

# MEDICINE MATTERS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI



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## A Note from Dean Reece, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.



**Dear alumni, colleagues and friends:**

In 2001, the College of Medicine (COM) established an ambitious set of goals for strengthening the institution and

advancing its stature among all medical schools. This 5-Year Vision Plan covered every aspect of the COM: education, clinical affairs, research, finance and philanthropy. We refined and upgraded this strategic plan a few years later in recognition of the outstanding early success that we had experienced.

In early June, almost 100 COM leaders and faculty came together once again to take stock of our past achievements and establish

a vision plan for the next five years. They worked together and in breakout groups during the 1½-day retreat to determine the goals, objectives and strategies that best represent the COM's aspirations for 2006-2011. The participants did a superb job. Ideas and discussion flowed freely, resulting in a draft that key leaders are now working to refine into a final document.

As many of you are aware, I will be leaving the COM on Sept. 1 to become Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Maryland. It is a bittersweet time for me, as I have so enjoyed working with colleagues here at UAMS to achieve new heights in all of our programs. However, the success of the recent retreat has reinforced my already-strong belief that COM faculty members are committed to maintaining and enhancing the high quality of our educational, clinical and research programs, as well as

to improving the already-strong finance and philanthropy programs that make our primary missions possible.

If you would like a copy of the new 5-Year Vision Plan when it is completed, please contact the Alumni Affairs staff. We would love to share this information with you.

Louis Pasteur said: "Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal. My strength lies solely in my tenacity." After having worked successfully with the COM's outstanding faculty and administrative leaders toward our earlier goals, I have no doubt that they have the individual and collective tenacity to accomplish these new objectives.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "E. Albert Reece".

E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.  
Vice Chancellor and Dean

## A Note from the Director, Judith McClain



As I began writing this, it was spring in Arkansas, a wonderful time of year, especially at UAMS. So many incredible things are happening for our students – and they're the main reason why the rest of us are here.

I experienced my first Match Day, the day when medical students nationwide learn where they will serve their residencies. Tears stung my eyes as I witnessed the overwhelming exuberance of these young men and women as they received their assignments during the big event at Juanita's Restaurant in Little Rock. Entire families were present – husbands, wives, children and parents of the graduates all shared in the momentous occasion, as did many faculty and staff who have shepherded these students throughout medical school. I hold an overwhelming respect

for the dedication and commitment required from each and every student and extend to them my deepest congratulations.

Our freshman class set a new record during the annual phonathon, raising more money in a single night than ever before. In fact, we can now report that we have raised over \$24,000 to fund full-tuition scholarships and \$55,000 to fund class scholarships, endowments and other general activities for medical students.

And last, but certainly not least in this great chain of events, was Convocation and Commencement. It's been over 40 years since I wore a cap and gown. The thrill of it was delicious, as was my admiration for the graduates as they received their diplomas, those emblems of hard-earned success.

You will learn in other articles of our plans and activities. I am so proud to serve as the executive director of the alumni association of such a vibrant College of Medicine.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith".

## Annie Schoppach, M.D.: The Determination to Succeed

Richard B. Clark, Sharon Keel & Amanda E. Saar. *The Pulaski County Historical Review*. Winter 2005. Vol. 53, No. 4

In the early 1900s, a woman's place was still in the home. But, the Women's Suffrage Movement was gaining momentum, and women with grit and determination were breaking into professions traditionally dominated by men – including medicine.

Annie Schoppach, M.D., was one of those women. Born in 1858, she grew up along the shores of Lake Erie in Ontario, Canada, and learned lessons in strength and perseverance early on. She lost her mother when she was just 9 years old and then lost her sister six years later. She was again faced with death at the age of 18, when her father and grandfather passed away just two months apart.

Sadly, her losses continued. A year after she married her first husband, James Cutting, they lost their first child, and five years later, the marriage ended. Annie left for Michigan, taking her 2-year-old son, Herwald, with her. But for unknown reasons, she left her 4-year-old daughter, Ada, behind. While in Michigan, Annie, then a school teacher, married James Shoppach (Annie later used a variation of this name, spelling it Schoppach) and moved to his hometown of Little Rock.

It was then that Annie showed her true strength of character. She gained admittance to the Medical Department of the University of

Arkansas (now the College of Medicine at UAMS) in 1897, and during the next four years endured not only the grueling rigors of medical school, but also the pranks of her predominantly male classmates. Her graduation in 1901 was followed by two years of postgraduate studies, after which she entered into private practice in obstetrics and gynecology. Her son joined her Little Rock practice after he graduated from her alma mater in 1912.



Annie faced her second divorce in 1908 during her early years as a physician. Not long after, she was reunited with Ada, the daughter she had left in Canada – and, in fact, successfully treated her after Ada experienced difficulty conceiving her third child. After a long and successful career in medicine, Annie passed away in 1949 at the age of 91.

Perhaps Annie's career seems no less remarkable than any other woman's at a time when adversity was expected by those trying to break into the professional field. But 1901, the year Annie earned her medical degree, marks a unique point in the history of UAMS: the first time a woman graduated from this institution. At the age of 43, Annie proved to thousands of Arkansas women, then and now, that if you have the grit and determination to succeed, it can be done.

## Class Notes

**Col. Jesse O. Cavenar, Jr.** (1963), retired with military honors after 47 years of commissioned service with the United States Army. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Order of Military Medical Merit and a citation from the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, praising him for the expert clinical care rendered over the years. During his service, he has served as a consultant to the European Regional Medical Command and the U.S. European Command and as a U.S. representative to NATO psychiatry. Cavenar is a professor emeritus and vice chairman for the Department of Psychiatry at Duke University.

**Todd Clements, M.D.** (2000), recently relocated from the Meier Clinic in Richardson, Texas, to The Amen Clinic in

Newport Beach, Calif., where he will be working with SPECT scanning, which is cutting-edge brain imaging technology in psychiatry. Clements also has co-authored his first book, *Blue Genes*, with Paul Meier, M.D. You can reach Clements at 1009 E. Balboa Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92661.

**C. Dowell Patterson, M.D.** (1956), was recently one of 26 Oklahoma County physicians honored by the Oklahoma County Medical Alliance for 50 years of service. Patterson was presented with a Doctor's Day proclamation from the Oklahoma Governor's Office and the Oklahoma City Mayor's Office. The Honorable George Nigh, a former Oklahoma governor, was the speaker for the occasion.

*This section is for news about you. If you have information to share with fellow alumni, please e-mail it to [riceginny@uams.edu](mailto:riceginny@uams.edu), or mail it to:*

*Alumni Affairs  
4301 W. Markham St., #642  
Little Rock, AR 72205*

*Please include your name, address, phone number and class year.*

**Bill Waldrip, M.D.** (1984), was recently featured in the "Meet Our Members" section of the *Journal of the Arkansas Medical Society*. Waldrip is a general practitioner at the Batesville Family Practice Clinic and currently serves as a councilor for the Arkansas Medical

## Student Research Week

Junior medical students **Benjamin Culp** (left) and **Graeme Archer, Jr.** (right), review poster presentations with **John Hestir, M.D.**, class agent for the sponsoring Class of 1955, during Student Research Week, April 3-6, 2006. Participating medical students assist faculty in various departments with ongoing research throughout the year. During Student Research Week, they present results of this research, summarized in posters written by the students. Culp's poster was titled "Selective Intracranial Magnification Angiography of the Rabbit: Basic Anatomy" and described research done in the Department of Radiology. Archer's poster was titled "Wear Pattern of the Scapholunate Interosseous Ligament" and described research done in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.



## Match Day



The annual Match Day ceremony brought students, friends and family members for the traditional gathering at Juanita's Mexican Café in Little Rock, where the soon-to-be doctors found out where they would serve their residencies. The crowd counted down the final seconds to 11 a.m., when the results of the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) are released simultaneously to more than 26,000 medical school students across the country. A nationwide computerized selection process matches the fourth-year students with residency openings based on student preference and availability.

**Richard Wheeler, M.D.**, executive associate dean for academic affairs, presided over the ceremony, which saw 79 seniors appointed to residency positions in Arkansas. Fifty-six received out-of-state residencies in 26 different states. Forty-seven percent of the seniors received residencies in a primary care specialty (internal medicine, pediatrics, family medicine or obstetrics and gynecology). The most popular residency choices included family medicine (18 students), internal medicine (17), anesthesiology (13) and psychiatry (13).

## Alumni Affairs at Crossroads for Service and Growth

The College of Medicine's Alumni Affairs Office is ready to expand its outreach efforts and services to alumni, and plans for the future of these organizations are in the works.

Future goals for both organizations were discussed with 30 alumni, faculty and staff during the Alumni Affairs retreat and during the Caduceus Club Board Meeting, both held on May 8.

During the retreat, Judith McClain, executive director of Alumni Affairs, discussed the organization's past history, as well as existing opportunities to grow and expand outreach among alumni in Arkansas and elsewhere in the United States. McClain noted that Alumni Affairs is at a crossroads, and several questions must be clearly answered in order to determine new directions to best serve the COM alumni:

- **Whom do we serve?**
- **What services do we offer?**
- **How do we grow and fund ourselves for new growth?**

During the board meeting, President Bill Scurlock appointed four board members to a subcommittee who, with an attorney, will submit recommendations on much-needed Caduceus Club bylaws changes and an organizational superstructure to promote growth. The next board meeting will be Aug. 26 during Alumni Weekend.



## Convocation 2006

**Reagan Baber** (left) of Searcy, AR., and **Alan Begley** (right) of Lexa, AR., senior medical students at UAMS, prepare for the Honors Convocation hooding ceremony and reciting of the Hippocratic Oath on May 19. Both students have accepted residencies at UAMS – Baber in anesthesiology and Begley in psychiatry.

Graduation ceremonies took place on May 20. Graduation from medical school is the culmination of many years of hard work and dedication, and the ceremonies celebrate the lofty achievement attained by each graduating medical doctor. During the ceremonies, **William R. Scurlock, M.D.**, president of the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Caduceus Club, presented **Keith Martin Berner** of Russellville, AR., with the Caduceus Club Senior Award. The recipient of this award was chosen by a class vote as one who best fulfills the ideals of humanitarian public service, as demonstrated by superior awareness of and achievement in civic and community programs. Berner will begin his residency in psychiatry at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington, VT.

## Get Medicine Matters Via E-mail!

Just send an e-mail request to [riceginny@uams.edu](mailto:riceginny@uams.edu) and ask that your name be added to our e-mail broadcast list. For 2006, all alumni will receive this newsletter via the U.S. Postal Service. You may also access it on our Web site at [www.uams.edu/com/alumni](http://www.uams.edu/com/alumni). Sign up for the electronic version of Medicine Matters today!

## Multi-Medical Generations

For many of you, a career in medicine is more than a personal passion – it reflects generations of caring passed down from grandparents to parents to sons and daughters. Do you have more than one doctor in your family? Has medicine become a tradition to carry on? Is UAMS your family alma mater? We'd love to hear your story and publish it in this newsletter. If you'd like to share it, please e-mail it to Ginny Rice at [riceginny@uams.edu](mailto:riceginny@uams.edu) or mail it to:

**Alumni Affairs**  
4301 W. Markham St., #642  
Little Rock, AR 72205

## In Memoriam

**Loui G. Bayne, M.D.** (Class of 1953), died March 31, 2006. He was a clinical professor of orthopaedics at Emory University and a clinical lecturer in the Department of Orthopaedics at Tulane University. He founded the Hand Treatment Center at Northside Hospital in Atlanta. Funeral services were April 5 at the Church of the Apostles in Atlanta.

**Elizabeth Hope Gibson, M.D.** (Class of 1967), died March 30, 2006, after a brief battle with lung cancer. She practiced medicine, taught at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and enjoyed 35 years as a psychiatrist. Funeral services were held April 3 at Christ Episcopal Church in Fayetteville, Ark.

**Elizabeth Ann Murry, M.D.** (Class of 1992), died May 6, 2006, of complications from acute bipolar disease. Funeral services were held May 10 at the Lakewood United Methodist Church, and interment was at Rest Hills Memorial Park, both in Little Rock, Ark.

**Karl Sauer, M.D.** (Class of 1962), died April 11, 2006. He served as an orthopaedic surgeon at McAlester Regional Health Center in Oklahoma.

## 10th Block

*The Alumni Affairs Office of the College of Medicine hosted a congratulatory reception for graduating senior medical students at the end of their final week of classes. **Judith McClain**, executive director, is shown congratulating **Brandy Ussery** on her completion of medical school and her recent residency appointment in family medicine at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.*



## Upcoming Events

White Coat Ceremony – Aug. 6

Freshman Family Day and Scholarship Banquet – Sept. 9

## Get Ready for Alumni Weekend: Aug. 25-26

Alumni Weekend 2006 will be held on Aug. 25-26, 2006, for all graduates in the Classes of 1941, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991 and 1996. There are many exciting events planned as these graduates reunite, including a very special ceremony on Friday, Aug. 25, to honor 50-year graduates. A new feature this year is the dinner and dance on Saturday night. The featured band will be the Arrhythmics, a talented group of physicians and medical specialists from UAMS.

List of Events:

- Golden Graduate Reception honoring 50-year, 55-year and 60-year graduates  
Pinnacle Room atop the Peabody Hotel
- Alumni Banquet and Hall of Fame Presentations  
Peabody Hotel Ball Room
- Financial planning seminar, planned giving seminar and lunch  
UAMS Campus – Arkansas Cancer Research Center, Betsy Blass Board Room
- Caduceus Club Board of Trustees meeting and lunch  
UAMS Campus – Jackson T. Stephens Spine and Neurosciences Institute,  
James H. Hamlen II Boardroom
- Tour of the Clinton Library
- Luncheon cruise on the Arkansas Queen riverboat
- Class reunion dinners for all reuniting classes
- Dancing to the sounds of the Arrhythmics

Headquarters hotel is the Peabody Hotel of Little Rock. Further information and registration materials are in the mail.

## Want More News and Resources?

*Visit our new and expanding Web site. We are continually adding new information and links to provide information to our alumni. Help us stay up to date and connected with you by visiting the COM Alumni Web site at [www.uams.edu/com/alumni](http://www.uams.edu/com/alumni) and completing the online change-of-address form as needed or by e-mailing Ginny Rice at [riceginny@uams.edu](mailto:riceginny@uams.edu).*