

MCW

magazine

WHEREVER
THE ART OF
MEDICINE
IS LOVED,
THERE ALSO IS
LOVE OF
HUMANITY

- HIPPOCRATES



We Remember a Visionary

T. Michael Bolger, JD

December 23, 1939 – November 29, 2018

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LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Leaders – Past, Present and Future

One of the defining characteristics of the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and its predecessor institutions has been the quality of its leadership. During our 54 years as the Marquette University School of Medicine (1913-1967), the medical school benefited greatly from the guidance of forward-thinking deans who modernized facilities and forged hospital partnerships to augment students' clinical experiences, enhance the region's healthcare delivery system and further develop the profession of clinical laboratory science.

In the early 1950s, dean John Hirschboeck, MD '37, articulated the vision that a strong medical school would need a medical center campus to house modern teaching hospitals with special commitments to teaching, research and tertiary care. Thus was planted the first seed of what is now the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center.

After the separation from Marquette, the governance of this new private freestanding institution included both presidents and deans – supported by a cadre of outstanding leaders – who extended MCW's growth and prominence and created a vision to move the institution forward so that students, faculty and staff could flourish. In this issue of *MCW Magazine*, we touch on the importance of exemplary leadership – past, present and future – as a critical component of our success.

We are pleased to introduce three new department chairs who bring significant clinical and research expertise, as well as five new members of the MCW board of trustees who are highly respected civic and business leaders.

We highlight the newly launched Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine whose vision is for MCW to become a destination for women leaders. We also pay tribute to the nine current women faculty members who are past fellows of the prestigious Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) program.

And in our cover story, we remember with love, respect, honor and gratitude T. Michael Bolger, JD, a visionary leader, brilliant strategist, great friend and longest-serving president and CEO of MCW, who passed away on November 29, 2018. His 40-year association with MCW created an inspiring legacy that will forever shape our future.

With our pantheon of exceptional leaders – past and present – I am confident that we will continue to build a future of outstanding leadership that will foster a strong institutional culture and pave the way for innovation and transformation. I hope you agree!

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

“...we will continue to build a future of outstanding leadership that will foster a strong institutional culture and pave the way for innovation and transformation.”



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ON THE COVER: T. Michael Bolger, JD, a visionary leader, brilliant strategist and longest-serving president and CEO of the Medical College of Wisconsin who passed away on November 29, 2018, is shown standing in the lobby of the Health Research Center in front of a favorite quote from Hippocrates that he chose specifically to be on display for all who entered the institution's front doors. **PHOTO CREDIT:** Gary Porter/Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

NEWS

FOR ALUMNI

I am eager to share exciting news related to the Medical College of Wisconsin / Marquette Medical School Alumni Association. First, we are pleased to announce the launch of “ENGAGE,” our exclusive online platform. I strongly encourage every alumna and alumnus to register as a user on ENGAGE. ENGAGE will provide our alumni with greater access to MCW news and infor-



mation, the ability to easily connect with one another, and the opportunity to connect with students. Students are in need of mentors, and through ENGAGE we can inspire the current generation of future

physicians as we were inspired by our mentors in the past.

Seth Flynn has left MCW to pursue other professional opportunities. We thank him for his time and efforts, and wish him all the best. In partnership with MCW leadership, the Alumni Association has initiated a nationwide search for his replacement. Anthony (Tony) Perez has agreed to serve as the Alumni Association's interim director until the search is complete. Tony currently serves as associate director of recruitment and marketing in the MCW Graduate School and brings a timely wealth of outreach and

communications experiences. Please welcome Tony as our interim director.

In related news, we are working to bring the Alumni Association board to full strength, and will be looking to add additional voting members to the board between now and September, when many of our current members' terms will conclude. Those interested can reach out to alumni@mcw.edu to learn more.

The Alumni Association welcomed graduates from the inaugural class of the Master of Science in Anesthesia program to our alumni network this past December. We are especially excited to celebrate the inaugural class of MDs from our Central Wisconsin campus and we look forward to next month's Commencement ceremonies.

Lastly, it's never too early to mention Alumni Weekend, which will occur September 27-28. Planning already has begun, and we look forward to seeing everyone in attendance on Friday evening during our annual meeting and awards banquet. Speaking of which, we are now accepting nominations for our yearly Alumni Association Awards. Visit www.mcw.edu/alumni to learn more.

I am proud of the progress the board has made toward reaching our strategic goals, and we look forward to keeping the positive momentum we have built as we recruit a new director. Thank you your support.

Let's ENGAGE! ■

Stay Engaged! Share your email address with the Alumni Association at [mcw.edu/alumni](mailto:alumni@mcw.edu).

“Students are in need of mentors, and through ENGAGE we can inspire the current generation of future physicians as we were inspired by our mentors in the past.”

– Dr. Neil Guenther, Alumni Association President

Introducing MCW's New Online Alumni Community

The Medical College of Wisconsin/ Marquette Medical Alumni Association launched its online alumni community called "ENGAGE" in March 2019. Unlike social networks – such as Facebook and LinkedIn – ENGAGE offers a safe, secure and effortless way to connect with alumni. The password-protected site is a closed network, which means the Alumni Association validates all accounts against our alumni list before users are granted access to the site.

All MCW alumni (School of Medicine, Graduate School, School of Pharmacy and Graduate Medical Education programs) are welcome to join, as are alumni of MCW's predecessor medical schools. Current MCW students, as well as a limited number of faculty and staff members, also will be

invited to register for the online community. This will allow alumni an opportunity to explore and offer mentoring opportunities to current students – a key request from the Alumni Association.

Registering with ENGAGE is quick and easy, and starts with alumni requesting access to ENGAGE. Once approved, alumni can share updates, comment on posts and search for other alumni via the ENGAGE directory. Additionally, alumni can review and enroll in mentoring opportunities, register for events and add information to their respective profiles. Each alumnus/ alumna controls how much personal information is shared in the closed community by editing the profile settings. ■

Five Simple Steps to ENGAGE:

- 1 Visit www.mcw.edu/engage. Click "Register Now" button.
- 2 Register using your Facebook, Google or LinkedIn account, or with your preferred email address.
- 3 Select your user type and provide any additional required information (e.g., degree, year earned, etc.).
- 4 Review and select mentorship opportunities.
- 5 Explore ENGAGE and connect with alumni and students!



Shop the MCW Online Store

Show your MCW pride with new branded apparel and gifts.

mcw.edu/store

All in-stock online items will ship within 24 hours and arrive within 7 to 10 business days.

Zip fleeces, baseball tees, coffee mugs and much more!

STAT REPORT



Photo courtesy of Michael Sears/Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MCW Physicians Offer Innovative Radiation Therapy

Radiation oncologists at the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin (F&MCW) Clinical Cancer Center, part of the Froedtert & MCW Cancer Network, recently treated their first cancer patient using the high-field magnetic resonance radiation therapy (MR/RT) system, Elekta Unity MR-linac. The Unity MR-linac is the first high-field MR-linac technology in the world to simultaneously generate diagnostic quality magnetic resonance images and deliver high-dose radiation beams. Elekta Unity enables clinicians to see what they treat while the treatment is taking place and adapt the treatment plan based on the patient's daily tumor status.

The patient, a 47-year-old woman from Fond du Lac, Wis., received radiation therapy on the Unity MR-linac to treat a

cancerous liver tumor. The tumor, which could not be seen with standard CT-guided treatment, was clearly visible on Unity MR-linac's MRI images. The F&MCW Clinical Cancer Center is one of just two centers in the US to offer Elekta Unity to cancer patients; the other facility is the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

"The Elekta Unity MR-linac offers the potential to fundamentally transform how radiation therapy regimens are developed, implemented and adapted to achieve optimal outcomes for our patients," says Christopher J. Schultz, MD '85, Bernard and Miriam Peck Family Professor and chair of MCW's department of radiation oncology. ■

MCW Blood and Marrow Transplant Specialists Exceed Expectations

For the fifth consecutive year, the Froedtert & MCW (F&MCW) Blood and Marrow Transplant (BMT) Program's patient survival rates were ranked as "above expected" by the Stem Cell Transplant Outcomes Database's annual BMT center-specific analysis. Of the nearly 180 BMT centers in the country, F&MCW's BMT Program is one of only 12 that performed better than expected during the evaluation years represented in the report, and one of only five that has performed at that level for five years in a row.

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Each year, the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research, a research collaboration between MCW and the National Marrow Donor Program®/Be The Match®, conducts an analysis of outcomes data for US transplant centers performing allogeneic transplants. This data represents the first allogeneic transplants performed with blood or marrow stem cells from related or unrelated donors. The center performance report provides an overall risk-adjusted analysis indicating whether one-year survival for each BMT center is as "expected," "above expected" or "below expected" compared to the average transplant center in the United States. ■

MCW Partners on Expanded National Concussion Study

The Medical College of Wisconsin, in collaboration with the Indiana University School of Medicine, the University of Michigan and the Uniformed Services University, continues to partner on the world's most comprehensive concussion study. The study recently was expanded with an infusion of nearly \$22.5 million in new funding from the US Department of Defense and the NCAA to examine the effects of head

injuries over several years. The NCAA-DOD Concussion Assessment, Research and Education Consortium, known as the CARE Consortium, was established as part of the broader NCAA-DOD Grand Alliance in 2014, with the goals of understanding how concussions affect the brain and identifying ways to improve diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

The study has collected data on more than 39,000 student-athletes and

cadets at 30 colleges and military service academies – including more than 3,300 who have experienced concussions. The initial phase of the study focused on the acute effects of concussions in the immediate hours, days and weeks after the injury. The new phase will include comprehensive testing of the participants when they leave college and up to four years after their collegiate sports or service academy careers have ended. ■

NEW FACULTY LEADERS

■ IAN B.K. MARTIN, MD, MBA

CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE Dr. Martin served as professor and chair of emergency medicine at the West Virginia University School of Medicine.



■ FRANK A. PINTAR, PHD

CHAIR, MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY AND MCW DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING Dr. Pintar also serves as professor in the Marquette University and MCW department of biomedical engineering, and director of the Neuroscience and Biomechanics Research Laboratories at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center.



■ CURT D. SIGMUND, PHD

CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY Dr. Sigmund served as chair and department executive officer, department of pharmacology; professor and Roy J. Carver Chair in Hypertension Research; and director, UIHC Center for Hypertension Research at the Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa.



Advancing Anesthesia Education

MCW Graduates First Class of Anesthesiologist Assistants

Serving the needs of patients and helping them rewrite their stories is a hallmark of the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). Thus, heeding the predictions of experts about a growing shortage of anesthesiologists, MCW leaders created a new training program to help reverse this troubling trend.

MCW's Master of Science in Anesthesia (MSA) program began in June 2015 with the support of initial funding from the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment. The goal of the 28-month program is to train certified anesthesiologist assistants who will serve as key members of a healthcare team who provide direct anesthesia care under supervision by a physician.

MCW's program was the first program of its kind in Wisconsin and one of only a dozen throughout the US. Program leaders recruited certified anesthesiologist assistants to serve as providers and teachers to help develop the next generation of their profession. MCW's first class of 12 MSA students matriculated in August 2016, and each of them graduated in December 2018 with a job offer in hand.

"I was absolutely elated on the day of our MCW Commencement," says Hope Lundberg, MSA '18. "It was amazing seeing the community that helped train us gather together in celebration." In particular, Lundberg was moved by the stirring words of keynote speaker David Warltier, PhD '76, FEL '78, MD '82, GME '88, MCW professor of anesthesiology, who retired as chair of the department in November 2016 and was instrumental in creating the MSA program.

Dr. Warltier addressed the increasingly team-oriented field of anesthesiology and the accelerating rate of advances in



scientific knowledge that affect how to best care for patients. He noted that it is crucial to keep current on developments in the field, advising, "Keep learning, as anesthesiology is constantly changing. Take time to read scientific literature each and every day." He asked the graduates to apply their hard-earned skills while going above and beyond technical excellence. "Patients want and deserve compassion and empathy – always remember how important that is."

Lundberg and her classmates are well-positioned to take Dr. Warltier's advice, as they received rigorous academic training and copious clinical experience. MCW's MSA graduates obtain many more cases and clinical hours than are required by accredited programs; Lundberg believes that this was an important focus of the curriculum and that it prepared her to contribute in the operating room right away as she begins her career. She also thinks that the program incorporated the importance of

teamwork that Dr. Warltier envisions as the future of anesthesia care.

"Throughout my training, the entire team always worked together for the greater good of the patient. To me, that is the epitome of excellence in healthcare," Lundberg says. Looking back on her experience in MCW's first MSA class, she is glad she chose MCW for herself – and not just at the urging of her father, Danny Lundberg, MD '88.

"While my dad always reflected positively on his alma mater, I actually found the program on my own in 2016 while searching online. Although it was a new program, I could tell from my conversations with the director, Michael Stout, that it would be the perfect fit for me," she recalls.

"Growing up, I looked up to family members working in healthcare and to the anesthesiologist in my hometown of Rhinelander (Wis.). Now, I am ready to take care of people and make a difference in their lives." ■ — GREG CALHOUN

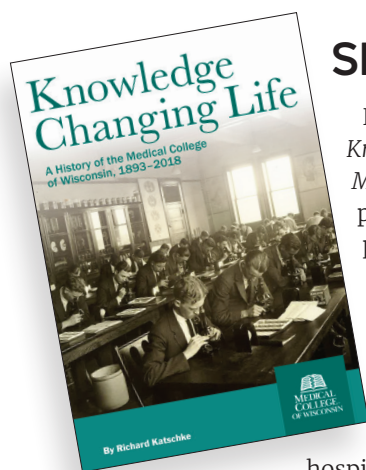
Chief Historian and Communications Leader Retires

Richard (Dick) Katschke, MA, retired in January 2019 following almost 35 years of exemplary service to the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). Katschke served as a key communications executive leader during a period of significant growth for MCW. He joined MCW in 1985 as director of public affairs, was promoted to assistant vice president in 1996 and associate vice president in 2002. He held the distinction of being the longest-tenured public information officer among US medical schools.



Since 2015, Katschke has served as chief historian and senior associate vice president for communications. He was an invaluable resource as MCW celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2018 and has enhanced the visibility of MCW's reputation over more than three decades. Katschke's responsibilities have included overseeing media relations and external communications, brand development, internal communications, web communications, publications and special events. He has coordinated institutional policy statements, issues management and crisis communications, and directly served three MCW presidents.

In October 2015, Katschke received MCW's *Distinguished Service Award* – MCW's highest faculty and staff honor. ■



Sharing MCW's History

Dick Katschke's upcoming book, *Knowledge Changing Life: A History of the Medical College of Wisconsin, 1893-2018*, provides detailed information on the people and events that shaped MCW's evolution. The book explores MCW's 125 years of accomplishments, challenges and controversies. It serves as a comprehensive history not only of MCW, but of Marquette University, Milwaukee County and Milwaukee's hospitals and healthcare facilities.

If you would like to receive information on pre-ordering a copy of the book, please contact MCWmagazine@mcw.edu. ■

NEW MCW TRUSTEES

■ JOHN DONOFRIO

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL, JOHNSON CONTROLS Prior to joining Johnson Controls, Donofrio was vice president, secretary and general counsel of Mars, Incorporated. He also previously held the general counsel and secretary role at the Shaw Group, Inc., and Visteon, Inc.



■ DAVID LUBAR

PRESIDENT AND CEO OF LUBAR & CO. Lubar joined Lubar & Co. in 1983 and today leads the company's daily operations as president and CEO. He has served as lead investor and a director to more than 20 companies in a wide range of industries.



■ VINCENT P. MATHEWS, MD

JAMES E. YOUKER ENDOWED CHAIR IN RADIOLOGY AND TENURED PROFESSOR, MCW DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY Dr. Mathews joined MCW in 2014. His research focuses on brain imaging and brain functioning in adolescents. In October 2018, Dr. Mathews was named president-elect of the American Board of Radiology.



■ CHRIS MISKEL

PRESIDENT AND CEO OF VERSITI Versiti is a non-profit organization headquartered in Milwaukee that serves local patients in need of organ and tissue transplant. Versiti also is a national provider of transfusion medicine and esoteric diagnostic testing, and it conducts internationally-renowned blood research.



■ R. JAN PIROZZOLO-MELLOWES

PARTNER AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWYER, FOLEY & LARDNER LLP Pirozzolo-Mellowes focuses on patent, trademark and copyright litigation. Her work involves various industries and technical areas, including software, chemical compositions, medical devices, mechanical devices, DNA sequencing, pharmaceuticals and architectural works.





The Blueprint For Precise Care

Several years ago, a team of physicians struggled to diagnose an unknown disease that caused a child to suffer hundreds of seizures each day. Advances in genomic science allowed for that child's DNA to be sequenced. As a result, experts diagnosed a previously unnamed condition. The child received successful treatment, and the experience forever changed a young scientist who was part of the care team.

"I have always believed in science and what it can do. This experience transformed me from a pure scientist to one with a complete dedication to those who can benefit from genomic science and precision medicine," says Raul A. Urrutia, MD, Warren P. Knowles Professor of Genomics and Precision Medicine, director of the Genomic Sciences and Precision Medicine Center (GSPMC) at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and professor in the departments of surgery and biochemistry. "At MCW, I feed this desire by serving in a diverse community alongside talented colleagues who want to create solutions." The GSPMC team includes pioneering researchers, scientists and clinicians who use

DNA to better understand the origins and behaviors of disease and improve diagnosis, treatment and prevention. Under Dr. Urrutia's leadership, the GSPMC launched in July 2017 and has become an essential catalyst working to ensure a healthier future for Milwaukee, southeast Wisconsin and beyond.

The Power of Genomic Science

Genomic science is the study of an individual's genes (the genome) and how they interact with each other and with an individual's environment. Genomic science provides the blueprint to explain how the entire body and its systems work, with the

Investing in the Future

Linda T. Mellowes understands what it takes to advance science and medicine – and improve health. She brought her undergraduate training in biology and chemistry along with her experience working at the National Institutes of Health to her leadership roles on the boards of the Medical College of Wisconsin and a number of its clinical affiliates.

"I am excited about the growth of MCW and its partners on and beyond the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center campus," says Linda. "I believe in the research being conducted right here in Milwaukee and have seen firsthand the potential for science to dramatically improve health."

Linda and her husband, John, the Mellowes family and Charter Manufacturing Company see precision medicine as the next revolution in healthcare and are supporting its advancement at MCW in partnership with Froedtert Hospital and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. With a transformational donation of \$6.5 million for genomic sciences, Linda and John now have invested nearly \$12 million in programs across MCW and its clinical partners to improve health in southeast Wisconsin.

"We believe that investing in precision medicine will change the future of healthcare," adds John.

"This new investment in the Genomic Sciences and Precision Medicine Center will monumentally move forward the field and benefit many people," says John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, president and CEO of MCW.

ultimate goal of predicting health and wellness throughout the lifespan.

"Sequencing the human genome has forever changed how medicine is practiced," explains Dr. Urrutia. "It allows us to consider individual differences – including environment and lifestyle differences – when evaluating and treating our patients. Genomic sequencing also is an everyday option for patients as they work with their care teams to advocate for their health, prevent disease and pursue treatments customized to their precise genetic disposition."

Initially used for deeper investigation of mainly rare diseases, DNA sequencing advancements have yielded enormous clinical benefits for patients of all ages, diseases, ethnicities, health levels and



"Sequencing the human genome has had a profound impact on how medicine is practiced. It allows us to consider individual differences, including environment and lifestyle differences, when evaluating and treating our patients."

– Dr. Raul A. Urrutia

lifestyles. Precision medicine can be applied in fields ranging from cancer and cardiovascular disease to digestive disease, neurology and trauma-related brain disorders. In addition, certain programs enhance multiple specialties. One such example is pharmacogenomics, which focuses on discovering whether a certain therapy, or even a specific dose of a therapy, will be effective in patients based on their genetic make-ups.

Precision medicine uses the techniques and information discovered by genomic scientists to improve care. It is a powerful tool for discovering disease causes, revealing more precise diagnoses in less time, and selecting and developing more effective treatment plans for individuals. "This is a remarkable achievement of humankind, which is as important to biology as putting the first man on the moon was to aerospace," says Dr. Urrutia. "We are practicing precision medicine here today at MCW and throughout the region. We have been involved in the Human Genome Project since its inception and have made significant discoveries in the area, making us a national and international leader in genomics and precision medicine."

The Future

Dr. Urrutia believes healthcare in the Milwaukee area will look very different in ten years and predicts we will be rapidly interconnected with a larger, data-driven

healthcare delivery system. This system will both advance quickly as well as learn and improve itself using increasingly sophisticated patient data. This, in turn, will foster patient care teams that collaborate to develop highly sophisticated blueprints for patient diagnosis, treatment and prevention. With faster, more accurate, and more comprehensive solutions, precision medicine and genomic science are uniquely positioned to enable providers to reduce healthcare costs while improving health outcomes.

To realize its full potential, precision medicine will need professionals to collaborate across disciplines and with industry to better understand and positively effect health in communities and even entire populations. Through this, the future of precision medicine brings to our region an array of new careers that require expertise in genetic counseling, bioinformatics and data analytics, epidemiology and public health, as well as economics and socioeconomics. The GSPMC is a key partner in ongoing and future educational opportunities to support a workforce prepared to practice and advance precision medicine.

"MCW can catalyze this new revolution in personalized healthcare. No other institution in southeastern Wisconsin has the knowledge, expertise, resources and partnerships to transform health in this way," says Dr. Urrutia. ■

– MAUREEN REMMEL



Underlying Causes

New Programs Focus on Social and Economic Factors to Improve Health

Looking at health from a more holistic vantage point means digging into the underlying causes of health inequality. And doing just that is key to supporting patients and community members in Milwaukee and throughout the state of Wisconsin most effectively, according to leaders at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW).

This broader view of health means gaining a better understanding of the effects of social and economic factors – such as a person’s neighborhood, education level, access to healthcare and potential language barriers, among others. These aspects of health are referred to as “social determinants of health.” In Wisconsin, inequities in these determinants are exacerbated because two out of every three counties are considered medically underserved.

MCW is addressing these challenging trends through its community engagement mission. According to president and CEO John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, “We cannot say that we have achieved better health without making a serious commitment to addressing health disparities and equity in the region.” To that end, two new community engagement programs dedicated to this mission have launched in 2019: COME ALIVE

MILWAUKEE and MCW Neighborhood Partners.

COME ALIVE MILWAUKEE, the acronym for Community Empowerment and Lifestyle Intervention for Ethnic Minorities, has been in development for two years, according to principal investigator Leonard Egede, MD, MS, MCW professor of medicine, chief of the division of general internal medicine, and director of MCW’s Center for Advancing Population Science.

“We spent two years conducting focus groups and interviews, and immersed ourselves in the central Milwaukee community to better understand its needs,” he says. Going forward, the program team will work to reduce the burden of chronic disease and eliminate health disparities in minority communities, as well as to



OPPOSITE PAGE: Dr. Leonard Egede (l) meets with faith-based leaders with whom members of COME ALIVE MILWAUKEE will partner to address health disparities in Milwaukee's minority communities.

Dr. Michael DeBisschop (center) and pharmacy student Dominika Krynicka perform a physical assessment at the new MCW Neighborhood Partners clinic in Milwaukee.

grow the next generation of researchers. “Chronic stress drives poor health in a community,” Dr. Egede explains. “Removing one stressor, such as access to healthcare services, doesn’t take care of all things, so we must shift the paradigm to incorporate social determinants into our clinical care models.”

With support from a \$2.8 million, six-year award from the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW), COME ALIVE MILWAUKEE will partner with churches and nonprofits (among others) to focus on social determinants when addressing health equity in the communities of 10 Milwaukee ZIP codes.

“We need to learn from responses to natural disasters,” continues Dr. Egede. “When aid is provided, there is no blame. Aid providers, who are there to help, address the necessities first – such as food, shelter and water. We need to treat communities with significant health disparities in the same way. Healthcare, criminal justice, housing, hunger, violence, education and faith-based initiatives need to all work together to address the stressors that lead to poor health outcomes.”

COME ALIVE MILWAUKEE’s mission is to lead this collaborative work by helping facilitate a coordinated strategy, forge partnerships and recruit experts with

needed skills in community education and public health. The AHW award will be the foundation for a sustained commitment.

“You don’t change a community in three to five years,” Dr. Egede says. “Five years is just the beginning.”

Concurrently, MCW’s School of Pharmacy has commenced MCW Neighborhood Partners, a unique pharmacist-led, community-based health screening and care referral service in Milwaukee. The program was developed in collaboration with founding community partner Next Door, an early childhood education and social service organization. The first MCW Neighborhood Partners clinic will be housed inside Next Door’s location in Milwaukee’s Metcalfe Park neighborhood. Services offered will include health and wellness screenings, health promotion, disease prevention, nutrition counseling and patient health assessments.

Dr. Raymond and his wife, Maggie, provided the initial impetus for the concept for MCW Neighborhood Partners last fall through a generous philanthropic gift of \$525,000 to establish the Community Health and Service Learning Fund.

“Next Door Foundation is committed to serving and supporting the entire family in an under-resourced neighborhood and aligns with the MCW School of Pharmacy’s

mission of community engagement,” Maggie explains. “John and I are excited about the partnership between these two great organizations to address health disparities by connecting our pharmacy students with the community of Next Door.”

MCW Neighborhood Partners’ clinics will be fully staffed by School of Pharmacy students and faculty members. Dominka Krynicka, a member of the School of Pharmacy Class of 2020, was the first student selected to participate in a clinical rotation at MCW Neighborhood Partners. She volunteered to administer health screenings to community members at the Next Door Walk for Children in May 2018 and the event inspired her to become more involved in Milwaukee.

“Working with underserved patients has pushed me to step out of my comfort zone and to learn to empathize with individuals who think and live differently than I do. This has been valuable in growing my patient education style and ability to customize patient interactions,” she says.

Going forward, these students can be forces for change in the communities they serve, says Michael DeBisschop, PharmD, an MCW School of Pharmacy professor involved with the clinic. “Our students have the knowledge and training necessary to perform physical assessments and screening tests as well as to deliver education to help prevent and treat disease. Pharmacists can also administer immunizations, answer questions about managing medications, and help patients find the most affordable and effective options.”

The program has the potential to decrease negative health outcomes that are a direct result of treatable diseases in medically underserved areas. “Our goal is to work toward eliminating health disparities by providing enhanced care for patients close to home and from a provider they trust – the pharmacist,” notes George E. MacKinnon III, PhD, MS, RPh, founding dean of the MCW School of Pharmacy. ■

– MICHELLE SCHAEFER & KARRI STOCK

Closing the Gap

Elizabeth “Libby” H. Ellinas, MD, FEL ’01, beams as she addresses an overflowing auditorium at the Medical College of Wisconsin–Milwaukee in mid–October 2018. An obstetric anesthesiologist and associate professor of anesthesiology, Dr. Ellinas also serves as MCW’s associate dean for women’s leadership. This particular afternoon, she officially launches MCW’s Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine (AWSM – pronounced “awesome”), of which she is founding director.

“At AWSM, we want each person to bring their best every day, and to have an infinite opportunity to do so that is both tangible and imminently realizable,” she shares. “Our vision is that MCW will be a destination for women leaders, cultivating an inclusive and vibrant culture that supports all genders to grow and thrive in the health sciences, through an approach that uses data–driven strategies to address opportunity gaps for women at MCW.”

The establishment of AWSM is timely. In 2017, for the first time, more women

Accelerating the Advancement of Women Leaders

than men entered US medical schools. This is an impressive advancement from the early 1980s, when only about one–third of medical school matriculants were women. Such progress in another critical segment of academic medicine, unfortunately, has been woefully inadequate: the number of women in key leadership positions. A 2018 study by the Association of American Medical Colleges noted that women held only 16% of deanships at fully accredited medical schools – up from 12% in 2011. At the same time, however, women comprised about half of medical school assistant deans – but have not been able to advance to the highest level of leadership.

Since becoming dean of the MCW School of Medicine in late 2011, Joseph E. Kerschner, MD ’90, FEL ’98, has strongly advocated enhancing opportunities for women faculty members to ascend to leadership roles within MCW and to cultivate junior women faculty as potential leaders. In particular, he has worked with

the Office of Faculty Affairs and department leadership to nominate competitive candidates for the prestigious Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) program, a core component of the Institute for Women’s Health and Leadership at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia. ELAM’s founding director, Page S. Morahan, PhD ’69, is a tenured professor in microbiology and immunology at Drexel. She also is co–director of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research Institutes and founding director of the National Center of Leadership in Academic Medicine.

Established in 1995, the ELAM program offers an intensive one–year fellowship of leadership training with extensive coaching, networking and mentoring opportunities aimed at expanding the national pool of qualified women candidates for leadership in academic medicine, dentistry, public health and pharmacy.

According to ELAM, placing more women in positions of senior leadership at academic medical centers will provide important new perspectives for decision–making and help speed the curricular, organizational and policy changes needed to ensure a more effective, representative and responsive healthcare system.

MCW has enjoyed an enviable track record of ELAM fellows for more than 20 years, including Dr. Ellinas in 2015. In addition to an outstanding curriculum and networking with women leaders from throughout academic medicine, ELAM fellows conduct a capstone–style project. Dr. Ellinas’s capstone advanced her use of social science research to understand factors influencing the gender gap in leadership and proposed the creation of AWSM at MCW to continue furthering the study of these issues, along with the implementation and evaluation of solutions.

Since 1996, 15 MCW women faculty members have completed the ELAM program. A number of them currently hold key leadership positions at MCW while others have left the institution or have retired

AWSM INITIATIVE & PROJECTS



(l-r) Stuart Riepl, Dr. Libby Ellinas and M. Paula Phillips discuss data-driven strategies to address opportunity gaps for women at MCW.

(see sidebar at right).

For its initial project, the staff at AWSM examined barriers to leadership through qualitative research that evaluated perceptions of leadership at MCW. Staff then analyzed MCW's data on promotion to full professor – as many senior level positions in the health sciences require a full professor rank for positioning as a competitive applicant. Dr. Ellinas and her team noted that women who are hired at the associate level are just as likely to become full professors as their male counterparts – but that women hired as assistant professors are not as likely. AWSM staff are continuing to analyze this data to identify gaps and create opportunities for improvement. Additionally, AWSM is applauding women in leadership and

recognizing their contributions, as well as advancing women by providing greater access to resources for all.

At the conclusion of the October AWSM event, Dr. Kerschner remarked, “It is very fitting that we launch this Center to accelerate the advancement of women leaders at MCW during the celebratory year of our 125th anniversary as an institution. During this time, we have benefited from the leadership of pivotal pioneers and achieved major milestones that paved the way for the academic medical center we have today. I believe that in the future, we will mark the launch of AWSM among these great milestones as we celebrate all of the leaders it will support!” ■

– SARA L. WILKINS

Current MCW Faculty/Past ELAM Fellows:

DIANE W. BRAZA, MD '87, GME '92, chair of physical medicine and rehabilitation

PATRICIA A. DONOHUE, MD, professor of pediatrics; section chief, division of pediatric endocrinology

ELIZABETH “LIBBY” H. ELLINAS, MD, FEL '01, founding director of the Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine; associate dean for women's leadership; associate professor of anesthesiology

KAREN J. MARCDANTE, MD '80, GME '83, FEL '87, professor of pediatrics; director of pediatric critical care fellowship; interim section chief, pediatric critical care

MARY F. OTTERSON, MD '84, MS '88, GME '90, professor of surgery; associate professor of physiology

JULIE A. PANEPINTO, MD, MSPH, professor of pediatrics (hematology/oncology/bone marrow transplantation); vice chair of value, department of pediatrics

ANN K. ROSENTHAL, MD, FEL '90, Will and Cava Ross Professor of Medicine; chief, division of rheumatology; vice chair for faculty development in the department of medicine; medical director of the Zablocki VA Translational Research Center

DAISY SAHOO, PhD, professor of medicine; vice chair for research, department of medicine; professor of biochemistry; professor of pharmacology and toxicology

EARNESTINE WILLIS, MD, MPH, Kellner Professor in Pediatrics; professor, Institute for Health & Equity; director of the Center for the Advancement of Underserved Children; director of the division of health equity and urban clinical care partnerships

T. Michael Bolger

We Remember a Visionary

By Sara L. Wilkins

It is impossible to set foot on the Medical College of Wisconsin–Milwaukee campus without sensing the hand – and heart – of T. Michael Bolger, JD. For four decades, MCW was Mike Bolger’s canvas – and the artistry, wisdom and passion with which he helped shape the future of our institution echoes throughout our halls today and will resonate for generations to come.

A visionary leader, brilliant strategist, great friend and longest-serving president and CEO of the Medical College of Wisconsin, Mike left us all too soon on November 29, 2018, at the age of 78, following a brief illness.

How fortunate we are that in the fall of 2016, Mike sat down with chief historian Richard (Dick) Katschke to videotape his memories of his long-time association with MCW. Mike’s words, interspersed throughout the story below in italicized font, are a window into the extraordinary vision, sparkling wit, generous soul and deep commitment that crystallized his legacy at MCW.

Early Years

Born in Minocqua, Wisconsin, on December 23, 1939, Mike’s childhood was a happy one amidst a large loving family and the beauty and serenity of the northwoods. It was here that as a teenager he met Ginny – the love of his life and best friend – and where he retreated to each summer in adulthood to escape the hectic pace of life in big-city Milwaukee. Mike graduated from Minocqua High School in 1957 and Marquette University in 1961, where he served as president of both student bodies.

My extended family all were connected to medicine, and it was assumed that I would be a physician too. When I graduated from high school, I was accepted into the pre-medical program at Marquette University. Then I was accepted into the Marquette University School of Medicine in 1960, but during my last semester senior year I began having second thoughts and I decided to become a priest.

When I went to the medical school to withdraw my acceptance, the registrar, Bessie Casey, told me, “you’ll always have a place at this medical school.” Little did she know it would be as its president. I spent seven years in the Jesuit seminary during the turbulent years of the 1960s, so I decided to leave the seminary and try to save the world through social justice and went to Northwestern University Law School.



1970-1990: Legal counsel for MCW

Mike’s remarkable life’s journey took him down many paths before his connection to MCW began in 1970 as a lawyer with Milwaukee-based Quarles & Brady and culminated in his 20-year tenure at the helm of MCW from 1990–2010. (In 1967, Marquette had terminated its sponsorship of the medical school; corporate reorganization then established the entity as a private free-standing institution named the Marquette School of Medicine. In 1970, it was renamed the Medical College of Wisconsin.)

I came to Milwaukee and in 1970 joined the law firm of what now is Quarles & Brady, and spent 20 years working as a lawyer. My first real client was the Medical College of Wisconsin. Louis Quarles was president of MCW at that time and he asked me to help out [Louis Quarles was president of the Marquette School of Medicine/Medical College of Wisconsin from 1967–1972]. So I became the assistant secretary to the MCW board. Then Mr. Quarles died and the board turned to me, so I became the lawyer for the medical school. I had a wonderful time working with various people to make the transition from Marquette University to MCW smooth and legal.

As MCW’s lawyer, Mike remained in the thick of changes occurring at the medical school. In 1973, the Wisconsin legislature authorized a commission headed by businessman David Carley to assess the progress of the newly independent Medical

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“Mike provided a road map for those of us who view our role in the community as both guiding business institutions but also attempting to challenge and make them better and much more inclusive.”

– *John W. Daniels, Jr., JD, MCW board of trustees, 1991-2006 (secretary, 1995-2006)*

“Mike was selfless and tireless in his strive to improve our world and his unwavering confidence in the goodness of people impacted all of us.”

– *Stephen A. Duncan, DPhil, faculty member in the MCW department of cell biology, neurobiology and anatomy, 1997-2015*

“Mike was an extremely successful president for 20 years. We owe him a debt of gratitude.”

– *Michael J. Dunn, MD, MCW dean, 1995-2008*

“Mike had the ability to step back and weigh the strengths and weaknesses of an idea, and to listen to the counsel of others.”


– *Richard Katschke, MA, executive leader of MCW public affairs and communications, 1985-2019; MCW chief historian, 2015-2019*

“Mike has and will continue to enrich our lives and enhance our community. How fortunate I was to know him as a mentor, a teacher and a friend.”

– *Lesley A. Mack, 40-year MCW employee (retired in 2016 as MCW registrar)*

“Michael was a tireless worker and very dedicated to every cause he was involved with. He loved MCW and he loved Ginny and his family.”

– *P. Michael Mahoney, MCW board of trustees, 1990-2016 (treasurer, 1993-2016)*



Mike Bolger moved to Milwaukee in 1970 to join the law firm of what is now Quarles & Brady. As a lawyer, Mike's first major client was the Medical College of Wisconsin.

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College of Wisconsin. In January 1974, the Carley Committee recommended that MCW remain private and relocate to the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center (MRMC) campus in Wauwatosa. David Carley served as president of MCW from 1975–1977.

I was on the Greater Milwaukee Committee and we wanted to see the regional medical center become an academic health center – the lynch pin of which would be the medical school. To move the medical school from its downtown location at Marquette, it needed the support of the movers and shakers in the community – and that was the Greater Milwaukee Committee. John Doyne, the Milwaukee county executive, came to the GMC and said, “Let’s put this deal together. We’ll draft a master lease for all of the entities to sign.” Since I was the youngest lawyer of the group, I was the one who got to draft the master lease – which took a lot of time. We finally signed it, which freed us up to start construction.

In 1975, Project MERIT (Medical Education and Research Into Tomorrow) was launched to build a new home for MCW on the MRMC campus – and Mike had a vested interest in ensuring a successful outcome.

Project MERIT was a \$17 million fundraising campaign – the largest ever in Milwaukee. All of the movers and shakers in town came together to raise the money. MCW became the “pet” of the powerbrokers in Milwaukee and it became “the” prestigious board to be on.

With the opening of the new Basic Science Building (BSB) in 1978, MCW and the MRMC began a period of extraordinary growth that would continue throughout Mike’s tenure. The BSB consisted of two wings (a three-story multi-use wing now known as the Medical Education Building – and a six-story department wing now known as the Basic Science Building). At the time it was only the third building to be occupied by the medical school since 1913. Also on the MRMC campus, Froedtert Hospital opened in 1980, and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin and the MACC Fund Research Center followed in 1988.

We opened classes in a tent on the MRMC campus where the Health Research Center is now because construction wasn’t complete. That was just for the first two years of medical school then, as the second two years were taught in the hospitals. The County Hospital



Mike Bolger at his MCW Presidential Inauguration on September 12, 1990, with (l-r) son, John Michael; wife, Ginny; and daughter, Jennifer.

was the principal teaching hospital then, along with the VA. Then Froedtert opened in 1980; Children’s was still located downtown.

Mike helped craft the agreements in 1979 that led to the creation of the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals (MCWAH) as a corporate entity to oversee the residency training programs undertaken at area hospitals affiliated with MCW. Currently, MCWAH offers more than 90 residency and fellowship training programs at 10 affiliated institutions and boasts more than 900 residents and fellows.

As general counsel for MCW, I helped create MCWAH – which enabled us to engage with area hospitals. It quickly served as a national model for collaboration among hospitals for residency.

1990: MCW presidency begins

In 1990, an unexpected opportunity presented itself to Mike to join MCW as its fifth president.

Ed Lennon [Edward J. Lennon, MD, MCW dean from 1978–1985 and president from 1984–1990] needed to step down due to health issues. I was surprised when my name came up as a possible successor since I had been the legal counsel for 20 years. A number of faculty members asked me to consider submitting my name for consideration. I asked them, “Why should I do that?” After all, I was a senior part-

Bolger named president of the Medical College

“The Chinese have a proverb. If you want what you’re doing to last one year, you plant rice. If you want it to last 10 years, you plant bamboo. If you want your project to last a hundred years, you educate your children.”

— T. Michael Bolger, in an interview in the Marquette University alumni magazine.

T. Michael Bolger, one of Milwaukee’s most prominent civic leaders, was elected today by the Medical College of Wisconsin’s Board of Directors to become the institution’s fifth president and chief executive officer. Mr. Bolger, 50, a partner in the law firm of Quarles & Brady, will succeed Edward J. Lennon, MD, as president of Wisconsin’s private medical school on July 1. Bolger has a national authority on health care law.



T. Michael Bolger



(l-r) Dr. Sidney Grossberg, Dr. Edward Lennon and Mike Bolger at the launch of the Project MERIT fundraising campaign in 1975.

ner in a big law firm. They began to talk about the opportunity to take care of the poor, educate the next generation of healthcare professionals – in other words, they were pushing those old Jesuit hot buttons of mine. Buz Cooper [Richard A. Cooper, MD, MCW dean from 1985–1994] thought it would be a good idea to get a non-MD as the president, so he supported my nomination. I think that was the tipping point. I told the board when they offered me the position that I would stay on the job for five years, and then go back to my law practice. Five years stretched into 20, and I had a wonderful run.

Mike spoke at great length with his wife, Ginny, about accepting the presidency. “He convinced me by saying it would be easier than being a lawyer,” Ginny recalls with a smile. “His goal was to ensure that MCW

was well known in the community, and he put this plan into place by going out to a different dinner every night for the first few years to make a presentation. Everyone liked Mike and trusted him. He really wanted to ensure that top-tier healthcare existed in the Milwaukee area,” she adds.

I wanted to make this one of the best medical schools in the country. I went around the country to talk to my peers to understand what separates the best medical schools from the also-rans. To a person, they all said it was the quality and quantity of their research. So I wanted to play that game as well, and being a lawyer, I wanted to win. I had to fight the board to do that, because you lose money when you do research. I bet my presidency on building up the research along with the educational side, and Dr. Cooper was my advocate on this. We worked very closely on this, and then with Dr. Dunn [Michael J. Dunn, MD, dean of the MCW School of Medicine from 1995–2008] later on. I also made a point of meeting regularly with elected officials, both local and statewide. I would report to them what we were doing and let them know we would appreciate their help. I would fly to Washington every month to meet with our legislative delegation. We had a good working relationship with government officials.

Reengaging with alumni

Another one of Mike’s top goals was to reconnect with and reengage the alumni – many of whom blamed the medical school for the separation from Marquette in 1967. The alumni were so incensed that they broke away from the medical school entirely and formed their own association.

I was shocked to learn that the Alumni Association was a separate corporation from the medical school, and you had to pay dues to be a member. I started by taking the most outspoken critics of the medical school to a dinner I hosted every Tuesday night at the University Club, and I invited the best members of our faculty to mingle with the severest critics. The alumni were very angry about the separation from Marquette. They saw that I didn’t have an ax to grind because at one point I had been the president of the Marquette Alumni Association. I bought out the Association’s administrator and made the Alumni Association a non-dues-paying organization. Slowly but surely, the critics came around. The MCW board even created one slot that always would be filled by an alumnus selected by the Alumni Association.



Mike Bolger welcomes General Colin Powell (Ret.) as the keynote speaker at MCW’s Healthcare Dinner in 1996.

Mike’s success in bringing the alumni back in the fold made a huge impact on Ginny. “After about five years of interaction with Mike, the older alumni began to request second diplomas that featured the MCW logo,” she recalls. Visiting alumni around the country was an important strategy of Mike’s to cement ties with the medical school. “We would start traveling at the end of January to meet with alumni, and by spring we would return to drive around the state to meet the locals,” Ginny remarks. Today there are more than 18,000 members of the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association located throughout the world.

Growth in research spurs new buildings

Under Mike’s leadership, MCW experienced tremendous growth in its research enterprise and rose into the top third of

all US medical schools for federal research grants. Also during that time, approximately \$200 million in new MCW buildings were constructed on the MRMC campus to support the research mission.

On the theory that if you build it, they will come...when I first came here, I talked with Ron Cornelius, our COO, and told him I wanted to increase our footprint for research. He told me that when the Medical Education Building was built, it was built to hold four floors, but we only built three. So we could build that fourth floor pretty quickly and easily, which would add 65,000 square feet for research. It took only nine months to add that fourth floor for research. That whetted my appetite, and I met with Les Aspin [Leslie Aspin, Jr., US Representative from 1971–1993 and US Secretary of Defense from 1993–1994], who at that time was head of the Armed Service Committee in Congress. I asked him to earmark \$14 million from the Department of Defense budget to build a new research center, which he gave to us.

I was very proud of this new building [the Health Research Center, built in 1997–1998] because I thought the architecture of the original medical school was woefully lacking in imagination and beauty, and the addition to the school really set it off...now we looked like a great institution. When the word went out that everything was going into translational research, we got additional earmarked funds and built the TBRC [the Translational and Biomedical Research Building, which

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Mike Bolger at the time of his inauguration as president, 1990.



Mike Bolger poses in front of “The Hands of Humanity” at MCW-Milwaukee in 2010. Mike commissioned this iconic outdoor sculpture in the late 1990s and conducted a student naming contest.

Continued from previous page

opened in 2007, provides shared research space and two wings of laboratories – one for MCW and one for the Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin Research Institute].

Mike truly was proud of the new HRC, especially because it was the “front door” to MCW’s Milwaukee campus. It was important to him that the building make a statement about the critical and meaningful work being undertaken within.

I felt strongly about entering a facility that people would know was all about medicine. I found the Hippocrates quote [“Wherever the art of Medicine is loved, there is also a love of Humanity”] and was so taken by it that I put it on a banner in the lobby of the new building, because I wanted everyone to realize that we are committed at this medical school not only to the science of medicine, but also to the humanism of medicine [the quote is now etched on a glass plate that is hanging from the third floor balcony in the lobby of the HRC]. Then we had a sculptor do a piece of outdoor sculpture that is outside in front of the HRC. We had a student naming contest and the winner was “The Hands of Humanity.” In every patient encounter there are three hands at work: the hand of the patient, the hand of the physician, and the hand of God. I wanted people to realize that the Hands of Humanity are always at work at this medical school.

Enhancing the research mission at MCW was a continuing priority for Mike. In 1995, Mike hired Michael J. Dunn, MD, as dean of the School of Medicine (he would serve in that role until 2008).

I had known Dr. Dunn when he was a student at Marquette...he was a senior and I was a freshman. He was president of the Liberal Arts Council, and I was impressed with his demeanor. I became president of the student body when he was in medical school and also a representative to the student body. So I knew him, and always was impressed with him. I hired him because he was a leader; his style of leadership melded perfectly with mine. We shared a vision about the importance of research and he worked with me to build the research infrastructure.

1995: Creation of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

That same year, nearly 60 years after the Marquette University School of Medicine conferred its first non-MD graduate degrees from clinical departments, under Mike’s leadership the MCW board of trustees formally established the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences as a distinct academic school. Currently, the Graduate School provides 22 PhD, master’s and certificate programs in six academic disciplines and boasts more than 400 scientists in training each year.

Creating the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences was part of our efforts to enhance research. Most research is undertaken by PhDs, and I wanted to have a school of graduate studies whereby a PhD from MCW meant something. This also helped us to procure significant grants.

Enhancing the education mission

Mike believed that at the core of the practice of medicine was a mission of caring for the sick and vulnerable, and he wove that core tenet of careful medicine into the fabric of the administration and education at MCW. During Mike’s tenure, 34 academic department chairs were recruited to MCW, including Paula Traktman, PhD, the first female chair of what is now the department of microbiology and immunology. Additionally, MCW faculty physicians grew from 400 doctors in 1990 to 1,100 physicians in 2010 – reflecting the institution’s strong collaborations with area hospitals and healthcare entities.

The medical school is lucky to have the Zablocki VA, Froedtert and Children’s as teaching hospital partners, as well as the BloodCenter of Wisconsin, and a good working relationship with Curative Care.

Building the education pipeline

Mike was dedicated to building the pipeline of qualified minority applicants to

MCW's medical and graduate schools, and in 2000 spearheaded a major community initiative to address the significant gap in minority achievement in the health sciences. The result was the establishment of the Milwaukee Academy of Science – which at that time opened as a K-8 school on the site of the old Milwaukee / Lutheran / Good Samaritan Hospital at 20th Street and Kilbourn Avenue. In 2007, the school expanded to K4-12, allowing it to serve more than 1,000 students on the campus. Now, nearly 20 years later, the Milwaukee Academy of Science continues to carry out Mike's vision for equity, learning and excellence in the health sciences, and is a model in STEM education enabling urban students to be prepared to compete successfully at the post-secondary level.

I called our registrar, Lesley Mack, and asked how many of our students come from Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). She looked at the last 1,000 matriculants and said that only 13 had come from MPS. I told her that we were failing our inner city children in math and science. So I met with Mayor John Norquist and asked him to do something about it. He then asked me, "What are you going to do about it?" He then said, "If you really want to increase our students' depth of knowledge in math and science, why don't you start a charter school?" I told him I ran a medical school and didn't know anything about running a charter school. So he told me to talk with Howard Fuller, who had been the superintendent of MPS. We met with him and a larger group and put together a plan for a charter school – and now our students are going on to college and even applying to medical school.

Strengthening MCW's finances and governance

Mike was committed to strengthening MCW's financial position to ensure the institution's long-term viability and to provide adequate resources for growth. A tireless fundraiser (or "friend-raiser," as he liked to refer to himself), during his tenure Mike significantly increased MCW's endowment and the institution received more than \$240 million in private donations.

The MCW board wanted to make sure we didn't run out of money, so we took a long hard look at our finances since the institution was on shaky ground when I took the position. They wanted me to raise money because the

philanthropic effort was not very robust. I had raised a lot of money in the community for causes such as United Performing Arts Fund, United Way and various schools and charities. I didn't have any qualms about asking for money. I created MCW's Office of Institutional Advancement to maintain fundraising as a year-round event. I engineered a capital campaign and we built our infrastructure for "friend-raising." I always said that if you get their hearts and minds first, their wallets will follow. It was hard work, and a long-term process. We hired some good people, and the money began to grow. I always called this our "margin of excellence," which helped to fund our research enterprise and eventually gave our school panache.

In addition to maintaining a strong financial position, Mike believed that strong governance at the top was critical to MCW's long-term success – and that diversity among board members was critical. During his tenure, Mike helped recruit 73 trustees to MCW's board.

I deliberately set out to make the MCW board the strongest board in the community. I was told that in Milwaukee I would need the big three: Johnson Controls, Northwestern Mutual and Wisconsin Energy (We Energies). If you had those three, you could get anyone on the board. And so I got them. Then we got the president/CEO of M & I Bank, and other movers and shakers. I wanted to create diversity on the board, so the first woman I put on the board was Linda Mellowes. I also put individuals of color on the board, including John Daniels, who was the first African American lawyer at Quarles & Brady,

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"Through his commitment to service, Mike was able to be a builder in our town. His tenure at MCW provided the entrée into many projects, because people in our community look to this amazing institution for leadership. Mike absolutely fulfilled that expectation."

– Steven Smith, MCW board of trustees, 1998-2010 (chair, 2006-2008)

"Mike was a true renaissance man with an amazing range of interests. He was an inspiring leader and brought out the best in people."

– Paula Traktman, PhD, chair of what is now the MCW department of microbiology and immunology, 1997-2015

"Mike's contagious enthusiasm and consistently optimistic outlook was highly influential in the advancement of every initiative taken on campus during his tenure as president."

– J. Frank Wilson, MD, 40-year member of the MCW faculty (28 years as chair of the department of radiation oncology)

Quotations compiled by Anthony Braza



Mike Bolger congratulates Dr. Michael Dunn upon his installation as MCW dean in 1995. Dr. Dunn served in this role from 1995-2008.

Continued from previous page
whom I had hired. I still think it's one of the best boards in town. These people can open doors for you all over town. Building that board was a lot of fun.

The power of philanthropy

Raising funds for endowed chairs was a particular passion of Mike's. "Mike always said that a major goal of his was to create 20 endowed chairs in 20 years," Ginny shares. Not surprisingly, Mike achieved 150% of that goal, with 30 endowed chairs funded from 1990–2010. The most significant of these was \$10 million received from Dr. Robert D. Kern and Dr. Patricia E. Kern in 1999 to establish a named professorship in biotechnology and bioengineering and for overall support of biomedical research, education and collaboration through a new Biotechnology Innovation Center; at the time it was the largest single private gift ever to MCW. Mike's close long-term relationship with the Kerns laid the groundwork for future efforts by MCW president and CEO John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, to secure a \$37.8 million gift from the Kern Family and the Kern Family Foundation in 2017 to create the Kern Institute for the Transformation of Medical Education and the National Transformation Network.

Faculty love to hold endowed chairs...it's a matter of prestige. I felt it was very important to build the endowment for endowed chairs, which was very small at the time. We were able to create endowed chairs in almost every field over the years. People who don't like

endowments don't have a long-term view, but I thought about what they would be worth 100 years from now.

Building healthier communities

Under Mike's leadership, community service became the fourth mission of the institution (along with education, research and patient care). A major milestone in MCW's evolution as a leader in building healthier communities was MCW's receipt of more than \$300 million from the 1999 conversion of Blue Cross & Blue Shield United of Wisconsin from a nonprofit company to a for-profit stock corporation. This conversion led to the creation in 2004 of MCW's Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment, which has enabled MCW to commit more than \$250 million to support more than 400 education, research and academic/community partnership projects throughout Wisconsin, engaging hundreds of community organizations.

The Blue Cross/Blue Shield gift was a result of luck and preparation. We had asked them for \$100,000 for the capital campaign and then learned that they were converting from not-for-profit to for-profit status – and that they were thinking of donating the net worth of the company to the two medical schools in the state. So I thought perhaps we would get a million dollars – but in actuality it was a \$300 million gift. I spent an entire summer going around the state participating in listening sessions to discuss what we intended to do with the funds – which was creating healthcare programs to benefit the public.



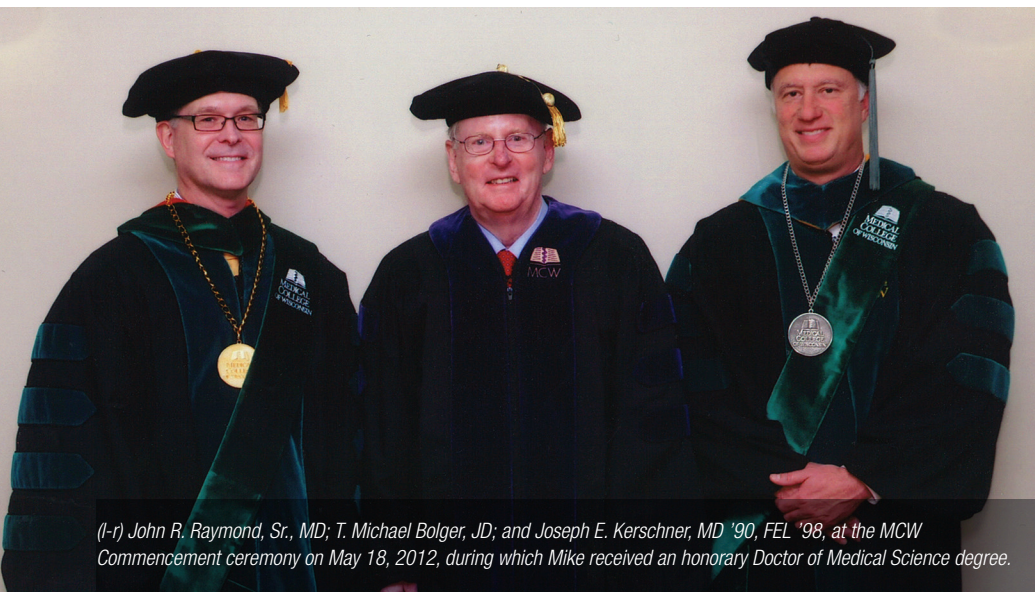
Ginny Bolger receives an honorary white coat at the Alumni Association banquet in 2010.

Ginny's contributions

An additional benefit of Mike's association with MCW has been the contributions of his wife of 50 years (they celebrated their golden anniversary on August 24, 2018). With grace, charm, dignity and an abundance of patience, Ginny served as an ambassador for MCW as she traveled across the country with Mike to meet alumni and donors. She also served as president of the Friends of MCW, was a founding member of MCW's Women in Science program, and has been a member of the Cancer Center Advisory Board since 1995. Ginny was named an honorary alumna by the MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association in 2010. In recognition of her outstanding contributions to MCW, Ginny will receive an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree at MCW–Milwaukee's Commencement ceremony in May 2019. In addition to Ginny, Mike is survived by son, John Michael (Kerry) Bolger and daughter, Jennifer Bolger (Enrique) Breceda, and grandsons, Michael, Conley and Charlie Bolger and Faolan Breceda.

Beloved leader

Mike had an "open-door policy" as president and believed everyone had something valuable to offer. He was beloved by faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners alike and received numerous awards as a testament to the high esteem in which he was



(l-r) John R. Raymond, Sr., MD; T. Michael Bolger, JD; and Joseph E. Kerschner, MD '90, FEL '98, at the MCW Commencement ceremony on May 18, 2012, during which Mike received an honorary Doctor of Medical Science degree.

held. In 1991, the medical students selected him to receive their first “Standing Ovation Award” (since 2010, known as the “T. Michael Bolger Standing Ovation Award”) for his contributions to improving the quality of student life at MCW. In 1995, Mike was named an honorary alumnus by the MCW/ Marquette Medical Alumni Association. In 2010, the Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer (the MACC Fund) – MCW’s largest donor – presented Mike with its Founders Award, which then had been given only twice since 1976. In 2012, Mike received an honorary Doctor of Medical Science degree from MCW.

At his Recognition Dinner on June 23, 2010, Mike was lauded for his visionary leadership, passion and commitment to MCW as well as for leading by example, accepting responsibility, inspiring others and respecting the scholarship and leadership capability of colleagues.

Reflections

In 2016, reflecting back on his retirement in 2010, Mike was humble about his contributions – but his voice was laced with pride.

I thought it was time to retire, as I had been at MCW for 20 years. I had just been diagnosed with Parkinson’s and felt MCW needed a leader who had the energy and who could take MCW to the next level. I wanted to find someone who

could keep the institution on our same path as a place with humanitarian instincts and opportunity for growth. I didn’t want a caretaker but rather someone who could move the institution forward. Dr. John R. Raymond, Sr., has done just that.

The school is huge compared to what it was in the early 1970s. It operated out of half of a building on the Marquette campus. Now we have three campuses and a vital research enterprise at the highest level – and other institutions raid our faculty instead of the other way around. I see MCW as a school that is full of humanism. We take the Jesuit model seriously in that we can always do more and we can always do better. It was a good run. I’m glad I did it. At the time I became a candidate, I saw something about the school that appealed to me...taking care of people is my strong internal direction...and that hasn’t changed. It was a labor of love.

T. Michael Bolger’s indelible legacy at MCW will continue to enable us to discover and deliver new treatments and cures, prepare healthcare and scientific leaders of the future, transform healthcare delivery and quality, and support community health improvement initiatives. We remember him with great love, respect, honor and gratitude. His lasting impact on the Medical College of Wisconsin makes it possible for those who follow to stand on the shoulders of giants. ■

Remembering T. Michael Bolger, JD

Leader. Mentor. Friend.

Join us on Tuesday,
May 7, 2019

Medical College of Wisconsin
Health Research Center
Auditorium

8701 Watertown Plank Road, Milwaukee, WI

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Reception to follow

Please RSVP by April 22
mcwevents@mcw.edu
414-955-4733

Celebrating Mike’s Legacy

If you would like to contribute to the T. Michael Bolger Endowed Parkinson’s Disease Research Fund, please visit mcw.edu/bolgerlegacy. You can also mail a gift to:

Office of Development and Alumni Relations
T. Michael Bolger, JD – Legacy Gift
Medical College of Wisconsin
8701 Watertown Plank Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53226



Camp Bolger,
Minocqua, Wis.
2016

Making Innovation a Virtual Reality



Research participants in a new virtual reality study will interact with a simulated version of radiation oncologist Dr. Monica Shukla (simulation shown here) in an effort to reduce patients' anxiety about radiation therapy.

“Throughout the simulated treatment, participants can see and hear everything that would happen during a real procedure. It’s as close as you can get to experiencing the procedure without actually going through it.”

– Carmen R. Bergom, MD '08, PhD '06

Artificial intelligence is accelerating biomedical research, including a project at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) which is analyzing MRI images to predict prostate cancer. Scientists also are using advanced computer simulations of human biology to better understand disease, including three-dimensional models of the heart, that may help deliver needed medication with greater precision. Biomedical engineering is a critical component of these and many other efforts that are pushing the boundaries of healthcare. Innovation, however, is never done alone; rather, it requires a team effort. Such is the practice within the Marquette University and MCW department of biomedical engineering.

Since 2016, the two institutions have partnered to combine resources and fast-track biomedical innovation as a joint department. The collaboration brings together Marquette’s renowned engineering education and research with MCW’s state-of-the-art biomedical research and clinical practice. Faculty members from Marquette and MCW work side-by-side on projects to create and test new potential treatments.

One emerging area of investigation involves the use of virtual reality to help educate and treat patients, especially in the area of cancer research. Carmen R. Bergom, MD '08, PhD '06, MCW assistant professor of radiation oncology, is a radiation oncologist co-leading a project involving a combination of cutting-edge visualization

techniques and expert cancer care. This virtual reality-based patient education project launched in May 2018 to develop a tool to better inform breast cancer patients about radiation therapy and to ease their anxieties about treatment. The pilot study is sponsored by MCW's Cancer Center and seeks to determine the effectiveness of virtual reality as a method for preparing patients for treatment and reducing stress.

"Breast cancer diagnosis and treatment is an extremely difficult time for many patients," remarks Dr. Bergom. "Many times, the anxiety exhibited by our patients can exacerbate symptoms and lead to poorer responses to treatment."

In the study, participants will wear virtual reality headsets and become immersed in a simulation of the radiation therapy process. Once the program begins, the patient can see and interact with a virtual version of the exact exam room that will be used during the real-life procedure.

The simulation process begins with an initial consultation using a virtual 3D presentation of a radiation oncologist, created through pre-recorded green screen footage, who explains the treatment process. Following the consultation, the patient can move about the 3D virtual environment to explore replicas of the Froedtert & MCW radiation therapy clinics. When ready, the patient will then be taken virtually to the therapy room and placed under a linear accelerator machine for treatment.

"Throughout the simulated treatment, participants can see and hear everything that would happen during a real procedure," Dr. Bergom describes. "It's as close as you can get to experiencing the procedure without actually going through it."

Even the virtual clinician in the software will look familiar to patients. Monica E. Shukla, MD, MCW assistant professor of radiation oncology and associate residency program director, is a radiation

Investing in Innovation

Jon and Ann Hammes are greatly inspired by the work being done within the Marquette University and Medical College of Wisconsin department of biomedical engineering and its impact on the future of patient care. To that end, the MCW trustee and his wife have made a major philanthropic gift to support the partnership's transformational leadership and each institution's role as a driver of economic vitality, innovation and workforce development in the region, state and beyond.

"Both institutions recognize the transformative impact that strategic philanthropy, dedicated leadership and collaborative infrastructure make in advancing innovation in medical education. It is our hope that this investment, along with support from other stakeholders, will continue to grow the department as a nationally recognized center for biomedical engineering and thought leadership," Jon Hammes explains.

oncologist, which adds to the authenticity of the program.

"The use of real-life clinicians makes the experience more genuine, and we think it will help patients become more comfortable during the actual procedure," says Dr. Shukla, whose likeness and voice are used in the program. "I think this will go a long way in alleviating stress for our patients."

Creating the "simulated" Dr. Shukla and the replica clinical facilities required a partner with technological and biomedical expertise. John LaDisa, Jr., PhD, associate professor of biomedical engineering and director of the Marquette Visualization Lab (MARVL), brings those skills to the table and plays an essential role in the study.

The MARVL team leads the programming side of the project to create the virtual environment. This group of engineers, which includes graduate student Sophia Shanahan and visual technology

specialist Chris Larkee, implements and programs all the attributes while also ensuring that the technology is compatible in a 3D setting.

Individuals on both sides of the study acknowledge that neither Marquette nor MCW could execute a project such as this without the other. "There is real value in our joint program," notes Dr. LaDisa. "Our team can develop all of the technology we want, but without the clinical expertise, these would be merely theoretical projects. This particular study is a great example of how our partnership is truly a two-way street."

According to Dr. Bergom, by combining both MCW and Marquette's expertise, the project will elucidate a better understanding of how patients learn through interacting with a clinical simulation. It also will determine how virtual reality technology can be used to educate a variety of patient populations. Currently, in conjunction with a behavioral scientist, Melinda Stolley, PhD, MCW professor of medicine (hematology and oncology) and associate director of cancer prevention and control in the MCW Cancer Center, the study team has designed a protocol to measure the effectiveness of this VR program at reducing patients' anxiety levels.

Ultimately, this clinical application of virtual reality is just one of the many ways that the Marquette and MCW department of biomedical engineering is fostering innovation. Frank Pintar, PhD, MCW professor of neurosurgery and founding chair of the department of biomedical engineering, sees the department's future within partnerships that will generate enormous improvements in healthcare for years to come.

"Partnership is key to pushing innovation forward," Dr. Pintar states. "When these interdisciplinary teams form, each member gains from the others with a multiplying effect." ■

— ALEX KROUSE

The Gift of Education

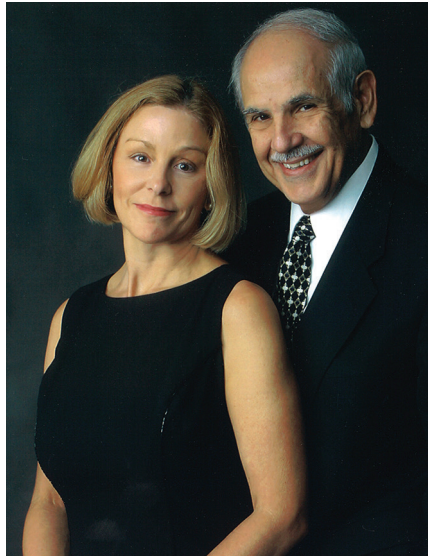
"To help change the world in a positive direction, it has to be done through education."

This seminal belief guided Richard (Dick) Escajeda, MD '55 throughout his life – and will continue to live on well after his death and that of his wife, Lynn, through a generous planned gift to the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW).

Born into a poor family in Texas, young Richard moved with his widowed mother and siblings to California in the early 1930s so she could find work in a cannery near Sacramento. Devout Catholics, the Escajedas benefited from the largess of the Church, whose leaders recognized Richard's intellectual gifts and drive for success. He never forgot how their financial generosity supported his educational endeavors – from grammar school all the way through medical school at the Marquette University School of Medicine (MCW's predecessor institution). And he wanted to give back to the institutions that helped shape him into the man (and doctor) he became.

Dr. Escajeda used to joke that "the best medical school in the country is the one that accepts you" – and Marquette certainly proved its worth. The first three of his 10 children were born during medical school (twin sons in his second year and a third son a year later). Consumed with his studies, he would sit each night in a wingback chair with a baby under one arm and a book under the other. After earning his medical degree, Dr. Escajeda joined the Navy and completed a residency in general surgery at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. Also while in the Navy, he earned a fellowship in hand surgery and served as a general surgeon and eventually a flight surgeon.

Dr. Escajeda was deployed to Vietnam in 1965 and helped establish a field hos-



THINKING OF MAKING A GIFT?

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

For many years before his death on July 1, 2018 at the age of 88, Dr. Escajeda and Lynn discussed their desire to leave a legacy that would help drive change for the better through education.

pital in Da Nang under the command of C Medical Company, Third Force Service Support Group, Third Marine Division (known as "Charlie Med"). There, he served as both CO and chief surgeon. Returning stateside, Dr. Escajeda trained in plastic and reconstructive surgery and was chief of plastic surgery at the San Diego Naval Hospital. He entered private practice in 1974, taught at the University of California-San Diego Medical School (in the division of plastic surgery) and volunteered as a surgeon in India to repair cleft lips and cleft palates. He retired in 2004.

LEFT: Following the death of Dr. Richard Escajeda in July 2018, his wife, Lynn, established a generous planned gift in his memory to support student scholarships at MCW.

BELOW: Early in his career, Dr. Escajeda was a naval surgeon and served in Vietnam in the mid-1960s.



For many years before his death on July 1, 2018 at the age of 88, Dr. Escajeda and Lynn discussed their desire to leave a legacy that would help drive change for the better through education. After his passing, Lynn reached out to MCW to establish a planned gift in her husband's memory that upon her death would support student scholarships.

This planned gift is a bit different than most, as it bequeaths to MCW full ownership – via a *Transfer on Death document* – of a mortgage-free, two-bedroom, two-bath condominium in San Marcos, California, that the Escajedas have owned as rental property for many years. After Lynn passes, MCW can sell the property and use the proceeds to support medical students.

"Richard greatly valued his medical school training at Marquette," Lynn shared with MCW's director of planned giving. "It helped him tremendously, which is why we are giving back." ■

– SARA L. WILKINS

Honoring a Legacy in Global Health

Serendipity brought Jeffrey Schwab, MD, GME '78, to Nicaragua for the first time in 2002.

“A physical therapist I worked with was planning to go there on a medical mission, but something urgent came up for the orthopaedic surgeon who had committed to participate. The therapist needed help

so I agreed to go,” says Dr. Schwab, professor of orthopaedic surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW).

Little did he know then that the trip would be the start of long-term relationship between MCW’s department of orthopaedic surgery and three hospitals in Nicaragua – and a bond that continues to this day. “We returned with a few people to Nicaragua in 2003 and worked with local healthcare teams, and then it really just grew organically from there,” Dr. Schwab adds.

Associates at hospitals in the Nicaraguan cities of Jinotepe and Managua now identify complex cases months in advance of each MCW visit (now twice a year). MCW faculty members and residents work with the organization Milwaukee Orthopaedics Overseas to gather the implants and instruments needed for these cases – and then travel with the necessary supplies. Two established Nicaraguan orthopaedists also have visited MCW to practice and experience different techniques and technologies.

Over time, the hospital partnerships expanded to include a medical resident exchange program that enables Nicaraguan residents to spend several months in Milwaukee learning new surgical methods. The connection to Nicaragua and global health more broadly grew into a defining feature of the department, particularly among surgical residents.

“Four out of five of our department’s fifth-year residents now go to Nicaragua each year during April or November,” notes David King, MD, chair and Paul A. Jacobs, MD Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery. “We’ve established relationships with several other countries as well, and these global health efforts truly have become part of the culture and fabric of who we are.”

“We actually see this now in our residents’ applications and interviews, as they are inspired to join our program and

“...most important to me is that our global health and graduate medical education experiences continue to be an impetus for young surgeons to stay involved in global health throughout their careers”

– Dr. Jeffrey Schwab



(l-r) Leah Cobb, MD, GME '14; Scott E. Van Valin, MD '93; and Elisa Salazar, MD, perform surgery in a Nicaraguan operating room. Dr. Salazar visited MCW and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin for about six weeks to learn and practice new surgical techniques.

participate in global health work,” Dr. Schwab comments. Moved by their experiences abroad, the department’s faculty members and former residents have become passionate about supporting global health efforts.

When Dr. Schwab stepped down as chair of orthopaedic surgery at MCW in 2016 after 19 years of service, he selected global health and graduate medical education as the areas for which he would like to be remembered as a leader. To that end, Dr. King and the department created a focused fund to honor Dr. Schwab’s legacy.

“Jeff was very forward-thinking regarding our global health and community engagement mission. The dollars raised are a reflection of our gratitude for his leadership and our appreciation of his passion in advancing this mission,” Dr. King states. With more than \$514,000 in current philanthropic commitments, The Schwab Endowed International Education Fund in Orthopaedic Surgery will be a sustainable source of funding for the future.

“While the success of the Fund has been very gratifying for me personally,” Dr. Schwab says, “what is most important to me is that our global health and graduate medical education experiences continue to be an impetus for young surgeons to stay involved in global health throughout their careers.” ■

– GREG CALHOUN

PLEASE JOIN US

To contribute to The Schwab Endowed International Education Fund in Orthopaedic Surgery, contact Angela Nelson, senior director of development and alumni giving, at (414) 955-4708 or annelson@mcw.edu.

HAPPENINGS



The
Cancer Crush
Run/Walk has
raised more than
\$300,000

Save the Date and Help Science Crush Cancer

Join us on the Medical College of Wisconsin-Milwaukee campus on September 28, 2019, for the Cancer Crush Run/Walk. Proceeds fuel lifesaving cancer research at MCW along with the most effective patient care and support throughout the Froedtert & MCW health network. With your participation and generosity, science will crush cancer. Stay tuned for more information throughout the summer. ■

Women in Science Lecture Series

The 13th Annual Women in Science Series will kick off on April 16 with Elizabeth “Libby” Ellinas, MD, FEL ’01, director of the Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine, presenting “No Time to Lean In: Efforts to Reach Equity for Women in STEM.” On June 17, Carole Vetter, MD ’93, GME ’98, MCW professor of orthopaedic surgery, will discuss injury prevention. Amy Wagner, MD ’01, FEL ’11, MCW associate professor of surgery, will present “Fetal Surgery and Optimizing Care for Babies with Gastroschisis” on July 31. On September 26, Abir El-Alfy, PhD, MS, MCW associate professor of biopharmaceutical science, will present “Addiction: A Brain Disease Where One is Too Many and a Thousand is Not Enough.” Register at mcw.edu/womeninscience. ■

PLEASE JOIN US...

WBCS Showhouse for a Cure

This year, join WBCS and tour the transformation of the Grand Avenue Mall’s Plankinton Arcade into The Avenue! Top designers from Milwaukee and Madison will decorate seven new apartments in the Clover Plankinton development on the second floor of The Avenue. A gala on May 31 will provide guests with a “sneak peek” before the apartments open to the public from June 1-16. ■

WBCS
has raised
more than
\$6.8 million

Have a Heart Motorcycle Ride

The Have a Heart Motorcycle Ride attracts all riders. Now in its 10th year, the Ride continues to raise funds for cardiovascular research at the Medical College of Wisconsin. The Ride will kick off on June 1 at House of Harley-Davidson, including a scenic 75-mile route around southeast Wisconsin with police escorts, food and an after-party. ■

Imagine More Dinner

The Imagine More Dinner, a nationally-recognized philanthropic event, shares the hope that promising research and innovative treatments bring to those facing the challenges of neurodegenerative disease and neurological injury. Since the inaugural event in 2013, nearly \$1 million has been raised for research on the causes and cures of devastating neurological diseases. Join MCW on Thursday, June 13, at The Pfister Hotel for the presentation of the 2019 *Neuro Hero* award to the Kubly Family for their personal support of and dedication to mental health through the Charles E. Kubly Foundation. ■

Heart of the Matter Food and Wine Event

Registration is open for the 2nd Annual Heart of the Matter Food and Wine event. All proceeds will benefit cardiovascular research, clinical care, education and community outreach programs at Froedtert & MCW. This year, the event will be held on July 25 at Discovery World in Milwaukee. It features award-winning wines paired with a heart-healthy menu designed by Bartolotta Chef Felix Rosado. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

WBCS SHOWHOUSE FOR A CURE
DATE: MAY 31-JUNE 16, 2019
LOCATION: GRAND AVENUE MALL, MILWAUKEE

JUNE

HAVE A HEART MOTORCYCLE RIDE
DATE: JUNE 1, 2019
LOCATION: HOUSE OF HARLEY-DAVIDSON, GREENFIELD, WI

IMAGINE MORE DINNER
DATE: JUNE 13, 2019
LOCATION: THE PFISTER HOTEL, MILWAUKEE

JULY

HEART OF THE MATTER
DATE: JULY 25, 2019
LOCATION: DISCOVERY WORLD, MILWAUKEE

FALL

DIGESTIVE DISEASE GOLF LPGA PRO-AM
DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2019
LOCATION: MILWAUKEE COUNTRY CLUB

CANCER CRUSH
DATE: SEPTEMBER 28, 2019
LOCATION: MCW-MILWAUKEE CAMPUS

For more information on these events, contact Peggy LeBrun, director, volunteer and event fundraising, at (414) 955-4503 or plebrun@mcw.edu.

STAY CONNECTED WITH MCW

We'd love to hear from you! Let us know what's coming up. Send your materials to MCWmagazine@mcw.edu. Find us on:



ALUMNI NOTES

1960s

Clinton Smith, MD '66, MS '67, retired from the full-time practice of pediatric cardiology at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. He then served as a consultant to the Mississippi State Department of Health. He met his wife, Lois, while an intern at the Milwaukee Children's Hospital, and they recently celebrated 50 years of marriage. Dr. Smith now writes creative nonfiction – which is published on his blog, clinton39.wordpress.com.

1970s



Stephen W. Hargarten*, MD '75, MPH, professor of emergency medicine and associate dean for global health at MCW, has been asked to serve as a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Forum on Global Violence Prevention. The Forum on Global Violence Prevention engages in dialogue and discussion that emphasizes the exploration of cross-cutting issues pertinent to the following seven categories of violence: child abuse, elder abuse, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, youth violence, collective violence and self-directed violence.

1980s



Mary Horowitz*, MD '80, FEL '89, MS '91, the Robert A. Uihlein Professor for Hematologic Research and chief scientific director of the Center for International Blood and Marrow

Transplant Research at MCW, received the 2018 *Distinguished Achievement Award* from the Milwaukee Academy of Medicine in October 2018 in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the advancement of knowledge and practice of medicine. As part of the event, Dr. Horowitz gave a presentation titled, *How a Large Database of "Real World" Clinical Data Improved the Outcomes of Blood and Bone Marrow Transplantation*.



George A. Williams, MD, GME '82, FEL '84, began serving a one-year term on January 1, 2019 as the 123rd president of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Dr. Williams, a retina specialist, was elected by the Academy's community of 32,000 ophthalmologists in recognition of his scientific leadership and his deep commitment to advocating for improved patient care and reduced regulatory burdens. Dr. Williams is chair of the department of ophthalmology and director of the Beaumont Eye Institute at Beaumont Health in Royal Oak, Mich. He also is professor and chair of ophthalmology at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine and a partner with Associated Retinal Consultants. Dr. Williams has published more than 250 articles and book chapters in the field of vitreoretinal surgery and has participated as principal investigator or co-investigator in more than 20 clinical trials sponsored by the National Eye Institute and industry.

2000s



James H. Ting, MD '00, has been serving as team physician for the Los Angeles Chargers of the National Football League since 2017.



Jason A. Jarzembowski*, MD '02, PhD, vice chair and associate professor of MCW's department of pathology, was named to the American Board of Pathology's Test Development and Advisory Committee (TDAC) for Pediatric Pathology. The committee is responsible for developing and reviewing the questions for the American Board of Pathology exam, which assesses and certifies a physician's education, knowledge, experience and skills to provide high-quality care in the pathology profession.



Parameswaran Hari*, MD, GME '04, MS '06, the Armand J. Quick/William F. Stapp Professor of Hematology and chief of MCW's division of hematology and oncology (department of medicine), was named a Health Care Hero in the category of Advancements in Health Care by Milwaukee's *BizTimes*. As one of the nation's most well-respected bone marrow transplant physicians, Dr. Hari leads many landmark clinical trials that offer new hope to patients with complicated diseases. Dr. Hari is a researcher in hematology with numerous scientific publications, in addition to national and international lectures on various hematology and oncology topics. He also is the scientific

* MCW faculty member

director of the plasma cell disorders working committee of the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research.



Shaili Jain, MD, GME '04, authored her first book, *The Unspeakable Mind: Stories of Trauma and Healing from the Front Lines of PTSD Science*, which was published by Harper in May 2018. The book is the definitive guide for a trauma-burdened age, and lays bare PTSD's roots, inner workings and paths to healing. Dr. Jain's groundbreaking work demonstrates the ways PTSD cuts to the heart of life, interfering with one's capacity to love, create and work – incapacity brought on by a complex interplay between biology, genetics and environment. Dr. Jain is a psychiatrist and PTSD specialist and currently serves as medical director for integrated care at the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System. She is a trauma scientist affiliated with the National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and a clinical associate professor affiliated with the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Stanford University School of Medicine.



Peter J. Rossi*, MD, FEL '06, was named chief of MCW's division of vascular and endovascular surgery (department of surgery). He joined MCW in 2004 as the 27th general surgery fellow and was appointed to the faculty in 2009. Dr. Rossi was promoted to associate professor of surgery and radiology in 2015 and most recently served as associate director of the Heart and Vascular Service Line and associate vice chair in the department of surgery for off-campus clinical operations.



Robert V. Gouthro*, MD '07, director of residency training for MCW's Northeastern Wisconsin Psychiatry Residency Program, and assistant professor and regional clerkship director in MCW's department of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, was named a 2018 Health Care Hero in the category of Behavioral Health by Milwaukee's *BizTimes* for his innovative expertise and leadership in training mental health professionals who will address the state's psychiatrist shortage. Through Dr. Gouthro's

guidance, MCW-Green Bay psychiatry residents and medical students are developing an additional mental health service for underserved populations – the Northeastern Wisconsin Psychiatry Care Center, set to open in 2019.

2010s



John "Mac" Longo*, MD, GME '16, co-chaired the International Cancer Expert Corps Young Investigators' Conference, Pioneering Action for Global Cancer Care, held on Feb. 14-15, 2019, at the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine in Washington, DC. The conference brought together young healthcare professionals and global oncology leaders and provided an opportunity for young cancer professionals from diverse regions to share and discuss the unique opportunities and challenges that they encounter at their home institutions and practices as well as abroad.



**ALUMNI
REUNION
WEEKEND**

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

**September 27–28
Milwaukee, Wis.**

MCW MAGAZINE wants news of your accomplishments and activities. We encourage you to send updates through ENGAGE, MCW's new online platform for alumni – see page 5 for instructions. You also can send updates by email to alumni@mcw.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

1940s

Joseph S. Kretchmar, MD '49, of Mequon, Wis., died on April 17, 2018, at the age of 93. He was a plastic surgeon and loved the outdoors and woodworking. He hiked the Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail, and was a volunteer woodworker for the Milwaukee Jewish Day School. He is survived by his wife, Rochelle (Shelly), five children and 13 grandchildren.

1950s

John E. Nilles, MD '51, of Two Rivers, Wis., died on July 28, 2018, at the age of 90. He practiced medicine for many years in Mishicot, Wis. He traveled extensively and enjoyed gardening. Dr. Nilles is survived by 10 children, 27 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

William J. Crowley, MD '53, of Wauwatosa, Wis., died on May 27, 2018, at the age of 91. He practiced psychiatry at the Milwaukee County Mental Health Complex for the majority of his career. He was a pilot and loved skiing on water and snow in addition to racing cars and performing with local musical acts.

Salvatore Fricano, MD '54, of Brookfield, Wis., died on June 27, 2018, at the age of 91. He practiced at what is now Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center, where he served as chief of staff and began the hospital's first kidney dialysis program. He is survived by his wife, Felicia, three children and three grandchildren.

James E. Carter, MD '55, GME '60, of Melbourne, Fla., died on September 14, 2017, at the age of 89. He was an orthopaedic surgeon at Cape Canaveral

Hospital for many years, including serving as chief of staff from 1972-1977 and on the hospital's board of directors for 25 years. He also excelled as an athlete and his University of Wisconsin-Madison basketball team won the Big Ten title in 1947. Dr. Carter is survived by his wife, Joan, six children and three grandchildren.

Richard M. Escajeda, MD '55, of San Diego, Calif., died on July 1, 2018, at the age of 88. He served as chief of plastic surgery at San Diego Naval Hospital before entering private practice, completing a fellowship in hand surgery and teaching at the University of California-San Diego School of Medicine. He is survived by his wife, Lynn, nine children, 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. *(Read more on page 26.)*

Richard H. Patterson, MD '56, of Hales Corners, Wis., died on March 9, 2018, at the age of 86. He practiced psychiatry for about 35 years. In retirement, he operated a small farm and played weekly games of sheephead with the same medical school friends who used to play the game together between bouts of studying in the 1950s. Survivors include his wife, Kathy, three children and two grandchildren.

Dean F. Tirador, MD '56, MPH, of Juneau, Alaska, died on January 27, 2018, at the age of 86. He joined the Public Health Service after his educational years and later worked for the World Health Organization. He served in locations all around the world, from Arizona to Zurich, Switzerland. Dr. Tirador also served as the deputy commissioner for the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services before retiring and traveling the globe.

Patrick J. Noonan, MD '57, GME '61, of Mequon, Wis., died on July 21, 2018, at the age of 89. He practiced otolaryngology in Milwaukee and Mequon for 40 years. He also mentored residents as an MCW clinical professor of otolaryngology and enjoyed skiing, fishing, hunting and woodcarving. Dr. Noonan is survived by his wife, Geraldine, six children, 17 grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Thomas E. Zabors, MD '58, of Whitefish Bay, Wis., died on July 30, 2018, at the age of 89. Survivors include his wife, Barbara, three children and four grandchildren.

1960s

R. David Helling, MD '62, GME '66, of Waukesha, Wis., died on May 25, 2018, at the age of 81. He practiced radiology at what is now ProHealth Waukesha Memorial Hospital for more than 25 years. He was a traveler, gardener, gourmet cook, activist and philanthropist. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie Birk, eight children, 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

M. Joseph Bowler, MD '63, of Kalamazoo, Mich., died on April 4, 2017, at the age of 83. He practiced otolaryngology in Kalamazoo for nearly 25 years. He was a golfer, reader, storyteller and a patron of the arts. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, four children and seven grandchildren.

Dennis L. Murphy, MD '63, MS '63, of Bethesda, Md, died on September 23, 2017. He spent the majority of his career at the National Institutes of Health, in the National Institute of Mental Health. There he became one of the leading scholars in the field of biological psychi-

atry. Dr. Murphy published more than 900 scholarly journal articles and four books, including articles in *Lancet*, *Nature*, *Science* and other prestigious publications. He mentored more than 100 students and fellows, of whom 30 would go on to become chairs of psychiatry or basic science departments. Dr. Murphy is survived by his wife, Dr. Nancy Garrick, and three children.

Bruce A. Thompson, MD '63, of Oceanside, Calif., died on February 16, 2018, at the age of 80. He was an orthopaedic surgeon and served in the US Navy for more than 20 years. He was a ship model builder, traveler, cultivator of bonsai trees and a wine aficionado. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, son and grandson.

Jerome J. Luy, MD '64, GME '72, of Menomonee Falls, Wis., died in May 2018, at the age of 79. He was a plastic surgeon in Milwaukee with a passion for helping trauma and burn victims. He also was a chef, photographer, mechanic and a supporter of the arts.

Douglas A. Reasa, MD, GME '66, of Hartland, Wis., died on July 20, 2018, at the age of 80. He practiced radiology at St. Michael's Hospital in Milwaukee for about 35 years, including two years at president of the medical staff. He was an avid sailor, traveler, skier and golfer. Survivors include two children and five grandchildren.

Joyce A. Yerex, MD, GME '68, of Mequon, Wis., died on May 8, 2018, at the age of 88. She practiced radiology in Kenosha, Wis., including serving as head of the radiology department and chief of staff at what was then known as Kenosha Memorial Hospital. She retired in North Carolina and took up sailing and Japanese ink painting. Dr. Yerex is

survived by her husband, Lowell, three children and four grandchildren.

Robert H. Demling, MD '69, of Needham, Mass., died on August 24, 2018, at the age of 75. He was a surgeon and scientist focused on critical care and the treatment of burns. He authored 250 articles in scholarly journals and served as president of the American Burn Association in 1995. He also played competitive rugby and enjoyed fishing. He is survived by two daughters and three granddaughters.

Gary N. Guten, MD, GME '69, MA '06, of Mequon, Wis., died on September 13, 2018, at the age of 78. He was an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine and arthroscopic surgery. He was a team doctor for the Milwaukee Brewers, Milwaukee Wave and the Milwaukee Ballet. He channeled his passion for sports, wellness and nutrition by authoring eight books, and he enjoyed golfing, running and playing the piano. Dr. Guten is survived by his wife, Judy, two children and five grandchildren.

1970s

Frank E. Cummins, MD, GME '72, FEL '74, of Brookfield, Wis., died on December 18, 2017, at the age of 74. He practiced interventional cardiology in Milwaukee for many years and conducted scientific research focused on developing cardiovascular devices. He was a golfer, cyclist, and cross-country skier. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, four children and seven grandchildren.

Robert Wondergem, PhD '77, of Johnson City, Tenn., died on March 21, 2018, at the age of 68. In 1978, he became the inaugural faculty member at Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson

City. He enjoyed research and teaching, and often traveled during the summer to work with scientific collaborators at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory in Salisbury Cove, Maine. Dr. Wondergem is survived by his wife, Jacquelyn, two children and two grandchildren.

2010s

Eleanor R. Eichman, MD, GME '12, of Wauwatosa, Wis., died on July 14, 2018, at the age of 35. She was a pediatrician. Survivors include her husband, Christopher, and two children.

Special Remembrance

Norman C. Reynolds, Jr., MD, of Shorewood, Wis., died on January 6, 2018, at the age of 76. He served on the MCW faculty for 16 years, beginning in 1990. As a neurologist, Dr. Reynolds conducted extensive research in the field of movement disorders. His Huntington's disease research contributed to a method of detecting the disease before symptoms manifest, allowing for earlier treatment. He also served in the Minnesota and Wisconsin Army National Guards, retiring as a colonel in 2001. Survivors include his wife, Elaine, two children and a granddaughter.

Correction:

In the print edition of the *In Memoriam* section of the 2018 Annual Report, we erroneously listed **James R. Pawlak, MD, GME '78**. We apologize for this error and are pleased to report that Dr. Pawlak is alive and well, and continues to practice family medicine in Sheboygan, Wis.

Transitioning to the PhD Years

After completing two years of medical school, my classmates and I are now on different tracks. While my peers have begun clinical rotations, I have become a doctoral student in MCW's Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), which trains students who are earning both the MD and PhD degrees. As I see it, the main difference between medical and graduate school is the stark shift from a clearly organized schedule to one with no prescribed agenda. I became the true supervisor of my day, taking full responsibility for structuring my experiments, classes and meetings. Also, all of my learning now is self-directed. Frankly, I was anxious and baffled at the start of my first year of graduate school this past fall.



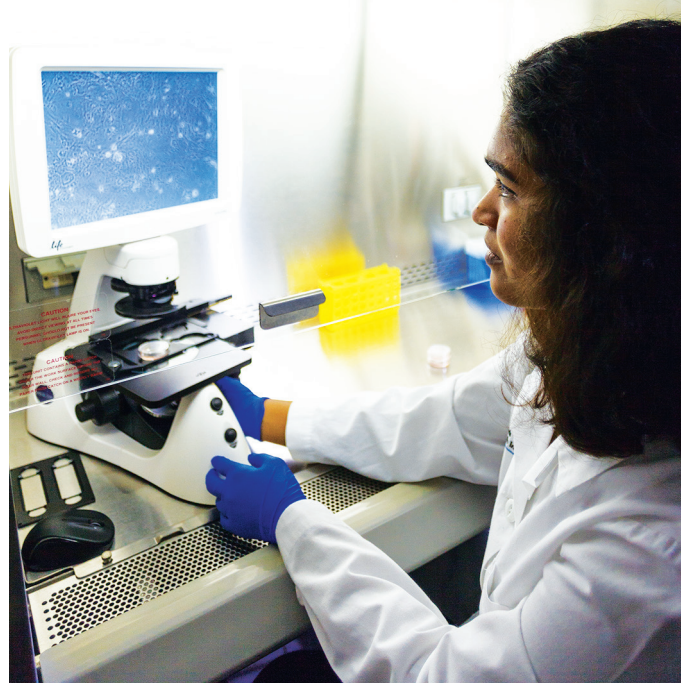
“Translational science provides the chance to see the potential benefit for patients of my findings and has helped me envision how I could create a lab later in my career.”

– Sai-Suma K. Samudrala, MCW MD/PhD student

However, I was equally excited at the prospect of pursuing my research education in the lab of Aoy Tomita-Mitchell, PhD, MCW professor of surgery, who studies congenital heart disease. I had the unique opportunity to work in the Mitchell lab from the summer after my first year of medical school through my second year. From this prior experience, I knew that I wanted to continue working on congenital heart disease modeling. The lab of Jennifer Strande, MD, PhD, GME '06, FEL '10, MCW associate professor of medicine (cardiovascular medicine), transforms cells (such as residual urine cells) into cells that mimic the capabilities of stem cells – called induced pluripotent stem cells. Our lab can then turn these cells into heart cells (a process known as differentiation), so that we can better study congenital heart disease and create a future framework for testing potential treatments.

I find this research to be very rewarding. I appreciate that it has a direct correlation to patients with inherited cardiac diseases. Additionally, this translational science provides the chance to see the potential benefit for patients of my findings and has helped me envision how I could create a lab later in my career.

Now, halfway through my first year of graduate school, I am getting better at structuring my days. Apart from maintaining and studying cell lines, I spend a lot of time reading research papers, writing thesis goals and working on grant applications. Like most graduate students, I have a document that contains all of my drafts of figures and tables. Endnote, a reference citation manager, has become my best friend. The freedom to



Sai-Suma Samudrala, now in the graduate school portion of her MD/PhD program, views heart cells used by Dr. Aoy Tomita-Mitchell's lab to study congenital heart disease.

organize my days also has allowed me to explore other interests, such as clay-wheeling pottery and a salsa dancing class.

One aspect of research I now appreciate is the importance of designing experiments to answer thought-provoking questions. I feel exceedingly fortunate to have the guidance of Dr. Mitchell as my principal investigator. Min-Su Kim, PhD, a research associate in the Mitchell lab, provides invaluable advice about how to optimize my experiments. I believe that the greatest skills I will hone in graduate school are the abilities to ask well-formulated questions, write testable hypotheses and maintain curiosity – no matter an experiment's results.

In medical school, quiz and exam scores motivated my learning and provided a benchmark for my progress. It has been challenging to realize that there are no such metrics in graduate school. My motivation instead has stemmed from successful experiments and my mentors' guidance and encouragement towards productive and meaningful research.

As of now, my contaminated cells and failed experiments show that I have room for improvement. And while medical school and graduate school are very different, I am thankful to have the chance to gain experience in the realms of both physician and scientist. This way, I can hope to succeed in academic medicine and search for scientific solutions while simultaneously caring for patients. ■

– SAI-SUMA K. SAMUDRALA

Marlene D. Melzer-Lange, MD '75, GME '78



Photo courtesy of Gary Porter

For more than 40 years, Dr. Melzer-Lange has treated the urgent healthcare needs of youths as a pediatric emergency medicine specialist at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin (Children's) and has served as a faculty member at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). In addition to treating pediatric patients, she has dedicated much of her career to preventing trauma, violence and other injuries affecting children in southeast Wisconsin and beyond. In 2010, MCW awarded Dr. Melzer-Lange its highest honor, the *Distinguished Service Award*.

Dr. Melzer-Lange's passion for helping children led her to discover ways to more holistically treat their injuries – with the ultimate goal of preventing trauma before it happens. Dr. Melzer-Lange has served since 2001 as the medical director of Project Ujima, a collaborative community effort focused on ending firearm and assault violence among children and adolescents in Milwaukee.

Children's and MCW partner on Project Ujima to provide a wide range of services to victims and families affected by firearm and assault violence in order to break the cycle of violence. These services include crisis intervention, case management, social and emotional support, youth development and mentorship, in addition to mental health and medical services. ■

– NICHOLAS C. HELMINSKI

Dr. Melzer-Lange is professor of pediatrics (emergency medicine) and medical director of Project Ujima, a program of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin-Community Services.

What Drives You?

I love taking care of kids, whether that be treating them in the emergency setting or preventing further injuries from occurring within their communities.

What Has Been the Highlight of Your Career?

The highlight of my career has been seeing the specialty of pediatric emergency medicine evolve. This has allowed me to train medical students, residents and fellows to promote the compassionate care of pediatric patients within the emergency department as well as throughout our patients' communities.

What Do You Still Hope to Accomplish Over Your Career?

I hope to focus more attention on injury prevention, specifically on firearm injury prevention. I would like to see the culture which surrounds guns and gun ownership change to focus on safe storage with decreased access to children and teens. Prevention is crucial because physical injuries, especially those involving the head or spine, last a lifetime. Psychological effects such as posttraumatic stress disorder can be long-lasting and have serious implications.

What Would You Like Your MCW Legacy to Be?

I would like to be known for advancing pediatric care, particularly in the care of violently injured young people. I also would like to be remembered for mentoring the next generation of medical students to provide compassionate care for patients injured by violence.

What One Piece of Advice Would You Like to Share With Your Colleagues?

Remember that young people, whether they are our patients or fellow community members, truly are our future. We should strive to keep them safe and healthy in their communities.

Change Agent highlights a Medical College of Wisconsin faculty or staff member who has had significant impact on the institution's mission to be a leading innovator in transforming healthcare and advancing the health of our communities.



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