Dear Fellow Alumni,

appy New Year from the Medical Alumni Association! As the New Year gets under way, the Governing Board is busy working with the Office of Advancement to present a terrific Spring Clinical Day and reunion weekend.

I am pleased to announce that this year, we have partnered with the Harrington Lecture— the school’s oldest and most prestigious leadership, to present the Spring Clinical Day/Harrington Lecture. The new program format will feature one keynote speaker, followed by lunch. This year’s speaker is Dr. Edward O. Wilson, Pellegrino University Research Professor, Emeritus, at Harvard University. Dr. Wilson is one of the most highly respected scientists in the world today and is listed as one of “Americas 25 Most Influential People” by Time magazine.

He has twice received the Pulitzer Prize (for The Ants and for On Human Nature), and we are delighted that he has accepted our invitation to speak.

The lecture will be held on Saturday May 6, 2006, at the Adam’s Mark Hotel. The cost of the luncheon is $40 per person. Please save the date and look for a registration brochure in your mailbox in the coming weeks if you live in Western New York or are celebrating a reunion in 2006.

This year’s reunion weekend theme is “Go Overboard!” at Reunion 2006. We chose this theme because all reunion activities will take place downtown on Buffalo’s waterfront. Friday evening’s cocktail reception, sponsored by the Medical Alumni Association, will be held at Shanghai Red’s. The Spring Clinical Day/Harrington Lectures is Saturday, May 6, at the Adam’s Mark Hotel (see page 29 for further details), and the reunion dinner dance for all classes celebrating a reunion will be held later that evening, also at the Adam’s Mark.

Jennifer Lobaugh, director of special events for the medical school, is working closely with reunion class chairs to present a wonderful event for our medical alumni. If you are celebrating a class reunion in 2006, look for more information from your class chair, or call Jennifer at the Office of Advancement at (716) 829-2773 or martin.brecher@roswellpark.org.

In closing, I encourage you to join the Medical Alumni Association. It is through yearly dues (only $75) that we are able to support programs and activities for current medical students. You can become a member by visiting www.alumni.buffalo.edu click on the “membership” tab and follow instructions for the Medical Alumni Association.

As always, I welcome your input and ideas and look forward to seeing you at Spring Clinical Day.

Sincerely,

Martin L. Brecher, MD ’72
President, Medical Alumni Association 2005–2006

Martin.L.Brecher@roswellpark.org


Classnotes

2005 Mercy Heritage Award

Maloney, MD ’53, recognized by Mercy Hospital

Maloney, MD ’53, received the 2005 Mercy Heritage Award at the Mercy Hospital Foundation’s “Century of Caring” dinner dance on November 11, 2005. ‘Dr. Maloney’s 35 years of service to Mercy Hospital earned him the respect and admiration of patients, hospital staff and colleagues alike,” says Mary Ann McKeever, president of the Mercy Hospital Foundation. “He was a role model and mentor for hundreds of men and women who passed through the Mercy Hospital residency program. Under his leadership as chair of the Department of Medicine, he facilitated the implementation of several innovations and practices in internal medicine.” Upon his retirement in 1994, Maloney continued to serve Mercy Hospital by advising members of the medical staff seeking his counsel. He continues his association with a variety of professional societies including the Erie County Medical Society, the Medical Society of New York, and the American Medical Association. Thomas A. Raab, MD ’77, chair of the Department of Medicine at Mercy, says, “Maloney has been a wonderful friend and colleague through the years. He has helped guide me personally and professionally. He continues to be a wonderful resource and support for me.”

The Mercy Heritage Award recognizes individuals who carry on the spirit of Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. Recipients model selfless behavior, devotion to mission, concern for others, and courage and leadership in the health care arena. “Maloney is one of the real heroes in the story of Mercy Hospital,” says McKeever. “This award recognizes his valuable contribution to Mercy.”

1960s

Morton (Mort) E. Weichsel, MD ’62, writes: “I have retired as emeritus professor of pediatrics and neurology at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, UCLA School of Medicine. I am now a watercolor landscape and portrait artist and a decent at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum. I recently married Dr. Arlene Silvers, a psychoanalyst, and we live in Sherman Oaks, CA. Email address is weichsel@ucla.edu.

Roy M. Ovaka, MD ’71, writes: “On July 1, 2003, I started as a breast specialist with M. Ross-Baier Breast Care Clinic in Memphis, TN. My wife Jill is director of nurse anesthesia at the University of Tennessee. Our son Aaron is at the University of Virginia, and son David is at the University of Mississippi. I am looking forward to the 2006 Alumni Reunion and Spring Clinical Day.” Email address is drdroben@live.com.

1970s

Dennis B. Bondan, MD ’70, FACS, has been appointed chair of surgery at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, a 700-bed tertiary and transplant center in Newark, NJ. Email address is dbordan@sbhcs.com.

Scott Beden, MD ’82, an emergency medicine physician for more than ten years, recently completed a one-year surgical fellowship and is now practicing as a hair transplantation surgeon in West Hartford, CT. He treats both men and women with hair loss, as well as individuals with surgical scars, burns, congenital problems and hair loss from radiation treatment. He has been involved in research and last summer presented a paper at the International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery. Email address is drbeden@leawittmg.com. Phone: (860) 232-1500.

1990s

Christine M. Clemscick, MD ’86, writes: “I completed my internship, adult psychiatry residency, and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, N.C. I am board certified in both adult and child psychiatry and have recently joined Suburban Psychiatric Associates in Amherst, N.Y.” Email address is drchris2002@hotmail.com.

Roy M. Oswaks, MD ’71, writes: “On July 1, 2003, I started as a breast specialist with M. Ross-Baier Breast Care Clinic in Memphis, TN. My wife Jill is director of nurse anesthesia at the University of Tennessee. Our son Aaron is at the University of Virginia, and son David is at the University of Mississippi. I am looking forward to the 2006 Alumni Reunion and Spring Clinical Day.” Email address is drchris2002@hotmail.com.

Kristie Stevanor Ahrens, MD ’96, has joined Horizon Health Services, as a staff psychiatrist. Headquartered on Bailey Avenue in Buffalo, NY, Horizon Health Services is a private, not-for-profit provider of chemical dependency, mental health, and medical treatment services. It is the largest provider of these services in Western New York, with 10 facilities in Erie and Niagara counties. Ahrens, whose specialty is in psychiatric illness in pregnant and postpartum women, recently established and will continue to lead Western New York’s only postpartum depression support group. She will also continue her duties as a volunteer assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Prior to joining Horizon, Ahrens was medical director of the department of outpatient psychiatry at Erie County Medical Center. Ahrens earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from William Smith College in 1990 and graduated magna cum laude from the UB medical school in 1996. She was honored with the Clinical Teacher of the Year award by the UB Residency Training Program in Psychiatry and was the recipient of the Resident Service Award in recognition of her outstanding service to the Department of Psychiatry. Ahrens is an active member of the American Psychiatric Association, the New York State Psychiatric Association, the Western New York Psychiatric Association, and the Postpartum Resource Center of New York, Inc.

“Milford Maloney has been a wonderful friend and colleague throughout the years. He has helped guide me personally and professionally. He continues to be a wonderful resource and support for me.”

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ANDREA MANYON, MD ’83, associate professor of clinical family medicine and vice chair of residency education in the Department of Family Medicine at the UB, has been named chair of the Department of Family Medicine at SUNY Upstate Medical University, effective January 2, 2006. The appointment was announced in October by Steven J. Schickelman, MD, executive vice president and dean of the College of Medicine at SUNY Upstate.

With her appointment, Manyon becomes the first woman to chair a clinical department at SUNY Upstate.

At UB, in addition to her teaching responsibilities, Manyon oversaw a family residency program functioning at five family medical centers and five hospitals. She has played an integral role in curriculum renewal at the medical school and led the effort to develop The Clinical Practice of Medicine, the major course for first-year medical students at UB. She served as vice chair of the Department of Family Medicine for medical student education at UB from 1995 to 2003. Her research and professional interests include assessment of clinical competence in medical education, a return to bedside teaching and teaching effectiveness in office settings.

Since the mid-1990s, Manyon has served as project director on four Health Resources and Services Administration grants totaling more than $1.6 million to develop training programs in family medicine education. She is active in the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine and serves on its Education Committee.

In the community, Manyon serves on the Quality Improvement Board of BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York, Health Now, and as volunteer medical director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Manyon earned a medical degree at UB in 1983 and completed her residency in family medicine at Buffalo General Hospital. She earned a bachelor’s degree with honors from Skidmore College in 1979.

DANIEL J. SUCATO, MD ’91, assistant professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern University Medical Center at Dallas, received the American Medical Association’s 2005 William Beaumont Award in Medicine for outstanding young physician. He was presented the award on November 5 at a ceremony in Dallas.

The William Beaumont Award in Medicine was established by the AMA as an encouragement to young physicians. It is presented each year to a physician under age 50 who has distinguished himself or herself in medical science. The AMA Board of Trustees selects the recipient from among nominees submitted to its Awards Committee.

In presenting the award, the AMA stated: “Dr. Sucato has been a staff orthopaedic surgeon at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children since 1998. Under his direction, the Sarah M. and Charles E. Seay and Martha and Pat Beard Center for Excellence in Spine Research provides a forum for a diverse group of experts to collaborate on specific challenges in spinal surgery. The center facilitates discussions between orthopaedic surgeons, researchers, biomedical engineers, movement science specialists, orthotists, radiologists and fellows to profoundly influence spine research and the treatment of patients with scoliosis.”

“Dr. Sucato’s influence in the science of medicine has positioned him at the forefront of his field.”

Sucato completed medical school and residency training at UB.
In Memoriam

Howard A. Stark, MD ’86, died suddenly on August 8, 2005. He was 46.

Stark was the first of three children born to the late Patience Evans and Enos Christian Stark. After graduating from Holy Rosary Elementary School in Bedstuy, he enrolled in the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, where he graduated in 1986.

After medical school, Stark trained at Kings County Medical Center and the prestigious Euclid High School in Manhattan. He continued his internal medicine practice at “The County,” serving in the Emergency Room and in the Ambulatory Care Medical Clinic. He loved working at the County because he was able to stay in touch with people from his beloved Brownsville neighborhood.

Stark married Debra McLean, a nurse, on August 8, 1986. The couple had three children: Tremaine (21), Ariel (16), and Howard Anthony (13). In addition to his wife and children, Stark is survived by his mother-in-law, Maggie McLean; three siblings: Deborah, Marsha, and Enoch; and six nieces: Mandy, Christine, and Majora; Leon, his cousin; Terri, his cousin; and Felicita, his supportive cousin and friend.

Norris H. Frank, MD ’33, died on August 25, 2005.

Richard J. Jones, MD ’41, died on September 6, 2005.

Leonard P. Constantine, MD ’54, died on October 13, 2005.

John D. Foley, MD ’70, died on June 25, 2005.

Anne M. Fagundus, PhD ’81, died on April 20, 2005.

Buffalo Physician Receives Gold Award

Buffalo Physician received a Gold Award in the magazine category for the 2005 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District II Accolades competition. The selection, announced in December, was based on overall excellence in editorial content and design. Congratulations to the Buffalo Physician team: designers David Riley, Bob Wilder and Alan Kegler; contributing writers Lois Baker and Ellen Kegler; and editor, Stephanie Unger.

The award will be presented in February at the CASE District II Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

—Kathleen Winter, associate dean and senior director for Advancement and Constituent Relations, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Being at UB was the highpoint of my career in medicine.

—Glen E. Gresham, M.D.

Donor Decision:

Bequest

Faculty emeritus supports meritorious clinical research

Dr. Glen E. Gresham says his 20 years at UB were “the highpoint in my career. It was what I always wanted to be and to do.”

Dr. Gresham, who retired in 1998, was referring to his position as chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the Erie County Medical Center (ECMC). Thanks in part to his influence, ECMC, which is a teaching hospital-affiliate of UB, is ranked among the top 10 hospitals in the nation for cardiovascular services. It operates the area’s only spinal cord injury center and head trauma unit as well. Not only has ECMC served as a clinical learning facility for countless UB graduate students, it has met the serious medical needs of the Buffalo community for several decades.

Dr. Gresham has given many gifts to the medical and nursing schools at UB and has also established a bequest at the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences that will support meritorious clinical research. “Medicine is a noble profession. It is not a business. UB is really making a difference,” he said.

In retirement, Dr. Gresham continues to make a difference at UB. He is a key volunteer for the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, serving on both the Dean’s Advisory Council and the steering committee of the Medical Emeritus Faculty Group (MEFG). He was one of the founders of the MEFG, an active and collegial membership that focuses on lifelong learning for its members and mentoring for current UB students. Dr. Gresham also played a major role in establishing the Gold Humanism Award, which honors senior medical students.

Before Dr. Gresham came to UB in 1978, he spent part of his career at Yale University School of Medicine and Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston. Among many noteworthy accomplishments, he was part of the Framingham Heart Study, which produced major discoveries that have helped scientists understand heart disease and its risk factors.

For information about including UB in your will, please contact the Office of Planned Giving:

Wendy Irving, Ed., Senior Director of Planned Giving, at ivory@buffalo.edu or Toll Free 1-877-825-3422 (UB Legacy)