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ANNUAL REPORT 2020

MICW *magazine*



**Honoring Our Alumni:
Past, Present and Future**

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Honoring our Alumni: Past, Present and Future

As 2020 draws to a close, we can reflect on a year like no other in our collective memories. The COVID-19 pandemic, which still is raging across the northern hemisphere and surging fiercely in Wisconsin, continues to present unprecedented challenges to our institution and the world around us.

Since early spring – when the virus first hit Wisconsin – we have steadfastly committed to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty, staff, visitors and communities.

In our summer 2020 issue of *MCW Magazine*, we discussed our rapid move to online/distance learning, the hibernation and reopening of research laboratories, the shift to remote work for faculty and staff, the ramp-up of telehealth by our clinical providers, and our contributions as an important and trusted source of accurate scientific information throughout the region – especially in communities that have been neglected.

To help preserve the financial stability of our institution, the issue was not printed – but rather published in an electronic/digital only format.

Throughout the autumn, we have continued to expand the efforts noted above – as well as many others – to ensure that our patients, students and

communities continue to receive outstanding care and education.

The theme of this combined fall issue of *MCW Magazine* and the 2020 Annual Report is Honoring our Alumni: Past, Present and Future. The alumni of the Medical College of Wisconsin and its predecessor institutions – including the Marquette University School of Medicine – are part of an illustrious family with distinguished roots stretching back almost 130 years.

Fittingly, the word “alumnus” is derived from the Latin verb *alere*, which means “to nourish.” Over the decades, our outstanding faculty have nurtured students through meaningful education, clinical training, research and mentorship. In turn, these students (as alumni) sustained and cultivated their alma mater through philanthropic and volunteer support – and in many cases, they have returned to become faculty members here themselves.

At present, MCW boasts more than 18,000 living alumni of the School of Medicine, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, School of Pharmacy and the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals (MCWAH). We honor these extant alumni, and those who are no longer with us, for their groundbreaking



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Message From Leadership

and compassionate clinical care, cutting-edge research, state-of-the-art medical innovations, community health improvement endeavors, exemplary leadership and much more.

Throughout this challenging year, our countless alumni around the globe have stood on the front lines of combating COVID-19 – whether through direct patient care or as scientists and other healthcare providers – to protect the health and safety of patients, families, loved ones and communities. Notably, as faculty members, preceptors, mentors, researchers and residents/fellows, they have taught our learners under unique conditions – but with continued optimism.

Despite the challenges of today’s learning environment for our “alumni-to-be,” we are confident that these promising students will meet the future of healthcare and science with resilience – prepared to lead and to innovate.

As we have shared, philanthropy invests in the power of human ingenuity and



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President, Finance and
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Operating Officer



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Pharmacy



Ravi P. Misra, PhD, Dean,
MCW Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences

the ability to bring about meaningful transformation. MCW’s culture of philanthropy reflects deep engagement with donors in support of the institution’s issues, ideas, impact and values – leading to transformational gifts that are true investments in our future.

On December 31, 2020, Hope to Health: The Campaign for the Medical College of Wisconsin and Froedtert Hospital – our unprecedented philanthropic effort to support the organizations’ commitment to building healthy and thriving communities – will close. Contributions to the campaign are accelerating research and advancing patient care, driving health and vitality within our communities, transforming healthcare education and leading the way in cancer research and care.

With your continued dedication and support, we are confident that we will emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic as a stronger and more purposeful institution. ■

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

This publication is a hybrid – joining together some of the content of a fall magazine with the broader focus of an annual report. Inside, you will find stories that highlight our donors and alumni – especially those celebrating milestone reunion years. This year’s Alumni Weekend was canceled due to the pandemic, but inside we share special content for alumni including award recipients and new Alumni Association board members. The final five pages are devoted to sections on Alumni News, In Memoriam and information on a readership survey. Our fiscal 2020 financials are included on the inside back cover.

Thank You

To our many donors who are turning hope into health. See our 2020 Honor Roll of donors at mcw.edu/honorroll.

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ALL PHOTOGRAPHS IN THIS ISSUE IN WHICH INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT WEARING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT WERE TAKEN BEFORE THE PANDEMIC.

STATREPORT



Third-year MCW pharmacy student Sanaya Bhatena administers a flu vaccination at one of the School of Pharmacy Flu Clinics. Pharmacy student Roberto Flotte (far right) also participated.

Pharmacy Students & Faculty Administer Flu Shots

The MCW School of Pharmacy is increasing access to flu vaccinations on the Milwaukee campus and in the local community. More than 300 MCW faculty, staff and students were immunized at the School of Pharmacy MCW Flu Clinics, featuring second- and third-year pharmacy students as immunizers.

School of Pharmacy students and faculty have been volunteering at immunization clinics in the community, including the Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin Drive-Thru Flu Clinics and drive-thru clinics hosted at the Jewish Community Pantry. Students also have

played a large role in increasing access to flu vaccinations through their clinical rotations.

Third-year pharmacy student Sanaya Bhatena reports vaccinating more than a thousand patients at her community pharmacy rotation. “Many people are unable to get their flu shot at their primary care provider’s clinic due to the pandemic, loss of insurance or other barriers. Through my rotations, I am seeing many patients who are getting their flu shot for the first time,” she says.

Karen MacKinnon, RPh, director of outreach and assistant professor, says

pharmacists, as one of the most accessible healthcare providers, are uniquely positioned to provide care. “Evidence shows many individuals who receive vaccines in nontraditional settings often do not have primary care providers. Pharmacists can play a key role in offering preventive care services that patients otherwise wouldn’t receive,” she notes.

The MCW School of Pharmacy is preparing students to fulfill the expanded role of the pharmacist, providing increased access to quality patient care. All graduates obtain certification in immunization. ■

MCW, Partners Announce ThriveOn Collaboration

The community-centered collaboration led by MCW, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation (GMF) and Royal Capital Group has chosen the name “ThriveOn Collaboration” for their community-engaged efforts and investments to support a thriving King Drive corridor and its connected neighborhoods in Milwaukee.

The ThriveOn Collaboration is built on the fundamental understanding that where people live influences their health and wellbeing because housing, education, jobs, health resources and social connections are the underpinnings of healthy lives and communities. Consequently, a key component of the ThriveOn Collaboration is a place-based investment in the redevelopment of a historic building north of downtown Milwaukee into a community hub with neighborhood amenities, offices for key MCW teams and GMF’s new



(Photo taken before the pandemic.)

headquarters. The ThriveOn Collaboration has identified five priority areas for program development and investment: housing, early childhood education, health and wellness, social cohesion and economic opportunity.

The ThriveOn Collaboration reflects the views and values of community shared through continuous dialogue and participation among residents, the collaborating organizations and other community leaders.

These conversations help shape the collaboration’s goals and how the work moves forward. Community engagement for the ThriveOn Collaboration remains active, including through establishing a Community Advisory Council (CAC). The goal of the CAC is to integrate community perspective and participation by ensuring residents have meaningful decision-making power within the collaboration. ■

Making COVID-19 Tests More Accepted and Accessible Through FightCOVIDMKE

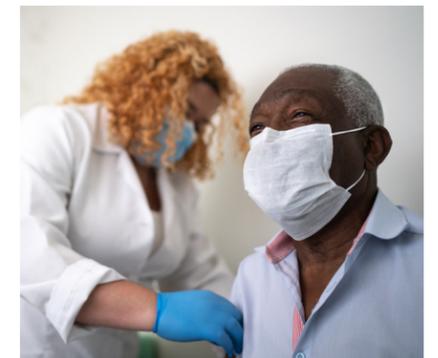
Understanding COVID-19 infection and progression rates and how they vary among individuals is critical to individual and policy responses to the pandemic – and to planning for future infection outbreaks. In partnership with Northwestern University, MCW has joined a national community-engaged research effort led by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to increase the availability, accessibility and acceptance of COVID-19 testing, especially among underserved and vulnerable populations.

With the support of a two-year, \$5 million grant, the MCW project will recruit patients at 12 primary healthcare centers throughout Milwaukee County and will conduct over 20,000 COVID-19 antibody tests and surveys in 2021. The effort is part of the NIH’s Rapid Acceleration of Diag-

nostics (RADx) initiative. MCW’s project, called FightCOVIDMKE, focuses on vulnerable populations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program aims to better understand COVID-19 testing patterns among these communities; strengthen the data on disparities in infection rates, disease progression and outcomes; and develop strategies to reduce these disparities in COVID-19 testing.

“Our participation in the FightCOVIDMKE program will help us measure the percentage of people infected by COVID-19; assess risks for hospitalization, ICU stay and death; develop a web-based risk assessment tool; and measure antibody levels after a vaccine is available,” says John Meurer, MD, MBA, director of the MCW Institute for Health & Equity and professor of



pediatrics. “The support of our many community partners, with the notable participation of the faith-based community, will allow us to serve a broad array of individuals here in Milwaukee.” ■

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Celebrates 25 Years

The Medical College of Wisconsin and its predecessor institution, the Marquette University School of Medicine, have been granting doctor of philosophy and master's degrees since 1936. During the early 1990s, president and CEO T. Michael Bolger, JD, sought to further develop MCW's research initiatives by establishing a formal graduate school to allow a focus on training biomedical research scientists. "Creating a Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences was part of our efforts to enhance research," he said at the time.

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences was officially announced in February 1995. William R. Hendee, PhD, who also served as senior associate dean for research, was named founding dean and led the School for 11 years. "If you're going to have graduate students, you really need a graduate school that has all the activities to train a PhD scientist," Hendee remarked.

Owen Griffith, PhD, held the position of dean of the Graduate School from 2006–2010. During that time, he also served as professor of biochemistry. In May 2010, after a national search, Ravi Misra, PhD, MCW professor of biochemistry, was named dean of the Graduate School – a position he continues to hold today.

During its first official year, the Graduate School had about 100 enrolled students, primarily in basic science PhD programs. One of those students, Candice Klug, PhD '99, is now a professor of biophysics at MCW and serves as director of the department's PhD program. Of note, she directs the same program from which she received her doctorate education and training.

While working at MCW as a research

technician after receiving her bachelor of science degree in chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Klug was recruited to the biophysics PhD program by James Hyde, PhD, professor emeritus of biophysics and founder of the National Biomedical Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR) Center. "There was a flourishing program going on in biophysics.



"To be able to come back not only to my home state, but to the one place in the country that would best support my research, was amazing."

– Dr. Candice Klug

It was a really supportive environment to come into," Dr.

Klug shares. After four years of education and training under her mentor, Jimmy Feix, PhD, professor of biophysics, Dr. Klug received MCW's *Outstanding Dissertation Award*, which is presented annually by the Graduate School faculty to a single graduating student.

Dr. Klug completed a postdoctoral fellowship in ophthalmic biophysical chemistry at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, University of California-Los Angeles School of Medicine, in 2001. That same year, she joined the MCW faculty as assistant professor of biophysics; she was promoted to associate professor in 2005 and professor in 2012, and has served as director of the National EPR Center since 2016. In September 2020, Dr. Klug was awarded the James S. Hyde Professorship in Biophysics.

By the beginning of 2000, the number of

students enrolled in graduate programs at MCW had doubled. The growth in students was supported in part by additional program offerings, including several joint-degree programs with the Milwaukee School of Engineering and Marquette University. Various departments simultaneously were increasing their respective faculty representation during this time as well, which led to Dr. Klug's recruitment back to MCW. "To be able to come back not only to my home state, but to the one place in the country that would best support my research, was amazing," Dr. Klug notes.

The Graduate School offers students the opportunity to train with nationally recognized biomedical and health researchers while contributing to cutting-edge, highly translational medical research and improved public and community health. And it is a major component of the research engine of MCW that drives discovery – fueling the passion and creativity that lies within students and faculty to find solutions to the world's most pressing health challenges.

Currently, MCW's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences boasts nearly 400 students enrolled in 22 degree-granting and graduate certificate programs, including several joint programs with Marquette. The Graduate School also has agreements with several higher education institutions throughout Wisconsin to offer a dual baccalaureate and Master of Public Health degree.

The Graduate School continues to expand its educational breadth, with recent programs such as the Master in Medical Physiology and Master of Science in Global Health Equity that began in 2016 and 2020, respectively. Additional programs scheduled

Degrees Conferred by the Graduate School, 1995-2020

Degree	Number
PhD	645
MPH	706
MS	555
MA	193
MMP	64

to begin in fall 2021 include the Doctor of Public Health; Master of Science in Genetic Counseling; Master of Science in Precision Medicine; Master of Arts in Biostatistics and Data Science; and a Certificate in Neuroethics.

"Our current offerings in the Graduate School reflect MCW's desire to become a destination for a broad range of health sciences training," shares Dr. Misra. In addition to the programmatic growth that has occurred during his tenure as dean, there has been an institution-wide expansion of centralized resources for students; academic support, career services, and health and wellbeing have been especially significant. "The landscape for graduate and professional students, particularly those in health-related programs, has changed dramatically over the years. Our ability to grow and adapt to meet the ever-evolving needs of our learners is crucial – and something we have been committed to in the Graduate School as well as the institution," he adds.

As the Graduate School continues to grow and evolve, Dr. Klug is confident that its strong focus on mentorship is one of its greatest strengths. "Because I had a quality graduate experience at MCW, I feel compelled to provide just as good of an experience, if not better, to our currently enrolled students," she shares. ■

– ANTHONY J. PEREZ



Dr. Candice Klug and her mentor, Dr. Jimmy Feix, upon the conferral of her PhD from MCW in 1999.

Health Equity is Part of Her Identity

MCW fourth-year medical student Marie Stéphanie Baguidy has always had a passion for helping others. This was validated in May 2020 with her receipt of a prestigious grant from the American Society of Clinical Oncology's (ASCO) Conquer Cancer initiative, which provides seed funding to cultivate the next generation of breakthroughs in cancer.

Baguidy's award entails a customized clinical rotation that combines medical genetics, medical oncology and radiation oncology – with an emphasis on community health and cancer disparities. A central focus is working with the community to provide cancer care resources in underserved populations in Milwaukee.

Part of Baguidy's passion for helping others stems from her unique background. She was born and raised in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, but the 2010 earthquake there uprooted her family when she was a teenager. She relocated to South Florida to live with relatives, and during this time – along with childhood experiences in Haiti – she witnessed many inequalities in the healthcare system.

In 2012, Baguidy entered the

University of Miami, where her desire to be involved in the dynamic field of science and healthcare grew stronger.

At the urging of a mentor who had previously completed the program, Baguidy applied to MCW's Diversity Summer Health Related Research Education Program (DSHREP). DSHREP is a competitive program designed to provide research opportunities for undergraduate students from backgrounds that are historically underrepresented in biomedical science, including individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, underrepresented cultural and ethnic groups, and those with disabilities. As part of the program, each participant is paired with a mentor to work alongside while engaging in research.

"My time in DSHREP was eye-opening. I learned so much from all of my mentors, Dr. John Imig and Dr. Abdul Khan, and gained an understanding of the power of academic research. This experience really solidified my decision to enter the medical profession," she shares.

Two years later, she began her medical training at MCW. Being familiar with the campus and the surrounding

community helped make her feel comfortable, but the different Midwestern culture took some time to adjust to. Happily, Baguidy has found a support system that has helped her grow as both a person and a future physician.

Malika Siker, MD, MCW associate dean for student inclusion and diversity, is helping Baguidy formulate the curriculum of her upcoming rotation in radiation oncology and has been a constant advocate for many students.

"Combining her outstanding clinical acumen, strong work ethic and compassionate character, Stephanie has a bright future as an oncologist," says Dr. Siker. "She will use her unique skills and experiences to serve her patients and advance health equity."

After graduation, Baguidy hopes to pursue a career in internal medicine, followed by a fellowship in hematology/oncology. "Being an advocate is part of who I am. Because of where I come from and what I have seen, regardless of where my medical career takes me, I will always be a voice for promoting health equity," she says. ■

– ALEX KROUSE



(l-r) Stephanie Baguidy as a child in Haiti, teaching students at the City Year program in Milwaukee and as a DSHREP student at MCW.

Residency and Fellowship Recruitment During the Pandemic

In March 2020, the world as we knew it was upended. A global pandemic shut down businesses, schools and entire communities. At MCW, sponsored travel came to a halt and visitors were restricted from coming to our campuses. These health and safety preventative measures significantly impacted the institution's ability to recruit residents and fellows in the traditional way, which had included on-campus interviews and hospital visits.

As a major academic medical center and the largest research institution in the Milwaukee metro area, MCW is a leader in the advanced training of physicians, researchers, pharmacists and other health professionals. The Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals (MCWAH) offers more than 100 residency and fellowship programs, including 93 Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)-accredited residency and fellowship programs, 32 unaccredited fellowship programs and nine fellowship programs accredited by other bodies. MCWAH has more than 900 residents and fellows in its graduate training programs and offers approximately 200 first-year residency positions in 21 disciplines. Residencies and fellowships are essential to the training of providers interested in pursuing specialties and subspecialties.

While residency and fellowship applicants are finding benefit in the dollars saved by not having to travel during the interview season, many are concerned about how well they will be perceived in a virtual interview, how well they will be able to assess a program and how they can best evaluate the interpersonal dynamics of the program that is typically experienced through in-person events. Gauging personality, conducting a holistic review of an



Members of MCW's department of emergency medicine helped to create a residency and fellowship recruitment video.

applicant and sifting through an increasing number of applications have become the most recent challenges of residency coordinators and interviewers adjusting to a new normal.

So how has MCW connected with prospective residents and fellows when the in-person interview is no longer a viable option? Departments across MCW have mobilized to implement virtual interviews, video tours and digital tools to highlight their respective programs and to provide an overview of MCW, its affiliated hospital partners and the surrounding community.

A virtual toolkit was developed to help provide residency and fellowship candidates with an outstanding virtual experience, portray the warmth and culture of the MCW community, excite candidates about program opportunities and introduce them to MCW and Milwaukee. This comprehensive toolkit offers residency coordinators with consultation services from MCW's Office of Communications, brand assets for custom videos and new features for departmental web pages, as well as tips for leveraging departmental social media channels and conducting virtual interviews.

"I believe the shift to virtual interviewing is certain to affect the match-

ing process. I anticipate that it will significantly reduce student debt in the M4 year. However, the impact of virtual interactions with faculty, house staff and facilities on the ranking process by applicants and programs is presently unknown," remarks Kenneth B. Simons, MD, executive director and designated institutional official, MCWAH, and MCW's senior associate dean for graduate medical education and accreditation.

Dr. Simons continues, "Only after reviewing the match results from applicant and program perspectives will we be able to determine what worked and what didn't, incorporate lessons learned, and mitigate those things that negatively impacted the process."

"Today more than ever, physicians are seeing innovative and complex advances in healthcare, all while the pandemic has impacted healthcare delivery. With ever-changing medical and technological developments and shifts in the healthcare landscape, it is challenging to practice medicine in the 21st century, much less engage in graduate training programs," Dr. Simons adds. ■

– MAUREEN REMMEL

Innovations in Cardiac Care Continue Despite the Pandemic

Even with the added stress COVID-19 is having on individual health and the healthcare systems, physicians at the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network continue to perform new and innovative heart procedures amidst the pandemic.

These state-of-the-art procedures help eliminate the need for major invasive surgeries, thereby reducing hospital stays and recovery times.

In addition, many patients facing complex heart conditions no longer have to undergo open heart surgeries that lead to prolonged recovery times and the potential for additional health complications.

Recently, Froedtert & MCW's cardiovascular team became the first in the state – and one of a few in the nation – to successfully perform a lithotripsy-assisted balloon mitral valvuloplasty.

The procedure involves using ultrasound, generating “Shockwave” balloon(s) to soften calcifications as a pre-treatment. The intent is to allow for safer, more effective dilatation of calcified narrowed mitral valves.

The mitral valve, also known as the bicuspid valve or left atrioventricular valve, is a valve with two flaps in the heart that lies between the left atrium and the left ventricle.

The procedure was performed by a team of cardiac specialists including Michael Salinger, MD; Paul Pearson, MD, PhD; Peter Mason, MD, MPH; Panayotis Fasseas, MD; Christopher Plambeck, MD '00, GME '04, FEL '05; David Ishizawar, MD; and Lucian Durham, III, MD, PhD – as well as multiple catheterization laboratory and support personnel. The procedure was very successful.

Froedtert & MCW's programs are built around the concept that a team approach – specialists and sub-specialists



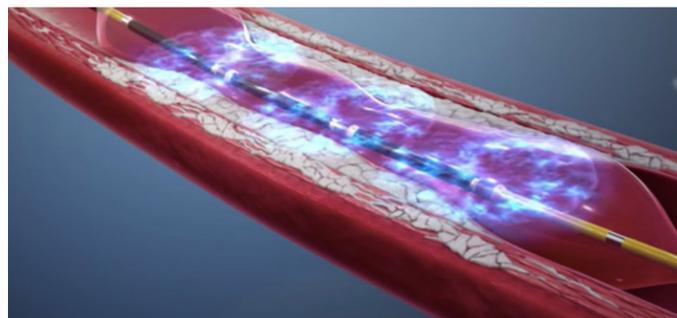
Froedtert & MCW providers were the first in Wisconsin to successfully perform a lithotripsy-assisted balloon mitral valvuloplasty.

working together – is best for patient care and treating complex diseases.

“This is another example of the innovative approaches our experienced team of structural heart specialists is delivering to patients locally and across the region, as we distinguish ourselves as a regional center in the treatment of complex heart valve disease.”

“This is another example of the innovative approaches our experienced team of structural heart specialists is delivering to patients locally and across the region, as we distinguish ourselves as a regional center in the treatment of complex heart valve disease.”

– Dr. Michael Salinger



The lithotripsy-assisted balloon mitral valvuloplasty procedure involves using ultrasound and tiny balloons to soften calcifications and improve blood flow.

ering to patients locally and across the region, as we distinguish ourselves as a regional center in the treatment of complex heart valve disease,” says Dr. Salinger. “These innovations are advancing available treatments for the most complex cases and helping patients get back to their routine lifestyles much more quickly.”

While heart disease continues to be the deadliest disease among Americans each year, there is good news, as researchers continue to identify new ways to leverage technology to develop more effective and efficient treatment methods. ■ – HOLLY BOTSFORD

Staying Connected Across the Miles

“I owe MCW a lot, and I feel there is a duty – something inside – that makes you want to give back to the place that gave me an opportunity to have a career in medicine.” Mark Avila, MD '85, MBA, gushes with emotion when sharing his feelings about his years at MCW – a place so foreign to him that at the time, as a native of Los Angeles, he didn't even realize that “when you blink, ice could come out of your eyes.”

Dr. Avila, now a gastroenterologist and hepatologist in private practice in Miami, Fla., had been interested in medicine and science since high school. When he was a student at the University of Southern California in the late 1970s, getting into medical school was very competitive – especially for a Hispanic coming from a lower socioeconomic status. In his last year of college, Dr. Avila was accepted into a summer program at Harvard that was geared toward underprivileged and minority students to familiarize them with the health professions, and while there he reconnected with two deans from MCW's office of academic affairs, Sally Long, PhD, and Paul Rosenfeld, MD, with whom he had interviewed earlier that year. Dr. Avila believes this second encounter with them enhanced his acceptance to MCW.

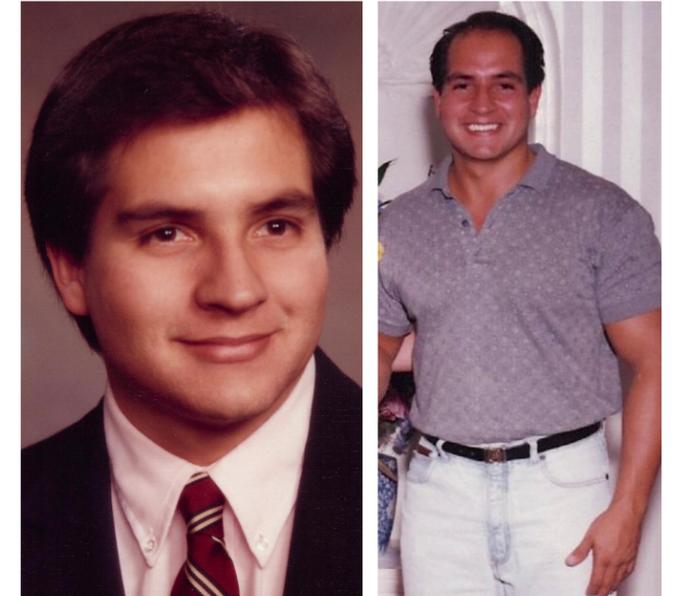
“The reason I chose MCW was that facility-wise and community-wise it was head and shoulders above any of the other medical schools I was accepted to.”

– Dr. Mark Avila



“The reason I chose MCW was that facility-wise and community-wise it was head and shoulders above any of the other medical schools I was accepted to,” he shares. “The atmosphere at the new campus in Wauwatosa was invigorating. Coming from far away and not knowing anybody was a bit frightening, but there were a lot of minority students, which helped me absorb the shock of being in a strange place like Milwaukee. And MCW provided an excellent training program supported by state-of-the-art facilities,” he adds. Dr. Avila recalls his “incredible” professors, most notably James Cerletty, MD '58, FEL '64; Allen Cowley, Jr., PhD; Elsa Cohen, MD; Edmund Duthie, MD, GME '79; and Marvin Wagner, MD, 44, MS '51.

After graduating from MCW in 1985, Dr. Avila did a three-year residency in internal medicine at Tucson Hospitals Medical



(l-r) Dr. Mark Avila just before starting medical school at MCW in 1981, and shortly after his graduation in 1985.

Education Program (now part of the University of Arizona) and practiced for 18 months in Kentucky before entering his hepatology fellowship at the University of Miami in 1990. He completed an additional fellowship in gastroenterology at the University of Florida-Jacksonville in 1994 and entered private practice in Miami that same year. In 2016, he and a partner founded the Center for Digestive Medicine in Miami, specializing in hepatology and gastroenterology. Additionally, Dr. Avila earned an MBA from the University of Miami in 2012.

From 2002–2006, Dr. Avila served as an appointee of Governor Jeb Bush on the Florida Board of Medicine (FBM). Since 2011, Dr. Avila has been chair of the FBM's Probable Cause Panel South. He is active in clinical trials involving therapy for Hepatitis C and gastroenterological diseases, and has been married for six years to Alexis Reyes, a special education teacher.

Throughout his career, Dr. Avila has continued his connection with MCW – having served three terms on the Alumni Association Board (2004–2013) and numerous Reunion Committees. “I've always tried to maintain a relationship with MCW because it has been important for me to give back. I have loved attending the regional conferences and reunions and reconnecting with other alumni. Medicine is my life, and I will never forget that MCW put me on this path.” ■ –SARA L. WILKINS

An Alternative to Surgery for Uncomplicated Pediatric Appendicitis

Each year in the US, more than 70,000 children undergo an appendectomy to treat appendicitis – the inflammation of the finger-shaped pouch in the lower right abdomen. Appendectomies, which involve the complete removal of the appendix, are one of the most common surgeries pediatric surgeons perform. But a study published online on July 27, 2020, in the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* suggests that a nonoperative treatment option of antibiotics could be offered to families whose children have uncomplicated appendicitis.

Between 2015–2018, as part of the Midwest Pediatric Surgery Consortium, 10 children’s hospitals participated in a non-randomized clinical trial comparing antibiotics alone versus surgery for uncomplicated pediatric appendicitis. Thomas T. Sato, MD, and Dave R. Lal, MD, FEL ’07, both MCW professors of surgery (pediatric surgery), led the study for Children’s Wisconsin.

“The study received \$2.8 million from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute, and we designed the trial using patient/parent choice to determine treatment,” Dr. Sato explains. The 1,068 families who were eligible and enrolled in the study were educated about the risks and benefits of each treatment option, and then could choose if they wanted an appendectomy or a nonoperative treatment. The latter involved a minimum of 24 hours of IV antibiotics before switching to oral antibiotics – administered first at the hospital and then at home. About one-third of the participants chose the antibiotics treatment.

The study group then followed both cohorts of patients for a year to determine the success rate of nonoperative management of appendicitis and compare differences in treatment-related disability, patient satisfaction and post-treatment complications.

“The most important findings were that over two-thirds of children with uncomplicated appendicitis may be safely and effectively treated with antibiotics alone, and at one year, there was a significant reduction in reported disability days compared to children treated by appendectomy,” Dr. Sato shares. The study group defines disability days as the total number of days the child was not able to participate in all normal activities secondary to appendicitis-related care. Both the surgical and nonsurgical treatment groups also reported similar health-care satisfaction at 30 days and quality of life at one year.

The results offer a change in practice for Dr. Sato and his colleagues. “Surgeons have selection bias, and most of us look at a 30 percent failure rate as less than optimal,” he says.



New clinical trial results published in JAMA suggest that a nonoperative treatment option of antibiotics could be offered to families whose children have uncomplicated appendicitis.

“Meanwhile, pediatricians look at a 70 percent nonoperative success rate and feel it’s an effective therapy that should be offered to children and families. Our group has adopted the latter approach, and most offer nonoperative management using our initial eligibility criteria, particularly if the family asks for it.”

Having an option to choose antibiotics instead of surgery allows families to make decisions based on factors such as their child’s wellbeing but also whether or not they can take the time off from work or school for surgery, plans that a surgical intervention might impact and cost of surgery.

The study group notes that only about 20 percent of all patients who presented at the 10 participating hospitals with acute appendicitis during this four-year period were eligible to participate in the clinical trial; the vast majority of patients didn’t meet the criteria for an antibiotics option and required appendectomies. Another possible limiting factor of antibiotic treatment is the longer-term outcomes.

“We need to understand the durability of nonoperative management of childhood appendicitis over time,” Dr. Sato explains. “We know that the initial success rate with antibiotics alone was 89.3 percent and at one year was 70.2 percent, suggesting that there’s a subset of children who will get recurrent appendicitis. We’re trying to follow the nonoperative cohort over several years to see what the ‘appendectomy-free’ rate looks like over time.” ■

– KARRI STOCK

Evolving the Living Drug

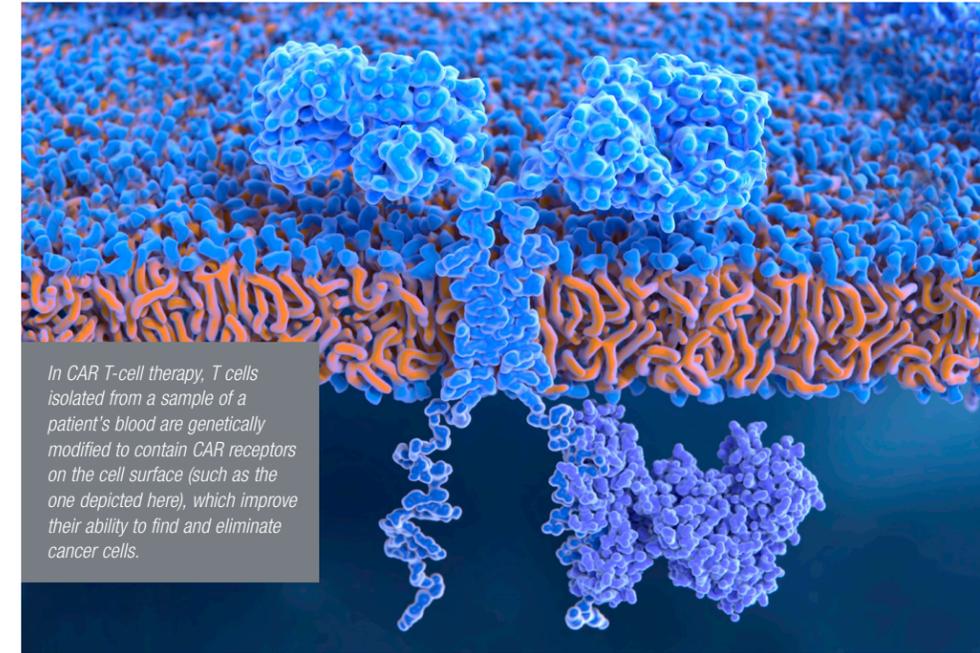
MCW physician-scientists seek to improve immunotherapies to better treat cancer

The concept that the body’s immune system could be used to destroy cancer dates back at least 3,000 years to anecdotal accounts from ancient Egypt of tumors disappearing without treatment or after patients had recovered from infection. Developing and testing potential treatments based on bolstering a patient’s own immune system has required significant research to better understand the immune system and its role in cancer. A notable milestone was reached in the late 1960s with better insight gained about the T cell and its job eliminating virus-infected cells and cancer cells.

T cells recognize foreign entities by interacting with molecules known as antigens that are present on the surfaces of pathogens and cancer cells. Recent advances in genetic engineering allow clinicians and researchers to make the body’s own T cells even more effective against cancer cells through a technology known as chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy.

“In this treatment approach, a sample of blood from a patient is separated into its components so that T cells can be isolated, genetically modified to contain CAR receptors on the cell surface, and then multiplied into the millions of cells needed for an effective dose that is injected back into the patient,” says Nirav Shah, MD, MSHP, MCW associate professor of medicine (hematology and oncology).

Some cancer cells can hide their surface antigens from naturally occurring T cells. CAR T cells, however, are better able to locate a specific antigen on the surface of cancer cells in order to find and eliminate them. Unlike chemotherapies and most other medicines (which are inanimate molecules that eventually break down within the body), CAR T cells are considered “living drugs” that



In CAR T-cell therapy, T cells isolated from a sample of a patient’s blood are genetically modified to contain CAR receptors on the cell surface (such as the one depicted here), which improve their ability to find and eliminate cancer cells.

can continue to expand while cancer cells with the specific target antigen are present in the body.

Currently, long-term progression-free survival after treatment with current FDA-approved CAR T-cell products ranges from 30–40 percent for aggressive B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma. The two approved therapies both target the cancer cell antigen CD19.

“Our number one goal is to continue to evolve CAR T-cell therapy and improve outcomes through innovation,” Dr. Shah notes. He and his team recently published results in *Nature Medicine* regarding a first-in-the-world phase I clinical trial that simultaneously targets two different cancer cell antigens – CD19 and CD20 – in individuals suffering from relapsed and refractory B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphomas.

“We know that cancer cells in patients who have relapsed after receiving current CAR T-cell therapies demonstrate less of the CD19 antigen as

an adaptation. The goal of this trial was to demonstrate the safety and potential efficacy of an approach targeting two antigens as a solution to this challenge,” Dr. Shah explains.

Within 28 days of the treatment, 82 percent of the 22 study participants who achieved the target dose had responded positively to the treatment. Six months later, more than half were in complete remission, which means that the signs and symptoms of cancer were undetectable.

“We’ve now demonstrated safety and feasibility and learned a lot about the best dosage. I’m encouraged by the results and look forward to learning more about the effectiveness of the treatment in the next trial with a larger number of participants,” Dr. Shah adds. He will be the principal investigator of a national, multicenter phase II trial that may start enrolling participants in the first quarter of 2021. ■

– GREG CALHOUN

Renowned Scientist Joins MCW Cancer Center as New Director

Gustavo Leone, PhD, also named as holder of Dr. Glenn R. and Nancy A. Linnerson Endowed Chair for Cancer Research

In the first few weeks of 2020, just as Gustavo Leone, PhD, was considering whether he should accept an offer to become director of the Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center, few were predicting that the novel coronavirus would significantly slow the academic and research programs at the nation's college and universities – including the cancer investigations and clinical trials taking place at MCW and around the world.

For an academic researcher and faculty leader like Dr. Leone, who thrives on the intellectual atmosphere generated as scientists and physicians tackle medicine's toughest problems, it was an

inauspicious start.

“Obviously, this slowdown was not good for our science,” Dr. Leone notes. “When everything is virtual, it's not necessarily an environment that leads to the spontaneous and organic development of innovative ideas you see when scientists are in the same space working together.”

Even in the midst of a pandemic, however, the enthusiasm Dr. Leone shows for his work and his optimism in the fight against cancer left him excited about the opportunities and advantages at MCW, including the planned construction of a new cancer research facility and the presence of so many

top-notch investigators, physicians and healthcare professionals devoted to preventing and curing cancer.

“Having to quickly adapt and come up with new ways of continuing our work allowed us to become more efficient and adopt new ways of looking at our work,” he says. “We learned a lot.”

Dr. Leone formally took the reins of the MCW Cancer Center in April and also was appointed senior associate dean of cancer research and professor with tenure in the department of biochemistry. He also holds the Dr. Glenn R. and Nancy A. Linnerson Endowed Chair For Cancer Research.

Dr. Leone's charge is to develop interdisciplinary cancer research programs that translate new treatments for patients as MCW seeks a designation from the National Cancer Institute. He also is integrating the research efforts with the Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Network, where he oversees clinical operations.

“The pull for me to come here was the people,” he says, noting the MCW researchers and clinical specialists serving patients at MCW's healthcare partners.

“When we have our Cancer Center executive council meetings, it's 90 minutes of great conversation focused entirely on the science and the patients. It's not about who wins. It's just about getting to the best solutions,” he adds.

In his role, Dr. Leone intends to elevate the work that scientists and healthcare teams do together to get the most effective treatments to patients.

“The research has a high rate of return when it benefits from the real problems we see in patients and is fed



back into the basic science and clinical trials,” he notes. “I always ask myself, what new findings are we seeing in structural biology, immunology, genomics and epigenetics that will have an impact in the clinics?”

Dr. Leone's own research focuses on identifying how disruption of critical cell cycle regulatory pathways contributes to uncontrolled cell growth – a hallmark of cancer – as well as cell-to-cell communication. His work has been continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) since 1999, and other extramural sources.

While everyone's path to a career in science is different, Dr. Leone's journey stands out from most. As a child, his family immigrated to Canada from a low-income section of Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay.

After dropping out of a local univer-

sity in Calgary, he and a girlfriend saved

enough money to embark on a motorcycle

journey through the US and South

America. On the trip, he says, he

encountered people who changed his

outlook on life.

“The people we met humbled me

with their generosity and the hard work

they have to do for their families and

their communities. I learned people

potentially of science.

That potential still drives his excitement

and optimism – and even more so as

research laboratories are safely

reopening. He notes that the spread of

COVID-19 served as a vivid reminder

that academic research is vital for the

future health of our communities.

“This was a significant health prob-

lem of national and international pro-

portions,” he says, “and we have so

many brilliant people here trying to put

it all together and solve the problem.

Yet our scientists and physicians

remain focused on solving cancer.”

– MICHAEL J. MATHIAS

“Having to quickly adapt and come

up with new ways of continuing our

work allowed us to become more

efficient and adopt new ways of

looking at our work.”

– Dr. Gustavo Leone

really are the same everywhere and

entitled to the dignity and respect for

that work,” Dr. Leone remarks.

In Mexico, after an accident left him

briefly unconscious and his motorcycle

in need of repairs, he was given shelter

by a family who made room for them

for the three weeks they needed before

they could start off on their trip again.

“This was a family that all slept in

the same room, but they opened their

house and shared everything with us

until we were ready to go,” he says. “I've

tried to remember that kindness they

showed to us as complete strangers in

my own life, and, hopefully, I have

transferred that to my kids.”

After 14 months on the road, Dr.

Leone returned to Canada, where he

briefly ran a martial arts school while

enrolled in the University of Calgary.

After receiving his undergraduate

degree, he took up research as a gradu-

ate student in virology. From then on, he

was hooked on the excitement and

Linnerson Endowed Chair

Dr. Leone holds the Dr. Glenn R. and Nancy A. Linnerson Endowed Chair for Cancer Research, which was provided to MCW as part of an estate gift.

The Linnersons had a strong belief in and love for medical research, and, after a personal experience with cancer, were determined to leave a legacy supporting cancer research now and in the future.

Support from the endowed fund was designated by the Linnersons to provide resources that advance oncology research and discovery, particularly in the fields of genomics or immunotherapy research. ■

NEWS FOR ALUMNI

Reimagining Everything We Do and Finding the Best Ways to Move Forward

As I take on the role of the Alumni Association Board President, I am honored to be working with MCW to represent the voice of our 18,000+ alumni living and working around the world. And I am fortunate to follow the exemplary leadership shown by Barbara Calkins, MD '96.

At the core of MCW's mission is educating and training skilled doctors, scientists, pharmacists and healthcare professionals who are prepared to meet the ever-changing needs of the communities they serve. In this extraordinary time, the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association's role as a vital campus partner working collaboratively to advance MCW is more important than ever.

Like so many, I have had to rise to the occasion as a physician, scientist and teacher fueled by inspiration from colleagues, staff and students to look ahead with a new perspective. We will continue to reimagine everything we do. People have adapted and even thrived in this environment with new ways of learning, insights into research, new ways to see patients, being open to new information and receiving knowledge through new platforms.

The summer issue of *MCW Magazine* was delivered electronically, Memory Books delivered by email, communication was increased through the Alumni E-Newsletter, and virtual learning programs were added. Your Alumni Association is here to serve you in ways that are meaningful. Our ability to connect is vital; if you are



"...I am honored to be working with MCW to represent the voice of our 18,000+ alumni living and working around the world."

— Dr. Matthew Goldblatt

not receiving the Alumni E-Newsletter, please share your contact information at alumni@mcw.edu.

We are working to create resources to support students as they navigate this unprecedented learning environment, and we know that connecting these students with those in our MCW alumni community is a powerful resource. Please join me at mcwengage.com.

While COVID-19 disrupted our in-person Alumni Weekend, we were able to recognize amazing people who earned Alumni Association Awards. In addition, we welcomed new alumni leadership to the board of directors and now have 100 percent of our alumni regions covered. I am also grateful to those in our alumni community who have contributed to the vibrancy of the MCW learning environment through the Hope to Health Campaign.

In closing, I ask that you begin to think about recognition for 2021. The Alumni Association Award nominations are due December 31, 2020, and we have a very accomplished alumni community worthy of identification. We look forward to meeting again, safely and in person. ■

Alumni Association Awards

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

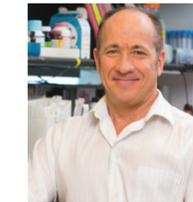
NEIL R. GUENTHER, MD '83, GME '86 '88



Dr. Guenther is the immediate past president of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association and its longest-serving president – having stepped in to serve two consecutive one-year terms at a critical time of transition. Under his leadership the ENGAGE online alumni platform, monthly e-newsletter and strategic goals were developed. ■

GRADUATE SCHOOL ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

JEFFERY D. MOKKENTIN, PHD '94



Dr. Molkentin serves as director, division of molecular cardiovascular biology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, co-director of the Heart Institute, professor of pediatrics and Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. He studies all aspects of heart and skeletal muscle cells, including how they die. His laboratory has made significant international contributions to stem cell therapy for the heart. ■

HONORARY ALUMNUS

ALLEN W. COWLEY, JR., PHD



In 2019, Dr. Cowley stepped down after 38 years as chair of physiology at MCW. He is an international leader in cardiovascular research and has made semi-

nal observations that have advanced our understanding of hypertension with a bold vision of systems approaches to the understanding of complex biological functions. Through this award, we hope to mark his historic contributions to the institution and the field. ■

HUMANITARIAN AWARD

STEVEN E. LARSON, MD '75, GME '78, FEL '80



Dr. Larson is an infectious disease specialist who served Riverside and San Bernardino, Calif. Counties. He has worked extensively in the area of HIV care on a global scale and vol-

unteered in southeast Asia to assist refugees – delivering babies, treating tuberculosis patients, teaching residents about infectious disease and providing hospital consultations and outpatient clinical care. Dr. Larson also served the 40,000+ members of the California Medical Association as its president in 2015-2016. ■

MEDICAL SCHOOL ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

MARLENE D. MELZER-LANGE, MD '75, GME '78



For more than 40 years, Dr. Melzer-Lange has treated the urgent health-care needs of youths as a pediatric emergency medicine specialist and faculty member at MCW. Since 2001, she has been medical director of Project Ujima, a collaborative community effort focused on ending firearm and assault violence among children and adolescents in Milwaukee. ■

Newly Elected Alumni Association Board of Directors



THOMAS DEHOOP, MD '90, GME '91



JOSÉ FRANCO, MD '90, GME '93, FEL '94



THOMAS M. KRUMMEL, MD '77



BETTY S. PACE, MD '81, GME '84

Learn more about our entire board of directors at www.mcw.edu/alumni.

Members of the Class of 1970



- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| John M. Amatruda, MD | Vincent J. Guzzetta, MD | Louis W. Ragonetti, MD |
| Paul J. Anselmo, MD* | Richard C. Heitsch, MD | John H. Raney, MD |
| Gerald E. Auger, MD* | Beate M. Henz, MD | Mary L. Sanfelippo, MD |
| Richard P. Barthel, MD | Dennis K. Iglar, MD | James P. Schieffer, MD |
| Robert M. Bender, MD* | John E. Inman, MD* | Robert T. Schmidt, MD |
| Kenneth C. Benson, MD | John S. Irons, MD | George R. Schneider, MD |
| David K. Bone, MD* | Arthur W. Kaemmer, MD | Paul R. Schneider, MD |
| James T. Breeden, MD | Roman R. Kaunas, MD* | James R. Schwade, MD |
| Jeffrey E. Brown, MD | William R. Kleis, MD | Robert J. Scott, MD |
| John J. Brush, MD* | Roger A. Konwal, MD | Lawrence D. Sharpe, MD |
| James T. Casper, MD | Dennis M. Korger, MD | Richard M. Skibba, MD |
| Christopher C. Choporis, MD | Jeffrey M. Kraut, MD | John H. Stasiewicz, MD |
| James M. Cohen, MD | Mark G. Langenfeld, MD* | Thomas J. Stemper, MD |
| Lawrence M. Condon, MD | Stephen J. Lauer, MD | Larry W. Stephenson, MD |
| Michael J. Conway, MD | Donald R. Mackay, MD | Sister Marilu Townsend, MD |
| Francis V. Cook, MD | Samuel O. Mayeda, MD | John F. Tures, MD |
| Tony M. Deeths, MD | Michael F. McDermott, MD | James J. Urick, MD |
| James J. Dickman, II, MD | Robert McVie, MD | John C. Wandtke, MD |
| Edmund R. Donoghue, Jr., MD | Greg C. Meyer, MD | Michael B. Weinstein, MD |
| Daniel E. Doran, MD | Jane L. Neumann, MD | George L. Wilkinson, MD |
| David J. Driscoll, MD | Robert A. Nordland, MD | William J. Willems, MD* |
| Arthur J. Elman, MD | Rosario J. Noto, MD | Gary A. Wilson, MD* |
| Mary K. Feirtag-Rasmussen, MD* | J. Scott Nystrom, MD* | Patrick F. Wilson, MD |
| Mary Fernandez-Clowry, MD | James T. Patten, MD | Michael J. Witte, MD |
| Robert M. Flanigan, MD | Thomas M. Pelant, MD | Bill W. B. Yeung, MD |
| George T. Frommell, MD | Robert L. Pendergast, MD | Dominic A. Zazzarino, MD |
| Michael A. Giuliano, MD | Joseph L. Petrusek, MD | John P. Zimmermann, MD |
| Peter M. Grey, MD | Robert A. Pfeffer, MD | Herbert J. Zimmers, MD |
| John R. Grow, MD | Robert O. Pohl, MD | |
| Terry L. Gueldner, MD | William F. Prudlow, MD | |

*Deceased

Issuing a Matching Challenge to the 50-Year Reunion Class

From an early age, Art Kaemmer, MD '70, has shown enthusiasm for helping others. Throughout his training and practice as a pediatrician, he observed the degree to which the hospital experience could be frightening to children – and he began to take measures to lessen their worry. This approach led to helping institutionalize the field of child wellness.

Dr. Kaemmer's desire to assist others, and to motivate his peers to do the same, also has been realized through his philanthropic giving. This year, Dr. Kaemmer extended a matching challenge to his fellow alumni from the MCW Class of 1970 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their graduation from medical school. His gift of \$250,000 will benefit the scholarship fund previously established by the Class in honor of former MCW President and CEO T. Michael Bolger, JD, so that future generations of students could receive the same educational opportunities that members of the Class of 1970 enjoyed.



"I desired to give back to my medical school alma mater because I feel I owe [it] a huge debt of gratitude..."

– Dr. Art Kaemmer

Dr. Kaemmer's gift, leveraged by the Class of 1970 Reunion Committee's "50 for 50" challenge, was meant to encourage his former classmates to support MCW.

"I desired to give back to my medical school alma mater because I feel I owe a huge debt of gratitude for the person the institution helped me become," says Dr. Kaemmer as he reflects on his numerous generous philanthropic gifts to MCW.

Dr. Kaemmer had a long career as a respected pediatrician. After completing his residency in 1973 at the Maine Medical Center in Portland, he practiced pediatric medicine for his entire career at HealthPartners in Saint Paul, Minn. During these years, Dr. Kaemmer championed the wellbeing of hospitalized children and handed out "Super Kid" stickers to his patients.

In 2011, this desire to give back and his concern for the wellbeing of children led to the establishment at MCW of the Kaemmer Professorship in Pediatrics: The "Super Kid" Chair in Special Needs, now held by Timothy E. Corden, MD, a professor of pediatrics at MCW and director of the Special Needs Program at Children's Wisconsin. "Children often have a limited capacity to comprehend the circumstances of their illness or hospitalization. I wanted the hospital to be a better place for kids, especially those with special needs," notes Dr. Kaemmer. He and his late wife, Martha, established the endowed fund to secure resources for children that would improve their experiences during hospital visits and longer stays – and help ease the anxiety that parents and caregivers experience trying to navigate the hospital system.

One of Dr. Kaemmer's most memorable moments in medical school occurred just a few days before graduation: delivering his first child in the bathroom in the apartment he shared with Martha. At his commencement, Eleanor Delfs, MD, then the Patrick J. & Margaret G. McMahan Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology, singled him out, saying she didn't know whether to give him an "A" for effort or an "F" for failure to recognize the signs of impending delivery. Perhaps this was a fitting start to a career dedicated to helping children and their families! ■

– EMILY MARQUARDT

Supporting Student Scholarships

James T. Breeden, MD '70, was looking forward to celebrating the 50th anniversary of his graduation from medical school this year. His plans changed, along with those of the rest of the Class of 1970, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. But his career, starting with medical school, prepared him well for unexpected challenges and opportunities.

Reflecting on his notable medical school moments, Dr. Breeden shares that on the first day of his clinical obstetric rotation, "I ended up completing my first delivery in an elevator while trying to get to L&D. Fortunately the patient was experienced and talked me through the delivery." This learning moment preceded his long career in obstetrics and gynecology.

Dr. Breeden is president of the Carson Medical Group in Carson City, Nev., and chair of the Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center board of directors. He served as chief of staff at Carson-Tahoe Hospital, chaired its OB/GYN department and is a longtime member of its executive board. Dr. Breeden has been active in the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), serving on its executive board for 10 years – and from 2012–2013, served as ACOG's 63rd president.

In that role, Dr. Breeden was an outspoken advocate for women's healthcare issues. His presidential task force on Leadership in the 21st Century studied the challenges of gender and generational change, and workforce and lifestyle balance, in training and inspiring future ACOG leaders. Dr. Breeden has been a featured speaker at many national and international medical meetings.

Giving back to MCW is important to Dr. Breeden, as medical school was a turning point in his life. Dr. Breeden notes, "I was the first generation in my family to attend college, and the experience changed my life. I want others to have the same opportunities that I have had."

He wants to help others afford the cost of medical education – especially those from backgrounds similar to his. Dr. Breeden and his wife, Midge, previously established the Dr. and Mrs. James T. Breeden Endowed Scholarship Fund, which supports medical students who exemplify Dr. Breeden's dedication to the field of medicine. The Breedens continue to build the fund each year.

Dr. Breeden's Class of 1970 Reunion Committee (on which he served as a leader) established the "50 for 50" challenge to encourage gifts of \$1,000 for each year that individual class members have been practicing as physicians. The challenge was inspired by the matching challenge Art Kaemmer, MD '70, made to the Class (see page 19).

Giving back to MCW is important to Dr. Breeden, as medical school was a turning point in his life.



Dr. James Breeden and his wife, Midge.

The Breedens set an early example by making a \$50,000 commitment to the challenge. Although disappointed that the Class was unable to celebrate its reunion this year due to the pandemic, Dr. Breeden is hopeful that his former classmates will accept the challenge to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their graduation from medical school by giving generously to MCW. This most recent gift from the Breedens will supplement their scholarship fund. ■

– EMILY MARQUARDT

Reflections on 30 Years as a Clinician, Educator and Leader

It was August of 1986 – and my first day as an incoming student at the Medical College of Wisconsin. My heart beat a little quicker and my step had a little more bounce due to the excitement of the challenges ahead of me.

Now, as I look forward to my 30-year MCW class reunion, that excitement is still there every time I go to "work" at MCW. What was supposed to be four years in Milwaukee has turned into calling the city "home."

As a graduate of MCW (where I also completed my residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in gastroenterology), I have the opportunity to care for patients, train future physicians and scientists, and take several leadership roles – all while working with a group of colleagues who share my passion. If I had to do it all over again, I would not change a thing.

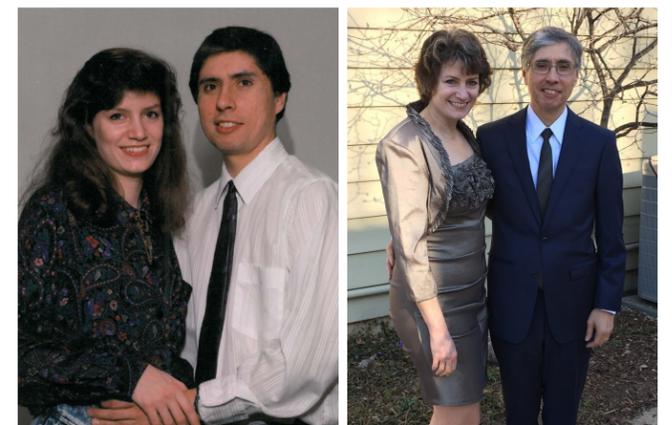
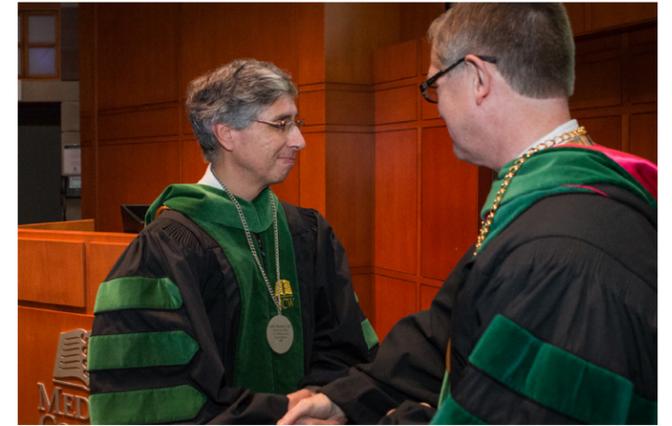
My training has allowed me to provide hepatology care to patients ranging from those with mild lab abnormalities to those requiring liver transplantation. This is challenging but rewarding work. I greatly value – and never want to forget – this privilege to provide care for others. And I am extremely proud to have cared for some of these same patients for more than 25 years!

While not initially seeing myself as an educator, others saw this potential in me. Mentors such as Drs. Walter Hogan, Mark Adams and the "three Jims" (Cerletty, Zeller and Sebastian) were able to take complex theories and simplify them for students, which inspired me to make teaching a part of my own career. Being around our medical students has kept me young and invigorated. Each day, they challenge me to do better. Over the years, I have been fortunate to receive multiple awards from MCW, but the two I cherish most were both awarded by students: the *T. Michael Bolger Standing Ovation Award* and the *Leonard Tow Humanism Award*. These awards represent what I believe are the most important aspects of medicine: professionalism, empathy, dedication and character.

Taking on leadership roles also was something I never envisioned, but MCW provided me with the necessary tools to contribute in meaningful ways. I have had the privilege of being a course and clerkship director, to chair the curriculum committee, work with others to develop and implement the Discovery Curriculum, and serve in my current role as the inaugural associate dean for educational improvement and the director of the Community

"Now, as I look forward to my 30-year MCW class reunion, that excitement is still there every time I go to 'work' at MCW."

– Dr. José Franco



Top: Dr. José Franco is congratulated by Dr. John R. Raymond, Sr., at Convocation 2015.

Bottom (l-r): Drs. Rose and José Franco, circa 1990, and in 2020.

and Institutional Engagement Pillar at the Kern Institute for the Transformation of Medical Education.

Serving on the MCW/Marquette Alumni Association Board is the least I can do for a school that has given me so much. Sharing my story with others allows me to ensure that those who follow will have similar opportunities.

During these unprecedented times, it is easy to dwell on the many challenges ahead. When interacting with students, I tell them to reflect, strive for work-life balance (my wife, Rose Betzold Franco, MD '91, is my foundation and helps keep me grounded) and recognize that MCW is there for them – today and in the future. ■

– DR. JOSÉ FRANCO

Residency Match Benefits MCW

Legacy gift creates endowed chair in orthopaedic shoulder surgery research

When Stephen Brenneke, MD, GME '77, set out to define his path in life, the defining moments were not monumental twists of fate. Rather, they were small but still influential moments of advice, “on-the-fly” decisions, invaluable support and paths that intersected with exceptional people.

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) was home to a number of those moments – the reason he and his wife, Marjorie, committed to one of the institution’s largest legacy gifts to create the Stephen L. Brenneke, MD, Chair in Orthopaedic Shoulder Surgery Research at MCW.

“MCW espouses the same values in medicine that I do. It possesses clinical excellence but also basic science for shoulder surgery research,” says Dr. Brenneke.

As influential moments go, a sizable one for Dr. Brenneke came on a three-hour drive from his hometown of Portland, Ore., to Spokane, Wash., to visit Gonzaga University, where he was to study engineering as an undergraduate. His father,



Marjorie and Dr. Stephen Brenneke.

(Photo credit: Gonzaga University)

himself an engineer, talked him out of the vocation, saying that success led to more management and less actual engineering. There wasn’t a “Plan B,” but his mother had ideas.

She was a highly qualified nurse who had attended Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Spokane. “Mom and I were best of friends, and she thought it would be natural for me to follow her into medicine. My switching to pre-med at Gonzaga was a dream come true for her,” Dr. Brenneke shares.

Upon graduation from Gonzaga and then the Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine in 1971, Dr. Brenneke

sought a residency. He received word from two friends attending MCW that the school was a great place to train.

“It turned out to be a great residency match,” he recalls. “We could pick and choose, and I picked a rotating internship – emergency room, surgery, medicine. It was just fascinating and offered so many great experiences.”

Dr. Brenneke says he and Jeffrey Schwab, MD, GME '78, “were great friends during our residencies. MCW could not have picked a better department chair for orthopaedics.” (Dr. Schwab served as chair from 1997-2015.)

“Then I was blessed to study under exceptional surgeons such as Paul Jacobs, MD, a bright, involved orthopaedic surgeon and a stellar mentor, and Don Gore, MD, who had a busy practice in Sheboygan but would come down to the Woods VA and do basic science research in orthopaedics. That concept stuck with me,” Dr. Brenneke continues.

After practicing a short time in Wisconsin, Dr. Brenneke moved back to Portland. There, he teamed up with Norm Logan, MD, who specialized in knee surgeries. “Norm knew everyone, including people he connected me with at the popular Slocum Clinic and at my med school alma mater, where I did research on shoulders,” Dr. Brenneke shares. “In the 1980s, this was considered the unknown frontier of orthopaedic research.”

Portland is also where he met Marjorie, a recovery room nurse who had a degree in healthcare administration. “After we were married and I developed a sports medicine practice, she ended up running it. She was critical to the whole process,” he adds.

Dr. Brenneke stays busy these days, putting his pilot’s license to good use and relearning Italian – among other activities. His influences were many, and with the gift of his endowed chair, he and Marjorie have now set the stage for their own influence on future orthopaedic research at MCW. ■

– JOHN BURLINGHAM

THINKING OF MAKING A GIFT?

To learn how to leave a legacy that will rewrite someone’s tomorrow, contact Stephen Davis, director of planned giving, at (414) 805-3308 or legacyinfo@mcw.edu.

First-in-State Fellowship-Trained Pediatric/Adolescent Gynecologist

The field of pediatric and adolescent gynecology is so unique that only 11 teaching hospitals in the US and three in Canada offer fellowship training in this burgeoning subspecialty. The fellowship trains physicians to manage both common and uncommon pediatric and adolescent gynecologic conditions, become skilled in a broad range of surgical techniques, manage complex reproductive anomalies and employ an interdisciplinary approach to reconstructive surgery.

MCW can now boast that one of its alumni has joined the ranks of this exclusive cadre of physicians providing gynecological care for pediatric and adolescent populations, as Katherine Haake Hayes, MD '10, recently became the first fellowship-trained pediatric and adolescent gynecologist in the state of Utah with her appointment as assistant clinical professor at University of Utah Health.

Raised in Colfax, Wis., Dr. Hayes had always been interested in medicine. She was a pre-med major at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and set her sights on MCW. “I had heard really great things about the third and fourth years of medical school there, and they did not disappoint,” she shares. “The clinical experiences were incredible! They shaped a lot of who I am as a physician. All of the residents were so great. They really took the time to show us how to experience the joy of medicine.”

Dr. Hayes is particularly beholden to

Kathy King, MD, GME '01, MS, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at MCW, who trained her in the intricacies of left-handed surgery even though Dr. King herself was right-handed. “Teaching left-handed surgery is tricky, and lots of people aren’t comfortable teaching left-handed medical students. But Dr. King showed me how to sew, repair lacerations and tie knots – all left-handed. Those kind of meaningful interactions stick with you for life,” Dr. Hayes recalls fondly.

After graduating from MCW in 2010, Dr. Hayes completed her obstetrics and gynecology residency at the San Antonio (Texas) Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium (at San Antonio Military Medical Center). She then served as an active duty Air Force obstetrician/gynecologist for four years, spending time at both Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany and San Antonio Military Medical Center.

In 2018, following her time in the Air Force, Dr. Hayes began a two-year fellowship in pediatric and adolescent gynecology at Boston Children’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School. After graduation, she and her husband, Patrick, and children, Greta, 7, and Karl, 5, moved to the Salt Lake City area for her current job.

“My area of interest and research is complex pelvic malformations. Throughout the US – including at MCW – there are a number of combined colorectal centers that have a pediatric colorectal surgeon, a pediatric urologist, a pediatric gastroenterologist and a pediatric gynecologist. Utah Health was the last such center not to have a dedicated, fellowship-trained pediatric gynecologist, which has enabled me



Top: Dr. Hayes treats a patient on a humanitarian mission to the Dominican Republic, 2014.

Bottom: Dr. Hayes and her husband, Patrick, on a ski trip to Utah, 2019.

to start a program there,” Dr. Hayes remarks.

Dr. Hayes continues to sing MCW’s praises. “I feel so lucky to have trained at MCW. When I talk to pre-med students, I resoundingly recommend MCW as a place to train. I love how at MCW, students came from all over the country and are now specialists practicing all over the country. I know I can reach out to any of my MCW classmates and get answers to my questions.” ■

– SARA L. WILKINS

Passion for Medicine & the Outdoors

Will Smith, MD, GME '04, never imagined that he would treat patients on six continents. Looking back, however, he had prepared his whole life to be a globetrotting physician and wilderness medicine specialist and consultant.

"I grew up on a 22,000-acre cattle ranch in southeast Wyoming and was outdoors all the time. I became proficient in map reading in order to repair fences and locate and fight forest fires. I learned to be self-sufficient in the wilderness," he says. He later found his true calling in an emergency medical technician training course during his senior year of high school. "I worked in the back of the local ambulance and caught the medicine bug," Dr. Smith adds.

While he was applying to medical school, Dr. Smith trained as a paramedic in Denver with the backup plan of obtaining flight paramedic certification. After being admitted to the University of Washington School of Medicine and earning his medical degree, Dr. Smith was then able to go on and practice healthcare in an aviation setting through the Flight for Life program during his emergency medicine residency training at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

"Flight for Life was a major highlight of my time at MCW. It fit well with my paramedic background and my continued interest in providing the best possible pre-hospital care before and during transport. Overall, the program prepared me very well for my careers in emergency medicine, wilderness medicine and military medicine," notes Dr. Smith.

Since completing his residency in 2004, Dr. Smith has practiced emergency medicine in Jackson Hole, Wyo. In 2005, he became medical director for the Grand Teton National Park and one



Dr. Will Smith's emergency medicine residency and Flight for Life experience at MCW helped prepare him for a specialized career in military and wilderness medicine, including serving as medical director for Grand Teton National Park and the entire National Park Service.

(Photo credit: David Bowers)

year later began as medical director for the entire National Park Service – a position he still holds today. In this role, Dr. Smith helps set policies and protocols to ensure health and safety for the more than 300 million people who visit national parks and monuments each year. He has participated in, and led, numerous wilderness medicine and search and rescue trainings and operations. One such incident included coordinating helicopters, rescuers and healthcare providers after a lightning strike led to the largest rescue event in Grand Teton National Park's history, in 2010. Dr. Smith also operates Wilderness and Emergency Medicine Consulting, LLC, through which he has advised clients around the world about how to save lives in the wilderness and other remote areas.

"My work in wilderness medicine has benefited greatly from my experience in military medicine. It is all about being adaptable when you are away from the hospital. I've also been able to apply things that the military has learned, such as the importance of tourniquets

to control life-threatening bleeding," Dr. Smith says. He was commissioned in 2001 and currently serves as a colonel in the US Army Reserve Medical Corps, as the US Army Medical Commands, G34 EMS and disaster medicine branch chief. In his military career Col. Smith has had deployments to Iraq, Kuwait, Croatia, Panama, El Salvador and Egypt.

Dr. Smith counsels pre-med and medical students that it is possible to combine outside interests and a career in medicine, including being an adventurer and a physician.

"For me, I've been privileged to use lessons learned from military medicine to enhance wilderness healthcare so that teams are better prepared to save lives during search and rescue. For others, it may be the emerging field of space exploration medicine or something I can't even dream of today," he shares.

His advice?

"Follow your passion in medicine – and find your frontier." ■

– GREG CALHOUN

Sharing Her Love for MCW

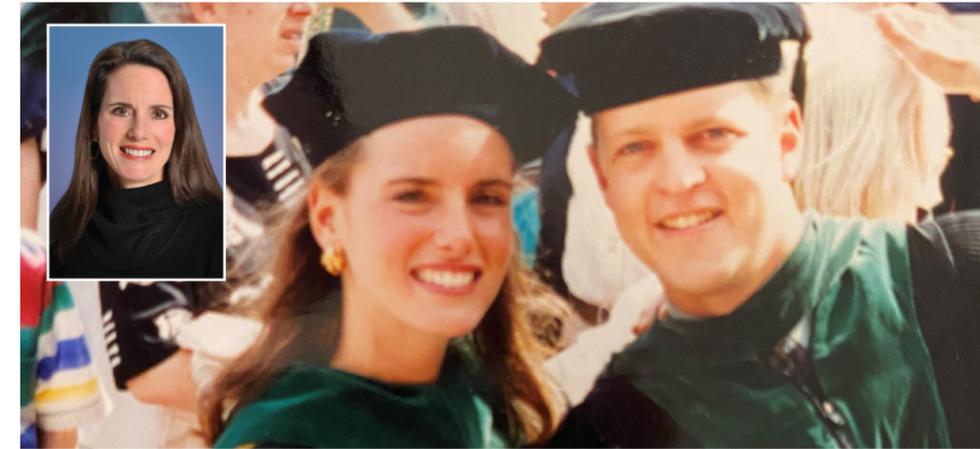
"There are so many things I love about the Medical College of Wisconsin that it's a pleasure to give back," shares Barbara B. Calkins, MD '96, reflecting on the nearly 30-year journey from her first day of medical school, to meeting her future husband, Casey Calkins, MD '96, to recently completing a one-year term as president of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association.

Now a pediatrician with Children's Wisconsin's Westbrook Pediatric Clinic in Brookfield, Barb says she always knew she wanted to be involved in pediatrics in some way. "It has been a privilege to care for children during times of illness and when well, to be an integral part of their lives and the lives of their families, partnering with and guiding parents and impacting them in a positive way."

After graduating from MCW in 1996, the Drs. Calkins headed to the University of Colorado School of Medicine, where Barb and Casey completed residencies in pediatrics and surgery, respectively. Barb then spent a year as a chief resident before entering private practice in Colorado. She also served on the board of the Colorado Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and on the American Board of Pediatrics' Examination Committee.

They moved to Kansas City for Casey's fellowship in pediatric surgery at Children's Mercy Hospital before returning to Milwaukee in 2005 – he as an assistant professor of surgery (pediatric surgery) at MCW and she as a practicing pediatrician with Children's. Casey was promoted to associate professor in 2011 and professor in 2017.

"We had such a great medical school experience and made many wonderful friends with whom we are still close



Drs. Barbara and Casey Calkins on the day of their graduation from MCW in May, 1996.

today. We were thrilled when we had a chance to return here and reconnect with our friends from medical school," Barb shares. "It has been very rewarding to collaborate professionally in the community with these friends and to watch our children grow up together."

Barb also is an accomplished leader. Her leadership roles at MCW include the executive committee of the Alumni Association board for the past six years, as well as the 10- and 20-year Class Reunion Delegate (along with Casey!). Barb also has served on multiple Children's Medical Group committees, sits on its executive board and is a physician leader at Westbrook Pediatrics.

Further, she has mentored medical students and residents for the past 20 years. "It's rewarding to see that some of my former pediatric patients are now enrolled at MCW's medical school," she notes.

After almost 30 years, Barb remains passionate about MCW. "I just loved my experience here and want others to feel the same. Becoming a member of the Alumni Association board has been a great way to give back to the institu-

tion. It's important to support our current students and alumni and keep them engaged," she shares. "It's especially rewarding to see how MCW has become more innovative and grown with the new regional campuses, School of Pharmacy and Master's in Anesthesiology program. We are clearly evolving into one of the best health sciences universities in the country at which to train," she adds.

Barb continues, "Giving back isn't just about financial support, but also about mentorship and making time for reunions, conferences and staying connected. Even when my term ends on the executive committee board, I will continue to enhance current alumni programs and reunions, elevate the Alumni Association to be inclusive of our diverse alumni population, build and define our board, enhance our very first alumni-dedicated communication platform (ENGAGE) to increase collaboration among alumni and students, and continue to mentor and support students – as they are our future alumni." ■

– SARA L. WILKINS

ALUMNI NOTES

1980s

John M. Jaworowicz, MD '82,

is a board-certified anesthesiologist in Naperville, Ill. He has been married for 38 years to Julie Fischer Jaworowicz. They have three married daughters and five grandchildren. Dr. Jaworowicz enjoys racing electric cars and quilting.



Balaraman Kalyanaraman*, PhD, PDF (postdoctoral fellow) '84,

received one of MCW's 2020 Distinguished Service Awards, which is MCW's

highest honor for faculty and staff. He serves as the Harry R. & Angeline E. Quadracci Professor in Parkinson's Research and chair of the department of biophysics. Dr. Kalyanaraman has advanced MCW's academic and educational activities and provided leadership to his department, the MCW Cancer Center and the institution. He is an internationally recognized expert on free radical biochemistry and biology, has authored over 400 research articles and more than 60 reviews and book chapters, and holds eight patents. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) have supported his research continuously for 35 years.

Dr. Kalyanaraman has developed novel approaches to study the free radical system that have contributed to the growth and development of this scientific field. He has served on numerous NIH study sections and various grant review panels in the US and across the globe.

Dr. Kalyanaraman's research con-

tributions have been recognized with numerous awards, including the Silver Medal for Biology and Medicine from the International Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Society and the *Lifetime Achievement Award* from the Society for Free Radical Biology and Medicine.

1990s



Ann Rosenthal*, MD, FEL '90, received one of MCW's 2020 Distinguished Service Awards. She serves as the Will & Cava Ross Professor of Medicine, chief of the

division of rheumatology and director of the MCW Arthritis Institute. She has devoted her academic career to exploring the basic pathophysiology of crystal deposition diseases, educating and mentoring students and trainees, and practicing rheumatology with a focus on the diagnosis and treatment of patients with complex rheumatologic disorders.

Dr. Rosenthal has been an exemplary educator, mentor and advocate for faculty career development, especially for women. From 2012-2019, Dr. Rosenthal served as vice chair for faculty development in MCW's department of medicine. She was awarded the department's *Richard G. Olds Mentoring Award* in 2018 in recognition of her tremendous contributions to faculty development.

Dr. Rosenthal has demonstrated excellence in research at MCW and the Zablocki VA Medical Center. She has garnered continuous extramural funding from the NIH, the VA Merit Review Program and others since 1989.



Erik A. Gundersen, MD, MA, GME '97,

of La Crosse, Wis., is currently serving as the 169th president of the Wisconsin Medical Society.

He is a board-certified family physician and fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians. He recently began a new position with Marathon Health as the medical director of the Kwik Trip Center for Health. Prior to that, Dr. Gundersen practiced family medicine full-time for 20 years with the Gundersen Health System in Onalaska, Wis.

Dr. Gundersen currently serves on the board of the Gundersen Medical Foundation and La Crosse County Medical Society. He has been a society member for more than 25 years and has served on its board of directors and as past chair of the Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation board of directors. He also has served as president of the Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians and the La Crosse County Medical Society.

2000s



Mingyu Liang*, MB, PhD, PDF (postdoctoral fellow) '02, was named the Kohler Co. Professor in Cardiovascular Research at MCW. He joined the MCW faculty in

2002 as assistant professor of physiology, was promoted to associate professor in 2007 and to professor in 2011. In 2015, he was appointed director of the American Heart Association Strategically

Focused Hypertension Research Center at MCW.

Dr. Liang's laboratory focuses on understanding and integrating multiple aspects and components of physiology. Three of his major areas of interest are hypertension, cardiovascular disease and kidney disease. His lab's work in these areas includes research on regulatory RNA and cellular metabolism, as well as precision medicine and epigenomics. His team has a diverse research platform that enables studies that integrate human research with animal and cell model research. They use a variety of approaches including genome-scale analysis; genetic engineering; molecular, biochemical and physiological measurements; and clinical study. Dr. Liang has published more than 130 scholarly articles and presented at more than 80 local, regional, national and international lectures and workshops.



Bruce J. Lanser, MD '09, MPH, graduated with a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Colorado in Boulder in May 2020.

In July 2020, he was promoted to the role of program director of the Pediatric Allergy and Immunology Fellowship Program at National Jewish Health in Denver. As a pediatric allergist and immunologist, Dr. Lanser's primary clinical interests include pediatric food allergy, eosinophilic esophagitis and food protein-induced enterocolitis. His clinical research focuses on pediatric food allergy, including the development of more accurate diagnostic testing for food allergy, understanding the role of baked egg in the natural history of egg allergy and studies involving food allergy immunotherapy.



Lisa M. Kodadek, MD '11, accepted a position as assistant professor of surgery at Yale New Haven Hospital/Yale School of Medicine in the division

of general surgery, trauma and surgical critical care. She cares for patients with surgical disease including acute traumatic injuries, emergency surgical conditions and critical illness.

Dr. Kodadek's clinical outcomes

research within underserved populations mixes methods including qualitative, quantitative and patient engagement approaches. Her studies focus on older adult populations, the critically ill and patients experiencing life-threatening surgical disease. Dr. Kodadek studies patient-centered ways to enhance communication in the intensive care unit setting. She is especially interested in understanding the bioethical challenges involved in caring for critically ill patients.

Dr. Kodadek completed her surgical residency through Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 2018. She also completed a surgical critical care and acute care surgery fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in 2020.

Call for Alumni Award Nominations



Deadline: December 31

Please submit your nominations for the 2021 Alumni Awards online at www.mcw.edu/alumniawards no later than December 31, 2020.

ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

SAVE THE DATE!

September 17-18, 2021
Milwaukee, Wis.

* MCW faculty member

MCW MAGAZINE wants news of your accomplishments and activities. We encourage you to send updates through ENGAGE, MCW's new online platform for alumni. You also can send updates by email to alumni@mcw.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

1940s

Robert E. Bolinske, Sr., MD '48, of St. Louis, Mo., died on April 25, 2020, at the age of 95. He completed his graduate study at St. Louis University School of Medicine and The Ohio State University College of Medicine and served in the US Air Force from 1954–1956. Dr. Bolinske practiced allergy in St. Louis from 1958–2000 and was a clinical professor at St. Louis University Medical School. Throughout his medical career, he volunteered weekly at the allergy clinic at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis. Dr. Bolinske was predeceased by his wife, Anne, and is survived by five children, nine grandchildren and one great-grandson.

1950s

Marita D. Kenna*, MD '51, of Pittsburgh, Pa., died on November 13, 2019. She practiced pediatrics and psychiatry in numerous Pittsburgh hospitals and previously served as a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh. **Paul M. Arnesen, MD, GME '53**, of Alexandria, Minn., died on November 21, 2018, at the age of 95. He served as a medical officer in the US Naval Reserve until 1966 and practiced orthopaedic surgery in Fond du Lac, Wis., at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis–St. Paul and in Mankato, Minn., before retiring in 1993. He was strongly committed to volunteer service with many organizations, including the Douglas County Historical Society, Knute Nelson Hospice and the Kiwanis Club. Because of his dedication to these volunteer groups, he was named a Douglas County Outstanding Senior Citizen and rec-

ognized as a runner-up for the state's Outstanding Senior Citizen program at the Minnesota State Fair in 2016. He is survived by four children and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. **William M. Brennan, MD '59, GME '60**, of Menomonee Falls, Wis., died on April 26, 2020, at the age of 92. He was one of the founding partners of Medical Associates medical group in Menomonee Falls. Dr. Brennan was an avid runner who completed nine marathons. He also made his own wine and loved Irish literature and skiing. **Robert P. Gannon, MD '59**, of Mt. Lebanon, Pa., died on December 7, 2018, at the age of 83. During his career, Dr. Gannon served as head of the division of obstetrics at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, head of the division of gynecology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Mercy Hospital and as clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Pittsburgh and the Medical College of Pennsylvania. He was an early pioneer in colposcopy for the treatment of cervical cancer and retired in 2000 with the honor of having delivered more than 5,000 babies. Dr. Gannon is survived by his wife, Nancy, six children, 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

1960s

Kenneth J. Cichosz, MD '60, of McKinney, Texas, died on April 30, 2020, at the age of 84. He joined an anesthesiology practice in Niagara Falls, N.Y., and served as chief of anesthesia at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center until he retired in 1993. He loved sailing

Lake Ontario with his crew of family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Laura, seven children and 13 grandchildren. **Paul J. Fitzpatrick, MD '61, GME '64**, of Wales, Wis., died on September 3, 2018, at the age of 84. Dr. Fitzpatrick is survived by his wife, Helen, four children and five grandchildren. **William E. Frank, MD '62**, of Forest, Va., died on October 22, 2019, at the age of 84. He retired after a long career in orthopaedic surgery and served for a number of years in the Air Force Reserve. Dr. Frank was a photography enthusiast, a collector of fine art and enjoyed boating and cooking. He is survived by four children and six grandchildren. **Joseph B. Dudley, MD, GME '63**, of Winston-Salem, N.C., died on November 25, 2019, at the age of 87. During high school, he played varsity basketball and won the North Carolina state championship. He also was the starting center and high scorer on the Davidson College (N.C.) basketball team in 1952. Dr. Dudley served as a pathologist at Forsyth Medical Center in Winston-Salem for 36 years. During his career, he served as chair of the department of pathology and director of the blood bank. He was a tournament tennis player who won eight senior titles as well as a licensed private pilot who enjoyed traveling and adventure. Survivors include his wife, Mary, five children, 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. **Gerald J. Dorff, MD '64, FEL '70**, of Hartland, Wis., died on September 18, 2020, at the age of 82. He practiced at Harwood Medical Associates in Brookfield, Wis., for 20 years. He also co-founded and was president

of Infectious Disease Specialists of Southeastern Wisconsin for 20 years. Additionally, he opened a private practice specializing in infectious disease and operated it for 12 years. Dr. Dorff was a recipient of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association *Distinguished Service Award* in 2017. He loved being outdoors and enjoyed hunting, fishing, skiing, camping, flying small-engine planes and cooking. He is survived by his wife, Sandy, eight children, 25 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. **Robert F. Gustke, MD, FEL '68**, of Vienna, W.Va., died on January 14, 2020, at the age of 88. He served for several years as an assistant professor of medicine at MCW and as chief of gastroenterology at what is now the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center. In 1970, Dr. Gustke moved to Parkersburg, W.Va., and opened a practice in internal medicine and gastroenterology. As the area's first gastroenterologist, he was instrumental in creating the endoscopy department at Camden Clark Medical Center in Parkersburg. He loved golfing and fishing. Dr. Gustke is survived by four children and two grandchildren.

1970s

Michael R. Chobanian, MD, GME '73, of Grand Rapids, Mich., died on August 23, 2018, at the age of 74. He served as a pediatrician in Grand Rapids for 36 years and was a prolific reader with a penchant for history. He also enjoyed cooking and loved his basset hounds. Dr. Chobanian is survived by his wife, Janet, four children and nine grandchildren. **Donald J. Ahrenholz, MD, GME '74**, of Wheaton, Ill., died on September 6, 2019, at the age of 85. He was a plastic

surgeon and practiced in West Point, N.Y., at the US Military Academy, as well as in Cedar Falls and Waterloo in Iowa until retiring in 1998. His hobbies included fishing and watching Iowa Hawkeye football. He is survived by his wife, Lynne, three children, 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

1980s

Ellen L. Gawrisch, MD '86, GME '90, of New Berlin, Wis., died on May 8, 2020, at the age of 64. She served as an anesthesiologist for many years at Ascension SE Wisconsin Hospital – St. Joseph Campus in Milwaukee, Ascension SE Wisconsin Hospital – Elmbrook Campus in Brookfield and Mercyhealth Hospital and Trauma Center in Janesville, Wis.

1990s

Barry J. Browne, MD, MS '91, GME '93, of San Diego, died on January 27, 2020, at the age of 60. He completed a Master of Pathology/Experimental Pathology degree at MCW as part of his medical training. He went on to complete his residency at MCW and a fellowship in Texas, eventually starting his career as a transplant surgeon. He was a master of vascular access procedures, but his true passion was for kidney and pancreas transplantation. He loved playing tennis and guitar and enjoyed a good stout. He is survived by his wife, Lori, and three children. **Jeffrey K. Klingbeil, MD '90**, of Menasha, Wis., died on April 1, 2020, at the age of 54. He was a general and colorectal surgeon with Fox Valley Surgical Associates in Appleton, Wis., for

23 years. He also was a dedicated supporter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Survivors include his wife, Diane, and three children. **Jan A. Doose-White, MD '91, GME '95**, of Milwaukee, died on April 16, 2020, at the age of 55. In high school, she was an accomplished equestrian who won many awards with her favorite horse, Joey. She also enjoyed sharing her love of photography, winning many ribbons at the Wisconsin State Fair. Dr. Doose-White is survived by her husband, Bruce, and three children.

Special Remembrances

Andrew J. Norton, MD, GME '85, of Blue Bell, Pa., died on September 6, 2020, at the age of 64. From 1997–2011, Dr. Norton served as senior vice president and chief medical officer for Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee. He also was a past chair of the Chief Medical Officer Group of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Dr. Norton maintained an ambulatory clinical practice in general internal medicine for 27 years.

Beginning in 2012, he had served as senior vice president and chief medical officer of Main Line Health, a nonprofit health system serving portions of Philadelphia and its western suburbs with four acute care hospitals, a rehabilitation hospital and a drug and alcohol treatment center.

Dr. Norton is survived by his wife, Deyonne, five children and three grandchildren.

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

We Want to Hear From You – Seeking Your Feedback!



Scan barcode below or visit mcw.edu/readersurvey



Beginning with our inaugural issue of *MCW Magazine* in fall 2015, we have been pleased to produce a publication that would enhance our ability to tell our stories to a broad audience. In fact, our mailing list includes alumni, donors, Trustees, friends, academic/healthcare/community/technology development partners, civic leaders, Wisconsin legislators and many more.

Within these pages, we have endeavored to highlight the work and achievements of alumni, donors and donor-funded projects and faculty, and other MCW community groups; highlight the clinical and research achievements of MCW faculty (especially relating to groundbreaking discoveries and prevention/treatment of illness and disease); provide information about MCW, including coverage of major timely issues and events; and provide a vehicle that

keeps our readers connected to MCW and one another.

In order to ensure that we are keeping up with the needs and preferences of our readers – as well as to ensure that we are able to keep in touch with you according to your preferred method of communication – we invite you to take a brief survey that is available online at mcw.edu/readersurvey.

MCW is a dynamic and thriving institution, built upon the success and dedication of our faculty, staff, students, alumni and donors – as well as the commitment and support of our many partners. We sincerely hope that *MCW Magazine* will continue to engage and excite you about our present and our future.

Thank you for your continued support of, and interest in, *MCW Magazine*! We greatly valued your feedback!

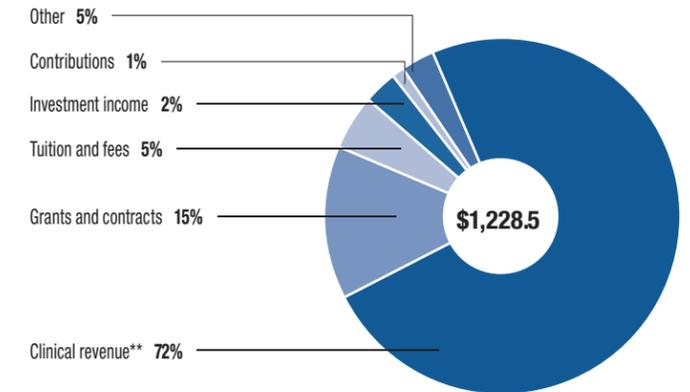
Survey Questions to be Answered Online

1. Name
2. How do you prefer to receive/read the magazine?
 - a. Printed copy
 - b. Digital/online version (mcw.edu/mcwmagazine)
 - c. Both the printed copy and digital/online versions
3. If you are a graduate of MCW, please provide the following:
 - a. Graduation year
 - b. Degree earned
4. Mailing address
5. Please provide your email address for alumni and donor e-newsletters, and development/advancement communications.
6. Please provide your mobile phone number.
7. Please provide your home phone number (if applicable).
8. If you are a graduate of or donor to MCW, what is your preferred method of communication?
 - a. Home phone
 - b. Mobile phone
 - c. Email
 - d. Text

Finance Report

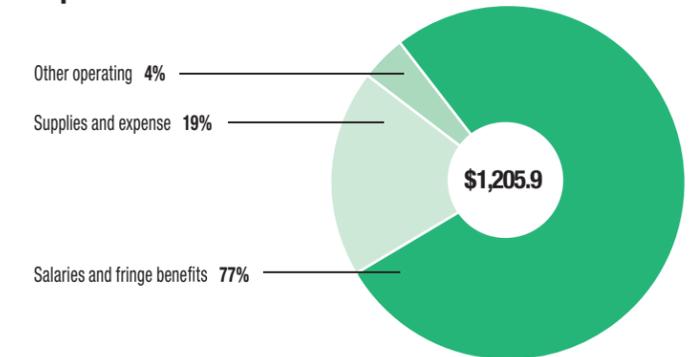
Revenues*	Total All Funds (\$ in millions)
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2020	
Clinical revenue**	\$883.2
Grants and contracts	187.3
Tuition and fees	59.1
Investment income	27.2
Contributions	13.3
Other	58.4
Total revenues	\$1,228.5

Revenues Fiscal Year 2020



Expenses*	Total All Funds (\$ in millions)
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2020	
Salaries and fringe benefits	\$932.4
Supplies and expense	226.3
Other operating	47.2
Total expenses	\$1,205.9
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$22.6

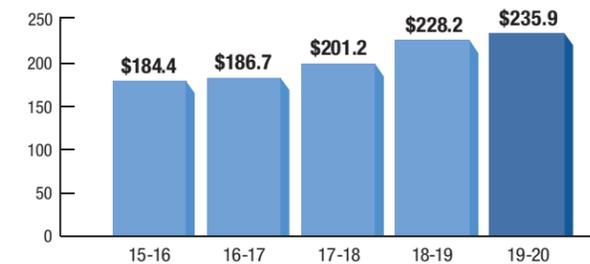
Expenses Fiscal Year 2020



* Excludes nonoperating revenue and expense, including realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments.
 ** Includes adult and pediatric revenues.

Externally Funded Expenditures***

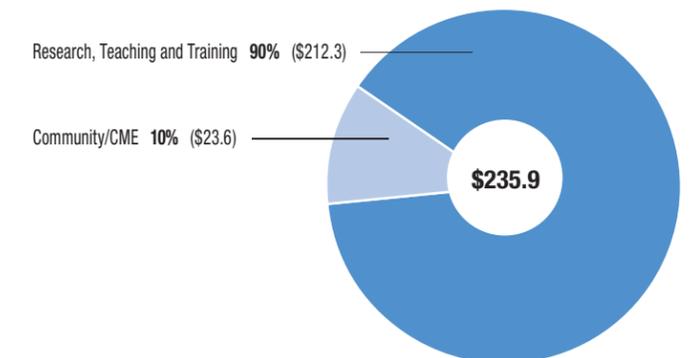
July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020
 Total Externally Funded Expenditures for Research, Teaching, Training, and Related Purposes (\$ in millions)



*** Expenditures relate to multiple revenue sources, including Grants and contracts, Contributions and Other.

Externally Funded Expenditures by Purpose Fiscal Year 2020

(\$ in millions)





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