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# THE REVIEW

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES



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*ith members of her staff, **Mary Wakefield, Ph.D.**, director of the Center for Rural Health (CRH), recently completed a round of 13 visits throughout North Dakota to talk with community and Native American tribal leaders about how the CRH can help them with challenges confronting the delivery of rural health care at the local level. The goal was to increase citizens' understanding of CRH services and expertise and for CRH staff to learn about problems firsthand in order to shape the future work and priorities of the Center for Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.*

## Med School Benefactor Dr. Keith Wold Dies

A major benefactor to the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences, **Keith Wold, M.D. (B.S. Med. '49)**, of Boca Raton, FL, died Oct. 1. He was 79.

Dr. Wold, along with the families of other children of Karl Christian Wold, M.D., contributed an historic gift to the "Campaign for Excellence" for construction of the school's library and classroom wing in the early 1990s. The wing is named the Karl Christian Wold, M.D., Bio-Information Learning Resources Center.



*Keith Wold, M.D. (B.S. Med. '49)*

Keith Wold, the son of Dr. Karl Christian Wold and Maybelle Lundgren Wold, grew up in St. Paul, MN, and attended the UND medical school where he earned the bachelor of science in medicine degree in 1949. He went on to earn the doctor of medicine degree at the University of Vermont.

In 1955, he established an active practice in ophthalmology, specializing in eye surgery, in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He was also an avid yachtsman and horse-breeder and -racer. He and his wife, Elaine, established The Bay Branch Foundation in 1961 and the Wold Charitable Trust to support education and research, with a focus on assisting handicapped and disabled persons.

In 1990, Dr. Wold received the Sioux Award, the highest honor bestowed by the UND Alumni Association and Foundation.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Elaine; son, Keith Wold, Jr., New York City; daughter, Diana Wold of Boca Raton, and two granddaughters.



Photo by Brenden Timpe, UND Dakota Student

*Robert Eelkema, M.D. (B.S. Med. '59) (left), and former UND President Tom Clifford sign copies of their book, "Good Medicine," while Brad Gibbens waits for his copy. Gibbens is associate director of the Center for Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. "Good Medicine" details the lobbying efforts to establish a four-year medical school at UND in the early 1970s and profiles some of the school's outstanding alumni practicing throughout North Dakota.*

## Authors of 'Good Medicine' Describe Obstacles To Launching Four-year Med School 30 Years Ago

To provide education and to provide health care for North Dakotans - these were the bases for launching a four-year, degree-granting medical school at the University of North Dakota (UND) 30 years ago, according to **Tom Clifford**, former UND president and co-author of "*Good Medicine*," a book he wrote with **Robert Eelkema, M.D. (B.S. Med. '59)**, both of Grand Forks.

The idea that North Dakotans and Native Americans should have access to a medical education was a guiding force in the effort to expand the then-two-year, basic sciences program to a full, doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree-granting program, Clifford said in a recent interview.

In the early '70s, the UND School of Medicine was "at a crossroads," he said, "we couldn't transfer our students" to other medical schools to complete the M.D. degree.

**"It was tough for our kids to get a medical education."**

Despite many obstacles and negative opinions regarding expansion - some citing the cost, lack of population, insufficient

resources for providing clinical experiences, no large hospitals - the state legislature approved the plan.

**"It was the right decision to make, and we made it," Clifford said. "It wasn't easy, but we felt this was the way to go. We sold it. We did what we had to do."**

He points to the fruits of that decision with pride: the exemplary educational program for students, including the INMED (Indians Into Medicine) program, the burgeoning research program which now attracts more than \$24 million for biomedical studies, and the focus on rural health and primary care.

"If you don't have the basic infrastructure, nothing would have grown," said Eelkema who was influential in obtaining federal start-up funding.

"I look at the outcome," Clifford said. "We took a gamble, we were betting on the future, and we got it done."

**"Good Medicine," written with award-winning journalist Patrick McGuire of Baltimore, MD, can be ordered at [www.cliffelkpress.com](http://www.cliffelkpress.com).**

**THE REVIEW, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES, University of North Dakota**, CHARLES E. KUPCHELLA, President, University of North Dakota; H. David Wilson, Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean, School of Medicine and Health Sciences. **The Review (ISSN 0888-1456; USPS 077-680) is published six times a year during January, March, May, July, September, and November by the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, P.O. Box 9037, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037. Periodical postage paid at Grand Forks ND. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE REVIEW, Office of Public Affairs, UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, P.O. Box 9037, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037.** Pamela D. Knudson, Director of Public Affairs, School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Computer graphics and photographic assistance from J. Lee, V. Swift and W. Weber, with Medical Media, and R. Fisher at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and C. Kimmerle with UND Office of University Relations. Printed at Fine Print Inc. Grand Forks, ND. All articles published in THE REVIEW, excluding photographs and copy concerning patients, can be reproduced without prior permission from the editor. UND is an equal opportunity institution.

## DEAN'S LETTER

### *National Study Reveals*

## North Dakota Ranks #1 in Hospital Care

Recently, the state of North Dakota was recognized as the best in the nation for the quality of care provided in its hospitals. The top ranking is the result of the annual HealthGrades Hospital Quality in America Study.

Ranking each of the country's nearly 5000 hospitals on 26 common procedures and conditions, researchers concluded that the quality of health care in the nation's hospitals varies greatly from state to state. They found better-performing hospitals tended to be in northern or sparsely populated states.

**Why is North Dakota the best in the United States in hospital care?**

*North Dakota comes out on top in the HealthGrades Hospital Quality in America Study which ranked each of the country's nearly 5000 hospitals on 26 common procedures and conditions.*

We think it is due, in part, to the way students in medical and other health professions are educated and trained here. Through the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences, medical education is woven into the fabric of health care provided in clinics and hospitals throughout the state. It is integrated into the daily practices of physicians and other professionals who educate and train our students.

**The health care environment is stimulated and the quality of care is increased by the presence of bright, inquisitive minds.** Doctors and other health professionals choose to establish their practices in North Dakota and join our school's faculty, attracted by the prospect of teaching and shaping the next generation of medical and allied health professionals. Under the supervision of our faculty, students help care for patients, gather information and consider patient cases in light of the latest biomedical knowledge and research.

Further, in many instances, these students are being trained by UND graduates

who have completed training and established their practices in the state. **Nearly half of the practicing physicians, physician assistants and clinical laboratory scientists in North Dakota are alumni of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.** Almost 90 percent of practitioners in allied health professions in North Dakota are alumni of programs we offer in physical therapy (87 percent), occupational therapy (86 percent) and cytotechnology (88 percent).

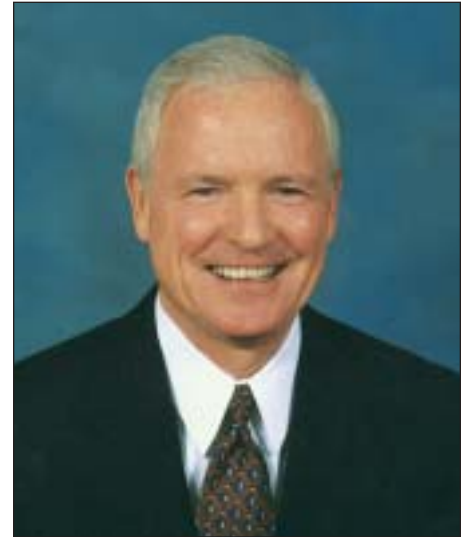
North Dakotans enjoy a level of care that, at times, is taken for granted or underestimated. This outstanding national ranking reminds us of the highly effective and efficient health care provided in our state. (Just

for the record, neighboring states ranked: Minnesota - 12, South Dakota - 10 and Montana - 14.) We should be very proud of this achievement, and the nationwide endorsement as evidenced in the HealthGrades Hospital Quality in America study.

We congratulate all those who work in hospitals throughout North Dakota. Their capable and compassionate care for their patients, on a daily basis, have earned this impressive national honor for our state.

### **Our role in bioterrorism education and training throughout North Dakota**

The first meeting of the advisory council, which will guide the efforts to provide bioterrorism training and education to North Dakota health care professionals, was held recently at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. This marks the initial steps in the BORDERS (Biological Organic Radioactive Disaster Educational Response System) project, funded recently with more than \$820,000, for each of two years, by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



H. David Wilson, M.D.

This distinguished group brings together representatives of various organizations and agencies which play a role in ensuring the safety of our citizens by increasing the preparedness of health care, emergency medical services, law enforcement, utilities and other personnel. We wish to thank them for their commitment to the BORDERS project.

We are very pleased and proud to assume a leadership role in ensuring that health care professionals in North Dakota receive the training they need to best respond to emergencies that may arise through bioterrorism.

Because of our expertise in providing health professions education in a rural setting, we are uniquely qualified to fill this important role, and further extend our services to the people of this state and region.

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "H. David Wilson".

H. David Wilson, M.D.  
Vice President for Health Affairs  
Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences

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Convincing North Dakota Kids to

# Not Smoke

*“My name is Jeffrey Sprague. I am 15 years old. I started smoking when I was 11. And now I ended up here... I’m addicted to cigarettes. I found out I was hooked about three weeks after I started. Now I have spots on my lungs. If I don’t quit smoking, they can turn to cancer. It scares me... And I still can’t quit smoking.”*

**(the voice-over in a tv ad campaign developed by The Center for Health Promotion and Translation Research at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences)**



*Above is an image from the media campaign, which includes tv and radio ads aired this fall throughout central and western North Dakota, designed to convince youth to not start (or to quit) smoking and using tobacco products. Conclusions about the ads’ effectiveness will be based on the results of phone interviews with youth, aged 12-17, in locations where the ads were broadcast.*

**A**n advertising campaign to prevent North Dakota youth from using tobacco products, or encourage them to quit, has been conducted this fall by the Center for Health Promotion and Translation Research (CHPTR), Primary Prevention, at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

“The Plain Truth” media campaign consists of five television and five radio ads which have run in Minot, Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Beulah,

Jamestown, Williston, Bottineau, Belcourt, Fort Totten and New Town, covering central and western North Dakota.

Developed by faculty and staff of CHPTR, Primary Prevention, the campaign is part of a project funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources Services Administration through the federal Office of Rural Health Policy and administered by the Center for Rural Health at the UND medical school.

Ads were selected from the Media

Campaign Resource Center of the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) based on scientific and marketing information about the likely effectiveness with adolescents, aged 12 to 17 years.

**“The ads reflect the most up-to-date media techniques and provide youth with information about short- and long-term consequences of tobacco use,” according to Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Ph.D., director of CHPTR Primary Prevention and associate professor of neuroscience, Grand Forks.**

## Researchers Seek Most Effective Messages to Prevent Youth Smoking

They are also meant to promote “an awareness of how the tobacco industry influences youth initiation (of smoking) through media messages,” she said.

“We are currently in the field evaluating the effectiveness of the ads. We will be finished with that phase by the first of the year (2004).”

**A comprehensive evaluation of the ads’ effectiveness should yield “valuable information about which type of prevention ad is most effective for North Dakota youth,”** she said.

For the first time, evaluation will include an examination of the effectiveness of tobacco prevention ads in Native American youth, a group which has never been evaluated in this context.

Analyzing the results of nearly 500 phone interviews conducted by UND’s Social Science Research Institute, directed by Cordell Fontaine, CHPTR researchers will be able to determine effectiveness and receptivity of the ads, she said.

“We want to know how well kids think these ads did in convincing them not to smoke.”

The five conceptual-type ads have all been shown to be effective, according to research conducted in other areas of the country. The North Dakota project is designed to reveal which are the most effective in this state.

*Nancy Vogelanz-Holm, Ph.D., is director of The Center for Health Promotion and Translation Research (CHPTR), Primary Prevention, at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health*



*Sciences. She and her research-colleagues are leading the effort to prevent youth smoking and tobacco use in North Dakota.*



*North Dakota’s youth (grades 9-12) have the highest rate of smoking in the United States, and rank fourth in the use of smokeless tobacco. The state’s Native American youth have tobacco use rates that are 1.5 to 4 times higher than white youth, depending on age category*

**While some researchers have difficulty in gathering sufficient responses to validate their conclusions, Vogelanz-Holm is pleased that this study has generated “great participation,”** possibly due in part to the \$10 gift certificate incentive given to those who complete the survey.

“We want to know, ‘Did you talk about this with any of your friends?’” she said.

**“We’re hearing there’s a tremendous ‘buzz’** about these ads among kids. We feel that’s an important predictor” for the ads’ effectiveness in changing behaviors - although the 13-week ad campaign is not designed as a true prevention method.”

Information that arises from the study will be provided to the CDC and the North Dakota Health Department to be used in designing effective statewide campaigns, said Vogelanz-Holm.

“We’re going to develop some ads of our own, targeted to Native American kids... There are few such ads available and none that use the most up-to-date, cutting-edge media techniques.”

“Ultimately, we would like to develop

a statewide media campaign for youth smoking prevention,” she said. “We hope our state can have an ongoing campaign.”

Researchers plan to present the first report on their findings at the annual Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health in March at the Fargo Holiday Inn.

**Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death, responsible for approximately one in five deaths in the U.S.** Because 80 percent of current smokers initiate use by the age of 18, it is critical to increase prevention strategies that may reduce youth initiation of this deadly behavior, says Vogelanz-Holm.

While many other entities have focused on urging smokers to quit, “we’re really the first to emphasize prevention,” she said.

“The UND School Medicine and Health Sciences is pleased to be at the forefront of halting smoking and tobacco use among North Dakota’s youth,” said **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, vice president for health affairs and medical school dean at UND.

“We can make a significant contribution to determining the most effective methods of convincing young people to stop, or never begin, a deadly habit with devastating health consequences.”

For more information about the campaign, contact the CHPTR office at 701-777-4046 at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences or email: [vogeltan@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:vogeltan@medicine.nodak.edu).



*Graphic images in the TV ads depict deadly effects of smoking, such as those that occur when fat accumulates in the aorta.*

## UPDATE

*Designated by DHHS Administration on Aging*

### UND Named Only National Resource Center on Native American Aging

*UND, now identified by the AoA as the only National Resource Center on Native American Aging, has received \$345,000 to execute this cooperative agreement which allows it to continue to work on improving the quality of life for American Indian elders through research, technical assistance and training.*

The University of North Dakota's National Resource Center on Native American Aging is continuing, for three more years, a cooperative agreement with the Administration on Aging (AoA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

UND, now identified by the AoA as the only National Resource Center on Native American Aging, has received \$345,000 to execute this cooperative agreement which allows it to continue to work on improving the quality of life for American Indian elders through research, technical assistance and training.

Administered through the Center for Rural Health (CRH) at UND's School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the National Resource Center on Native American Aging works with the AoA to develop practices that make it easier for all older American Indians to access an integrated array of health and long-term care services, to stay active and healthy, and to support their families' efforts to care for loved ones at home and in the community.

**This is the fourth AoA cooperative agreement the UND's resource center has received, providing funding for a total of 13 years.** The current agreement was effective Sept. 30.

"The most important thing we are doing," said **Alan Allery**, director of UND's National Resource Center on Native American Aging, "is the National Needs Assessment of Native American Elders."

Through the needs assessment, the resource center has surveyed the health status of more than 10,000 American Indian elders nationwide. Data collected is sent back to the tribes so that it can be used to secure funding for their elder care.



Allery



Wakefield

"The data assists tribes with planning their long-term care services such as health literacy, health promotion, nursing home care, respite care and assisted living," Allery said.

The AoA recently awarded grants totally more than \$3.5 million to increase access to services and programs and to enhance consumer assistance for older Americans, but it identified UND's National Resource Center on Native American Aging as the only national resource center on Native American aging.

"This is a substantive contribution of the University of North Dakota that will help create new knowledge on which to base health care decisions for a very important population," said **Mary Wakefield, Ph.D.**, CRH director.

U.S. Assistant Secretary for Aging Josephina Carbonell said, "The demand for community-based services for older persons will rise significantly in the coming decades. The DHHS and AoA are committed to coordinating access to care to better serve older Americans."

Enhancing consumer services for aging Americans is also an AoA priority, she added.

"AoA is working hard to improve consumer services dedicated to helping older Americans and their care-givers find the programs and services that can help them retain independence and dignity in their own homes and communities," Carbonell said.

"We are committed to shifting the balance of care from institutional to home- and community-based services that meet people where they are, with the kind of help they want," she said.

### Paulson Receives Laureate Award From State ACP

**Rolf Paulson, M.D.**, clinical professor of internal medicine, Grand Forks, has been named the recipient of the North Dakota Chapter of the American College of Physicians' 2003 Laureate Award.



Paulson

A 1975 graduate of the University of Minnesota medical school, he completed residency training in internal medicine in 1978 at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester and went on to study

cardiology at the University of Otago in New Zealand before establishing his practice in his hometown, St. Paul, MN.

In 1984, he joined Altru Health System in Grand Forks where he has initiated Altru's Vascular Center and Wound Clinic. He has served in leadership positions on multiple hospital and clinic committees and, for the past three years, has chaired Altru's Department of Internal Medicine. In 2003, he was named Altru's director of medical education.

He is a former governor of the state chapter of the American College of Physicians.

## Two North Dakotans Serving on Board

### **Mohr Named to Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy**

**Tom Mohr, Ph.D. (B.S.P.T. '75, Ph.D. in Physiology '86)**, chairman and professor of physical therapy at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences, has been elected to the board of directors of a national organization which works with all state licensing authorities to oversee the examination and licensing of all physical therapists throughout the United States.

Mohr will serve a three-year term on the eight-member board of directors of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

Board members are elected by the Federation's delegates who meet annually. The board members provide leadership to the organization which oversees the construction and administration of the National Physical Therapy Examination and provides services to all member jurisdictions regarding legislation to ensure public protection concerning physical therapy practice.

Mohr has been active in the Federation for many years, working as an item-writer for the national examination and as chair of the committee which constructs the exam and oversees the administration of the exam. He is past chair of the Foreign



*Mohr*



*DeKrey*

Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy, which oversees credentialing of foreign-educated physical therapists.

**Mohr, whose term began Oct. 20, is one of two North Dakotans currently serving as directors on the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.**

**Jeanne DeKrey, M.P.T. '93**, is vice president of the board. She is employed as a physical therapist at St. Alexius Medical Center in Bismarck; she earned a master of physical therapy degree in 1993 from UND. Her plans are to continue on at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences to earn her doctor of physical therapy (DPT) degree, she said. The

degree program will be offered on-line beginning in January by the school's Department of Physical Therapy.

Mohr earned a bachelor of science degree in physical therapy, summa cum laude, in 1975, from UND and a master's degree in physical therapy from the University of Minnesota in 1978. He earned the doctoral degree in physiology in 1986 from UND.

He has served on the faculty of the UND Department of Physical Therapy since 1978 and was appointed chairman in 1993.

### **Shalala to Deliver Commencement '04 Keynote Address**

Donna Shalala, Ph.D., president of the University of Miami in Miami, FL, is scheduled to present the keynote address at the commencement ceremony for the M.D. Class of 2004 in May at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

She served as secretary of health and human services under former President Bill Clinton.

## Alumnus and Long-time Professor

### **Newman Named Internal Medicine Chair and Residency Director**

**William Newman, M.D. (B.S. Med. '72)**, professor of internal medicine at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences' campus in Fargo, has been named chairman and director of the residency program in the school's Department of Internal Medicine. The appointment was effective Nov. 17.

Newman replaces **Raymond Smego, M.D.**, who will remain on the faculty as professor of internal medicine. Smego was appointed as chairman in April 2002, and soon after also took over as residency program director.

Newman also will continue in his role as assistant dean for veterans affairs at the UND medical school.

As chairman of internal medicine, Newman is responsible for internal



*Newman*

medicine education in all four years of the medical education program.

As residency program director, he is responsible for the training of physicians who have completed their medical degrees and have chosen to pursue

the three-year program to become eligible for certification in the practice of internal medicine. A total of 25 residents are training in the department's program at this time, primarily in UND medical school-affiliated hospitals and clinics in Fargo.

A UND alumnus, Newman earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry, cum laude, in 1970 and a bachelor of science in medicine degree, cum laude, in 1972. He went on to earn the doctor of medicine degree at the University of Texas at San Antonio in 1974, and took internship training at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and internal medicine residency training at the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis. He also took endocrinology training as a fellow at the University of Rochester (NY) affiliated hospitals.

In 1981, he joined the faculty of the UND medical school where he has since received several awards for teaching and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical scholastic society.

## CRH to Study Chronic Disease Among Native American Elders

The Center for Rural Health at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences (UNDSMHS) has been awarded a one-year, \$150,000 grant to study the prevalence of chronic disease among American Indian elders across the nation.

**The Center competed for one of only six grants** given by the Health Resources and Services Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to help improve rural health care systems throughout the country.

The funds will allow the Center's research team to assess the relationship between chronic disease in American Indian elders and factors such as access to health care and increased health risks such as smoking or lack of exercise.

**"In this study we will determine if Native elders in more rural, isolated areas across the country have a higher rate of chronic disease and physical limitations than Native elders in more urban**



*Moulton*



*Muus*



*McDonald*

**areas," said Patricia Moulton, Ph.D.,** assistant professor and research analyst at the Center and the study's lead researcher. Other researchers on the study are **Leander McDonald, Ph.D.,** and **Kyle Muus, Ph.D.,** assistant professors with the Center for Rural Health, Grand Forks.

"One of the major areas of focus for the Center for Rural Health is Native American health," said the Center's director, **Mary Wakefield, Ph.D.** "We are excited that this grant will allow us to

strengthen our research on Native American health at the national level."

Established in 1980, the UNDSMHS Center for Rural Health is one of the nation's most experienced

organizations, committed to providing leadership in rural health. The Center has developed a full complement of programs to assist researchers, educators, policymakers, health care providers and, most importantly, rural residents.

As a resource, the Center's staff identifies and researches rural health issues, analyzes health policy, strengthens local capabilities, develops community-based alternatives, and advocates for rural concerns.

## Remembering the Human Being in the Practice of Medicine

Betty Cumming of Sidney, MT, lost Wayne, her husband, her soul-mate and best friend, in 2000. She recalls vividly the day she walked into the hospital and how she and her family were given the terrible news - in a most insensitive, callous and indifferent manner, she said. "It was horrifying; it was horrible."

As she dealt with her grief and loss, she resolved to do something to make a difference.

"Instead of cursing the darkness, I decided I can be an instrument of change," she said.

**She heard about the medical (M.D.) curriculum at the UND medical school and its strong emphasis on compassionate and humanistic care for the patient** -- called "patient-centered learning" -- and, after discussing it with her family, decided to donate the book, "The Lost Art of Healing" by Bernard Lown, to UND medical students.

She and several family members, including a former UND student, Beth Geelan, who lives near the Twin Cities, visited the UND medical school this fall to present the gift to second-year medical students and talk about how important it is to treat patients and their families with the utmost compassion, especially in the most trying times.

She has since received numerous thank-you notes from students who've read the book and want her to know how her story changed the way they plan to practice.

It was fortunate, or maybe she was led, to "lock into a program that was also in a renaissance," she said "I can't tell you how happy I am to have made this decision. It was superb for us."



*Betty Cumming (second from left) and family members visited the UND medical school this fall to present a book, "The Lost Art of Healing," to medical students. The gift is meant to reinforce the values of humanism and compassion in those who practice medicine. With Mrs. Cumming are her son, Jim Cumming (left), an attorney in Helena, MT; granddaughter and daughter, Alison and Beth Geelan, of the Twin Cities, and Rick Vari, Ph.D., assistant dean for educational affairs at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Grand Forks, who oversaw distribution of the books to second-year medical students. (Another daughter, Robin Cumming Johnson, earned a bachelor of science degree in physical therapy at UND in 1990 and resides in Bellingham, WA.)*

*For 'BORDERS' Grant*

## Advisory Group to Guide Bioterrorism Education and Training

Members of an advisory council which will oversee a statewide bioterrorism education and training program met for the first time Nov. 20 at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The 18-member council, operating under a project called "BORDERS (Biochemical Organic Radioactive Disaster Educational Response System)," represents various groups and organizations that have a role to play in ensuring that health care and other professionals are sufficiently trained to respond to man-made or natural disasters in this state and region.

Members represent health care, law enforcement, utilities, emergency management, education and public health, and include two Canadians.

**BORDERS is funded by a two-year grant, totaling approximately \$820,761 per year, received this fall from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** to the UND medical school. It is one of 19 such projects awarded nationwide, selected from a total of 104 applications.

The project will involve doctors, nurses, physician assistants, allied health and mental health care professionals and others throughout region.

Using web-based instruction and four community-oriented, hands-on simulated disasters at sites throughout North Dakota, BORDERS will provide these professionals and other emergency first-responders with education and training to build a more coordinated, effective and efficient emergency detection and preparedness system.

Co-principal investigators for the project are **Linda Olson, Ed.D.**, director of the Office of Medical Education, and **Rick Vari, Ph.D.**, assistant dean for educational affairs, both at the UND medical school, Grand Forks. Executive program director is **James Hargreaves, D.O.**, infectious disease specialist at Altru Health System in Grand Forks.

"Disaster and disease, whether the result of a deliberate attack or occurring naturally, make no distinctions among victims and recognize no borders," said Olson.



*North Dakota State Health Officer Terry Dwelle, M.D., of Bismarck, addresses the news media about the bioterrorism education and training project, BORDERS. He is a member of the project's advisory council.*

"Similarly, a truly effective response to any public health emergency must not be limited by boundaries, but should be collaborative in nature, crossing all disciplines and geographic borders."

**Situated at the center of the North American continent, North Dakota provides an excellent setting for bioterrorism and disaster training**, Olson said, due to numerous and varied geographical and seasonal conditions, proximity to a vast and porous U.S./Canadian border, and the presence of military installations, National Guard posts, power generation facilities, intercontinental water sources, food production industries and diverse transportation systems.

### **BORDERS Advisory Council Members:**

**Terry Dwelle, M.D.**

*State Health Officer, North Dakota  
Department of Health, Bismarck*

**Keith Engbrecht**

*Executive Director, North Dakota Red  
Cross, Bismarck*

**Doug Friez**

*Director, North Dakota Division of  
Emergency Management, and  
Coordinator, North Dakota Homeland  
Security, Bismarck*

**Raymond Grandbois**

*Indian Health Service, Aberdeen  
Region, Aberdeen, SD*

**Mike Haugen**

*Major General, The Adjutant General,  
State of North Dakota, Bismarck*

**Warren Jensen, M.D.**

*Associate Dean and Director of  
Aeromedical Research, UND Center  
for Aerospace Sciences, Grand Forks*

**Lynn Jordheim**

*First Assistant US Attorney, Fargo*

**Cheryl Kristjanson**

*Director, Office of Educational  
Development and Continuing  
Education, University of Manitoba,  
Winnipeg*

**Pam Lavin**

*Safety Training and Education, North  
Dakota Rural Electric Association,  
Mandan*

**John Markowsky**

*Projects Manager, Manitoba Hydro  
International, Winnipeg*

**Jerry Nagel**

*President, Northern Great Plains,  
Inc., Crookston, MN*

**Nicholas Neumann, M.D.**

*Assistant Dean, UND School of  
Medicine and Health Sciences,  
Southwest Campus, Bismarck*

**Don Shields**

*Director, Grand Forks Public Health  
Department*

**Delbert Streit**

*Bioterrorism Response Coordinator  
for Northeastern Region of North  
Dakota, Grand Forks*

**Arnold Thomas**

*Director, North Dakota Healthcare  
Association, Bismarck*

**Mary Wakefield, Ph.D.**

*Director, Center for Rural Health,  
UND School of Medicine and Health  
Sciences, Grand Forks*

**H. David Wilson, M.D.**

*UND Vice President for Health  
Affairs and Dean, School of Medicine  
and Health Sciences, Grand Forks*

**Curt Wolfe**

*Chief Information Officer, Information  
Technology Department, North  
Dakota Governor's Office, Bismarck*

## *Discuss Rural Health Care Issues*

# CRH Hosts 'Dialogues' with Community and Tribal Leaders Statewide

Staff members of the Center for Rural Health (CRH) at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences traveled this fall to 13 communities throughout the state to discuss the future of rural health care with community and Native American tribal leaders.

The "rural health dialogues," held in October and November, drew health care providers, state legislators and others interested in supporting and maintaining quality rural health care.

CRH staff members talked about the work of the CRH and heard about current and emerging challenges facing health care providers in rural communities. Attendees learned how the CRH can



*At right, Brad Gibbens, associate director, and Lynette Dickson, project coordinator, both of the Center for Rural Health (CRH), Grand Forks, talk with Farren Wold, fire chief, and Sylvia Moore, president of the Mountain (ND) Fire and Quick Response, during a "rural health dialogue" in October at Langdon. This fall, CRH staff members held meetings of this type in 13 communities through the state to discuss rural health issues with health care providers and civic and legislative leaders.*

**This fall, CRH staff members met for "rural health dialogues" with community and Native American tribal leaders in:**

*Ashley  
Belcourt  
Cooperstown  
Dickinson  
Fort Totten  
Fort Yates  
Hazen  
Langdon  
Lisbon  
New Town  
Rugby  
Trenton  
Williston*

work with their communities and providers to address those challenges and help solve problems related to delivery of rural health care services.

The meetings were intended to provide participants with an overview of the programs and services offered by the CRH, as well as new information about rural health topics important to North Dakota, said **Mary Wakefield, Ph.D.**, CRH director, Grand Forks.

**They were also intended as a means for CRH staff "to hear about current or emerging issues that rural health care providers face,** including both local challenges and success stories," Wakefield said. "We want to hear their concerns about the future of health care in their areas and hear their thoughts on approaches and solutions - including how we can work with them to address these issues."

In its 23-year history of service to the state, the CRH has developed and implemented a number of initiatives to assist rural providers and communities to address

changing rural environments.

**"As the Center moves forward in its work,"** Wakefield said, "we believe it is imperative that our efforts be shaped by what we learn from the field. These meetings represent one important strategy to help accomplish that objective."

Based on information gathered at these meetings, the CRH can more effectively align its efforts to support rural health care providers to collectively maintain and strengthen health care in rural North Dakota, Wakefield said.

After completing the round of dialogues, the staff amassed more than 40 specific requests for information and technical assistance, she said, and "we are looking at the broader challenges that emerged during the meetings ranging from health care workforce to reimbursement for services.

"The broader topics that were raised will inform our strategic planning efforts, in service to the state."

## Granberg, First Med Student to Present Research to NCCTG Surgery Group

**Candace Granberg**, third-year medical student at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Grand Forks, presented her research to the North Central Cancer Treatment Group (NCCTG) Surgery Committee recently at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.

**She is the first medical student to be invited to present to the committee**, which meets twice annually and usually invites a surgical oncology fellow or a resident to present a topic of interest.

The NCCTG, a national clinical research group sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, consists of a network of cancer specialists at community clinics, hospitals and medical centers in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

**With its research base at Mayo Clinic, NCCTG is dedicated to bringing clinical trials with promising new cancer therapies to communities** where patients live. The group specializes in research



Granberg

Behavior - Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors (GIST)," Granberg reviewed two cases of GIST and discussed the tumors in general, focusing on the newest therapy, STI-571 or Gleevec, that has been shown to be successful in treating GISTs.

Robert Chambers, M.D., a general surgeon at MeritCare in Wahpeton, ND, gave Granberg the opportunity to attend and present at the committee meeting. He became aware of her research while she

methods of treating and preventing cancer, and in research methods to alleviate the side effects of cancer and cancer treatments.

In her presentation, titled "Neoplasia of Uncertain

was taking a family medicine rotation last summer in Wahpeton.

**"She acquitted herself very well both in preparation and presentation," Chambers said, "impressing surgical oncologists from all around the Midwest."**

**Robert Sticca, M.D.**, director of the surgery residency program and vice-chairman of the Department of Surgery at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Grand Forks, is vice chair of the NCCTG Surgery Committee.

Granberg also received a \$1000 scholarship from the committee which she plans to use for subscriptions to medical journals and toward medical school tuition, she said. She is currently taking rotations on the UND medical school's Southeast Campus, based in Fargo.

She is the daughter of Michael and Cece Rohwedder of Jamestown, ND.

## UND Medical School Well-represented at National Neuroscience Meeting

*A sizable contingent of scientists from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences attended "Neuroscience 2003," the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Neuroscience, in November at New Orleans. They presented posters to describe current findings in their research. Pictured from left are: Van Doze, Ph.D., and James Porter, Ph.D., both assistant professors, and Angie Floden, laboratory technician, all of the pharmacology, physiology and therapeutics department; Cindy Sondag, graduate student in social work at UND; Kristin Hillman, doctoral student, Colin Combs, Ph.D., assistant professor, Andy Woster, graduate student, and Matthew Picklo, Ph.D., assistant professor, all of the pharmacology, physiology and therapeutics department; Matthew Miller, former graduate student at UND and now a medical student at the University of Minnesota; James Foster, Ph.D., research assistant professor in biochemistry and molecular biology; Pat Carr, Ph.D., assistant professor of anatomy and cell biology; Laura Parnas and Mark Cervinski, both graduate students, and Roxanne Vaughan, Ph.D., assistant professor, all in the biochemistry and molecular biology department; Sandy Siegel, former graduate student in anatomy and cell biology; Jon Gaffaney, doctoral student in biochemistry and molecular biology; Saobo Lei, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacology, physiology and therapeutics, and Chris Knudson, graduate student in anatomy and cell biology.*

*Also attending and presenting posters at the meeting (but not pictured): Manuchair Ebadi, Ph.D., associate vice president for health affairs at UND and associate dean for research and program development at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and Garl Rieke, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy and cell biology, both of Grand Forks.*



# ALUMNI

## Alumni Notes

'85

**Joe Luger, M.D. '85**, who is associated with PrimeCare health group in Bismarck, is a leading skin care professional in the region. Board-certified in dermatology, he practices at Mid Dakota Clinic's Gateway Dermatology and is a clinical professor of internal medicine with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

'89

**Janet Maxson, Family Nurse Practitioner Program '89**, has opened a practice with internist Kurt Datz, M.D., called Independent Practitioners of America in the Medical Park Professional Building in Minot. She specializes in women's health as well as primary care.

Maxson, who studied nursing at UND and Minot State University, has practiced in Minot and at the Minot Air Force Base, most recently with the Air Force's Fifth Medical Group. She holds master's and doctoral degrees in health administration from the Kennedy-Western University.

(The Family Nurse Practitioner Program at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences is now the Physician Assistant Program.)

'91



**John Tate, Ph.D. (Anatomy and Cell Biology '88), M.D. '91**, practices medical oncology at MeritCare's Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo. He also works closely with the Cancer Center's Familial Risk Assessment Program to assess risk in individuals with a strong family history of cancer - with the ultimate goal of prevention.

A clinical assistant professor of internal medicine at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, he is board-certified in medical oncology, hematology and internal medicine, and has extensive knowledge and research expertise in breast cancer. His special interests also include cancer genetics, leukemia, lymphoma and blood-clotting disorders.

Prior to joining MeritCare in 2001, he served as fellowship training program director and a breast cancer specialist at the Cleveland (OH) Clinic Taussig Cancer Center.

"Several factors drew me to MeritCare Roger Maris Cancer Center," he said, "including the opportunity to be involved in clinical trial research and to continue teaching medical students.

"But top on the list - this is an excellent facility with a great reputation."

Leading-edge technology, combined with research conducted in partnership with other prestigious cancer centers nationwide, allows Roger Maris Cancer Center to offer the most recently developed drugs and treatment.

'94



**Gary Matthys, M.D. '94**, has established his practice in orthopedic surgery at MeritCare Health System in Fargo after completing residency and three accredited fellowship programs.

Originally from Harwood, ND, he is a graduate of West Fargo High School and earned a bachelor's degree in zoology from North Dakota State University before enrolling in medical school at the University of North Dakota.

He completed a surgical internship and orthopedic surgery training at the University of Southern California and Los Angeles County Medical Center. He went on to complete a shoulder and elbow fellowship program at Baylor Medical University in Dallas. He took an arthroplasty and joint reconstruction fellowship at Harvard University in Boston and a fellowship in hip and pelvis disorders at the University of Southern California at Los Angeles.

Matthys has special training in a pioneering, minimally-invasive hip and knee replacement procedure. A specialist in the care of bones, joints and muscles, he treats conditions including athletic and sports-related injuries, total joint replacement and revisions, fracture repair, pelvis and acetabular reconstruction, arthroscopic surgery of the shoulder and knee, and complex shoulder problems.

'96

**Brian Dees, M.D. '96**, has joined Dakota Clinic at Innovis Health in Fargo. He specializes in general and vascular surgery.

He completed general surgery residency training at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac, MI. He is certified in advanced cardiac life support and advanced trauma life support. Before joining Dakota Clinic, he was employed at Three Rivers (MI) Area Hospital.

Originally from Bismarck, he graduated from Century High School there in 1988 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in biology at UND in 1992 before enrolling at the UND medical school, where he now serves as a clinical instructor in surgery.

He resides in West Fargo with his wife, Jenifer, and his child, Sydney.

**Matthew Goetz, M.D. '96**, completed a fellowship in hematology-oncology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, in June and accepted a position as a senior associate consultant in the oncology department there.

After earning the M.D. degree at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences in 1996, he went on for residency training in internal medicine at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Goetz, whose current research interest is in the field of pharmacogenetics, recently received a training grant from the National Institutes of Health.

He is the son of LaRue and Barbara Goetz of Bismarck.

'97

**Darko Hauer, M.D. (Internal Medicine Residency Program '97)**, has joined MeritCare Medical Center in Fargo.

He earned his medical degree at Zagreb University School of Medicine in Croatia, and completed internal medicine residency training at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' affiliated hospitals in Fargo. Prior to joining MeritCare, he worked for the Fargo Veterans Administration Medical Center. Board-certified in internal medicine, he is a clinical assistant professor of internal medicine at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

**Julie Lessard, M.D. '97**, a pathologist, has joined MeritCare Medical Center in Fargo.

She completed residency training in anatomic and clinical pathology and a fellowship in surgical pathology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City. She is board-certified in anatomic and clinical pathology.

Prior to joining MeritCare, she worked as a staff pathologist at North Shore Pathologists, S.C., at Columbia Hospital in Milwaukee, WI.

Originally from Grand Forks, she graduated from Red River High School there.

**Mark Rodacker, M.D. '97, Ph.D. (Anatomy and Cell Biology '95)**, completed residency training in anatomic and clinical pathology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, in 2001 and went on for a surgical pathology fellowship there from 2001 to 2002. He is a board-certified pathologist on staff for Anapath Diagnostics, Inc., associated with the United Medical Center in Cheyenne, WY.

At the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, he earned the doctoral degree in anatomy, under the mentorship of **John McCormack, Ph.D.**, associate professor of anatomy and cell biology, Grand Forks.

'98



**Anthony Morton, M.D. '98**, is in his first year of child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii.

A captain in the U.S. Army, Morton graduated from the general psychiatry residency program at Tripler in June, after serving as chief resident. Also in June, he won the psychiatry department's scholarly activities award for his research on suicide risk factors in soldiers and their families. His work with medical students from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences who rotate at Tripler has been recognized by his appointment as a teaching fellow in psychiatry.

Morton is married to Patricia Riddle Morton, who earned a bachelor of arts degree at UND in 1998. She is a middle school social studies teacher in Honolulu. They are expecting their first child in March.

'99

**Kathleen Perkerewicz, M.D. '99**, practices obstetrics and gynecology at the Quain and Ramstad Clinic with Medcenter One Health Systems in Bismarck.

She recently completed residency training at the Saginaw (MI) Cooperative Hospitals program. Board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology, she is a clinical instructor in obstetrics and gynecology at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

**Tim Beiswenger, M.D. '99**, Bemidji, MN, practices obstetrics and gynecology at MeritCare Bemidji.

Originally from Fisher, MN, where he graduated high school, he earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology from the University of North Dakota (UND) before entering the UND medical school.

Prior to joining MeritCare, he completed residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at St. Vincent Hospital and Health Services in Indianapolis, IN.

'02

**Kari Melby, Master of Physical Therapy '02**, married Eric Ziemba Nov. 8 in Minot.

Melby, the daughter of Gary and Rosalie Melby of Bowbells, ND, is employed at WCS in west suburban Chicago.

'03

**Peter Garza, M.D. (Surgery Residency Program '03)**, has established his general surgical practice at MeritCare Bemidji in Bemidji, MN.

Garza, who earned the doctor of medicine degree at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, is board-certified in general surgery. He specializes in a wide range of diseases and conditions which involve the breast, stomach, esophagus, pancreas, gallbladder, lower intestines, hernia and abdomen.

**Erin Stratton, Master of Occupational Therapy '03**, married Stuart Eeg Nov. 29 at Lake Metigoshe, ND.

Stratton is employed by Altru Health System of Grand Forks. A graduate of Westhope (ND) High School, she is the daughter of Bill and LeRae Stratton of Westhope.

**Kelly Turneau, M.D. (Internal Medicine Residency Program '03)**, joined Altru Hospital in Grand Forks as a member of the hospitalists' team.

He earned the doctor of medicine degree from the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine before taking internal medicine residency training at UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' affiliated hospitals in Fargo.

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**Do you have a news note** you'd like to see included in an upcoming issue of **THE REVIEW**? Please drop us a line at: UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Office of Public Affairs, PO Box 9037, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037. Or e-mail: [spohlman@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:spohlman@medicine.nodak.edu). Please include your daytime phone number.

# 2004 Annual Dakota Conference On Rural and Public Health

*"Building a Healthy North Dakota,  
One Community at a Time"*

**March 24 - 26, 2004**  
**Holiday Inn, Fargo, North Dakota**

The Dakota Conference is an interdisciplinary forum for sharing strategies for building and sustaining healthy communities in North Dakota. Oral and poster presentations will address the four core areas:

## Health Care Administration

- HIPAA
- Workforce issues
- Health care finance
- Health care policy
- Leadership development
- Hospital and clinic issues

## Environmental Health/Occupational Health

- Workplace health
- Bioterrorism
- Bloodborne pathogens

## Keynote Speakers

**Marcia Brand, Ph.D.**, director, federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration, Washington, D.C.

**Terry Dwelle, M.D., M.P.H.T.M.**, state health officer, North Dakota Department of Health, Bismarck, N.D.

**Monica Mayer, M.D.**, Family Practice Trinity Community Clinic, New Town, N.D.

**Donna Sweet, M.D.**, professor of internal medicine, University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita; director, Kansas AIDS Education Training Center, Wichita, Kan.; chair-elect designee for the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians

**Luncheon Speaker: Miss North Dakota 2004, Sara Schelkoph**

## Health Promotion/Disease Prevention

- Tobacco use prevention
- HIV/AIDS
- Mental health
- Family-centered care
- Patient advocacy
- Violence

## Diverse Populations/Health Disparities

- Native American issues
- Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender issues
- Other minority population issues
- Uninsured/underinsured populations
- Geographic disparities

**For more information and to register go to:**  
**<http://www.bismarckstate.edu/cce/ruralhealth/>**

## Dakota Conference Sponsors

- Altru Health System, Grand Forks, N.D.
- North Dakota Public Health Association
- North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants
- University of North Dakota College of Nursing

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences

- Center for Rural Health
- Department of Community Medicine
- Department of Family Medicine
- North Dakota AIDS Education and Training Center

## Continuing Education Hours

Continuing education hours have been submitted for: Minnesota and North Dakota State Board of Examiners for nursing home administration, North Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Dietetic Association and the Bismarck State College Division of Continuing Education



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