PATHWAYS

SPRING/SUMMER 2010

Epstein Named SUNY Distinguished Professor


Epstein

Leonard Epstein, PhD, UB Distinguished Professor in the departments of Pediatrics and Social and Preventive Medicine, has been named a SUNY Distinguished Professor, in recognition of national or international prominence in his fields.

The rank of distinguished professor, the highest faculty rank in the SUNY system, is an order above full professorship and has three coequal designations: distinguished professor, distinguished service professor and distinguished teaching professor.

An internationally recognized scholar in the fields of behavioral medicine, nutrition and therapy, Epstein is one of the world's foremost experts in the area of childhood obesity. He developed the Stoplight Diet Plan to help families instill healthy eating habits in overweight children, and it remains one of the few plans shown to produce long-term success for obese children. He also was the first researcher to demonstrate a relationship between television watching and childhood obesity.

His most recent work explores the role of the dopaminergic system and food habitation in obesity.

A member of the UB faculty for 16 years, Epstein heads the Division of Behavioral Medicine in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, in addition to holding faculty appointments in the School of Public Health and Health Professions and the medical school. BP

—Sue Wuetcher

New Leadership Roles Announced


Blumenthal


Laychock

THIS SPRING, Dean Michael E. Cain, MD, announced two changes to his senior leadership team.

Kenneth Blumenthal, PhD, chair of the Department of Biochemistry, will serve as senior associate dean for research and graduate education in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. In addition to continuing his responsibilities as chair, Blumenthal will oversee the school's basic science research programs and graduate education. This will involve his engaging faculty to develop strategic initiatives that will enable the school to grow its sponsored activities and be more competitive for new programmatic research funding. In all these areas, he will work closely with Timothy Murphy, MD, senior associate dean for clinical and translational research, to facilitate "bench to bedside" research initiatives and mentored-research training grants. The pair also will collaborate to further promote and strengthen the school's Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences (PhD) and its Medical Scientist Training Program (MD/PhD).

Suzanne Laychock, PhD, has been named senior associate dean for faculty affairs and facilities. This new position has been created to address the importance of faculty and staff recognition, career development and mentoring, diversity and gender equality. In addition, Laychock will undertake the task of assuring that facilities remain updated and that space is utilized efficiently and effectively in order for faculty to fulfill goals related to renovating space on the South Campus and the school's migration to the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. In addition, Laychock will continue to oversee and strengthen the school's growing undergraduate educational programs in the biomedical sciences. BP

—S. A. Unger

Curtis Named Chair of Medicine

ANNE B. CURTIS, MD, PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, CHIEF OF THE UNIVERSITY'S DIVISION OF CARDIOLOGY AND DIRECTOR OF CARDIOVASCULAR SERVICES, HAS BEEN APPOINTED THE INAUGURAL MARY AND CHARLES BAUER PROFESSOR AND CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES.

In making the announcement, Michael E. Cain, MD, dean of the school, said Curtis has all the skills needed to move the department forward, including expanding its basic and clinical research programs to fulfill UB 2020's strategic goals, and working collaboratively with UB's hospital partners to build the department's clinical services.

"Dr. Curtis is that rare individual who is an innovative applied clinical investigator, a world-class clinical cardiac electrophysiologist, an exceptional educator, and a recognized leader in academic medicine," said Cain.

"During the past 24 years, she has developed an internationally recognized effort in investigative clinical cardiac electrophysiology. Most of her 110 peer-reviewed manuscripts pertain to work that has significantly enhanced our knowledge in many areas of human cardiac electrophysiology and heart rhythm abnormalities."

Curtis earned her medical degree from the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1979, and did her residency in internal medicine at New York City's Presbyterian Hospital.

She went on to complete fellowships in cardiovascular disease and clinical and investigative cardiac electrophysiology at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, N.C.

Prior to her appointment at the University at South Florida, Curtis spent 19 years teaching and practicing at the University of Florida, Gainesville, and directing its clinical, investigative, and mentored-educational programs in cardiac electrophysiology. She also was staff physician and director of the pacemaker service at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville from 1986 to 1996.

She has been principal investigator, co-investigator, sponsor or steering committee member on 85 research studies and clinical trials, and has written more than 113 book chapters, reviews, and editorials. She also is author of a book on cardiac pacing.

Curtis is active in many national and international scientific organizations. She is a past president of the Heart Rhythm Society and the former chair of the Food and Drug Administration's Circulatory System Devices Panel.

Currently, she serves on the board of directors of the Stanley Sarnoff Cardiovascular Research Foundation, and on the American Board of Internal Medicine Subspecialty Board on Cardiovascular Diseases. She also is a member of the Association of University Cardiologists.

Curtis will join UB in September and replaces Alan Saltzman, MD, who is stepping down after five years as chair. BP

Curtis

"DR. CURTIS IS THAT RARE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN INNOVATIVE APPLIED CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR, A WORLD-CLASS CLINICAL CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGIST, AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATOR, AND A RECOGNIZED LEADER IN ACADEMIC MEDICINE." —MICHAEL E. CAIN, MD, DEAN

Wrabetz to Head Hunter James Kelly Research Institute

His spouse and co-investigator, Laura Feltri, MD, also will join faculty

By Lois Baker

LAWRENCE WRABETZ, MD, head of the myelin biology unit at San Raffaele Scientific Institute in Milan, Italy, has been appointed director of the Hunter James Kelly Research Institute (HJKRI) at UB.

LAURA FELTRI, MD, who heads the neuroglia unit at the Institute and is Wrabetz's spouse, also has been recruited to the HJKRI.

Wrabetz

Feltri

Both are highly regarded neuroscientists with significant backgrounds in basic and translational research on myelin, known as white matter—the sheath protecting brain nerve fibers that are essential for all normal functioning of the nervous system.

The appointments are in collaboration with Hunter's Hope Foundation, established in 1997 by Jim Kelly, Buffalo Bills Hall of Fame quarterback, and his wife, Jill, after their infant son Hunter was diagnosed with Krabbe Leukodystrophy, an inherited fatal disorder of the nervous system. Hunter died in 2005 at the age of eight.

The HJKRI research focuses on remyelination techniques and the biology and pathophysiology of Krabbe Disease, with the goal of discovering ways to correct the genetic defect responsible for Krabbe Disease and other leukodystrophies.

HJKRI research on remyelination techniques also is expected to benefit patients with multiple sclerosis, stroke, and other diseases involving white matter destruction.

Michael E. Cain, MD, dean of the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, in announcing the appointments, said: "Working with the Hunter's Hope Foundation, the UB medical school has been able to recruit from Italy a team of physician-scientist superstars.

"Dr. Wrabetz has all the skills needed to direct and build the basic and clinical research programs that will be established in the Hunter James Kelly Research Institute," said Cain. "His leadership coupled with the scientific excellence of the Wrabetz and Feltri laboratories will help fulfill UB 2020's strategic goals in biomedical research and have an important impact on the public health.

"They are entering a unique and exciting environment in Buffalo that promotes excellence in research and the advancement of medical science through collaboration."

Jacque Waggoner, chief executive officer of Hunter's Hope Foundation and Hunter's grandmother, said of the new recruits: "We are elated and honored to have both Dr. Larry Wrabetz and Dr. Laura Feltri join the Hunter's Hope family. Their appointments complete our leadership team for the HJKRI.

"The clinical arm of the HJKRI, headed by Dr. Patricia Duffner, has been functioning for more than three years, and has made significant progress in the development of a Krabbe Worldwide Registry, clinical evaluation and treatment protocols for Krabbe, as well as initiatives to maximize the success of Krabbe Newborn Screening programs," Waggoner said.

"With Larry and Laura driving basic science research in conjunction with Dr. Duffner, our hopes and expectations could not be higher."

Wrabetz will hold a primary appointment in the Department of Neurology, with a secondary appointment in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics. Feltri will have a primary appointment in the Department of Biochemistry. Both will begin transitioning their laboratories to Buffalo this fall and will work as a team in the HJKRI, located in UB's New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in Downtown Buffalo.

Wrabetz received his bachelor's degree at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, in 1980 and his medical degree from the University at Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine in 1984. He completed his residency in neurology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA, followed by a two-year Dana Foundation postdoctoral fellowship and an advanced postdoctoral fellowship, both in neuroscience, at University at Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

He held a faculty appointment in the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine's Department of Neurology for two years, and then joined the San Raffaele Scientific Institute in 1993 as a researcher in the Department of Genetics and Cell Biology.

Wrabetz was named to head the institute's biology of myelin unit in 1995, and in 2001 also became affiliated with the Joseph Stokes, Jr., Research Institute of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

He was named an adjunct associate professor in the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine's neurology department in 2002 while continuing his work in Milan.

Wrabetz's research into myelin and neuropathy has been supported continuously by grants from European research institutes and international pharmaceutical companies since 1995, and he currently holds a $1.2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study myelin protein neuropathies in transgenic mice.

Laura Feltri is co-investigator with Wrabetz on the research with transgenic mouse models, with a primary interest in cell differentiation, tissue growth and the development of the peripheral nervous system and the process of myelination.

She received her medical degree from the University of Milan in 1988, and completed a three-year postdoctoral fellowship in neurology at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA, in 1992. She then returned to Italy to take a position as research assistant professor in the Department of Neurology at San Raffaele Hospital at the University of Milan.

She began working at the San Raffaele Scientific Institute in 1995, was appointed adjunct investigator at the Joseph Stokes, Jr., Research Institute in 2001 and adjunct associate professor in the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Neurology a year later. In 2006 Feltri was named head of the Neuroglia Unit.

Her research has been supported since 1998 by grants from the Italian Ministry of Health, and as subcontractor on NIH grants collaborating with researchers at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI.

Feltri currently is principal investigator on a $1.25 million grant from NIH to study laminin receptors—proteins found in the basement membranes of most animal tissue—and their interaction with Schwann cells. The basement membrane is a thin, delicate layer of connective tissue underlying the outer tissue layer of many organs. Schwann cells cover the axons in the peripheral nervous system and form the myelin sheath.

Wrabetz is a member of several professional and scientific societies, including the American Academy of Neurology, the American Society of Neurochemistry, the International Society of Neurochemistry and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Feltri is a member three Italian national societies, including the Italian Society of Neuroscience, and is a member of the American Society of Neurochemistry, the American Society of Neuroscience, and the AAAS.

Both researchers are author or coauthor on many papers published in peer-reviewed journals. BP

"WE ARE ELATED AND HONORED TO HAVE BOTH DR. LARRY WRABETZ AND DR. LAURA FELTRI JOIN THE HUNTER'S HOPE FAMILY. THEIR APPOINTMENTS COMPLETE OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR THE HJKRI." —JACQUE WAGGONER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF HUNTER'S HOPE FOUNDATION

Quattrin Named Pediatrics Chair

Teresa Quattrin, MD, professor of pediatrics at UB and an internationally known physician-scientist with expertise in childhood diabetes and obesity, has been appointed chair of the Department of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Her appointment, which followed a comprehensive national search, was effective February 1. She had been serving as interim chair of the department, which is based in Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo (WCHOB).

In announcing the appointment, Dean Michael E. Cain, MD, said: "Dr. Quattrin emerged clearly as our top candidate. She possesses the administrative, scientific, clinical, leadership and visionary skills needed to move the department forward.

"With her knowledge and experience," he continued, "she will expand the department's basic and clinical research programs to fulfill UB 2020's strategic goals, and develop and align clinical programs with Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo through our affiliation with Kaleida Health."

Cheryl Klass, president of WCHOB, said of the appointment: "I'm thrilled that Dr. Quattrin's leadership and clinical expertise will allow Women and Children's Hospital to continue advancing the care we provide to children from Western New York and beyond.

"As the major pediatric teaching hospital for UB's school of medicine, our patients and families will benefit from Dr. Quattrin's leadership. She will strengthen innovation and quality of care delivered by our comprehensive team of pediatric specialists."

In addition to her chairmanship, Quattrin will serve as Kaleida Health's pediatrician-in-chief, chief of the department's Division of Pediatric Endocrinology and director of the WCHOB Diabetes Center.

Quattrin and colleagues currently are testing a novel family-based, weight-control intervention in preschool children in urban and suburban pediatric practices in Western New York. The intervention, called Buffalo Healthy Tots, is the first of its kind in the U.S. The project is funded by a $2.58 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

She also is principal investigator on Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet, a study conducted nationally and internationally to prevent diabetes and halt its progression. Blood samples are collected in relatives of persons with type 1 diabetes to establish the risk for the disease and to enroll them in protocols to prevent it. In conjunction, therapies are being tested to explore the possibility of halting the progression of Type 1 Diabetes in children who were newly diagnosed.


Quattrin

Closer to home, Quattrin has received one of five Type 2 Diabetes Center of Excellence grants from the New York State Department of Health to screen youth at increased risk of developing the disease. The $500,000 award is in its fourth year. BP
—Lois Baker

School of Public Health and Health Professions Accredited

THE UB SCHOOL of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP) has earned full accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health for five years, the maximum for an initial accreditation. Accreditation was the culmination of a rigorous multi-year peer-review process. UB's SPHHP now is one of only 43 schools in the U.S. to hold membership in the Association of Schools of Public Health.


Kozlowski

"When the school was founded in 2003, the vision was to become accredited and join the first rank of public health schools in the country," says Lynn T. Kozlowski, PhD, dean of SPHHP at the time of the announcement in November. "I'm proud that we have accomplished this on our first effort.

"This accreditation aids us in carrying out the mission of public health—to help prevent and treat health problems that shorten lives and reduce quality of life, and to train public health and health professionals in an environment focused on wellness, disease prevention and environmental and population issues.

"We have a significant shortage of public health workers," continues Kozlowski, "and this shortage challenges us in Western New York, in the state, in the nation and in the world. We will need more than 250,000 public health workers by 2020 to meet the world's health-care needs—a challenge that is compounded by the impending retirement of nearly one-fourth of the current public health workforce. SPHHP now can accelerate its training of public health workers and help deal with this shortage."

Accredited schools of public health must provide master of public health (MPH) degree programs in each of five core public health areas: epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, social and behavioral sciences, and health services administration. They also must offer at least three doctoral degree programs. UB's SPHHP offers these five MPH degrees, plus three highly regarded doctoral programs: in biostatistics, epidemiology, and community health and health behavior.

"Our MPH degree programs, coupled with health professions programs in exercise and nutrition sciences and rehabilitation science, and our affiliations with several other UB professional schools, make this school a valuable asset locally and beyond," says Kozlowski.

"Also of note, our programs in assistive technology, occupational therapy and physical therapy indicate we are acutely aware, perhaps more so than schools of public health without these programs, that disability is a public health issue of critical and increasing importance." BP
—Lois Baker

Alumnus Appointed to SUNY Board of Trustees

By S. A Unger

MARSHALL A. LICHTMAN, MD '60, professor and former dean of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, has been appointed to the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees.

Lichtman was nominated by Governor David A. Paterson and confirmed by the New York State Senate on May 20. He will serve through June 2011.

"I am honored to accept this appointment to the SUNY Board of Trustees," says Lichtman. "Having spent most of my career in higher education, and being the only current trustee who is an academic physician, I will try to add that perspective to the SUNY leadership. Of the 64 universities or colleges for which the board is responsible, four are medical centers. Many of the issues we're facing in a time of limited resources and increasing demands will require extraordinary ingenuity and I welcome the opportunity to participate in the process."

SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher adds: "One of our strategic promises is to build a healthier New York, and Dr. Lichtman's years of experience as a physician, a teacher and a researcher will be a great benefit to us as we work to reach that goal."


Lichtman

Lichtman received his undergraduate degree in zoology from Cornell University and his medical degree from UB. He is currently the editor-in-chief of the journal *Blood Cells, Molecules, and Diseases*. BP

Stem Cell Analysis Center Funded

Richard Gronostajski, PhD, professor of biochemistry in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and his colleagues have received $3.5 million from the Empire State Stem Cell Board to establish a Western New York Stem Cell Culture and Analysis Center.

The funds will be used to promote and facilitate research in the use of mouse and human embryonic, adult, induced pluripotent and cancer stem cells. Pluripotent cells have the ability to become nearly any type of cell in the body.


Gronostajski

"All these types of stem cells have tremendous potential for our understanding and treatment of human diseases, including diabetes, cancers, spinal cord injury, Parkinson's disease, cardiomyopathies, neurodegenerative diseases and the damage or degeneration of various organs due to aging or injury," says Gronostajski, who is principal investigator on the grant.

The center will provide highly specialized and easy-to-use resources to obtain, culture, expand and store stem cells, and to generate new stem cells by genetic reprogramming of somatic cells—cells that form the body of an organism.

Researchers in the center also will analyze the growth, differentiation and tumor- inducing characteristics of stem cells to determine their ability to repopulate and heal organs in mice and other animals, and to determine the genes and regulatory regions responsible for the growth and differentiated characteristics of stem cells and their progeny.

"We need specialized facilities for these functions in order to speed and maximize research efforts by scientists currently using stem cells, and to create an easy access point for new investigators to begin to use stem cells in their research," says Gronostajski. "Such a center will be used by scientists in New York State and from surrounding regions to conduct important stem cell studies."

The center will be composed of four core facilities: a stem cell culture, banking and training facility; an induced pluripotent stem cell generation facility; a stem cell engraftment facility; and a stem cell sequencing/epigenomics facility.

The cores will be led by a UB interdisciplinary team of Jian Feng, PhD, associate professor of physiology and biophysics; Michal Stachowiak, PhD, associate professor of pathology and anatomical sciences and director of the Molecular and Structural Neurobiology and Gene Therapy Program; Emmanouhl Tzanakakis, PhD, assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering; and Michael Buck, PhD, assistant professor of biochemistry.

The award is part of $30.5 million in funding to support biomedical research infrastructure and stem cell research training throughout the state. Gronostajski's research was supported by the UB 2020 Interdisciplinary Research Development Fund. BP
—Lois Baker

Olson Heads New Division

The UB School of Public Health and Health Professions has established a Division of Environmental Health Sciences and appointed James R. Olson, PhD, professor of pharmacology and toxicology in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, as director.

The division will be part of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (SPM), which currently has research and teaching programs in environmental epidemiology and environmental health. Olson has held a secondary faculty appointment in SPM since 1994.

Jo L. Freudenheim, PhD, professor and chair of SPM, says: "Having the expertise Jim brings in environmental toxicology as part of our program will be terrific for both students and other faculty doing work on environmental health.

"While there has been a long collaboration between Jim and others in SPM, this is a chance to bridge the work that we are doing in our department with the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology and with the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences."


Olson

"Environmental Health Sciences is highly interdisciplinary, and requires faculty from a wide range of backgrounds to address diverse environmental health problems through multidisciplinary research, teaching and service," says Olson.

The new division's multidisciplinary research will support the UB 2020 strategic strength in molecular recognition in biological systems and bioinformatics.

Under Olson's leadership, the new division will broaden the scope of environmental health sciences by hiring new faculty and by establishing cross-discipline affiliations with faculty in environmental epidemiology, toxicology/environmental and occupational health, environmental engineering, environmental chemistry, environmental geography, environmental law and other areas.

The division will support environmental health research, and will assist in teaching the MPH environmental health concentration in the department's master of public health program. BP

—Lois Baker

Students Accepted into Prestigious Research Training Programs

SARNOFF SCHOLARS. Two students in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences won scholarships from the Sarnoff Cardiovascular Research Foundation to conduct intensive work in a biomedical research laboratory in the United States.


Balderman


Kappus

Joshua Balderman and Mojdeh Kappus, both second-year medical students, were among 11 finalists selected from 50 applicants. This is the first year UB medical students have entered the competition.

Winners are selected based on intellectual and academic achievement and leadership ability. They also submitted an essay detailing how they would solve a specific problem.

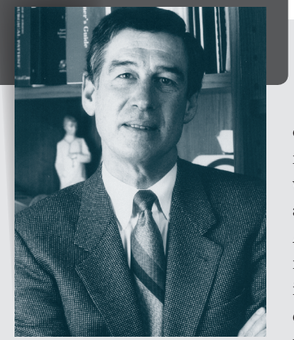
Fellows select a laboratory where they will spend their next year, based on their specific research interest in cardiovascular medicine. Balderman hopes to work in a laboratory where he can do research on small vessel engineering. Kappus plans to continue her research into atherosclerosis.

Winners receive a $27,500 stipend, plus up to $7,000 for travel to select a preceptor and fellowship laboratory, moving expenses, health insurance and computer equipment.

They also receive financial support to attend the Sarnoff Annual Scientific meetings, American Heart Association Scientific Sessions, American Society for Clinical Investigation Annual Meeting and NIH Clinical Investigator Student Trainee Forum.

The students will present the results of their research at two national conferences at the end of their research year.

Milch Receives National Award


Milch

Robert Milch, MD '68, clinical professor of surgery and former medical director of The Center for Hospice & Palliative Care, is one of four physicians who have been named recipients of the first Hastings Center Cunniff-Dixon Physician Awards.

The awards were given by the Cunniff-Dixon Foundation, whose mission is to enrich the doctor-patient relationship at the end of life, in partnership with The Hastings Center, a bioethics research institute known for its pioneering work on end-of-life decision-making. The nomination and selection process was administered by the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life.

The awardees were drawn from a national group of nominees. "The recipients rose to the top of an extremely impressive list of nominees," says selection committee member Richard Payne, MD, Esther Colliflower Director of the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life. "The award not only honors the achievements of these fine doctors, but also advances the reach and prestige of the field of palliative and end-of-life care and its power to achieve true holistic, high-quality, patient-centered care."

The awards were made in two categories: an established physician category for leadership in end-of-life care and an early-career physician category for serious commitment to the field and contribution through practical research or clinical work.

Milch, who received the established physician award of $50,000, has been involved with hospice and palliative care for more than 30 years, most of it at Hospice Buffalo, where he initially served as a volunteer medical director. As a surgeon, he has been recognized for his longstanding commitment to and excellence in clinical care for patients with advanced illness and for his regional and national leadership in palliative care and surgery.

For more information on the award and its other national recipients, visit www.thehastingscenter.org and search "The Hastings Center Cunniff-Dixon Physician Awards." BP

—S. A. Unger

NIH CLINICAL RESEARCH TRAINING. Anita Tipirneni and Gary Altwerger, third-year medical students in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, will be spending the upcoming year as fellows in the Clinical Research Training Program at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).


Tipirneni


Altwerger

The 12-month training program is conducted at the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD, for medical and dental students. The fellows take part in a mentored clinical or translational research project in an area that matches their personal interests and goals. Only 30 students a year are accepted into the program.

An individualized program is developed for the fellows, who attend clinics, see patients on the wards and work with a principal NIH investigator on selected clinical research projects to be determined on-site.

Participants learn about translational research, the first step in the progression from the bench to the bedside and back to the bench. They also will attend lectures on clinical research and participate in interactive group learning activities with the members of the class and leading NIH physicians and scientists.

The program is supported jointly by the NIH and the Foundation for NIH through grants from Pfizer Inc. as part of its public-private partnerships initiative. BP

—Lois Baker

Canty and Rokitka Receive Chancellor's Awards

John M. Canty Jr., MD '79, Albert and Elizabeth Rekate Chair in Cardiovascular Disease, and Mary Anne Rokitka, PhD, associate dean for biomedical undergraduate education, were among the seven UB faculty members who received 2010 SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Excellence this spring.

By Sue Wuetcher

Canty received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, which recognizes the work of those who engage actively in scholarly and creative pursuits beyond their teaching responsibilities. In addition to the Rekate Chair, he serves as director of UB's Center for Research in Cardiovascular Medicine, chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine and vice chair for research in the Department of Medicine in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. He holds faculty appointments as professor of physiology and biophysics, and biomedical engineering.

Canty also heads the Cardiovascular Disease Group in UB's New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences, serves on several UB 2020 committees and is a member of the UBMD faculty practice plan.

He is recognized internationally for his research, which has led to novel approaches to repair diseased heart muscle and grow new blood vessels, as well as to better identify patients at risk of developing sudden cardiac arrest. He has served on many National Institutes of Health and Veterans Administration peer-review committees, and he is a member of the editorial boards of a number of scientific journals. A fellow of the American College of Physicians, the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association, he also has been elected to the prestigious Association of University Cardiologists.

A graduate of the UB medical school, Canty is an attending cardiologist at the VA Medical Center, Erie County Medical Center and Kaleida Health. He received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the UB Alumni Association in 2008 for his service to UB and for his research.

Mary Anne Rokitka, PhD, received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service, which honors professional staff performance excellence "both within and beyond the position."

A clinical professor in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Rokitka began her academic career at UB in 1973 as a research associate in hyperbaric physiology. She has studied such topics as the sensitivity of terrestrial snails to ambient water vapor and temperature, and served as a co-investigator for space shuttle studies designed to evaluate the time course of cardiovascular deconditioning during exposure to weightlessness.

Rokitka has taught undergraduate and graduate courses on such subjects as environmental physiology and life in space. She has served as director of the Hospital Nursing Program; assistant to the vice president for health sciences; acting dean of the Division of Undergraduate Academic Services; associate dean of the Undergraduate College; and assistant dean of the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. She is the recipient of the first annual Dr. Mary Anne Rokitka Award and the Charles W. Shilling Award from the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society.

She is the recipient of the 1993 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and the 2004 Milton Plesur Excellence in Teaching Award from the undergraduate Student Association.

Rokitka holds a bachelor's degree in education from Medaille College and a master's degrees in natural sciences and biology and a PhD in biology, both from UB. Prior to starting her university career, she taught biology, chemistry, physics and earth science for several years at secondary schools in upstate New York. BP

John M. Canty (left) and Mary Anne Rokitka (above)

Myers Named Director of Simulation Center

Jeffrey W. Myers, DO, clinical assistant professor of emergency medicine, has been named director of the Behling Simulation Center, which brings together UB's five health sciences schools for purposes of creating a multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary simulation/educational experience for students, medical and dental residents and advanced practice nurses. The center will also provide continuing education using simulation.

Myers

The announcement was made in January by David L. Dunn, MD, PhD, vice president for health sciences at UB, who stated that Myers will be responsible for "the development, growth and implementation of the overarching vision" of the Simulation Center.

"Dr. Myers has significant experience in simulation operation and methodology in the hospital and prehospital environment," said Dunn. "He is the author of several clinical and educational texts and articles, is active in national simulation and emergency medicine organizations and has lectured across the U.S. We are very fortunate to have him lead the center."

The Simulation Center will be located on the fourth floor of Farber Hall and is expected to open in late 2011. A pilot program was launched in March 2010 in the center's temporary location in 220 Farber Hall.

To learn more about this pilot program, go to http://ubahc.buffalo.edu/simulation/. BP

—S. A. Unger

Russell Appointed to mBio Board

Michael W. Russell, PhD, professor of microbiology and immunology and oral biology, has been appointed to the board of editors of *mBio,* the American Society for Microbiology's open-access online journal, which began publication in May.

Russell

Russell, who will serve a three-year term, focuses his research at UB on the mucosal immune system, IgA antibodies, immunity to infections of the mouth and genital tract, and novel approaches to mucosal vaccine development.

"The goal for *mBio* is to publish the very best science in microbiology, with particular emphasis on papers that are integrative and highlight connectivity under the microbiology tent," says editor-in-chief Arturo Casadevall, MD, PhD, professor of microbiology and immunology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

To learn more about *mBio*, visit http://mbio.asm.org/papers.shtml. BP

—S.A. Unger

Ruh Named Senior VP at CHS

As part of a strategic focus to better integrate its clinical services, Catholic Health System (CHS) has named Richard J. Ruh, MD '90, senior vice president of service lines. A primary care physician with a private medical practice in Orchard Park, NY, Ruh will provide oversight for the continued development of CHS's clinical service lines, which include vascular disease, made up of cardiac, stroke and vascular services; women's services; orthopedics; and oncology.

Ruh has been a member of CHS's board of directors since 2007, serving on its executive committee and as chair of its finance committee. He has served as vice president of medical affairs and vice president of the medical staff at Mercy Hospital of Buffalo. He is also a member of the Catholic Independent Practice Association, serving on its board of directors from 2000 to 2005 and as its chair from 2003 to 2004.

Ruh

Along with his sister and medical partner, Jennifer Ruh, MD, Ruh has introduced many innovative quality initiatives in his own medical practice. "Dr. Ruh has a clear vision of what patients need and want from their health-care providers," says Joseph P. McDonald, president and chief executive office of CHS. "He is also a respected leader in the local physician community, bringing with him the physician's perspective to service line development."

Over the next year, Ruh will gradually transition from his private medical practice to become a full-time member of CHS's senior leadership team. "By developing our clinical service lines, Catholic Health will not only improve the quality of care available to patients in our hospitals and health centers, but more importantly, will raise the bar on clinical care in our community," he says. BP

—S. A. Unger

Siegel Awards for Excellence in Teaching

The Louis A. and Ruth Siegel Awards for Excellence in Teaching are the foremost means for recognizing extraordinary teachers in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

A student award committee composed of representatives from each medical class reviews nominations provided by students and selects awardees in four categories. Considerations for this prestigious annual award include instructional skill, ability to stimulate thinking and develop understanding, demonstration of sensitivity toward the human condition, and serving as a role model for students.

THE 2010 SIEGEL AWARD RECIPIENTS

FULL-TIME TEACHING IN THE BASIC SCIENCES
Thomas Mahl, MD
Medicine

FULL-TIME TEACHING IN THE CLINICAL SCIENCES
Kenneth Kahn, MD
Obstetrics/Gynecology

VOLUNTEER PHYSICIAN
Daryl Ehlenfield, MD
Pediatrics

RESIDENT TEACHING
Ivan Dominguez, MD
Surgery

Stockton-Kimball Award 2010

By Suzanne Laychock, PhD

Paul R. Knight III, MD/PhD, is the 2010 recipient of the Stockton Kimball Award, which honors a faculty member for academic accomplishments and worldwide recognition as a researcher.

Knight came to UB from the University of Michigan Medical Center in 1992 when he was named chair and professor of anesthesiology, and professor of microbiology and immunology. He is one of our best examples of a physician-scientist. He has a great passion for research, and in recognition of his accomplishments he has been continually funded since 1980 by National Institutes of Health (NIH), American Heart Association grants or other sources.

Knight's research specialization is in the pathogenesis of aspiration pneumonitis and the role of anesthetic agents in inflammation and infection. He has published more than 150 articles, books and chapters, and has made more than 60 presentations at national and international venues. He also edited the current Seventh Edition of *Wylie and Churchill-Davidson's A Practice of Anesthesia,* the leading international medical text on the medical specialty of anesthesiology.

Knight

Knight is an attending anesthesiologist at the Veteran's Affairs Medical Center. For more than six years he has served as director of the Medical Scientist Training (MD/PhD) Program in the school, and he has trained more than 100 graduate students, fellows and junior faculty, and mentored many undergraduate students in research. He has also lectured in pharmacology and microbiology.

Knight has served on numerous UB committees, on NIH study sections, as a member of the Research Committee of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, and on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Association of University Anesthesiologists, among many other professional service activities. He has shown consistent academic accomplishment during his career, producing significant research contributions, and demonstrating a concern for the progress of the University at Buffalo—excellence in its broadest sense that is the hallmark of the Stockton-Kimball Award. BP

Suzanne Laychock, PhD, is senior associate dean for faculty affairs and facilities, and professor of pharmacology and toxicology.

Calkins Receives Network in Aging Award

Evan Calkins, MD, who served for 16 years as the first chair of the UB Department of Medicine, has received the Network in Aging's inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award.

After stepping down as chair in 1977, Calkins became director of the department's Division of Geriatrics, only the seventh such division in the country at that time. Under his leadership, the division's fellowship program became the largest in the country and, by the time he retired in 1989, 10 percent of all fellowship-trained geriatricians in the country had come through the UB program.

During his tenure as division head, Calkins collaborated with community leaders committed to enhancing the care of older people and eventually formed the Network in Aging, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

Calkins was invited to be a member of the National Advisory Council of the National Institute on Aging and also to serve as consultant to a number of other universities interested in developing programs in this field.

After retiring, he was invited to join Healthcare Plan as senior physician and consultant in aging, a position he held for five years. For the past 18 years, he also has maintained a private practice of geriatrics and rheumatology, currently sharing office space in Hamburg, New York, with his daughter, Joan Calkins, MD.

Throughout his career, Calkins has received a number of honors, including the Geriatric Medicine Academic Award from the National Institute on Aging, 1980; the Dean's Award from the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; the Second Annual Milo D. Leavitt Award for Leadership in Geriatric Education from the American Geriatrics Society; Master, American College of Rheumatology, 1987; and Master, American College of Physicians. BP

—S. A. Unger

From left: Virginia Calkins, Evan Calkins, MD, John Feather, executive director and CEO American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.

DEAN'S AWARD

The Dean's Award is given in recognition of extraordinary service to the school. This year's recipient is Suzanne Laychock, PhD, senior associate dean for faculty affairs and facilities, and professor of pharmacology and toxicology. A prolific researcher,

Laychock

Laychock also served the school for many years as head of its research and graduate biomedical education programs. Currently, she directs the school's undergraduate biomedical educational programs.

"Suzanne manifests all of the special qualities (and then some) that the Dean's Award recognizes," says Dean Cain. "She epitomizes the team player who works tirelessly in multiple areas to make our school better. We are indeed fortunate to have someone so devoted to our university."

BERKSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Wandass

The Robert S. Berkson, MD, Award in the Art of Medicine recognizes excellent patient care and teaching provided by volunteer physicians specializing in internal medicine.

This year's recipient is Joseph Wandass, MD '97, PhD '86, who is a partner in a medical-pediatric practice in Orchard Park, NY. Wandass has played a key role in providing ambulatory care training to the school's medped residents for many years.

NAUGHTON AWARD

The Naughton Award recognizes "an individual who, day in and day out, in his or her own quiet way, makes our school, with its affiliated teaching hospitals, a stronger, healthier and happier place for the rest of us to learn, work, conduct research, provide patient care and teach."

This year's recipient of the Naughton Award is Mary Anne Rokitka, PhD, associate dean for biomedical undergraduate education, and clinical professor of physiology and biophysics (see also Chancellor's Award on page 31).

"A review of Mary Anne's professional service does not come close to defining the contributions that she has made to the school and university," said Dean Cain in presenting the award. "She has been a 'triple threat' in that she participates in teaching physiology, directing an undergraduate major and serving as an administrative dean.

"Mary Anne can truly be described as altruistic in her acts to enrich the lives and education of our students. As one of her former biomedical sciences undergraduate students expressed it: 'She is the best part of the SUNY system; she is a hidden treasure.'" BP

Rokitka

Milling Heads Office of Medical Education

David Milling, MD '93, has been named the inaugural senior associate dean for student and academic affairs in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences' Office of Medical Education (OME). In this capacity, he will work with Avery Ellis, MD '77, PhD '79, MBA, senior associate dean for medical curriculum, to oversee the student, admissions, multicultural, academic, and educational affairs in the OME.

"Establishment of this new senior associate dean position emphasizes the school's commitment to medical student development and education, and will better align administration with the school's updated objectives and goals that were developed through our recently completed LCME self-study process," said Michael E. Cain, MD, dean of the school, at the time he announced the appointment in August.


Milling

Milling earned a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy and a medical degree from UB. He completed his residency in internal medicine at UB, serving as chief resident. Following residency, he completed a primary care faculty development fellowship at Michigan State University.

He joined UB's faculty in 1993 as a clinical instructor and is a two-time recipient of the coveted Louis A. and Ruth Siegel Award for Teaching Excellence (1994 and 2000). He also is a recipient of the Carter F. Panell Award for Outstanding Teaching presented to a junior faculty member in the Department of Medicine (2000).

Prior to his current position, Milling served in a number of roles in the UB Office of Medical Education, including associate dean for multicultural affairs, medical director of the Clinical Competency Program, director of the Post-Baccalaureate Program, and director of the Science and Technology Entry Program.

He is board certified in internal medicine and a member of the American College of Physicians and the National Medical Association. BP

—S.A. Unger

Bennett Receives Labe Scheinberg Award

Susan E. Bennett, EdD, clinical associate professor of neurology and rehabilitation science at UB, received the prestigious Labe Scheinberg Award for her platform presentation on "The Validity, Reliability and Sensitivity of Three Gait Measures in Multiple Sclerosis" at the Annual Meeting of the Consortium of MS Centers (CMSC) in San Antonio, TX, in June.

The Labe Scheinberg Award recognizes the most outstanding work in the field of neurorehabilitation in MS and honors the multidisciplinary spirit prevalent among MS professionals. Dr. Labe Scheinberg was one of the earliest advocates for bringing together professionals from many disciplines to address MS.

Bennett is director of the MS Comprehensive Care Center at the Jacobs Neurological Institute (UB's Department of Neurology), located in Buffalo General Hospital. She also directs a Wellness Program for individuals with MS that has been offered for over 18 years at the Wellness Center in DeGraff Memorial Hospital. In 2008, she received an award from the Foundation of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers to establish and direct their national fellowship program for MS rehabilitation professionals. BP


Bennett

Duffey Receives Concept Award for Autism Research

Michael E. Duffey, PhD, professor of physiology and biophysics, is one of nine recipients from a field of 66 applicants to receive an Autism Research Program grant from the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP), under the U.S. Department of Defense.

Duffey, who is a specialist in molecular mechanisms of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, has received an $118,620 Concept Award, established in fiscal year 2007 "to support exploration of an initial idea or novel observation that could result in a testable hypothesis," according to the CDMRP.


Duffey

His grant will support an investigation of certain cellular mechanisms that may be related to gastrointestinal problems diagnosed in persons with autism.

Autism is defined by behavioral patterns and delays in language development, but research has shown that chronic GI problems, such as abdominal pain, diarrhea, constipation, esophagitis and gaseousness also may be involved.

"The central hypothesis of this proposal is that altered handling of calcium ions by GI nerve and muscle causes some of these GI disorders," says Duffey. "To study these disorders, we will use a genetically altered mouse that exhibits the rare disorder of Timothy Syndrome (TS).

"Individuals with TS have a particular genetic mutation in cell membrane calcium ion channels," he explains. "Strikingly, approximately 80 percent of patients carrying this mutation also have been diagnosed with autism. No other human mutation shows this high degree of correlation."

Duffey and colleagues James Russell, PhD, Glenna Bett, PhD, and Randall Rasmusson, PhD, all of the UB Department of Physiology and Biophysics, will examine intestinal smooth muscle in TS mice to determine if intracellular calcium ion overload alters the ability to propel food through the intestines. They also will determine if nerves of the intestine abnormally regulate the absorption processes, and will use molecular biological techniques to determine the mechanisms that lead to altered function of these channels.

"Study of this unique mouse will provide key insights into the cellular basis of autism and its relationship to GI disorders and will provide a model for testing new therapies," says Duffey. BP

—Lois Baker

In Memoriam

Faaiza Ansari, MD '10

Fourth-year medical student aspired to be a pediatrician


Ansari

Faaiza Ansari, 25, a fourth-year student in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, died in a fire at her family's home in Cheektowaga, NY, on December 23, 2009. Also killed were her sister, Saaiba, 22, a mechanical engineering student at UB, and their father, Mohammad, 60, a UB graduate with a degree in mechanical engineering.

Ansari, who aspired to be a pediatrician, had recently visited Baylor University Medical Center to interview for a residency.

"This was a woman who loved kids and loved people," Nancy Nielsen, MD '76, PhD, senior associate dean for medical education, told the *Buffalo News* in the days following the tragedy. "She was a beautiful person, both outwardly and inwardly, and someone who was very talented."

Ansari had been working with Susan S. Baker, MD, PhD, professor of pediatrics, on research about bone health and children who have inflammatory bowel disease.

"She was very smart. She was a very hard worker and extremely conscientious," said Baker, who is co–division chief of the Center for Digestive Diseases and Nutrition at Women and Children's Hospital of Buffalo. "She had a lot of vitality, and she voiced a real love of pediatrics—she would have been a marvelous physician."

On February 11, 2010, a memorial for Ansari was held in Butler Auditorium. This spring, the Department of Pediatrics renamed its summer internship in her honor, as did the Polity's Pediatric student-interest club.

Ansari was awarded her medical degree posthumously.

She survived by her mother, Sohaila; an older brother, Ziauddin; and an older sister, Saaraa, all of whom attended graduation, where her brother accepted Faaiza's degree.

IN MEMORIAM

Albert C. Rekate, MD '40

Physician leader, teacher, mentor and philanthropist

ALBERT C. REKATE, MD, a retired cardiologist and UB faculty member who endowed several awards and chairs at the university, died on February 6, 2010, after a long illness. He was 93.


Rekate

A 1940 graduate of the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Rekate completed his residency at E. J. Meyer Memorial Hospital (now Erie County Medical Center) and served as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1944 to 1947.

He joined the UB medical school faculty in 1954. Among his numerous contributions, he established the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, serving as acting chair from 1972 to 1975, and also played a role in the creation of the School of Health Related Professions, now the School of Public Health and Health Professions, serving as acting dean from 1965 to 1966 and associate dean from 1966 to 1974.

At the same time, he held a variety of administrative posts at E.J. Meyer Hospital, among them associate director of medicine from 1957 to 1963 and director of the Department of Rehabilitation medicine from 1964 to 1969. As director of the hospital from 1970 to 1973, he played a role in the hospital's transition to the present-day Erie County Medical Center (ECMC).

Rekate retired from UB as a professor emeritus of medicine in 1986, but continued to be active in the school, serving as a member of the Dean's Advisory council and its emeritus faculty group.

Over the years, he had been a generous benefactor of the health sciences at UB, establishing the Albert and Elizabeth Rekate Chair in Cardiovascular Diseases and endowing the Glen E. Gresham, M.D., Visiting Professorship in Rehabilitation Medicine, both in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. He also endowed the Dean's Award Fund in the School of Public Health and Health Professions and contributed seed money to develop an undergraduate core research curriculum in the school.

"Throughout my tenure as professor and chairman of rehabilitation medicine, Dr. Rekate was a trusted advisor who provided unwavering support and encouragement," says Glen Gresham, MD, who was recruited to UB by Rekate in 1978 to serve as the first permanent chair of the Department of Rehabilitation. "He was a constant source of inspiration to me and all of my colleagues in the department," he adds, "Because of his vision, we were able to establish a Spinal Cord Injury Center at ECMC, a Head Trauma Rehabilitation Program for the community and engage in extramurally funded research in Functional Assessment and other important areas with the resultant publication of several textbooks and innumerable articles in the medical literature."

John Canty, MD '79, Albert and Elizabeth Rekate Professor of Medicine at UB, states: "As a faculty member in the early years of cardiology at UB, Dr. Rekate was known for his enthusiasm and talent as a clinical educator. He was an influential role model, encouraging many students to enter this new and rapidly emerging subspecialty of medicine. Upon retiring, he remained keenly interested in the development of the division of cardiology. I found him to be a great source of encouragement and support; even as an emeritus professor, he had a strong and lasting commitment to academic medicine."

Willard Boardman, MD '44, was a friend of Rekate's for more than 60 years and established an endowment to support the Rekate Chair in Cardiology. "In addition to being a friend and mentor, Dr. Rekate was a great teacher," says Boardman, who first met Rekate as a third-year medical student at UB and continued to be guided by him as an intern and resident at the E. J. Meyer Memorial Hospital. "He did so much for the school and for those of us who were interested in cardiology. He was an exceptionally kind and generous man and an inspiration to me throughout my career."

Francis Klocke, MD '60, professor of medicine emeritus (cardiology) in the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University and chief of cardiology at UB from 1976 to 1991, first met Rekate when he was a medical student at UB. "We all recognized and admired him as one of our best clinical teachers," recalls Klocke. "Indeed, his explanations of heart sounds and murmurs were one of the factors leading me to consider cardiology as a career.

"Dr. Rekate was a great friend and valued mentor throughout my 25 years on the UB faculty," Klocke continues. "His personal contributions were pivotal to the development of many fruitful programs at both UB and ECMC. His always-positive and insightful approach to complex issues facilitated interactions that were synergistic rather than merely additive. His establishment of the Rekate Chair in Cardiovascular Diseases provided new and unique options for expanding cardiovascular research and recruiting talented young faculty."

Rekate was active in numerous medical societies on a local, state and national level and served as president of the Western New York Heart Association, the Medical Union, the Buffalo Academy of Medicine and UB's Medical Alumni Society.

He received the Samuel P. Capen Award from the UB Alumni Association for notable and meritorious contributions to the university and its family in 1982 and the Dean's Award from the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in 1983.

Rekate is survived by his wife, Linda Holt Rekate, retired UB clinical assistant professor and director of the Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic. He was predeceased in 1985 by his previous wife, Elizabeth Foster Rekate.

Memorials may be made to the Albert and Elizabeth Rekate Chair in Cardiovascular Diseases in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, or to the School of Public Health and Health Professions, c/o the UB Foundation, P.O. Box 900, Buffalo, NY 14226-0900.

—S. A. UNGER

Ivan L. Bunnell, MD '43

Cardiology pioneer and longtime UB professor

IVAN L. BUNNELL, MD '43, an internationally renowned cardiologist and longtime UB clinical professor of medicine, died on February 20, 2010, in Amherst, NY, after a brief illness. He was 92.


Bunnell

Bunnell was born in Waterbury, CT, and earned a bachelor's degree from Middlebury College. He began his association with the UB medical school in 1938 when he accepted a position as a student assistant in physiology. In 1941 he earned a master's degree in physiology before completing his medical degree in 1943.

Bunnell completed his internship and residency at E. J. Meyer Memorial Hospital (now Erie County Medical Center). He served in the Army from 1941 to 1946 and in the Public Health Service in Kansas City, MO, from 1946 to 1948.

Bunnell established the area's first adult cardiac catheterization laboratory in 1948 at Buffalo General Hospital with the late David G. Greene, MD, his medical partner for 43 years.

In addition to developing the world's first complex-angled X-ray view of the coronary arteries in 1973, he was one of the first physicians to recognize that a similar technique could be used in the study of renal disease, and he wrote a book on the topic.

"Dr. Bunnell was a wonderful teacher, friend and counselor to everyone in cardiology at UB," says Francis J. Klocke, MD '60, professor of medicine emeritus (cardiology) in the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University and chief of cardiology at UB from 1976 to 1991. "Together with Dr. Greene, he pioneered angiography and interventional cardiology in Western New York. His development of angulated views of the coronary arteries in the late 1960s and early 1970s facilitated the identification of often-unappreciated major arterial narrowing. Not surprisingly, his approach was quickly adopted by other laboratories in the United States and abroad.

"Although based at Buffalo General Hospital, Dr. Bunnell also was generous and thoughtful in assisting in the development of cardiac catheterization programs at Erie County Medical Center and other local institutions," Klocke adds. "His gentle demeanor and understanding of patients' individual needs enhanced his effectiveness as a physician and were an example to all of us."

Bunnell is survived by his wife, Alice; a daughter, Anne Damm; and two sons, Gene and Mark.

—S. A. UNGER