



FALL / ANNUAL REPORT 2025

MCW

magazine

Years of Our Alumni Association

MCW

magazine

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Celebrating Anniversary Events and Critical Milestones

Throughout 2025 – in collaboration with our alumni, donors, partners, faculty, staff and learners – we have commemorated significant anniversaries, milestone events and impactful achievements that have strengthened the foundation of our institution and underscore our mission, vision and values.

On August 5, MCW celebrated the grand opening of the Center for Cancer Discovery (CCD) on the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center campus. The facility is designed to accelerate breakthrough cancer research and translate discoveries into life-changing care for patients across Wisconsin and beyond. The new CCD brings together more than 300 researchers and staff in modern, collaborative workspaces that foster interdisciplinary collaboration (*see story on pages 6–7*).

On October 14, we celebrated the 10-year anniversary of the opening of MCW–Green Bay, during which we stewarded the donors who made it possible, cultivated new prospects, shared our vision for the campus and laid the groundwork for future giving. The 75 attendees at this meaningful event included campus and MCW donors, MCW leadership and faculty, alumni and community supporters. *See photo below of Dr. Matthew Hunsaker and MCW–Green Bay alumni.*



Front row (l-r): Kirsta Hoffman, MD '19; Taylor Bachaus, MD '20; Julia Shariff, MD '18; Allison Gustafson, MD '20; Brittany Mohoney, MD '20; Alyssa Reid (Nycz), MD '19

Back row (l-r): Matthew Hunsaker, MD; Brandon Stradel, MD '19; Matthew Jensen, MD '18; Ryan Berns, MD '18; Joanna Buck, MD '18; Alex Wilhelmi, MD '19; Shelby VanRossum, MD '21; Jenna Hahn (Lent), MD '21; Robert Becker, MD '19, FEL '25

(*see profile of Dr. Becker on page 29*)

During this celebration, we shared that of the 184 physicians who have graduated from MCW–Green Bay to date, 78 percent hailed from Wisconsin and 93 percent came from across the Midwest. And since 2020, 100 percent of MCW–Green Bay's graduates have matched with residency slots. That is an extraordinary record of success!

Approximately 71 percent of our MCW–Green Bay graduates have entered mission-critical specialties such as family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine and psychiatry. And many are now practicing in northeastern Wisconsin – serving patients and families in exactly the communities that need them the most. We are very grateful for the investments and dedication of our partners, faculty, students and benefactors.

Just over 100 years ago, several alumni of what was then the Marquette University School of Medicine gathered together during Homecoming events to lay the foundation for an enduring entity that is proudly marking its centennial year.

Known as the Marquette University School of Medicine Alumni Association (1925–1968), the Marquette Medical Alumni Association (1968–1971) and since 1971, the Medical College of Wisconsin/Marquette Medical Alumni Association, the association has served more than 25,000 graduates of the

schools of medicine, graduate studies and pharmacy (as well as residents and fellows). In our cover story (*pages 16–21*) we celebrate the association's 100 years of impact but also how it is charting a bold path forward to ensure that alumni remain at the heart of MCW's mission well into the future.

For more than 35 years, Jeffrey Kelly, PhD, MCW professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, has advanced scientific understanding of HIV prevention and translated research into real-world solutions that improve the lives of those at risk. On page 13, we pay tribute to Dr. Kelly's outstanding leadership and global legacy.

Message From Leadership

Philanthropy supports our efforts to drive health innovation, improve the health of our communities and train a new generation of highly skilled healthcare professionals. In this issue, we share stories that highlight the

successful inaugural *Audacity Breakthrough Ride* to support cancer research (see story on page 7), the Seena Magowitz Foundation's transformative partnership with MCW, and the lasting impact of philanthropy to support scientists who are making new discoveries and advancing innovation (see stories on pages 13-14).

On July 3, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers signed the 2025-27 state budget into law. It included a \$10 million grant for the construction of a new Eye Institute facility at MCW and increased funding for MCW's family medicine residency program (see story on page 4).

Notwithstanding the unprecedented headwinds, challenges and uncertainties created by the plethora of Executive Orders and federal Administrative Actions beginning in January 2025, and due in large part to our diligent financial stewardship, we achieved a fiscal year 2025 margin of slightly more than two percent, which was in line with the goal assigned to us by our board of trustees (see the *FY25 Finance Report* on page 34). We are pleased that MCW has maintained its bond ratings on par with our health system partners since 2020. Additionally, we are grateful to all in the MCW community for this essential work.

In late June, our board approved our fiscal year 2026 budget, which projects total revenues of \$1.80 billion and total expenses of \$1.75 billion. The FY26 net operating margin target of 2.5 percent reflects the second year of a three-year margin recovery strategy to increase our margin



Current and former members of the Alumni Association board, along with Tony Perez and Angela Nelson, at Alumni Weekend in September 2025

year over year by improving patient access, modernizing the clinical practices and creating efficiencies across our institution.

MCW currently is undertaking two executive leadership searches: president and CEO; and dean of the School of Medicine (SOM). The goals are to name a new president and CEO by late spring/early summer 2026, with a start date by mid-summer 2026; and to have a group of dean finalists identified by spring 2026 so that the new president-designate can participate in the finalist interviews and then choose the new dean of the SOM, with a target start date for the dean by summer 2026.

We look forward to a future where everyone has access to healthcare, where disease is no longer diagnosed but prevented, and where people of all backgrounds live in safe homes and safe neighborhoods. Thank you to all of our alumni, donors, partners, faculty, staff and students for your dedication and commitment to MCW during 2025. You are the driving force behind the knowledge that is changing life and saving lives.

John Donofrio,
Acting Chair, MCW
Board of Trustees

Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD,
Interim Provost

Deborah M. Costakos,
MD '98, MS, Interim Dean,
School of Medicine

Daisy Sahoo, PhD,
Dean, School of Graduate
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Contents

- 6 / THE MCW CENTER FOR CANCER DISCOVERY: WHERE CURIOSITY MEETS PURPOSE
- 8 / UNCOVERING VACCINE TARGETS FOR LYME DISEASE, POTENTIAL TREATMENTS FOR AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES
- 9 / CENTER FOR SUBSTANCE USE RESEARCH AND INTERVENTION
- 10 / PHARMACY STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE
- 12 / PHD CANDIDATE LAUNCHES INITIATIVE TO INCREASE CLINICAL TRIAL ACCESS
- 13 / HONORING 35 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND GLOBAL LEGACY
- 14 / FROM LOSS TO LEGACY: THE SEENA MAGOWITZ FOUNDATION; MENTORSHIP AND PHILANTHROPY DRIVE VISION FOR NEUROSCIENCE
- 16 / COVER STORY: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE MCW/MARQUETTE MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
- 22 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS, AWARDS AND TRIBUTES
- 24 / ALUMNI WEEKEND REUNION CLASSES AND CANDID PHOTOS
- 28 / MARY HOROWITZ, MD '80, GME '89, MS '91
- 29 / ROBERT BECKER, MD '19, FEL '25

FEATURES

- 4 / STAT REPORT
- 30 / ALUMNI NOTES
- 32 / IN MEMORIAM
- 34 / FINANCE REPORT

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPHERS: Melissa Behling, Plum Media, Jay Westhauser, Taylor Wilcox

MCW IS COMMITTED TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION INCLUDING COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE IX. PLEASE SEE MCW.EDU/TITLEIX FOR MORE INFORMATION.

On the Cover: Throughout 2025, MCW has been celebrating the 100th anniversary of the creation of its Alumni Association. Since 1925, the association has served more than 25,000 alumni. (Cover design by Julia Alberts.)

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. On pages 22-27 we share special content for alumni including award recipients and new MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association board members, as well as photos from Alumni Weekend and Class Reunions. Pages 30-33 are devoted to sections on Alumni News and In Memoriam. Our fiscal 2025 financials are shared on page 34, and a collage of alumni photos is printed on the inside back cover (page 35).

STATREPORT

Wisconsin Governor and State Legislature Support Critical Investments in MCW

On July 3, 2025, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers signed the state's biennial budget that included funding for the development and construction of a new Eye Institute facility at MCW and an increased investment for MCW's family medicine residency program to continue growing the physician workforce in Wisconsin.

The \$10 million State Building Commission grant for a new Eye Institute facility to be located on MCW's Milwaukee campus will help support the development, construction and equipping of the physical infrastructure of the project, dedicated to expanding research space and high-tech facilities that will advance eye care in Wisconsin and the nation.

Once complete, the new Eye Institute is expected to allow for an up to 50 percent growth in space dedicated to cutting-edge research. The new facility also will significantly expand MCW's capacity to train future ophthalmologists and vision scientists, and provide high-quality care to patients from across the state – including those in rural and underserved communities.

The current Eye Institute building was constructed between September 1974 and late 1976, and opened as one of the first dedicated eye care centers in the country.

The state budget also included a \$750,000 increase in funding for MCW's family medicine residency program, which plays a critical role in training Wisconsin's next generation of physicians and building the state's healthcare workforce. With more than 60 percent of graduates from MCW's family medicine residency program staying to practice in Wisconsin, the state's continued support for this program will further help to address Wisconsin's physician staffing shortage and expand access to primary care in all corners of the state.

Further, the budget increased BadgerCare payments statewide, which benefits MCW's hospital partners.

MCW appreciates its continued partnership with the state of Wisconsin as it works together to build healthy communities. ■



The MCW Eye Institute



Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers signs the state's biennial budget on July 3, 2025.

Dr. Douglas Evans Stepping Down as Chair of Surgery

Douglas B. Evans, MD, chair and the Donald C. Ausman Family Foundation Professor of Surgery at MCW, has informed the institution that he will step down from his role as chair of surgery when his successor is in place, after which he will focus his ongoing efforts on expansion of the LaBahn Pancreatic Cancer Program and MCW's city-wide program in endocrine surgery.

Dr. Evans joined MCW in 2009 as professor and chair of the department of surgery after spending 19 years at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Under his leadership, MCW's department of surgery has experienced significant clinical growth and academic advancement, boasting more than 115 full-time faculty across eight clinical divisions, a division of research and a division of education.

Through partnership with MCW's Office of Institutional Advancement, the department has created a number of endowed chairs as well as program-specific endowments. The MCW Program in Pancreatic Cancer, endowed by the

LaBahn family, recently also established the Bob Uecker Chair in Pancreatic Cancer Research. Dr. Evans has actively engaged the broader community by creating, writing and co-hosting *The Word on Medicine* and *The Latest Word on Medicine* – weekly radio shows and podcasts that highlight innovation and discovery across MCW.

Throughout his career at MCW, Dr. Evans has been a mentor and advisor to countless medical students, residents, fellows and faculty. He has authored more than 450 manuscripts and 100 book chapters with an h-index of 104 and has been an invited professor at countless academic institutions throughout the world.

He has received numerous awards and honors including, most recently, the *Luminary Award in GI Cancers* from the Ruesch Center for the Cure of Gastrointestinal Cancers at Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center (2022); the *Benjamin E. Mays Medal* (the highest alumni award from Bates College, 2023); and the *Pancreas Club Lifetime Achievement Award* (2025). ■



Dr. Douglas Evans



(l-r) Dr. Douglas Evans, Dr. William Hall (inaugural holder of the Uecker Chair in Pancreatic Cancer Research), and the late Bob Uecker



Dr. Jason Jarzembowski

Dr. Jason Jarzembowski Elected to American Board of Pathology Board of Trustees

Jason Jarzembowski, MD '02, PhD, MCW professor of pathology, senior associate dean of clinical affairs–pediatric practice and chief executive officer of Children's Specialty Group, has been elected to the American Board of Pathology (ABPath) board of trustees, with a term beginning January 1, 2026.

Dr. Jarzembowski currently serves on the ABPath Anatomic Pathology Certlink Test Development and Advisory Committee.

He is associate editor of the journals *Pediatric and Developmental Pathology* and *American Journal of Clinical Pathology*. He also serves on the editorial board of the *Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine* and co-authored the College of American Pathologists cancer reporting protocols for neuroblastoma. He previously served on the board of directors for the Society for Pediatric Pathology and chaired both its research and informatics and communication committees.

The ABPath's board of trustees comprises 12 board-certified pathologist members and one public member. Each member is highly esteemed and accomplished in their respective fields and/or subspecialties. Trustees are elected for three-year terms and may serve up to four terms. ■



The MCW Center for Cancer Discovery: Where Curiosity Meets Purpose



State and local officials, institutional partners, community members and donors marked the occasion with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

For generations, the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) has pursued a singular purpose: to advance the health of its community while preparing the next generation of medical leaders. On August 5, 2025, MCW celebrated a new chapter in that legacy with the grand opening of the Center for Cancer Discovery (CCD). Now a prominent fixture on the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center campus, this 161,000-square-foot facility is designed to accelerate breakthrough cancer research and translate discoveries into life-changing care for patients across Wisconsin and beyond.

Cancer remains one of Wisconsin's most serious health concerns, especially in communities where late-stage diagnoses and limited access to care are common. The new CCD addresses this challenge head-on by bringing together more than 300 researchers and staff in modern, collaborative workspaces that foster interdisciplinary collaboration. Importantly, the center's design reflects input not only from building occupants but also from the community it serves.

"This is where basic scientists will rub shoulders with population health researchers, where chemical biologists will collaborate with clinicians and imaging experts to move

discoveries from bench to bedside, where the community is always welcome because we know science is stronger when it includes people it's meant to serve," says Gustavo Leone, PhD, director of the MCW Cancer Center.

A highlight of the CCD is a first-of-its-kind biotech incubator on MCW's Milwaukee campus. The BioHub supports investigator-led startups focused on developing new cancer diagnostics, therapies and technologies, helping turn academic discoveries into real-world solutions. It also plays a key role in the Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub, a federally designated initiative designed to position Wisconsin as a leader in personalized medicine and biohealth technology.

The grand opening of the CCD united MCW faculty, staff, community members, partners and local and state officials who joined in celebrating a new era of cancer discovery. Following a ribbon-cutting ceremony, the doors opened to 900 visitors who toured laboratories and shared resources, and explored public spaces intended to spark conversation, creativity and connection. The event offered attendees an opportunity to see the result of years of planning and hard work – and to envision the breakthroughs yet to come.



(l-r) Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson; MCW Trustee Linda Gorens-Levey; MCW Interim Dean of the School of Medicine Deborah Costakos, MD '98, MS; and Wauwatosa Mayor Dennis McBride



Guests explored the building's shared spaces, which were designed to inspire connection and collaboration.

Audaxity Ride Raises More Than One Million Dollars

On August 17, 2025, more than 1,000 riders, volunteers, survivors and supporters gathered together at American Family Field in Milwaukee for the inaugural *Audaxity Breakthrough Ride*. From 100-mile riders to families on a five-mile loop, everyone shared a common goal: supporting cancer research and helping patients and families impacted by cancer. For MCW researchers and faculty, the ride also was a reminder of the purpose behind the new MCW Center for Cancer Discovery (CCD).

The excitement began two days earlier at *The Rev Up* – the CCD’s first community event – during which attendees enjoyed food and music and learned how

Audaxity funds cancer research. Gustavo Leone, PhD, director of the MCW Cancer Center, highlighted the connection between science and community: “Every mile ridden and every dollar raised fuels the discoveries in this building that will change the future for patients and families,” he shared.

The success of the first *Audaxity* is only the beginning. Organizers and volunteers are planning for an even bigger event in 2026, with more riders, more teams and more opportunities for the community to unite against cancer – building on this momentum, fueling new discoveries and bringing hope to every patient and family facing a cancer diagnosis.



State-of-the-art lab facilities equip researchers to pursue a wide range of cancer research.

John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, MCW’s president and CEO, noted that more than just a building, the CCD represents a bold investment in the future. “It reflects our long-standing promise to tackle cancer’s toughest challenges and ensure progress is felt everywhere, by everyone, and at every step of the cancer journey,” he said at the ribbon-cutting event.

Read more about MCW’s cancer enterprise in the Summer 2025 issue of *MCW Magazine* online. ■ – LEE DICKERT



Ambrose Wilson-Brown (second from left) with members of Health Griots, a program empowering prostate cancer survivors as community health advocates



Guests enjoyed refreshments while celebrating the new space.



As the only community-facing building on the MCW-Milwaukee campus, the CCD invites patients, advocates and the public to shape cancer research.



More than just a building, the CCD is uniting researchers, clinicians and the community to end cancer.



Dr. John R. Raymond, Sr.



Professor James Thomas, MD '91, PhD '89



Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers



Dr. Gustavo Leone

Uncovering Vaccine Targets for Lyme Disease, Potential Treatments for Autoimmune Diseases

The key to understanding how Lyme disease can trigger autoimmunity lies in what the immune system encounters during infection.

Our bodies mount a sophisticated immune response when infected with bacteria or viruses. Sometimes, however, this response becomes so strong that the immune system becomes confused and begins to attack its own cells. This autoimmunity is a common side effect of Lyme disease – a tick-borne bacterial infection that affects nearly 500,000 people in the US each year and can lead to chronic joint pain and neurological issues.

Robert Lochhead, PhD, MCW associate professor of microbiology & immunology and director of immunology education and training, is conducting basic science research that has uncovered mechanisms that drive this autoimmune response and could lead to both vaccines and treatments.

The key to understanding how Lyme disease can trigger autoimmunity lies in what the immune system encounters during infection. In his research, Dr. Lochhead found that the body often becomes autoimmune to a protein in LDL – the bad cholesterol found in our arteries. Interestingly, patients with high cholesterol are at greater risk of Lyme disease. He and his team also found a protein from the Lyme disease-causing bacteria that the body's T-cells recognize – which could make a good target for a vaccine. Now, they are using this protein to boost the body's ability to “remember” the bacteria and fight it off.

“We are just one research group that is studying potential vaccines for Lyme disease, but we think this protein could help amplify the immune response and make a vaccine even better,” Dr. Lochhead shares. “It’s a promising avenue of research that could help protect individuals from getting Lyme disease.”

Many patients with late-stage Lyme disease develop arthritis, though scientists and physicians do not know why. Dr. Lochhead and colleagues found that when the bacteria that causes Lyme disease invades the body, it sheds its cell wall material, called peptidoglycan. “While the body is constantly clearing out bacterial peptidoglycan from other kinds of bacteria, Lyme disease peptidoglycan has an unusual structure. Our bodies don’t know what to do with it, and thus it doesn’t clear out,” Dr. Lochhead notes.

He and his colleagues hypothesize that the peptidoglycan floating around and accumulating in our bodies worsens the autoimmune response triggered by Lyme disease. The body, thinking it is still infected, does not shut down the immune response – ultimately attacking its own cells. Further, these peptidoglycan fragments accumulate in joints – a possible cause of arthritis. The research team also has discovered that peptidoglycan from other types of bacteria are found in the joints of people with osteoarthritis.

Dr. Lochhead and his team are exploring the use of this bacterial debris as a potential diagnostic tool for patients. If it can be detected early, physicians could intervene and potentially prevent the need for joint replacements.

Dr. Lochhead has filed patents, founded a startup and is working with industry partners to try to turn his insights into vaccines for patients. He also has used his research as a teaching tool for the next generation of physicians and scientists. “I’m training young biochemists and medical students to develop new vaccine strategies and understand the complexities of this disease better,” he says. ■

– EMILY AYSHFORD

Dr. Robert Lochhead



MCW Launches Center for Substance Use Research and Intervention

In the summer of 2024, MCW established the Center for Substance Use Research & Intervention (SURI), a multidisciplinary center dedicated to advancing research, training and holistic responses to the harms of substance use.

Jennifer Hernandez-Meier, PhD, MSW, assistant professor of emergency medicine, and Julia Dickson-Gomez, PhD, professor in the Institute for Health & Humanity, serve as interim co-directors.

"We saw a need for a public research center on substance use in southeast Wisconsin, particularly amid the current overdose crisis," notes Dr. Dickson-Gomez.

According to Ian Martin, MD, MBA, Eminent Scholar, professor and chair of emergency medicine, interim associate provost and senior associate dean for faculty affairs at MCW, "The launch of SURI is the culmination of more than five years of visioning, devising and implementing plans, and collaborating with partners inside and outside MCW."

"As chair, it has been my honor to bring to bear the full administrative and financial force of my department to help realize this innovative, cross-cutting and much-needed center," Dr. Martin adds.

SURI has grown to comprise more than 30 MCW faculty, staff and learners across multiple departments and centers, including the Center for Community Health and Intervention Research; the Institute for Health & Humanity; and the departments of emergency medicine; psychiatry and behavioral medicine; and pharmacology and toxicology, among others.

Faculty from Marquette University, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Concordia University, and individuals from Vivent Health and Froedtert Community Hospital Division also serve as SURI members.

Collaboration is at the heart of SURI's mission. Work ranges from bench research and data science to clinical care and community-based outreach – reflecting the complexity of substance use treatment and the necessity for

collaborative approaches to reducing harm. To support this effort, SURI has established four cores that align with MCW's pillars: education & training; clinical care & treatment; community engagement & advocacy; and research & data science.

John Mantsch, PhD, Florence J. Williams Professor and chair of pharmacology and toxicology at MCW, has experienced the impact of this connectivity firsthand. Dr. Mantsch is a neuroscientist exploring the brain processes that underlie substance use disorders in order to leverage this understanding to advance new interventions.

"The benefits of working with the group were immediately evident," says Dr. Mantsch. Through SURI, he has been able to connect with collaborators and community stakeholders to strengthen his data science work on opioid overdoses. It also has made possible new community-partnered projects, including initiatives supporting people facing substance use challenges post-incarceration. "Without SURI, these projects would not be moving forward," he adds.

While SURI helps researchers such as Dr. Mantsch advance innovative projects, its leaders also are focused on transforming how substance use is addressed within the healthcare system itself.

One of the center's goals is to ensure that medical students graduate with an understanding of substance use – not as a subspecialty or referral, but as part of routine medical care.

"Traditionally, substance use and behavioral health have been thought of as specialty care," explains Dr. Hernandez-Meier. "The long-term vision is really infusing substance use treatment into everyday clinical care."

By bringing together scientists, clinicians and community partners, SURI is poised to become a catalyst for change in substance use research and intervention. Its leaders emphasize that the goal is not to eliminate substance use, but to reduce its harms and expand access to treatment, education and support to individuals and communities across Wisconsin. ■ – CAROLINE LADD



MCW Pharmacy Students Receive National *Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy* Awards Six Consecutive Years

One student in each of the MCW School of Pharmacy's six graduating classes has received the US Public Health Service (USPHS) *Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy* award. This prestigious national award recognizes pharmacy students who have made significant contributions to public health by promoting wellness and healthy communities. Each year, about 90 student pharmacists from around the country are nominated for the award and only 10 are selected as recipients.

Many of the MCW awardees were recognized for their leadership and accomplishments while volunteering for the Saturday Clinic for the Uninsured (SCU), a primary care clinic offering health services at no cost to uninsured patients in Milwaukee. The clinic is run by MCW medical and pharmacy students, under the supervision of MCW faculty and with the assistance of physician and pharmacist volunteers.

The award winners are noted below:



**Liliana Galvan,
PharmD '25**

Dr. Galvan is the first in her family to pursue higher education within the healthcare field. During her time

at MCW, she was involved in creating an inclusive environment within the School of Pharmacy and beyond. She co-authored research to explore cultural interactions within pharmacy practice settings with the goal of educating future pharmacists on cultural intelligence. She also volunteered consistently at the SCU and the Bread of

Healing Clinic, a medical clinic that serves low-income patients.

"Being involved in so many volunteer opportunities helped me connect with my passions and apply what I was learning in class to genuine patient experiences," says Dr. Galvan. "I know I would not be the person I am today if I didn't have these opportunities."

The award nomination statement also included her experience as a student-pharmacist mentor for MCW's Pre-Pharmacy Scholars program. One of her favorite memories of pharmacy school, she says, was creating an engaging "Life of a Pill" activity for this program. Scholars learned about how medications are distributed to pharmacies, what the pharmacy workflow looks like and how to counsel patients on medications. This knowledge culminated in a "relay race" during which each scholar filled a prescription and explained to their patient how to use the drug.

Dr. Galvan is a postgraduate year one (PGY1) resident at Aurora Health Care in West Allis, Wis.



**Bridget Nelson,
PharmD '24**

Dr. Nelson received the *Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy* award for her involvement with immunizations

and process improvements.

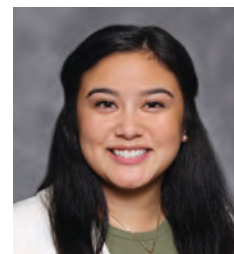
She collaborated with a small group of students, including Gabrielle Marchese, PharmD '23, to establish a partnership with the Milwaukee Health Department for monthly onsite immunization clinics. This service had been suspended for some

time during the COVID-19 pandemic. Drs. Nelson and Marchese collaborated to update clinic protocols, working in conjunction with the Milwaukee Health Department and Walgreens.

As director of pharmacy student volunteers at the SCU, Dr. Nelson collaborated with an interprofessional group to develop training video presentations for MCW medical and pharmacy student volunteers to promote consistent and standardized care.

"When I began working with the SCU within my first few months of pharmacy school, it was the first time I realized how impactful pharmacists can be in enhancing patient care outcomes and what it's like to work on a dynamic interprofessional team," says Dr. Nelson. "Winning this national award further solidified my belief that students can make impactful interventions through service-related opportunities."

Dr. Nelson is a postgraduate year two (PGY2) resident specializing in internal medicine at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee.



**Gabrielle Marchese,
PharmD '23**

MCW faculty members nominated Dr. Marchese for the award based on her leadership in

establishing monthly immunization clinics at SCU and her work to improve patient outcomes and reduce costs.

During her time as SCU program manager, Dr. Marchese noticed a significant problem with patients running out of medication before the limited timeframe on Saturdays for in-person



appointments and prescription pickups. She formed an interprofessional workflow with MCW medical students to implement a prescription refill notification process so that patients could pick up refills before running out of their medications.

Dr. Marchese also designed a workflow to decrease medication costs to the SCU, which provides medications at low or no cost to patients. She enacted a threefold increase in the clinic's use of prescription assistance programs, resulting in a cost savings of almost \$10,000 – which was reallocated to alternative areas to improve overall patient care.

Dr. Marchese shares that winning this national award has validated her belief that change doesn't need to be drastic. "If you go out and do things with a purpose in mind, even if they're really small changes, they build up," she notes. "I never felt like I was taking on too much at the SCU because I approached it by asking myself what small thing I could do today to make a process better."

Dr. Marchese now practices as an ambulatory care pharmacist at St. Luke's Health System in Boise, Idaho.



**Jose Roig,
PharmD '22**

Dr. Roig was recognized for dedicating hours of his time to patient care through COVID-19 vaccination clinics.



**Isabelle
Sviatoslavsky,
PharmD '21**

Dr. Sviatoslavsky received the *Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy* award for her role in a public

The MCW School of Pharmacy began administering COVID-19 vaccinations in December 2020, just before the holidays. Dr. Roig was a consistent volunteer during an unsettling time, not only administering vaccines and educating patients in both English and Spanish, but also providing calming and compassionate care to those who were nervous about receiving the vaccine. He also volunteered at the SCU and Bread of Healing clinic as a valued bilingual team member who made community members feel welcome and understood.

"Participating in the COVID-19 vaccination clinics was a meaningful experience in my development as a student pharmacist," says Dr. Roig. "It allowed me to witness firsthand the impact pharmacists can have on public health and to strengthen both my clinical and communication skills while serving the community during a time of urgent need." He notes that receiving the national award represents a reminder of the impact pharmacists can make when leading with compassion and commitment to service. Dr. Roig now practices as a clinical pharmacist at Advocate Aurora Health in ambulatory care.



Dr. Liliana Galvan instructs students in the Pre-Pharmacy Scholars program and delivers a "Life of a Pill" presentation.

health program focused on the dangers of e-cigarettes.

She led a student team that secured grant funding to create five engaging educational activities for high school students. The team provided step-by-step instructions for each activity, plus learning objectives, discussion points and group questions – so that the activities could be easily replicated across various partner schools.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, she also found a way to deliver the activities virtually.



**Margaret
Pertzborn,
PharmD '20**

Dr. Pertzborn is an outpatient infectious diseases pharmacist at the Mayo Clinic in Eau Claire, Wis.

She also is a credentialed HIV specialist who has worked to expand HIV and pre-exposure prophylaxis access.

Additionally, Dr. Pertzborn serves as a board member of The Aliveness Project, a Minneapolis-based nonprofit supporting people living with HIV and preventing new infections. ■

– MELISSA BEHLING

PhD Candidate Launches Initiative to Increase Clinical Trial Access

Taylor Wilcox is passionate about science and clinical trials. And she is approaching this passion from multiple angles. Wilcox is pursuing her PhD in the MCW Interdisciplinary Program in Biomedical Sciences in the department of pharmacology and toxicology under the mentorship of Michael E. Widlansky, MD, MPH, Northwestern Mutual Professor in Cardiovascular Medicine, professor of medicine and pharmacology and toxicology, and director of the MCW Cardiovascular Research Center. Wilcox is studying the impact of mitochondrial fission protein-1 on diabetic microvascular disease, with the goal of identifying new therapeutic strategies that would reduce microvascular damage in people with diabetes.

It is anticipated that Wilcox will be awarded her PhD in 2027; she then plans to attend medical school and ultimately become a pediatric surgeon – specifically, a pediatric surgeon who continues to do basic science research and conduct clinical trials.

“Graduate school has helped build my confidence, and working with Dr. Widlansky, I now see what it takes to be a physician – and that is definitely the direction I want to go,” says Wilcox. “And when I reach that point, I hope to conduct clinical trials within my practice and help manage a basic science lab.”

In between conducting research for her current academic pursuits and laying the groundwork for the next phase of these pursuits, Wilcox also is building a student-led initiative to help patients better understand and become involved with clinical trials.

This initiative, Clinical Connections, brings together graduate student, medical student and medical resident volunteers to create clinical trial summaries in simple, accessible language, and provides a website as a tool that patients can use to get matched to a clinical trial specific to their disease or condition, or near them geographically. Clinical Connections also helps providers who are conducting trials to recruit patients if needed.

This idea came to Wilcox when she saw her friend’s mother, who was battling ALS at the time, have difficulties interpreting and deciphering clinical trial literature. Wilcox also wanted to create volunteer opportunities in medicine for graduate students so they could see the value of basic and translational science. Growing the program from a pilot project at MCW to something more substantial has taken significant effort, but it is worth it to Wilcox.

“I have presented at department meetings and spoken at society meetings to get the word out to other universities and healthcare systems about what we can offer and the benefits we can provide



PhD student Taylor Wilcox is studying the impact of mitochondrial fission protein-1 on diabetic microvascular disease under the tutelage of her mentor, Dr. Michael Widlansky.

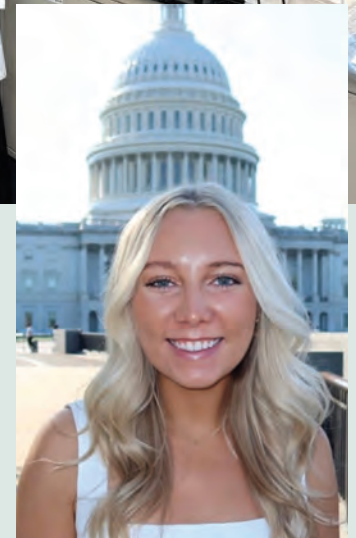
to both patients and providers,” Wilcox shares.

“We also have had some initial discussions with MCW faculty and leaders in the MCW School of Graduate Studies to ensure sustainability and growth of the program. We want to create a meaningful, translational and impactful volunteer experience for students while reaching more patients and supporting more providers,” she adds.

Dr. Widlansky, who also serves as interim chief of cardiovascular medicine, has requested that the group assist with 35 clinical trials within his division. “My hope is that their efforts will significantly increase clinical trials enrollment and our patients’ understandings of our clinical trials,” he says. “This will help us learn more about interventions to improve cardiovascular health and quality of life, and contribute to accelerating novel therapies into clinical care.”

It definitely seems that the mentor and the mentee are woven from the same cloth! ■

– ANTHONY BRAZA



We want to create a meaningful, translational and impactful volunteer experience for students while reaching more patients and supporting more providers.

Honoring 35 Years of Outstanding Leadership and Global Legacy

Dr. Jeffrey Kelly's Work has Advanced Scientific Understanding of HIV Prevention and Translated Research into Real-World Solutions that Improve the Lives of Those at Risk

In 1990, MCW sought to initiate a major new program in HIV prevention research and began the recruitment of an interdisciplinary team of behavioral science, social science and public health faculty with research backgrounds in HIV prevention areas. Jeffrey Kelly, PhD, an HIV behavior modification researcher and psychologist working with AIDS patients in Jackson, Miss., was hired to direct the new program at MCW and as a professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral medicine.

In 1994, following the recruitment of this central group of HIV prevention investigators and their linkage with other prevention science faculty already at MCW, the institution was awarded a center grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that established the Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR). CAIR was one of only a handful of dedicated HIV prevention research centers in the country and the only center of its kind supported by NIMH between the east and west coasts.

Dr. Kelly's research focused on developing strategies to change behaviors that exposed high-risk populations to HIV, as those individuals were not being effectively reached by physicians or public health officials. He began to explore the concept of popular leaders and social networks as agents for behavioral change.

"We wanted to find and meet the people who were considered opinion leaders for these groups and help them to understand the issues – and let them know they were in a position to change and save lives because they were trusted," Dr. Kelly says. "But we also wanted to learn about what was important to them and what they wanted us to do."



Dr. Jeffrey Kelly is stepping down after 35 years as one of the world's leading authorities on behavioral research with populations at high-risk for HIV exposure.

This Popular Opinion Leader model would become the cornerstone of Dr. Kelly's life's work and eventually led to his consideration as one of the world's leading authorities on behavioral research with populations at high-risk for HIV exposure.

Since those early days, the center's investigators have published more than 1,000 scholarly articles in the HIV/AIDS field and been awarded more than \$200 million in research funding. Its members have accumulated a large body of best practices for how to engage opinion leaders to positively influence health-related behaviors.

In 2023, the center formally expanded its name to the Division of Community Health and Intervention Research and its mission to include the development, evaluation and dissemination of behavioral, social and structural interventions to combat other health conditions. Research priorities include mental and behavioral

health, LGBTQ+ health, substance use, health disparities, the impacts of policies on public health and other related topics.

On July 1, 2025, some 35 years after it was founded – and with the past five years spent expanding its mission into supporting other health conditions – the entity was again renamed as the Center for Community Health and Intervention Research. At the same time, Dr. Kelly stepped down as director and was succeeded by Katherine Quinn, PhD, MCW associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine.

"Coming to MCW and Milwaukee was the wisest decision I ever made in my career," Dr. Kelly shares. "I have been unbelievably fortunate to be able to chart a course that benefits the disenfranchised in society and empowers them to improve their health. Having this as my career is an honor." ■

– SARA L. WILKINS

From Loss to Legacy: The Seena Magowitz Foundation

When Roger Magowitz's mother, Seena, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2001, doctors gave her just months to live. Nearly 25 years later, he recalls how, in the midst of that news and caring for her in her final days, he set aside his wristwatch – a lasting symbol of his new conviction: Time is precious.

"Every hour we lose in research, every day a patient spends waiting for answers, is time we can't get back," Magowitz says. "I didn't want another family to feel what I felt."

Out of that grief, he built the Seena Magowitz Foundation to honor the single mother who taught him compassion, tenacity and generosity. More than two decades later, it has become a national force in pancreatic cancer research and patient support. Its urgent mission is to accelerate

discovery, extend survival and ensure families never face the disease alone.

When naming the foundation, Magowitz wanted his mother's values – her courage and humility – to guide it. Seena's spirit continues to define the organization. Magowitz is proud of the time he spends talking directly with patients and families as long as needed to answer questions or connect them with resources.

That same responsiveness has shaped the foundation's programs, especially its expanding support groups, which give patients and families a place to ask hard questions, share experiences and know they are not alone. "That's what my mom would have wanted," Magowitz says.

The foundation has funded millions of dollars in pilot studies and clinical research that have reshaped today's standard of care

and leveraged more than \$125 million in additional clinical trial work.

That strategy led to a transformative partnership with MCW, including a recent gift to launch a trial for patients who complete surgery and chemotherapy but remain at high risk for recurrence.

Tumors removed during surgery are profiled to identify genetic mutations and patients receive about 12 weeks of treatment guided by a specialized tumor board. For those with few options, the trial offers targeted care – and renewed hope.

Magowitz points to MCW's progress in both research and surgery, noting that five-year survival rates are about 30 percent compared to 13 percent nationally. He credits Douglas Evans, MD, chair and Ausman Family Foundation Professor of Surgery, with creating an

Mentorship and Philanthropy Drive Dr. Allison Ebert's Vision for Neuroscience

When Allison Ebert, PhD, stepped into her role as director of MCW's Neuroscience Research Center (NRC) on July 1, 2025, she brought with her a story that began decades earlier in a classroom.

"My fourth-grade teacher first sparked my interest in science," Dr. Ebert recalls. "She made the idea of asking questions sound so interesting. My high school chemistry teacher was the same way. In college I really fell in love with neuroscience and how the brain works – and what goes wrong in disease."

That fascination soon became personal. Her paternal grandmother had Alzheimer's disease, and her maternal grandmother lived with supranuclear palsy. "Those experiences kept me drawn to neurodegeneration," Dr. Ebert says.

Dr. Ebert succeeded the NRC's founding director, Cecilia Hillard, PhD '83, who built the center as a hub for innovative neurosciences research, expanded its community board and launched the *Imagine More Dinner* to celebrate discovery and raise funds for research and patient care.

In 2015, Dr. Ebert received the dinner's inaugural *Imagine More Researcher Award*, which is funded entirely by community donations and provided her lab with the seed funding to explore new questions in neuroscience.

"That gift was pivotal," Dr. Ebert says. "Donor support is very valuable for starting projects and helping labs get established. It gets the ball rolling for discoveries that can grow into larger, federally funded research."

Her experience reflects the lasting impact of philanthropy – community support that sustains science through investments in the people who are making new discoveries and advancing innovation. "Sometimes, private donations alone are enough to fund a student in the lab and move a project forward, which can make the difference between momentum and stall," Dr. Ebert explains.

Dr. Ebert credits her mentors for shaping her approach to science and leadership. "My PhD advisor was tough, but in a way

environment where clinical care and innovation flourish. “They’re not just extending life,” Magowitz says. “They’re changing the conversation around pancreatic cancer.”

The foundation’s impact is measured not only in grants, but in lives touched. Through personal outreach and campaigns such as Warrior Wednesday, patients, caregivers and families share their stories – transforming statistics into faces of courage and resilience.

Despite its national reach, the foundation retains a grassroots spirit. Magowitz still makes donor calls personally. Many volunteers are patients or caregivers themselves, eager to stay involved and support others.

As the Seena Magowitz Foundation enters its third decade, its founder sees the mission as only beginning. “When I took off that watch back in 2001, I promised myself to fight for every moment that science and compassion could give,” Magowitz says. “Now, with partners like MCW, I know we’re making good on that promise.” ■

– MICHAEL J. MATHIAS

WHEN NAMING THE FOUNDATION, MAGOWITZ WANTED HIS MOTHER’S VALUES – HER COURAGE AND HUMILITY – TO GUIDE IT. SEENA’S SPIRIT CONTINUES TO DEFINE THE ORGANIZATION.



that taught me to think and gave me confidence,” she says. “She was also a fierce advocate for me. I’ve used her advice so many times while mentoring my own trainees.”

Dr. Ebert is determined to create opportunities for the next generation, and her path ahead is clear: Keep pushing science forward, keep mentoring the next generation and keep inviting the community to be part of the journey.

“Science is a challenging career path. Talented people can easily choose other professions with more money and less stress. And, importantly, philanthropy doesn’t just accelerate research. It keeps people in science, gives students a future and brings us closer to understanding the brain and finding cures,” Dr. Ebert says.

A key part of that future is the NRC’s integration with the Wisconsin Institute for Neuroscience (WINS), a partnership of Children’s Wisconsin, the Froedtert & MCW health network, the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center and MCW. WINS brings together advanced clinical care, internationally recognized research and top academic expertise in one collaborative effort – creating a direct path from discovery to patient treatment for both adults and children.

“Neuroscience touches every life,” Dr. Ebert says. “From Alzheimer’s and vision loss to traumatic brain injury and Parkinson’s, nearly every family has been affected. MCW is a



(l-r) Scott Terhune, PhD, professor of microbiology & immunology; Kaitlyn Partridge, third-year neuroscience PhD student; and Dr. Allison Ebert

gem when it comes to the neurosciences. We have expertise across the spectrum, from the molecular level to patient care. And the support of our community makes that possible.” ■

– MICHAEL J. MATHIAS



Years of Our Alumni Association

By Richard N. Katschke, Anthony J. Perez and Sara L. Wilkins

In early November 1925, several alumni of what was then the Marquette University School of Medicine gathered together during Homecoming events (November 4-7) to lay the foundation for an enduring entity that is proudly marking its centennial year.

Known as the Marquette University School of Medicine Alumni Association (1925-1968), the Marquette Medical Alumni Association (1968-1971) and since 1971, the Medical College of Wisconsin/Marquette Medical Alumni Association, the association has served more than 25,000 graduates of the schools of medicine, graduate studies and pharmacy (as well as residents, clinical fellows and postdoctoral fellows), and is dedicated to facilitating the lifetime connection of alumni and students with MCW and each other.

In this cover story we celebrate not only the association's 100 years of impact but also how it is charting a bold path forward to ensure that alumni remain at the heart of MCW's mission well into the future.

*Note that much about the particular workings of the Alumni Association from its founding in 1925 through the early 1990s has not been well documented and is sparse in nature. Thus, the authors are grateful for historical information shared in the works of Norman Engbring, MD '51, in *An Anchor for the Future: A History of the Medical College of Wisconsin, 1893-1990*; and Richard (Dick) Katschke in *Knowledge Changing Life: A History of the Medical College of Wisconsin, 1893-2019*.*

The Early Years

The formation of the Alumni Association featured prominently on the cover of the *Marquette Tribune* (continuously produced by Marquette University students since 1916) on November 12, 1925, under the headline of "MEDICAL ALUMNI ORGANIZE; PLAN NEW HOSPITAL." (See newspaper clip on facing page.) Note that newspaper accounts quoted below and throughout are as previously published.

During Homecoming the medical alumni of Marquette University held a special organization meeting, preceded by a dinner, at the University club, at which time articles of incorporation, a constitution and by-laws were drawn up and accepted.

Dr. Walter M. Kearns, and Dr. Joseph P. McMahon, Milwaukee, elected for three years; Dr. A. L. Curtin, Milwaukee and Dr. George T. Hegner, Appleton, for two years; Dr. A. Fiedler, Sheboygan and

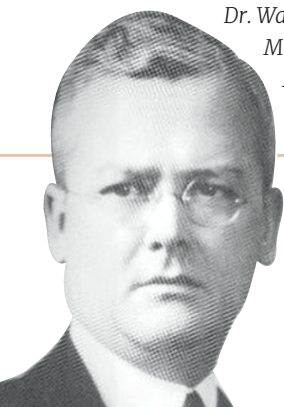
Joseph P. McMahon, MD (Class of 1903), director of obstetrics and gynecology, 1913-1915, and first president of the Marquette Medical Alumni Association

Dr. Ernest G. Welke, Madison, one year. The seventh member of the board is to be appointed annually by the president of the Medical Alumni association. The Rev. Charles B. Moulinier, S.J., head of the present Marquette Hospital College, was elected the first honorary member of the new organization.

Funds for the erection of a new Marquette University hospital, and school of medicine to cost \$1,500,000 will be sought by popular subscription within a year, the Rev. Albert C. Fox, S.J., president of Marquette told members of the alumni association.

According to Dr. Engbring (who served as professor of medicine and senior associate dean of graduate medical education at MCW, founder of the residency program and MCW's first archivist) in *An Anchor for the Future*, published in 1991:

Although some of the medical alumni were active members of the Marquette University Alumni Association, they were part of a distinct group that needed its own identity . . . Development of an enthusiastic alumni association was not easy. Many alumni of the old medical schools refused to accept Marquette as their alma mater and remained



Financial Support from Alumni

In 1936, members of the Class of 1916 participated in Commencement ceremonies as they celebrated the 20th anniversary of their graduation. When the medical school students had graduated in 1916, each took out a \$250 insurance policy naming the medical school as beneficiary. The policies matured in 1936 and the class presented the money to the medical school at the Commencement ceremony.

From 1949–1954, the Alumni Association, under the leadership of president “Uncle” Max Fox, MD (Class of 1922), was a major contributor to more than \$575,000 raised to build the Carey Memorial Library, expand laboratory facilities to promote research, and recruit additional full-time faculty members, particularly for clinical departments. According to Dr. Engbring, “Uncle Max was an intensely loyal alumnus who was not reluctant to point out the obligations of alumni toward their alma mater.” (Dr. Fox was the great-great uncle of current MCW trustee Linda Gorens-Levey.)

In 1955, the alumni established a Student Emergency Loan Fund with a donation of \$1,000 to provide small, short-term loans. The fund is still in existence.

Between July–August 1969, the Alumni Association raised \$150,000 to help support ongoing operating expenses for the medical school during a period of extreme financial challenges.

In 1976, the Women’s Auxiliary of the Medical College of Wisconsin, formed in 1969 to raise funds for student scholarships, joined with the Alumni Association to host an inaugural benefit concert that over the years attracted top performers such as Ella Fitzgerald, Tony Bennett, John Davidson, Chita Rivera and Bob Newhart as well as a performance of the Neil Simon musical comedy, *They’re Playing Our Song*. The organization dropped the word “women” from its name in 1977 and opened its membership to men. These events helped to raise \$25,000 to \$30,000 each year.

Alumni Association Name Changes

In December 1968, with the separation of the medical school from Marquette University, the Alumni Association removed the “University” from its name and became the Marquette Medical Alumni Association. The new name remained in place until May 1971, when the entity became the Marquette/Medical College of Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association. In 1989, the association’s name was changed to the Medical College of Wisconsin/Marquette Medical Alumni Association to reflect that more alumni had graduated from MCW than from any of its predecessor institutions.

Inaugural Alumni Association Awards

Beginning almost 60 years ago, the Alumni Association began the tradition of bestowing annual awards to worthy graduates and supporters of the institution.

In 1967, Joseph King, MD (Class of 1921), received the inaugural *Alumnus/Alumna of the Year* award. Dr. King was the long-time director of surgery for Milwaukee County General Surgery.

In 1969, the association awarded its inaugural *Honorary Alumnus/Alumna* awards to Walter Blount, MD, and Louis Quarles. Dr. Blount was chair of the department of orthopaedic surgery from 1957–1967 and co-inventor of the Milwaukee Brace, the gold standard treatment device worldwide for the treatment of scoliosis. Quarles was the first president of the Marquette School of Medicine, and later, MCW.

In 1992, the association awarded its inaugural *Distinguished Service* awards. The recipients were George Korkos, MD ’69; William Listwan, MD ’68, GME ’74; and Sanbo Sakaguchi, MD ’43. All three have been and continue to be major donors to MCW, and Dr. Listwan served as an MCW trustee from 2002–2005.

In 2005, the inaugural *Humanitarian* awards were bestowed on Brother Jerry Galloway, MD ’65, GME ’70; and George Schneider, MD ’70. From 1974–1977, Dr. Galloway worked for the Peace Corps in the Congo and returned there in 1980 to work with the pygmies. Dr. Schneider was the medical director of the Greater Milwaukee Free Clinic.



(at left) Derward Lepley, Jr., MD '49, receives the Alumnus of the Year Award in 1971 from Paul Dudenhoefer, MD '51, president of the Alumni Association.





In 2012, Daniel McDermott, PhD '69, received the inaugural *Graduate School Alumnus/Alumna of the Year* award.

In 2025, William Krombholz, PharmD '20, received the inaugural *Pharmacy School Alumnus/Alumna of the Year* award (see page 23).

Current annual awards are: *Distinguished Service Award*; *Graduate School Alumnus/Alumna of the Year*; *Honorary Alumnus/Alumna of the Year*; *Humanitarian Award*; *Medical School Alumnus/Alumna of the Year*; and *Pharmacy School Alumnus/Alumna of the Year*.

Alumni Relations Office Created

According to Katschke, MCW leaders began the 1990s determined to repair the institution's fractured relationship with alumni. Many of MCW's older alumni had received their undergraduate degrees from Marquette University and felt disenfranchised when the medical school was separated from Marquette in 1967. They were unhappy in 1970 when the medical school's board renamed the institution without their input.

At the time, an independent Alumni Association existed with its own administrator. The organization was supported by dues-paying members, primarily older alumni who had graduated from the Marquette University School of Medicine.

After assuming the presidency of MCW in 1990, T. Michael Bolger, JD, bought out the association's administrator and made the Alumni Association a non-dues-paying organization. He then created an alumni relations office in August 1991. Jude Kaufmann was hired as MCW's first alumni relations director and also served as executive director of the Alumni Association. She left MCW in 1992 and was succeeded in 1994 by William (Bill) Schultz.

Under Schultz's leadership, two major changes were made. In January 1996, the association discontinued the requirement of annual membership dues; all MCW medical school alumni automatically became members of the Alumni Association. In May 1996, the association opened its membership to non-MD alumni of MCW including MA, MS, MPH and PhD alumni.

(continued on page 21)

Current Alumni Association Support for MCW and Our Students

- Alumni Association Scholarship
- Student/Alumni Committee for the quarterly Alumni Association Board meetings
- Annual Alumni Association Awards
- Monthly Alumni eNewsletter
- Admissions Committee representative
- Financial support of specialty receptions at annual conferences
- Orientation Week Activities: provide swag and information on our support for students
- Alumni Engagement and Student Mentorship
- Symposium for Senior Physicians
- Engage – online mentorship platform
- Financial support for student research awards
- Graduate School Research Day and Poster Contest
- Physician Scientist Pathway Student Research Competition
- Hoops for Hunger support
- Events and Opportunities
- Operation: Education
- Reunions

(l-r) Emily Gessner and Becca Snow give out Alumni Association mugs to students on Match Day 2023.



During Operation: Education in April 2021, 100 MCW medical students engaged with 30 alumni from graduation years 1968-2019, representing 17 specialty/research areas and 13 states.



Q&A with Alumni Association Presidents



In honor of the 100th anniversary the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association, three Alumni Association presidents gathered for a question-and-answer session with Tony Perez, executive director of the Alumni Association. Some of the answers below were edited for length.



Cynthia A. Bauer,
MD '74, GME '75
(2003-2004)^a



Mark Bosbous,
MD '05, GME '11
(2025-Present)



William J. Listwan,
MD '68, GME '74
(1999-2000)

What did your involvement with the Alumni Association mean to you?

Dr. Bauer: My involvement with the Alumni Association has expanded my alumni contacts. We tend to be very close to our classmates, but through the Alumni Association's various activities and events, my alumni contacts have expanded well beyond my classmates to so many other alumni. What a wonderful group to belong to!

Dr. Bosbous: My involvement in the Alumni Association has been a unique honor that has kept me connected to MCW and given me the opportunity to serve my fellow alumni, but also connect with current students and help mentor the next generation of providers. It has kept me connected and allowed me the opportunity to serve an institution that has done so much for me personally and professionally.

Dr. Listwan: I was initially drawn to the organization because of the CME events that they coupled with golf outings in warmer climates during the wintertime. But the main reason I got involved was because I've always been grateful for the medical education I received and felt that this was a great way to remain involved with the institution.

What was your most meaningful memory from serving on the association's Board of Directors?

Dr. Bauer: My most meaningful memory was to watch the continuing evolution of our medical school's curriculum, always targeting an improved approach to educating and developing the complete, competent physician.

Dr. Bosbous: Some of my fondest memories are the connections you make with alumni from different generations and locations across the country. It gives you such great perspective of the reach that MCW truly has. I have also enjoyed participating in the graduation ceremonies of a variety of different disciplines at MCW,

wishing the next generation well on their careers. The honor of being asked to join the board and eventually be the president of the Alumni Association also stands out. The opportunity to help lead such a great organization and be active in the MCW community in that capacity was such an honor.

Dr. Listwan: The thing that sticks with me most is the work that Mike Bolger put into transitioning the Alumni Association from a separate and independent group to one that was more closely tied to MCW. A lot of back-and-forth happened between Bolger and the organization's leaders at the time about finances, staffing and other things. I'm amazed that Mike Bolger was able to accomplish what he did. But in the end, everybody seemed happy, and it certainly seems to have worked out well.

What aspirations do you have for the future of the Alumni Association?

Dr. Bauer: Hopefully the association will continue to provide opportunities to connect with classmates and alumni from other classes. The connection is so important for us personally and for our three schools. Social gatherings and educational programs continue to provide these opportunities and could be expanded in the future.

Dr. Bosbous: My hope for the association is that we continue to grow as a group, both reconnecting with alumni that may not have thought about or interacted with MCW in some time, and also growing our association because MCW is now training pharmacy graduates and a variety of graduate studies programs. It's only through building a strong base that we will be able to support MCW moving forward.

Dr. Listwan: To keep doing what they are doing well. The annual reunions and opportunities for alumni to connect with us and with each other is important, so we should look to continue and even expand upon those.



Schultz was promoted to executive director of alumni relations in 1996. “I have wonderful memories of working with such amazing alumni, especially running the Alumni Clinical Conference, Symposium for Senior Physicians and Reunion Weekends,” Schultz recalls.

In 1998, Kathleen Hargarten, MD ’82, GME ’85, an emergency medicine physician in Watertown, Wis., became the first woman to serve as president of the Alumni Association.

In 2000, the Geenen Family – including Joseph Geenen, MD ’60, GME ’65, FEL ’67; Sarah Geenen Joerres, MD ’87; and Daniel Geenen, MD ’89 – made a substantial gift to support the Alumni Relations Office in honor of the 40th anniversary of the graduation of Dr. Joseph Geenen from the Marquette University School of Medicine.

Seth Flynn served as executive director of the Alumni Association and executive director of alumni relations from September 2015 through February 2019.

Angela Nelson was named executive director of the Alumni Association in January 2020. She formerly served as senior director of development and alumni giving at MCW. Nelson retired in June 2024. “It was very rewarding to work with alumni to impact areas they care deeply about and to help them create lasting legacies through their incredible generosity to MCW’s education programs, research, department initiatives and community engagement programs,” Nelson shares.

Anthony (Tony) Perez, MSED, served as interim director of the Alumni Association from February 2019 to March 2020 and was appointed to his current position as executive director of the Alumni Association, effective October 1, 2024. Perez joined MCW in 2015 and has served in leadership positions responsible for student recruiting, enrollment marketing and enhancing overall awareness of MCW. As a key leader in efforts to attract students to apply to the MCW Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy and Graduate Studies, he has an extensive background in organizational culture, budgeting and educational marketing.

In addition to Perez, the office of alumni relations includes Emily Gessner, associate director; and Becca Snow, program coordinator.

The Future of Alumni Relations at MCW

“The centennial is a time to both reflect on the past and an opportunity to look ahead, as alumni engagement is shifting from primarily reunions and milestone events to a lifelong, two-way relationship model. Our future efforts will be more strategic, data-informed, inclusive and integrated with MCW’s broader goals,” Perez says.

Some key future priorities include:

Strengthen Connectivity: Ensure that alumni feel informed, involved and valued by MCW, with a focus on strengthening relationships with each other as well other areas with which they have affinity (e.g., student groups, academic programs, schools).

Expand Giving: Create and promote meaningful opportunities for alumni to give back their time, talent and resources to support MCW’s mission – ensuring that every alum can contribute.

Increase Presence: Meet alumni where they are, whether at professional conferences, in their local communities or through regional and virtual events that bring together alumni from all backgrounds.

Modernize Communications: Broaden and personalize outreach to alumni with an emphasis on two-way communication that allows them to share their voices.

Perez envisions that this enhanced engagement with alumni will result in a number of significant outcomes. Alumni will serve as co-creators on advisory panels and focus groups and mentor students. Alumni engagement will be measured both through numbers and quantity of connections, underscored by more personalized experiences to meet alumni where they are geographically, professionally and personally. Ties will strengthen between engagement and philanthropy as alumni see the direct impact of their support.

“We are building a culture in which alumni involvement is part of MCW’s everyday identity,” Perez adds. ■



NEWS

FOR ALUMNI



Your involvement ensures that the Alumni Association remains vibrant, inclusive and forward-thinking for the next century and beyond.

— Dr. Mark W. Bosbous

Connections Strengthen the Bonds that Unite Us

As I begin my term as president of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association, I am both grateful and excited for the opportunity to serve this remarkable community. Each of us shares a common thread through MCW, and yet the ways we have carried that forward into our careers differ in incredible ways. That collective impact is what makes our alumni network so extraordinary.

This fall, I've been especially energized by seeing how our alumni engage with one another. Alumni Weekend in early September was a powerful reminder of our shared legacy as we gathered to celebrate milestone reunions, honor six alumni award recipients and mark the 100th anniversary of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association. Whether giving back in financial ways or by contributing time and talents to current students and fellow alumni, each connection

strengthens the bond that unites us. Each act strengthens our community and inspires the next generation of health professionals while reminding us of the enduring value of our own MCW experiences.

Looking ahead, I encourage you to stay connected in ways that are meaningful to you. Update your contact information to receive the monthly Alumni eNewsletter, join us at upcoming events and consider nominating a classmate for the 2026 Alumni Association awards (see information below at left).

Your involvement ensures that the Alumni Association remains vibrant, inclusive and forward-thinking for the next century and beyond.

Thank you for the countless ways you support one another, our students and our institution. I am honored to begin this journey with you and look forward to what we will accomplish together over the next year. ■



Call for Alumni Award Nominations

Please submit your nominations for the 2026 Alumni Association awards online at www.mcw.edu/alumniawards no later than March 1, 2026.

Note: More information on the 2025 Alumni Association award recipients can be found online at www.mcw.edu/alumniawards.

Newly Elected Alumni Association Board of Directors



CLARENCE MONTECLARO,
MD '10



DAVID SMILEY,
MD '03



LAURA CONKLIN,
MPH '12



ZACHARY BRANDT,
PHD '20

2025 Alumni Association Awards

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

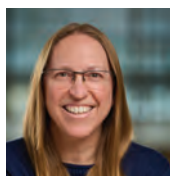
DAVID C. WARLTIER, PHD '76, MD '82, GME '88



Dr. Warltier earned his MD and PhD and completed his residency in anesthesiology at MCW from 1976–1988. Then, for almost four decades, he built a remarkable career as a physician–scientist, educator, mentor and academic leader. He served as director of the Medical Scientist Training Program, held the John P. Kampine Chair in Anesthesiology and is now professor emeritus. His groundbreaking research on myocardial ischemia, cardiac anesthesiology and coronary physiology was continuously funded by the NIH for nearly 30 years, resulting in numerous publications and widespread recognition across the scientific and medical communities. Dr. Warltier's contributions helped elevate the national and international reputation of MCW and have shaped the future of cardiovascular and anesthesiology care. ■

GRADUATE SCHOOL ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

CANDICE S. KLUG, PHD '99



Dr. Klug earned her PhD in biophysics from MCW in 1999. Following postdoctoral training at UCLA's Jules Stein Eye Institute, she returned to MCW in 2001 and has become a respected faculty leader and researcher. She holds the James S. Hyde Professorship in Biophysics and is director of the National Biomedical EPR Center. Her research, which has been continuously funded by the NIH, focuses on protein dynamics, antibiotic development and advancing EPR spectroscopy technologies. She leads the Biophysics Graduate Program and has long been a champion for women in science. Dr. Klug was named a 2023–2024 ELAM Fellow in recognition of her leadership in academic medicine. ■

HONORARY ALUMNUS

GEORGE E. MACKINNON III, PHD, MS, RPH



Dr. MacKinnon is a visionary leader whose impact on pharmacy education spans more than 30 years. He has helped shape the profession through his service as a clinician, educator and researcher, and played a key role in establishing and accrediting four academic pharmacy programs across three states. In 2015, he was appointed the founding dean of the MCW School of Pharmacy. Under his leadership, the school enrolled its first class in 2017 and earned full accreditation in 2020. In 2024–2025, he served as chair of the Council of Deans for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Dr. MacKinnon's work has improved patient care, elevated academic standards and inspired the next generation of health professionals. ■

HUMANITARIAN AWARD

SHERYL E. UYEDA, MD '11



Dr. Uyeda has spent nearly 10 years as a surgeon in rural Papua New Guinea, bringing skilled care to some of the world's most underserved communities. She serves at Kudjip Nazarene Hospital through World Medical Mission's postresidency program, often as the only surgeon on site. Her surgical work stretches far beyond what's expected – even mastering laparoscopic and thoracic procedures. In one case, she led a complex, multistage wound reconstruction on a man with a severe infection – saving his life with nothing more than courage, grit and faith. Dr. Uyeda also is passionately engaged in training rural Papua New Guinean doctors to deliver surgery in remote areas. ■

MEDICAL SCHOOL ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

JOHN A. PICCONATTO, MD '69



Dr. Picconatto is being recognized for dedicating his career to doing the work that matters most: showing up every day with skill, compassion and commitment to his patients and his community. He served for decades as an OB–GYN in central Wisconsin, where he quietly built a reputation as a thoughtful, dependable and deeply caring physician. After retiring from practice, he continued to give back, mentoring medical students as they navigate some of the most challenging and formative years of their training. At a time when the healthcare system is stretched and the need for kind, committed physicians is urgent, Dr. Picconatto stands as a powerful example of “serving with heart.” ■

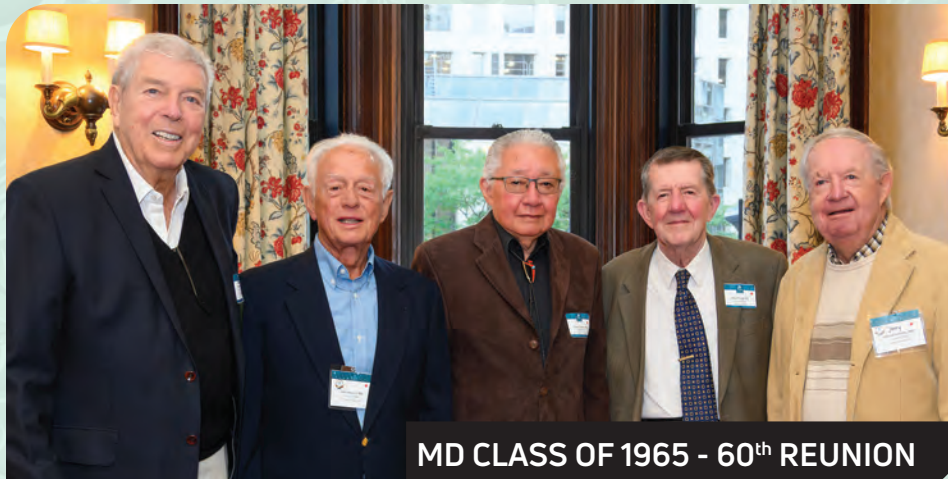
PHARMACY SCHOOL ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

WILLIAM J. KROMBOLZ, PHARM D '20



Dr. Kromholz was the first pharmacy student to rotate with Froedtert's Home Infusion team in 2017, during which he impressed the entire team with his work ethic, curiosity and professionalism. As a result, they recruited him as soon as a pharmacist role opened, and since then, he has played a key role in shaping a newly developed Specialty Infusion Pharmacist position and expanding the reach of the service line. He has led efforts around 340B compliance, REMS program oversight and the development of safe medication workflows. Dr. Kromholz has created new clinical protocols, improved documentation systems and supported operational safety initiatives – and is a trusted mentor to students and colleagues alike. ■

Alumni Weekend September 5-6, 2025



◀ (l-r): David Jones, MD; John Welsch, MD;
Gerald Ignace, MD; Wess Vogt, MD; Jerry Schulte, MD

▶ FRONT ROW (l-r): Lawrence Condon, MD;
Edmund Donoghue, Jr., MD; Jane Neumann, MD;
George Schneider, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): Robert Pohl, Jr., MD; Herbert Zimmers, MD



◀ FRONT ROW (l-r): Ronald Lange, MD; Jeanne Vedder, MD;
Mary Horowitz, MD; Thomas Ryan, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): Michael Norman, MD; Albert Fisher, MD;
Robert Wubben, MD; Dean Klinger, MD;
Werner Baumgartner, MD; Michael Schellpfeffer, MD

► **FRONT ROW (l-r):** Jeffrey Derus, MD; Oscar Garza, MD; Carl Hess, MD; Virgil Graham, MD; LeeAnne Nazer, MD; Gregory Blommel, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): John Korger, MD; Robert Plouff, MD; Mark Avila, MD; Ted Gronski, Jr., MD; Franklin Howell, MD; Stephen Noltner, MD; Michael Medchill, MD; Thomas White, MD; Joy Rynda, MD; Toula Lazarides, MD



MD CLASS OF 1985 - 40th REUNION



MD CLASS OF 1990 - 35th REUNION

◄ **FRONT ROW (l-r):** Kimberly Hammes Frank, MD; Lisa Armaganian, MD; Robert Krippendorf, MD; Jose Franco, MD; Jon Lehmann, MD; Mark Wadina, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): Thomas Ambro, MD; Patrick Sullivan, MD; Joseph Souza, MD; Mary Lehmann, MD

ROW 3 (l-r): Thomas deHoop, MD; Christopher Evanich, MD; Kary Aytes, MD

► **FRONT ROW (l-r):** Tori Jones, MD; Vickie Winkler, MD; Robin Larabee, MD; Jodi Komak, MD; Sheila Jhansale, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): Shawn Jobe, MD, PhD; Rayna Jobe, MD; Mary Ellis, MD; Todd Larabee, MD

ROW 3 (l-r): Michael Argyres, MD; Rebecca Wells, MD; Carol Wilder, MD; Sarah Kuranz, MD; Jolene Andryk, MD; Laura Poggel, MD; Michael Cruz, MD; George Delaney, MD



MD CLASS OF 1995 - 30th REUNION

ALUMNI



◀ **FRONT ROW (l-r):** Kimberly Yeung-Yue, MD; Marcus Chacon, MD; Isidoro Zambrano, MD; Michelle Linsmeier, MD; Kevin Erlinder, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): Thomas Harvey, MD; Jason Stacy, MD; Jennifer Soroos, MD; John Houle, MD; John Milne, MD; Lee Gruenwald, MD

ROW 3 (l-r): Jeremy Tompkins, MD; Marc Wasserman, MD; Jennifer Kirsch, MD; Aaron Baltz, MD; Becky Massey, MD

▶ **FRONT ROW (l-r):** Susan Pitt, MD; Timothy Ridolfi, MD; Laura Dauenhauer, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): Bridget Lenz, MD; Kimberly Ridolfi, MD; Jane Churpek, MD; Lindsay Gould, MD

ROW 3 (l-r): Kelly Pucillo, MD; Sarah Gaethke, MD; Katherine Keech, MD



◀ **FRONT ROW:** Kathleen Senebouttarath, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): David Sheridan, MD; Matthew Nersesian, MD; Timothy Bruce, MD; Steven Schuckit, MD; Brian Eiche, MD



► **FRONT ROW (l-r):** Andrew Zganjar, MD; Perry Krumenacher, MD; Christina Amend, MD; Amanda Kraus, MD; Jacqueline Simon, MD; Madhuri Setaluri, MD; Morgan Prince, MD; Katherine deAngeli, MD; Andrew Ceranske, MD; Kathryn Hughes, MD

ROW 2 (l-r): Jonathan Rice, MD; Blake Wachi, MD; Kathleen Hannan, MD; Nicole Boschuetz, MD; Tyler Boschuetz, MD; Haytham Hasan, MD; Benjamin Leist, MD; Kevin Koenig, MD; Robert Teixeira, MD; Danielle File, MD; John Flatter, MD; Jordan Hughes, MD



MD CLASS OF 2015 - 10th REUNION



PHARM D CLASS OF 2020 - 5th REUNION

◀ **FRONT ROW (l-r):** Lauren McCarter, PharmD; Christopher Tran, PharmD; Becka Anton, PharmD; Heather Dalton, PharmD

ROW 2 (l-r): Inez Pabian, PharmD; Erik Everton, PharmD; Arslan Aslam, PharmD; Jacob Dyer, PharmD; Marcus Haug, PharmD; Marcus Radz, PharmD





As a fourth grader, Mary Horowitz explains her science fair project on the topic of blood.



Dr. Horowitz on her graduation day from MCW in 1980



Dr. Horowitz and Dr. Bortin, ca. 1985

Reflecting on a Career with Joy and Gratitude

In 2026, Mary Horowitz, MD '80, GME '89, MS '91, deputy director of the MCW Cancer Center and Robert A. Uihlein, Jr. Chair in Hematologic Research, will have been connected to MCW for 50 years – as a student, resident and immensely successful faculty member whose work has transformed cancer care on a global scale. Beyond her successes, passion and drive, Dr. Horowitz remains joyful for the work she has been able to do.

“My focus has never been about awards or accolades, but about whether we made a difference – and I believe we have,” says Dr. Horowitz, who will retire from MCW in February 2026.

One impactful endeavor is the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR), which maintains a large outcomes registry that captures clinical data on donors and recipients of blood and marrow transplants (BMT) in 40 countries as well as follow-up data on recipients of non-transplant cellular therapies.

Dr. Horowitz joined the CIBMTR in 1985 and became scientific director in 1991; she was named scientific director emerita in 2021. In 1991, about 5,000 patients were in the database; the survival rate for patients who received blood or marrow transplants was around 30 percent. Those numbers have grown to almost 700,000 patients and 70 percent, respectively – in part reflecting Dr. Horowitz's push to expand the center and the research driven by the data.

Another significant undertaking that has made a difference is the Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network, an NIH-funded program focused on transplantation and cellular therapy, which has launched more than 60 clinical trials at more than 125 sites. Dr. Horowitz remains a principal investigator on this grant.

These projects, as well as her clinical career as a transplant specialist, have resulted in her receipt of numerous awards,

including MCW's *Distinguished Service Award* (2006); the *American Society of Hematology's Mentor Award* (2010); the *American Society of Blood and Marrow Transplant's Lifetime Achievement Award* (2014); and in 2019, the *American College of Physicians' Harriet Dustan Award for Outstanding Work in Science as Related to Medicine* and the *Aplastic Anemia and Myelodysplastic Syndrome Foundation's Lifetime Achievement in Science Award*.

Dr. Horowitz says that while she worked hard, her career path also was impacted by luck, including having excellent mentors both at MCW and elsewhere. She is particularly grateful to Mortimer Bortin, MD, the International Bone Marrow Transplant Registry's first scientific director, and Alfred Rimm, PhD, its first statistical director, for introducing her to the world of BMT.

“Some people may have grown up with a vision for what they were going to do, but I'm not that person,” adds Dr. Horowitz. “I jumped at every opportunity and was not afraid to take a chance. I fell into a job that completely suited my skills.” She clarifies that these skills include being a good problem-solver and the ability to bring people together.

Although Dr. Horowitz's time at MCW is winding down, she still plans to continue mentoring others – and she looks forward to some non-work-related activities.

“I love to travel, and I have a long bucket list of places I want to go, but I'll also spend more time with my family,” says Dr. Horowitz. “I have two kids in Wisconsin and one in Ohio, and I have extended family all over the country, and I look forward to spending more time with all of them.” ■

– ANTHONY BRAZA



Caring for Kids Close to Home

Robert E. Becker, MD '19, FEL '25, MCW assistant professor of pediatric gastroenterology and pediatric gastroenterologist with Children's Wisconsin, always had an interest in health and science. He began his education at the University of Wisconsin–Madison pursuing a degree in public health.

"I had a series of public health jobs and experiences and was also working at a summer camp. Through those experiences, I learned I preferred working one-on-one with people rather than on a public health scale and decided to pursue medicine. I also developed a passion for working with kids," says Dr. Becker.

A Wisconsin native, he was drawn to the Medical College of Wisconsin–Green Bay (MCW–GB) program due to the three-year curriculum, small class sizes and focus on community health.

"I enjoyed the collegiality with all my classmates and professors. I think having a smaller environment lends itself to strong personal relationships. I also think that it offers a unique educational experience working with attendings one-on-one," shares Dr. Becker.

Dr. Becker completed a general pediatric residency at the University of Minnesota and a three-year pediatric gastroenterology fellowship at MCW. When it came time to look for his first attending position, he knew he wanted to return to Wisconsin's Fox Valley. "Having lived in Green Bay, I knew that the Fox Valley is some place



Dr. Robert Becker at his graduation ceremony from MCW-Green Bay in 2019

that I would enjoy living," says Dr. Becker. "My home base is the Children's Clinic in Appleton. I work one day a week in Ashwaubenon. I scope at Bellin Hospital in Green Bay, and I also have some time set aside to assist with medical education at MCW–Green Bay."

Dr. Becker says the MCW–GB campus allows him to engage in the full spectrum of his abilities as an academic physician in a more community-based setting. "Patients in general are grateful to have care close to home. During my fellowship in Milwaukee, patients would routinely drive two to four hours to have a GI appointment," shares Dr. Becker. "When people learn that there's pediatric subspecialty appointments in the Fox Valley, it's a big relief. By bringing high-quality care outside of the academic environment, we're reaching a larger population of people. Especially for kids, it's important that we come to where they are."

Dr. Becker plans to continue to develop his practice in Appleton and Green Bay. "I'm really excited to offer more cutting-edge procedures and treatments to the kids in the Fox Valley and surrounding areas that may not be available in similarly sized

communities due to the distance from subspecialty care," Dr. Becker adds.

Dr. Becker looks forward to a career of continued learning and service, both as an alumnus and faculty member of MCW–GB. Recently, he became the first member of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association board of directors to have graduated from a regional campus. "I think there is a lot of value in alumni involvement in medical education, whether that be organizational support, financial support or mentorship," he notes. "I also appreciate the opportunity to be able to give back and teach medical students, and to give them a framework for how to practice in an evidence-based age." ■

– MICHELLE SCHAEFER



(left) Dr. Becker with his daughter, Willa, May 2024

(right) Dr. Becker in Door County Wis., November 2022



ALUMNI NOTES

1970s

Thomas F. Berns, MD '75, GME '79, was named to the Southern Door County (Wis.) School District's Alumni Hall of Fame. Dr. Berns served as president of the Wisconsin Radiological Society and was elected as a fellow to both the American College of Radiology and the Radiological Society of North America.

1980s

Philip Troiano, MD, GME '82, '84, is a functional medicine specialist with Great Lakes Vital Health in Glendale, Wis.

Gregory Gerboth, MD '87, specializes in pulmonary and critical care medicine with Providence Medical Group Adult Pulmonology in Anchorage, Alaska.

Daniel O'Hair, MD '88, GME '94, has been named chief physician executive for Lee Health Heart Institute in Fort Myers, Fla., and other locations in southwest Florida. He previously was director of cardiovascular surgery at Boulder (Colo.) Community Health.

1990s

Kimberly Frank, MD '90, is a child and adolescent psychiatrist with Milwaukee's Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers.

Joseph E. Kerschner, MD '90, GME '98, MCW's former provost and dean of the MCW School of Medicine, is the 2025 recipient of the Association of American Medical Colleges' *Distinguished Service Award*. Dr. Kerschner is a senior partner for Chartis Consulting and cofounder of OtoNano, LLC.

Ramin Ahmadi, MD '91, is medical director for Family Centers in Greenwich, Conn. He has secured more than \$20 million in federal funding in support of primary care residency training programs.

Chris Zukowski, MD '91, is a pediatrician in Brookfield, Wis., with ProHealth Medical

Group. He also is affiliated with Children's Wisconsin.

Joseph W. Upton, III, MD '92, is an aesthetic medicine physician specializing in anti-aging and preventive medicine with Levy Aesthetics in Bellevue, Wash.

Heidi Ann Borca, MD '93, specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Milwaukee's Columbia St. Mary's Medical Center.

Phill Bresnahan, MD '94, is a pediatrician with Shorewood Pediatrics in Milwaukee.

Captain Kathryn Schmidt Elliott, MD '94, is commanding officer of United States Naval Ship *Comfort*, where she successfully led numerous humanitarian and medical missions. Previously, she served as force surgeon for the Military Sealift Command. She was the lead medical subject matter expert for the development of the COVID-19 pandemic response plan.

Gerald Edward Sullivan, MD '94, is an addiction medicine specialist with Sullivan Medical Clinic in Milwaukee.

William T. Cullen, MD '95, is a reconstructive and cosmetic plastic surgeon and assistant professor of surgery at Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine, and chief of plastic surgery with Mercy Health Saint Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Abdul Durrani, MD, GME '95, is medical director of Durrani Family Medicine in Kenosha, Wis. In the 1980s, he was a medical officer with the United Nations Health Commission of Refugees.

Julia Harris, MD '97, is a primary care physician with Beach Family Doctors in Huntington Beach, Calif.

Amanda Wirth, MD '97, is a family medicine practitioner with Intermountain Health in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Brett Young, MD '97, is an orthopedic surgeon with Door County Medical Center in Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

Douglas Coe, MD, FEL '97, is an emergency medicine physician with St. Luke's Hospital of Kansas City, Mo.

Jeff Krawcek, MD '98, GME '01, has been appointed executive vice president and chief executive officer of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Foundation. He was previously president and executive medical director of the Colorado Kaiser Permanente Group.

Antonio Salud, II, MD '99, MA '03, is a pulmonary and critical care medicine specialist with Madison Medical, with offices in Mequon, Wis., and Milwaukee.

Gregory Sewall, MD '99, is an otolaryngologist with ENT & Allergy Associates in Wausau and Medford, Wis. He is affiliated with Aspirus Health.

2000s

Todd Christiansen, MD '00, is chief executive officer, medical director and a practicing psychiatrist with Families First Counseling & Psychiatry in Baltimore, Greenbelt, Olney, and Columbia, Md.

Trung D. Bui, MD '02, is a vascular surgeon with Los Robles (Calif.) Regional Medical Center.

James Heise, MD '02, GME '05, is an internal medicine specialist at Door County Medical Center in Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

Jason Jarzembowski*, MD '02, PhD, professor of pathology and senior associate dean of clinical affairs-pediatric practice at MCW and chief executive officer of Children's Specialty Group, has been elected to the American Board of Pathology Board of Trustees, effective January 1, 2026.

Patrick S. Wolf, MD '03, is a general surgeon with Ascension Health in Nashville, Tenn. He specializes in colon, rectal and breast surgery.

Kimberly Schoofs, MD '03, is a dermatologist with St. Luke's North Hospital in Kansas City, Mo.

Sarah Hennemann, MD '04, is a primary care physician with Capstone Clinic in Wasilla, Alaska.

Rachel Maudal, MD, GME '04, FEL '05, who specializes in internal medicine and geriatrics, has joined Essentia Health's Duluth, Minn., clinic.

Nima Shemirani, MD '04, GME '09, is a facial plastic surgeon specializing in advanced rhinoplasty and revision rhinoplasty with Eos Rejuvenation in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Elizabeth Anderson, MD '05, is an emergency department physician at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, Wis., and Upland Hills Hospital in Dodgeville, Wis. She also serves as president of the Catholic Medical Guild of the Diocese of Madison.

Jeremy Luedtke, MD '05, a general surgeon, has joined Northwest Medical Group in Valparaiso, Ind.

Anthony Maresso, PhD '05, who holds the Melnick Endowed Chair and is professor of molecular virology and microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine (Texas), was awarded the medical school's *Michael E. DeBakey Excellence in Research Award*.

Andrea Stahulak*, MD '06, is a neuro-ophthalmologist and assistant professor of ophthalmology and vision sciences at MCW. She specializes in optic nerve, pupil and cranial nerve disorders, double vision and eye movement abnormalities and idiopathic intracranial hypertension.

Rose George, MD '07, is a psychiatrist with Brighter Day Psychiatry Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Clinic in Fort Collins, Colo.

Joseph Bovi*, MD, GME '07, is physician chief of the ThedaCare Cancer Service Line, North Region in Appleton, Wis. Dr. Bovi

is a volunteer faculty member in MCW's department of radiation oncology.

Omar Massoud, MD, FEL '08, was associate professor of medicine and director of clinical liver research at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and has created the Dr. Omar Massoud Scholarship for Future Doctors.

Amarjit Virdi, MD, GME '08, is an anesthesiologist specializing in pain management with Winona (Minn.) Health.

Asare B. Christian, MD '09, MPH, is the founder and medical director of Aether Medicine in Wayne, Pa.

Ryan Payne, MD, GME '09, has joined Clara Barton Medical Center in Hoisington, Kan., as a urologist.

Daniel Tensmeyer, MD '09, is an orthopedic surgeon in Brigham City, Utah, and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including McKay-Dee Hospital and Layton Hospital.

2010s

Julian Berrocal, MD '11, specializes in breast oncology at Jupiter (Fla.) Medical Center's Anderson Family Institute.

Spencer D. Wolf, MD '11, is a family medicine practitioner with South Dayton Family Physicians in Kettering, Ohio.

Nicole Marie Rau, MD '13, GME '16, FEL '19, is a neonatologist, perinatologist and assistant professor of clinical pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria and a clinical neonatologist at OSF/Children's Hospital of Illinois.

Jordan Hughes*, MD '15, GME '18, is a family medicine practitioner with the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network.

John Wanner*, MD '16, is an MCW assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery.

Jacob Michael Wilson, MD '16, is an assistant professor of orthopedic surgery at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Ga.

Sophie G. Rodrigues Pereira, MD '18, is a hospitalist with Northwestern Medicine Regional Group. She is on the staff of Northwestern Medicine Palos Hospital in Palos Heights, Ill.

Nathan Skinner, MD '19, PhD '17, joined the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in September 2025 as an assistant professor.

2020s

Alexander Haroldson, MD '20, has joined Sanford Health in Bemidji, Minn., as an anesthesiologist.

Justin Bryant, DO, FEL '20, is a plastic and reconstructive microsurgeon with the Sarasota (Fla.) Memorial Health Care System.

Mario Pacheco, MD '21, is a family medicine practitioner with South Tabor Family Physicians in Portland, Ore.

Luis Paniagua, MD '21, is an internal medicine specialist with Kaiser Permanente in Folsom, Calif.

Matthew Weber, MD '21, is a family medicine practitioner in Miami, Fla., with Amazon One Medical.

Mary Daley, MD '22, a pediatrician, has joined Essentia Health's Duluth (Minn.) clinic.

Leonardo Tjahjono, MD, GME '23, is an assistant professor of dermatology at George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, DC.

Corey Sell, MD, GME '24, is an emergency medicine physician with Northeast Emergency Medicine Specialists in Willimantic, Conn.

IN MEMORIAM

1940s

Eli Ramirez, MD '42, GME '49, a cardiologist in Guaynabo, P.R., died on August 10, 2025, the age of 105. Dr. Ramirez was a professor of medicine at the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine and chief of cardiology and internal medicine at the VA Medical Center in San Juan.

Dr. Ramirez performed the first cardiograms in Puerto Rico and in the 1950s, participated in the world's first clinical trials on drugs to treat hypertension.

1950s

Robert S. Pavlic, MD '54, died at home in Hartland, Wis., on July 19, 2025, at the age of 95. An obstetrician, he was a founder of Elmbrook Hospital in Brookfield, Wis., where he also served as chief of staff. Over the course of his career, Dr. Pavlic delivered more than 7,000 babies. He was awarded the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association's *Distinguished Service Award* in 2005.

James J. Posch, MD '55, of Mayfield Village, Ohio, died on July 12, 2025, at the age of 95. A pediatrician, he practiced in Mayfield Village and Euclid, Ohio, and was chief of pediatrics and chief of the medical staff of Cleveland Clinic's Hillcrest Hospital in Mayfield Village.

Helen Vodopick-Goswitz, MD '56, of Oak Ridge, Tenn., died on July 8, 2025, at the age of 94. Dr. Vodopick-Goswitz and her husband, Francis Goswitz, MD '56, founded Oak Ridge Medical Clinic in 1974 and served on the staff of Oak Ridge Methodist Medical Center, where a wing is named in her honor. Dr. Vodopick-Goswitz conducted pioneering work on radiation treatments for NASA.

Gerald G. Pope, MD, GME '57, (Gerasimos Giorgios Papakyriazis), died at home in West Bloomfield, Mich., on July 12, 2025, at the age of 99. He was a psychiatrist

with Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit for more than 30 years. His career extended for more than 70 years.

Harry Chinchinian, MD '59, GME '63, of Clarkston, Wash., died on August 21, 2025, at the age of 99. During his career as a pathologist, he was chief of staff of both St. Joseph's Hospital in Lewiston, Idaho, and Tri-State Hospital in Charleston, Wash. He also served as a professor in Washington State University's College of Pharmacy.

John W. Utrie, MD '59, of De Pere, Wis., died on April 23, 2025, at the age of 91. Over the course of his 41-year career in medicine, Dr. Utrie introduced new techniques to Green Bay, Wis., including fetal monitoring, gynecologic cryosurgery, radio surgery and office urodynamics, and he performed Green Bay's first gynecologic laparoscopy.

With collaborators, he founded the maternal high risk program at Green Bay's Saint Vincent Hospital in the early 1970s. Dr. Utrie was chair of the OB/GYN department at Saint Vincent's Hospital, president of the Brown County (Wis.) Medical Society, president and treasurer of the Wisconsin State OB\GYN Society, and founding member of the American Urogynecology Society and the Wisconsin Society for Perinatal Care.

1960s

Wilfred K.L. Man, MD, '60, of Fullerton, Calif., died in July 2024 at the age of 91. He was a family medicine practitioner in Anaheim, Calif., from 1964 until his retirement in 1995.

Alfred Joseph Ferris, Jr., MD '65, of Tampa, Fla., died on August 8, 2025, at the age of 84. He had a 30-year career as a radiologist with St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa.

Peter Paul La Torre, Jr., MD '67, of Patterson, Calif., died at home on August 30, 2025, at the age of 84. He was a family medicine physician in Patterson for 35 years and was chief of staff at Del Puerto Hospital in Patterson and medical director for San Luis Convalescent Hospital in Newman, Calif.

Douglas Walter Olen, Sr., MD '67, died at home in Savannah, Georgia, on June 19, 2025, at the age of 86. He was a radiologist at Milwaukee's St. Joseph Hospital from 1973 until his retirement in 2001.

James Lesniak, MD '69, of Boca Raton, Fla., died on September 10, 2024, at the age of 80. He was an anesthesiologist in south Florida for more than 40 years and conducted many medical volunteer trips to provide care to patients in Haiti and Honduras.

1980s

Joan Von Arras, MD, GME '85, FEL '88, died in Chicago, Ill., on September 1, 2025, at the age of 73. She specialized in women's imaging and nuclear medicine and chaired the medical imaging, nuclear medicine and magnetic resonance departments at Oconomowoc (Wis.) Memorial Hospital and the Sinai Samaritan Medical Center (now Aurora Sinai Medical Center) in Milwaukee.

1990s

Bora Kim Wong, MD '95, died on September 10, 2025, at the age of 56, following a five-and-one-half-year battle with metastatic colon cancer. She was a physician in the department of medicine at Ventura County (Calif.) Medical Center.

Special Remembrances

Jon Gudeman, MD, former professor and vice chair of MCW's department of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, died in Longboat Key, Fla., on August 24, 2025, at the age of 89.



Dr. Gudeman was medical director and chief executive officer of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Department. During the course of his career, he was president of the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society and chair of the American Hospital Association's Section for Psychiatry and Substance Abuse.

Robb Edwards, MD '06, GME '11, assistant professor of surgery (division of trauma and critical care) at the Medical College of Wisconsin, died in an automobile crash on August 25, 2025.



Dr. Edwards played an instrumental role leading the section of community general surgery from 2023 until his death. He also served as vice chair for the department of surgery at Ascension Franklin (Wis.) Hospital prior to joining MCW in 2023.

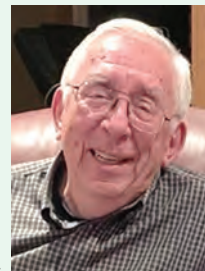
Jerrel Jones, a pioneer in African American journalism in Milwaukee, died in June 2025 at the age of 85.

Jones was one of the first leaders in the Black community to serve on MCW's board of directors, from 1979 to 1983. He served as CEO of Courier Communications Corp., founded the *Milwaukee Courier* and owned WNOV radio – major media outlets in Milwaukee's Black community.

Sister Mary Claire Kennedy, PhD, retired professor of biochemistry and former member of the National Biomedical EPR Center at MCW, died in Erie, Pa., on May 23, 2025, at the age of 96.

Dr. Kennedy retired from the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2001 and returned to religious service at the Sisters of St. Joseph in Erie as a social justice coordinator.

Richard Komorowski, MD '67, GME '72, of West Allis, Wis., died on September 13, 2025, at the age of 83.



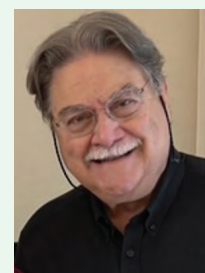
Dr. Komorowski served as a physician at the Oakland Naval Hospital before enjoying a long and productive career at the Medical College of Wisconsin as an academic surgical pathologist, specializing in gastrointestinal pathology.

Throughout his career, he mentored innumerable young pathology residents and published prodigiously, with more than 100 journal articles. Dr. Komorowski joined MCW's pathology faculty in 1974 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1979 and was named a professor with tenure in 1992. Dr. Komorowski retired from MCW in 2016.

Richard Lesniak, MCW's first vice president for development, died in Waukesha, Wis., on July 29, 2025, at the age of 82.

He served from 1981 to 1989 and is credited with expanding MCW's endowment by \$11 million and securing gifts that led to the creation of seven endowed chairs. His sons, John Lesniak, MD '97, GME '00, and Robert Lesniak, MD '97, GME '02, are graduates of MCW.

Scott Sandage, DO, GME '82, a child and adolescent psychiatrist and associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin, died on July 9, 2025, at the age of 72.

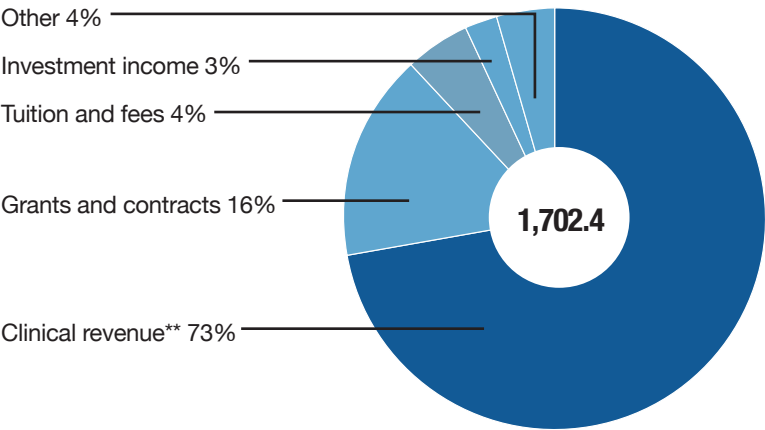


From 2015 until his death, Dr. Sandage provided consultation liaison psychiatry to the inpatient units and pediatric specialty care clinics at Children's Wisconsin and to primary care providers across the state through the Wisconsin Child Psychiatry Consultation Program. He was an active member of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and was recognized as a Distinguished Life Fellow. Dr. Sandage particularly loved the teaching and practice of cross-cultural psychiatry informed by his research in the South Pacific and South America, as well as consultation work with refugee mental health clinics in the US.

Fiscal Year 2025 Finance Report

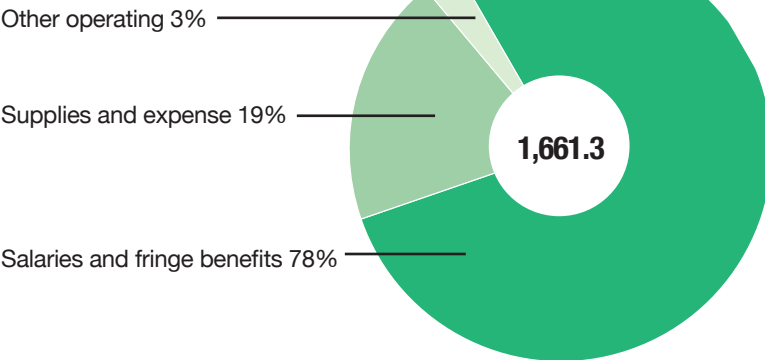
Revenues*	Total All Funds
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2025	(\$ in millions)
Clinical revenue**	1,234.4
Grants and contracts	267.2
Tuition and fees	73.8
Investment income	50.4
Contributions	6.9
Other	69.7
Total revenues	\$1,702.4

Revenues Fiscal Year 2025



Expenses*	Total All Funds
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2025	(\$ in millions)
Salaries and fringe benefits	1,294.1
Supplies and expense	322.8
Other operating	44.4
Total expenses	\$1,661.3
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$41.1

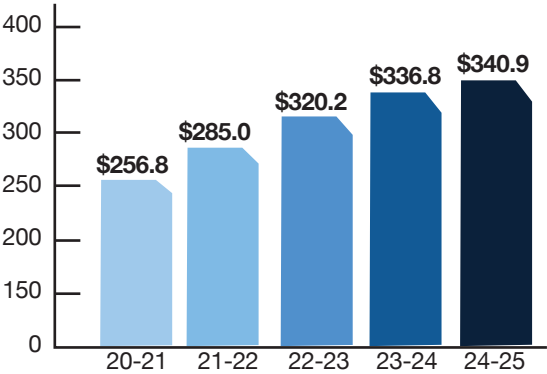
Expenses Fiscal Year 2025



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

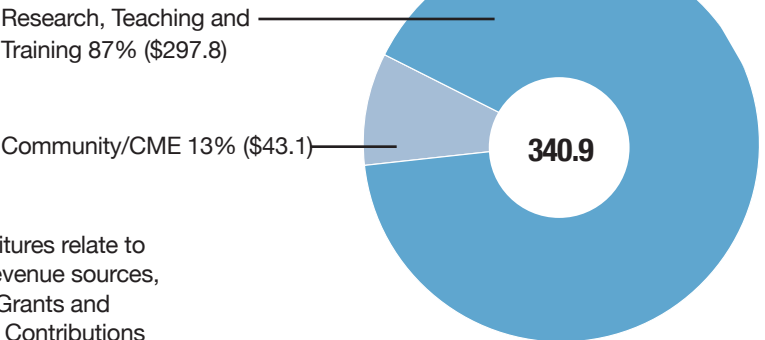
Externally Funded Expenditures***

July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2025
Total Externally Funded Expenditures for Research, Teaching, Training and Related Purposes (\$ in millions)



Externally Funded Expenditures by Purpose Fiscal Year 2025

(\$ in millions)



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





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