

THE REVIEW

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES



R

roxanne Vaughan, Ph.D. (left), associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, analyzes a type of x-ray film as she teaches Laura Parnas, a graduate research assistant from Argentina, how to detect radioactive protein. Dozens of graduate students in the medical school benefit by working with well-respected researchers in their laboratories while pursuing advanced degrees in the basic sciences. Dr. Vaughan's research, funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse, is aimed at understanding how cocaine works in the brain to promote addiction.

IN REVIEW

'Good Medicine' Offers Behind-the-Scenes Look at Med School History

"Good Medicine," a book by UND President Emeritus Tom Clifford and Robert Eelkema, M.D. (B.S. Med. '59), professor emeritus of community medicine, both of Grand Forks, recounts the history of the UND School of Medicine at the time of its conversion from a two-year, basic sciences school to a full, doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree-granting institution in the early 1970s.

The book is available in selected bookstores and may be ordered through www.cliffelkpress.com.

According to Pat McGuire, the journalist who co-wrote the book, "Good Medicine is the gritty and often hilarious story of how Clifford organized a handful of public servants in the 1970s to beat the bean-counters and political naysayers and save the School of Medicine from extinction.

"It tells how Clifford used wit and outright guile as president to outflank numerous critics who argued in 1971 that the state couldn't afford a four-year medical school at UND. In fact, many wanted to

shut down the two-year school."

Clifford said, "I felt our kids should have the right to become doctors just like anybody else. I really believed we could build such a school. So did men like Wally Nelson and Wilbur Wright and John Vennes and Bobby Eelkema."

Ultimately, Clifford and UND won approval of a four-year, degree-granting school that is today the nationally acclaimed School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

letter

To: H. David Wilson, M.D., Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean

Congratulations to you and your staff on being selected by the AMA as one of the ten U.S. and Canadian medical schools to be involved in the Professionalism in Medicine Initiative ("UND Medical School to Study Professionalism Education," THE REVIEW, July '03) ... This is but one additional demonstration of the excellent work being accomplished by the faculty, administration and staff of the school. It is more evidence of your leadership in moving the institution forward. You do have good students to work with too.

Continue the great job.

Richard Olafson, M.D. (B.S. Med. '57)
Professor Emeritus Professor of Neuroscience
Retired Assistant Dean, Southeast Campus
Fargo, ND

NOTE: The writer is referring to the selection of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences as a partner in a program, called Strategies for Teaching and Evaluating Professionalism (STEP), which hopes to address some of the difficult challenges physicians face. Through the STEP program, partner medical schools will develop teaching and evaluative tools to be used for all medical education.

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Phone Numbers

Use area code (701); prefix is 777- (unless otherwise noted)

Academic Affairs	2515
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Bookstore (Barnes and Noble, Health Sciences)	3461
Campus offices:	
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e-mail requests to: info@raonline.org

fax: 1-800-270-1913

Web site: www.raonline.org

Rural Health, The Center for3848

Student Affairs (see Admissions and Student Affairs)

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DEAN'S LETTER

Our Progress is Remarkable

We Set the Pace with Dedication, Determination and Creativity

This fall has been an exciting time to mark extraordinary advances and to celebrate our progress at the University of North Dakota.

In recent months, we have:

- **welcomed the newest members of our medical student body, the M.D. Class of 2007**, who are beginning their journey toward one of the most meaningful and satisfying careers that anyone can pursue;
- **broken ground for the new \$3 million Neuroscience Research Facility** which will house researchers devoted to understanding the causes of dreaded, debilitating diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy and others; the building is expected to be completed in the fall of 2004;
- **applauded the selection of Dr. James Mitchell, our NRI/Lee A. Christoferson, Sr., M.D., Chair of Neuroscience, as one of the first four**

McCann Scholars in the country, an honor given to the most outstanding mentors in medicine and science and one that he so richly deserves;

- **hosted our alumni once again during Homecoming activities** to see the extraordinary changes and new developments at their alma mater; it is always with great pleasure and pride that we bring our alums together for a time of camaraderie to reconnect with their classmates and the school where their dreams of a professional career all began;

- **launched the second series in the Medical School for the Public program** which is providing more than 80 people from all walks of life throughout the state a glimpse of medical education and a close-up view of this year's focus: the heart;

- **received a grant for \$820,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to help prepare health**

care professionals around the state for any potential bioterroristic event, building on and using current systems and stressing the need for an interdisciplinary, team approach to effectively and rapidly react to a threat of this kind;

- **recognized as one of the top medical schools in the country in terms of percentage of medical students who choose to enter family medicine**, an honor bestowed by the American Academy of Family Physicians and one that fits our intent to meet the needs of rural health care, and

- **uncovered current, reliable data on the nature and future of the nursing workforce needs in North Dakota**, an issue which will continue to receive the serious attention of our Center for Rural Health staff as they continue to work, along with "stakeholders," to address the nursing shortage and possible means to alleviate it.

These are but a few recent highlights of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health - there are many more examples of the important work of our faculty and staff that space doesn't allow me to describe. We will be pleased to include these developments in future issues of THE REVIEW and invite you to watch for more good news as we continue to fulfill the mission of this remarkable medical school in service to the people of this state, region and the world.

H. David Wilson

H. David Wilson, M.D.
Vice President for Health
Affairs and Dean



Alums returning for Homecoming activities this fall heard from Dean H. David Wilson, M.D. (above, right), about the progress of the medical school and from several medical students about what medical school is like today. Pictured, from left (standing) are: **Jon Eylands, M.D. (B.S. Med. '56)**, Scottsdale, AZ; **Dean Strinden, M.D. (B.S. Med. '50)**, Williston, ND; **Rodney Clark, M.D. (B.S. Med. '46)**, Grand Forks, ND; **Ben Clayburgh, M.D. (B.S. Med. '47)**, Grand Forks, ND; **Dean Wilson, Grand Forks**; and (seated): **Bob Welo, M.D. (B.S. Med. '53)**, Casper, WY; **John Rulon, M.D. (B.S. Med. '53)**, Spokane, WA, and **Charles Petty, M.D. (B.S. Med. '53)**, Hamilton, MT.

Freshman Medical Students Begin Studies for M.D. Degree

Sixty-three freshman medical students, members of the doctor of medicine (M.D.) Class of 2007, began their medical education this fall at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Medical students' first week is dedicated to orientation which included an introduction to the four-year medical education curriculum. Special emphasis is placed on the students' new roles as health care professionals and expectations of them as professionals.

Through their first patient case study, they became familiar with "patient-centered learning," which relies less on lectures and memorization, and more on small-group and independent learning. Faculty members act as facilitators, leading students through the process of defining and solving health problems presented by patients, a system which mirrors the day-to-day work of practicing physicians.

Orientation sessions focused on use of computers and other learning resources, clinical reasoning, group dynamics and learning styles, coping with stress, financial aid and debt management. A panel of experienced students discussed the life of a medical student and spouses' concerns.

White coat ceremony

Orientation week ended with Family Day, highlighted by the White Coat Ceremony during which students receive their first white coat.

During the ceremony students are "cloaked" in the traditional garment of the physician, the white coat, donated by the North Dakota Medical Association.

They also recite the Oath of Hippocrates, an ancient vow to uphold basic professional principles.

The ceremony is a means of encouraging students to begin thinking of themselves as professionals who are, above all else, care-givers and of the crucial importance of the doctor-patient relationship.

Elizabeth Burns, M.D., chair and professor of family medicine at the UND medical school, Grand Forks, presented a talk, titled "Transformation, Power and Change."



Brenda Becker, freshman medical student, receives her white coat from H. David Wilson, M.D., dean of the medical school and vice president for health affairs at the University of North Dakota, during the White Coat Ceremony which concluded the first week of medical school for members of the M.D. Class of '07. She is the daughter of John and Ardis Postovit of Fargo.

In addition, each student received a "Humanism in Medicine" lapel pin, provided by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation and a book from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, "On Doctoring," edited by Drs. John Stone and Richard Reynolds, noted authors in the medical field.

The ceremony, which has become a tradition at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, was initiated by Columbia University in 1993 as a ritual by which medical schools foster humanism in

medicine and promote the concept of medical students as compassionate care-givers. For students, it is a public acknowledgment of their professional responsibilities and their willingness to assume obligations inherent with being a physician.

UND medical students take their first two years of medical education in Grand Forks; their third year in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks or a rural community in North Dakota, and fourth year in one of the state's four major cities.

Ten Percent Increase

Class Size Increased by Five Seats in Response to National Trends

The opportunity to pursue a career in medicine increased by ten percent this fall with the addition of five seats in the freshman medical class at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The increase in class size is in response to national trends in medicine that forecast more doctors will be needed in the future, said **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, dean of the school and vice president for health affairs at UND.

Sixty-three students began studies recently in the four-year, doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree program - 55 in state-supported seats and six enrolled through the Indians Into Medicine (INMED) program. The school will continue to admit at this level; other medical schools around the country also are increasing enrollments.

"The UND medical school is pleased to do its part to help meet the greater demand for medical services expected in years to come," Wilson said. "The additional M.D. graduates also will provide a larger pool of physicians from which North Dakota and regional health care facilities

can recruit."

Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions Judy DeMers points out that additional positions in the class expand the opportunities for well-qualified North Dakota students to attend medical school.

"I am very pleased that we are able to offer admission to five more North Dakotans this year while actually increasing the average grade point average of the entering class to an impressive 3.71," DeMers said.

As members of the "babyboom generation," those born from 1946 to 1964, reach advanced age, more physicians and other health care professionals will be needed to care for them, Wilson said.

Studies reveal that today's physicians, and those coming up, work fewer hours per week than physicians in the past. The profession is also affected by the

increased number of physicians who take time away from their practices for family.

The decision to accept more students was made after careful study by a faculty committee charged with considering the question and the exact number of additional students the school could accommodate.

Enrollment in INMED, a federally funded program to address disparities in health care provided for Native Americans, has not changed. The program admits up to seven qualified students per class.

Members of the M.D. Class of '07:

Nicholas Aberle II
Pierre Barbot
Brenda Becker
Ashley Beller
Celeste Berger
Peter Biegler
Heidi Boyum
Lavone Bradfield
Christina Brown
Matthew Carpenter
Aaron Chalmers
Eric Deal
Jill Detwiller
Aaron Feist
Kate Giddings
Kelli Graziano
Kirsten Hall
Nathan Herman
Kadon Hintz
Zena Homan
John Hoyt

Mandi Johnson
Megan Johnston
Rebecca Kadlec
Michelle Keawphalouk
Jessie Kinschi
Peter Klemm
Brianna Kling
Gary Kummet
Melissa Kunkel
Jennifer LaPointe
Mats Liden
Stephanie Lill
Melissa Loney
Aaron Luebke
Derek Lyste
Scott Maanum
Noah Marks
Kenneth Masters
Jeremiah Matthews
Andrew McCoy
Lindsey McLaughlin

Sarah Miller
Lance Monteau
Andrea Morrison
David Newman
Ethan Nguyen
Rena Nordeng
Jedidiah Perkerewicz
Kathryn Polovitz
Nicole Poppinga
Samantha Pullen
Sarah Quanrud
David Rothberg
David Sherwood
Brad Skari
Jessica Skjolden
John Skretvedt
Mandy Sorlie
Christina Tello
Jessica Titus
Diane Voeller
Ryan Zimmermann



Freshman medical student Aaron Feist took a moment at the Family Day picnic to pose with his parents, Mark and Rhonda Feist of Sawyer, ND, at the end of his first week as a member of the M.D. Class of 2007 at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

UPDATE



The \$3 million, 14,000-square-foot Neuroscience Research Facility is expected to be completed in the fall of 2004.

Construction Begins on Neuroscience Research Facility

Ground was broken for the \$3 million Neuroscience Research Facility Sept. 25 at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The facility, located at the corner of Hamline and Fifth Avenue North, immediately west of the medical school, is expected to be completed in the fall of 2004.

It will house neuroscientists who are working to discover new knowledge of how the brain functions at its most basic level. Their goal is to increase understanding of the causes of neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy and ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).

Neuroscience research at the school also is aimed at furthering scientific knowledge of mechanisms in the brain which lead to drug-seeking behavior.

The Neuroscience Research Facility is designed as an attractive, one-story-plus-basement structure. Federal funds from the Health Resources and Services Administration are financing most of the cost of constructing the 14,000-square-foot building.

UND President **Charles Kupchella** presided at the groundbreaking ceremony which also included remarks by **North Dakota Governor John Hoeven**; **Bev**



Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean H. David Wilson, M.D., delivers remarks at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Neuroscience Research Facility.

\$3 Million Facility to be Completed in Fall 2004

(continued)

Clayburgh, a member of the State Board of Higher Education, and **UND Vice President for Health Affairs H. David Wilson, M.D.**

The Neuroscience Research Facility will provide laboratories for eight neuroscientists and their assistants. Researchers in this building will be members of the basic science and clinical departments who have received grant funding to work on various aspects of the research.

"It will be the best research building at UND," says Manuchair Ebadi, Ph.D., associate vice president for health affairs at UND and associate dean for research and program development at the UND medical school, Grand Forks.

With large laboratories and offices lining exterior walls, the facility will have modern support systems including central core equipment, central vacuum, central nitrogen and a neuroscience library.

"I... eagerly look forward to the results of the inquiries which will take place in (this facility)," said U.S. Senator **Byron Dorgan (D-ND)** in a letter read by President Kupchella at the ceremony.

"Structures like this are only the empty husks that house the critical state-of-the-art equipment, the specialized libraries and the professional scientists and staff with the intellectual wattage, energy and determination to drive the research forward.

"Because my father had Alzheimer's, I have a real and personal interest in the scientific inquiry which will one day lead to the defeat of this debilitating enemy," said the senator who was instrumental in securing funds for the building.

"The opportunity to find federal dollars to wage war on this deadly affliction has been a special pleasure and a personal reward. God's speed to all of those who will work within its walls."

In his remarks, President Kupchella said, "We see research, not as something we do instead of teaching here - not something that competes with our core mission of teaching and learning - but something that complements it in a very, very direct way.

"It also helps us fulfill a new role that universities in North Dakota have... in creating a new North Dakota for the future: playing a role in economic development."

Continuing in that vein, Governor John Hoeven said, "This Neuroscience Research Facility is about excellence in education. It's about creating quality jobs and careers, and it's about creating quality of life for a better standard of living in

North Dakota. This is about building the future. This is what's supposed to happen. This is what we're all working so hard to achieve."

The university "can be an engine of growth," he said, "not only for individuals in terms of educational excellence so that they may achieve their greatest potential, but what we can do collectively as a state to build our future and make this the best place in the country in terms of opportunity for our young people and for all our people. And that's how it happens, with days like today.

"This is a center of excellence. This is combining education and economic development in a very powerful way to move us forward."



Dignitaries who turned dirt, marking the official groundbreaking for the Neuroscience Research Facility (from left): **Bev Clayburgh**, State Board of Higher Education, Grand Forks; **Manuchair Ebadi, Ph.D.**, associate vice president for health affairs at UND, Grand Forks; **Randy Eken**, associate dean for administration and finance at the UND medical school, Grand Forks; **Jim Galloway** of Johnson Laffen and Galloway Architects, Grand Forks; **Governor John Hoeven**, Bismarck; **UND President Charles Kupchella** and **Vice President for Health Affairs H. David Wilson**, both of Grand Forks.

\$820,000 Received from DHSS

Bioterrorism is Focus of New Grant for Education and Training

The University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences has received a grant for \$820,761 from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to strengthen bioterrorism education and training for health professionals.

The UND medical school is among 19 institutions to receive the grants, announced recently by DHHS Secretary Tommy Thompson. Totaling \$22.3 million nationally, they are the first awarded in the DHHS' Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program. There were 104 applicants for the grant program.

"Our health care professionals need to be prepared for the special demands that a bioterrorism attack could make on them and on our health care system," Thompson said. "This new program is an important part of our broader efforts to prepare our public health system, develop effective medical countermeasures and stand ready to respond if bioterrorism should strike."

The UND medical school's two-year project titled BORDERS, "Biochemical Organic Radioactive Educational Response System," will be aimed at improving the ability of health professionals to prepare for and respond to acts of bioterrorism in increasingly diverse situations and populations.

"We are very pleased and proud to assume a leadership role to ensure that health care professionals in North Dakota receive the training they need to best respond to emergencies that may arise through bioterrorism," said **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, vice president for health affairs and dean of the medical school at UND.

"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."

Linda Olson, Ed.D., director of the Office of Medical Education, and **Rick Vari, Ph.D.**, assistant dean for educational



Olson



Vari

affairs, UND medical school, are co-principal investigators. **James Hargreaves, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of internal medicine and an infectious disease specialist at Altru Health System in Grand Forks, is executive program director.

"Effective responses to public health emergencies... need to cross all disciplines while promoting innovation and collaboration among all health professionals," Olson said. "This project will create a 'borderless' and efficient system by which practitioners and emergency preparedness and disaster management personnel will have access to standardized training and resources that will increase understanding and promote cooperation."

"This is an exciting opportunity to link our medical school and university to health care practitioners in the state, all

of whom are focused on learning about a topic that has become so prominent in our daily lives," Vari said. "Our next challenge will be to incorporate this curriculum with the education of all our health science students as part of their educational training.

"This interdisciplinary approach to health care education is the new wave for producing more effective health care teams of the future."

Doctors, nurses, physician assistants and allied health and mental health care professionals will participate in web-based instruction coupled with four, one-week, community-oriented training events throughout the year across North Dakota, including areas on or near rural Indian reservations, military bases, the U.S.-Canadian border, agricultural areas and urban centers.

The Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program, created with the passage of the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, is part of a total federal investment of \$4.4 billion in fiscal year 2003 for bioterrorism preparedness.

Nationwide, the program will provide for training of at least 38,000 health professionals to better respond to an emergency. It is administered through the DHHS' Health Resources and Services Administration, which also funds other health professions programs.

"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."

*H. David Wilson, M.D.
Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean*

One of Four in the Nation

Professor and Chair of Neuroscience Mitchell Selected as McCann Scholar

James Mitchell, M.D., chair and professor of neuroscience at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, has been selected to receive the first national award to recognize outstanding mentors in science and medicine, the McCann Scholar, the Joy McCann Foundation announced.

Mitchell, who is one of four recipients, is president of the Neuroscience Research Institute (NRI) of Fargo. He is a UND Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor and holds the first chair endowed by a major gift to the UND medical school, The NRI/ Lee A. Christoferson, Sr., M.D. Chair in Neuroscience.

The McCann Foundation awards \$150,000 to each recipient in recognition of their success as educators and mentors in teaching, research or patient care.

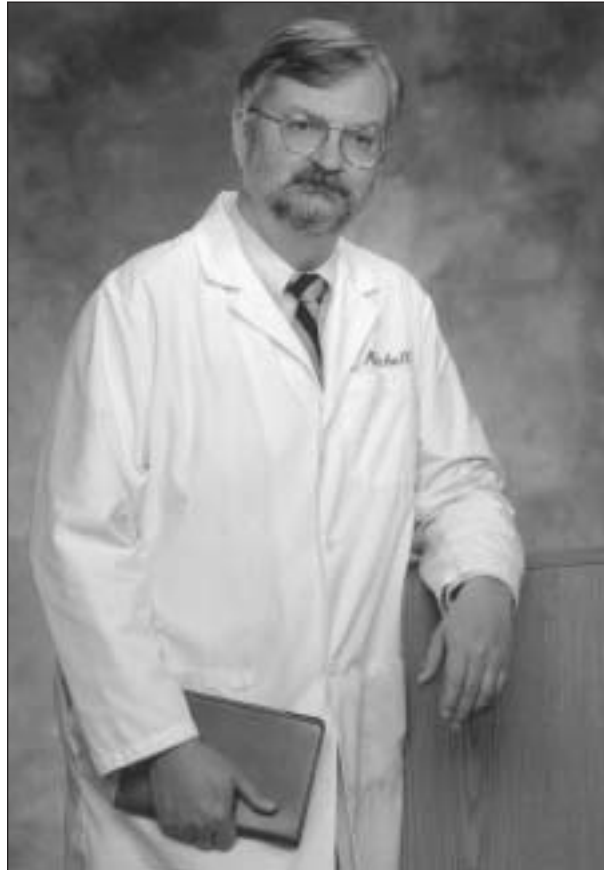
A psychiatrist, Mitchell is an international expert in the diagnosis and treatment of bulimia and anorexia nervosa. He is described as "a scholar of the highest order, a skilled and accomplished teacher and physician, and a world leader in his area of research." One doctor calls him "the best mentor of my life."

He teaches more courses than any other faculty member in the neuroscience department and spends countless hours meeting with individual residents-in-training and medical students.

"Dr. Jim Mitchell exemplifies the highest standards for which we in medical education and research strive," said **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, vice president for health affairs and dean of the medical school at UND. "We are very proud that this gifted, extraordinarily talented researcher and teacher has been recognized with this singular honor."

An outstanding teacher who has won more than ten awards for teaching excellence and scholarship, Mitchell has lectured worldwide, written six books for publication and has written more than 250 scientific papers during his career at UND.

He has served on editorial boards and published articles in numerous journals including the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, the *Journal of Clinical*



Psychiatry, the *Journal of Addictive Behavior*, *Adolescent Psychiatry*, and the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*.

The first McCann Scholars were chosen from candidates nominated by a special panel of leading professionals in medicine, nursing and science.

The "no-strings-attached" award is given to the Scholars to recognize the importance of their work which often goes unheralded and unrewarded. With the financial challenges of today's academic environment, medical and nursing faculties are under pressure to generate income by applying for grants and seeing patients.

"The McCann Scholars award makes a statement that time devoted to mentoring is equally important," said Robert Daugherty,

'Dr. Jim Mitchell exemplifies the highest standards for which we in medical education and research strive. We are very proud that this gifted, extraordinarily talented researcher and teacher has been recognized with this singular honor.'

H. David Wilson, M.D.
Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean
University of North Dakota
School of Medicine & Health Sciences

M.D., McCann Foundation chair.

Candidates for McCann Scholars must have demonstrated success as an educator and mentor in teaching, research and patient care; be a leader in their academic institution and/or their professional field, and have been recognized as a role model for excellence and professionalism.

"All the inspiring doctors I've known had mentors who helped shape their careers," said McCann Foundation Chair Joy McCann Daugherty. "Our 2003 awardees are outstanding people, fine teachers and caring physicians who have nurtured and influenced many careers. We are proud to support their efforts through the McCann Scholars program."

The Joy McCann Foundation, a private family foundation.

For High Percentage of Grads Choosing Family Medicine

Med School Recognized by American Academy of Family Physicians

The University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences has been recognized by a national family medicine group for the high percentage of its medical graduates who choose careers in family medicine.

The UND medical school recently was presented the Bronze Family Practice Percentage Award by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) in recognition of an average of 20.7 percent of doctor of medicine (M.D.) graduates in a three-year period (2000-2002) entering accredited family medicine residency programs.

Elizabeth Burns, M.D., chair of the school's Department of Family Medicine, accepted the award at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine awards luncheon in September at Atlanta.



Elizabeth Burns, M.D.

The UND medical school has been recognized many times in the past by the AAFP for the high proportion of graduates entering family medicine. It has received a total of three Gold Achievement Awards, which recognizes schools that graduate more than 30 percent of its stu-

dents into family medicine residency programs, and six Silver Achievement Awards, which recognizes schools for a three-year average of 25-29.9 percent of graduates choosing family medicine residency programs.

The school now holds two Bronze Awards for three-year averages of 20-24.9 percent of grads choosing family medicine.

Because of their ability to provide a broad range of health care services to patients of all ages, family physicians are most-needed in rural areas of North Dakota.

The AAFP initiated the Family Practice Percentage Awards in 1992 to honor medical schools for their efforts in educating and motivating students to choose career as family physicians.

CRH Nursing Workforce Study Defines Shortage, Suggests Action Plan

A nursing workforce study by the Center for Rural Health (CRH) at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences was discussed recently in Bismarck with an eye toward what can be done to alleviate the nurse shortage in North Dakota.

The North Dakota Nursing Needs Study defines the characteristics and extent of the nurse shortage in the state and projects that demand for nurses will increase, especially as nurses move toward retirement.

Research findings were analyzed and discussed by members of a group representing "stakeholders," leaders in the nursing and nursing education, medical, long-term care and public health arenas.

At this meeting, the group worked to identify top priorities based on study results, determine policy recommendations and began to forge strategies to address the problem, according to **Mary Wakefield, Ph.D.**, director of the CRH, Grand Forks. The group has met twice in the past year.

"There is a significant nursing shortage across much of the United States, and North Dakota is not immune from this

trend," Wakefield said. "Activity is under way in many states to address nursing workforce supply and demand, and that's exactly what we're doing here."

North Dakota has a shortage of about 500 registered nurses (RNs), Wakefield said, and about 200 licensed practical nurses (LPNs). Both of these shortages are projected to increase.

"The CRH has identified key elements of nursing supply and demand in the state and has raised the awareness of nursing as a respected profession that is facing a severe shortage," said **Constance Kalanek, Ph.D.**, executive director of the North Dakota Board of Nursing, Bismarck.

In 1998, the labor category for registered nurses was ninth in terms of annual openings in North Dakota - that category is expected to rise to fifth or sixth by 2010, according to Job Service North Dakota.

Initial results of the CRH study point to the need to examine the supply of nurses through the state's educational system and issues related to workplace environment. Among specific areas to be addressed:

◆ **Annual salary:** in North Dakota, is below the national average, even for

experienced nurses, according to North Dakota Bureau of Labor Statistics and Employment and Training Administration

◆ **Educational programs:** increase the number of students admitted each year; make more programs available in rural areas, and offer web-based and flexible, at-your-own-pace programs

◆ **Workplace environment:** needs improving, including representation of nurses at decision-making levels in health care facilities; reducing patient-load, paperwork, length of work shifts, and exposure to infectious diseases

◆ **Recruiting and image enhancement:** to increase interest in the field of nursing

The in-depth study focused on the supply and demand of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses, said **Patricia Moulton, Ph.D.**, of the CRH, Grand Forks, who has been collecting and analyzing nursing workforce data obtained through surveys and focus groups.

"No one action will be sufficient to ensure an adequate nursing workforce," Moulton said. "Rather, concrete steps are needed from a variety of stakeholders - (continued, next page)

Bruce Named Director of Continuing Medical Education and Outreach

A. Wayne Bruce, Ph.D., has been named to a new full-time position as director of the Office of Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Outreach at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Prior to his new appointment, Bruce served part-time as director of CME for nearly two years, in addition to directing the school's Division of Medical Laboratory Science. **Ruth Paur**, assistant professor of pathology, Grand Forks, has taken over as interim director of the division until the search for a full-time director is completed. The division offers programs leading to bachelor's and master's degrees in cytotechnology and clinical laboratory science.

In his new position, Bruce oversees the accreditation process for CME programs for physicians and other health care professionals who attend such programs to learn the latest information and advances in



*Wayne Bruce,
Ph.D.*

their fields and to maintain their licenses to practice.

In cooperation with the state's largest hospitals and clinic groups in Bismarck, Fargo and Grand Forks, he coordinates continuing medical education programming, serving the entire state, and secures support from pharmaceutical companies and other sponsors.

Last fall, a program he developed with

Medicine and Health Sciences to conduct the study.

The anticipated nursing shortage will affect the entire United States, according to the federal Bureau of Health Professions, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In 2000, the bureau estimated a six percent nationwide shortage and projected this shortage would increase to 29 percent in 2020.

the Mayo Clinic, called the Mayo Cohort Project, was initiated to provide Mayo employees continuing education in clinical laboratory science through on-line courses, leading to advanced degrees. The five-year project, officially unveiled last August, has attracted more than 120 students, Bruce said.

Bruce has been with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences since 1975 when he was named director of the then-medical technology (now clinical laboratory science) program.

Attn: Hospital Administrators - **Need More Primary Care Providers In Your Area?**

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School of Medicine & Health Sciences
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Call: 701-777-2344

1-800-CALL-UND (1-800-225-5863)
ask for ext. 2344 or PA Program
E-mail: mlaxen@medicine.nodak.edu

Nursing Study

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academic programs, health care institutions, policymakers, nurses and others."

The 2001 state legislature asked the North Dakota Board of Nursing to study the supply of and demand for nurses and to develop a strategic statewide plan to alleviate nursing shortages. The Board of Nursing then contracted with the Center for Rural Health (CRH) at the UND School of

For Med School History

Do You Have Old Photos?

Robert Fischer, Ph.D., professor and chair emeritus of microbiology, Grand Forks, is looking for class or individual pictures from the UND medical school classes of 1932, 1933, 1936 and 1939, in preparation of the 100th anniversary of the UND medical school.

He is also trying to gather any photos of members of medical school class of the 1920s.

To assist him in this effort, please call 701-777-3018. All materials will be returned.

'55 Alumnus from Cando, ND

Schwartz: A Leading Force Behind Free Clinic in California

Bill Schwartz, M.D. (B.S. Med. '55), is one of the first physicians who volunteered to provide health care services at Samaritan House Free Clinic which opened in 1992 to provide medical services for families unable to afford care in California's north-central San Mateo County, an ethnically and economically mixed area on the peninsula between San Francisco and San Jose.

The clinic, operated principally by volunteers, offers primary and specialty care services, including dental care, five days and one evening each week. A group of retired doctors form the backbone of the clinic, handling approximately 500 appointments a month.

Getting started

It started as a one-night-a-week operation in the conference room of Samaritan House, a nonsectarian, privately funded non-profit that provides food, clothing, limited housing, education, and other services to low-income residents in parts of San Mateo County. Seeing the urgent need for free medical services in the area, the Samaritan House placed an ad in the county medical society's bulletin asking for volunteer physicians to start a clinic. Schwartz, then a 57-year-old internist in private practice, answered the call.

Schwartz tried for three years to establish a relationship with the local county hospital and get the clinic off the ground without success. Finally, in the summer of 1992, a handful of physicians - most of them still active in their own practices - began seeing patients one evening a week at Samaritan House, the community organization that also was key in referring patients and raising private funds for the clinic's ongoing operations. Demand for the free medical services soon pushed the clinic doors open six nights a month, then eight; further expansion led to weekday hours in a facility separate from the parent organization.

Less than four years after the clinic opened, Samaritan House leased another facility among a row of doctors' offices in San Mateo. The clinic moved and began operating five days a week, creating an unexpected shift in the physician volunteer pool. Those who were active in their



PHOTO BY ALEX HARRIS

"Extremely gratifying," says Bill Schwartz, M.D. (B.S. Med. '55), about his work with Samaritan House in San Mateo, CA. "I think probably the ultimate reward in life is doing for others." He works with medical students, residents-in-training, nurses, dentists and other retired physicians who volunteer to help provide care for the area's working poor.

The Samaritan House clinics in San Mateo and Redwood City, CA, which Bill Schwartz, M.D. (B.S. Med. '55), helped to launch, are part of a larger national movement to establish free medical clinics with a corps of volunteer retired physicians.

own practices could not afford to leave during weekday hours to work at the clinic. Schwartz, who retired in 1993 after 32 years in practice, began contacting peers who were similarly retired, or approaching that stage, and received an overwhelmingly positive response. He found that the one-on-one meetings were by far the most effective recruiting strategy. The volunteer pool grew as doctors he convinced to work at the clinic in turn brought in retired colleagues they knew.

Staffing and operations

Available staff and range of services offered at the free clinic are extensive. There are only two full-time paid staff members: a medical director and a clinic administrator, and four part-time paid staff. To this, the clinic adds 89 volunteers.

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ALUMNI

Alumni Notes

'74

Charles Dahl, M.D. (B.S. Med. '74), practices orthopedic surgery at The Bone & Joint Center in Bismarck.

He is a clinical associate professor of surgery with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

'77

Ernest Godfread, M.D. '77, is an orthopedic surgeon with The Bone & Joint Center in Bismarck.

He serves on the faculty of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences as a clinical associate professor of surgery.

'80

Mark Hart, M.D. '80, practices orthopedic surgery with The Bone & Joint Center in Bismarck. He specializes in foot and ankle care.

He is a clinical assistant professor of surgery at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

'87

Gerald Gross, M.D. '87, practices oncology with the MeritCare Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo.

He is a clinical associate professor of internal medicine at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Virgilio Licona, M.D. (Fargo Family Medicine Residency Program '87), was recognized during a speech by State Senator John Andrews, president of the Colorado Senate, in the opening of the 2003 legislative session earlier this year.

For 30 years, Licona has devoted his career to helping those whose access to medical care is often limited. He had not met Andrews prior to the event, he said, but was contacted by the legislator's office "because he wanted to recognize someone who's done a lot of work with the underserved and uninsured," according to this spring's issue of the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians' newsletter.

Licona said he thought Andrews was "trying to set the tone for what he wants to achieve in the legislature."

According to another Colorado physician who was serving as Doctor of the Day when Andrews spoke, Dr. Ann Schumacher said, Licona's "willingness to speak out on behalf of so many who find it difficult to receive the health care they need is a call for all of us to become more proactive in creating a better health care system."

In 1973, Licona started a clinic in Rocky Ford, CO, for migrant workers and community health, and later worked for Pueblo Community Health Centers.

He serves as associate medical director of Salud Family Health Center which provides primary care to thousands at ten clinics in north-central and northeast Colorado.

'89

Lori Klabunde, Physician Assistant Program '89, practices with the orthopedics/spine team at The Bone & Joint Center in Bismarck.

'90

Dave Gayton, M.D. '90, is an emergency room physician at St. Alexius Medical Center in Bismarck.

He is a clinical assistant professor of family medicine with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

As a student at the UND School of Medicine, he was enrolled through the Indians Into Medicine (INMED) program.

'91

Troy Pierce, M.D. '91, practices orthopedic surgery at The Bone & Joint Center in Bismarck. He specializes in hand and upper extremity care.

He is a clinical assistant professor of surgery with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

'92

Monte Leidenix, M.D. '92, is an ophthalmologist with the Eye Clinic of North Dakota in Bismarck.

He is a clinical instructor in the Department of Surgery at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.



Junell Peterson, M.S. in Medical Technology '92, of Clara City, MN, was presented with the ASCP (American Society for Clinical Pathology) Regional Associate Member Award for the North Central Region during National Medical Laboratory Week.

Peterson, laboratory outreach coordinator at Rice (MN) Memorial Hospital, is ASCP-AMS (Associate Member Section) state advisor. She arranges and provides

educational offerings for her own and client labs, and serves on the Technical College Advisory Board and Supervisors Committee and the ASCP-American Proficiency Institute Editorial Board.

The ASCP-AMS created the award program in 1993 as a way to recognize outstanding ASCP associate members who promote and enhance the field of laboratory medicine through their contributions at the local level. Only one recipient is selected annually from each of the eight national regions to receive the Regional Associate Member Award.

Individuals selected for the award must be actively employed in the profession and must demonstrate a commitment to the profession through their active support and involvement in ASCP programs and local activities.

'95

Brenda Miller, M.D. '95, is a family physician at Family Medical Center South in Bismarck.

She is a '98 graduate of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' family medicine residency program in Bismarck.

'96

Gretchen Belzer-Curl, M.D. '96, practices family medicine at the Quain and Ramstad Clinic-Mandan North in Mandan, ND.

She completed training at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' family medicine residency program in Bismarck in 1999.

She is a clinical assistant professor of family medicine at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Keith Fischer, M.D. '96, practices family medicine with the MeritCare's University Walk-In Clinic in Fargo.

He completed training at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' Family Medicine Residency Program in Fargo. He was associated with the Trinity Medical Group prior to moving his practice to Fargo.

He has been certified as a diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice.

Schwartz: A Leading Force Behind Free Clinic in California

(continued from page 12)

Close to 70 percent of the clinic volunteers are older adults, most of whom are retired from full-time work.

The volunteer list has 35 doctors, 10 nurses and four dentists. A small group of third-year medical students and internal medicine/primary care residents from the University of California-San Francisco also rotate through the clinic. In addition to primary care, the clinic provides dermatology, endocrinology, gynecology, neurology, ophthalmology, optometry, orthopedics, pediatrics, podiatry and psychiatry.

In addition, volunteers staff the clinic in physical therapy, pharmacy, dental hygiene, nutrition, diabetes health education and social service counseling. Receptionists, a handyman and interpreters offer language translation - typically Spanish or Tongan - and convey cultural or religious concerns of patients to their physicians.

Most new patients have had little medical care in the past, but once they are treated at the clinic, they tend to return for follow-up care. Almost 70 percent of the clinic patients are Hispanic, 75 percent are women, and almost all are adults. (Pediatric care is limited, since children in the area have more no-cost or low-cost options for health care than adults.)

The clinic receives about two-thirds of its funding from the Samaritan House parent organization. It also relies on in-kind donations, such as the lab tests and x-ray services from a local hospital, medical and dental equipment from retiring professionals, and prescription medications from pharmaceutical companies.

Editor's note: Portions of this article reprinted, with permission, from an essay by Rob Gurwitt in "The Art of Medicine: Samaritan House Free Clinic" brochure, produced by Civic Ventures, San Francisco.

'01

Judy Bellanger-Dahl, Physician Assistant (PA) Program '01, has joined the MeritCare Health System in Perham, MN, where she will work in family practice.

Prior to joining MeritCare, she worked as a PA at the Altru Clinic in Warroad, MN.

She and her husband have three children and reside in Mahanomen, MN.

'02

Brenda Isaak, B.S. in Athletic Training '02, of Leeds, ND, married Damon Finley on May 17 in Devils Lake. She is enrolled in the physical therapy program working on her doctoral degree at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Zack Mack, M.D. '02, and **Jared Rustad, M.D. '02**, received awards as Residents of the Year in the one-year transitional program offered in Fargo through the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. They were honored at a dinner hosted by the Department of Internal Medicine in May at Fargo.

Mack is going on for training in radiology at the Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah, GA.

Rustad began training this summer in neurology at University of Michigan hospitals in Ann Arbor.



PHOTO BY ALEX HARRIS

Bill Schwartz, M.D. (B.S. Med. '55), has "done an amazing thing," says Rob Gurwitt, author of "The Art of Medicine: Samaritan House Free Clinic," a booklet published by the non-profit organization, Civic Ventures, in San Francisco. "He's spent years of his life on this."

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