

THE  
REVIEW

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

*J*ohn Joyce, M.D. '78, (left) of Hettinger, is one of the many alumni of the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences who have applied their knowledge, skills and compassion to creating and sustaining a sound health care system in North Dakota and the region. Here, he blends patient care with teaching as third-year medical student, Matt Schaefer, examines Erma Schopp at the West River Regional Medical Center in Hettinger. The year 2001 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the granting of the first doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree by the UND medical school. Schaefer, the son of Robert and Cynthia Schaefer of Moorhead, is taking part in the Rural Opportunities in Medical Education (ROME) program which places medical students in rural communities around the state.

## IN REVIEW

### Raise More than \$6000

## PTs' Halloween Party Benefits Local Cancer Patient

At a Halloween party in East Grand Forks, area physical therapists raised more than \$6000 for Ezra Branvold, 19, of Gilby, ND, who was diagnosed with brain cancer in January. He is seated in a wheelchair with one of the event organizers, **Robin Davidson, BSPT '90**, Grand Forks, at his side.

The benefit event, with a "Wild West" theme, was hosted by physical therapy (PT) students and professionals in recognition of National Physical Therapy Month. It is the second such event the group has organized to provide financial support for a local youngster in need.

The benefit was "a huge success" and PT students of the UND medical school "were a big help" as they volunteered their time to manage children's games and distribute prizes, according to **Schawnn Decker, MPT '93**, instructor in physical therapy, Grand Forks. A dance and comedy improv act followed the

children's party, with music by a local disc jockey, Dan Sjestad, who also volunteered his time.

The group plans to make this an annual event, Decker said.

## Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health Set for March in Fargo

"Rural and Public Health: Connecting Vision, Values and Technology," is the theme for the 2002 Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health, set for March 20-22 at the Fargo Holiday Inn.

The annual conference is an interdisciplinary forum for rural health care providers, public health professionals, researchers, teachers and those interested in improving health care services in rural areas.

Attendees learn about implementing new or recycled ideas to enhance quality

health care. Speakers and panel discussants present information on innovative programs, practice models and research topics. Poster sessions offer participants the opportunity to discuss the content with the author.

For more information, please contact: Brenda Keller, UND Division of Continuing Education, Office of Conference Services, P.O. Box 9021, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9021; call 701/777-2663 or 1-800-342-8230; fax 701/777-6401, or e-mail: conferences@mail.und.nodak.edu.

**Please see page 14 for more details on the 2002 Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health.**

### **Change of address?**

Please send address changes to: **Kitty Monley**, Office of Administration and Finance, 701/777-2431, or write to her at: UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, P.O. Box 9037, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037 or e-mail: kmonley@medicine.nodak.edu.

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**THE REVIEW, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES, University of North Dakota**, CHARLES E. KUPCHELLA, President, University of North Dakota; H. David Wilson, 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 Medical Media at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. 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

### *First M.D. Conferred in 1976*

## Celebrating 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as Doctor of Medicine Degree-granting School

As a forward-looking institution, always seeking to advance and better fulfill our mission, we also on occasion should look back at how far we've come. The year 2001 affords us that opportunity as it marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our granting the first doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree.

This edition of THE REVIEW calls attention to that milestone, illustrates highlights of our progress and renews enthusiasm for our role in serving the people of this region.

Now is a good time to remember and give thanks for all who have contributed their talents, energies and knowledge to the advancement of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences throughout our history. We also recognize our alumni who have taken the education they attained here and made a difference in the lives of others.

### **First director of NIH Alternative Medicine Center visits UNDSMHS**

We were very pleased recently to host Stephen Straus, M.D., the first director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Dr. Straus, who was appointed to his post in 1999, visited with our faculty members, students and staff and spoke about the goals and objectives of this relatively new federal initiative to apply scientific measures to treatments and substances that are becoming increasingly popular with millions of Americans.

Many of these substances have been the focus of little or no scientific investigation; much of it has not been scrutinized through controlled trials. They are unproven, untested and unstandardized.

Straus' talk, "Complementary Alternative Medicine: Challenges and Opportunities for Clinical Research and Practice,"



provided an insight to an emerging field which affects a wide variety of human diseases and conditions. He described the approach his center will use in studying this area.

### **THE REVIEW's new look**

We hope you appreciate the new look of THE REVIEW, now in full color. Be assured, though, this change was not made without regard to expense. Given today's new printing technology, the cost of producing a four-color publication has moved well within range of the most cost-conscious clients.

Because the UND medical school is at the forefront in many aspects of its mission, we wish to present an image that fits that reality.

### **Thank you for your gifts**

In this season of thanksgiving and in the spirit of gratitude, we wish to take this opportunity to express appreciation to all the alumni and friends who have supported the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences with their gifts.

Your generosity and concern for the future of this fine medical school is a testament to the education you received here and your belief in our mission.

Thanks for your continued support!

H. David Wilson, M.D.

Dean

Vice President for Health Affairs



Stephen Straus, M.D. (left), director of the NIH Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Bethesda, MD, visits with Dean H. David Wilson recently at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Grand Forks.

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*Fulfilling the Promise*

# UND Medical School *Strengthens Health Care* in North Dakota

*The hope invested in the UND medical school by the people of North Dakota, more than 25 years ago, has been realized. The promise that in-state medical education for our state's citizens would result in more doctors and a stronger health care system has come true.*

**B**ecause of a decision by the 1973 North Dakota legislature, the state's health care system is strong and viable today. Its citizens benefit from accessible, high quality medical services - well beyond what is available in most rural, sparsely populated states.

The decision called for expanding UND's medical education curriculum to a complete, four-year, doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree-granting program. From the school's inception in 1905 to the mid-'70s, UND offered only the initial years of medical education.

To complete the doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree, its students had to transfer to out-of-state medical schools. Most never returned.

In the early '70s when North Dakotans began to seriously contemplate their health-care future and inadequate physician supply, support for a four-year medical school gained momentum. This coincided with national accreditation standards that called for the discontinuation of two-year medical schools such as UND's.

**The choice was clear:** either expand to a four-year, M.D. degree-granting institution or abandon medical education altogether.

The need for complete, in-state medical education, however, did not go unquestioned. Opposition to the idea was based on financial and academic concerns. Medical education is an expensive proposition; some wondered whether the state's resources could meet the demands of launching and sustaining such a program.

Others feared a possible lack of sufficient teaching cases and practicing physicians who would be interested in serving as faculty members. The notion of "community-based" medical education, relatively new and not widely understood, contrasted sharply with

*Christa Andrews-Fike, M.D. '96, first went to Rugby as a med student to take an eight-week family medicine rotation during her senior year. After several years of residency training out-of-state, she returned to join the Rugby medical community as a family physician in September 2000. Christa, the daughter of the Reverend Don and Carolyn Andrews of Minot, and her husband, Bruce Fike, have a three-year-old son, Zach.*

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*'We continue to attract the best and brightest students.'*

Dean H. David Wilson, M.D.

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the traditional education that many of the state's doctors had experienced in large, metropolitan medical centers.

**After much study the legislature acted on behalf of citizens**, with the expectation and belief that providing in-state medical education would ultimately improve all North Dakotans' access to health care - whether they live in rural or urban settings. Acting on behalf of citizens, they passed legislation in the 1973 session to provide for complete, in-state medical education.

The gamble paid off. The decision, as viewed from decades hence, changed the face of health care in North Dakota in profound ways.

Today, the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences is considered a leader among community-based medical schools in the United States and is known widely for its well-trained graduates as well as a commitment to rural health. It has been

recognized repeatedly by the esteemed U.S. News and World Report news magazine as one of the top U.S. medical schools dedicated to solving the problems of rural medicine.

**Serving the most rural state to offer medical education**, the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences has developed, in the past few years, a program to further nurture students' interest in rural practice. Under the Rural Opportunities in Medical Education (ROME) Program, students spend most of their third year (an impressionable stage in med school) in a rural community.

This year, practicing physicians in Devils Lake, Jamestown and Hettinger are educating ROME students, who choose this optional track, while their classmates train

in the traditional, discipline-based course of study in Fargo and Bismarck. Other communities which have been, or may become, involved in the ROME program include Williston, Dickinson, Valley City and Wahpeton.

**National recognition has also come to the school** from the American Academy of Family Physicians for our role in encouraging a high percentage of graduates to enter residency training in family medicine, practitioners of which are most needed in rural communities.

Further, the American Medical Student Association has credited the school with preparing an unusually large proportion of students who choose to pursue training in primary care fields of medicine, such as family medicine, general internal medicine



*In a recent visit to the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, North Dakota Governor John Hoeven (left) talks with Jody Rada, Ph.D. (right), associate professor of anatomy and cell biology, Grand Forks, about her myopia (nearsightedness) research funded by the National Institutes of Health. Rada uses chicks, such as the one she is holding, in her studies. Since initiating a four-year, M.D. degree-granting program in the 1970s, the UND medical school has become a leading research enterprise in North Dakota, attracting more than \$8 million annually, and is poised to draw even greater funding from federal and other out-of-state sources in the near future. Dean H. David Wilson, M.D. (center), accompanied Governor Hoeven.*



*Jerry Obritsch, M.D. '87, an obstetrician-gynecologist in Bismarck, grew up as the ninth of 12 children on a family farm near Dickinson. For the past ten years, he has dedicated a significant portion of his practice to caring for Native American women of the Standing Rock reservation at Fort Yates. Last year, he was recognized as North Dakota's nominee for the Association of American Medical Colleges' Humanism in Medicine Award. He is pictured here in a mirrored image with Adrienne Ducheneaux of Mandan and her daughter, Megan Molash, 2.*

and general pediatrics.

**UND's M.D. graduates are welcome at the most selective and highly competitive residency programs** throughout the country. Roughly 94 percent of each

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*'In the past, those who discounted community learning (and) decentralized medical education, they were wrong...North Dakota has enthusiastic community teachers, that's the strength of the community system.'*

**John Joyce, M.D.'78  
Hettinger, ND**

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graduating class receive one of their top choices in the competition for residency programs. With an established reputation for their strong work ethic, ability to communicate well and develop rapport with patients and interact positively with other health professionals, UND medical alumni pave the way for, and often recruit, new graduates looking for the best residency experiences.

As one of the nation's finest smaller medical schools, the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences receives applications for admission at a rate more than twice the national average.

"We continue to attract the best and brightest students," said **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, dean of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. "North Dakota produces the kind of young men and women who bring the most genuine qualities of humanity and intellectual vigor

to the profession of medicine. We are privileged to help mold them into tomorrow's outstanding physicians. I could not be more proud of them."

UND's medical education is woven into the fabric of the state's health care system -- practicing physicians teach medical students and residents in clinics, offices and hospitals throughout the state. Because of this "community-based"

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*'North Dakota students have always been enthusiastic. The product that comes out of this program has been outstanding.'*

**John Joyce, M.D.'78  
Hettinger, ND**

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approach the quality and quantity of health care is enhanced and education for all health care providers flourishes. Where there is training and questioning and new information exchanged, the level of care is elevated.

“My education at the UND medical school was excellent,” says **John Joyce, M.D. ‘78**, of Hettinger, who was a student at a time when the third year of med school was taken in Minneapolis or Rochester, MN. “If you compare my third year in Minneapolis to my fourth year in Bismarck, there’s no comparison...”

The critics of the past, “people who discounted community learning (and)

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*‘North Dakota produces the kind of young men and women who bring the most genuine qualities of humanity and intellectual vigor to the profession of medicine.’*

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

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decentralized medical education, they were wrong...” he says. “North Dakota has enthusiastic community teachers, that’s the strength of the community system. If you (a med student) line up your rotations with enthusiastic teachers, you get wonderful rotations in any area of medicine, every specialty you can imagine.”

“North Dakota students have always been enthusiastic,” Joyce says. “The product that comes out of this program has been outstanding.”

## 2001

### Marking the 25th Anniversary of Granting the M.D. Degree

Last May’s commencement ceremony for the M.D. Class of 2001 marked a milestone in the history of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences: the 25th anniversary of the granting of the doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree.

In May 1976, the first doctor of medicine graduates received their diplomas. Prior to that, for its first 70 years, the UND medical school offered only the basic science education leading to a medical degree. Our med students had to go out-of-state to complete the final two years of their education.

In the years since the first M.D. degree was awarded, much as improved in North Dakota’s health care system:

- ▶ Today, nearly half of the physicians practicing in North Dakota are alumni of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences (30 years ago, fewer than 20 percent of the state’s practicing physicians were UND alumni).
- ▶ Since 1970, the number of doctors in North Dakota has increased almost threefold, while the state’s total population has remained largely unchanged.
- ▶ The median age of North Dakota doctors has dropped considerably, from 58 (with about 25 percent within five years of retiring) to 44, in line with the national figure.
- ▶ Our M.D. graduates are establishing practices in rural areas of the state where the need for medical services is most pressing, especially among the growing numbers of elderly.
- ▶ Large percentages of allied health professionals (physician assistants, physical and occupational therapists, clinical lab scientists) practicing in North Dakota are graduates of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.
- ▶ Our state’s citizens benefit from accessible, quality health care services.
- ▶ The sophistication and advances in procedures and technological capabilities in-state has dramatically increased. Patients whose medical conditions used to force them to seek care out-of-state are now being treated in-state.

## UPDATE

### \$600,000 Grant Supports Rural Medical Education

The UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences has received a grant totalling nearly \$600,000 for a program aimed at encouraging medical students to practice in rural communities.

The three-year, \$590,760 supplemental grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will support the Rural Opportunities in Medical Education (ROME) program, now in its fourth year of operation at the UND medical school. DHHS has provided funding for the program for the past three years.

**“This funding is critical to the ROME program, a promising and very important component of the mission of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences,” said Dean H. David Wilson, M.D.**

“We believe that by exposing medical

students to rural practice at an impressional stage in their medical education they will become more interested, more inclined and better prepared to choose this type of practice when they are ready to launch their medical careers.”

Currently six UND medical students, about 11 percent of the class, are working and studying with practicing faculty-physicians in Devils Lake, Jamestown and Hettinger. Other communities which have been or may become involved in the ROME program include Williston, Dickinson and Belcourt.

Grant monies will be used to expand and refine the ROME program to include more collaboration with faculty members in internal medicine and pediatrics, according to officials in the Department of Family

Medicine who administer the program. Telecommunication capabilities and a PDA (personal digital assistant)-based patient clinical encounters database, as well as faculty members’ site visits are among items covered by the grant.

**“This grant allows us to further enhance our model for sustainable, high-quality, rural medical education which contributes to important national and state physician workforce goals,” said William Mann, M.D., chairman and professor of family medicine, Grand Forks.**

“We are preparing our students to provide cost-effective, quality health care in rural and medically under-served areas and increasing their self-confidence in confronting the diverse challenges of rural practice.”



*Robert Beattie, M.D. '89 (right), is one of a team of physicians at the West River Regional Medical Center in Hettinger who is educating third-year medical students, including Matt Schaefer, through the Rural Opportunities in Medical Education (ROME) program. Jamestown and Devils Lake physicians are also involved in the program this year.*



Mary Markland, Southeast clinical campus librarian, Fargo, demonstrates a hand-held computer for second-year med student, Mark Hubbell, at the Harley French Library of the Health Sciences in Grand Forks.

## New Technology Places Vast Stores of Information in Students' Hands

University of North Dakota med students were introduced recently to the latest in computer technology which puts a vast storehouse of medical information in the palms of their hands.

At an open house in the school's library, staff members demonstrated seven Personal Digital Assistance, or "hand-held," computers to freshman and sophomore medical students to acquaint them with the small, portable tool designed to help them in their studies as well as interactions with patients.

Through the UND medical library, students can experiment with Palm Pilots and Windows CE computers which contain software for patient-tracking, information on drugs and a medical dictionary. Windows CE can run a scaled-down version of Windows.

The devices also can be set up to include a reference text in internal medicine and the Five-Minute Clinical Consult

program, whereby students can look up diseases and their symptoms, an important element in determining likely diagnoses. Models range from \$150 to \$600, varying according to basic to elaborate features such as color and greater capabilities.

Hand-held computers offer students a more efficient way to obtain information, store data and track patient cases, according to **Lila Pedersen**, director of the medical school libraries, Grand Forks. "We will keep them on reserve for students to check out," similar to library books.

Library staff members hope students will see how useful the technology is for studies and patient care, and decide, based on this experience, which model they may want to purchase.

"We're anticipating a demand because students have expressed an interest in them," Pedersen said. Some students are already using this technology.

## Tello Named President of Renal Network

**Abel Tello, M.D.**, clinical professor and vice chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine, Bismarck, was elected president of the Renal Network of the Upper Midwest at the association's annual meeting last month in Minneapolis.



Tello

The Renal Network of the Upper Midwest is a private, nonprofit organization founded to improve care for patients with end-stage renal disease. The network includes Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Tello, board-certified in nephrology and internal medicine, practices with Medcenter One Health Systems.

## Med Students Raise Funds for Breast Cancer Screening

Medical students and other participants of the eighth annual Sharon Lambeth Walk/Run for Breast Cancer raised more than \$2000 for the Grand Forks Breast Cancer Coalition to provide free mammograms for women in need.

The event, organized and sponsored by the UND med school chapter of the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA), was held Oct. 27 at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks.

The event is held in honor of Sharon Lambeth, as associate professor of nursing at UND who died of breast cancer in 1994 at the age of 52. Actively involved with patients with Alzheimer's disease, she encouraged her students to become involved in the community.

Sharon Lambeth was the wife of **David Lambeth, Ph.D.**, professor and interim chairman of biochemistry and molecular biology, Grand Forks.

*Appointed by AMA Council*

## Wilson Elected to National Liaison Committee on Medical Education

**H. David Wilson, M.D.**, dean and vice president for health affairs, Grand Forks, has been appointed to a three-year term on the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) which accredits medical schools in the United States and Canada.

Wilson was named by the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association (AMA) to serve as its representative to the LCME. He has been a member of the Council on Medical Education since last year.

The LCME acts on behalf of the AMA, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the Canadian Medical Association. Its 17 members also include other representatives of the AMA

as well as those selected to represent the AAMC, medical students, the general public and Canada.

Authorized by the U.S. Department of Education, the LCME accredits 141 schools that offer education leading to the doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree in the U.S. and Canada. It conducts about 20-30 accreditation site visits each year.

Members of the LCME meet four times annually to consider and act on issues concerning medical school accreditation, a process of quality assurance in post-secondary education that determines whether an institution or program meets established standards.

## Brosseau Recognized and Thanked for Leadership

Terry Brosseau, president of Medcenter One in Bismarck (right), received a traditional UND chair from **Dean H. David Wilson, M.D.**, in recognition of his leadership of the University of North Dakota Medical Center Advisory Council and long-term support of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The chair was presented at the conclusion of a recent meeting of the council in Grand Forks.

Brosseau is planning to retire in December 2001.

The UND Medical Center Advisory Council is appointed by the governor and various medical groups to advise, consult and make recommendations to the university administration concerning programs of the UND Medical Center.



*Dean H. David Wilson, M.D. (left), presents a UND chair to Terry Brosseau, of Medcenter One, Bismarck.*

## W. B. Huntley, Former Assistant Dean, Dies

Former assistant dean for the Northwest Campus and faculty member, **Wellington Huntley, M.D.**, died Oct. 12 at his home in Sarasota, FL. He was 89.

Dr. Huntley, came to Minot in 1949 from Detroit and practiced as a member of the medical staff of St. Joseph's Hospital until his retirement in 1981.

**He served as assistant dean for the UND medical school from 1976 to 1982.**

Widely respected for his skills as a surgeon, he assumed leadership roles in several organizations in the health care field.

A clinical professor of surgery with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, he served on the board and as president of North Dakota Blue Shield (NDBS).

He also represented NDBS on the national Blue Shield board.

He was a board member and chairman of the North Dakota Health Care Review and member of the North Dakota Medical Association board, serving on its socio-economic committee and its commission on medical education.

A native of Ann Arbor, MI, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in science at the University of Michigan and doctor of medicine degree at Wayne State University in Detroit in 1943.

During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy.

He was a member of the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit prior to moving to Minot.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; two sons; two daughters; eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Memorials are preferred to the American Heart Association.

## Part of Nordic Initiative

# Med Students Participate in First Exchange Program with Norway

Two medical students from the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences have completed the first educational experience offered through the school's exchange program in Norway.



*Hansen*

**Rachel Hansen** and **Jennifer Strong**, fourth-year medical students, returned from the University of Trondheim where they studied for four months. Stein Eriksen, the first Norwegian medical student to participate in the program, recently completed his studies with physicians in Fargo.



*Strong*

The exchange program is part of the



*Monica Mayer, M.D., '95, of New Town, ND, presented Dean Wilson with a Native American blanket during her visit to the UND medical school.*



*Ben Clayburgh, M.D. (B.S. Med. '47), Grand Forks, points out the locations of Norwegian universities participating in the UNDSMHS exchange program to Linda Olson, Ed.D., director of the Office of Medical Education, and James Brosseau, M.D. (B.S. Med. '68), chairman of community medicine, both of Grand Forks.*

UND Nordic Initiative which seeks to strengthen UND's ties to Scandinavian countries.

"We hope to develop a contract with the universities of Trondheim and Tromsø in Norway since both schools share a philosophy similar to UND's - that of emphasizing the training of family physicians, particularly for rural areas," said **George Johnson, M.D. (B.S. Med. '58)**, professor of pediatrics, Fargo.

## INMED Alumna

### **Mayer Discusses Lewis and Clark Expedition**

Interest in the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition is growing nationwide but **Monica Mayer, M.D. '95**, New Town, ND, has been studying their journey for many years. She explained this Jeffersonian initiative during a recent Dean's Hour gathering at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

UND enrolls a higher percentage of Norwegian students than any other university in the United States, Johnson said.

Others who have been involved in developing the medical student exchange program include **James Brosseau, M.D. (B.S. Med. '68)**, chairman and associate professor of community medicine; **Linda Olson, Ed.D.**, director of the Office of Medical Education, at the UND medical school, and **Ben Clayburgh, M.D. (B.S. Med. '47)**, all of Grand Forks.

Her interest in the expedition is piqued partly due to the medical aspects of the adventure and partly by the history of her heritage as an American Indian. She believes her ancestors may have been among those who offered friendship and hospitality to the explorers during their time in what is now North Dakota.

# ALUMNI

## Alumni Elected to Leadership Posts in North Dakota Medical Association

**Kathleen Wood, M.D. (B.S. Med. '73)**, Grand Forks has been elected president of the North Dakota Medical Association (NDMA).

A radiologist, she has served the association as vice president, secretary-treasurer and speaker and as vice speaker of the House of Delegates.

**Russell Kuzel, M.D. '79**, Fargo, has been elected NDMA vice president. He is a family physician at Dakota Clinic in West Acres shopping center.

Other elected officers include: **Robert Beattie, M.D. '89**, Hettinger, secretary-treasurer, and **Shari Orser, M.D. '77**, Bismarck, speaker of the house.

## Alumni Notes

'60

**Gyman Okeson, M.D. (B.S. Med. '60)**, of Temple, TX, has recently retired after 32 years at the Scott and White Clinic and Hospital in Temple. During his career, he held positions there as consultant in pulmonology, director of the Pulmonary Function Laboratory, and director of pulmonary rehabilitation.

He also held the academic title of professor of medicine at Texas A&M School of Medicine.

In 1960, after receiving the B.S. Med. degree at the UND medical school, he went on to earn the M.D. degree at Baylor College of Medicine in 1962.

'85

**Michael Mutchler, M.D. '85**, an internist, has joined the MeritCare Health Systems' Jamestown (ND) clinic.

He formerly served as staff internist and clinical practice director for Park Nicollet Clinic in Minneapolis.

Mutchler completed residency training through the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' internal medicine program in Fargo in 1988.

'91



*Iverson*

**Christie Iverson, M.D. '91**, has joined the Women's Medical Center of Medcenter One in Bismarck. Board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology, she specializes in general and high risk obstetrics and general gynecology.

Iverson completed residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Prior to joining Medcenter One Health Systems, she practiced at Medical Arts Clinic in Minot for five years.

'92



*Brown*

**Michael Brown, M.D./Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology '92**, Bismarck, is a cardiothoracic surgeon with the Heart and Lung Clinic which he joined in July 2000.

After earning the M.D./Ph.D. degree at UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences (UNDSMHS), he went on to complete residency training in general surgery at the University of Hawaii. He took further training in cardiothoracic surgery at the University of Iowa.

An assistant professor of surgery at UNDSMHS, he is also active in the Army National Guard Medical Corps.

Brown is widely recognized for his outstanding research, particularly in the cardiovascular field. In addition, he has written a number of scientific papers in the fields of diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery and the American Board of Surgery, he is a member of the American College of Surgeons.

He and his wife, **Karen (Sevigny) Brown, M.D. '93**, a neonatologist, reside in Bismarck with their children: Christopher, 5; Alexis, 3, and Nicholas, 1.

Karen Brown completed her residency training in pediatrics at the University of Hawaii and a fellowship in neonatology at the University of Iowa. She is board-certified in her field and practices with St. Alexius' Prime Care with the specialty clinics in Bismarck.

'93

**Kent Diehl, M.D., '93**, a board-certified family physician, has joined the Family Medical Center North, a division of Medcenter One in Bismarck.



*Diehl*

A native of Carson, Diehl began his practice in clinics at Washburn, Underwood and Center through the National Health Service Corps loan repayment program, designed to serve health professional shortage areas throughout the nation. He will continue to see patients each Tuesday at the Medcenter One Center Clinic.

In his practice, he sees all members of the family, and has a special interest in sports medicine and geriatrics.

Diehl is a 1996 graduate of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' family medicine residency program in Bismarck.

## Homecoming 2001

# Alumni Gather to Renew Friendships and Memories

UND's annual Homecoming event drew medical school alumni to campus in October. During one of the many Homecoming weekend activities, alums met for a breakfast and listened to a talk by **Dean H. David Wilson, M.D.**, who presented highlights of the school's progress in recent years.

Those who attended the event are pictured (standing, from left): **Gordon Salness, M.D. (B.S. Med. '43)**, Laguna Hills, CA; **Cecil Chally, M.D. (B.S. Med. '63)**, St. Paul, MN; **Rodney Clark, M.D. (B.S. Med. '46)**, Grand Forks; **Richard Leigh, M.D. (B.S. Med. '45)**, Grand Forks, and **Kathleen Wood, M.D. (B.S. Med. '73)**, Grand Forks;

And seated (from left) are: **John Vennes, Ph.D.**, professor and chairman emeritus of microbiology and immunology, Grand Forks; **Dean Wilson**, Grand Forks; **UND President Charles Kupchella**, Grand Forks, and **James Brosseau, M.D. (B.S. Med. '68)**, chairman and associate professor of community medicine, Grand Forks.



## Alumni Notes

(continued)

'94



Gebhart

**John Gebhart, M.D. '94**, has joined the staff of Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, in the Section of Gynecologic Surgery.

After earning the M.D. at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences in 1994, he received his residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. He went on for further training in a three-year fellowship there in urogynecology and reconstructive pelvic surgery.

He also is pursuing a degree in the Master of Science Program in Biomedical

Sciences.

Gebhart, who holds dual appointments in the departments of general surgery and obstetrics-gynecology, is director of the Urogynecology Incontinence and Pelvic Organ Prolapse Clinic.

**Douglas Schlicht, M.D. '94**, anesthesiologist, has joined MeritCare Health Systems at its hospital in Fargo

After earning the M.D. degree at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences in 1994, he went on to complete an internship at the MeritCare Hospital in Fargo and anesthesiology residency training at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City.

He has been practicing most recently as staff anesthesiologist at Dakota Clinic Ltd. in Fargo.

## In Memorium

**William Lyons, M.D. (B.S. Med. '35)**, Madison, WI, died April 18, 2001.

After earning the B.S. Med. degree at the UND medical school, he went on to earn the M.D. degree at Loyola University of Chicago-Maywood Stritch School of Medicine.

Board-certified in psychiatry, he had a special interest in psychoanalysis.

Plan now to attend!

## Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health

### *Rural and Public Health: Connecting Vision, Values and Technology*

March 20-22, 2002 (Wednesday-Friday) Holiday Inn, Fargo, North Dakota

This conference brings together people who share a common concern about the quality and delivery of rural and public health care in North Dakota and the region. It attracts professionals from various walks of life: health care, human services, government, academia, and the consumer public. An interdisciplinary forum, it is intended for administrators, board members, managers, staff, physicians, nurses, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, social workers, allied health, researchers, educators, students, government officials, as well as others interested in improving health services in the state and region. The conference promotes communication and the exchange of ideas and information important to private and public providers in rural and urban areas.

Today's health care environment is driven by a number of pressure points – workforce, finance, demographics, regulations, and other factors. It is imperative, however, that the people intimately involved in the delivery of care and services not lose sight of a fundamental need: to shape a vision for health. Vision can represent agreed-upon values or challenge status quo opinions. Vision can rely on established techniques or offer new theories. Vision can stimulate discussion and debate or foster reflection and contemplation. The purpose of an annual statewide health conference, such as Dakota Conference, is not only to instill newfound skills and knowledge, but also to challenge and motivate people to think about the how's, what's and why's of our health care system.

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Terry Dwelle**, MD, state health officer, North Dakota Department of Health  
**Dena Puskin**, ScD, director, federal Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
**Val Schott**, MPH, president, National Rural Health Association and director, Oklahoma Office of Rural Health  
**Mary Wakefield**, PhD, RN, director, UND Center for Rural Health, UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
**Faye L. Wong**, MPH, RD, president, American Public Health Association and director, Youth Media Campaign, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

#### PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS, "INTENSIVE" SESSIONS AND EVENING WORKSHOPS

**Pre-conference Workshop:** One pre-conference workshop will be held Wednesday, March 20, 2002, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. This is a Rural Medicare Hospital Flexibility (FLEX) program workshop for rural hospitals that have either been certified as Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) or are interested in the program.

**Intensive Sessions:** "Intensive" sessions are longer concurrent sessions running approximately two hours. They offer the session participant a more in-depth study of the subject. Four "intensives" will cover: health employment law, support for the family caregiver, alcohol use in North Dakota youth, and bio-terrorism.

**Evening Workshops:** In an effort to accommodate busy work schedules, the Dakota Conference will host two evening workshops. Both workshops will be held Wednesday, March 20, 2002, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. One workshop is an introduction to grant-writing and is titled, "You Want Me to Write a Grant!" The second evening session is called, "How to Teach a Breast Self-exam: A Train-the-Trainer Opportunity." There is no additional charge for conference attendees. Those not registered for the conference will be assessed a \$50 fee.

#### PROGRAM TOPICS

CDC Youth Media Campaign; Problems and Resources of American Indian Elders; An Introduction to the New Medical Director's Association; A Program and Financial Comparison of the Rural Health Clinic (RHC) and the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Programs; Elroy Schroeder Middle School Incident; Rural Mental Health Issues; You Too Can Survive the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA); HIV-AIDS; Attitudes and Behaviors of Migrant Farm Workers with Diabetes; Milk Matters; Body Jewelry Design and Removal; North Dakota Health Care Workforce Issues and Options; North Dakota Senior Info-Line/On-Line Information and Assistance; Pain Management: Health Care Policy Initiatives Mandate New Visions for Patient Care; Center for Health Promotion and Translation Research; Reducing Prenatal Risk; UND Graduate Nursing Student Research Projects; The Master of Public Health Program; New Technology in a New Millennium; Using GIS to Understand Community Prevention Issues; Family-centered Care: A Patient's Point of View; Future of Chronic Illness Management; What Rural Families Have to Say About the Economics, Services and Social Supports in Rural Communities; The Community Access Program: Rural Hospitals Respond to Increase Access to Care

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Dakota Conference will offer participants a **Foundation Resource Center** as part of the UND Center for Rural Health display booth in the Exhibit Hall. The Foundation Resource Center offers funding information from a multitude of private foundations and federal agencies. In addition, Center staff members are available to answer questions and offer advice. Appointments can be made to

review and critique your grant proposals. The **Exhibit Hall** will offer displays, information and material from various vendors, organizations and associations. This area will feature **poster presentations** which are displays of contemporary rural health research and health program information. Once again, the Dakota Conference will offer special early morning discussion tables, called **Hot Tea and Hot Topics**. People will have a chance to identify topics ahead of time while at the conference, those ideas will be placed on a display board, and people can decide which groups to participate in to share perspectives and ideas with their colleagues. North Dakota's Congressional delegation will offer national health policy information when they participate in a **Congressional Update** on Thursday, March 21, 2002 to be followed by a **State Health Policy Update**. The Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health will present the **Awards Banquet** on Thursday evening.

#### SPONSORS

Altru Health System (Grand Forks, ND); North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants; North Dakota Community Healthcare Association; North Dakota Public Health Association; University of North Dakota College of Nursing; University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences' Center for Rural Health, AIDS Education and Training Center, Department of Family Medicine and Department of Community Medicine. Dakota Conference is coordinated by the University of North Dakota Division of Continuing Education.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS

Continuing education hours will be available. Applications have been submitted to the following: ACPE, MN and NDSBE for nursing home administration, NDBSWE, NDNA, NDDA and the UND Division of Continuing Education.

#### REGISTRATION

Early registration is \$120. This fee will increase to \$150 after March 6, 2002. Registration includes all educational sessions (including the four Intensive sessions, five keynote presentations, two evening workshops, one pre-conference workshop, and the special Congressional Update and State Health Policy Update sessions; handouts, continuing education hours, admission to exhibits/poster sessions/foundation resource center, refreshments, opening reception and Thursday evening Awards Banquet. If more than two people register (for the full conference) from your facility, the third person and others will receive a special discount rate of \$95. If you want to take advantage of this rate, please make sure all registrations are sent at the same time. One day rates are also available: Wednesday only, \$50; Thursday only \$80; and Friday only, \$50. A special rate of \$25 is also available for full-time students which does not include a banquet ticket. However, banquet tickets can be purchased for \$15. Payment for registration should be made in advance using a check, major credit card or company purchase order. Register on-line at [www.conted.und.edu/ruralhealth](http://www.conted.und.edu/ruralhealth)

#### LODGING

A block of sleeping rooms has been reserved at the Fargo Holiday Inn. Call (701) 282-2700 to make reservations from the Dakota Conference Rural and Public Health Room block.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Brenda Keller, Program Coordinator, or Melissa Hetland, Program Assistant, UND Office of Conference Services (701) 777-2663 or 1-800-342-8230 Fax (701) 777-6401 e-mail: [conferences@mail.und.nodak.edu](mailto:conferences@mail.und.nodak.edu)

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Dave Miedema  
Executive Vice President  
UND Foundation



H. David Wilson, M.D.  
Dean, UND School of  
Medicine and Health  
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