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Digest of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Winter 1999)

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

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Nicholas C. Pedano, DO

Recipient of the 1999 O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal

INSIDE:
Special
Centennial
Supplement!
We're excited to present the first of four special Centennial issues of Digest to mark our 100th birthday in 1999. Each issue will contain a Centennial supplement filled with highlights of PCOM's history, coverage of numerous activities, excerpts from our oral history collection and more. We hope to see you on campus to celebrate this momentous occasion with us.

Our Centennial year should prove most successful with increased participation in The PCOM Mission capital campaign. We hope to raise more funds for scholarships, professorial chairs, and other academic and facility improvements. We are deeply grateful to the alumni, friends, students and employees who have given so generously. It is also encouraging to see foundation and corporate philanthropic support of our Mission increase each year. These endorsements add enthusiasm as our campaign and Centennial lead us into the next millennium.

If you have not already done so, please consider making a pledge to the campaign, which will benefit generations of PCOM students. The campaign offers many creative and beneficial ways of giving, such as stock transfers and charitable trusts that provide tax benefits to the donor. See page 26 for more about the campaign.

In this issue, we celebrate an annual tradition, Founders Day. We honor those who have gone above and beyond in their loyalty and support of PCOM. During this Centennial Founders Day, Nicholas C. Pedano, DO, '61, chairman and professor, surgery and national campaign chairman, The PCOM Mission, was presented with PCOM's most prestigious award, the O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal.

Truly an advocate of the osteopathic profession and PCOM, Nick has taught surgery here for 34 years. His active involvement in the osteopathic medical profession and his pride in being an osteopathic surgeon have greatly influenced generations of PCOM students and residents.

To make the Centennial Founders Day even more special, we introduced an annual student award, the Mason W. Pressly Memorial Award, which recognizes a PCOM student for his or her outstanding service to the College, community and osteopathic profession.

On a sad note, the PCOM community mourns the deaths of two prominent alumni who were very important to all of us at PCOM: Frieda O. Vickers, DO, '39 and Jerome Sulman, DO, '57. Frieda, an osteopathic physician to the core, was the embodiment of a loyal alumna. PCOM has been blessed to have had such staunch supporters as Frieda and her husband Jim, and we miss her very much.

Jerry was devoted to PCOM students as a preceptor in the osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) department, where he had taught since 1962. He cared for countless patients at PCOM's former Chestnut Street Healthcare Center and is sorely missed by students and colleagues alike.

We also are saddened about the loss of two dedicated employees, Paul Wetherill Jr, admissions assistant, and Audrey Erfer-Nodler, photography supervisor. Many of you know Paul, who diligently worked here for nearly 30 years. Audrey, photography editor for Digest, took many of the wonderful photos for this magazine in the past seven years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. As we remember these friends whom we have lost, we move forward to continue their advocacy and support of osteopathic medical education into the 21st century.
FEATURES

COLLEGE BESTOWS HIGHEST AWARD ON NICHOLAS C. PEDANO, DO, '61
For his contributions to PCOM as a teacher, board member and fundraiser, Nicholas C. Pedano, DO, '61, receives the prestigious O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal.

CENTENNIAL FOUNDERS DAY
Founders Day festivities were extra special this year due to a concurrent celebration: the beginning of our Centennial year. In addition to honoring those who have shown tremendous dedication to the College, alumni were treated to the first look at the new archival exhibit and history book.

LIBRARY
The College proudly opens its renovated, technologically advanced library, which boasts expanded computer facilities and a journal reading room.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT: PCOM CENTENNIAL (First in a series of four)
Discover interesting facts from PCOM's history, read excerpts from the College's oral histories and learn about all the exciting activities to mark our Centennial.

IMPROVING STUDENTS' CLINICAL YEARS AT PCOM
Curriculum reform is a continuous process to ensure students are always receiving the best medical education possible. Here, we explore the many changes underway in the third- and fourth-year curriculum. Also learn about the latest research projects.

REMEMBERING A GEM OF THE OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION
PCOM mourns the loss of Frieda O. Vickers, DO, '39, a staunch supporter of osteopathic manipulative medicine and PCOM. Adored by patients and colleagues, her personal, compassionate style of medicine and loyalty to patients were unsurpassed.

DEPARTMENTS

PCOM UPDATES
Students impress with their accomplishments; College earmarked to receive priority federal funding for health care facilities; family medicine residents help the less fortunate.

PROFILES
This issue features College chancellor Galen S. Young Sr., DO, '35 and new Alumni Association president Pat C. DiTommaso, DO, '80.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS
Many alumni were inducted as fellows in their specialty at the fall conventions, one of which featured a festive Mardi Gras theme.

MISSION MILESTONES
The capital campaign focuses on raising funds for the Robert Berger, DO Clinical Learning and Assessment Center and professorial chairs in both emergency medicine and radiology. Also, a major Philadelphia corporation supports The PCOM Mission.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Cindy Schlaybach Pinnie

EDITOR
Christine M. Dorian

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Hale T. Peffer Jr.
Pamela Ruoff

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Audrey Ester-Nodler

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Wendy W. Romano

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS
Lisa Smith
Brian McIntire

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Jeffrey Bramnick
Shannon M. Deegan
Nancy West

PHOTOGRAPHER
Bruce Fairfield

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Correction
In the Spring 1998 Digest, an inaccuracy was included in the article "Uncle Manny leaves a legacy." It should have stated that Dr. Fliegelman started the obstetrics/gynecology residency at Parkview Hospital. We apologize for the error and thank those alumni who brought it to our attention.
Summer vacation didn’t mean days at the beach or nights out with friends. For second-year student T.J. Gray, summer vacation didn’t mean days at the beach or nights out with friends. For over a month, Gray biked an average of 50 to 60 miles a day, traveling from the Canadian border to Mexico.

“The brain in space: A teacher’s guide with educational pamphlet titled “The blood system - basic medical explanations,” The informative pamphlet, which will be used primarily by patients to help them understand how the circulatory system functions, was funded by the Earl J. Goldberg Chapter of the Aplastic Anemia Foundation of America, Inc.

Minority scholarships awarded

In early November, nine students each received a $5,000 minority scholarship. The scholarships are awarded each year to minority students with outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated community service. The scholarship is funded by donations from The PCOM Mission. This year’s recipients are:

Class of 1999: DeEtte Vasques, James Watson and Ronda Broady
Class of 2001: Patricia Barsanti, Jacob Hyppolite and Michael Kelly
Class of 2002: Martiann Bohl, Keith Leaphart and Damon Cary

PCOM receives student and alumni focus group results

Feedback from the focus groups conducted in April with alumni and students highlighted the College’s strengths, while at the same time pinpointed areas for improvement. One area addressed by focus group participants was concern about the consistency of knowledge in third- and fourth-year clerkships. With a focus on improving students’ clinical years, PCOM has implemented several changes, such as appointing clerkship directors to help standardize the knowledge gained in the clerkships.

PCOM students named Harry Morris, DO,'78, MPH, chairman, family medicine, as the “Primary Care Physician of the Year” at the College’s Third Annual Primary Care Banquet. It was held November 5 at Williamson’s Restaurant, Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

Students host the banquet each year to honor the osteopathic physician who most exemplifies the caring qualities of a primary care physician. The students selected Dr. Morris for his ability to inspire them to always treat patients with respect and compassion.

In addition to the award presentation, keynote speaker A. Scott McNeal, DO, ’88, director, medical education at St. Joseph’s Hospital and medical director, Philadelphia Health Services, addressed the dynamics of primary care in an urban setting.
Kenneth J. Veit, DO, ‘76, MBA, PCOM dean, was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians at the AOA convention in October. Many other alumni were inducted as fellows in their specialty at the AOA and ACOS conventions this fall. See page 24.

Katherine Galluzzo, DO, chair of geriatric medicine, was one of only 10 physicians to be inducted into the College of Physicians of Philadelphia on January 21.

PCOM receives priority federal funding consideration

The College has been selected to receive priority funding consideration in the 1999 Omnibus Appropriations Acts, the budget of the federal government. Over $63 million was provided to 35 centers in Pennsylvania under the Health Resources and Services Administration in the Department of Health and Human Services for construction and renovation of health care facilities. PCOM hopes to use the funding for construction of the new Roxborough Healthcare Center.

US Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania was instrumental in ensuring that PCOM was recognized as a funding priority. “This money is vital to the College’s mission to provide high quality primary health care to Philadelphia’s underserved populations,” says Samuel H. Steinberg, PCOM executive vice president. “We are delighted at this acknowledgment of the critical community service that PCOM performs.”

Executive vice president speaks at state health committee meeting

Samuel H. Steinberg, PCOM executive vice president, testified before Pennsylvania’s Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee on November 10. Steinberg discussed PCOM’s importance in Pennsylvania’s medical community, our commitment to primary care education and our diverse medical training, especially in medically underserved communities.

Harold F. Mowery, chairman, public health and welfare committee, called the public hearing to discuss the appropriate role of government in assuring access to quality health care. Steinberg’s testimony, along with testimony from other state health care leaders, will be used to help more clearly determine government responsibility in health care.

Mayor proclaims NOM Week

This year’s National Osteopathic Medicine (NOM) Week proclamation was received by PCOM student leaders from Philadelphia Mayor Edward G. Rendell on November 3. NOM Week is observed every year throughout the country as a tribute to osteopathic physicians and their dedication and commitment to providing quality primary care. The theme of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA)-sponsored event was women’s health. This year, NOM Week focused on the special health needs of postmenopausal women. On campus, PCOM first- and second-year students hosted a lecture series on a variety of health care topics including family practice, internal medicine and pediatrics.

Proclaiming “National Osteopathic Medicine Week” with the Mayor (holding document) are, left to right, Sandy Ranieri, PCOM ’01; Natalie Hayes, PCOM ’01; Michael Paul, PCOM ’01; Kristen Shankweiler, PCOM ’01 and Joshua Coren, PCOM ’01.
Judge Hoffman memorial service held

On November 4 the College hosted a memorial service and portrait unveiling for the Honorable J. Sydney Hoffman, chairman emeritus of PCOM's board of trustees. Judge Hoffman died June 22 at age 89. A Pennsylvania Superior Court judge since 1965, Judge Hoffman joined PCOM's board of trustees in 1957 and was named chairman emeritus in 1990. While chairman of the board, he saw the College through a period of dramatic change and growth. The portrait is located on the mezzanine level in Evans Hall.

Dr. Finkelstein joins Vivian Hoffman after unveiling the portrait of her late husband, J. Sydney Hoffman, chairman emeritus of PCOM's board of trustees.

76ers staff receives CPR training

On November 2, several members of the Philadelphia 76ers staff received CPR instruction from John Becher, DO, '70, chairman and professor, emergency medicine; John Mariano, administrative director, emergency medicine and Jack McPhilemy, DO, '78, 76ers team physician. The 76ers will use the Student Activity Center as its practice facility when the center is completed in late summer. Left to right are Scott Rego, 76ers assistant equipment manager; Mariano; Dr. McPhilemy; Allen Lumpkin, 76ers head equipment manager and Dr. Becher.
Family medicine residents ‘reach out’ to the homeless

PCOM family medicine residents at Cambria Street Healthcare Center “toss” donated coats in a pile to be distributed at homeless shelters as part of a community outreach project. The coats were collected December 9 at Cambria, where a luncheon was also held.

He still makes house calls

Anthony Leone, DO, ’57, associate professor, osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM), was featured on the cover of the November Advance, a magazine for directors in rehabilitation. The cover story was “Docs make house calls.”
HANDS and HEART . . .

Nicholas C. Pedano, DO, '61
He is happiest when he's using them to help others. For the past 34 years, he has devoted his life to using them in the operating room - and teaching others to do likewise.

Nicholas C. Pedano, DO, '61, FACOS, the 1999 "O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal" recipient, knew early on that he wanted to be a physician. Although there were many physicians in his family, he was the first to choose osteopathic medicine because he believed its hands-on approach would enable him to help more patients.

Dr. Pedano credits PCOM with setting him on his way to a very fulfilling career. After completing his internship and residency at the College, he built a thriving general surgery practice in the city, serving as attending surgeon at the Hospital of PCOM, Springfield Hospital, Parkview Hospital and Metropolitan Hospital.

"I was born, bred and will probably die at PCOM," says Dr. Pedano, a native of Philadelphia. "Over the years, I've tried to be involved in every possible aspect of the College and give of my time in any area where I can be of assistance. I always wanted to give something back to the College - to repay what I consider a debt - because the College has given so much to me. Thanks to PCOM, I enjoyed many years of happy practice as a general surgeon, doing what I enjoy every day of my life."

Dr. Pedano has paid the debt in spades. He is chairman of The PCOM Mission capital campaign, a member of the board of trustees and the Alumni Association board of directors, and chairman and professor of surgery. In addition, he was director of the general surgery residency program until retiring from that post in July 1998.

"Dr. Pedano over the years has been one of our most supportive faculty members," says Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76, PCOM dean. "He always had an open door for faculty and students to discuss any problems or issues. He was always there for you."

Among his many contributions to the College, Dr. Pedano is very proud of his current role as chairman of The PCOM Mission, the largest capital campaign the College has ever undertaken.

He also takes pride in his accomplishments as chairman of surgery. During his 10-year tenure, he expanded the surgical residency program from two to 16 surgical residents, enlarged the scope of the program to include surgical endoscopy as well as general surgery, and secured rotations at nationally-renowned institutions, including Deborah Heart & Lung Institute, Sloan-Kettering Institute and Cooper Hospital.

"This program gives our surgical residents a 'cream of the crop' training experience," says Dr. Pedano. "I'd estimate that 60 percent of the allopathic general surgery residencies can't match what we offer at PCOM."

TEACHING KEY LESSONS

Over the years, Dr. Pedano trained over 75 surgical residents, receiving PCOM's "Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching" in 1993. Among the many lessons he taught was the importance of taking pride in the osteopathic profession.

"We have a spectacular profession," he remarks. "We treat the entire patient with a combination of alternative methods that include physical treatments. We must never lose sight of the fact that physical medicine gives patients a better opportunity to respond and recover. This is the way we began, this is the heart of our profession, and we must maintain this distinction going into the next century. Allopathic physicians are only just discovering the value of the osteopathic principles we've espoused for a century."

Dr. Pedano's students also learned that it's not enough to be a well-trained physician. "First and foremost, you have to be a nice person," he says. "Because nice people care. And when you care, you only do your best for people. That's a principle I live by. And I'm convinced that my practice grew and thrived because of it."

On a practical level, Dr. Pedano believes in hands-on training whenever possible. He gave his students the opportunity to examine patients rather than just lecturing. "It's much more (continued on page 10)
As part of the weekend activities, the College unveiled the final archival exhibit and debuted the 100-year history book. Guests at the dinner dance enjoyed a special champagne toast to PCOM’s Centennial and a gift of engraved crystal champagne flutes. An appearance by Philadelphia Mayor Edward Rendell was an evening highlight. The Mayor, who spoke about the College’s century of commitment to the city’s primary health care needs, was greeted with a standing ovation.

At the dinner dance, Nicholas C. Pedano, DO, ’61, chairman and professor, surgery, was presented with the distinguished “O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal.” Recognized with the “Alumni Association Certificate of Honor” was Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, ’59, PCOM president and chief executive officer. John F. Curley, DO, ’84, clinical instructor, pediatrics, received the “Affiliated Teacher of the Year Award.”

Also honored was Dana Hamilton, PCOM ’99, the first recipient of the “Mason W. Pressly Memorial Award.” The award, which will be presented each year at Founders Day, recognizes a student for his or her service to the College, community and osteopathic profession.

Enjoying the class reunions at Founders Day are, left to right, Gary Pryblick, DO, ’91; Judith Pryblick, DO, ’89; Charles Mehlman, DO and Elsira Pina, DO, ’89.
PCOM
Celebrating
100 Years of
Osteopathic
Medical
Education

Dean Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76, left, congratulates John F. Carley, DO, '84, on receiving the "Affiliated Teacher of the Year Award."

At the dinner dance, Paul Suh Ji, DO, '84, left and Ricky Lockett, DO, '84 remember their medical student days.

Philadelphia Mayor Edward Rendell, left, was given a warm welcome at the dinner dance January 23. Joking with the Mayor are Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59, PCOM president and chief executive officer, center, and David Spratt, DO, '75, corporate medical director, Crown Cork & Seal.

Passing the Alumni Association gavel are, left to right, David A. Bitonte, DO, '80, 1998 Alumni Association president; Hale T. Peffall Jr., executive director, alumni relations and development, and Pat DiTomasso, DO, '80, 1999 Alumni Association president.

Dana Hamilton, PCOM '99, right, receives the first "Mason W. Pressly Memorial Award." Joining her are Dean Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76 and Kathy Schaeffer, PCOM '80, Student Council president. The portrait of Dr. Pressly was unveiled at Founders Day.
O.J. Snyder Medal Recipient

(continued from page 7)

striking to feel the rock-hard abdomen of a patient having an acute gall bladder attack than to look at a picture on a blackboard,” he remarks. “Students are far more likely to remember what they learned.”

Influencing the Profession

In his roles as instructor, department chairman, campaign chairman and board member, Dr. Pedano has had significant influence on PCOM. His influence on the osteopathic profession reaches well beyond the College campus.

During his tenure as president of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) in 1990-91, he pushed through policy making it mandatory for osteopathic physicians to advertise with the letters DO after their names.

“Osteopathic physicians should not hide their identity,” he emphasizes. “We should be proud of it.”

As POMA president, Dr. Pedano also worked to enhance the role of female physicians not only within the state association, but at the national level as well. Andrea Pedano, DO, ’90, caught her father’s enthusiasm for increasing the female presence in the osteopathic profession. A family practitioner, she now enjoys a solo practice in Philadelphia.

An Understanding Family

Dr. Pedano admits that being a surgeon, parent and husband required a difficult balancing act. “My family— and especially my wife, Mary B. — were very understanding about the fact that I couldn’t be a surgeon halfway. I had to do whatever my patients needed—I would never let them suffer.

Consequently, I missed many hockey games and opera performances over the years. And despite the fact that we had six children, I performed operations on 10 out of the 16 Christmases that I was alone in my practice.

“How my wife put up with me for 39 years, I’ll never know,” he quips.

“She has been very involved with PCOM over the years. We really have been partners in our commitment to the College. She’s been involved with the Friends of PCOM, fundraisers and many other hospital activities. In fact, she deserved a diploma from PCOM for all her contributions!”

Dr. Pedano also takes great pride in his children. In addition to Andrea, he has a daughter, Monica, and four sons, Nicholas Jr., James, Francis and Joseph. Four of the six have their own businesses: a family practice, restaurant, computerized billing services company and property management firm.

In his spare time, he enjoys being with his three grandsons, as well as boating, fishing . . . and working with his hands! He enjoys home improvement projects and has personally installed new bathrooms, kitchens, plumbing and wiring in his homes in Merion, Pa. and Margate, NJ. “I had a workshop full of tools,” he recalls. “It was a different way of working with my hands—without the stress of surgery. I found it very therapeutic.”

A Future Secured by the Past

Looking ahead, Dr. Pedano sees three primary goals for PCOM: maintaining the identity of the osteopathic profession, continuing to improve the academic atmosphere, and adding more full-time clinicians and basic scientists so all students have equal access and opportunities for a high-quality learning experience.

“Right now, PCOM sits on top of all osteopathic colleges in the country because of what was past and what is present,” he remarks. “Many people who previously won the O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal were critical in the continuation of our College and the growth of it. They gave unselfishly and frequently to the College. I hope to continue that tradition by fulfilling The PCOM Mission and reaching our campaign goals. And, on a more long-term basis, I will do all I can to ensure that PCOM maintains its excellence as a top-flight college for training all physicians—not just in family practice, but in surgery and all specialties.

“We will succeed if we remember where we came from,” he continues. “PCOM has always had the feeling of being one big family. Everyone cares about everyone else. The College got its strong roots from that concept. It will help us continue to attract students. And our students will continue learning to be caring physicians because of it.”

Dr. Pedano, left, discusses the capital campaign with Pam Ruoff, campaign manager, and Hale T. Peffall Jr., executive director, alumni relations and development, in PCOM’s Donor Garden.
PCOM Alumni Association honors

LEONARD H. FINKELSTEIN, DO, ’59

If you count his days as a freshman student, Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, ’59, has been at PCOM for 44 years, nearly half the College’s 100-year existence. So it seems especially appropriate that PCOM’s Alumni Association has chosen Dr. Finkelstein to receive its Certificate of Honor for this Centennial celebration year.

Throughout his long history with the College, Dr. Finkelstein’s contributions as both a teacher and administrator have been visionary and instrumental in helping PCOM attain its reputation as the best osteopathic medical college in the country.

As PCOM’s president and chief executive officer since 1990, he orchestrated a dramatic financial turnaround for the College. In addition, his efforts to enhance the curriculum have resulted in a significant improvement for the third and fourth clinical years and a more competitive graduate medical education program. He has worked tirelessly to change the fact that PCOM is “the best kept secret” among medical colleges, pushing it into the limelight so the College gets the recognition it deserves. The Centennial celebration has given him the perfect opportunity to step up this effort.

“I started thinking about the Centennial five years ago,” Dr. Finkelstein recalls. “I saw this as an opportunity to get great exposure for the College—and it’s worked out beyond my wildest dreams.”

A past recipient of the "Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching," he says teaching is the driving force behind his long history with PCOM. “I enjoy having contact with the students and alumni. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction when they tell me they’re better off because of what they learned here,” says Dr. Finkelstein, a life member of the Alumni Association.

Among his many accomplishments in teaching and clinical research, he takes great pride in the urology residency program he built at PCOM. “All the physicians who have completed this program are successful and well respected. That gives me great satisfaction. They’re like your kids—and if your kids succeed, you succeed.”

Dr. Finkelstein and his wife Marylyn have three children—and all three graduated from PCOM. “That only adds to the strong bond and great feeling I have for this place,” he comments.

In June 2000, he plans to retire as PCOM’s president and CEO, but will still remain very active at the College. “I plan to get back to my first love—

Dr. Finkelstein and his wife Marylyn pause during Founders Day festivities.
On hand to celebrate the opening are, left to right: Damean Freas, PCOM '01, vice-president, Student Council; Camille DiLullo, PhD, assistant professor, anatomy; Ebleidra Templeton, executive director and chair, library and educational information systems; Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59, PCOM president and CEO; and Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76, dean.
The College formally opened the newly renovated O.J. Snyder Memorial Library at a ribbon-cutting ceremony October 22. Located on the first and second floors of PCOM's Evans Hall, the fully modernized facility is equipped to handle the latest information systems. After the ribbon-cutting, students, faculty, staff and invited guests celebrated with a reception in the Lotman Lobby.

Under the direction of Etheldra Templeton, executive director and chair, library and educational information systems, the improvements to the structure have enhanced students' learning environment. From the latest computer equipment to individual study carrels and a current journal reading room, PCOM's new library is equipped with everything today's medical student needs to succeed. The study carrels are designed for optimum quiet and solitude while studying and are equipped with outlets for laptop computers. The journal room houses an expansive collection of current medical and professional journals for students to learn about the latest research developments and medical techniques.

As an educational resource for students and alumni, the library's computer facilities have expanded to accommodate the ever-increasing volume of information needed for a comprehensive medical education. Students have full access to PCOM's 35,000-volume medical library and online access to the PCOM Digital Library, which contains numerous databases, full-text electronic journals and links to evaluated Internet sites and catalogs. The library also supports various computer and computer-assisted learning capabilities.
Profiles

“My heart is with PCOM.”

When Galen S. Young Sr., DO, ‘35 was a medical student, PCOM founding father O.J. Snyder was still on campus. At the time, it never occurred to Dr. Young that he himself would have a profound influence on the College as well as the osteopathic profession. But others saw his promise.

On his graduation day, PCOM’s first chairman of surgery David S.B. Pennock, MD, DO, told him, “Someday, you’ll be chief surgeon of this hospital. I observed you during your clerkship. Your mind and hands work together. That’s why I know you’ll be a great surgeon.” Dr. Pennock was right.

A surgeon practicing in Drexel Hill, Pa. for over 50 years, Dr. Young also served on PCOM’s faculty for 44 years, chairing the department of surgery and division of general surgery. For 35 years, he conducted surgical clinics at the former North Center and 48th Street hospitals. But his contributions to osteopathic medicine reach far beyond the operating room. Now College chancellor, he is a member of the board of trustees and Alumni Association board of directors.

He is most proud of his $1 million pledge to The PCOM Mission to establish a professorial chair in surgery. Previously, he established a campaign scholarship in his wife’s memory for students interested in surgery. Dr. Young’s wife, the former Jessie Fielding Magnin, was a 1935 graduate of PCOM’s School of Nursing and a 31-year member of the Auxiliary. They have three children: Galen Jr. (PCOM Class of ‘65), Jeffrey and Sandra.

“My heart is with PCOM,” says Dr. Young, who received the College’s most prestigious award, the “O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal,” in 1985. “I’m very proud of the work being done here. We teach students the osteopathic philosophy which is built on physiology, embryology and anatomy rather than on drugs and chemicals. That’s what makes our philosophy so interesting and so practical.”

Dr. Young’s interest in osteopathy began years ago as a child when his 37-year-old mother became ill and nearly died from rheumatic fever. “Her doctor said she had six weeks to live,” recalls Dr. Young. “Then my father took her to an osteopathic physician. He gave her osteopathic treatments three times a day, and in six weeks, she was back home doing housework.”

This experience fueled his love for and dedication to his profession. An honorary life member and past president of the American Osteopathic Association, he is a fellow in the prestigious College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Last fall, he received the “Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award” from the Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Specialists for his outstanding accomplishments and leadership in the field of surgery. His first love, though, is teaching.

“To see students develop their surgical skills is very rewarding,” he says. “In the beginning, their mind and hands don’t correlate too well. It’s fascinating to see how they can be trained to work together.”

Dr. Young has seen many changes since he first set foot on the PCOM (then PCO) campus nearly 69 years ago. And he has seen firsthand the value of alumni support in helping the College to grow and develop into its place as the top osteopathic medical school in the country.

“Our alumni can help PCOM continue to grow through their contributions,” Dr. Young comments. “We need to do more research to give osteopathic medicine more scientific validity. Alumni giving will help us do that. We should never forget who put us where we are today. Thanks to PCOM, we enjoy good lives and good careers.”
While he was studying at PCOM, Pat C. DiTommaso, DO, '80, thought he wanted to become an orthopedic surgeon. At that time, dean Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76 (then a preceptor) encouraged him to take a four-month family practice rotation in Orbizonsia, Pa. His experience in this very rural family practice changed the course of his career.

After completing his internship and residency, he became a country doctor who still makes house calls. And he's found great contentment in the everyday experiences of getting to know his patients and helping to make their lives healthier. He's also found that his osteopathic training is perfectly suited to his rural family practice in Brookfield, Ohio.

"In a practice like this, you get to know people better," says Dr. DiTommaso. "Your patients want you to handle all their problems -- from cardiac care to psychological counseling. The osteopathic philosophy of treating the whole person made me more comfortable with this. You get to know a lot about them, their families and situations that might be causing stress-related illness."

Dr. DiTommaso has experienced many special moments when he knew he made the right decision to go into family practice. "You should see how much food people bring me during the holidays," he says. "I remember treating a lady and her family who were very poor. She knitted socks for me. These experiences make me realize that providing medical attention is my job, but getting to know my patients is how I really can be of service to them."

Now, as the new president of the PCOM Alumni Association, Dr. DiTommaso looks forward to the opportunity to help shape the future of the College, making sure that students continue to get the high-quality education he received. "My experience at PCOM was excellent," he remarks. "The clinical hands-on training for family practice was very strong. And the time I spent with Dean Veit was exceptional. I felt very confident and well-qualified to start my own family practice just six months after I completed my residency."

Alumni can help strengthen the curriculum by contributing ideas to its development, he says. "Whether they practice in the city or the country, our alumni are in the best position to know the critical issues our graduates will face."

Dr. DiTommaso also encourages PCOM alumni to reach out to current medical students. "One of the things I enjoy most about PCOM is the tight-knit family atmosphere. As alumni, we should extend that feeling to the students. I try to spend time with them at medical conventions and during visits to PCOM," he says. "Being in touch with them helps me to understand their problems and concerns, and that will help me do a better job as Alumni Association president."

"It's important for all alumni to help bring these students into the fold, provide some mentoring, and help them understand the importance and value of remaining loyal to PCOM," he continues. "Hopefully, when they graduate, they will do the same for future PCOM students."

When he's not tending to Alumni Association business or making house calls, Dr. DiTommaso enjoys gardening, cars and community work. He also enjoys family time with his wife, Charlotte, and their two children, Craig, 17 and Regina, 15.
Developing a curriculum for a modern osteopathic medical school is a little like surfing – it's important to be able to read exactly when and how the wave of change will break in health care.

For the foreseeable future, those physicians who best learn to work within the structure necessitated by managed care will be the ones who also manage to successfully ride the wave of change. This means becoming more efficient in every phase of practice, tapping into the team approach of modern medicine, improving technological skills and keeping up in the age of the information explosion – all while maintaining and growing the primary care model.

Sound overwhelming? It can be. But with tomorrow in mind, PCOM has moved today to better prepare osteopathic medical students for the sea of change they undoubtedly will someday face.

For some time, PCOM had been instituting changes in the the first- and second-year curriculum, while developing a plan for ensuring that the third- and fourth-year curriculum prepares students for their future as osteopathic clinicians. Now, many significant changes for the third and fourth years are underway, while some others are in the developmental stages.
“Our students need to be challenged,” says Richard Kriebel, PhD, assistant dean for curriculum and research. “In the third and fourth years, there must be continual emphasis on intellectual development. They need to know that learning is a constant, that they never really arrive; that they’re always getting there.”

In some cases students contributed to the impetus for change. Through focus groups held at the College, administrators and instructors learned that what was taught in certain specialties was inconsistent across the clinical clerkships and that some third- and fourth-year students felt “disconnected” from PCOM when they participated in clerkships away from campus. “Historically, PCOM always has been responsive to student feedback,” explains Dean Kenneth J. Veit, DO, ’76, MBA.

It was students’ comments that bolstered a major move PCOM administrators were already working on. The move was made recently when the College formally appointed directors for the core clinical clerkships, a change Dr. Kriebel says is absolutely critical.

Most students believe the changes will make for a better osteopathic medical education. “I really like the idea of a strong director for each clinical clerkship area,” says John Gould, PCOM ’00 and a group leader who participated in focus groups about the changes. “One of the greatest things about PCOM is that the school really listens to what the students have to say.”

Todd Morehouse, PCOM ’99, agrees. “Having someone in charge of each clerkship, someone you can go to with questions, is great.” Morehouse also credits Etheldra Templeton, executive director and chair, library and educational information systems, with teaching him and other students how to use computers to access a wide variety of medical information, no matter the location.

Other changes include scheduling students to return to PCOM more frequently, providing more didactic lectures on campus, sending videotaped lectures to students on specific rotations, providing a presentation about how to tap into the new library’s many resources from the campus or far away, adding a one-week home care rotation, improving the fourth-year urban health care center clerkship and more.

“Improvements are ongoing; there’s a continuum of change,” explains Allan McLeod, DO, ’88, MBA, director of undergraduate clinical education, who added that PCOM is starting an Alumni Ambassador program to lend students emotional support while on rotation far away from the College. (See sidebar on next page.)

“One very big change is that we’ve added 25 to 30 percent more new sites in Pennsylvania and

Allan McLeod, DO, ’88, MBA, director of undergraduate clinical education, left, communicates regularly with clerkship directors, such as Daniel J. Parenti, DO, ’87, director of the medical subinternship core clinical clerkship.
beyond for clinical clerkships," notes Dr. McLeod.

But the most significant change, says Dr. Kriebel, is the naming of the core clinical clerkship directors, whose job is to ensure that every student who finishes a particular clerkship has the same basic knowledge and skills as those who have taken a clerkship in the same area of medicine, at a different site and under the direction of a different preceptor. "The challenge is standardization of content in these clerkships," emphasizes Dr. Veit.

These core disciplines include cardiology, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, psychiatry, surgery, osteopathic manipulative medicine and medical sub­internship. The clerkship directors meet regularly with Dr. McLeod and also with third-year student "group leaders."

"It's absolutely essential that all of the faculty buy into this," emphasizes Dr. Kriebel. "We really are hoping that the course directors become an integral part of the curriculum. They need to tell us what students need to know. If we can pull this off, it could become a model for OPTI (Osteopathic Postgraduate Training Institution)."

During the next few years, OPTI will influence where PCOM's students receive their graduate medical education (GME) and how they're taught. The structure provided by OPTI is expected to trickle down from GME to the clerkships.

In each area of osteopathic medicine, the core clinical clerkship director is responsible for producing a course booklet, which will include the most significant points of learning in that area. "The main focus is to develop a basic clinical curriculum; a course hand­book, lectures, resources," explains David Forstein, DO '90, clinical clerkship director for obstetrics/gynecology. "We're also developing a post-test to determine what the students learned at the end of their clerkships and to tell us which areas of OB/GYN need to be reinforced."

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"Lost" then "found" in their new surroundings

We've all said it: "I wish I knew then what I know now!" Whether it comes to complex matters of osteopathic medicine and modern managed care, or seemingly simple matters of learning our way around a new town and finding the best places to eat, knowledge is power.

For years, PCOM has provided an excellent osteopathic medical education. The first and second years are devoted mostly to the classroom and laboratory, learning every facet of the basics. After this, students are itching to begin clinical clerkships; to work with a physician in the field to diagnose and treat patients.

But all too frequently, third-year students who venture away from the confines of PCOM's campus for the start of their clinical clerkships become "lost" in their new surroundings. They're very unfamiliar with the new area and time is severely limited. They don't know the best place to have a pizza, what the radio stations are or what's available in the way of entertainment and recreation.

What a relief it would be to have someone to turn to; someone who's been through it, someone who really knows the area. This idea is the genesis for the PCOM Alumni Ambassador Program, which matches PCOM alumni across the country with third-year students on a clerkship far from home.

"We'd like the alumni to take the students out to lunch or dinner, introduce them to the area and explain, 'this is the way we do things here,' " describes Pam Ruoff, PCOM campaign manager, alumni relations and development office. "This is a pilot program, and we're starting with the states of Georgia and Florida," she adds.

During focus group discussions held in 1998, PCOM administrators learned that some students feel "disconnected" from the College during clinical clerkships far from the campus. This program should help bridge that gap.

"The Ambassador Program is not educational in nature, but rather places alumni in a position to lend a little emotional support – to become goodwill ambassadors," says Ruoff. "We'll be meeting a real need, while drawing our alumni and students closer together."

Allan McLeod, DO '88, MBA, director of undergraduate clinical education, says the Alumni Ambassador Program is scheduled to start in 1999. "It really helps the students and it gets the alumni back involved with the school," emphasizes Dr. McLeod.
Giving the gift of knowledge

When third- and fourth-year PCOM students have a problem in a particular area of osteopathic medicine they have a wealth of talent and experience to turn to with a question or for advice. These “riches” come in the form of preceptors, teachers who not only instruct but are guiding lights for the College’s osteopathic physicians of tomorrow.

“We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of preceptors,” emphasizes Allan McLeod, DO, ’88, MBA, director of undergraduate clinical education.

What does it take to become an outstanding preceptor?

“When you’re a preceptor you work as a role model for students,” explains Michael A. Becker, DO, ’87, assistant professor, family medicine. “You have to realize that students want to see someone they would want to emulate. They’re always watching, and you can’t forget that.”

The students are watching, he says, even when you speak to office staff. “They need to understand that everyone deserves to be treated well,” notes Dr. Becker, who is scheduled to complete a master’s program in health administration in the spring. “If you mistreat people who work in the office you’ve done two things wrong: the mistreatment, and you’ve taught the student that this is okay. Nothing is worse than teaching something that is wrong.”

Dr. Becker spent a half-dozen years working with third-year students. Now, he works with fourth-year students in eight-week clinical clerkships. They watch and work with Dr. Becker at his office at the College and at a satellite office in Philadelphia, at Roxborough Hospital and at Villa St. Joseph’s Nursing Home. “For the eight weeks, they’re mine,” he emphasizes.

During this time, Dr. Becker stresses every facet of communication skills, from learning to explain an illness or treatment to a patient to learning how to speak with a family about a patient’s condition. “I remind students all of the time that the patient is the most important person in that room, that every patient should be treated as though he or she is a relative. Some students believe they are the most important person in the room — and it’s important to set that straight.”

It’s also important to teach students how to handle a patient on the telephone. “They need to learn, by phone, who needs to be seen and who doesn’t. After they speak with a patient on the phone we go over the patient’s problem and what questions the student asked. Sometimes the student needs to call back for more information,” says Dr. Becker.

Whether working in family medicine or other areas of practice, a good preceptor focuses on primary medicine. This is the way it is for Medlyn Demmy, MD, chief of clinical services at Wernersville State Hospital, Berks County, and a psychiatry preceptor for 11 years.

“Here, students see a little bit of everything: schizophrenia, mood/thought disorders, personality disorders and more, and they’re taught with a focus on primary care,” says Dr. Demmy. “We teach that many patients may have an emotional overlay to their physical problems.”

He offers the following skills every preceptor must have: knowledge in your science/art, interest in teaching and skill in communications. “The opportunity to share one’s knowledge and demonstrate one’s skills is exciting,” notes Dr. Demmy.

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According to Dr. Forstein, the changes will establish a minimum standard for what students must know about an area of osteopathic medicine, whether they plan to specialize in that area or not.

As director of the medical sub-internship core clinical clerkship, Daniel J. Parenti, DO, ’87 guides fourth-year students through a one-month clerkship designed to provide practical experience, preparing these students for internship.

“There is a centralized orientation for all sub-interns at the beginning of the clerkship, emphasizing the goals to be achieved,” says Dr. Parenti, who also has initiated a sub-intern morning report at the clerkship sites, where there had been none. And he has introduced a sub-intern exit exam and follow-up discussion “to emphasize important clinical management issues.”

Dr. Parenti enjoys working with the students and solicits their comments about the clerkship and ideas for improvement via a student exit survey. “My constant interaction with students allows me to remain clinically up-to-date in my subspecialty,” he says.

Bruce Kornberg, DO, ’78, divisional chairman, cardiology and clinical clerkship director for cardiology, already gives his students on clerkships one full day each week of classroom work to help tie in what they see and learn in the clinical setting. “The suggestions of senior students has made us better,” he notes.

Dr. Kornberg is always looking for additional preceptors. “Graduates working in the Philadelphia area in cardiology who would like to do some teaching can contact me or Dr. McLeod at the College,” he offers.

According to Dr. McLeod, the new system will enable core clinical clerkship directors to build a relationship with the directors of medical education (DME) and guide them, at each hospital or center.

“Our goal is to achieve a 95 to 100 percent satisfaction rating from third- and fourth-year students,” notes Dr. McLeod.
In a related change, schedules have been rearranged so that third- and fourth-year students return to campus more often, including to take final exams, to ensure they’ve done required reading and learned what they have been taught. When students return they’ll also be treated to a series of didactic lectures.

In addition, the lecture format has been revamped in the fourth-year urban health care center clerkship. Now, the students are the lecturers. Groups of students research a topic chosen by Dr. Veit, Dr. McLeod and Harry Morris, DO, ’78, MPH, chairman, family medicine, and put together a presentation. The topics are ones that students feel are not adequately covered in medical school, such as medical ethics, managed care, domestic violence, medical economics, evidence-based medicine and spirituality.

Realizing that home health care is the fastest-growing area of medicine, PCOM has added a one-week home care clerkship to the eight-week, fourth-year urban health care center clerkship. During this same clerkship, four or five students come to the College each Wednesday to help teach the first- and second-year class, “Primary Care Skills,” taught by Dr. Morris. “It helps that the younger students can relate to the fourth-year students better than to the preceptors and that they see fourth-year students mastering skills such as taking blood pressure, inserting needles and other skills,” comments Dr. McLeod.

According to the Dean, continually training the osteopathic physicians of the future requires constant vigilance to “predict when and how the waves will crash.” PCOM’s goals include increasing instruction in osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) in core clinical clerkships and developing learning objectives for OMM.

Dr. McLeod, Dr. Kriebel and others agree that third- and fourth-year students should use computers more frequently to support distance learning, to tap into the wealth of information available on the Internet and also to use diagnostic support software. “Diagnostic support software is the future of...”
Developing the clinical research mind

When you really think about it, all physicians are "researchers." It's important for physicians to understand that their own patients offer a "community laboratory" of sorts. Learning about clinical research makes for a better osteopathic medical education and more astute osteopathic physicians of tomorrow.

"Every physician has a database because he or she has patients," explains Richard Kriebel, PhD, assistant dean for curriculum and research.

It is during the third and fourth years at PCOM that students are introduced to this concept. "An increasingly important part of what we do is develop the research mind, an inquisitive mind into biomedicine, in our students," explains Dr. Kriebel.

There is now a significant amount of ongoing clinical research at the College. One project looks promising for the treatment of headaches, using osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT). Another project delves into whether a simple intervention will increase patient compliance with taking medication.

Researchers in yet another project are developing a teaching module focusing on preventive medicine for the underserved in a managed care environment.

OMT and headaches

Researchers at PCOM are involved in a two-year study, funded by the American Osteopathic Association, to determine if three specific OMT techniques are effective in treating migraine, tension and sinus headaches. The principal investigator is Patrick Coughlin, PhD, associate professor, anatomy. The three techniques being used on the 144 study participants are strain/countrystain, myofascial release and craniosacral, the techniques which proved most effective in a pilot study conducted by Dr. Coughlin. OMM fellows are applying one OMT technique per study subject and following the patient's progress for 48 hours.

An additional grant application was submitted to the National Headache Foundation. The grant would add two more experimental groups to the study, including an untreated control group. Dr. Coughlin plans to apply for an NIH grant for a longitudinal study that would expand his research into the effectiveness of OMT on headache. "The data collected so far suggest that osteopathic manipulation will significantly reduce headache pain," says Dr. Coughlin. "And based on what we've observed, the pain relief that we're getting is significant and it continues over a 48-hour period."

Increasing patient compliance

In a study funded by Wyeth-Ayerst Pharmaceuticals, Tana Fishman, DO, '95, director of behavioral science and research, department of family medicine, is taking a close look at patient compliance with medication, using her "90-Second Intervention." In this two-year study conducted at PCOM's Cambria Street Healthcare Center and St. Joseph's Hospital out-patient center, Dr. Fishman is working with patients to recruit a "health partner" to learn whether involving loved ones will increase compliance with hormone replacement therapy (HRT).

"We're asking the patient right in the primary care setting to contact 'who loves and cares for you; you the most' to promise to remind that patient to take the HRT as prescribed," says Dr. Fishman. "We want to learn if that person actually will remind the patient."

In 1995, Dr. Fishman received the coveted "Secretary's Award for Innovations in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention" from the US Department of Health and Human Services for her "90-Second Intervention" concept. "Non-compliance is ubiquitous; it knows no socioeconomic boundaries," she notes.

Focusing on the underserved

In another study that has significant implications in the delivery of primary care, Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, '77, associate dean for primary care education and professor of family medicine, received a three-year grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. The goal is to develop a pre-doctoral curriculum emphasizing preventive medicine for the medically underserved and a comprehensive and integrative approach to health care.

The study looks at making better use of time through better understanding of the inter-disciplinary approach to community-based health care. "Physicians, nurses, pharmacists and others need to educate patients; the team approach is a necessity," explains Dr. Mochan, adding that students will be involved in all four years of the curriculum. "We're developing a very unique curriculum we hope will serve as a model for the rest of the country," he notes.
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medicine: you punch in all the data and the program provides a differential diagnosis," says Dr. McLeod.

The Clinical Education section of PCOM's e-web site is active, enabling students to complete online clerkship evaluations, review goals and objectives for each clerkship and view lists of all clerkships, along with third- and fourth-year schedules.

Those involved in these curriculum changes feel very positive about the results they will see. "We've been working on these changes in the curriculum for some time," says Dr. Kriebel. "For the best outcome, we really need absolutely everyone involved to pull along with us."  

Above: Players and coaches, including "Bridging the Gaps" participants Andrew Marcantonio, (white shirt) and Steven Santangelo, (right, green shirt), both PCOM '01, pause for a group photo before beginning competition at the Lee Cultural Center in Philadelphia. The students assist with a basketball tournament conducted here each summer.

Left: PCOM is conducting a study to determine if three osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) techniques are effective in treating headaches. Left to right are Alexander Nicholas, DO, '73, chair, osteopathic manipulative medicine; Lauren Johnson, PCOM '01; Concetta R. Oteri, PCOM '01 and OMM fellow; and Patrick Coughlin, PhD, associate professor, anatomy and the study's principal investigator.

Building bridges to the community

As early as the end of their first year at PCOM, students already are learning some very important lessons about community-based medicine. They are lessons that carry forward in the continuum of osteopathic medical education; lessons they may draw upon during their third- and fourth-year clinical clerkships - and beyond.

It is at the end of that tough first year that some future osteopathic physicians begin working in the Bridging the Gaps program, in which students from all of Philadelphia's medical schools work for seven weeks to help residents of the city's most underserved areas.

PCOM has been involved in the program for a half-dozen years, says Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, '77, associate dean for primary care education and professor of family medicine. "The program teaches students to strive to learn from every patient and that it's possible to learn from an individual just how people in that community live," The program is funded by more than 100 businesses and organizations.

The students begin putting their communications skills to work as they develop methods to educate men, women, and teens about a variety of health concerns, including the importance of regular blood pressure checks, screening for breast cancer, proper nutrition, steering clear of drug abuse, avoiding violence and much more. "Through patient education the students empower the community," emphasizes Dr. Mochan.

The students travel to health centers, churches, community organizations and schools to get across a variety of messages. "It's remarkable; we're welcomed with open arms and there's real bonding going on," says Dr. Mochan. "It's absolutely an eye opener for some students.

"The best thing the program did was to put us in uncomfortable situations and make us comfortable," says Karen Luke, PCOM '01, whose project included work at a homeless shelter in North Philadelphia and with another organization in West Philadelphia, Raising Others' Children (ROC), that targets those who care for someone else's child.

"Seeing how much there is to do to ensure adequate health care for a population that is sliding through the cracks was invaluable," says Luke.

Eugenio Menendez, PCOM '01, worked at the Congreso de Latinos Unidos organization, which provides the North Philadelphia Latino community with social services and health education. He was part of the HIV/AIDS education/prevention unit there.

"I attended workshops taught by HIV/AIDS organizations and participated in outreach education on the streets of North Philadelphia as well as off-site HIV screening. One day I worked as a records-keeper at a needle-exchange site in one of the 'shooting gallery' areas," says Menendez.

"Both the challenge and reward of HIV/AIDS education are multi-faceted," notes Menendez. "Educating young women about safe sex is fruitless without talking about drugs and alcohol. My work with the Bridging the Gaps program is the foundation of primary care and community medicine, in that patients and communities at risk for disease require a physician with an inquisitive and open mind. To explore the risk or the disease, you have to ask difficult personal questions and listen carefully and non-judgmentally."

The program is a hit. In fact, PCOM's Bridging the Gaps program was awarded five full student scholarships for the Northeast Regional Conference of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, held in New Brunswick, NJ in October.
Alumni make their mark at fall '98 conventions

PCOM was well represented at this fall's major conventions, the Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Specialists (ACOS) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) convention.

At ACOS, held September 26-29 in Chicago, PCOM chancellor Galen S. Young Sr., DO, '35, received the "Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award" for his outstanding accomplishments and leadership in the field of surgery. Lt. Gen. Ronald R. Blanck, DO, '67, surgeon general, US Army, served as keynote speaker for the formal opening session. ACOS' outgoing president is William P. Brown, DO, '74.

PCOM is also proud that several urology residents received awards at the Annual Clinical Assembly held during ACOS. Moez Khorsandi, DO, won first place for his presentation, "Reassessing the role of urodynamics following CVA, male vs. female analysis." In the poster exhibit, Michael Campenni, DO, received second place and Stephen Yanoshank, DO, '90 tied for third place.

At the convention, PCOM displayed its 10 ft. Centennial exhibit for the first time and hosted an alumni hospitality suite for two nights. Carey Penrod, DO, '85 won the raffle for a Centennial sweatshirt.

At ACOS, Galen S. Young Sr., DO, '35, center, PCOM chancellor, received the prestigious ACOS "Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award." Joining Dr. Young is William P. Brown, DO, '74, left, outgoing ACOS president, and William R. Henwood, DO, '76, ACOS board of governors member and PCOM regional assistant dean for Western Pennsylvania.
Alumni enjoy early Mardi Gras at AOA convention

At the AOA convention October 5-9 in New Orleans, PCOM’s Mardi Gras reception was a big hit with alumni and guests. Colorful characters straight out of the French Quarter provided true New Orleans entertainment. At the event, Jeffry Lindenbaum, DO, ’75 won the raffle’s first prize: a pair of tickets to PCOM's Centennial Ball October 9.

Second prize, a Centennial clock and pen set, went to Brooks Betts, II, DO, ’80 and third prize, a Centennial sweatshirt, was won by Kenneth Steel, DO, ’73.

The College also hosted an alumni luncheon and hospitality suite, and alumni enjoyed seeing PCOM's new 20-ft. Centennial exhibit for the first time.

At the convention, Murray Klein, DO, ’77 was elected president of the American Osteopathic College of Rehabilitation Medicine. PCOM students also received accolades. Taking first place in the student research competition were Shawn Tweedt, PCOM ’00, Jamison Jaffee, PCOM ’00, Louis Costa, PCOM ’02 and Marc Lewbart, PCOM ’02 for their project, "Jejunal submucosal vascular graft preparation." Charlotte H. Greene, PhD, professor, biomedical sciences, was their advisor.

At the conventions, many PCOM alumni were inducted as fellows:

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC SURGEONS
Richard B. Bloom, DO, ’78
David E. Bruce, DO, ’74
Neil W. Fisher, DO, ’83
James J. Giliberto, DO, ’47
Roy L. Gorin, DO, ’72
Carl G. Gutekunst, DO, ’84
Richard D. Kimmel, DO, ’84
William E. Kramer, DO, ’86
David Meir-Levi, DO, ’83
Brendan J. O’Brien, DO, ’64
Robert J. Sass, DO, ’87
Michael L. Schorr, DO, ’82
Kenneth F. Shockley, DO, ’89
Lawrence N. Varner, DO, ’72

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC INTERNISTS
Joseph A. Giatino, DO, ’87
Richard T. Lasner, DO, ’79
Howard M. Rosner, DO, ’87

AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ACADEMY OF ORTHOPEDICS
Charles J. Harvey, DO, ’86
Walter C. Peppelman Jr., DO, ’85

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS
Robert H. Debbi, DO, ’89

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NEUROPSYCHIATRISTS
Robert R. Ball, DO, ’80

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NUTRITION
Christopher Still, DO, ’90

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC FAMILY PHYSICIANS
William B. Swallower, DO, ’79
Kenneth J. Vett, DO, ’76

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS
Jerry R. Balentine, DO, ’88
Nancie J. Fitch, DO, ’90
Christine F. Purcell Giesa, DO, ’90
Henry R. Schuitema, DO, ’90
Jennifer L. Waxler, DO, ’90

At PCOM's Mardi Gras reception at the AOA convention, Leo Parnes, DO, ’68, left and Louis Reznick, DO "clown around" with a Mardi Gras entertainer.
Help the Clinical Learning and Assessment Center expand

The Robert Berger, DO Clinical Learning and Assessment Center is enjoying tremendous growth due to funding by The PCOM Mission. Established in 1993, the Center was the creation of the late Robert Berger, DO, ’58, associate dean and chair of pediatrics at PCOM. Dedicated to developing and assessing students’ communication and clinical skills, the Center houses five fully equipped examination rooms. These rooms are staffed by “standardized patients” trained to simulate medical or mental health conditions. The feedback given to students about their clinical skills performance is especially valuable. Identified as a high priority for students, performance-based teaching and testing prepares physicians to practice medicine in the next century.

Physician Assistant (PA) and Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) students also benefit from the Center. PA students practice skills such as history taking, and PsyD students practice evaluating mental health patients.

With the Center’s expanded role, larger quarters and additional equipment are needed. Your pledge to The PCOM Mission will enable The Robert Berger, DO Clinical Learning and Assessment Center to grow both physically and academically. Our students will enjoy the benefits of your generosity.

Funds sought for professorial chairs in emergency medicine and radiology

Is your specialty training in emergency medicine or radiology? Now’s the time to commit to a campaign pledge to benefit either of these chairs. Part of the Academic Leadership section of The PCOM Mission, a balance of $1 million is required to establish a chair. These types of endowments provide department income for the salaries and research expenses of PCOM’s faculty, and support educational programs.

John W. Becher Jr., DO, ’70, chairman and professor, emergency medicine and Robert Meals, DO, ’56, professor and academic chairman, radiology, are spearheading the drive to raise the $1 million needed to make each chair a reality. Dr. Becher, an emergency medicine physician, has taught the emergency medicine course at PCOM since 1977. Dr. Meals is well known to generations of PCOM students for his innovative style of teaching radiology basics. The professorial chairs will greatly enrich both programs at PCOM and provide improved learning opportunities for our students.

Major Philadelphia corporation supports The PCOM Mission

A $25,000 pledge from Crown Cork & Seal Company will benefit PCOM’s health care centers. Crown Cork & Seal, a Philadelphia-based company headed by William J. Avery, is well known for its philanthropic efforts on behalf of the city’s underserved communities. Representatives of the Crown Cork & Seal foundation committee toured Cambria Street Healthcare Center and were impressed by the state-of-the-art facility. David Spratt, DO, ’75, Crown Cork & Seal’s corporate medical director, was instrumental in obtaining this valuable support.

PCOM builds Student Activity Center

Construction of the new Student Activity Center is proceeding on schedule. Opening dedication ceremonies will be held in August 1999 in conjunction with Convocation, which officially opens the academic year and welcomes the Class of 2003. Now is a perfect time to make a pledge and designate your charitable dollars to this new building. Giving opportunities are outlined in the Named Gift Opportunities brochure.

New Named Gift Opportunities brochure available

One distinction which separates a capital campaign from an annual fund is the donor’s prerogative to designate his or her pledge to an area of particular interest. The Named Gift Opportunities brochure specifies the College’s needs and lists the opportunities available. This brochure contains many exciting options to take advantage of during The PCOM Mission’s final year.

Please call the Campaign Office at 800-739-3939 for information on how to make a pledge.
The College is deeply saddened by the passing of Frieda O. Vickers, DO, '39, who possessed an uncompromising loyalty to her patients, her family and PCOM. She died November 27 in Grand View Hospital, West Rockhill Township, Pa. Osteopathic physician, wife and healer, Dr. Vickers was a constant presence at PCOM for nearly six decades.

Dr. Vickers' love of medicine started in her childhood home in Brooklyn, NY, under the influence of her mother who believed that doctors could cure the world's ailments. It's no wonder that she chose medicine as her lifelong calling and entered PCOM in 1935.

A talented osteopathic physician, Dr. Vickers developed a healing touch that was admired and respected by generations of osteopathic physicians. She began her career delivering babies under the guidance of mentor and friend, the late Herman Kohn, DO, '27, but soon devoted her time to treating patients using traditional osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) techniques.

Her devotion to OMM attracted long-suffering patients with chronic problems. "Patients would come in hurting, with pulmonary congestion or acute sinusitis," she said in a 1997 interview. "I would give them a treatment, and they would walk out feeling so good. They couldn't believe it. I gave them immediate relief, which their other doctors or chiropractors couldn't do." Alumni would line up and eagerly await an OMM treatment by Dr. Vickers at PCOM's annual post-Founders Day St. Thomas CME seminar.

Always looking out for the best interests of her patients, Dr. Vickers made house calls for many years and carried her OMM table from visit to visit. In 1970, she moved her West Philadelphia practice to an office adjacent to her home in Telford, Pa. In addition to her private practice she was a consulting physician for Merck, Sharp and Dohme in West Point, Pa. for 13 years. Dr. Vickers was staff member emeritus of Allegheny University Hospitals in Philadelphia and honorary life member of the staff at City Avenue Hospital. She was also a school physician for the Philadelphia School District.

She retired in October 1997, frustrated by the ever-increasing role of HMOs and the endless stream of paperwork that hindered her mission: to provide her patients with the time and attention they deserved.

Always by her side was her husband of 57 years, Jim, who served as his wife's accountant, receptionist and office manager after his retirement as administrative services director for the Philadelphia Fire Department. The couple met when Jim came to the apartment of one of Dr. Vickers' first patients, Jim's Aunt Lola, complaining of a headache. She gave him a treatment and they were inseparable.

In 1992, they both received the College's "Certificate of Honor" for their unwavering support of PCOM. Through the years, the two could be counted on to attend College events including Founders Day, Survivors Club dinners or a ribbon-cutting ceremony. In 1997, the College recognized Dr. Vickers' dedication to the principles of osteopathic medicine and loyalty to PCOM by bestowing on her its highest honor, the "O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal."

The Vickers' philanthropic support to PCOM over the years has greatly benefited the department of osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM). They also have funded several scholarships and awards, such as the "Frieda O. Vickers, DO and Major James Vickers Family Practice Award." Dr. Vickers was a life member of PCOM's Alumni Association, Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association and American Osteopathic Association. Memorial contributions can be made to the Vickers Foundation c/o the alumni relations and development office.
Class Acts

30s
Galen S. Young Sr., DO, ’35, Drexel Hill, Pa., received the 1998 “Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award” from the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

40s

50s
Arthur L. Feldman, DO, ’51, Coconut Creek, Fla., started his 13th year as an associate professor, family medicine at Nova-Southeastern University, Davie, Fla. He has been in private practice for 36 years.

Philip E. Greenman, DO, ’52, Okemos, Mich., received the “Gutensohn-Denslow Award” from the American Osteopathic Association’s Bureau of Research.

Burton Pomerantz, DO, ’57, Westlake, Ohio, was appointed president of Praxis Health System, NY.

Edward E. James, DO, ’58, Coraopolis, Pa., became president-elect of the Coraopolis Kiwanis International Club.

Willard L. Noyes, DO, ’59, Kutztown, Pa., was granted life membership by the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

60s
Theodore Mauer, DO, ’62, Media, Pa., was the recipient of the “1998 Distinguished Service Award” presented by the Board of Governors of the American Osteopathic Colleges of Ophthalmology and Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

Harvey M. Specter, DO, ’63, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., was elected to the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society.

Charles R. Bridges, DO, ’64, Philadelphia, Pa., was featured in the July 1998 Penn Health.

Jerry Ginsberg, DO, ’65, Elkins Park, Pa., became board certified as an independent medical examiner by the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners.

Robert M. Mandell, DO, ’65, Farmington Hills, Mich., was re-appointed to the board of governors of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

Ronald Cowen, DO, ’66, St. Davids, Pa., joined the Keystone Mercy Peer Review Committee. He also was appointed to the board of directors of Temple Physicians, Inc.

Frederick J. Humphrey, DO, ’66, Moorestown, NJ, received the 1998 “Dale Dodson, DO Award” presented by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

Bernard F. Master, DO, ’66, Worthington, Ohio, received the Ursinus College Alumni Association Professional Achievement Award.

Michael Zal, DO, ’66, Bala Cynwyd, Pa., was a featured speaker at a fall symposium, “Growing up and growing old: Generational issues and the new America,” sponsored by the Center for Free Inquiry. His topic was based on his book, The sandwich generation: Caught between growing children and aging parents.


Gary Zisk, DO, ’67, Roslyn, NY, was named a fellow of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity.

William J. McGrath, III, DO, ’68, Greensberg, Pa., was installed as president of Westmoreland Community Health Network.

Paul E. Wallner, DO, ’68, Philadelphia, Pa., was appointed clinical professor and vice-chairman, department of radiation oncology, University of Pennsylvania Health System, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Steven E. Edell, DO, ’69, Wilmington, Del., was appointed to the Accreditation Council for the American Institute of Ultrasound Medicine.

70s
Joseph C. Gallagher, DO, ’70, Wayne, Pa., had an article published on the Internet detailing the use of the stereomicroscope in hair follicle transplantation.

Robert S. Ivker, DO, ’72, Littleton, Colo., was re-elected to his second consecutive term as president of the American Holistic Medical Association.

David H. Clymer, DO, ’74, Shirleysburg, Pa., went on a humanitarian medical mission to Ganzu Province, China.

William K. Daiber, DO, ’74, Harrisburg, Pa., was featured in the August 14, 1998 Central Penn Business Journal.
Richard G. Tucker, DO, '74, Mount Laurel, NJ, was named president of the American College of Osteopathic Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Paul P. McCaffrey, DO, '75, Pueblo, Colo., received the "1998 Physician of the Year Award" from the Colorado Health Care Association.

Alexander Nicholas, DO, '75, West Chester, Pa., was featured in an article in Arthritis Today titled "The other kind of doctor." He is quoted extensively in a sidebar titled "OMT and arthritis."

Steven M. Snyder, DO, '75, Fort Washington, Pa., was elected secretary-treasurer of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians.

William R. Henwood, DO, '76, Sharon, Pa., was elected president of the medical staff at Horizon Hospital System.

John S. Missanelli, DO, '76, Bristol, Pa, opened an obstetrics/gynecology practice in Bristol, Pa.

William M. Silverman, DO, '76, Maitland, Fla., was appointed first vice president of the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association.

Lee J. Herskowitz, DO, '77, Modesto, Calif., was elected a trustee to the Executive Council of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians.


Paul Evans, DO, '79, Broken Arrow, Okla., received the "Outstanding Teaching Award" presented by the Family Practice Department at the Madigan Army Medical Center.

Paul D. Selzter, DO, '80, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., was appointed second vice president of the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association.

Joan Orloski, DO, '81, Duryea, Pa., was board certified in emergency medicine.

Julia M.R. Pillsbury, DO, '81, Dover, Del., was elected president of the Delaware Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Her practice, The Center for Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine in Dover, Del., received the "Family Friendly Business Award" from the organization, FEMALE. Dr. Pillsbury is chairwoman, department of pediatrics at Kent General Hospital/Bayhealth Medical Center.

Robert C. Martin, DO, '82, Rocky Mount, NC, joined Carolina Regional Orthopedics.

Anthony A. Vasil, DO, '82, Chadds Ford, Pa., was elected president of the Delaware Chapter of the American Lung Association.

Marc A. Vengrove, DO, '82, Allentown, Pa., was named chairman of the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine.

Kenneth E. Wood, DO, '82, Madison, Wis., was appointed director of the Trauma and Life Support Center/MICU at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics.

Gary Aaronson, DO, '83, New Hope, Pa., was appointed to the board of directors of Frankford Hospital, Philadelphia.

Martin O. Pieretti, DO, '83, Doylestown, Pa., was board certified as an independent medical examiner.

Joseph A. Pion, DO, '84, Carlisle, Pa., was named medical director at Forest Park Health Care Center and Green Ridge Village Retirement Community.

Ray Roth, DO, '84, Mill Hall, Pa., was appointed regional medical director for the Penn State Geisinger Health Plan.

Walter J. Boris, DO, '85, Shavertown, Pa., joined Heart Surgery Associates at Mercy Hospital.

David B. Lewis, DO, '85, Bedford, NH, was appointed chief, division of rehabilitation medicine at Optima Health.

Michael A. Becker, DO, '87, Blue Bell, Pa., and Larry N. Finkelstein, DO, '87, Lafayette Hill, Pa., were featured in the June/July 1998 Good Times in an article titled, "Supplements and vitamins: What do you need?"

Scott Naftulin, DO, '87, Orefield, Pa., joined Northeastern Rehabilitation Associates.

Maria Procopio Dugan, DO, '87, Wexford, Pa., was appointed to the faculty in the family practice residency program at The Western Pennsylvania Hospital.

John F. Perri, DO, '87, San Diego, Calif., was board certified in pulmonary medicine.

Stephen P. Anthony, DO, '88, Veradale, Wash., was appointed adjunct assistant professor of medicine at Dartmouth Medical School.

Joseph J. Calabro, DO, '88, Beaufort, SC, was appointed chairman of the department of emergency medicine at Seton Hall University, School of Graduate Medical Education.

Nicholas P. Dardes, DO, '88, Beaufort, SC, was appointed chairman, department of medicine at Beaufort Memorial Hospital.
Neal M. Davis, DO, ’88, Carbondale, Pa., was named chairman, department of medicine at Marian Community Hospital.

Marla De Polo Goldman, DO, ’88, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., was featured in “The FOMA working for you” section of the Summer 1998 The FOMA Journal.

J. Steven Blake, DO, ’89, Glenside, Pa., was elected president of the National Osteopathic Medical Association.


Daniel N. Koehler, DO, ’89, Mooresville, NC, was board certified in neurology.

Mary A. Forester, DO, ’90, Madison, Wis., was appointed assistant clinical professor, department of neurology, University of Wisconsin Medical School. She is in private practice with University of Wisconsin Health/Physicians Plus.

Jennifer L. Waxler, DO, ’90, Doylestown, Pa., was appointed director of emergency services at Capital Health Systems.

Jon E. Brndjar, DO, ’91, Trexlertown, Pa., was named director of medical education for Lehigh Valley Hospital’s Osteopathic Internship Program.

Laura L. Czulewicz Reese, DO, ’91, Harrisburg, Pa., was named chief surgical resident at Community General Hospital in Harrisburg, Pa.

James N. De Angelo, DO, ’91, Concord Township, Ohio, joined the practice of Allergy and Clinical Immunology Associates.

Joseph A. Sniadach, DO, ’91, Baltimore, Md., was board certified in internal medicine. Also, he completed an internal medicine residency and began an anesthesiology residency at the University of Maryland.

Christopher Still, DO, ’91, Lewisburg, Pa., became a fellow of the American College of Nutrition. In addition to being board certified in internal medicine, he is board certified by the American Board of Nutrition, American College of Nutrition and National Board of Nutrition Support.

Susan M. Baro, DO, ’92, Wall Township, NJ, joined the division of trauma at Jersey Shore Medical Center.

Earl J. Campbell, DO, ’92, Colorado Springs, Colo., was promoted to the rank of Major in the United States Army.

Bradley Fink, DO, ’92, Newtown, Pa., joined the medical staff at Buck Orthopedics.

Stephen H. Adams, DO, ’93, Stockholm, Maine, joined the staff of Aroostook Mental Health Center.

June M. Caruso, DO, ’93, West Warwick, RI, received the “Most Outstanding Junior Member Award” from the American Neurological Association and the Child Neurology Society.

Connie L. Januzelli, DO, ’93, Bryn Mawr, Pa., joined the staff at United Memorial Hospital.

Helen M. Carreras Suchanick, DO, ’94, Titusville, Pa., joined the staff at Oil City Family Health Center and Titusville Area Hospital. Also, she was board certified in family practice.

Colette Cofini, DO, ’94, Valley Cottage, NY, was board certified in psychiatry.

Linda Carpenter Russin, DO, ’94, Bala Cynwyd, Pa., was awarded third place for her scientific exhibit titled “Diffusion-weighted MRI in the detection of early ischemic stroke” presented at the American Osteopathic College of Radiology meeting in Tucson, Ariz.

Sheila A. Treault Shranatan, DO, ’94, Fayetteville, NC, was board certified in family medicine.

Thomas C. Barone, DO, ’95, Philadelphia, Pa., joined Harry Frankel, MD at Jefferson Medical Care - Spring Garden.

Jonathan D. Cowen, DO, ’95, North Wales, Pa., was board certified in internal medicine.

Michael E. Fiorina, DO, ’95, Butler, Pa., was board certified in family practice.

David L. Mattingly, DO, ’95, Ardmore, Pa., joined the family practice of Karen E. Fox, DO in Bensalem, Pa.

Michael C. Roman, DO, ’95, Norristown, Pa., joined the practice of Philip Pearlstein Associates.

the very first presentation of subacute sclerosing panencephalitis,” Neurology, 1997; 48 (3): A286.

**Arthur Freeman,** EdD, chairman and professor, psychology, has had books published in 10 foreign languages, including: *The 10 Dumbest Mistakes Smart People Make* published in Swedish, Russian, Bulgarian, Dutch and German; *Woulda Coulda Shoulda* published in Dutch, German and Spanish; *Clinical Casebook of Cognitive Therapy* published in Portuguese and *Cognitive Therapy* published in Chinese. He also has published 20 books in English over the past 15 years.


**Kenneth J. Veit,** DO, ’76, PCOM dean, contributed to a special supplement in the August 1998 *Modern Medicine* titled “State of the art: Studies on dietary supplements that may answer your patients’ questions.” In the section, Dr. Veit comments on four abstracts of new studies on dietary supplements.


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**In Memoriam**

**Angelo E. Amadio,** DO, ’46, FP, Fryburg, Pa., October 4.

**Alfred Barlow,** DO, ’43, PR, Spring Grove, Pa., September 20.

**Charles Brimfield,** DO, ’41, OMM, Southbury, Conn., November 17.


**William E. Gallagher,** DO, ’34, OMM, Stanford, Conn., September 6.

**Domenic L. Gentile,** DO, ’66, FP, Yardley, Pa., November 11.

**Mildred C. Greif,** DO, ’58, Cocheton, NY, June 21.

**Samuel Guyer,** DO, ’43, S, Blue Bell, Pa., March 27.

**John G. Hoffler,** DO, ’58, Decatur, Ga.


**Sherwood R. Mercer,** LLD, Lima, Pa., October 21.

**Richard M. Papa,** DO, ’75, FP, Bryn Mawr, Pa., August 24.

**Michael J. Pisano,** DO, ’66, FP, Marlton, NJ, December 11.

**Alexander Price,** DO, ’41, IM, Plantation, Fla., December 11.


**Morton T. Smith,** DO, ’60, FP, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., June 24.

**Lewis B. Spence,** DO, ’38, FP, Hartsdale, NY, May 18.

**Jerome Sulman,** DO, ’57, FP, Bala Cynwyd, Pa., December 11.

**Edward A. Tibbetts,** DO, ’40, OMM, Portland, Maine, July 3.

**Frieda O. Vickers,** DO, ’39, FP, Telford, Pa., November 27.

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**College mourns loss of dedicated alumnus and preceptor, Jerome Sulman, DO, ’57**

The PCOM community is saddened by the death of a beloved PCOM preceptor and physician, Jerome Sulman, DO, ’57, on December 11. Dr. Sulman entered PCOM in 1953 after graduating from the University of Pennsylvania. Upon receiving his medical degree from PCOM, he served a one-year internship at the College. In 1958, Dr. Sulman started a private general practice, where he practiced for 33 years. He then cared for patients at PCOM’s Chestnut Street Healthcare Center. He joined the medical staff at City Avenue Hospital when it opened in 1967, and before that was on staff at PCOM’s 48th Street Hospital. Dr. Sulman had recently joined the staff of PCOM’s osteopathic manipulative medicine practice. A loyal alumnum, he had taught in the department of osteopathic manipulative medicine since 1962, most recently as a preceptor.

**Richard M. Papa, DO, ’75, former PCOM professor and director, dies**

Richard M. Papa, DO, ’75, died August 24 at age 51. An active alumnum, Dr. Papa maintained a private practice in Philadelphia since 1977. He served as director, corporate health services at the former Hospital of PCOM from 1978 to 1982, and from 1977 to 1983 was supervisor, educational programs. He
1899 1999

**PCOM: The first 25 years**

This article, first in a series of four, provides a glance at PCOM's founding and early years of migration and expansion. Much more detail on the people, activities and events in the College's rich history is offered in PCOM's 100-year history book, *To Secure Merit: A Century of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine*.

**America introduced to osteopathy**

In 1874 frontier physician Andrew Taylor Still announced his theories about a new system of medicine he called osteopathy. Dr. Still founded the first college of osteopathy in Kirksville, Missouri in 1892. His students went on to start colleges, primarily in the Midwest, in the 1890s.

After the Boston Institute of Osteopathy was established in 1897, two students at the Northern Institute of Osteopathy in Minneapolis decided another osteopathic college was needed in the East. Mason W. Pressly and O.J. Snyder chose Philadelphia, which already had an established medical culture with 12 hospitals and four medical schools.

In 1899, they opened the Philadelphia College and Infirmary of Osteopathy (PCIO) in two rented rooms of the Stephen Girard Building at 21 S. 12th Street. At that time, only one osteopathic physician was practicing in Philadelphia. With a successful school that would continue to grow and flourish, Dr. Pressly and Dr. Snyder, the College's first president, introduced the city to a whole new approach in medicine.

**PCIO enjoys early success**

In 1899, the first PCIO degree was awarded to a transfer student. The first "class"—one woman and one MD—graduated in 1900. Two years later, graduates formed the Alumni Association. Through word of mouth and favorable press, PCIO's halls were filled with students and patients. The College, needing larger quarters, moved to Juniper and Walnut Streets, where it stayed for three years.

David S.B. Pennock, DO, who would become the College's "Father of Surgery," joined the faculty during this time.

Outgrowing the facilities once again, in 1903 PCIO moved to 33rd and Arch Streets in West Philadelphia, its first "campus." Here, a tradition of student life began with organized athletics, professional societies, fraternities and sororities.

As the faculty grew, it became more powerful. A disagreement between faculty and administration about faculty compensation resulted in a faculty revolution, causing the forced resignations of Drs. Pressly and Snyder in 1904. While Dr. Pressly severed ties with the institution, Dr. Snyder maintained a life-long relationship with the College while continuing his private practice and lobbying efforts for osteopathy. A board of trustees took over leadership of the College.

By 1906, the College established the three-bed Osteopathic Dispensary at 1617 Fairmount Avenue, forerunner of the Osteopathic Hospital. The concept of a clinic providing services for free or a nominal fee, which started at PCOM's first home in the Girard Building, became part of the Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia.

**State grants license to practice**

In search of more space, PCIO migrated to 1715 N. Broad Street, its home from 1908 to 1912. In 1909, the Pennsylvania legislature granted osteopaths the license to practice and established a Board of Osteopathic Examiners as a result of Dr. Snyder's lobbying efforts. Surgery was still a disputed area of practice until 1923, when a
Surgeons' Bill was passed in Pennsylvania. The bill granted osteopathic physicians the right to practice surgery and prescribe narcotics, provided they receive additional surgical training and pass an exam.

In 1910, PCIO became the first osteopathic college to require a four-year curriculum. The College moved again in 1912, this time to 832 Pine Street, where PCIO established its first hospital at 410 S. Ninth Street. At the Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia, around the corner from the College, students gained valuable clinical experience. Moving away from the "manipulation only" osteopathy that Dr. Still developed, the College expanded its curriculum to include supplementary therapeutics such as hydrotherapy and the toxicological effect of drugs.

In 1915, Dr. Snyder was elected president of the American Osteopathic Association, the first of many College leaders to hold this position. That year, war broke out in Europe, but DOs were not permitted to serve in the military as physicians. (This discrimination would end in 1967 during the Vietnam War.)

PCIO moves to Spring Garden Street
During World War I, PCIO held its first public fund-raising campaign, which raised $60,000 to purchase a new site for the College and build a new hospital.

The College moved to the Reyburn Mansion at 19th and Spring Garden Streets, residence of John E. Reyburn, former Philadelphia mayor.

After the new Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia was built, another PCIO campaign raised $102,000 to acquire two adjacent properties: one for additional classrooms and clinics, and the other for a nurses' home for the College's new Training School for Nurses. A Department of Free Clinics was established in the Hospital, which featured a surgical amphitheater seating 150 students. The clinics would become a key part of students' clinical training for years to come.
1914
US completes construction of the Panama Canal.

1915
Laboratory at 832 Pine Street, circa 1915.

1916
The College and Hospital merge under one board of directors. PCIO moves to the Rehurn mansion at 19th and Spring Garden Streets, its home for 13 years of remarkable growth. Soon, a 52-bed hospital with surgical amphitheater is constructed on the site.

1917
US declares war with Germany and enters World War I. Influenza pandemic soon breaks out.

1920
The Nineteenth Amendment becomes law, giving women the right to vote; Prohibition takes effect.

1922
The DO course is extended to nine months in each of the four years, meeting licensing requirements in some states and matching allopathic medical college standards of the day.

1923
Class of 1923 in anatomy lecture.

1924
Operation in clinical amphitheater, circa 1924.

X-ray lab, internship program established
In 1918, the Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia (OHP) opened its fully-equipped x-ray laboratory, introducing students and patients to this important method of diagnosis and treatment. The College's resident internship program originated at OHP in 1923. Graduates served a one-year rotating internship; the Hospital then had the option to offer a second year as a resident physician.

One of the first three graduates to be selected as a resident intern was Paul T. Lloyd, DO, who went on to become the osteopathic profession's "Father of Radiology." Dr. Lloyd's class, the Class of '23, set a record for alumni giving to date.

In 1921 the College changed its name to Philadelphia College of Osteopathy (PCO). The 1920s saw a further blossoming of student culture with fraternities, sororities, dances, clubs and athletics. Students began a newspaper, The Axone, and a yearbook, Synapsis. Starting in 1922, the academic year was expanded from eight to nine months, matching allopathic medical school standards.

Early success and continuous expansion to meet student and patient needs characterized the College's first 25 years, as Philadelphians embraced the new holistic system of medicine – osteopathy.

PCOM's history will continue in the next Digest Centennial supplement, which will feature the next 25 years, 1924 to 1949.
A cocktail reception to kick off the Centennial year was given by PCOM President Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO and his wife Marylyn, and PCOM Chairman of the Board Herbert Lotman and his wife Karen. One hundred guests gathered at the festive event, held October 28 in the Levin Administration Building.

Dole to speak at Commencement

PCOM is pleased to announce that Elizabeth Dole, former president of the American Red Cross and wife of former US Senator Bob Dole, will speak at the 1999 Commencement. Dole’s 30-year career in Washington includes serving as a federal trade commissioner, secretary of labor and secretary of transportation — the first woman to hold this last position. She has served five US Presidents and was named by a Gallup Poll as one of the world’s 10 most admired women.

Left: Dr. Finkelstein, center, welcomes reception guests Frederick J. Humphrey II, DO, ’66, left, dean, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - School of Osteopathic Medicine, and Richard M. Ryan Jr., DSc, president, University of Medical and Health Sciences - College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Above: Alexander S. Nicholas, DO, ’75, chairman, OMM, enjoys the cocktail reception with wife, Benita, right, and mother, Marika, wife of the late Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO.
PCOM’s history book, titled To Secure Merit: A Century of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, was a hit when debuted to alumni at Founders Day. The coffee table book provides a readable and attractive chronology of the College’s 100 years. The book also includes seven thematic chapters on areas such as clinics and student life. PCOM Archivist Carol Benenson Perloff wrote the book, which includes a foreword by former US Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, MD. The book is dedicated to the late David Heilig, DO, ’44, professor emeritus of osteopathic manipulative medicine, who played a critical role in the research and writing of the book.

C. Everett Koop, MD, former US Surgeon General, penned the foreword of PCOM’s history book. He will attend the history book event on campus April 29.

Alumni can experience the College’s past on April 29 at a unique campus event, “A Walk Through History.” The cocktail reception, held during the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association convention, will showcase PCOM’s history with period costumes and displays. Also, the history book will be available for purchase.

Also at Founders Day, a new archival exhibit was unveiled in the Lotman Lobby of Evans Hall. The last in a series of three archival exhibits, PCOM Centennial, 1899-1999 highlights the College’s compelling history. It will be on display in the lobby through 1999.

PCOM’s Centennial calendar (at left) was a pleasant holiday surprise when it was mailed to alumni and friends of the College. The calendar showcases some of the events and people who have contributed to PCOM’s success in the past 100 years.
In their own words

Excerpted from the PCOM Archives oral history collection, prominent alumni share memories of their College days. First in a series of four articles.

Edwin Cressman, DO, '26, professor emeritus and former chairman, dermatology and professor, anatomy

On witnessing his first surgery:

“One of the first highlights... was seeing my first surgical procedure. And, in those days, before there were any antibiotics, if a child had an upper respiratory infection, mastoiditis was a complication that would occur in some of those children. And the mastoid would be infected. And when it was, the bone had to be opened by hammer and chisel to chisel a hole in the mastoid bone behind the ear. This was the first surgery that I saw. Just a tiny youngster, there on the table, and a surgeon with a hammer and a chisel going into his head, into the mastoid bone. I got up and left... But it wasn’t long before you overcome your inability to tolerate surgical procedures.”

On where he gained clinical training, besides the College’s hospital:

“We went to other colleges and their hospitals, and particularly Lankenau, because that was not associated with a college, and we were tolerated there. If we went to the University of Pennsylvania and the students discovered those DOs in the amphitheater, they chased them out. But we’d get chased and we’d come back again. We went over to Jefferson. They had a huge amphitheater there... But we would be escorted out by their students frequently and come back again. There were surgical and nonsurgical teaching clinics, and we went there to visit that amphitheater to hear some of the top-ranking physicians in the City of Philadelphia.”

On David S.B. Pennock, DO, MD:

Upon describing a “get-together” room at the Hospital where interns and physicians met and relaxed, Dr. Cressman remembers Dr. Pennock:

“He liked to come in there. In that room we would sometimes play cards, and we would have a penny ante game, you know? Poker, pennies. He was a very casual person... He would sit down there and join the game, play penny ante. A man who had the biggest practice in the Hospital was sitting playing penny ante with the interns... We called him Uncle.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 13-14</td>
<td>Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) National Meeting (PCOM is host)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8-10</td>
<td>Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) National Meeting (PCOM is host)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>“Race for the Cure” Survivors’ Luncheon, Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Philadelphia (PCOM is sole sponsor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>“A Walk Through History” cocktail reception featuring PCOM History Book, PCOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation “Race for the Cure,” Philadelphia (PCOM is a sponsor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 3-4</td>
<td>Centennial Pre-Commencement Educational Seminars, PCOM</td>
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<td>June 6</td>
<td>Commencement, Academy of Music, with speaker Elizabeth Dole</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 9-13</td>
<td>American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) Annual Meeting (PCOM is host)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 23-27</td>
<td>Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA), Wilmington, Del. (PCOM is a sponsor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25-27</td>
<td>PCOM Centennial Alumni/Survivors’ Weekend, Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 23</td>
<td>Convocation and Student Activity Center Dedication, PCOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Centennial Ball, Pennsylvania Convention Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 7-13</td>
<td>National Osteopathic Medicine Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 17</td>
<td>Internal Finale, PCOM</td>
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Centennial Commemorative Gifts

All commemorative items decorated with die struck PCOM medallion dated for centennial year celebration

Item #1
Polished black marble desk set; quartz clock with Roman numerals & sleek gold ballpoint pen; size: 5-3/4" x 3-1/2"; this item can be personalized with engraved brass nameplate for an additional $5.00.

Item #2
Polished black marble pyramid desk clock with Roman numerals; same classic design; size: 3-1/2" square base x 3-1/2" high; this item can be personalized with engraved brass nameplate for an additional $5.00.

Item #3
Polished black marble miniature quartz clock with Roman numerals; size: 2-3/8" x 2"; this item can be personalized with engraved brass nameplate for an additional $5.00.

Item #4
Cuff link set with PCOM die struck centennial medallion.

Item #5
Business card case; 24k gold plate with die struck centennial medallion.

Item #6
Letter opener; 24k gold plate with die struck centennial medallion.

Item #7
College seal playing card set; bridge size; packaged as double decks in burgundy & gold complete with black velour box decorated with centennial seal.

Item #8
Centennial year logo playing cards; bridge size; single set packaged in black velour box decorated with centennial seal.

Item #9
Burgundy leather and 24k plated brass coaster with die struck centennial medallion.

Item #10
Leather key fob with die struck centennial medallion.

TO ORDER CALL IMAGE INK at (610) 668-3668
Mildred C. Greif, DO, ’58, psychiatrist and role model, dies

Mildred C. Greif, DO, ’58 died June 21 at age 81. After graduating from PCOM, she practiced psychiatry with the Veterans Administration in Nevada and Pennsylvania. She was chief of psychiatry and mental health at the Veterans Administration Clinic in Las Vegas for many years. Dr. Greif was retired from practice and living in Del Mar, California. Her son, nephews and two of her brothers are DOs, all but one having graduated from PCOM: son, Elliott Turetzky, DO, ’68; brothers Donald Greif, DO, ’56 and Lawrence Greif, DO, ’50 (deceased); and nephews Jon Greif, DO, ’70 and Russell Greif, DO. She is also survived by a daughter and two other brothers. Her best, lifelong friend is Eleanor Masterson, DO, ’57, former PCOM director of clinics.

Before pursuing medicine, Dr. Greif practiced law in Monticello, NY and was later appointed assistant attorney general for the state of New York. A role model for women of her generation, she devoted her career to helping others.

Loyal admissions assistant, Paul Wetherill Jr., dies

Paul Wetherill Jr., admissions assistant, office of admissions and enrollment management, died October 15. A dedicated employee, he worked in the admissions office for almost 30 years, with a nearly perfect attendance record. Very active in his church, Wetherill was an avid reader of theology, politics and science fiction. He wrote science fiction stories and enjoyed working on his home computer system.

Memorial contributions may be directed to PCOM’s alumni relations and development office.

College mourns death of student in Arizona hiking accident; another student seriously injured

PCOM is deeply saddened by the tragic death of second-year student John Kearney, 23, who fell while hiking in Sedona, Arizona with friend and roommate Damean Freas, also a second-year student. After attending a conference of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine in Phoenix, the two students went on a hike in Oak Creek Canyon. After dark, they got lost and fell from a high cliff into a ravine. Freas was rescued three days later when a search team spotted a fire he set to alert them. He suffered a fractured leg, severe frostbite and other injuries. Kearney’s father had contacted Phoenix police when the pair did not arrive in Philadelphia as planned.

Kearney, a resident of Mount Cobb, Pa., was a work-study student in PCOM’s Anatomy department, where he was involved with a study on situational hypertension in the geriatric population. His work-study supervisor, David Cavanaugh, Instructor, says, “John was a decent, incredibly nice person – very positive, always smiling. He was very loyal to his friends and he never let anything bother him. He would have made a great doctor.”

He graduated from Wilkes University, where he received a bachelor’s in biology in 1997. He was on the dean’s list and served as a teaching assistant in biology and chemistry.

Memorial contributions can be made to the John D. Kearney Scholarship Fund, c/o First National Community Bank, 102 E. Drinker Street, Dunmore, Pa, 18512.
They're on their way!

The PCOM Alumni Directory is nearing completion and soon will be shipped. This comprehensive new volume is a compilation of the most current data on more than 9,000 PCOM alumni. Information was obtained through questionnaire mailings, telephone verification and alumni records. The directories are scheduled to be mailed in May 1999. Alumni who reserved a copy during the verification phase should receive the directory in early June. If you have a question about your order, or if you wish to place an order, please contact the publisher:

Customer Service Department
Bernard C. Harris Publishing Co., Inc.
16 Koger Center, Suite 103
Norfolk, Va. 23502
1-800-877-6554

Our new directory is an excellent way to get reacquainted with former PCOM colleagues. To those who returned their questionnaire – many thanks for your cooperation. To those who ordered a copy of the directory – enjoy. Thanks for your assistance with this project.

### Coming Events

**April 14-17**  
Annual Atlantic Regional Osteopathic Convention, New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons  
Harrah’s Casino and Resort, Atlantic City, NJ

**April 28-May 1**  
Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association Annual Clinical Assembly  
Adam’s Mark Hotel, Philadelphia

**April 29**  
“A Walk Through History” cocktail reception featuring PCOM History Book, PCOM

**May 9**  
The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation “Race for the Cure,” Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia (PCOM is a sponsor)

**May 19**  
College board of trustees meeting, Evans Hall

**June 5**  
Alumni association board meeting, Evans Hall

**June 6**  
Commencement, Academy of Music

**June 14**  

**June 18**  
Intern and resident commencement  
Evans Hall

**June 23-27**  
Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA), Wilmington, Del. (PCOM is a sponsor)

**June 25-27**  
PCOM Centennial Alumni/Survivors’ Weekend, Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center Hotel

**August 23**  
Convocation and Student Activity Center Dedication, PCOM

**October 9**  
Centennial Ball, Pennsylvania Convention Center