# CICII

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



niversity Working for inclusion in medical education and patient care

ALSO FEATURED:

- Vermont Lung Center Anniversary
- Alumni in Haiti

# An Enduring Love of Vermont and Medical Education

You could say that caring for children runs in the Little family. Hartland, Vt., residents GEORGE LITTLE, M.D.'65, and his wife CAROL LITTLE, M.D.'71, have over the course of their careers helped to shape neonatal care in the states of Vermont and New Hampshire through their leadership and combined 85-plus years of experience. An esteemed academic physician at Dartmouth Medical School, George was the first neonatologist to practice in New Hampshire, and he founded the Vermont/New Hampshire Regional Perinatal Program. Carol Little, M.D.'71, also had a distinguished career in academic medicine at

Dartmouth, retiring in 2012 as director of the neonatal follow-up program at Children's Hospital at Dartmouth. And one of their three children, daughter MALAIKA LITTLE, M.D.'05, is carrying on the tradition. After graduating from the UVM College of Medicine, she built a practice as a pediatric infectious disease subspecialist.

Father and daughter George and Malaika celebrated their 50th and 10th reunions in 2015, and Carole will celebrate her 45th in 2016. In honor of these milestones, the family has established a \$100,000 scholarship fund with preference given to students interested in pediatrics or global health, a nod to George's service as Peace Corps Medical Director for

Africa. The Little family's enduring love of Vermont helped make the gift possible: When George graduated from UVM and left to complete his training and serve in the Peace Corps, he bought about 80 acres in northern Vermont to keep ties with his beloved state. Just a few years ago, nearly 50 years later, he sold the land back to the grandson of the original farmer — which helped to establish the fund. Through their actions, the Little family paid it forward to Vermont as well as future medical students: A deal with the Vermont Land Trust ensures 75 acres will remain undeveloped and available for activities like sugaring and forestry. And the scholarship, which received a 50 percent match from the Medical Alumni Association, ensures generations of students will be able to continue the Little's legacy of helping children to thrive.



From left: Carol, Malaika, and George Little with Malaika's son, Ellis.

For more information about how you can maximize your support for the College of Medicine and its faculty and students through a matching gift, please contact the Medical Development and Alumni Relations Office.

#### **University of Vermont College of Medicine**

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- From the Dean
- **College News**

Two new leaders for the College; a record in fundraising; the Class of 2019 begins; research and innovation, and more.



#### **Pride of Place**

Through the work of a broad spectrum of students, faculty, and staff members, the College of Medicine works to build inclusiveness for the LGBTQ community in education and patient care.

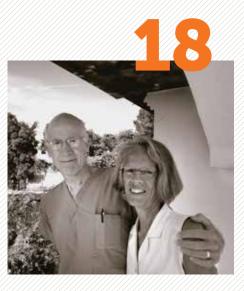
By Carolyn Shapiro



#### **Breathing Life into Translational Research**

Fifteen years ago, the Vermont Lung Center was little more than a logo on some stationery. Since then, Director Charles Irvin, Ph.D., and his colleagues have built a thriving center of pulmonary research.

By Sarah Zobel



#### **Partners in Practice**

In the four decades since their graduation from the College, Delight Wing, M.D.'75 and Jack Long, M.D.'75 have shown how service, medical education, running a busy medical practice, and raising a family can all be compatible.

By Jess Clarke

#### WebXtras in this issue:

- Medical practice in Haiti lecture
- Additional research news
- Reunion Awards Ceremony video

Go to: uvm.edu/medicine/vtmedicine



**Class Notes** 

Hall A

**Development News** 

**President's Corner** 

**Obituaries** 

ON THE COVER: The UVM Pride pin on a student's white coat; photograph by Andy Duback



The College of Medicine is on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Check in to see what's happening today!



#### FROM THE DEAN

In early August our campus once again saw the arrival of a new group of first-year medical students — the Class of 2019. The students' excitement at beginning their journey in medicine, always infused, understandably, with a hint of nervousness, is palpable to everyone here at the school. As I told the class on their first day here: they may

have a few doubts as to whether they have the right stuff to be successful in medical school, but we are sure that they each have within them the qualities of a great future physician. We have continued to refine our admissions procedures to be sure this is so. This class is the first to be chosen using our new "multiple mini-interview" process, which broadens the number of assessments for each interviewed applicant and allows us, we believe, to gain a deeper knowledge of the students we accept.

This process is part of the continuous improvement that goes on at our academic medical center. And it works hand-in-hand with our efforts at all levels of teaching and medical practice to be a more inclusive place for our students, faculty, staff, and patients. As society changes, we change too. Hopefully not as a reflex, but as an active agent of equality for all. This is reflected in the work reported in this issue to make our campus and our profession fully cognizant and welcoming to the members of the LGBTQ community. I'm proud that our school is on the forefront of this wave of change at our nation's medical schools.

We strive to stay on the leading edge in so many areas, not the least being biomedical research. This year marks the completion of an important 15-year cycle of federal funding for the Vermont Lung Center, and we present here a look at the range of important work taking place under its aegis. One outgrowth of that, for instance, was the 10th Anniversary Stem Cell in Lung Biology conference that attracted more than 160 scientists from around the world to our campus this summer.

None of the work we do would be possible without the support of our dedicated alumni. You can read in these pages about two distinguished members of the Class of 1975, Delight Wing, M.D., and Jack Long, M.D., and their record of service to this College, its students, the Vermont community, and the people of Haiti. I had the pleasure of meeting Delight and Jack at this summer's Medical Reunion, one of the warmest, most emotional and satisfying reunions I've attended in my years as Dean. It was an occasion that confirmed for me the special quality of our College of Medicine.

Frederick C. Morin III, M.D.

Dean, University of Vermont College of Medicine

# medicine

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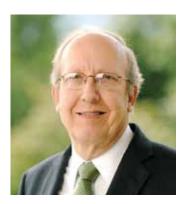


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#### COLLEGE NEWS

#### Jensen Named Senior Associate Dean for Research

After a national search, **Gordon L. Jensen, M.D., Ph.D.,** will become senior associate dean for research at the College of Medicine, with an academic appointment as professor of medicine and also as professor of nutrition and food sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Dr. Jensen will succeed Russell Tracy, Ph.D., professor of pathology and biochemistry, and former



Gordon L. Jensen, M.D., Ph.D.

senior associate dean for research and academic affairs, who has served as interim senior associate dean for research since July 2014.

Jensen joins UVM from Penn State University, where since 2007 he has been professor and head of the Department of Nutritional Sciences. He has also served as professor of medicine at Penn State Hershey Medical Center. Previously, he was professor of medicine at Vanderbilt University, and director of the Vanderbilt Center for Human Nutrition from 1999 to 2007. He holds a doctorate in Nutritional Biochemistry from Cornell University, and received his M.D. from Cornell University Medical College in 1984. He completed residency training in Internal Medicine and fellowship training in Clinical Nutrition at New England Deaconess Hospital of Harvard Medical School. He then joined Geisinger Medical Center, where he served as director of the Section of Nutrition until leaving for Vanderbilt in 1998.

Nationally, Jensen is a past president of the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN) and a past-chair of the Association of Nutrition Programs and Departments. He is also a past-president of the American Society for Nutrition. A widely recognized nutrition researcher and educator, he has served on advisory panels, study sections or work groups for the National Institutes of Health and the American Dietetic Association, and served two terms on the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine. He has also served on several leading nutrition journal's editorial boards.

Board-certified in nutrition and internal medicine, Jensen has clinical expertise in adult nutrition support interventions, outpatient clinics for malnourished patients, and high-risk obesity management. Active in research collaborations and mentorship, he has investigated geriatric nutrition concerns, obesity and function in older persons, and nutrition and inflammation, and has served as co-director of the Penn State Childhood Obesity Prevention Training Program and co-director of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute KL2 Training Program. The author of more than 180 journal articles, reviews, and book chapters, Jensen is the recipient of the 2014 Jonathan Rhoads Lecture, ASPEN's most prestigious award.

# Huggett Appointed Inaugural Director of Teaching Academy

Dean Rick Morin and Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education William Jeffries, Ph.D., have announced the appointment of **Kathryn Huggett, Ph.D.,** as the inaugural director of the Teaching Academy at the College of Medicine. Huggett, who was selected after a national search, has been appointed as a professor of medicine and pathology and assistant dean and began her new role at



Kathryn Huggett, Ph.D.

UVM on September 1. She succeeds Ann Guillot, M.D., professor of pediatrics and director of pediatric nephrology, who has served as interim director of the Teaching Academy since July 2014.

The assistant dean for medical education at Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, Neb., since 2010, Huggett also served as director of medical education development and assessment since 2004. Previously, she was director of the Medical Scholars Program and senior student services coordinator for academic affairs and curriculum at the University of Wisconsin Medical School. She holds a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she also earned her bachelor's degree in political science and master's degree in public policy and administration.

Huggett will direct the Academy and its support of education and educators at the College of Medicine, and organize the development and implementation of Teaching Academy programs. She will provide educational expertise and collaborate across the academic medical center to facilitate high quality educational programs, medical education research, and faculty development.

#### College Shares in Record FY2015 Fundraising

The University of Vermont
Foundation recently announced a record-setting year of fundraising activities on behalf of the University during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2015. New fundraising commitments broke the \$60 million mark for the first time in UVM

\$12.4 million

COMMITMENTS AND RECEIPTS
FROM DONORS TO THE COLLEGE
OF MEDICINE IN FY2015

history — reaching \$60,576,278. Members of the Foundation's Academic Health Sciences unit at the College of Medicine played a major role in attaining this goal, securing a total of \$12.4 million in commitments and receipts from donors.

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FALL 2015

#### **Research Notebook**

#### Vaccine Center Receives \$2.2 Million Gates Grant

Oral vaccines, which work exceptionally well to protect infants and children in the U.S., can fail to do so in developing countries. A case in point — the oral rotavirus vaccine has a strong track record in preventing the majority of cases of rotavirus-diarrhea hospitalizations and deaths in the U.S. But in developing world settings the vaccine has only worked half as well, leading to more than 450,000 children's deaths annually due to rotavirus-related dehydration.

Understanding and remedying this paradox is the goal and challenge of a new \$2.2 million dollar 2.5-year research award from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to the University of Vermont Vaccine Testing Center (VTC) investigators. Led by Beth Kirkpatrick, M.D., professor of medicine and VTC director, co-investigators on the grant include Sean Diehl, Ph.D., E. Ross Colgate, M.P.H., Dorothy Dickson, M.Sc., and Benjamin Lee, M.D.

The grant builds on previous Gates Foundation-supported research performed by VTC team members in collaboration with other institutions between 2010 and 2014.

"Understanding and improving rotavirus vaccines is critically important to the health of children throughout the world," says Kirkpatrick.
"We are particularly excited about this opportunity: it builds upon our interest and expertise in understanding the principles of correlates of protection in infants and children in developing countries and will help us better understand and improve their responses to vaccines."



For more news on research at the College of
Medicine — including other Gates Foundation
supported research, work leading to decreased
second-hand smoke exposure for children, and a
fascinating study of the possible relationship between
eye color and alcohol dependence — see the College's
research website at www.uvm.edu/medicine/research

#### From the Blog

# TRANSFORMING HOW WE THINK ABOUT GLOBAL HEALTH EDUCATION

The College of Medicine blog is a forum for students and faculty to share their experiences and insights into medical education and practice. In August, Stefan Wheat '18 published his thoughts, excerpted below, on the changing nature of Global Health work. To read Wheat's full blog entry, and see dozens more from other members of the College community, visit uvmmedicineblog, wordpress.com

I sat in the clinic working on the multiplication table problems my mom had assigned me earlier that morning. Working next to the patients waiting to see my parents, I tried not to let myself become distracted by the elderly Nepali women who liked running their grubby old fingers through my blonde hair. When it was a busy day in the clinic and we had to stay late, my dad would give me a writing assignment to pass the time. People would walk for days to visit the clinic my parents ran in Bandipur, in the foothills of the Himalaya. They were the only physicians for nearly a 50 mile radius, so I tended to get a lot of writing assignments.



tefan Wheat '18

The model of global health I witnessed at age nine in Nepal represents the traditional and now outmoded style of practicing medicine in an international setting, a model often referred to as the "medical tourism" model of global health. The standard was for Western physicians to set up shop in remote parts of the developing world and serve those most in the need: people with no other access to health care. While well-meaning, this approach to practicing medicine abroad has fallen by the wayside as we trend toward more sustainable models that emphasize a long term commitment from students, as well as bi-directional exchange and capacity building. I've seen this new model in action through time I spent in Borneo, and I'm living it now through the global health work I'm doing as a rising second-year med student at the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

We cannot expect students to fully appreciate the value that comes from working internationally after a single global health attachment, haphazardly inserted into an education largely devoid of supplementary global health training. The elective that I am participating in through UVM addresses these problems by integrating global health training with the four years of medical school. My education as a global health scholar began with a six-week rotation in Zimbabwe's Parirenyatwa (Pari) Hospital in Harare following my first year in medical school.

My experience in Zimbabwe accounts for just the beginning of my education in global health. Over the next three years as a medical student, I will participate in further training and ultimately return to Pari Hospital as a fourth-year student. This early exposure combined with the continuing education represents a new model of the global health elective aimed at developing a new generation of physicians who appreciate the increasingly globalized nature of healthcare and who are more likely to remain committed to integrating global health service into their careers. I am excited to be a part of this program — a collaboration between UVM and Western Connecticut Health Network — that seems uniquely poised to help transform the way we think about global health education.

# COLLEGE WELCOMES CLASS OF 2019

The "firsts" in life linger in our memories - first lost tooth, first friend, first car, first job — and for those pursuing medicine, the first year of medical school easily tops that list. On August 10, Class of 2019 medical students eagerly arrived at the College of Medicine to begin their first-year journey during Orientation 2015. From meeting their first patient and gaining an understanding of the vital importance of professionalism, the students have already begun applying the lessons imparted on their first day. Orientation week featured an outdoor medicine and team building ropes course at South Burlington's Farrell Park, as well as small-group teambased learning activities, a final lecture on "Teamwork in Medicine," a Student Interest Group and Resource Fair and class barbeque on the final day of Orientation Week.

#### **SOME CLASS OF 2019 STATS:**

- Even number of men and women
- Students hail from 23 states, including Alaska, California, Illinois, Maine, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Vermont.
- Undergraduate majors range from biology to neuroscience to environmental studies to culinary arts to government relations to ceramics.

6,054
APPLICATIONS

562
INTERVIEWED

114
ENROLLED













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### Graduate Student Combines Military Service, Basic Research

University of Vermont graduate student Blas Guigni learned a lot about trauma surgery and orthopaedics during a tour of duty in Iraq from 2007 to 2008, his second tour overseas. As the manager of an acute care and musculoskeletal clinic at the U.S. Army base in Tikrit, he helped to coordinate care for wounded soldiers seeking treatment for everything from muscle strains caused by wearing heavy body armor to devastating wounds inflicted by IEDs (improvised explosive devices) and high-velocity rifles.

Since surgeons assigned to the clinic rotated through roughly every 90 days, he played a key role in the clinic's operation, helping to provide life-saving treatment himself as well as acquainting new staff with the available resources and the sometimes hectic day-to-day pace at the clinic.

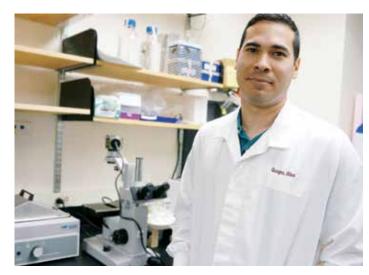
"I became very fluent in orthopaedics," he says, adding that some of the surgeons he worked with likened his level of experience to that of a fifth-year surgical resident, thanks to his hands-on training and the medical science program he completed at the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences. And that wasn't his first tour of duty. During Operation Enduring Freedom, he was deployed in one of the first units into Afghanistan in 2003, at a time when infrastructure was minimal and danger was high. One month in, his convoy was hit by RPGs (rocket propelled grenades) that caused several casualties. He suffered serious injuries and returned to the U.S. to recuperate, with plans to return to service when he was able.

Guigni's experience serving overseas — his own and that of fellow soldiers suffering from serious injuries and undergoing rehabilitation — helped to shape his future as a Ph.D. student studying cellular, molecular, and biomedical sciences at UVM. Working in the lab of UVM Associate Professor of Medicine Michael Toth, Ph.D., Guigni is researching the mechanisms underlying cancer cachexia, a metabolic condition characterized by profound muscle loss, weakness and fatigue.

"No one understands what causes it to happen," Guigni says, adding that about 50 percent of cancer patients suffer from cachexia, which can be life-threatening. Using both human subjects and a murine cell culture model, he's growing live muscle cells in the lab, and applying a chemotherapeutic agent to determine its effect on muscle at the molecular level. If his work can tease apart how chemotherapy affects the fundamental building blocks of muscle tissue, and how this interaction may cause the muscle to atrophy, that will be one step closer to pinpointing potential treatments or ways to prevent cachexia from happening in the first place.

There are few labs in the U.S. doing research at the level of a single muscle fiber, so Guigni says he's grateful to be working with Toth, whose work is breaking new ground when it comes to understanding muscle function as it relates to disuse, chronic disease, and aging. The goal is to understand the molecular function of muscle in the service of developing more effective preventative and rehabilitative interventions.

Guigni came to the Ph.D. program at UVM with some experience researching the human body's function at its most basic



UVM graduate student and U.S. Army reserve member Blas Guigni researches muscle loss and fatigue issues in UVM's Toth Lab.

"I am excited about the collaborative future of basic science and bedside medicine. With this 'bench-to-bedside' approach, I will translate basic scientific findings into therapeautic interventions for patients, increasing the understanding of an important disease process."

— Blas Guigni

level. A graduate of Connecticut-based Quinnipiac University in addition to the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences, he spent three years as a research assistant at Yale School of Medicine, studying insulin resistance in muscle and liver tissue in the lab of Dr. Gerald Shulmans. This work exposed him to state-of-the-art research methods, and gave him a foundation of knowledge about the mitochondria, a key cellular component considered the "powerhouse" of the cell. His background has translated seamlessly to his current work, which requires familiarity with cellular structure and an understanding of a variety of research methods, from the bench to the bedside.

Now in the third year of his Ph.D. program, Guigni serves as a non-commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Reserves, a role that includes travel to locations in Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts to train new soldiers in his unit. As a veteran with close to 20 years of experience — he joined the Army at 17 years-old straight out of high school — Guigni hopes to use his experience and career in research to improve the care available to patients.

"I am excited about the collaborative future of basic science and bedside medicine," says Guigni. "With this 'bench-to-bedside' approach I will translate basic scientific findings into therapeutic interventions for patients, increasing the understanding of an important disease process."

—Erin Post

#### **Notables**

#### Wong to Receive Graduate Alumni Award

Patrick Wong, Ph.D.'75 will receive the 2015 Medical Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award. Wong, a professor emeritus of pharmacology at New York Medical College and chairman, CEO of BioProst Pharmaceuticals, is a pioneer in elucidating the role of prostaglandins in inflammation,



Patrick Wong, Ph.D.'75

cardiovascular disease, and cancer. He and his wife, Patsy, will visit the College in early October, when he will formally receive the award during the Annual Graduate Student Research Showcase.

# Levine Elected to ACP Board of Regents

This spring, Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education Mark Levine, M.D., was elected to the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians (ACP), the national organization of internal medicine specialists. The Board of Regents is the main policy-making body of the ACP, the largest U.S. medical specialty organization.



Mark Levine, M.D.

#### 10th Anniversary Stem Cell & Lung Biology Conference Brings 160+ International Scientists to UVM

UVM President Tom Sullivan and Dean Rick Morin welcomed more than 160 scientists from around the world to UVM for the four-day, tenth anniversary and sixth "Stem Cells, Cell Therapies, and Bioengineering in Lung Biology and Lung Diseases Conference" held this summer. The meeting, which has taken place biannually at UVM since 2005, was co-founded by **Daniel Weiss, M.D., Ph.D.,** professor of medicine and a pulmonary and critical care specialist. The conference took place in UVM's Davis Center in the last week of July. "This remains the leading conference in this area and has put UVM solidly on the map in this rapidly-progressing, cutting-edge field," said Weiss.

#### **UVM Goes Smoke-Free**

For more than two years, **Jan Carney, M.D., M.P.H.,** senior associate dean for public health, and a committee she co-chaired worked diligently to remove smoking from the UVM campus. On August 1, UVM joined the ranks of roughly 1,500 other universities by going tobacco-free.

# Oltikar Named Chair of Medicine at Danbury

Aparna Oltikar, M.D., an internal medicine hospitalist at Danbury Hospital, a UVM clinical training site, has been named chair of the Department of Medicine at Danbury Hospital and New Milford Hospital, both part of the Western Connecticut Health Network. Oltikar is a clinical assistant professor of medicine.



Aparna Oltikar, M.D.

# Researchers Pitch Their Ideas at First University-Wide SPARK-VT

COLLEGE NEWS

With proposals ranging from low-cost ground-penetrating radar to a lung sealant derived from seaweed, six research teams from the University of Vermont pitched their ideas to a panel of experts at the first university-wide SPARK-VT session, all hoping to receive a seed grant to help move their innovative work one step closer to the marketplace.

Launched in 2013 by the Department of Medicine, SPARK-VT aims to support researchers as they navigate the tricky terrain between developing an idea for a new device or therapy and making it a reality. Its premise hinges on feedback from outside of the university: A panel of 12 leaders from biotech, pharmaceutical, business, engineering, finance, and legal fields are invited to listen to presentations from top researchers. Panel members ask questions, challenge presenters on the details of their plans and ultimately offer suggestions for next steps. All participants get tips and suggestions, but the winners receive seed funding from UVM's Office of the Vice President for Research.

This year, after two successful years at the College of Medicine, UVM's Provost and Office of the Vice-President for Research broadened the program's reach, resulting in 13 teams from a variety of UVM colleges submitting proposals. After a selection process, the six teams invited to present this year included faculty from the UVM College of Medicine, the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

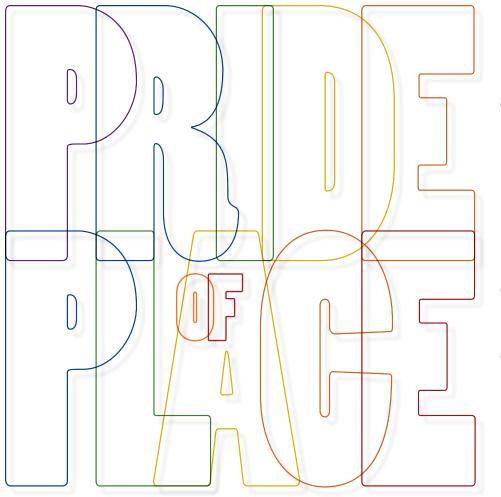
Past SPARK-VT awardees have partnered with the UVM Office of Technology Commercialization to found companies and develop partnerships with established biotech firms, as well as successfully apply for a number of competitive grants. Based on a program at Stanford University and brought to the College of Medicine by Department of Medicine Chair Polly Parsons, M.D., SPARK-VT now also includes workshops and guest lectures that address the commercialization process, founding start-ups, business planning and other topics that help faculty move research from bench to bedside.

Learn more about SPARK-VT at www.uvm.edu/medicine/sparkvt



Four of the SPARK-VT presenters were (from left) Jon Ramsey, Ph.D., Research Associate in Biochemistry; Rachael Oldinski, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering; Dryver Huston, Ph.D., Professor of Mechanical Engineering; and Daniel Weiss, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine.

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AS THE COUNTRY
PROGRESSES ON
LGBTQ RIGHTS,
SO DOES MEDICAL
EDUCATION AND
PATIENT CARE.
THE COLLEGE OF
MEDICINE IS AT
THE FOREFRONT
OF THIS CHANGE.

by Carolyn Shaprio

uring a first-year course on human reproduction at the College of Medicine, medical student
Matthew Shear was startled to see lecture notes referring to a person with ambiguous genitalia as "hermaphroditic." Shear, a member of the Class of '17, wasn't the only UVM medical student who noticed the outdated language, he says. He decided to email the instructor to propose a change in the text to today's preferred term "intersex."

The suggestion was welcomed, he says. His instructor invited Shear to talk, thanked him for his help, and told him, "I never know how to brush up on this. It's really important that I use the right words."

For Shear, the experience was another validation of the College of Medicine's progressive approach to handling LGBTQ health topics — those related to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, gender-neutral and gender-nonconforming communities.

"That's absolutely the place UVM is," Shear says. "And there are dozens of little stories like that, proving to me that I got the correct read on this place when I interviewed."

At UVM, Shear says, he has found a pervasive openness to heightened understanding of LGBTQ issues — always with a goal to provide better care for patients. "That's what we're trying to

"That's what we're trying to create — a culture where those learning opportunities are so mainstream that everybody's interested, everybody sees the value of being competent in that area."

— Matthew Shear '17

create — a culture where those learning opportunities are so mainstream that everybody's interested, everybody sees the value of being competent in that area."

Recent events in the media spotlight — the gender transformation of Caitlyn Jenner and the U.S. Supreme Court decision on the right of same-sex couples to marry — have thrust sexual and gender identity diversity into nearly every avenue of discussion. At this point in social evolution, it has become clearly necessary for future physicians to be sensitive to, inclusive of, and informed about LGBTQ health concerns.

"We're in a different era, because the bridge has been crossed already regarding the legitimacy of the material and the need for the material," says A. Evan Eyler, M.D., M.P.H., a UVM associate professor of psychiatry and family medicine and co-editor of *Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Aging: Challenges in Research, Practice and Policy.* "So now we're looking



at how best to do it, the same as you would women's health or cancer care."

The College began addressing that issue a dozen years ago — long before Jenner and the LGBTQ moniker became entrenched in the cultural lexicon. Around 2003, Professor of Pediatrics Paula Duncan, M.D., laid the foundation for the first LGBTQ educational initiatives at the College. Since then, UVM has steadily moved to the forefront of LGBTQ medical education.

"We know that culturally, in the state of Vermont, we are on the leading edge of advocating for equality and the civil and health care rights of this population," says William Jeffries, Ph.D., senior associate dean for medical education and an administrative champion of the College's LGBTQ efforts. "It's a natural extension that we should be leading the way in developing a cutting-edge health care approach to ensure that the needs of the LGBTQ community are met."

In a survey of curriculum last year, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) recognized UVM as exemplary in its incorporation of LGBTQ health issues into curriculum. Jeffries' colleagues at other schools, including members of the LGBTQ community, tell him that UVM is ideally situated — on a progressive campus and in a forward-thinking state — to take a pioneering role in LGBTQ healthcare education, he says.

"I like to build on strengths, and I view this as a strength," Jeffries says. "Our job is to make this the best medical school it can be. That means our education program needs to be recognized as a leader in areas where we are innovating."

In November 2014, the AAMC released new competencies in LGBTQ healthcare required for medical students at its member schools. The goal is to train doctors to address patients' specific health needs no matter their sexual or gender identity, says Kristen Eckstrand, M.D., Ph.D., founding chair of the AAMC Advisory Committee on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Development and a psychiatrist at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

"A lot of people are well-intentioned, and they want this area to be addressed," Eckstrand says. "The challenge is you don't know what you don't know."

UVM has distinguished itself by building the institutional support and cultural climate to emphasize the importance of LGBTQ health, Eckstrand says. "It has a unique combination of very dedicated students and very dedicated faculty members, which is a catalyst for change in this area," she says of UVM. "And that's where a lot of medical schools fall apart."

Across the country, medical schools are grappling with ways to build LGBTQ content into their curriculum. Some have added distinct courses focused on LGBTQ topics or spend a few hours or a day on LGBTQ health. Others simply pledge support for "gay-friendly" initiatives or rely on nondiscrimination clauses in their policies, Eckstrand says.

"We know that culturally, in the state of Vermont, we are on the leading edge of advocating for equality and the civil and health care rights of this population. It's a natural extension that we should be leading the way in developing a cutting-edge health care approach to ensure that the needs of the LGBTQ community are met.

— William Jeffries, Ph.D.

VERMONT MEDICINE



Charlotte Hastings '18, at center, was a founding member of the Northeast Medical Student Queer Alliance.

# **ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE**

As the University of Vermont College of Medicine pursues an ambition to lead the nation in LGBTQ health education, so are its students.

In December, the most active students in addressing LGBTQ concerns at the College formed the Northeast Medical Student Queer Alliance with their peers from four other medical schools. Membership has since doubled to ten schools.

The first meeting of the alliance took place in conjunction with the visit to campus of Vito Imbasciani, M.D.'85, who delivered the first lecture in a series on LGBTQ medical topics endowed by Imbasciani and his husband, George DiSalvo. Imbasciani also attended the initial alliance meeting.

"We realized there was a dearth of any group like this," says UVM medical student **Charlotte Hastings,** a member of the Class of 2018, and a founding member of the alliance.

The representatives from Boston University, Brown University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Quinnipiac University, Tufts University, University of Connecticut, University of Massachusetts, UVM and Yale University meet through conference calls every month or so. Initially, they discussed dozens of projects but narrowed the list to three in the first year, Hastings says.

Their top priority is mapping each schools' curriculum for content that addresses lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and gender-nonconforming health issues. Spreadsheets compare courses over each of the four years at each school against the 36 LGBTQ health competencies that the Association of American Medical Colleges released late last year. Courses are measured in 15-minute intervals to account for the exact time devoted to LGBTQ topics. "Every school is not coming even close to hitting all the competencies," and most include it only in the first and second years, Hastings says of their findings.

Another project aims to gauge whether those lessons are likely to stick with students when they become doctors. Alliance members from Yale conducted an online survey over the summer to assess students' LGBTQ awareness and comfort levels. They hoped for a 50 to 70 percent response rate.

"Our major goal overall is to just improve the education medical students are receiving around treating LGBTQ patients," Hastings says.

The third project would develop a list of "out" students and faculty members among the alliance's members and provide it to those at other medical schools who might have trouble finding mentors or peers to discuss LGBTQ concerns.

At the College of Medicine, the level of student advocacy and faculty support is advanced compared with other schools, Hastings says. "UVM is definitely unique in that."

"When I speak to colleagues nationally, the approach that some institutions take is at the early stage," says Catherine Nicholas, Ed.D., assistant professor of family medicine education and operations director of the College's simulation laboratory, and director of the standardized patient program. "They create one LGBTQ+ standardized patient case."

UVM's structure is different, she adds. "It's not an LGBTQ course. It's integrated. It's part of the fabric of what we do.

Incorporating LGBTQ scenarios in standardized patient instructional cases is crucial, Nicholas says. Who you are as a patient matters, because we teach a very patient-centered approach. So who you are, your age, who you live with, what you do for work, how you look at health and illness, is all important."

The College of Medicine has taken a broad, all-encompassing approach along three primary directions: increasing LGBTQ representation among students and faculty; weaving LGBTQ subject matter into every category of content and teaching; and developing students' communication skills and compassion in working with LGBTQ patients.

The third piece is perhaps the most important, fundamental to the humanistic elements of doctoring. It's more about attitude than academics.

It's an ability to respond with respect and the right questions when a patient comes out as LGBTQ during an exam. It's an expression of support and interest when a colleague or student mentions a family with a same-sex partner. It's the willingness to throw away traditional assumptions about gender and identity.

"[UVM] has a unique combination of very dedicated students and very dedicated faculty members, which is a catalyst for change in this area. And that's where a lot of medical schools fall apart."

Kristen Eckstrand, M.D., Ph.D.,
 AAMC Advisory Committee member

"Affirming who the person is and encouraging it is part of the delight in the work," says Michael Upton, M.D.'94, clinical assistant professor of psychiatry and co-advisor to the College's Gender and Sexuality Alliance, an advocacy group of medical students. "As physicians, we have the capacity to transmit an appreciation and a caring for the richness of the individual person who has come to see us."

Upton draws much of his approach to care from his own experiences as a gay man and physician. LGBTQ doctors and faculty serve as mentors for LGBTQ students and help all of those in medical training learn how to navigate difficult topics.

"It's not pleasant to come out to a doctor and then have them have to look at the floor because they're so uncomfortable," Upton says. "That's why we need an inclusive environment, because we need students and residents, and all physicians to get this exposure, so they don't have to look at the floor."

Certainly, a competent physician must know when a transgender man needs a pap smear because he still has a cervix or a lesbian needs birth control because she occasionally has sex with men. The more nuanced lessons in an LGBTQ-progressive medical school, though, guide doctors on gleaning the most crucial elements of their patients' care, the aspects of their lives that influence their well-being.

"It starts with the basic content side of things, medical students understanding that gender is not binary and what that means from a biological standpoint," says Eileen CichoskiKelly, Ph.D., a UVM associate professor of family medicine, who serves on the AAMC committee on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Development. "Having the ability to understand that we're not going to put people in boxes is a primary concept," she says. "As the care provider, you don't have to have all the answers, but you do have to at least have an understanding and be able to be accepting." She continues, "The reality is you're going to have a range of patients like this; so we want to prepare our students for the universe of the patients that they're going to be encountering."

With these changes, the College has come a long way, Dr. Eyler says. At first, more than ten years ago, student evaluations of his courses in transgender health would include blunt expressions of disgust and questions about the need to endure such discussion, he says. "And I don't get those anymore, teaching the same material."

Eyler sees two reasons for that:

"One is that our medical school has made tremendous progress in this area in a decade," he says. "And the other is that so has the country."

To bring in more LGBTQ students — who ultimately will add to the number of LGBTQ doctors — Jeffries adjusted the admissions process last year to ensure that LGBTQ candidates are well represented in the admissions pool. That was tricky, because years of discrimination have encouraged many to remain closeted.

UVM's voluntary process allows applicants to self-identify, making it one of the first two medical schools in the country to take this step, Jeffries says. "We're giving students the assurance that we believe this is important," he says. "We're not asking this to be discriminatory. We're asking to ensure that an integral portion of our community is represented."

In the most recent admissions cycle, Jeffries says, the College saw the number of LGBTQ-identified students increase — along with those of all underrepresented minorities, which grew from 7 percent of the entering class in 2013 to 12 percent this year.

Matthew Shear, who is openly gay and moved with his partner for medical school, says he recognized the difference at UVM during his admissions interviews. He asked schools about their LGBTQ student populations, their support and funding of advocacy groups, their hospitals' policies on dealing with transgender patients and the option for patients to specify a pronoun in their medical records.

"Some people just glazed over, like, 'I have no idea what you're talking about,' " Shear says. "At UVM, they're like, 'Oh, yeah, we're working on it.' And as a



Michael Upton, M.D.'94

"As physicians, we have the capacity to transmit an appreciation and a caring for the richness of the individual person who has come to see us."

- Michael Upton, M.D.'94

student, you can pick your own pronoun with the registrar."

He also gauged interviewers' reactions when he came out to them and discussed his undergraduate LGBTQ activities.

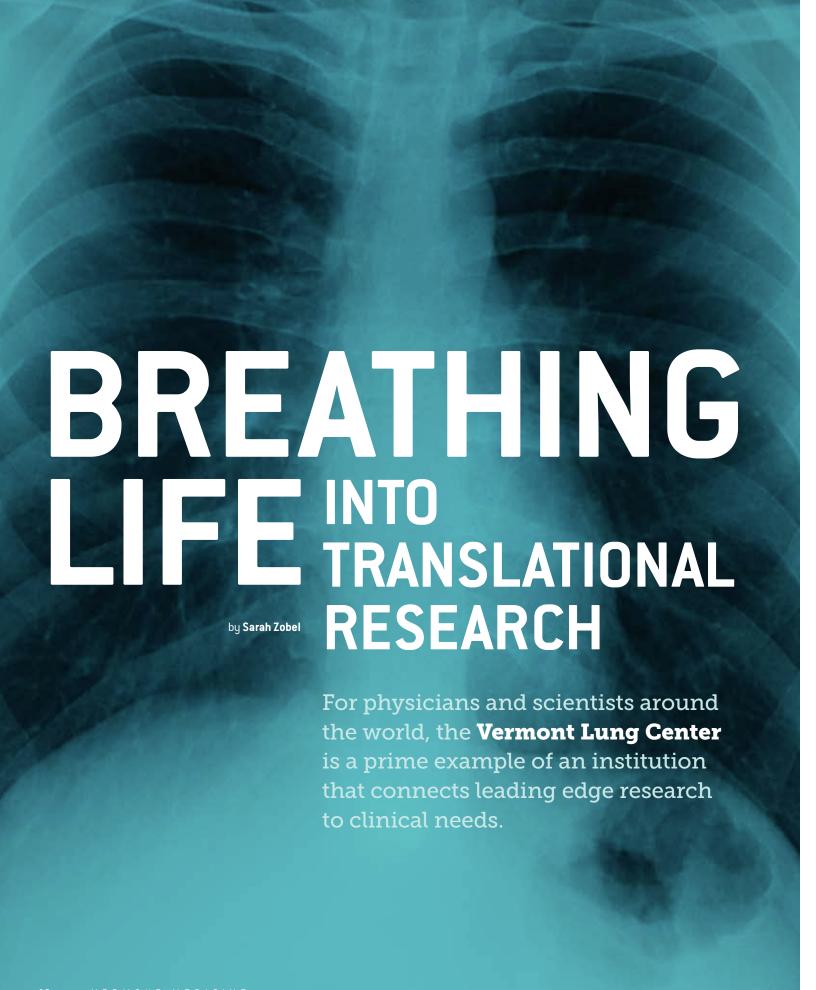
Some responded with "complete dismissal" and treated "those components of my application as if they were unrelated to medicine."

When the subject arose at UVM, the representative spent about a third of the interview talking about it, which sealed the deal for Shear.

"I definitely made it a priority," he says, "to be someplace where I was going to be embraced and welcomed to be out while training as a physician." 

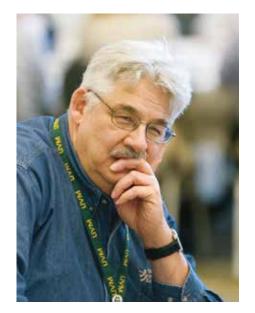
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"We're interested in projects that are going to have high impact, and high impact means affecting patient care."

- Charles Irvin, Ph.D.



## Take a deep breath.

With luck, that felt good, maybe even a little relaxing. But if you're one of the 25 million Americans living with asthma, or are among the more than 15 million who have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), or the 221,000 who will be diagnosed with lung cancer this year alone, perhaps it didn't.

You could even suffer from airway disease but not yet know it, due in part to the fact that 20 percent of the so-called "silent zone" of lung function can disappear before it becomes palpable. Researchers affiliated with the Vermont Lung Center (VLC) have been tracing those airways to their very ends — and beyond — and in so doing, have raised the Center to a level of national and, indeed, global distinction.

"Everybody knows the Vermont Lung Center — it's internationally renowned for its expertise and leadership role in assessment of lung function," says **Polly Parsons, M.D.,** E.L. Amidon Professor and Chair of Medicine and a VLC member.

That's a view reiterated by one of the more recent additions to the center, **David Chapman, Ph.D.,** a postdoctoral fellow who came to the Center from his native Australia upon the recommendation of his doctoral program director in order to research the physiology of asthma at a molecular level. "I studied lung functions in the lab and wanted to learn the animal

model side of things," says Chapman.
"My director said, 'Vermont's the place for you to go,' since there aren't many places that put the two together. And Charlie is exceptionally well-known."

"Charlie" is Charles Irvin, Ph.D., the Vermont Lung Center's director and, some say, the very reason the center exists today. In 1988, Irvin was brought in from the National Jewish Hospital in Denver, the leading respiratory hospital in the United States, where he was the medical director of the largest lung-function lab in the country, and a professor at the University of Colorado Medical Center. But with his work divided equally between animal models and understanding basic mechanisms, he yearned to get involved in clinical research, which wasn't possible in Denver. Former Denver colleagues who'd moved on to UVM helped draw Irvin to Burlington, where his charge was to set up an asthma center in the department of medicine.

At the time, there was no Vermont Lung Center *per se*, but there had been related funding, in the form of a Specialized Centers of Research (SCOR) grant to look at the biology and causes of fibrosis — more specifically, silicosis, an issue for many quarry workers — as well as a lung demonstration grant from what today is the UVM Office of Health Promotion Research. Both of those grants dated to the early 1970s, and by the time Irvin arrived, their funding had run



Professor of Medicine Charles Irvin, Ph.D., has directed the Vermont Lung Center since coming to the College of Medicine in 1999. Professor of Pathology Yvonne Janssen-Heininger, Ph.D., conducts research on chronic remodeling of lung airways.

out. Pretty much all that remained was a Vermont Lung Center logo on the wall.

"There was a history of excellence here, and an association with the medical school and the university," says Irvin. "And that was basis enough to establish the Center." Soon after he arrived, a new grant was announced: the American Lung Association-Asthma Clinical Research Center program.

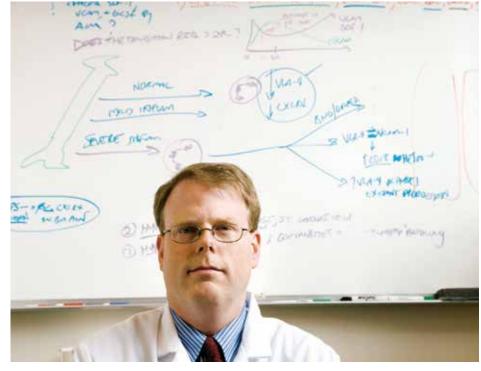
"That really started the ball rolling," Irvin says. "It was a highly competitive

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Anthony Bradshaw, Getty Images
Raj Chawla

Professor of Medicine Benjamin Suratt, M.D., at right, conducts clinical trials dealing with obesity and asthma; Associate Professor of Medicine Renee Stapleton, M.D., Ph.D., below right, focuses on nutrient and other supportive care interventions; postdoctoral fellow David Chapman, Ph.D., below, researches the molecular physiology of asthma.





national program, and we finished solidly in the middle of the pack of grantees, which I was very happy with. It was a home run the first time out." It also resulted in Irvin's being named division chief of pulmonary critical care and meant he could start adding faculty members to an intensive care unit that at the time included only a half-dozen lung physicians. But the following year, after being awarded a Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) grant from the National Institutes of Health, the Vermont Lung Center fully came to life. The first-cycle COBRE brought "serious money" — some \$40 million over a total of 15 years, with successful renewals at five-year intervals (with the VLC often earning the best score in the competition, says Irvin). The funding cycle was successfully completed this July and Irvin takes pride in the fact that the VLC was among the small number of COBRE grantees that qualified for all 15 years of funding. Faculty members continue to receive grants from a variety of sources, and he points to those as confirmation of the VLC's success. "There's a track record of outstanding excellence based on peer review," he says, "so when I say we have a

terrific center, I base it on this consistent high level of peer review."

Those grants fund continually innovative research by an interdisciplinary faculty whose members collaborate across the departments of medicine, microbiology and molecular genetics, physiology, and pathology, and the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences. Their collective basic science, translational, and clinical research focuses on a range of lung-related issues including bacterial genetics and metabolism, cell therapy, cystic fibrosis, pulmonary fibrosis, critical care, obesity, and asthma.

"That was a game-changer — when Charlie came on board and recruited all these fantastic people," says Professor of Pathology Yvonne Janssen-Heininger, Ph.D., whose primary research interest is the biochemical processes underlying the chronic remodeling of airways in lung tissue, a problem that can't be combatted with steroids or beta agonists. So her lab is focusing on the molecular mechanisms that drive disease manifestations, and in particular, the role of epithelial cells and how their response to inhaled agonists, particulates, or viruses dictate whether the damage will be repaired or remain



chronically inflamed. She's also behind a partnership with Maastricht University Medical Center in the Netherlands, where she earned her Ph.D.

"We have very complementary interests," she says of the two centers. "They have a strong clinical, translational rehabilitation program in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and they've had an interest in expanding it to encompass asthma and obesity, which are two up-and-coming areas of research here. Given that you have this wealth of patient records and clinical data, that

partnership is incredibly enabling in that it allows us to work much more effectively when it comes to clinical and translational research programs." In addition, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows go back and forth between the two centers, with a conjoint Ph.D. program recently approved.

Asthma and obesity are indeed getting plenty of attention at the VLC in fact, says Benjamin Suratt, M.D., obese asthma is becoming its own category of asthma, and he and several colleagues have conducted several clinical trials and ancillary studies to comprehend the mechanics behind it, considering whether it's an inflammatory response, and what the best treatment might be. Suratt, professor of medicine and vice chair of medicine for academic affairs, has also looked at the effects of obesity on Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS), which is common to hospital intensive care units and kills roughly 30 percent of patients who have it.

"Most of the work that's been done over the last 30 years has looked at cardiovascular and endocrine disease in obesity, so there's very little that's known about what obesity does to the lung, and how it modifies both the incidence of a disease like asthma, but also how it modifies the actual manifestation of the disease," says Suratt.

Together with Professor of Medicine Anne Dixon, M.D., Suratt coordinates a biannual conference on these issues; "Obesity and Metabolism: An Emerging Frontier in Lung Health and Disease" is slated to take place in October at UVM's Davis Center. He also frequently collaborates with Associate Professor of Medicine Renee Stapleton, M.D., Ph.D., whose own research is largely clinically based and focuses on nutrient and other supportive care interventions in the ICU, as well as communication around treatment preferences in palliative care.

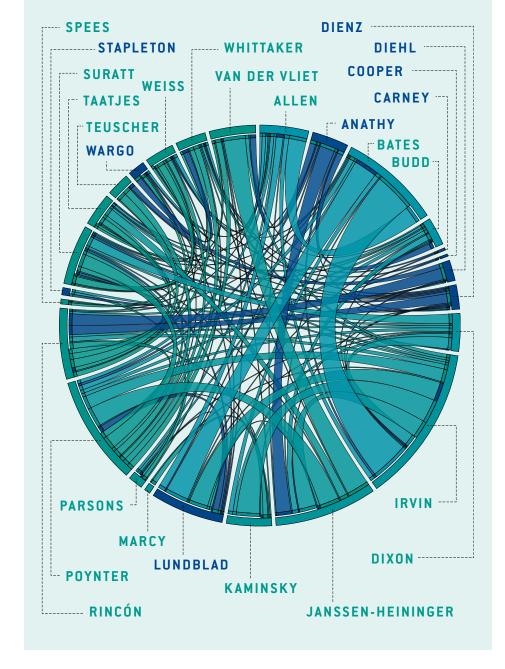
"The great thing about the VLC for investigators is that it really brings together a diverse and multidisciplinary group of scientists that come from all areas of pulmonary investigation. It's a wonderful coalescence of clinical research and basic

#### The "Connective Tissue" of Collaboration

"Interactome" is a term from the world of molecular biology that describes the whole set of molecular interactions in a cell. But the same approach to describing biological networks on the molecular scale works to show the impressive scale of interaction among the researchers at the Vermont Lung Center (VLC).

The interactome chart below was created from 523 publications co-authored by VLC faculty members covered by the center's T32 training grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Each connecting strand represents a publication, with senior researchers in aqua and trainees in blue.

"The group is incredibly collaborative, as the interactome shows," says VLC Director Charles Irvin, Ph.D. "But most importantly it shows how much junior-to-junior faculty interaction we have, which suggests how well we can sustain our culture of collaboration within the center as we go forward."



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## Planting a Seed

Sally and John Ouellette, M.D.'60 never envisioned themselves as philanthropists. Dr. Ouelette was raised on a 450-acre dairy farm in Tunbridge, Vt., and if everything had gone according to plan, he'd be a retired dairy farmer now. Instead, he's a retired allergist, a Wisconsin tree farmer of the year, and oh yes, he and his wife, Sally, are philanthropists.

A childhood bout of polio weakened John's body enough to make dairy farming with his family's 100-head herd of Jerseys impossible. Instead, he focused on academics. After earning his M.D., he completed his residency at the University of Wisconsin, where he met Sally, and following Army service at Walter Reed Medical Center, he began a busy practice in Wisconsin. His specialty was in allergies, specifically those associated with indoor air quality, and building science.

After John's retirement from the University of Wisconsin faculty in 2004, the Ouellettes focused on building their Dayton Ridge Tree Farm in Richland County, Wisc., where they grow red and white pine, chestnut, red oak, and black walnut trees. They estimate they have planted 40,000 trees and shrubs over the years, and they earned the state's 2010 Tree Farm of the Year award.

Along the way, they also discovered the joy that comes with giving. They have recently decided to give back to the UVM College of Medicine with a \$50,000 gift to establish the John, M.D. '60 and Sally Quellette Endowed Lectureship for the Vermont Lung Center (VLC). The Quellettes' gift will enable the VLC to maintain this vital speaker series in perpetuity. The Quelettes will be present for the inaugural lecture in October of 2015, featuring a presentation by Charles Reed, M.D., a renowned allergist and one of Dr. Quellette's mentors during his medical training at Wisconsin.

science and physiology that I think is very difficult to find at other institutions," says Stapleton. "Another thing VLC does incredibly well is manage both a very active, productive, successful basic science side as well as a very similarly active and productive clinical research side, two totally different skill sets."

Recently there's been engagement among VLC faculty in alternative, or complementary medicine: Professor of Medicine David Kaminsky, M.D., is conducting a project on the effects of yoga breathing on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), while Irvin is looking at the use of biofeedback on asthma with collaborators at Rutgers and in Denver. A recent VLC-member authored study in the Journal of the American Medical Association focused on the effect of soy supplements on lung function, while others are being published on the use of continuous positive airway pressure for sleep apnea and nondrug approaches to treating asthma.

"We're interested in projects that are going to have high impact, and high impact means affecting patient care," Irvin says of the group's broad research targets. Those also include work by Matthew Wargo, Ph.D., assistant professor of microbiology

"Another thing VLC does incredibly well is manage both a very active, productive, successful basic science side as well as a very similarly active and productive clinical research side, two totally different skill sets."

- Renee Stapleton, M.D., Ph.D.

and molecular genetics, on bacterial lung infections and how various gram-negative opportunistic pathogens respond to surfactant when they get to the lung, as well as how they respond to damage to the host lung surfactant and cells and tissues and cause diseases including cystic fibrosis. Together with Suratt, Wargo is using a mouse model to determine changes in respiratory physiology during infections. The mouse model is a classic approach



Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics Matthew Wargo, Ph.D., works in his UVM lab.

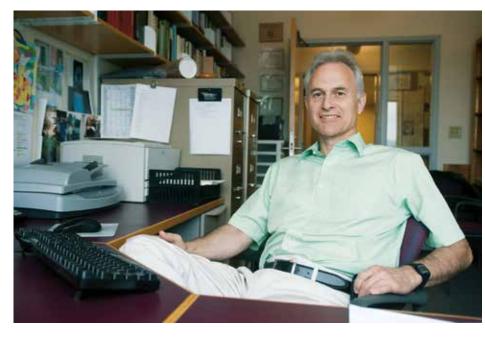
in studying the lung, and as at centers worldwide, they're using the flexiVent, a device that accurately measures lung function in small animals, which was created by the VLC's **Jason Bates**, **Ph.D.**, professor of medicine. Bates calls the flexiVent a "plug and play," but in fact it's now the industry-standard tool for measuring lung stiffness and airway resistance.

Bates, who has one foot in UVM's College of Mathematics and Engineering as well, serving as graduate coordinator for the new bioengineering Ph.D. program, wants to understand the physics of the lung: how big are the airways, how much pressure does it take to force the flow of air through, and how can the lungs be expanded? That applies to asthma, as well as to ARDS: "You have this delicate lung; how do you ventilate it in a way that minimizes the physical damage you do to it?" says Bates. He's also currently collaborating with Matt Poynter, Ph.D., associate professor of medicine, to test hypotheses about allergic inflammation.

"My computational inclinations match up with his immunological knowledge, and we end up doing a lot of interesting work," says Bates. "It's always at the interface between different disciplines or different skill sets that the good stuff comes. The buzzword in research is *translational*, but here in the VLC it's a natural thing."

"I think we have a lot to be proud of, and we've got a very bright future, because we've got the one thing that matters, and that is fantastic people who get along and collaborate with each other."

- Charles Irvin, Ph.D.





At top, Professor of Medicine Jason Bates, Ph.D., has made important discoveries in measuring lung function; above, Associate Professor of Medicine Matt Poynter, Ph.D., researches allergic inflammation.

The Vermont Lung Center is supported by a National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute T32 training grant that funds four doctoral students and three postdoctoral fellows. Irvin says those trainees are an integral part of the Center's work, and are crucial to its progress.

"I've made it the hallmark that we hire outstanding trainees and faculty—and when you hire good people, good things will happen," says Irvin. "The group is incredibly collaborative. We've achieved what we set out to do, and

that was to develop a world-class center of lung biology and understand disease pathogenesis of the lung. I think we have a lot to be proud of, and we've got a very bright future, because we've got the one thing that matters, and that is fantastic people who get along and collaborate with each other."

As rates of lung cancer, COPD, and asthma continue to climb, that collaboration will be key not only to the health of the nation, but also the world.

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Delivering health care is a lifelong vocation for Class of 1975 members Delight Wing, M.D., and Jack Long, M.D.

# partners in practice

he earliest memory Delight Wing, M.D.'75, has of her husband, Jack Long, M.D.'75, was seeing him enter Hall A, the College of Medicine's main lecture hall, in pink bellbottoms on the first day of medical school in 1971. The first conversation with him that she recalls was at an orientation event, where he talked passionately about rugby, a sport that bored her at the time. It may have been one of the few topics they weren't immediately in sync on.

Long, who noticed Wing in Carpenter Auditorium on that opening day, remembers their first substantive talk late one night in the anatomy lab — Wing asked for help moving her cadaver. So, in a small way, began a collaboration that has been the hallmark of the couple's life together for 40 years, years that have found them working at a South Burlington

pediatrics practice for more than three decades, serving as UVM advisers for the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Program, and building deep relationships with groups working to improve health care in Haiti.

In addition to the abundant contributions the couple has made to the pediatrics field at home and in Haiti, part of their legacy is how many students and colleagues they have inspired — and how profoundly.

In recognition of their work, Wing and Long, UVM clinical associate professors of pediatrics who live in Jericho, Vt., were among five physicians honored with the 2015 Service to Medicine and Community Award at the College's Medical Reunion in June.

"We are happy to provide one example of how service can be compatible with a traditional medical practice and raising a family," Long says. That the couple could make those facets of their lives compatible is a lesson in compassion, commitment — and grit.

Wing grew up in Littleton, N.H., with a best friend whose father was a general practitioner. She and her friend spent a lot of time after hours in the doctor's office, counting tongue depressors and doing other tasks. She knew by fifth grade that she wanted to pursue medicine in some way.

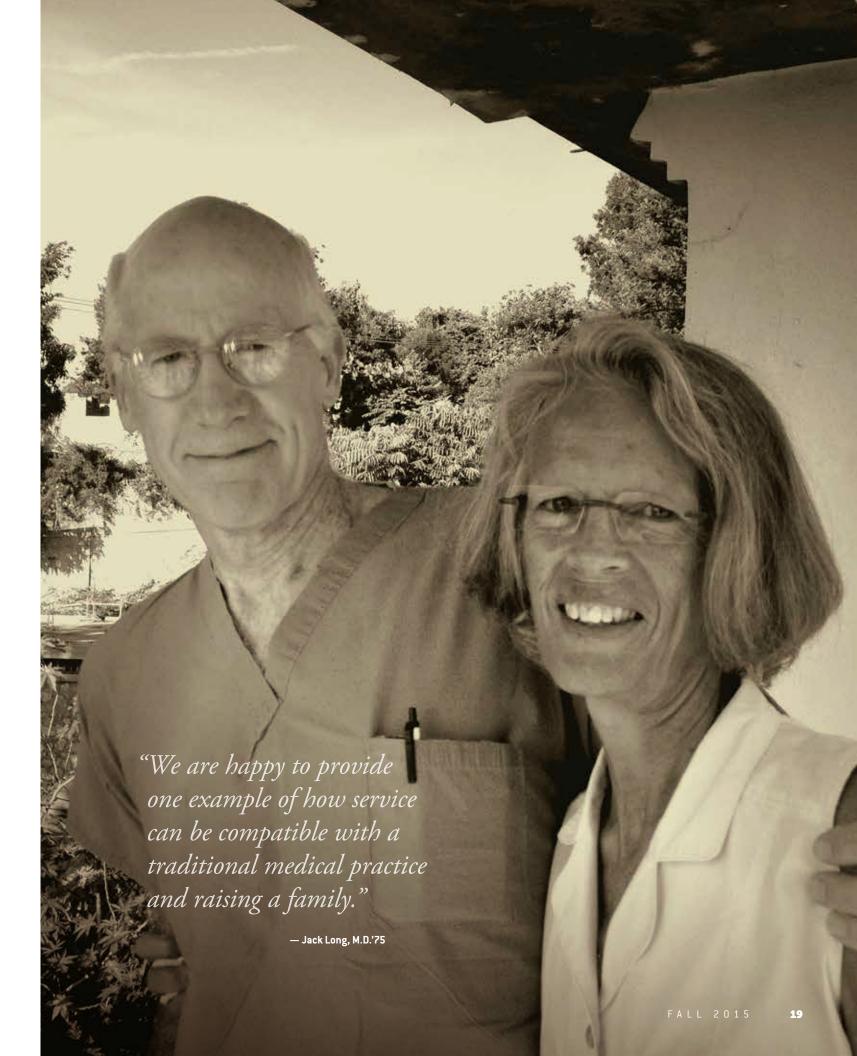
That goal was reinforced by volunteering in her local hospital and attending summer camps in biochemistry, before attending Stanford University. "I had the opportunity to experience the scope of the human interactions special to the medical field and the excitement of the science involved," Wing says.

She briefly considered a teaching career. "But I realized that I most enjoyed the more intimate, one-on-one relationships and that I prefer learning and applying science to teaching it."

Long, born in Washington, D.C., grew up in a military family and lived in states all over the country. During most

At right, partners in life and medical practice Jack Long, M.D.'75 and Delight Wing, M.D.'75, on one of their rotations in Haiti. At left, Haiti's University Hospital of Mirebalais





of his undergraduate years at UMass Amherst, he envisioned a career in oceanography. But a Life magazine article on a family physician captured his interest.

"I decided after my junior year that I was more interested in a career which would bring me into contact with people and offer the opportunity to be of service while satisfying my interest in science," Long says.

At the College of Medicine they were encouraged by the late Charles Houston, M.D., in the College's former Community Medicine Department, to pursue opportunities to help underserved people in other countries. Former College faculty member Renee Bergner, M.D., and her husband, Arthur, M.D., introduced them to Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Deschapelles, Haiti, and were role models for aiding the poor while maintaining a medical practice.

"Most people go into medicine with the idea of helping people in need. That was the primary motivation behind it for us, coupled with an interest in the wider world," Long says of their decision to work

For nearly 30 years, Wing and Long volunteered at Hospital Albert Schweitzer. They went annually for a few weeks at a time with their two sons when the boys were still at home. Since they retired from their practice in 2012, they have worked with Partners In Health, a Bostonbased organization that operates Haiti's University Hospital of Mirebalais. The couple helped develop pediatric inpatient and outpatient units and a pediatric residency program at the hospital. Now they assist colleagues there for six months a year. They also work at clinical sites operated by Haiti's health department.

One of the biggest challenges Wing and Long have faced has been the shortage of just about everything in one of the world's poorest countries. There are occasional days without electricity and transportation; water rationing; blocked roads. Top-of-the-line medical supplies are often unavailable.

Sometimes Wing and Long have made do with second-rate antibiotics, dressings and intravenous fluids. "You can "Most people go into medicine with the idea of helping people in need. That was the primary motivation behind it for us, coupled with an interest in the wider world."

— Jack Long, M.D.'75

do workarounds. Unfortunately, there are times when you don't have a workaround, and the patient just goes without," Long says. "There's nothing else to be done and that's difficult."

Other situations have been difficult, too. On one Haiti trip, their sons' luggage didn't arrive, and the boys wore clothing donated for hospital patients. "They weren't happy about it," Long recalls. "But it was a good lesson in humility."

It was important to the couple to have their children with them in Haiti. "We realized by not living in a more diverse community, our kids would be lacking something. Through this international experience, we hoped to make them a little bit more...appreciative of what they have," Long says.

Sometimes safety has been a concern in a country prone to political and social upheaval, with coups and military regimes. One year, the airport was closed for a month because of a hijacking. Once the couple was in a car that was rocked during a demonstration. In the '90s and early 2000s, drugs and crimes, including kidnappings and carjackings, abounded. Occasionally they were

Mole Saint-Nicolas NORD-OUEST CENTRE

The newly-opened 300-bed hospital in Mirebalais, Haiti serves the population 185,000 residents of the city, plus most of the patient population of the central region of the country

advised to travel with armed security guards to the airport.

"There are definitely no-go places that we all respect," Long says. "Partners In Health takes very good care of us."

Another challenge for Wing and Long was adjusting to a different approach to practicing medicine in a country so lacking in resources.

"Without a common understanding and language, it requires more direct teaching when we're working on a new program or project. The understanding we would have here (in the United States) that we could proceed in a certain way isn't a given in this setting. Realizing a common goal and a common approach to that goal takes a lot more effort and time, so the scope of the project is much larger, and

> the time it takes to get from A to B takes much

longer," Wing says.

Despite the time to get from A to B, the couple has made significant contributions in Haiti: developing a manual of protocols to help standardize acute and chronic pediatric care, teaching a neonatal resuscitation course at various sites and creating a system for ongoing monitoring and education of staff.

They're involved in addressing underlying issues that contribute to such chronic conditions as malnutrition. Along the way, they've learned it's possible to bring first-rate medical care to a desperately poor country.

"We have seen dramatic cases of children in advanced stages of HIV and tuberculosis combined and looking literally as if they're on death's door. Seeing them later, they're happy, healthy, thriving adolescents," Long says.

That kind of success, and close work and social connections with colleagues, have sparked them to return each year.

In their South Burlington practice, "The bulk of our work was office-based healthy children," Wing says. "As much as we loved our work in primary care pediatrics in Vermont, our work in Haiti has afforded us the opportunity to use more of the 'doctoring skills' we learned in medical school and training — procedures and solving diagnostic dilemmas."

Their doctoring skills and Haiti experience have motivated many medical students Wing and Long mentored when they were UVM advisers for the Schweitzer Fellowship. Wing is on the Boston-based organization's advisory board.

"I was impressed by their selflessness and unwavering dedication to the program's mission and the fellows' potential. They spent hours in individual and group mentoring activities with student participants, despite maintaining their clinical practice and other educational and extracurricular activities," former Schweitzer Fellow Heidi Schumacher, M.D.'10, says. "Jack and Delight inspired and modeled a form of peer-to-peer coaching that allowed us to learn from one another, in addition to learning from the expertise and experience of Jack and Delight.



Drs. Long and Wing received their UVM Medcal Alumni Association Award for Service to Medicine and the Community this June. Presenting the award was Marga Sproul, M.D.'75, at far left, and Dean Rick Morin at far right.

"They have reminded me that even those with a primary emphasis on clinical medicine can find meaningful, sustained ways to give back to their local communities and beyond," says Schumacher, who works in primary care pediatrics and with federal health policy in Washington, D.C.

In their commitment and courage, Wing and Long haven't changed since David Little, M.D.'75, was their classmate in medical school.

"They were always so idealistic and altruistic," recalls Little, professor of family medicine at the College. "They helped inspire many UVM students to consider similar options for overseas work through their role as Schweitzer program advisers. I was never surprised they walked the walk in their own way...The Class of 1975 is so incredibly proud of what they have accomplished."

Wing and Long spend time with their own children and grandchildren when not in Haiti. Their son Webb Long, M.D.'06, is a pediatrician who met his wife, Leslie Bradford, M.D.'06, a gynecologic oncologist, in medical school at UVM. Their son Duncan is married to a pediatrician.

The couple stays active in Vermont, where they've long been involved in community service. Wing is treasurer of the Community Center in Jericho and on the honorary board of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties. Long, former Jericho School Board chairman and multi-sport youth coach, is a founder of the Burlington Rugby Football Club and played rugby until he was 60.

With no set timetable for retirement, Wing and Long have committed to Partners In Health for at least another year.

That the year ahead may see further obstacles to overcome in order to provide decent health care to their patients is a given for the couple. But dealing with adversity is par for the course for these two members of the Class of '75. An important lesson the couple has learned and shared with many others is a simple one: "Life goes on," as Jack Long says. VM



View a lecture on medical practice in Haiti given by Drs. Wing and Long and John Durham, M.D.'85 during Medical Reunion 2015. Go to: uvm.edu/medicine/vtmedicine

VERMONT MEDICINE Jeff Clarke FALL 2015



#### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This June, we were reminded once again of the many life-long friendships fostered at the College of Medicine when we welcomed back hundreds of alumni for Medical Reunion 2015. By all accounts, the event was a resounding success. Classmates reconnected, current students had the opportunity to host campus tours and answer questions about life as a medical student today, and the College hosted numerous events throughout the weekend. We had over 400 alumni and their families

attend, representing classes from 1945 to 2010. Check out a collage of photos from the weekend in this issue of Vermont Medicine.

Our alumni are not only great friends and fun people, they go on to do wonderful things. So it's always gratifying to see them celebrated, and this year we have a few notable awards. This October, two medical alumni will be recognized by the University of Vermont Alumni Association: Jackie Noonan, M.D.'54, and Fred Mandell, '61, M.D.'64, have been named recipients of the UVM Alumni Achievement Award. Both renowned pediatricians, Drs. Noonan and Mandell have over the course of their careers changed countless lives and helped to shape their field; and Patrick Wong, Ph.D.'75, a graduate of the biochemistry program, will be honored with a UVM College of Medicine 2015 Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award, also in October. Dr. Wong will be recognized for his distinguished career as a leader in the area of prostaglandin research and the global pharmaceutical industry.

Alumni of the College of Medicine have some great opportunities to get involved this fall. The former Delta Psi House on Summit Street is currently under renovations and will open in the spring as the UVM Alumni House, a place for all alumni and for the College to host medical reunion class dinners and other events. Medical alumni have the chance to make one room their own: The Medical Alumni Association has endorsed a plan to name a salon in the event pavilion, and we're on our way to raising \$100,000 to make it happen. If you would like to support this effort, contact Development and Alumni Relations at (802) 656-4014 or medalumni.relations@uvm.edu.

And lastly, the Class of 2019 has arrived on campus! The 114 students in this class are an impressive bunch; they speak not only to the top-notch talent the College continues to attract, but to the vibrant future we can expect in the field of medicine. Alums once again have the chance to connect with our newest students through the White Coat Note Project. Continuing the success of last year's inaugural campaign, our goal is to have a note from an alum in the White Coat pocket of each first-year student. The Class of 2019 will be donning their coats for the first time (and reading their notes!) at the UVM College of Medicine White Coat Ceremony in Ira Allen Chapel on October 23, 2015. If you are in town, please let Development and Alumni Relations know if you would like to attend the ceremony! And submit your note of encouragement by following the link at: www.uvm.edu/medicine/alumni

> H. James Wallace III, M.D.'88 Associate Professor, Radiation-Oncology

#### The University of **Vermont Foundation**

#### MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE

**Chief Development Officer** for Academic Health Sciences Kevin McAteer

Senior Director of Development. **University of Vermont Cancer Center** Manon O'Connor

**Directors of Major Gifts** Meredyth Armitage Ruth Henry

**Director of Annual Giving for Academic Health Sciences** Allison Searson

**Assistant Director of Annual Giving** Hannah Burnett

**Director of Medical Alumni Relations** Cristin Gildea

**Senior Director of Administration** Ginger Lubkowitz

**Program Coordinators** Drew Brooks Megan Dodge Erica Corliss

#### **University of Vermont Medical Alumni Association**

#### ALUMNI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers (Two-Year Terms)

H. James Wallace, M.D.'88 (2014–2016)

**Vice-President** 

Frederick Mandell, M.D.'64 (2014–2016)

Betsy L. Sussman, M.D.'81 (2014-2016)

Treasurer

Paul A. Stanilonis, M.D.'65 (2014–2016)

**Executive Secretary** 

John Tampas, M.D.'54 (Ongoing)

Members-at-Large (Six-Year Terms) Mark Allegretta, Ph.D.'90 (2010–2016) Ernest Bove, M.D.'81 (2012-2018) Mary Cushman, M.D.'89 (2012-2018) Janice M. Gallant, M.D.'85 (2015-2021) Albert Hebert Jr., M.D.'74 (2015-2021) Christopher Hebert, M.D.'02 (2015-2021) Omar Khan, M.D.'03 (2010-2016) Suzanne R. Parker, M.D.'73 (2010-2016) Heidi K. Schumacher, M.D.'10 (2015-2021) Norm Snow, M.D.'70 (2014-2020) Pramila Yadav, M.D.'99 (2014–2020)

**Ex Officio Members** Dean Frederick C. Morin III. M.D. Kevin McAteer

#### HALL A | M.D. CLASS NOTES .....

If you have news to share, please contact your class agent or the Development & Alumni Relations office at medalumni.relations@uvm.edu or (802) 656-4014. If your email address has changed, please send it to medalumni.relations@uvm.edu.

#### 1950s

#### REUNION 2016: 1951 + 1956

Theodore H. Goldberg writes: "I retired as a partner in Westwood Cardiology Associates, Westwood, New Jersey, after 51 years of practice. My wife, June, and I now live in New York City."

Leslie Gaelen writes: "Greetings to all. Feeling 90, especially in my joints. Still in there fighting, enjoying life although I miss my wife, Susan, who passed on from Alzheimer's Disease, the cruelest of all afflictions. Keep in touch. Stay well as best you can."

Parker Towle reports: "My second full-length collection of poems, World Spread Out, is out from Antrim House Books. One poem, 'The Hit,' involves an experience during mu years as a medical student." Parker's latest collection is available from online bookstores.

Lost track of your old

of Medicine history

yearbook, or just looking

to research some College

#### 1970s

#### REUNION 2016: 1971 + 1976

John Lawrence DeBoer is the author of the political thriller titled Skeleton Run, his sixth published work, which is available through online bookstores.

'74 Douglas Mark Sewall writes: "Kathie and I left the ice and snow of northern New England for the considerably more moderate weather in Blacksburg, Virginia. Southwest Virginia is one of the nicest places imaginable."

Frederic E. Shaw, Jr. is the new editor-in-chief of *Public Health* Reports, the bi-monthly, official journal of the U.S. Public Health

Robert Healy Harrington, Jr. was named a "Leading Physician in Orthopedic Surgery" by New Hampshire Magazine. He

ScholarWorks @ UVM

practices in Somersworth, N.H.

# Thomas F. Boduch continues in solo

family practice (family medicine) in Kingston, Tennessee — just west of Knoxville. In addition to his regular practice, in November 2014, he was appointed county medical examiner for Roane County.

Karen Burke has been named **UVM College of Medicine Associate** Professor Emerita of Family Medicine. In addition to serving as a physician in a community practice, and teaching medical students and residents, she served as medical director at Wake Robin Life Care Community and the R. James McKay Wellness Center, with expertise in elder care and international outreach. She served for many years on volunteer medical missions to Guatemala and Nicaragua.

#### 1980s

#### REUNION 2016: 1981 + 1986

'80 Cheryl Marlene Coffin recently retired from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She was the Ernest W. Goodpasture Professor of Investigative Pathology, vice-chair of pathology, executive medical director of anatomic pathology, and director of translational research at the school.

Bruce Leavitt was appointed the UVM College of Medicine Faculty Marshal. Bruce carried the ceremonial baton as he led the assembled facultu into the 2015 commencement ceremonies this past May.

James M. Worthington recently joined South Coast Physicians Group in Massachusetts in their Orthopaedics and Orthopaedic Surgery practice.

Floyd Trillis, Jr., recently joined his general surgery practice with St. John Medical Group in Westlake, Ohio.

#### October 5, 2015 American College of Surgeons Reception Hyatt Regency Chicago, III.

(All local alumni & friends welcome.)

UPCOMING

EVENTS

October 2-4, 2015

UVM Homecoming &

Family Weekend UVM Campus

October 3, 2015

**UVM Campus** 

Fall Medical Alumni Association

**Executive Committee Meeting** 

#### October 5-6, 2015

Annual Graduate Student Research Showcase and Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award Presentation **UVM Campus** 

(All local alumni & friends welcome.)

#### October 23, 2015

Class of 2019 White Coat Ceremony 2:30 p.m. Ira Allen Chapel, UVM Campus

#### October 24, 2015

College of Medicine Family Open House **UVM Campus** 

#### October 24, 2015

Alumni Reception at American Academy of Pediatrics — Annual Meeting Washington, D.C. (All local alumni & friends welcome.)

#### December 1, 2015

Alumni Reception at Radiological Society of North America Annual Meeting Chicago, III.

#### March 17, 2016

Fourth-Year Dinner Class of 2016 Davis Student Center, UVM Campus

(All local alumni & friends welcome.)

#### March 18, 2016

Match Day Celebration for Class of 2016 Hoehl Gallery, UVM Campus

#### For updates on events see: www.uvm.edu/medicine/alumni

College of Medicine graduates are also members of the UVM Alumni Association. See those events at: alumni.uvm.edu

#### on your own? A pilot program of the Dana Medical Library can help you. Yearbooks from 1952 through 1968 have been scanned and are downloadable at: http:// scholarworks.uvm.edu/ dmlyearbook/

**Dana Collection Yearbooks Online** 

# MEDICAL REUNION

1956

1966 1971

1976

1986

1996

JUNE 10-12, 2016





# Two Alums Honored by UVM Alumni Association

The UVM Alumni Association will honor the accomplishments and contributions of **Jackie Noonan, M.D. '54** and **Fred Mandell '61, M.D. '64** during the 2015 Celebrating Excellence Alumni Awards program in early October. Both Dr. Noonan and Dr. Mandell are receiving the UVM Alumni Achievement Award. This award has been presented since 1985, honoring alumni for outstanding achievement that has been recognized at the local, state, and/or national level.



#### **White Coat Note Project 2015**

Remember putting on your White Coat for the first time, both the excitement and the trepidation? Help welcome (and encourage!) the Class of 2019 through the second annual White Coat Note Project. Our goal is to once again have a note from an alum in the pocket of all 114 members of the new class in time for the annual White Coat Ceremony October 23. Your words can be fun, inspirational, heartfelt, or all of the above! Submit your note here: <a href="http://www.uvm.edu/medicine/alumni">http://www.uvm.edu/medicine/alumni</a> and click on the "Write a White Coat Note" link.

Lindsay Poole Johnson reports that after more than thirty years as a physician she recently closed practice. Her focus now is on art.

Peter K. King writes: "Work finds me at the VA Clinic in Bennington and the Vermont Veterans Home where I have been medical director for 15 years. Dawn and I are very much enjoying our grandparenthood and expecting two more grandchildren this year."

John J. Orloff joined the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, Inc. Board. He is the chief medical officer and senior vice president, global development, for Novartis Pharmaceuticals.

Jeffrey McMillan Darrow reports that he has now been practicing plastic surgery for 21 years in Boston. "Wife Ellen still working as radiologist. Eldest son in Master's actuarial program at Boston University. Eldest daughter finishing college at LSU. Second son in biology and running track at Northeastern. Second daughter in 7th grade and dancing up a storm!"

Julie Park has been named a 2015 Top Doctor by Seattle Magazine in the General Oncology category. She is an attending physician at Seattle Children's Hospital, professor in pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine, and associate in the Clinical Research Division at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (FHCRC).

1990s

REUNION 2016: 1991 + 1996

Patrick Tester recently joined Wilmington Health's Brunswick Forest Practice in North Carolina. He practices internal medicine.

Susan Debra Apkon was named a Top Doctor by Seattle Magazine. She is chief of the Rehabilitation Medicine Clinic at Seattle Children's Hospital.

Neil Hyman, now at the University of Chicago, has been named UVM College of Medicine Professor Emeritus of Surgery. A nationally and internationally recognized general and colorectal surgeon with research interests in surgical treatments and outcomes, surgical education and quality management, he has authored more than 170 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. He's also been honored six times as Teacher of the Year.

This spring Richard Robert
Harvey joined the
ophthalmology department of the
Watson Clinic in Lakeland, Florida.

Fletcher Reid Wilson joined Bedford Commons 0B/Gyn in New Hampshire. In his free time, he volunteers as the chairman of the Medical Advisory Board of Wide Horizons for Children and has been involved in building hospitals, health clinics, training and providing care for people in Ethiopia.

Halle Sobel was promoted to associate professor of medicine at the UVM College of Medicine.

2000s

REUNION 2016: 2001 + 2006

Jennifer W. Lisle was promoted to associate professor of orthopaedics and rehabilitation at the UVM College of Medicine.

This May, **Jill M. Samale** joined the OB/Gyn staff of Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington, Massachusetts.

**Daniel Wolfson** was promoted to associate professor of surgery at the UVM College of Medicine.

'01 Lydia Grondin was promoted to associate professor of anesthesiology at the UVM College of Medicine.

**Danielle Vitiello** was named a Top Doctor by *NH Magazine.* She is medical director at Fertility Centers of New England.



#### **Send Us Your Stories**

If you have an idea for something that should be covered in Vermont Medicine, please email: vmstories@med.uvm.edu.

#### **Development News**

# Gift Provides First Endowed Fund for Steps to Wellness

In honor of his mother, who lost her life to cancer, **Paul Cain, M.D.'81** has created the first endowed fund for Steps to Wellness, an oncology rehabilitation program sponsored by the University of Vermont Cancer Center. Named the Paulina P. Cain Endowed Fund at the UVM Cancer Center, the \$50,000 gift not only honors Cain's mother and all cancer survivors, but also pays tribute to Cain's own life's work as an orthopaedic surgeon. The



Paul Cain, M.D.'81 and his wife, Kathy (at left). Dr. Cain's mother, Paulina P. Cain (at right), for whom the endowed fund has been pamed

mission of Steps to Wellness dovetails with Cain's chosen specialty: The program offers 12 weeks of supervised exercise to cancer survivors, helping participants regain strength and fitness after treatment, and create a support network. Cain, a native Vermonter now living and practicing in Maine, has pledged additional support for his alma mater. A \$500,000 estate provision will help to fund future cancer care at the UVM College of Medicine and UVM Medical Center.

# Faculty Bequest Helps to Establish Green & Gold Professorship

A long-time UVM College of Medicine faculty member and his wife, Linda, have made a \$250,000 bequest, which will be used to establish a Green and Gold Professorship in the Department of Surgery. David Leitner, M.D., came to the UVM College of Medicine in 1984, rising through the ranks to become a full professor of surgery in the Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgery in 1999. He has served as division chief since 2014. The Leitners' gift not only honors his long career and strong ties to the UVM College



David and Linda Leitne

of Medicine, but will help the Department of Surgery to continue to attract top talent for years to come. The Linda A. and David W. Leitner, M.D. Green & Gold Professorship will provide support for a faculty position in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

#### Class of 1955 Alum Pledges Additional Scholarship Support

The Celeste and Arthur DiMambro,
M.D.'55 Endowed Scholarship at the UVM
College of Medicine has been helping
medical students achieve their dreams
since Dr. DiMambro established the
fund in loving memory of his wife in
2013. A recent gift from Dr. DiMambro
adds \$220,000 to the scholarship fund,
bringing the total to half a million dollars.



Arthur DiMambro, M.D.'55 and daughter Anna D. Lewis, M.D.'82 enjoy their Heady Topper at his 60th Reunion.

It's a testament to Dr. DiMambro's commitment to his alma mater — he recently traveled from New Hampshire to attend his 60th reunion — and a tribute to his wife, whom he met while completing his surgical residency at Carney Hospital in Boston. Their introduction came via the airwaves: One of Celeste's job duties was to read messages over the public announcement system in the building, and when Dr. DiMambro heard her voice, he knew he had to meet her. A short time later they were married. One of Dr. DiMambro's four daughters is also a UVM alumna, graduating from the College of Education and Social Services in 1982.



Class agents present the reunion giving check.

## Reunion Giving Success for 2015

The Celebration of Achievements Award Ceremony at Medical Reunion 2015 honored the Class of 1965 celebrating their 50th reunion year. Dean Rick Morin presented each alum in attendance with a 50th Reunion medallion. The event also celebrated the generosity of more than 300 alumni across the class years who contributed to the class giving campaign during their reunion year. On behalf of the UVM College of Medicine, Dean Morin accepted a check for \$713,192, which will be used to support medical education and student scholarship at the College.



arry Howe. M.D.'52

# Scholarship & Surgical Prizes Receive Additional Support

In 2000, Harry Howe, M.D.'52, and his wife, Theo, established the Howe Endowment with a \$500,000 gift and a bequest expectancy to support students who demonstrate involvement in community service and excellence in patient care, and to fund an annual prize for both an outstanding surgery student and an outstanding surgery professor. In the years since, they have directed their annual giving to this purpose, and this year made a generous gift of \$34,000. The Howes have seized opportunities to get to know the medical students they're helping by regularly attending scholarship dinners at UVM. In 2014 they had the chance to meet scholarship recipient Luke Neill '16, who grew up in a town adjacent to where Dr. Howe was raised in upstate New York. The scholarship gives preference to students from Vermont or St. Lawrence County, N.Y.

VERMONT MEDICINE

Andrew J. Goodwin IV was promoted to associate professor of pathology at the UVM College of Medicine.

**Caroline E. Lyon** was promoted to associate professor of medicine at the UVM College of Medicine.

Omar Khan was promoted to clinical associate professor of family medicine at the UVM College of Medicine.

This April, **Suzanne Margarita Palinski** was named chief of pediatrics for Bradley Hospital in East Providence, R.I.

Jonathan Hall was named a top orthopaedic doctor by Seattle Magazine.

#### 2010s

REUNION 2016: 2011

'10 Ammon Milton Fager received a Young Investigator
Translational Research Award from the Center for Thrombotic and Hemostatic Disorders. Ammon is a third-year research fellow at Duke University's division of hematology and oncology. The award will fund his further research into a coagulation factor.

For a paper titled, "The Fibrinolytic Response to Trauma and Hemorrhagic Shock: Pathologic of Physiologic," **Hunter Moore** received first place in the clinical investigation category of the 37th annual Residents Trauma Papers Competition. Award winners were honored at the annual meeting of The American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma (COT).

Brock W. Libby received the 2015 Nancy Walton Pugh Child Advocacy Award from the University of Virginia School of Medicine for his work in LGBTQ youth outreach and education as a pediatrics resident. The award recognizes an advocacy project initiated during residency that has "led to the improved health and well-being of children."

Kuang-Ning "Annie" Huang recently completed a global health rotation in Uganda through the UVM College of Medicine/Western Connecticut Health Network Global Health Program. A family medicine resident at UVM Medical Center, she spent time rotating through several services, including adult medicine, palliative care, labor and delivery and pediatrics at Mulago Hospital in Kampala, Uganda. Read more on the UVM College of Medicine Global Health Diaries blog: https:// uvmmedicineglobalhealth. wordpress.com/

# 2015 CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

FALL-WINTER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

#### Primary Care Sports Medicine

September 30-October 2, 2015 The Essex Essex. Vt.

#### **Breast Cancer Conference**

October 2, 2015 Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center Burlington, Vt.

#### Obesity & Metabolism: An Emerging Frontier in Lung Health and Disease

October 5-7, 2015
University of Vermont,
Davis Center,
Silver Maple Ballroom

#### **Critical Care Conference**

October 15–17, 2015 The Stoweflake Stowe, Vt.

#### Quality Symposium 2015: Patient and Family Centered Care

October 16, 2015 Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center Burlington, Vt.

#### Northern New England Neurological Society Annual Meeting

October 16–17, 2015 Portsmouth Harbor Events and Conference Center Portsmouth, N.H.

## Neurology for the Non-Neurologist

October 16, 2015 Portsmouth Harbor Events and Conference Center Portsmouth, N.H.

#### Bridging Primary Care and Behavioral Health to Achieve Triple Aim Outcomes

October 23, 2015 The Essex Essex. Vt.

#### Bridging the Divide: VT Medical/Dental Collaboration Conference

November 13, 2015 The Essex Essex, Vt.

#### FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

#### **University of Vermont Continuing Medical Education**

128 Lakeside Avenue, Suite 100 , Burlington, VT 05401, [802] 656-2292 www.uvm.edu/medicine/cme

#### CLASS AGENT PROFILE



**JoAn Monaco** has been an agent for the Class of 2001 since graduation. Her periodic surveys of her class members' activities have appeared in *Vermont Medicine* several times.

JoAn received her undergraduate degree and a master's in neuroscience from

Lehigh University before coming to the College of Medicine in the fall of 1997. She also completed a two-year fellowship at the NIH before medical school. She was attracted to UVM by its innovative curriculum, which gave her earlier, more extensive clinical experience. Today, JoAn is in solo practice as a plastic and reconstructive surgeon in New York City, and is program director of both the Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital Aesthetic Surgery Fellowship and the Reconstructive Plastic Surgery Fellowship at Lennox Hill Hospital. Her husband, Mike, is a urologic oncologist and they have a

TO CONTACT YOUR CLASS AGENT:

See the online directory at www.med.uvm.edu/medicine/alumni

6 year-old daughter, Caroline, 2-year-old son, Matthew, and a baby on the way.



#### Camping Out

The white coat can be many things: from a symbol of the medical profession to a "tool box" for medical guides and examination instruments. And, in a pinch, it makes a pretty serviceable tent.

This unknown student is probably taking a break from clinical work and eating lunch or a snack against an outside wall of one of

the clinical buildings — perhaps the brick DeGoesbriand Unit? The chest pocket of his scrubs carries a 1975 date.

Are you this person, or do you have a hunch who he is, and where he's sitting? Send your answers to edward.neuert@uvm.edu and we will include them in a future issue of Vermont Medicine.



The Flashback in the Summer issue drew the most reader response ever, with information provided by three members of the Class of 1970: Philip Buttaravoli, Joseph Chartor, and Thomas Soule, as well as neurologist Andres Roomet, M.D., and medical center staff members Margaret Gelinas and Gale Weld. Together they identified the professor and student on the left of the photo as, respectively, Stanley Emery, M.D., and Thomas Soule. The photo was probably taken on Pediatric unit floor in 1972.

VERMONT MEDICINE

COM Design & Photography

# REUNION 2015

# SEVEN DECADES, ONE WEEKEND

They came from classes stretching all the way back to the mid-1940s, but no matter how long they'd been away from campus, all the participants in Reunion 2015 this June experienced what many repeat visitors felt was one of the most successful gettogethers in years.



If you're in a class that ends in 1 or 6, mark your calendar for

**REUNION 2016:** June 10–12!































#### **Obituaries**

# '44 Lloyd Gibson Bartholomew, M.D.

Dr. Bartholomew died April 2, 2015. Born in 1921 in Whitehall, N.Y., he graduated from Green Mountain Junior College and Union College, and received his medical degree from UVM. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in Europe during World War II, and as a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. He completed an internship at Dartmouth and an internal medicine residency at the Mayo Clinic. Dr. Bartholomew was appointed to the Mayo staff in 1953, and served as head of the Section of Gastroenterology from 1967 to 1977. During his 40-year career at Mayo Clinic, Dr. Bartholomew served in numerous leadership positions within the institution and with national organizations including the American Medical Association and American Gastroenterology Association. He published 120 articles in scholarly medical journals. Dr. Bartholomew was the recipient of many awards and honors, including the Henry S. Plummer Distinguished Physician Award at Mayo Clinic; the UVM College of Medicine Distinguished Service Award; and Minnesota Medical Association's Distinguished Service Award and President's Award. He served on the board of trustees at Green Mountain College in Poultney, Vt., from 1991 to 2003, and continued as an emeritus trustee thereafter.

**Robert W. Linehan, M.D.**Dr. Linehan died June 21, 2015. Born August 7, 1920, he graduated from Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vt., and received his medical degree from UVM in 1947. He interned in Stamford, Conn., and then opened his general practice on the street where he grew up, in Glens Falls, N.Y.. Dr. Linehan served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951 to 1953, and completed his anesthesia residency at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Conn. In 1955, he joined Glens Falls Hospital as an anesthesiologist. By 1957, he

became one of the first boardcertified anesthesiologists in the region. Dr. Linehan, along with his cousin and life-long friend, Dr. Charles Bannon, became founding partners of Anesthesia Associates, now known as Warren Anesthesia. Together, they introduced the concept of a recovery room for post-operative care at Glens Falls Hospital. Dr. Linehan served as chief of anesthesiology at Glens Falls Hospital for several years until his retirement in 1988. He was a member of the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists, fellow of American Society of Anesthesiologists, New York State Society of Physicians, New York State Medical Society, and president of Warren County Medical Society.

'47 Ronald H. Neal, M.D.
Dr. Neal, of Ludlow, Vt., died May 27, 2015. Born

February 28, 1923 in Laconia,

New Hampshire, he attended the

University of Vermont, receiving his undergraduate degree in 1944 and his medical degree in 1947. He interned at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and was admitted to the American Academy of General Practice in 1953. He completed a residency in anesthesiology at Dartmouth Medical School, and became a fellow in the College of Anesthesiology in 1959. He practiced family medicine in Ludlow, Vt., from 1947 to 1997, and then provided anesthesia service at Springfield Hospital and later at Valley Regional Hospital. Dr. Neal had a distinguished military career starting as a reservist in the Navy from 1943 to 1945 while a student at UVM. He was in the Army reserve from 1950 to 1953, and spent time in Germany when the reserve was activated during the Korean War. He returned to military service in the Air Force reserve from 1979 to 1987, during which time he served as flight surgeon. He retired with the rank of colonel in 1987.

#### Cleveland Ray Denton, M.D.

Dr. Denton died June 23, 2015, at the age of 93. Born February 27, 1922, in Burlington, Vt., he earned his B.S. from UVM in 1944, and went on to earn his M.D., graduating cum laude from the UVM College of Medicine in 1948. After completing his internship and residency at the University of Michigan, he served with the Public Health Service in Cincinnati, Ohio, before moving to West Hartford, Conn., beginning a 32-year career in the practice of dermatology in Hartford. Dr. Denton served as chairman of the Dermatology Section of the Department of Medicine at Hartford Hospital from 1966 to 1986, and was a member of many local and national medical organizations, serving as vice president and president of the Dermatology Section of the Connecticut State Medical Society from 1966 to 1967, and of the New England Dermatological Society from 1976 to 1978. He was the author of many research articles relating to the protective and toxic effects of chemical agents on skin tissue.

Or. Miller died April 16, Charles F. Miller, M.D. 2015, at the age of 92. Born in Morenci, Mich., he served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. He attended Norwich University, and earned his medical degree from UVM in 1950. He completed his internship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and his residency at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Philadelphia. He came to Phoenixville Hospital in Philadelphia, Penn., in 1957. Dr. Miller served as chair of the Department of Surgery at Phoenixville Hospital from 1974 to 1983, and chief of general surgery from 1972 to 1978. He was a member of Chester County Medical Society, American College of Surgeons and the American Board of Surgeons.

Donald Edward Holdsworth, M.D.
Dr. Holdsworth, 87, of Drakes Island, Wells, Maine, died April 30, 2015. Born October 26, 1927, he earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Maine at Orono, and his M.D. from UVM in 1956. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea. Dr. Holdsworth completed his residency at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut. He later started a private practice in Brookline, Mass. He spent many hours working at the Robert B. Brigham Hospital in Boston, where he participated in research in rheumatology and immunology. He later continued his medical career at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, where he also chaired the Board of Quality Care and Risk Management.

Richard Matus, M.D.
Dr. Matus, of Mendota Heights, Minn., died November 15, 2014. Dr. Matus was chief of staff at St. Joseph's Hospital in the early 1970s and was associated with Pediatric and Young Adult Medicine of St. Paul. Throughout his career he served at St. Paul Children's Hospital and gave exceptional care to many children.

'57 Bruce R. MacKay, M.D.
Dr. MacKay died April 24, 2015. Born in 1931 in St. Albans, Vt., he graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Middlebury College, and in 1957, he graduated from the UVM College of Medicine with cum laude honors. After completing a year of internship at Ohio State and a year of residency in internal medicine at Albany, N.Y., Dr. MacKay served his country as captain and medical officer at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada. He completed his medical residency and fellowship in endocrinology at UVM. In 1964, he joined the Guthrie Clinic in Sayre, Penn. Dr. MacKay was appointed chief of medicine, serving in that post for 20 years. He also served as vice president of Board of Directors, director of Donald Guthrie Foundation, and as a board member of the Guthrie Medical Center.

'59 Patricia Ann Searfoss, M.D.
Dr. Searfoss (also known as Dr. Pat Adams) died March 2, 2015, at the age of 83. Born January 29, 1932, she earned her B.A. from the University of Maine Orono in 1954, and her M.D. from the UVM College of Medicine in 1959. She was proud to pay her way through school by picking and selling strawberries and potatoes. She completed her internship at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, and her residency at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, with a fellowship in growth and development. Dr. Searfoss worked in Santa Monica, Calif. and Harlem, N.Y., and spent three years in Oahu, Hawaii, before settling in Pownal, Maine, in 1971. She set up a private practice at home, and was the on-call night doctor for Pineland Hospital from 1975 until it closed in 1996. She was a female doctor in a time when that was rare, and had a rural countryside practice. Sometimes she was paid with eggs, chickens, and deer meat, and she especially

Margaret M. Waddington, M.D.

enjoyed getting lobster.

21, 2015. Born in Paris, France, in 1930, her early years were much affected by the Nazi occupation of Austria, where she lived before and during World War II. After coming to the U.S., she worked on a family farm in Vermont to save enough money to attend the UVM College of Medicine. Following graduation in 1961, she began what would turn out to be a singularly impressive career as a neurologist. She received numerous prestigious awards, wrote and illustrated a number of books, and presented many of professional papers and exhibits at international scientific meetings. Equally important was the respect and affection she earned from patients. Dr. Waddington held faculty positions in clinical medicine (neurology) and anatomy at Dartmouth Medical School She was associate staff at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, and consultant staff at Putnam

Memorial Hospital. She was also appointed an associate professor of neurology at the University of Vermont in 1982. Dr. Waddington served as the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology Inc. Examiner, and as liaison officer for epilepsy at the Vermont State Medical Society. Dr. Waddington created two anatomic atlases, one of the human brain, and the other of the bones of the skull, that were recognized internationally for their importance to neurological medical

'66 Gilbert P. Connelly, M.D.
Dr. Connelly died May 8,

2015, at the age of 74. Born June

27, 1940, in Boston, Mass., he was

a graduate of Boston College. After receiving his medical degree from the UVM College of Medicine, he completed his internship at Albany Medical Center in Albany, N.Y., and a residency in internal medicine at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Boston, where he also did a fellowship in cardiology. He served as a major in the U.S. Army, and was chief of cardiology at Reynolds Army Hospital at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, and Cutler Army Hospital at Fort Devens, Mass. He completed a senior fellowship in cardiology at Boston University Medical Center, and then served as the chief of cardiology at Carney Hospital before starting his private medical practice in Quincy. In 1985, Dr. Connelly trained to become an anesthesiologist, and joined the staff at Boston University Medical Center where he served as director of cardiothoracic anesthesia. Dr. Connelly also practiced cardiac anesthesia at The Lahey Clinic and New England Medical Center, and he served as chief of cardiac anesthesia at the West Roxbury V.A. Hospital. In 2002 he was part of the team that began a cardiac surgery program at Cape Cod Hospital in Hyannis. He was director of cardiac anesthesia there until he retired in 2009.

'68 Stephen H. Greenberg, M.D.
Dr. Greenberg died June 3, 2015. Born July 2, 1942, in

diagnosis, treatment and study.

from Clark University in 1964, and from the UVM College of Medicine in 1968. He completed his internship at Los Angeles County General Hospital in 1969, and his residency in radiology at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia in 1972. From 1972 to 1974, Lt. Cmdr. Greenberg served in the U.S. Navy stationed in Subic Bay in the Philippines, where he was the base radiologist. Upon returning stateside, Dr. Greenberg spent a year at Hahnemann Hospital in Philadelphia as a staff radiologist before moving with his family to Tampa, Fla., in 1975. In Tampa, he worked at the Veterans Hospital and USF Medical School. From 1977 until his retirement in 2012, Dr. Greenberg practiced in Pinellas County, based for many years at Northside Hospital in St. Petersburg. While there, he partnered with several other

Worcester, Mass., he graduated

#### FACULTY

radiologists and established the

Gateway Radiology Center.

Robert James Slater, M.D.

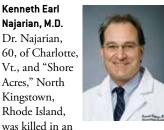
Dr. Slater died April 3, 2015, in Towson, Maryland, at the age of 91. Born in 1923 in Kitchener,

Ontario, Canada, he graduated from the University of Toronto Medical School at an accelerated pace as it was World War II and there was a keen need for doctors. Dr. Slater completed his internship at Toronto Hospital for Sick Children, and he began his medical career as a researcher at the Rockefeller Institute in New York City before returning to Canada to resume his work at the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children. In 1962, Dr. Slater was appointed University of Vermont College of Medicine Dean, and served in that capacity until 1966. He held a

variety of positions over the course

of his medical career at institutions such as the Foundation for Child Development and the Woman's Medical College of Philadelphia. He served as the national medical director for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Dr. Slater rounded out his career in the Boston area serving on a variety of medical boards and volunteering his time at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Kenneth Earl Najarian, M.D. Dr. Najarian, 60, of Charlotte, Vt., and "Shore Acres," North Kingstown, Rhode Island,



accident in Ferrisburgh, Vt., on June 17, 2015, while riding his bicycle. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, he was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of St. Lawrence University and the UVM College of Medicine. He completed his medical internship at St Luke's Hospital in Denver, Colo., and his residency in diagnostic radiology at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont. Dr. Najarian completed fellowships in ultrasound and computed tomography at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, and interventional radiology at Brown University and Rhode Island Hospital. In 1985, he returned to Vermont as an attending radiologist and assistant professor. He became an associate professor in 1992, and a full professor in 2001. He served as division director of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology from 1998 to 2008, and directed the Vascular Interventional Radiology Fellowship Program from 1995 to 1999. A nationally regarded expert in vascular interventional radiology, Dr. Najarian served on national committees and was a journal writer, as well as a consultant to the industry on medical devices.

At press time, we received word of the death of Professor of Medicine Emeritus David Babbott, M.D. An obituary will appear in a future Vermont Medicine.

VERMONT MEDICINE FALL 2015







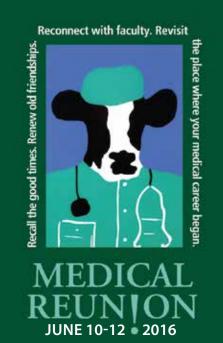
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