On March 7, 2005, William D. McGuire, chief executive officer for Kaleida Health, announced the appointment of Margaret Paroski, MD ’80, MMM, as executive vice president and chief medical officer for the health-care system, effective April 18, 2005 (see also “Dean’s Message” on inside front cover).

Paroski, an award winning professor of neurology and board certified physician in adult neurology, served as interim vice president for health affairs at the University at Buffalo and interim dean of the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences since February 2003.

“Dr. Paroski is an outstanding physician executive and a distinguished educator,” said McGuire at the time of the announcement. “She enjoys a national reputation of excellence as a clinician, and she is renowned for her teaching skills. She will provide a level of leadership that will bring unprecedented quality to our clinical services.”

A member of the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences faculty since 1984, Paroski also serves as a professor of neurology and as a clinical course coordinator. She is a past president of the UB Alumni Association, as well as the UB Medical Alumni Association.

“I congratulate Margaret on her position with Kaleida Health and wish her the very best in this new endeavor,” said University at Buffalo President John B. Simpson.

Simpson added, “Her personal counsel as interim vice president and dean has been invaluable to me during the first 15 months of my administration. Margaret has made critical contributions to the University at Buffalo and its School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences as an outstanding administrator, faculty member and alumna. The university and I look forward to a long and continuing relationship with her.”

Prior to serving as interim vice president for health affairs at UB and interim dean for the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Paroski served as senior associate dean for academic affairs and admissions at the school. Before joining UB’s administration, she served as medical director of Erie County Medical Center for five years and as clinical director of neurology at the medical center for four years.

A Buffalo native, Paroski earned a bachelor’s degree in biology and psychology from Canisius College.

Morin Named Interim Dean, Vice President

On March 24, 2005, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, UB provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, announced that Frederick C. Morin III, MD, will succeed Margaret Paroski, MD ’80, as interim vice president for health affairs and interim dean for the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, effective April 18.

Morin is A. Conger Goodyear Professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at UB and chief of the pediatric service for Women and Children’s Hospital of Buffalo and Kaleida Health.

UB President John B. Simpson said the university is “very fortunate to be able to count on Dr. Morin to continue the strong leadership tradition that is essential to the continued advancement of our medical school and health sciences initiatives.”

Having become well-acquainted with the vision and expertise that Dr. Morin contributes to the university’s medical faculty, I very much look forward to working with him as he assumes this important interim position.”

A graduate of Notre Dame and Yale University School of Medicine, Morin joined UB in 1986 as assistant professor of pediatrics. He became chief of the neonatology division at Women and Children’s Hospital of Buffalo and associate professor of pediatrics and physiology in 1989. In 1994 he became professor of pediatrics and vice chair of research in the UB Department of Pediatrics. In 1997, he was named chair of the department and pediatrician-in-chief at Women and Children’s Hospital of Buffalo.
The Medical Student Research Forum poster presentation took place on January 27, 2005, in the atrium of the Biomedical Education Building in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Eighteen students participated, displaying the results of research projects they conducted at UB and other institutions. Each participant worked closely with a research mentor to complete his or her project, and a variety of funding agencies supported the students with stipends.

“The forum provides students the opportunity to showcase their research and communicate and interpret their results to other students, as well as to faculty,” says Debra L. Stamm, assistant dean for student services in the Office of Medical Education. “We recognize the importance of research training in providing the best medical care to patients and in providing future physicians with a well-integrated educational experience.”

Each poster was evaluated by three faculty judges, and all student participants received a certificate of participation.

This year, a first-place prize of $400 was awarded to two students, a second-place prize of $200 was awarded to two students and a third-place prize of $100 was awarded to one student.

Congratulations to the following students with the top scoring posters:

**First Honors**

Dost Sarpel, Class of 2006  
**Project:** “Biomechanical Evaluation of Distal Femoral Fixation Plates in Osteoporotic Bone”  
**Mentor:** William Mihalko, MD, PhD

George M. Watson, Class of 2006  
**Project:** “Efficacy of Lipid Lowering Therapy in Inducing Arrest or Reversal of Coronary Disease As Assessed with Positron Emission Tomography”  
**Mentor:** Michael Merhige, MD

**Second Honors**

David Liebner, Class of 2007  
**Project:** “Rational Polypeptide Design—Fun with BCL-XL Inhibitors”  
**Mentor:** Yaoqi Zhou, PhD

Vy Thao Tran, Class of 2007  
**Project:** “Comparison of the Immune Response Generated Following Delivery of B+T Peptide and Adjuvant by a ‘Needle-Free’ Device vs. Traditional Needle and Syringe”  
**Mentor:** Yasmin Thanavala, PhD

**Third Honors**

Janet King, Class of 2006  
**Project:** “Incidence and Nature of Mood and Anxiety Disorders in Patients with Williams Syndrome and Their Families”  
**Mentors:** David Kaye, MD, and Laurie Sadler, MD