

Graduation

Medicine

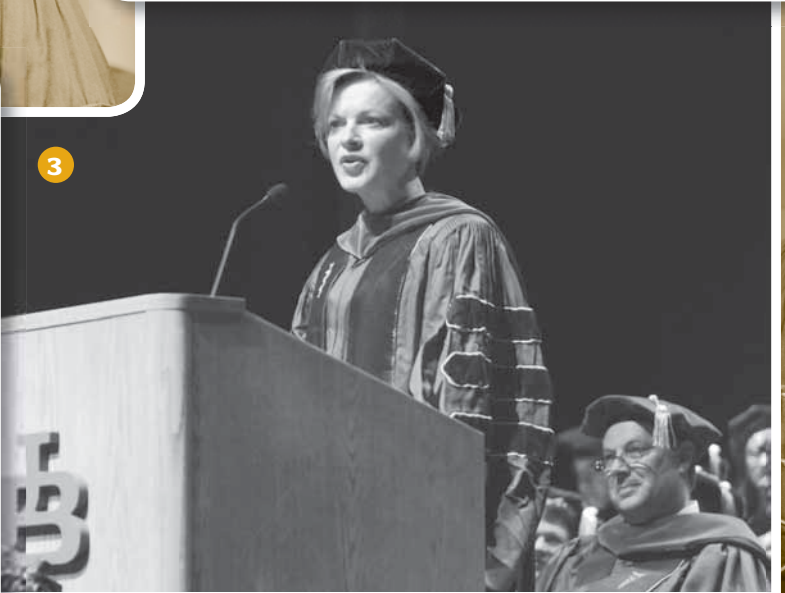
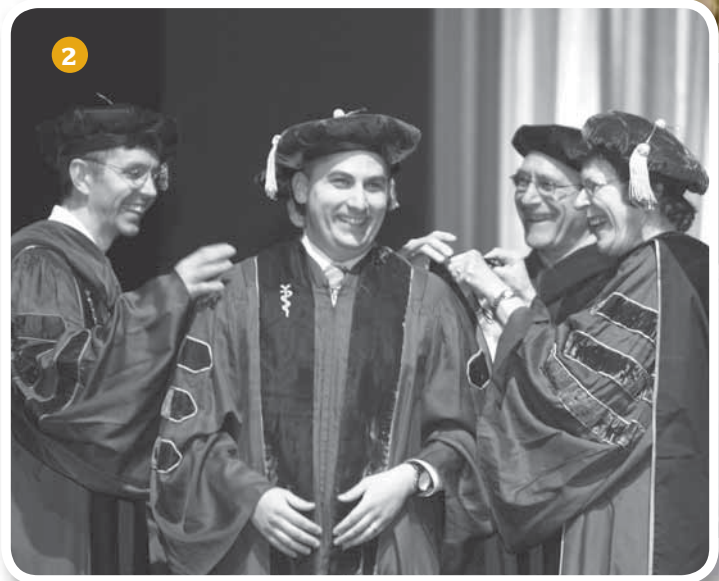
2007



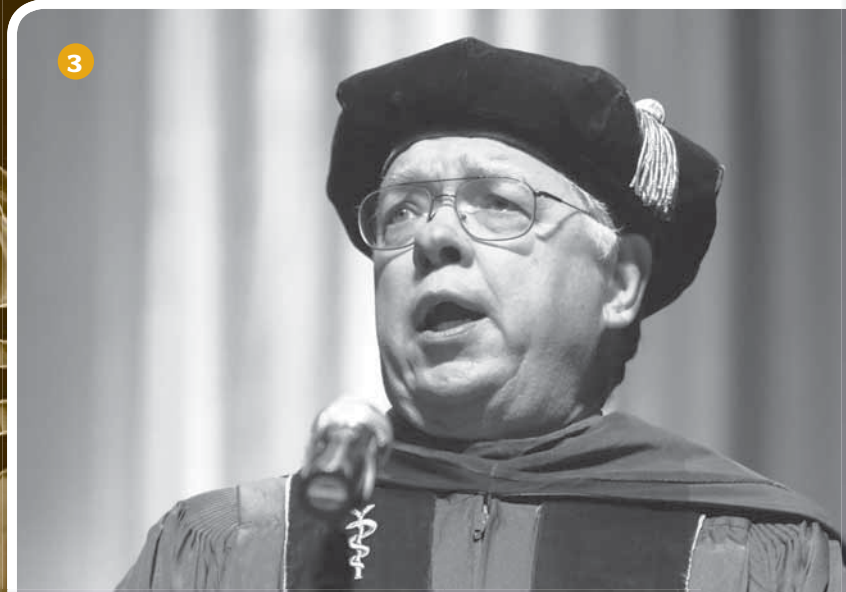
THE 161ST COMMENCEMENT for the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences was held on May 4, 2007, at the Center for the Arts on the North Campus.

This year, the school conferred 135 MD degrees, 5 MD/PhD dual degrees, 3 MD/MBA dual degrees and one MD/Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Degree.

The honored speaker was Elizabeth Nabel, MD, director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health (see also page 28).



(1) Nicholas J. Schellati, MD '07 (2) David A. Gass, MD '07, center, being hooded by, left to right: David Holmes, MD, Frank Schimpfhauser, PhD, and Linda Pessar, MD (3) Honored Speaker Elizabeth Nabel, MD, at podium, and Dean Michael Cain, MD, seated (4) Gareth Mark Czamara Lema, MD, PhD '07, left, with his father, Mark Lema, MD, PhD (5) Class of 2007 graduates, left to right: Kevin Berman, Brian Arslanian, Jennifer Argentieri, and Bethany Arber (6) Juan Paz, MD '07, with family.



(1) Lucio Malvisi, a BS in biomedical sciences graduate, pictured with UB President John B. Simpson, PhD (2) Susan Band Horwitz, PhD, delivering the commencement address to degree candidates (3) David Hohn, MD, president and CEO emeritus of Roswell Park Cancer Institute, sings the Star Spangled Banner (4) Patrice Harris, a BS in biomedical sciences graduate, celebrates with family (5) Christopher Stoj is presented with the Biochemistry Dissertation Research Recognition Award by Kenneth Blumenthal, PhD, chair of biochemistry (6) Star Ems being presented the Dean's Award for Outstanding Dissertation Research by her major professor, Michal Stachowiak, PhD, Neuroscience Program.

THE UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE Biomedical Sciences Commencement for the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences took place on May 10, 2007, at the Center for the Arts on the North Campus.

This year, 38 PhD, 35 master's and 184 baccalaureate candidates were eligible for degrees.

The commencement address was delivered by Susan Band Horwitz, PhD, Rose C. Falkenstein Professor of Cancer Research, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY (see page 28). Degrees were conferred by UB President John B. Simpson, PhD.

Candidates completed work in the following School of Medicine and Biomedical Science departments or programs: biochemistry, biochemical pharmacology, biotechnical and clinical laboratory sciences, microbiology and immunology, neurosciences, nuclear medicine technology, medical technology, pathology and anatomical sciences, pharmacology and toxicology, physiology and biophysics, biomedical sciences. Also included were the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Graduate Division programs in biochemistry, cancer pathology and prevention, molecular pharmacology and cancer therapeutics, immunology, cellular & molecular biology, molecular and cellular biophysics and biochemistry, and natural sciences.



Biomedical Sciences Graduation 2007



Match Day 2007



This year's Match Day festivities took place on March 15, 2007 at the Pearl Street Grill and Brewery in downtown Buffalo, where students, their families, friends and faculty gathered to celebrate.

"Once again, our graduating class matched spectacularly well, and this year we noted a somewhat broader geographic distribution than in the past," says Nancy Nielsen, MD '76, PhD, senior associate dean for medical education, who announced the results.



Dean Michael E. Cain joins in the Match Day fun.

Rena Marie Abraham
Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA/
SHANDS HOSPITAL
GAINESVILLE, FL

Mehr Nida Aftab
Surgery-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Al'Al Alvarez
Emergency Medicine

EINSTEIN/JACOBI MEDICAL
CENTER
BRONX, NY

Kristen Elizabeth Amann
Medicine/Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL, NC

George Christopher Angelos
Surgery

STONY BROOK TEACHING
HOSPITALS
STONY BROOK, NY

Bethany Christine Arber
Family Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Jennifer Ann Argentieri
Pediatrics

EINSTEIN/MONTEFIORE
MEDICAL CENTER
BRONX, NY

Brian H. Arslanian
Surgery

BETH ISRAEL DEACONESS
MEDICAL CENTER
BOSTON, MA

Julie Anne Baker
Obstetrics/Gynecology

Kevin S. Berman
Surgery

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
COLLEGE/MT. SINAI HOSPITAL
MEDICAL CENTER
CHICAGO, IL

Gwen Marie Bernacki
Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
SEATTLE, WA

Arthur Beyder
Medicine/CI Research

MAYO SCHOOL OF GRADUATE
MEDICAL EDUCATION
ROCHESTER, MN

Nishant Bhatt
Otolaryngology

MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA
AUGUSTA, GA

Kinnar Vinod Bhavsar
Medicine

KAISER PERMANENTE-SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA REGION
LOS ANGELES, CA

Salomon Israel Blutreich
Transitional

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL
NEW YORK, NY

Radiology-Diagnostic

ST. VINCENT'S CATHOLIC
MEDICAL CENTER
NEW YORK, NY

Lori Broderick
Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AT SAN DIEGO
SAN DIEGO, CA

Robert Charles Bucelli
Neurology

BARNES-JEWISH HOSPITAL
ST. LOUIS, MO

Anna M. Buchsbaum
Obstetrics/Gynecology

KAISER PERMANENTE
OAKLAND, CA

Marta Christine Canfield
Family Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Justin N. Carlson
Emergency Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
MEDICAL CENTER
PITTSBURGH, PA

Jeffrey Walstrom Carter
Surgery

CASE WESTERN/UNIVERSITY
HOSPITALS OF CLEVELAND
CLEVELAND, OH

May Puiyan Chan
Pathology

BETH ISRAEL DEACONESS
MEDICAL CENTER
BOSTON, MA

Mason C. Chang
Undecided

Anita Chopra
Pediatrics

CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION
CLEVELAND, OH

Landis Fisher Coghlan
Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AT LOS ANGELES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Gregory James Crane
Medicine

DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF MEDICINE/HAHNEMANN
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Teresa Louise Danforth
Surgery-Prelim, Urology

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Matthew J. Davis
Medicine-Prelim

NORTHSHORE UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL
MANHASSET, NY

Neurology

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
MEDICAL CENTER
BALTIMORE, MD

Laura Anne De Mento
Psychiatry

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Carlene Allana Denis
Obstetrics/Gynecology

DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF MEDICINE/HAHNEMANN
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Erica Marie Douglass
Emergency Medicine

DENVER HEALTH MEDICAL
CENTER
DENVER, CO

Melanie Ehinger
Surgery-Prelim,
Radiology-Diagnostic

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
MEDICAL CENTER
WORCESTER, MA

Michael David Esrick
Medicine/Pediatrics

UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL
SCHOOL
NEWARK, NJ

Ellen Clare Farkas
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Ophthalmology

HENRY FORD HOSPITAL
DETROIT, MI

David Joseph Farrugia Jr.
Medicine

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY,
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
MORGANTOWN, WV

Jessica Marie Ford
Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

David Adam Gass
Pediatrics

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL
OF MEDICINE
NEW YORK, NY

Emily Pease Gavett
Psychiatry

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Benjamin Clark Gillen
Transitional

GUNDERSEN LUTHERAN MEDICAL
FOUNDATION
LACROSSE, WI

Radiology-Diagnostic

MAYO SCHOOL OF GRADUATE
MEDICAL EDUCATION
ROCHESTER, MN

Amanda Rose Gorman
Obstetrics/Gynecology

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT
IRVINE MEDICAL CENTER
ORANGE, CA

Aarti Gupta
Medicine

BROWN UNIVERSITY
PROVIDENCE, RI

Kathleen Rose Hardick
Medicine-Prelim

MT. SINAI, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
CABRINI, NY

Michelle Ann-Marie Hepburn
Pediatrics

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOSPITAL
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Melissa Diane Heffler
Surgery

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Joseph Paul Housel
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Renee Huang
Surgery

ALBANY MEDICAL CENTER
ALBANY, NY

Devon Michael Huff
Surgery

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Manoj Hari Iyer
Anesthesiology

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
HOSPITAL
ANN ARBOR, MI

Aaron John Jerzewski
Medicine-Prelim, Physical Medicine
& Rehabilitation Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Gerald Rajish Jeyapalan
Otolaryngology

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY/
DETROIT MEDICAL CENTER
DETROIT, MI



Pictured FAR RIGHT is Bethany Arber, who will train in family medicine at University of Rochester's Strong Memorial Hospital. Seated with her, LEFT TO RIGHT, are her mother, Barbara; father, Mike; and boyfriend, Tim Calkins.



Erica Douglass, BELOW, has daughter Makayla in a Colorado sweatshirt for good luck. And good luck it was—Erica will train in emergency medicine at Denver Medical Center.



Abdullah Sallaj, ABOVE, is all grins after finding out he received his number-one choice, the University of Chicago.

BELOW, Afshin Zadfar learns he'll train in anesthesiology at the University of California at San Francisco.



Dae Yun Kim
Surgery-Prelim

NORTHWESTERN MCGAW/
NORTHWESTERN MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL/VA

Urology

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
FEINBERG SCHOOL
CHICAGO, IL

Alexander A. Kleinmann
Emergency Medicine

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Victoria Kogan
Surgery-Prelim

LENOX HILL HOSPITAL

Anesthesiology

ST. LUKES-ROOSEVELT
NEW YORK, NY

Scott Jason Kutscher
Medicine-Prelim

EINSTEIN/MONTEFIORE
MEDICAL CENTER
BRONX, NY

Neurology

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL
NEW YORK, NY

Russell Matthew LaFrance
Orthopaedic Surgery

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Gareth Mark Czamara Lema
Transitional

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
HEALTH SYSTEM/PRESBYTERIAN
HOSPITAL
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Ophthalmology

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Robin T. Li
Anesthesiology

NORTHWESTERN MCGAW/
NORTHWESTERN MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL
CHICAGO, IL

David Andrew Liebner
Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Bethany M. Lipa
Medicine-Prelim, Physical Medicine
& Rehabilitation Medicine

UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL
SCHOOL
NEWARK, NJ

Grace Liu
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Ophthalmology

ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE
OF MEDICINE
BRONX, NY

Lesley Campbell Loss
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Dermatology

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Kate Lowenthal
Medicine-Prelim

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL
NEW YORK, NY

Melissa A. Lukose
Transitional

MARY IMOGENE BASSETT
COOPERSTOWN, NY

Anesthesiology

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Katie J. Macaluso
Surgery-Prelim, Ophthalmology

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH
CAROLINA
CHARLESTON, SC

Joel D. Mack
Psychiatry

JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL
BALTIMORE, MD

Jean A. Mahler
Medicine-Prelim

SUNY UPSTATE MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY
SYRACUSE, NY

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Medicine

NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN
HOSPITAL/COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER
NEW YORK, NY

John Angelus Maloney
Transitional

COLORADO HEALTH FOUNDATION
DENVER, CO

Radiology-Diagnostic

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO,
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DENVER, CO

Peter Scott Martin
Psychiatry

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Sasha Dinah Massachi
Psychiatry

MT. SINAI HOSPITAL
NEW YORK, NY

Emily Anne McCourt
Medicine-Prelim

EXEMPLA ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL
DENVER, CO

Ophthalmology

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
BOULDER, CO

Norman H.S. McCullogh Jr.
Undecided

Nadia Anne McFarlane
Psychiatry

HOSPITAL OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Jacqueline Sheree McLaughlin
Obstetrics/Gynecology

ORLANDO REGIONAL HEALTHCARE
ORLANDO, FL

Amy B. Mepani
Medicine

EINSTEIN/MONTEFIORE
MEDICAL CENTER
BRONX, NY

Amos Michael Moberg
Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Michael Louis Morgan
Emergency Medicine

WASHINGTON HOSPITAL CENTER
WASHINGTON, DC

Joshua Brett Moskovitz
Emergency Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
MEDICAL CENTER
BALTIMORE, MD

Na-Yon Nam
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Anesthesiology

NORTHWESTERN MCGAW/
NORTHWESTERN MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL
CHICAGO, IL

Amy Katherine Niertit
Emergency Medicine

SUMMA HEALTH/NEOUCOM
AKRON, OH

Dana Courtney Olszewski
Orthopaedic Surgery

BOSTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL
CENTER
BOSTON, MA

Vishnu Vandhana Oruganti
Medicine

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Enrique Ivan Oviedo
Psychiatry

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND/
SHEPPARD PRATT
BALTIMORE, MD

Joonhee Park
Obstetrics/Gynecology

MT. SINAI HOSPITAL
NEW YORK, NY

Michael F. Parsons
Transitional Year

SAUSHEC
LACKLAND, AFB, TX

Rizwan A. Parvez
Psychiatry

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
MEDICAL CENTER
PITTSBURGH, PA

Shweta V. Patel
Obstetrics/Gynecology

NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL
CENTER
BETHESDA, MD

Sachin Shyam Patil
Surgery-Prelim

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
HONOLULU, HI

Radiation-Oncology

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Juan Enrique Paz
Emergency Medicine

NEWARK BETH ISRAEL
MEDICAL CENTER
NEWARK, NJ

Matthew Gerard Peer
Anesthesiology

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Nicole A. Penke
Medicine-Prelim

CASE WESTERN/METROHEALTH
MEDICAL CENTER
CLEVELAND, OH

Ophthalmology

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Jonathan Joel Perkins
Surgery-Prelim

RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL
CENTER
CHICAGO, IL

Michael F. Petroziello
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Radiology-Diagnostic

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Anoop Prabhu
Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
HOSPITALS
ANN ARBOR, MI

Kathryn Rae
Obstetrics/Gynecology

CASE WESTERN/METROHEALTH
MEDICAL CENTER
CLEVELAND, OH



Na-Yon Nam celebrates news she will train in anesthesiology at Northwestern McGaw/ Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Peter Charles Revenaugh
Otolaryngology

CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION
CLEVELAND, OH

Jennifer L. Rojek
Obstetrics/Gynecology

STAMFORD HOSPITAL/
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
STAMFORD, CT

Babak Roobini
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Inna Rozov
Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Anne Russo
Pediatrics

NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN
HOSPITAL/WEILL CORNELL
MEDICAL CENTER
NEW YORK, NY

Abdullah Khalil Sallaj
Psychiatry

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
MEDICAL CENTER
CHICAGO, IL

Tanyka Suzanne Sam
Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Julianne Marie Santarosa
Surgery

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL
SCHOOL
DALLAS, TX

Elias Joseph Sayour
Pediatrics

NORTH SHORE/LONG ISLAND
JEWISH HEALTH SYSTEM
NEW HYDE PARK, NY

Samantha Ann Scanlon
Medicine

MAYO SCHOOL OF GRADUATE
MEDICAL EDUCATION
ROCHESTER, MN

Melissa S. Schafer
Medicine/Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Nicholas J. Schellati
Surgery-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Jill Schleifer-Schneggenburger
Medicine-Prelim, Physical Medicine
& Rehabilitation Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Dana Beth Schonberg
Family Medicine

EINSTEIN/MONTEFIORE
MEDICAL CENTER
BRONX, NY

Stephen James Scull
Emergency Medicine

CASE WESTERN/METROHEALTH
MEDICAL CENTER
CLEVELAND, OH

John P. Sfakianos
Urology

SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL
SCHOOL
BROOKLYN, NY

Farah Nafees Siddiqui
Transitional

MARY IMOGENE BASSETT
COOPERSTOWN, NY

Eric James Sigler
Medicine-Prelim

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
MINEOLA, NY

Ophthalmology

YALE UNIVERSITY
NEW HAVEN, CT

Kristen Lynn Smyers
Obstetrics/Gynecology

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Stephanie Lynn Soehnlein
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Radiology-Diagnostic

ROCHESTER GENERAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Lauren Gruber Solan
Pediatrics

CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER
CINCINNATI, OH

Patrick Donovan Solan
Surgery

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
CINCINNATI, OH

Adithya Suresh
Surgery

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
JACKSONVILLE, FL

Jennifer Miye Takesaka
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
MEDICAL CENTER
BALTIMORE, MD

Neurology

EMORY UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
ATLANTA, GA

Rebecca Gail Taxier
Pediatrics

YALE-NEW HAVEN HOSPITAL
NEW HAVEN, CT

Heather Marie Territo
Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Christopher W. Tjoa
Psychiatry

HOSPITAL OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA, PA

Vy Thao Thi Tran
Transitional

LEMUEL SHATTUCK HOSPITAL
JAMAICA PLAIN, MA

Dae Kim, RIGHT, receives his number-one choice to train in surgery and urology at Northwestern. Pictured with him are his wife, Regina, and their daughter, Leanna, age 4.



Radiology-Diagnostic

SANTA CLARA VALLEY MEDICAL
CENTER
SAN JOSE, CA

Thomas Walter Trimarco
Emergency Medicine

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
CINCINNATI, OH

Adrienne Vargo
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Radiology-Diagnostic

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
HOSPITAL
PITTSBURGH, PA

My-Charllins Vilsaint
Medicine

SUNY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
BROOKLYN, NY

Amber Marie Warmesley
Research

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

**Amanda A. Werthmann-
Ehrenreich**
Emergency Medicine

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Megan Suzanne Whittaker
Obstetrics/Gynecology

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Carolyn Anne Wiech
Emergency Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
HOSPITALS
CHAPEL HILL, NC

Ryan D. Wilkins
Orthopaedic Surgery

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Thomas Wychowski
Neurology

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

Jeffrey Paul Yaeger
Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
HOSPITAL AND CLINICS
MADISON, WI

Paul R. Young
Surgery-Prelim

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NY

Afshin Aaron Zadfar
Medicine-Prelim

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AT IRVINE
ORANGE, CA

Anesthesiology

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AT SAN FRANCISCO
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Michael Clark Zang
Pediatrics

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER/
STRONG MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
ROCHESTER, NY

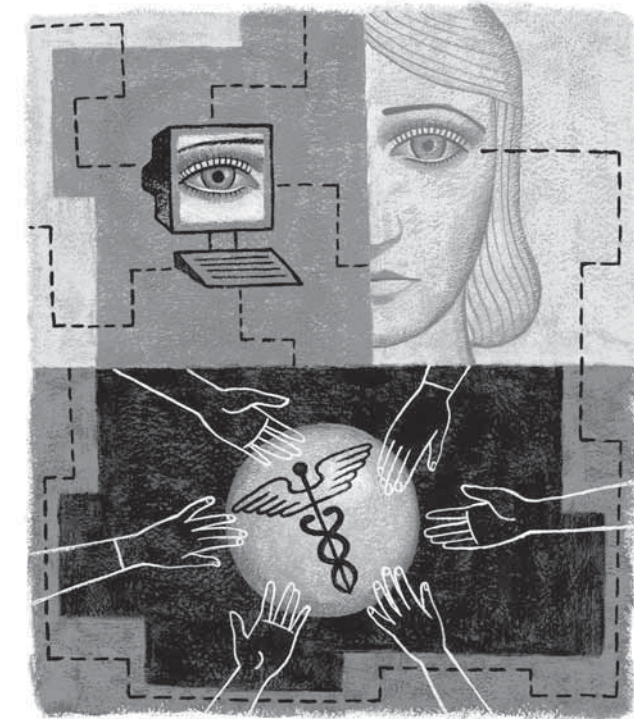
Kristen Amann, RIGHT, celebrates receiving her first choice to train in medicine and pediatrics at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Pictured with her are her father, George, a UB dental school alum; and mother, Ann.



BY LOIS BAKER

Public Health CORE CURRICULUM

STUDENTS IN THE FIVE DEPARTMENTS and multiple degree programs in the UB School of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP) will benefit from a common core curriculum to be developed under a two-year, \$257,000 grant from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation.



THE NEW CURRICULUM, being developed around the common theme of prevention, population health and wellness, is expected to serve as a model for other colleges and universities.

"This approach will ensure a common understanding and focus among students in our undergraduate, graduate and professional programs," says Maurizio Trevisan, MD, dean of the school. "A core curriculum will provide opportunities for these students to train together and to be aware of the societal forces that shape the health and well-being of individuals and communities."

"The grant is particularly gratifying," he adds, "because it provides recognition and support for one of the key elements of the mission of our newly established school. It's confirmation that we are leading the way in our efforts to transform the education of health professionals."

Dale Fish, PhD, associate professor of rehabilitation science and associate dean for academic and student affairs at the school, is principal investigator on the grant.

"The core curriculum will fulfill our vision for the school—to train health professionals in a public health environment," says Fish. "By providing common academic experiences that integrate our

various degree-granting programs, we will create a shared base of knowledge among our students and enable the UB School of Public Health and Health Professions to be more than the mere sum of its academic programs."

The core curriculum will be built around three focus areas: "professionalism and communication," "evidence-based practice" and "population health, wellness and disability."

Of the three focus areas, "population health, wellness, and disability" is perhaps the most obvious in its capacity to breathe life into the academic mission of the school, Fish notes.

"The grant is particularly gratifying," he adds, "because it provides recognition and support for one of the key elements of the mission of our newly established school. It's confirmation that we are leading the way in our efforts to transform the education of health professionals."

"This area will assure that students understand and value health and health care concepts as applied to the public, as well as to individuals. Essential aspects of exercise, diet, health behaviors and health-care delivery and policies will be considered in a broad context in which wellness is advanced for healthy persons, as well as those with chronic disabilities or acute injuries."

"Professionalism and communication" will cover professional and interpersonal skills, values and ethics in health care, cultural competence and multidisciplinary team-building and group processes, Fish says. Evidence-based practice will focus on basic statistics, accessing and appraising the professional literature and applying that literature in making clinical decisions.

The grant includes funds to hire a senior faculty member with curriculum development experience and a media specialist to develop teaching resources.

The full core curriculum is scheduled to be in place by 2010, although some elements will be introduced sooner, says Fish. "The core will be required of all SPHHP students, so extreme care must be taken to assure its quality before it is instituted."

The Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation is a privately endowed philanthropy located in New York City. The foundation supports programs designed to improve the education of health professionals in the interest of the health of the public and to enhance the representation of minorities in the health profession. **BP**