular, pulmonary and hematological diseases.

For more information about educational opportunities for students from diverse populations at MCW, visit: mcw.edu/diversity-programs.

MCW Center for AIDS Intervention Research funded through 25th year

MCW’s Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) has received a five-year, $8.7 million grant renewal from the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of Mental Health, which will fund its programs through CAIR’s 25th year of existence.

Jeffrey Kelly, PhD, professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine at MCW, has served as CAIR’s director since its inception, and is the principal investigator of the center.

One of six federally supported HIV prevention research centers, CAIR’s investigators lead HIV prevention research initiatives nationally and internationally. Nearly 30% of CAIR’s research is outside the US, including HIV prevention studies undertaken in the post-Soviet countries of Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Africa.

$8 million grant to fund Rat Genome Database at MCW

MCW has received a four-year, $8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health’s National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to fund the Rat Genome Database (RGD), a unique, globally-accessible collection of data from ongoing rat genetic and genomic research efforts.

The RGD was established at MCW in 1999 to consolidate and integrate data from genetic and genomic research into rat models and to make the data available to the scientific community worldwide. The RGD holds complete files of rat, human and mouse genes, as well as files on specific animal strains.

Including the new grant, funding for RGD has exceeded $35 million.
Medical school and surgical residency alumnus thanks surgery program that gave him so much

John J. Frederick, MD ’51, GME ’58, likes to use his hands. He used them to hold the hand of his wife, Margaret, for 61 years before she died in 2012. He used them to play with his 10 children, and later, his 27 grandchildren. He has played years of golf with them. Recently, he made a $100,000 gift to the Medical College of Wisconsin Department of Surgery Resident Research Fund to thank the program for helping to train him to use his hands as a general surgeon for many years. The gift was made on behalf of the Dr. John J. and Margaret M. Frederick Family.

“I went into surgery because I like to use my hands, and I wouldn’t be where I am today without the excellent residency training I received,” said Dr. Frederick, who graduated from MCW’s predecessor, the Marquette University School of Medicine, in 1951, and completed his surgical residency in 1958. “I feel like I need to give something back for all they did for me. I met some great people there.”

The Department of Surgery Resident Research Fund was established to provide salary support for surgical residents who choose to dedicate one or two years to basic or clinical research during their residency training. The fund provides them with an opportunity to initiate and complete research projects related to their professional interests.

“Dedicated research time is one of many distinguishing strengths of our training program and provides an invaluable foundation for a career in surgery,” commented Mary F. Otterson, MD, MS, professor of surgery (colorectal surgery), who leads the steering committee that determines how the Department of Surgery Resident Research Fund is used. Dr. Frederick also is a member of that committee.

“Dr. Frederick’s gift is instrumental in helping get this program launched,” said Dr. Otterson, “and we are so thankful for all he has done, and continues to do, to help make it a success. He has been very generous to the Medical College of Wisconsin over the years with his support and his time.”

Dr. Frederick has been heavily involved in the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association through the years. His efforts include six years on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, where he served as president (and is now president emeritus); serving as chair of the Alumni Scholarship Golf Classic for 19 years; serving on the Symposium for Senior Physicians Planning Committee for 20 years; and serving on all of his Class of 1951 Reunion committees (and chairing many of them). For his efforts, he received the Alumni Distinguished Service Award in 1999.

“Never gave time or money because I thought I had to, but because I wanted to,” Dr. Frederick said.

If you would like to support or learn more about the Department of Surgery Resident Research Fund, please contact Meg Bilicki, director of development for the Department of Surgery, at mbilicki@mcw.edu or (414) 805-5731.

“Dedicated research time is one of many distinguishing strengths of our training program and provides an invaluable foundation for a career in surgery.”

– Mary Otterson, MD ’84, MS ’88, GME ’90
Growth in scholarship and loan funds for MCW medical students builds legacy for alumni

When it comes to leaving a legacy of support for the next generation of physicians, alumni at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) certainly have bragging rights. Since 1990, nearly every MCW class has established a permanent fund that provides scholarship awards to medical students, and several alumni families have created their own named scholarship and loan funds.

Alumni have provided more than $4.2 million in scholarship awards and low-interest loans of various amounts to nearly 1,600 medical students. The result of this thoughtful generosity is that alumni have provided more than $4.2 million in scholarship awards and low-interest loans of various amounts to nearly 1,600 medical students – all of whom are grateful for this demonstration of confidence in their futures.

“As former medical students ourselves, we can certainly appreciate the financial benefit scholarship awards provide,” said Joseph E. Kerschner, MD ’90, Fel ’98, who now serves as dean of the Medical School at MCW and executive vice president. “Our giving as alumni, however, represents more than merely contributing to the reduction in cost of a student’s medical education. It also helps link our MCW experience and our work today as physicians with the calling of generations to follow.”

“These are our colleagues-to-be in the clinics and the research labs, and it is to them that we are leaving a future of innovative and compassionate medical care for patients,” added Dr. Kerschner. “Few people understand this better than doctors, and I believe it motivates them to support scholarships.”

Orlando L. Manfredi, MD ’52, agrees. Along with his family, he established the Dr. and Mrs. Orlando L. Manfredi Endowed Scholarship in 2009 in memory of one of his mentors, Dr. Charles F. Snopek. As the fund has grown, five Manfredi scholars have received awards – some individuals for the whole of their careers as medical students.

“Being a medical student was among the most challenging years of my life,” said Dr. Manfredi. “But those years also were among the most rewarding and the most memorable. My greatest appreciation goes to the physicians who mentored me and helped shape my approach to being a physician.”

“I wanted to ensure that MCW medical students understand they are joining an honorable and satisfying profession – and that those of us who came before them support their journey,” Dr. Manfredi added.

These sentiments are not lost on Garrett McCoy, a Manfredi Scholar for the 2014-2015 academic year. In a letter to Dr. and Mrs. Manfredi, he wrote, “It would be impossible for me to have gotten to this point without the help I have received so far. I am so impressed with your generosity and kindness – traits I hope to emulate as I move forward in becoming a doctor and a future alumnus of MCW.”

Alice Archabal, vice president and chief development officer for MCW, notes the importance of engaging alumni to help ensure that a medical education is accessible to someone who earned the opportunity.

“Scholarships lower barriers and provide more people the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of becoming a physician,” Archabal said. “Scholarships from alumni transcend that to create a strong connection among our current students with our history as a medical school and their future as physicians.”

“These connections are a powerful reminder of the legacy alumni are creating with their involvement and counsel, and, ultimately, provide our current students the encouragement they need at an important point in their education,” Archabal said. “The positive impact this leaves on our students is inspiring.”
Alumnus cites MCW as foundation for success

Brian Wigdahl, PhD ’80, has fond memories of his years at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). “I really have strong heart strings for MCW and the time I spent there,” said the accomplished molecular virologist.

After graduating with a doctorate of philosophy in microbiology and molecular genetics, Dr. Wigdahl has had a career that includes a number of university appointments, $45 million in extramural support in research grants, and more than 175 articles for publication.

Among his many contributions to the field of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) research, Dr. Wigdahl’s studies as a researcher and professor at The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine are recognized as among the first to model the infection of human cells in the nervous system with HIV-1.

In 2013, Dr. Wigdahl was selected as the Pioneer in NeuroVirology by the International Society for NeuroVirology for his research, education and service achievements in the field over the past 35 years. He is only the second non-clinician to be honored with this award.

Currently, Dr. Wigdahl serves as professor and chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, director of the Institute for Molecular Medicine and Infectious Disease, and director of the Institute’s Center for Molecular Virology and Translational Neurosciences at Drexel University College of Medicine.

Dr. Wigdahl cites his time as a graduate student at MCW as an instrumental part of his career. “The courses I took there gave me the necessary foundation in microbiology and stimulated my current interests in research,” said Dr. Wigdahl. “I will be forever grateful to MCW for giving me the skills and knowledge necessary to make my own contributions to the field of medicine.”

A strong proponent of undergraduate and graduate education in his own right, Dr. Wigdahl also sees MCW as an institution that is shaping the future of medicine. “MCW is developing the next generation of scientists, such as MD/PhD candidate Max Cayo [see story on page 11], whose work has the potential for global impact,” said Dr. Wigdahl. “By providing opportunities for current students to develop independent research projects, MCW continues the search for solutions to critical scientific questions in health and disease.”

Dr. Wigdahl’s ongoing support of MCW’s programs stems from the progress he has seen both while in school and after graduation. “MCW always has been moving in the right direction,” he said. “MCW makes it so easy to donate because it is always advancing and addressing the important issues.”
First-year medical student Douglas Pierce doesn’t leave his house without his iPad and his cell phone. Both are critical to medical education at MCW.

“I made the transition from 100% paper to 100% digital in about two minutes,” he said, demonstrating various apps on his iPad.

Every medical student at MCW has an iPad, which is just the tip of the iceberg for new technologies implemented into MCW’s medical education in the last several years.

“Every lecture is recorded, which allows students access to material presented in class. They can watch as many times as they want, take notes on their iPads, and also participate in real-time audience response polling during lectures,” said Matthew Tews, MD, associate professor of emergency medicine at MCW and leader of the educational technology group for MCW’s new regional campuses in Green Bay and Central Wisconsin.

“The goal is to remain current with trends in education and prepare our students for residency and careers in medicine,” he added.

Dr. Tews recalled the era of the “note pool,” in which one student each day would take responsibility for generating notes for the entire class.

“I learned pretty quickly not to be too reliant on the note pool,” he quipped.

For Pierce, who is balancing an active family life and four small children with the rigors of medical school, the ability to view – or review – lectures on his own schedule is critical.

“There are no drawbacks. Instead of 4,000 books, all are available online. The academic calendar is automatically updated, and I even have an app that allows me to take notes directly on lecturers’ slides or presentations through the iPad,” he demonstrated.

Dr. Tews said the transition to digital delivery of education has been easy on the students.

“Students are digital natives. They have shown great adaptability incorporating this into their learning experience. But it’s a balance.

“I made the transition from 100% paper to 100% digital in about two minutes.”

– First-year medical student Douglas Pierce
Lara Rosewicz earns
Zeit Fellowship Leadership Award

To Lara Renee India Rosewicz, service is an integral part of life. “I would be pretty empty if I didn’t contribute my time to others,” said the fourth-year medical student at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW).

It is this spirit which led Rosewicz to be honored with the Walter Zeit Fellowship Leadership Award. This prestigious award is presented to the senior student who has consistently displayed superior qualities of leadership, loyalty, selfless service, initiative and compassion toward his or her peers and to MCW. It is the highest student honor bestowed by the Walter Zeit Fellowship, MCW’s oldest donor recognition society.

During her time as a student, Rosewicz has served MCW and the community in numerous capacities. She was elected as a first-year student liaison and later as president of the American Medical Student Association (AMSA). Rosewicz also dedicated many hours to her work with the MCW Council on AIDS (CARES), ultimately serving as its president. She spent time teaching high school health classes about HIV/AIDS, with an emphasis on infection prevention and acceptance of HIV-positive community members.

In addition to serving as president of both AMSA and CARES, Rosewicz was a member of the Council of Presidents and selected as one of four representatives to the Student Assembly, MCW’s student governing body. Once elected to the Student Assembly, Rosewicz volunteered to serve as chair of the campus expansion policy committee and also maintained positions on both its general policy and finance committees.

Looking back on her leadership and service at MCW, Rosewicz is particularly proud of her community enrichment activities. “I enjoyed the CARES program the most,” she said. “I loved passing on my knowledge and inspiring kids in the community who were relatively close in age to me.”

Rosewicz was presented the Zeit Award during the 33rd Annual Walter Zeit Fellowship Recognition Dinner on October 18, 2014, at the Blue Mound Golf and Country Club.

She says the experience of accepting the Zeit Fellowship Leadership Award in front of her family and colleagues is one she will not soon forget. “I feel very honored to be given this award, especially considering the quality of student leaders we have at MCW,” said Rosewicz. “This achievement is definitely a highlight of my academic career.”

Rosewicz is finishing her final semester as an MD student. She is very happy that she will be doing her residency training at MCW, where she has received a tremendous amount of support from her professors and administrative leaders.
As a fourth-year graduate student at MCW, Max Cayo already has had a prolific career in research. In addition to completing the final requirements for his PhD, Cayo holds the distinction of being one of the few graduate students who has obtained a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant.

This prestigious research funding was awarded to Cayo under the guidance of his mentor, Stephen Duncan, DPhil, to investigate the use of stem cell-derived liver cells to study a common inherited disorder, familial hypercholesterolemia, which is marked by elevated LDL cholesterol. Since receiving the grant from NIH’s National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, the team has developed a working model of a human liver with the capability to perform drug screening for the disorder. The results of the project were published in the December 2012 issue of Hepatology.

With this research foundation in place, Cayo and Dr. Duncan expanded their investigation by adapting the first stages of the project into a platform for drug development. Using their stem cell-derived model, they were able to identify certain compounds which address hypercholesterolemia in a way that current medicine cannot.

“This was a once-in-a-lifetime discovery,” said Cayo. “The reason I got excited to investigate this topic is because I thought our findings had the potential to make a significant difference in health, which is my overall aim as a scientist.”

Cayo believes this discovery could be the beginning of a new approach toward elevated cholesterol treatment. The young scientist doesn’t take all of the credit, however. He attributes the achievements of the investigation to the culture of innovation at MCW.

“The biggest thing about MCW is its ‘get it done’ attitude,” said Cayo. “The individual faculty are all open to new ideas. They are comfortable working in collaboration with each other to accomplish big-picture goals.”

Cayo is earning both his MD and PhD through the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at MCW. Students in the MSTP complete the first two years of medical school, then turn their attention to research by earning a PhD, and finally, complete clinical rotations to earn an MD.

Following the 2014-2015 spring semester, Max will transition into the final two years of the MD portion of the program. He says it will be hard to leave the lab where he has had so much success, but he looks forward to continuing his physician-scientist training. With such a fast start, this talented young researcher is well on his way toward achieving his goal of making a lasting impact on healthcare.
Medical School Class of 1990 boasts three senior MCW leaders

Twenty-five years ago, they were close friends on the cusp of embarking on careers in medicine. As members of the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Class of 1990, they bonded over the excitement and challenges of medical school. They spent time together playing cribbage, flag football, softball and basketball. They shared similar hopes and aspirations for their futures as physicians, teachers, husbands and fathers – never guessing that their lives would continue to intertwine so intimately, with MCW at the core.

Today, their friendship is as strong as ever. Now in senior leadership roles at MCW, Jose Franco, MD ’90, GME ’95, Joseph Kerschner, MD ’90, Fel ’98, and Jon Lehrmann, MD ’90, GME ’94, again face the excitement and challenges of medical school – but from a considerably different vantage point. Today, they help to set the course for MCW students, faculty and staff across the institution’s missions.

Dr. Franco is associate dean for educational improvement and professor of medicine and pediatrics (gastroenterology). He completed his residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in gastroenterology at MCW. Since 1995, he has held continuous faculty appointments at MCW, including directing MCW’s new Discovery Curriculum. As associate dean, Dr. Franco is focusing on improving educator assessment, faculty development and distance education. “While running the clerkship in medicine, I became more interested in MCW’s curriculum as a whole – which led me to serve in a leadership capacity on the Curriculum and Evaluation Committee and with the Discovery Curriculum. In my new role, I’m pleased to be helping faculty become better educators,” he noted.

Dr. Lehrmann is chair and Charles E. Kubly Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine and associate chief of staff for mental health, Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center. He completed his residency in psychiatry at MCW and joined the faculty in 1996, and eventually led the residency program. “I wanted to take care of patients and to teach, but then I realized how important it was to become a trainer of residents,” Dr. Lehrmann said. He was named department chair in February 2013. Of his work at the VA, he commented, “Taking care of veterans is a personal mission of mine. I feel this is my duty as both a physician and a citizen of this country.”

Dr. Kerschner was named dean of the MCW Medical School and executive vice president of the Medical College of Wisconsin in November 2011 after serving 10 months in an interim capacity; he also is professor of otolaryngology. Dr. Kerschner returned to MCW after residency for a fellowship in pediatric otolaryngology, and has been on the faculty since 1998. He served as CEO of Children’s Specialty Group (a joint venture of MCW and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin) and senior associate dean for clinical affairs – pediatric practice from 2006-2011, as well as interim chair of the department of otolaryngology and communication science from 2009-2011. “I have always accepted the mantle of leadership when opportunities were presented that would allow me to give back,” he said.

Alumni News recently had an opportunity to sit down with Drs. Franco, Kerschner and Lehrmann as they reminisced about their medical school years.
Q Alumni News: Why did you choose to stay/return to MCW following graduation?

Dr. Franco: My initial goal was to stay in Wisconsin only for my four years of medical school, but in my senior year I applied for an internal medicine residency as a courtesy to longtime residency director Dr. Jim Cerletty. That year, however, I did three rotations in New York City – and I quickly realized that the quality of life in Milwaukee was much more to my liking. Then, in July 1990, I had my first rotation at the VA, and we were in need of cardiology assistance. MCW sent over a fourth-year med student, Rose Betzold, MD ’91, GME ’94, Fel ’97, to help out – and I was smitten. We got engaged a year later, married a year after that, and then had two children. So MCW had become home.

Dr. Kerschner: “I wanted to do a residency in otolaryngology, which is very competitive, so I applied to many places around the country. I matched at the University of South Florida, but knew that my wife, Jane, and I, wanted to return close to our families in Milwaukee when I completed my residency. I looked for a fellowship in pediatric otolaryngology and discovered that MCW’s was the only one in the country that would allow me to set up my research program in exactly the way I wanted to. As I went through my residency, I realized I had a deep interest in academic medicine, so when looking for a job after my fellowship, I narrowed my search to a few academic medical centers around the country. I found that MCW afforded me the best opportunity to build my career and grow the pediatric otolaryngology specialty.”

Dr. Lehrmann: “A series of steps kept me here at MCW. I met my wife, Mary Schoen, MD ’90, GME ’93, in one of our first classes, and we knew that we wanted to stay in the Midwest. MCW was our first choice based on the strength of its residency programs in psychiatry (for me) and pediatrics (for Mary). Then it became a family decision, as we began having children during our residency years – and having our families close by to assist was essential. MCW has been very important to us because it offered me the opportunity to teach, which I love. I was able to teach right away, every day, at the VA in its inpatient service.”

Q Alumni News: The Class of 1990 includes three senior MCW leaders and several other MCW faculty members. Was there something special about your class?

Dr. Kerschner: “My experience with MCW is that there are phenomenal people in every class. MCW is a fantastic place, and a level of excellence can be found here year after year. But there is a special character to every class, and ours was a very close-knit group. Many of us felt a dedication to giving back to the institution that was so good to us. Perhaps this is recognition of the importance of MCW in our lives that there are so many leaders rising through the ranks and doing amazing things for MCW.”

Dr. Lehrmann: “I believe the Class of 1990 was a special one. I married a ’90 alumna (Mary), and Mary served as matchmaker for Joe and his wife-to-be, Jane. My freshman roommate, Steve Knaus, MD ’90, GME ’93, and I, as well as Joe and his roommate, Tony LoCurto, MD ’90, GME ’94, hung out at the Parkside Apartments – which was a popular gathering spot for Joe as well. I have often joked that perhaps it was the water in the Parkside Apartments pool that helped us to become MCW leaders.”

Dr. Franco: “What made things special were our friendships. Jon and Joe were very close friends of mine in medical school. Jon is the calmest guy I’ve ever met…always easy to talk to. So it’s not surprising he chose a career in psychiatry. Joe was always ready to step up and fill a void, including starting the MCW intramural sports program which has lasted some 30 years. Joe is a visionary…always looking ahead. Joe, Steve, Tony and I took a trip to the Jersey Shore after the first year of classes, and we had a fantastic time.”

Q Alumni News: What are some of your favorite memories of medical school at MCW?

Dr. Lehrmann: “My favorite class, of course, was Intro to Clinical Medicine. Each of us was given an ophthalmoscope and asked to examine one of our classmates. Luckily for me, Mary was sitting close by – and after looking deep into her beautiful green eyes, there was no turning back! Other memorable classes were neuroanatomy with Dr. Curtis, as well as our anatomy class; I think the smell of formaldehyde has finally worn

Continued on page 14
MCW helped prepare alumna for national leadership role on healthcare stage

A s chief healthcare officer of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), Janis Orlowski, MD ’82, has her finger on the pulse of healthcare reforms taking place across the country. It’s no surprise that the newly elected member to MCW’s Board of Trustees is closely watching MCW’s two new regional medical schools, set to open in Green Bay and Central Wisconsin. “MCW is taking transformative steps that are helping to inform me as I work on the national level in these challenging times,” Dr. Orlowski said. “The shortage of physicians in Wisconsin and other parts of the country is a significant issue that healthcare providers and academic medical centers must face together.”

Dr. Orlowski was named chief healthcare officer of the AAMC in December 2014, after serving as interim chief for six months. Her role is to spearhead the Association’s efforts to bring together the healthcare delivery system and the medical school community. She also leads several AAMC groups including the Council of Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems, which represents the interests of approximately 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems.

“I work with federal agencies to look at healthcare policies that affect teaching hospitals and doctors,” Dr. Orlowski commented. “We have a common goal: improved clinical care and delivery, resulting in better outcomes, through the support of world-class education, research and patient care taking place at our member institutions.”

Dr. Orlowski previously served as chief operating officer and chief medical officer of MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC. Prior to that, she held several leadership roles at Rush University Medical School in Chicago, including associate vice president and executive dean. Dr. Orlowski began her medical career at Rush after completing a residency and fellowship in nephrology there. She also served as chief resident and was named intern of the year. She credits much of her success to her medical training at MCW.

“So many people tell me their years in medical school were harrowing, but I have none of those memories,” she recalled. “Teachers were so supportive and there was such a camaraderie among students. I felt absolutely ready for my residency. In fact, my program director at Rush wanted to know more about MCW because I had been so well-prepared.”

Board certified in internal medicine and nephrology, Dr. Orlowski specializes in acute renal care and transplantation. She still makes time in her busy schedule for clinical practice. “I have been in medical administration for more than 20 years, but I continue to see patients part-time. It’s also important that I still round and work with residents.”

Dr. Orlowski is a master of the American College of Physicians and past recipient of MCW’s Alumna of the Year Award. She has helped to lead all her class of 1982 reunions, and was elected to the MCW Board in October 2014. “I am proud and humbled to have been asked to serve,” she noted. “My fellow board members are knowledgeable and dedicated. I look forward to working with them.”

Dr. Orlowski also has served on the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association Board of Directors and Marquette University’s Board of Trustees, having earned a BS in biomedical engineering from Marquette in 1978.

Her desire to stay connected to MCW, Marquette and Wisconsin is both professional and personal. “My husband’s family is in the Milwaukee area. I have brothers and sisters in northern Wisconsin and we have a home in Keshena that we visit often,” she said fondly. “I always think of Wisconsin as a dose of reality compared to the politics of Washington, DC. It is a little bit of heaven.”

From page 13

Medical School Class of 1990 boasts three senior MCW leaders

off of my hands!”

Dr. Franco: “I was very studious. Joe, Jon and others were much more relaxed, which had a positive impact on me. I found I could learn a lot and still have a well-balanced life. Our class was very close; after exams, we would get together at a local pub to celebrate. I remember after one exam that Jon and Steve went out to the student parking lot and put beer cans on car windshields so others could share in our excitement!”

Dr. Kerschner: “Jon, Jose and I were close friends, and I spent a lot time with them during our medical school years, along with others such as Jon’s wife, Mary, Steve Knaus and Mike Long, MD, ’90, GME ’93. Jon and I played intramural sports together, and those games are some of my best memories. I also remember our summer trip to visit Jose and Tony LoCurto in NYC and the Jersey Shore. My dream of becoming a physician started at age 14...then during medical school, when you finally move into that phase of your life when you see your first patient and match in your specialty...these are things that make the journey a magical one.”
Alumnus sees bright future for diagnosing and managing eye disease with adaptive optics

Joseph J. Carroll, PhD ’02, always knew he was destined for a career in the sciences. But a chance afternoon on the golf course changed his academic path, and uncovered his passion for the human eye.

“Our vision system is frustratingly redundant. Eyes can sustain a lot of cellular damage before it is detected,” said Dr. Carroll. “What’s more, conventional diagnostic imaging tools are insensitive, making it difficult to diagnose and treat pathology in the early stages – when a patient’s vision can be saved.”

Dr. Carroll is the Richard O. Schultz, MD / Ruth Works Professor in Ophthalmology. He also is the co-director of MCW’s Advanced Ocular Imaging Program (AOIP) at the Froedtert & MCW Eye Institute, an international leader in adaptive optics retinal imaging research.

Adaptive optics is a technology used to improve the clarity of imaging systems by reducing distortions produced by incoming wavefronts – in much the same way a telescope is adapted to reduce the distortion of the earth’s atmosphere.

“If we can access the retina in a more direct way and actually see the cells that impact our vision, we will be able to raise diagnostics to a whole new level,” continued Dr. Carroll, who was among the first to use adaptive optics technology. “The key is reaching the single cell level.”

Adaptive optics could play an important role in determining not only which patients are candidates for a specific therapy, but also in measuring the effectiveness of treatment. The technology holds promise for many progressive and inherited eye diseases including glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa, diabetic retinopathy and achromatopsia.

Dr. Carroll is part of an AOIP research team under contract with the National Institutes of Health’s National Eye Institute to investigate the development and use of a custom adaptive optics scanning light ophthalmoscope (AOSLO) for human research.

“AOSLO’s can generate a view of the retina with a high degree of spatial sensitivity to produce the highest-resolution images of the living retina ever seen,” commented Dr. Carroll.

Dr. Carroll’s aptitude for math and science started as a boy in Tigerton, Wisconsin, where he took every math and science class his high school had to offer. In addition, an inspirational science teacher encouraged him to attend a pre-college program at UW-Green Bay, which exposed him to career options in math and science – as well as to tour MCW.

He earned a degree in human biology from UW-Green Bay in 1997.

“After graduation, I thought I would go to pharmacy school,” he remembered. “Then by chance, I was paired with an optometrist for nine holes of golf.” An avid golfer, Dr. Carroll could often be found on the Shorewood Golf Course in Green Bay.

Following a lively conversation with the optometrist, he decided to study vision, enrolling in MCW’s Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He subsequently served a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Rochester before returning to MCW in 2006.

In 2014, Dr. Carroll was named to the Milwaukee Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” list, which recognizes young professionals who are making contributions to their field and community. It’s an honor he accepted humbly.

“My success comes from the success of my lab – the students, staff and technicians who work hard every day. Research is what I love.”

In May 2014, Dr. Carroll was also honored to return to UW-Green Bay as commencement speaker. His address focused on being prepared for life’s challenges and acting on life’s opportunities – two things he has done throughout his career.

“I have been very fortunate to find fabulous mentors, teachers and peers who prepared me to think like a scientist and engage in world-class research. But it wasn’t by chance; I actively sought out opportunities that would advance my education and career. I’m grateful those opportunities eventually brought me back to MCW.”
At every medical school in the country, noon (Eastern Daylight Time) on the third Friday of March is a magical moment. At precisely that time, fourth-year medical students learn where they will complete their residencies – the next phase of medical training.

For students participating in the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP), or “Match,” it is the culmination of a year’s work to secure a Match. During the first half of their senior year, medical students apply for positions at residency programs of their choosing. In February, after they have visited program sites and been interviewed by program directors, the students enter their choices into a computer, in order of preference. At the same time, residency program directors nationwide enter similar rank order lists for the students they have interviewed.

Lists from each group are sent to the NRMP headquarters in Washington, DC, where a computer matches students and residency programs. The Match is programmed to give students their highest choice possible. Results are released simultaneously throughout the nation.

“The Match is a unique aspect of medical training. I like to say it’s the world’s most sophisticated job placement service. Its overall intent is to level the playing field for programs and students, affording equal opportunities to pursue residency training,” said Richard Holloway, PhD, associate dean for student affairs at MCW. “It’s also quite nerve-wracking for our graduates to find out what they will be doing for the next three to seven years; for some of them, it will be a decision affecting the rest of their lives.”

While Match Day occurs at the same time at every medical school nationwide, every school’s Match Day rituals are different.

At MCW, a bingo-like cage spins more than 180 envelopes, each labeled with the name of a fourth-year medical student. Names are drawn at random and envelopes handed out. The cost to acquire an envelope: one dollar of US currency. This is because the student whose name is drawn last receives the envelope of dollar bills, with the unspoken expectation that the money will be used to “start the party,” according to Dr. Holloway. Traditional party spot: Joey Buona’s, a pizza joint in downtown Milwaukee. The Alumni Association generously covers the cost of the food.

The first envelope of the 2015 Match – and thus the shortest wait – was delivered to Sheila Bhat, who was thrilled not only to get her answer quickly, but also to match in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals (MCWAH).

Bhat and 52 other fourth-year medical students from MCW will remain in Wisconsin for their residencies. Among them is Monica Stout, a Pewaukee, Wisconsin, native who will complete a residency in family medicine in Appleton.

“It’s what I’ve always wanted to do,” said Stout. “I have a real passion around primary care and outreach, and I want to stay in my home state of Wisconsin.”

Lara Rosewicz, winner of the Walter Zeit Leadership Award [see page 10], also was happy with her match results. Lara found out that she will be placed in MCW’s anesthesiology program, her number one choice. “I feel fortunate to be able to continue my career at MCW,” she said. “It’s great to be able to stay in a place where I have received so much support from both faculty and administration.”

Others matched in batches…such as best friends Jason Morris, Nicholas Dreger and Ketan Nadkarni, who matched at Loma Linda, California, UC Irvine, and the University of North Carolina, respectively.

The couples match offers dating or married couples an opportunity to continue their training together.
Kathleen Hannan, a Fox Point, Wisconsin, native and Jonathan Rice, a Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin, native are both headed to the University of Colorado to study pediatrics and internal medicine, respectively. “Our friends are already asking to come out for ski visits,” Hannan quipped.

Nikki Levin and boyfriend, Tyler Boschwitz, also hoped to match at the same institution. Fortune was on their side, as both were matched to the University of Cincinnati. “Things really just worked out nicely,” said Nikki. “We are looking forward to the next step.”

Of the 188 fourth-year medical students at MCW, 184 students obtained first-year residency positions through the Match. The remaining four students obtained first-year positions through the military match.

Primary care specialties attracted 39% of MCW graduates this year. Those fields include internal medicine (17% of the class), pediatrics (14%), family medicine (7%) and medicine/pediatrics (1%).

Overall, three top choices of specialty were internal medicine (17%), pediatrics (14%), and anesthesiology (10%). The remaining graduating physicians selected specialties including dermatology, emergency medicine, general surgery, neurology, obstetrics/gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopaedic surgery, otolaryngology, pathology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, plastic surgery, psychiatry, radiation oncology, radiology, and urology.

While 27% of the class remains in Wisconsin for residency, the other 73% will be spread across 33 states and Canada.
Alumna and her husband share their good fortune to help tomorrow’s doctors

Sherry L. Ness-Wenum, MD ‘77, and her husband, John V. Wenum, believe in giving back. They consider themselves blessed with good fortune, and take seriously the line from the Bible that states, “Those to whom much has been given, much will be asked.”

In this vein, the couple recently became Legacy Society members. They gave an estate gift to the Medical College of Wisconsin – a life insurance policy valued at more than $200,000 – and earmarked it for the Annual Fund for Excellence. This supplements other support they have given MCW over the years.

“The Medical College of Wisconsin provided an excellent education that was patient-driven and that helped me to go confidently into the workforce,” commented Dr. Ness-Wenum, who graduated from MCW in 1977. She went on to become a diagnostic radiologist and worked at Community Memorial Hospital in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, for many years.

“I acknowledge a debt of gratitude to MCW, and I feel a sense of responsibility to the facility that has given me so much and helped me realize my potential. We are very blessed and have been given much, and it is our duty to share that largesse.

“We chose to direct our gift to the Annual Fund for Excellence because it offers MCW leadership flexibility to ensure the next generation of physicians – our future peers – will leave MCW as well-prepared as we were. Wisdom is gained through experience and interaction with mentors like MCW faculty,” Dr. Ness-Wenum said. She continued by noting that the vehicle she and her husband used to make their gift – an insurance policy – enabled them to maximize their donation.

“The Medical College of Wisconsin is so thankful for the generosity of Dr. Sherry Ness-Wenum and her husband, John, who have given much to ensure that future generations of medical students get the best possible training and have the opportunity to realize their goals,” said Joseph E. Kerschner, MD ’90, Fel ’98, dean of the medical school and executive vice president.

Dr. Ness-Wenum said one of the highlights of medical school for her was meeting, courting and marrying John, to whom she has been married to for 40 years. She also has fond memories of her roommates, the time she spent with her classmates, and her Powder Puff football team. She won a trophy playing football, and her team even had its own cheer!

Dr. Ness-Wenum has been involved in the MCW / Marquette Medical Alumni Association; she served on the Board for two years and on various Class of 1977 reunion committees. Additionally, she and her husband are Walter Zeit Fellows.

Now retired, Dr. Ness-Wenum is very involved in the leadership of their church, is becoming involved in politics, and enjoys the freedom to visit her mother and children as she pleases.

If you would like additional information about the Annual Fund for Excellence, estate giving, or Legacy Society membership, please contact Angela Nelson, senior director of MCW development and alumni relations, at 414-955-4708.
The academic ties that bind: father, two sons share alma mater

Joseph P. Annis, MD ’69, and Paul S. Annis, MD ’71, not only followed in their father’s footsteps by becoming medical doctors, they also followed his journey to Milwaukee to attend the same medical school. Edward R. Annis, MD ’38, was a proud graduate of the Marquette School of Medicine, the predecessor of the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW).

“I wanted to go north and Dad suggested Marquette,” remembered Dr. Joe Annis, who was raised in Miami, Florida, with his seven brothers and sisters. “The first time I saw the campus was when I got off the train to begin my first semester of school.”

A family practitioner and general surgeon, Dr. Edward Annis made his mark as a doctor and a public speaker.

“Dad was too small for sports, so he joined the debate team,” Joe recalled. “He debated his way through high school, college and medical school.”

As a member of the American Medical Association’s (AMA) Speaker’s Bureau, in May 1962, Dr. Edward Annis delivered a televised rebuttal speech against the King-Anderson Bill, which would have authorized the use of Social Security taxes to pay for healthcare benefits for retirees (the precursor to Medicare). His rebuttal in New York City’s Madison Square Garden came one night after a rally led by President John F. Kennedy in support of the legislation. The King-Anderson Bill eventually died in committee.

“Dad stood out at a pivotal time in medicine. He and the AMA had significant concerns about the federal government getting involved in healthcare. He also debated Senator Hubert Humphrey and appeared on The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson while serving as AMA president in 1964.”

An anesthesiologist, Dr. Joe Annis has been a member of the Texas AMA delegation since 1993. He is a former member of the AMA Board of Trustees and a past president of the Texas Society of Anesthesiologists.

“I felt drawn to continue my father’s legacy of service. It has been an honor and a privilege to help further the good work of these organizations, in addition to treating patients and teaching.”

Joe started at Marquette as an economics major until he decided during his junior year that he wanted to be a doctor. By that time, his younger brother, Paul, was also a pre-med student there.

After graduating from the Marquette School of Medicine in 1969, Joe completed a general surgery internship with the US Air Force. He served one year in Vietnam and one year in New York before switching to anesthesiology.

“I wrote an article about Ernest Henschel, MD, the chief of anesthesiology, for the Marquette Medical Review. He fascinated me. I called him after my internship and he encouraged me to pursue anesthesiology.”

Dr. Joe Annis still practices part-time at Austin Anesthesiology Group in Austin, Texas, where he was a partner for 35 years. He also continues to teach in the summer at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire.

Dr. Paul Annis graduated from MCW in 1971 and returned to Florida to do his residency in anesthesiology at the University of Miami. He is now retired from the Miami Heart Institute.

“The Marquette School of Medicine and MCW provided wonderful opportunities and experiences for all three of us,” Joe added.
1960s

Parnell Donahue, MD ’64, was awarded the Senior Pediatrician of the Year by the Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (TNAAP). The TNAAP Excellence in Pediatrics Reception and Annual Awards recognize and honor pediatricians and community members who have made exceptional contributions to children’s health advocacy in Tennessee. Dr. Donahue practices in Brentwood, Tenn.

1970s

Anthony L. McCall, MD ’72, was recently elected vice president and clinical scientist of the Endocrine Society. The Endocrine Society is the world’s oldest, largest and most active organization devoted to research on hormones and the clinical practice of endocrinology. Dr. McCall is the James M. Moss Professor of Diabetes at the University of Virginia School of Medicine and a member and investigator at the UVA Medical Center’s Center for Diabetes Technology. He also is medical director for the Virginia Center for Diabetes Professional Education.

George M. Lange, MD ’75, a clinical professor of medicine at MCW, received the 2014 Laureate Award from the Wisconsin Chapter of the American College of Physicians (ACP). The award recognizes an ACP fellow or master who demonstrates an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education or research and in service to their community and the ACP. Dr. Lange practices internal medicine and geriatrics at the Westgate Clinic in Milwaukee, which he co-founded, and at Columbia St. Mary’s and Froedtert Hospitals. He has taught ambulatory medicine at MCW since 1990. Dr. Lange has been a member of the ACP since 1978. He has served as president of the Medical Society of Milwaukee County and the Wisconsin Medical Society.

Michael Nolan, PhD ’75, received the 2014 Master Teacher Award from the International Association of Medical Science Educators. This annual award is presented to an association member who, over the course of many years, has consistently demonstrated extraordinary excellence in teaching both at his/her institutions and within the association. Dr. Nolan is a professor of basic science at the Virginia Tech Carillion School of Medicine.

1980s

Steven G. Simonson, MD ’86, was appointed senior vice president and chief development officer of Discovery Labs, a specialty biotechnology company with a focus on respiratory critical care based in Warrington, Pa. This new position includes responsibilities for research, clinical development, aerosol device development, regulatory affairs and patient safety. Dr. Simonson has more than 25 years of medical practice and pharmaceutical clinical trial experience.

1990s

Francesco Leanza, MD ’97, served as an editor for the September, 2014 issue of Adolescent Medicine. Dr. Leanza is a family medicine practitioner at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital in New York City.

2000s

James R. Allen, MD, GME ’00, was named 2014 Physician of the Year by Capital Regional Medical Center in Jefferson City, Mo., where he has practiced as a radiation oncologist since 2000. He was honored for his vision and leadership in cancer care, especially during the development of the Goldschmidt Cancer and Imaging Center.

Nick Meyer, Fel ’02, recently published a book that outlines a new approach toward dieting. In The Proportion Fit Diet: Count Cups, Not Calories, Dr. Meyer promotes a diet which involves measuring cups of food instead of calories. Dr. Meyer is an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in hand surgery in Stillwater, Minn.
Fred Joseph Sapio, MD ’43, of New York City, N.Y., died December 15, 2014, at the age of 95. After graduating from medical school, Dr. Sapio served in the United States Army in the Philippines during World War II. Dr. Sapio practiced medicine as a private practitioner until accepting a position as chief of professional services in the United States Air Force. Survivors include his wife, Angela, eight children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Alvin C. Theiler, MD ’45, of Kiel, Wis., died September 27, 2014, at the age of 96. Dr. Theiler served two years in the United States Army in Korea. A primary care physician, Dr. Theiler practiced for more than 40 years throughout the state of Wisconsin, particularly in Kiel. Dr. Theiler regularly devoted his time to community service, including helping with the Boy Scouts and the Kiel Kiwanis. He enjoyed golfing with his friends and bowling. He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice, and a son. Dr. Theiler is survived by nine children, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

John C. Sutherland, MD ’46, of Brooklyn, N.Y., died April 20, 2014, at the age of 93. Dr. Sutherland served in an intelligence unit in the United States Army during the Cold War. His subsequent professional career included work as a trust officer and a portfolio manager. He generously supported many Brooklyn charities and served as treasurer of the Montauk Club. Dr. Sutherland was preceded in death by two sisters.

Frank L. Ziehl, MD ’46, of Wauwatosa, Wis., died November 23, 2014, at the age of 93. Dr. Ziehl was a pathologist in Milwaukee. Survivors include his wife, Beatrice, six children, 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

*Louis Francis Lawrence, MD ’48, of Detroit, Mich., died February 11, 2015, at the age of 89. Dr. Lawrence served in the United States Army during the Korean War. A psychiatrist, he practiced for many years in the Detroit area. Dr. Lawrence enjoyed fishing, tennis and swimming.

Patricia Tretter, MD ’49, of Fullerton, Calif., died September 14, 2014, at the age of 92. A radiation oncologist, Dr. Tretter practiced for 23 years at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City, followed by 20 years at St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton, Calif. She was an avid traveler with a particular passion for Antarctica. Dr. Tretter is survived by three children and five grandchildren.

Vernon N. Dodson, MD ’51, of Madison, Wis., died February 6, 2015, at the age of 91. Dr. Dodson served in the United States Army during World War II and earned the Bronze Star. Following his honorable discharge, he went on to complete his MD from Marquette University School of Medicine. Dr. Dodson’s career in medicine included a faculty appointment at the Medical College of Wisconsin, among other institutions. He enjoyed traveling, music and reading. Dr. Dodson is survived by his wife, Shirley, five children and five grandchildren.

Nicholas C. De Leo, MD ’52, of Milwaukee, Wis., died October 7, 2014, at the age of 87. As a family practitioner, Dr. De Leo served as chief of staff at St. Michael’s Hospital in Madison. Survivors include his wife, Anne, six children and 12 grandchildren.

Bernhard John Schumacher, MD ’54, of Oconomowoc, Wis., died January 28, 2015, at the age of 88. Dr. Schumacher enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 17. Following his service, he went on to pursue a career in internal medicine. As an internist, Dr. Schumacher practiced in Oconomowoc for more than 33 years. He also served on two medical missions to Haiti and helped found the Lake Area Free Clinic. Survivors include his wife, Betty, three children and eight grandchildren.

John A. VanBuskirk, MD ’55, of Englewood, Colo., died August 30, 2014. Dr. VanBuskirk practiced medicine at Porter Adventist Hospital and Swedish Medical Center in Englewood, Colo. Dr. VanBuskirk is survived by his wife, Loretta, four children and 10 grandchildren.

Wallace H. Wurster, MD ’56, of Milwaukee, Wis., died October 10, 2014, at the age of 82. Survivors include his wife, Jo, and two stepchildren.

Robert A. Gruesen, MD ’57, of Green Bay, Wis., died December 6, 2014, at the age of 82. Following medical school, Dr. Gruesen served as a captain and medical specialist in the United States Army Reserve. He completed his residency at the University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison. A neurosurgeon, Dr. Gruesen practiced for more than 30 years at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay. He enjoyed flying planes, playing the piano and painting. Dr. Gruesen is survived by his wife, Shelly, eight children and 18 grandchildren.

Harold Bruce Biller, MD ’59, of River Hills, Wis., died October 8, 2014, at the age of 70. Following his internship at Mount Sinai Hospital in Milwaukee, Dr. Biller served as an officer in the United States Air Force for two years. A pathologist, Dr. Biller also enjoyed astronomy, golf and tennis. Survivors include his wife, Eunice, two children and eight grandchildren.

*MCW is grateful to these alumni for their Legacy Society membership.
Continued from page 21

1960s

Allen Harlor, MD ’62, of Eugene, Ore., died February 4, 2013, at the age of 76. A pediatrician, Dr. Harlor practiced for more than 46 years in the Eugene area. During his career, Dr. Harlor led many local, state and national efforts in support of advocacy for children. Survivors include his wife, Jane, five children and 11 grandchildren.

Ann M. Kosloske, MD ’63, of Houston, Texas, died August 17, 2014, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 77 years old. Dr. Kosloske worked as a surgeon in Lubbock, Texas. She also was a professor of surgery emeritus and researcher at Texas Tech University, with contributions to nearly 80 publications. Dr. Kosloske is survived by two children.

Andrew A. Pandazi, MD ’63, of Milwaukee, Wis., died October 6, 2014, at the age of 91. A World War II combat veteran, Dr. Pandazi served overseas in Europe for the United States Army. Following his military service, Dr. Pandazi earned his PhD and became an assistant professor at Marquette University School of Medicine. After several years of teaching, he entered medical school, specializing in urology. Dr. Pandazi served as chief of staff at St. Michael’s Hospital and chief of surgery at St. Mary’s Hospital. In his retirement, Dr. Pandazi spent time on the San Carlos Apache reservation in Arizona, working to improve the healthcare system as the clinical director for the Indian Health Service.

*William C. Klein, MD ’65, of Tampa, Fla., died November 9, 2014, at the age of 74. Upon the completion of his residency at Yale University, Dr. Klein spent two years in the United States Air Force. Following his service, he was a member of the MCW faculty for two years. Dr. Klein practiced as a radiologist at University Community Hospital in Tampa. He was preceded in death by a son. Dr. Klein is survived by his wife, Virginia, two children and five grandchildren.

1980s

Patrick George Watson, MD ’83, of Tampa, Fla., died October 12, 2014, at the age of 57. An internist, Dr. Watson also was a person of great faith, receiving his license for Christian ministry in 2007. Survivors include his wife, Rosemary, and two sons.

1990s

Andrew R. Lange, PhD ’96, of Hartland, Wis., died November 3, 2014, at the age of 43.

*MCW is grateful to these alumni for their Legacy Society membership.

OTHER SPECIAL REMEMBRANCES

Robert E. Condon, MD, MS, of Seattle, Wash., a faculty leader at the Medical College of Wisconsin for more than 20 years, died February 10, 2015 from complications of a thoracic aneurysm. Dr. Condon served as a captain in the United States Marine Corps. He received his MD in 1957 from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Following his residency at the University of Washington in Seattle, Dr. Condon completed a fellowship at the National Heart Institute and a Guggenheim Fellowship at the Royal Free Hospital in London, England. Dr. Condon was a member of the faculty of several medical universities before assuming the position of professor and vice chair of the MCW Department of Surgery in 1972. In 1979 he was appointed chair of the MCW Department of Surgery and retired as the Ausman Foundation Professor in 1995. Dr. Condon is survived by his wife, Marcia, and two sons.

MAKING A GIFT OR PLEDGE?

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BY PHONE:
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10000 Innovation Drive, 2nd Floor, Suite 200
Milwaukee, WI 53226

ONLINE:
www.mcw.edu/giving
**MCW’s 2014 Annual Report and Honor Roll available to alumni**

The Medical College of Wisconsin’s 2014 *Annual Report and Honor Roll* is now available on the MCW website and in print.

In the past year, MCW has seen the evolution of historic, powerful partnerships. The Annual Report, titled *Next is Now*, celebrates our partners and the successful collaborations that are improving the health of our communities and preparing the next generation of healthcare leaders.

The Annual Report also includes MCW’s Finance Report for fiscal year 2013-14 and the Honor Roll of donors.

View the Annual Report at: [www.mcw.edu/Annual-Report-2014](http://www.mcw.edu/Annual-Report-2014), or request a printed copy by contacting 414-955-4725 or [commcentral@mcw.edu](mailto:commcentral@mcw.edu)

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**ALUMNI EVENTS**

**Alumni Association Board Meeting**  May 1, 2015  
**Symposium for Senior Physicians**  May 28, 2015

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**2015 ALUMNI WEEKEND**

May 1-2, 2015

**FRIDAY**

**2015 Alumni Banquet** at the Pfister Hotel, including recognition of reunion class gifts and presentation of awards: Alumnus of the Year, Humanitarian Awards, Distinguished Service Award and Honorary Alumnus.  

**SATURDAY**

**President’s/Dean’s Brunch** at the MCW Alumni Center. Meet your class scholarship recipients and toast them with a Mimosa or Bloody Mary.

**CME Program**

**Tours of the Health Research Center** guided by class scholarship recipients

**Special Class Dinners and Events** take place in the evening at various locations, please contact us for more information.

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**CLASS OF 1965 50-YEAR REUNION**

May 15-16, 2015

**FRIDAY**

**Commencement ceremony** and recognition of the 50-year graduates – Milwaukee Theatre

**Buffet Dinner** – Pfister Hotel

**SATURDAY**

**Class Brunch** – Pfister Hotel

**President’s Dinner** – Medical College of Wisconsin

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION…**

About alumni events, contact us:

**Phone:** (414) 955-4781  |  **Email:** alumni@mcw.edu  |  **Web:** [www.mcw.edu/alumni](http://www.mcw.edu/alumni)

**Update Your Email Address**

Ensure you receive the latest news and information from the Alumni Association. Are you currently receiving *Alumni News* and other alumni correspondence by email? If not, please consider updating your email address with the Alumni Association.

Verify your email address by writing us at alumni@mcw.edu
Alumni Weekend
May 1–2, 2015
Milwaukee, Wis.
See page 23 for more information

Make new Memories