Reunions 2008

Friday, May 4, and Saturday, May 5

A time for old friends and classmates to reunite and reminisce about their medical school years.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS:
Andrew Cappuccino, MD '88, Myron Gordon, MD '48, and Edward Phillips, MD '88

Edward Phillips, MD '88, Helen Cappuccino, MD '88, and Lori Luzi, MD '88

Rogena L. Miller, MD '93, Ricardo Alfonzo Knight, MD '93, Lornette Mills-Rawlins, MD '93, and Mr. John Rawlins

Rogena L. Miller, MD '93, Catherine A. Goodfellow, MD '83, and Mr. Alan Goodfellow

Mrs. Alice Bunnell, Ivan Bunnell, MD '43, and Morris Unher, MD '43

Sean Trask, Jennifer Trask, MD '03, Catherine A. Goodfellow, MD '83, and Mr. Alan Goodfellow
My Fellow Alumni,

Twenty-five years have come and gone since I graduated from UB's medical school. Graduation was followed by a residency in ophthalmology at UB and a fellowship in glaucoma at the University of Toronto.

I went into private practice in Western New York, participated in resident training and headed the glaucoma service for several years. Private practice has supplied its share of satisfying achievements and rewards, and I think often about my education and training at UB.

Now it's a whole new world for the Department of Ophthalmology—it has a new home in the state-of-the-art Ross Eye Institute (REI). The REI provides the opportunity for great advances in resident training, as well as potential for both clinical and basic science research. Through the efforts, vision and financial support of an alumna, Dr. Elizabeth Olmsted Ross, the REI made the transition from concept to reality.

This story is but a single example of the promising winds of change that currently are swirling around our medical school while it follows a course that seems destined to take it into a bright future. Those of us who are close to the school are energized by what we see and hear and have great hopes for the future of the school and the university.

One of the most exciting ways that the school can move forward is through the roles that alumni can play. Alumni have the opportunity to help fund scholarships to attract the best and brightest students, and endowed chairs to help recruit world-class faculty. Dean Cain has, in fact, named endowed scholarships and chairs as two of his top priorities, and I hope that the efforts, resources and generosity of our dedicated alumni can be tapped for support of these key goals. We anticipate UB HOST, designed to assist current medical students in their search for a residency program, to be a huge success. Alumni throughout the country are encouraged to sign up and offer housing, a meal and/or transportation to help medical students interviewing for residency programs outside the Western New York area.

As I start my term as president of the Medical Alumni Association, I look forward to helping the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences meet its challenges and capitalize on its many opportunities. I am lucky to follow Dr. Helen Cappuccino, our immediate past president, who has taught me much through her leadership.

This is a bright future. Those of us who are close to the school are energized by what we see and hear and have great hopes for the future of the school and the university.

Thank you,

Charles E. Niles, MD '83
President, Medical Alumni Association (2008–2009)