Her Challenge to Graduates

Elizabeth Dole urges PCOM graduates to make a lifelong commitment to public service.
At this year's Commencement, we experienced one of the highlights of our Centennial year: presidential hopeful Elizabeth Dole inspiring our graduates and wishing them well as they start their careers in medicine. Her charge to the graduates to pursue public service reflected the osteopathic profession's longstanding commitment to community service.

Not only was Mrs. Dole's presence truly exciting for the graduates and all of us at PCOM, but it also helped increase the College's visibility. Her visit resulted in an enormous amount of publicity in the media – on TV and radio, and in newspapers as far away as California.

A hearty congratulations to our graduates – may you enjoy careers that are professionally and personally fulfilling. We're very proud of all our graduates: 241 who earned the DO degree, 9 who received a master's in biomedical sciences and 3 alumni who earned a clinical master of science degree. This class is also special because it's the first one to include DO graduates who had completed PCOM's master's in biomedical sciences program before entering the DO program. Read more about Commencement beginning on page 2.

Our eventful year will soon culminate in the Centennial Ball, an extravaganza where all members of PCOM's extended family – alumni, students, employees, friends and supporters – will gather to wish the College a happy 100th birthday. We look forward to celebrating this milestone in PCOM's history with you.

Our Centennial year might be winding down, but the activity level at PCOM is soaring. Many exciting new developments are occurring as we approach the new millennium. The much-anticipated Student Activity Center and the new, expanded Roxborough Healthcare Center will be completed by the time you read this. Now we are setting our sights on renovating our Lancaster Avenue Healthcare Center.

Back on campus, we continue to emphasize research and other scholarly activity among our faculty. We are pleased to announce that two new faculty, Drs. Brian Balin and Denah Appelt, received a grant from the National Institutes of Health for their Alzheimer's disease research.

Also, as reported in our last Digest message, we are actively seeking a new president. Our presidential search committee will start advertising for the position this fall, and we expect to have a candidate in place by early 2000.

Again, we offer best wishes to our graduates. We hope to see you, and many more of our alumni, at the Centennial Ball.

Sincerely,

Herbert Lotman, LLD (hon.)
Chairman of the Board

Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59
President and CEO
FEATURES

COMMENCEMENT '99
The Class of 1999, excited and relieved, received their degrees and heard words of wisdom from speaker Elizabeth Dole. Graduates Maria Hoertz, DO and Kerry Scott, DO are profiled. Also, DO graduates share how PCOM's master's in biomedical sciences program set them on a path toward realizing their dreams.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT: PCOM CENTENNIAL (Third in a series of four) PCOM's history continues with highlights from 1949 to 1974, and Arnold Gerber, DO, '40 and Samuel L. Caruso, DO, '47 reminisce about PCOM and the profession.

THE LEVIN LEGACY
Pioneers during PCOM's first 100 years, the Levin family made a lasting mark on the College, as well as on the osteopathic medical profession.

TODAY'S RECRUITMENT CHALLENGES
With medical school applications declining nationwide, PCOM is prepared with a strategic plan to attract students. Associate dean for admissions and enrollment management Carol A. Fox shares insights into the College's recruitment efforts.

DEPARTMENTS

PROFILES
Board of trustees member Lewis H. Gold, Esq. and alumni board member Carol L. Henwood-Dahdah, DO, '83 are featured.

PCOM UPDATES
New Roxborough Healthcare Center opens; College receives several grants; PCOM student body includes world champion skateboarder; alumni office reaches out to students.

MISSION MILESTONES
Donations to The PCOM Mission help fund new scholarships; stones in Donor Garden still available; employee contributions boost mission.

CLASS NOTES
What's new with our alumni.
On June 6, families and friends beamed with pride as 241 graduates received their DO degrees at the Academy of Music. Also receiving degrees were 9 students who earned a master’s in biomedical sciences and 3 alumni who earned a clinical master of science degree.

Those gathered at the Academy heard the inspiring words of Elizabeth Dole, former president of the American Red Cross and potential US presidential candidate. (See next page for more details on Dole’s remarks.)

Following the ceremony, 18 graduates were commissioned as officers in the military: 10 in the Army, 5 in the Navy and 3 in the Air Force.

Walter S. Cegiowski, PhD, professor and chairman, microbiology/immunology from 1992 to 1998 and Ida C. Schmidt, DO, ’35, associate professor, osteopathic principles and practice, were each named professor emeritus.

The “Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching” was presented to Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, ’77, associate dean for primary care education and professor of family medicine.

**PCOM interns and residents graduate**

At a ceremony June 18 in PCOM’s Ginsburg Amphitheater, 59 interns and 58 residents graduated. Kathleen E. Heer, DO and Steven G. Eisenberg, DO received the “Emanuel Fliegelman, DO Award”; Dena Wilson Thayer, DO received the “H. Jeffrey Tourigian Memorial Scholarship Award”; and David Kuo, DO received the “Vickers Foundation Award.” Also, PCOM’s affiliated teaching hospitals presented many interns and residents with awards in their specialty areas.
Elizabeth Dole, former president of the American Red Cross and potential US presidential candidate, gave an inspiring speech to the Class of '99. She emphasized several key points during her remarks:

**On national health issues...**

Dole stressed the need for easily accessible and affordable healthcare for all Americans. She said that primary and preventive care are often neglected in the current system, and that there are too many children and families without health insurance. Dole said that, if elected president, she would call on Washington to double the funding for the National Institutes of Health over the next five years. “We must address the inefficiencies in the health care system by expanding coverage and stimulating competition and choice,” Dole said. “We must ensure that physicians and other health care providers have the freedom and flexibility to provide the best possible care.” She also called upon PCOM graduates to “make sure that the health concerns of women and other often-excluded groups are represented fully and fairly in our major medical studies.”

**On public service...**

Dole said that although she believes that many young people have become disillusioned and are cynical about public service, she is certain that it is critical to our society. “I truly believe that it is service to the public that brings out the best in ourselves,” Dole said. She encouraged PCOM graduates to “make a commitment to public service in whatever form it takes for you ... physician, citizen, volunteer, leader or all of these.”

**On responsibility...**

Dole said that graduates have a special responsibility because they will shape our culture, our institutions and our world. “Medical professionals bring healing and hope to our country’s most vulnerable people,” she said. Dole also stressed that PCOM graduates will serve as role models for future generations. “Your medical skill is not the only way you will save lives,” said Dole. “You will also save lives through the example you set as a mentor and role model.”

**Dole’s career at a glance**

- Graduated with distinction from Duke University
- Holds master’s degree in education and government from Harvard University
- Received law degree from Harvard Law School
- Served five years as a member of the Federal Trade Commission
- Joined President Reagan’s cabinet as secretary of transportation in 1983 (Dole was the first woman to hold that position)
- Named secretary of labor in 1989
- Served as president of the American Red Cross
ad always pulled out the splinters and spooned out the medicine. Mom said he should have been a doctor. And that planted the seed in one daughter’s mind that would grow into a lifelong yearning to become a physician, a dream fulfilled this year when, at age 45, Maria Hoertz received her medical degree from PCOM.

It’s been a long road. Along the way, Maria met a special DO who influenced her to become an osteopathic physician, and she earned a master’s degree in public health from Temple University. But all that waited until she had raised her children.

Oldest of five daughters, Maria married at age 18 and settled down to care for a family. When her son and daughter were in elementary school and Maria was 30, she knew it was time for her to start college. Living in Texas then, she attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, earning a bachelor’s degree with honors in biology and chemistry, followed by another bachelor’s with honors in science education. “I thought teaching would be a good career that would allow me to raise my children,” she says. “I wanted to go to medical school, but didn’t think it would be practical while my children were still in school.”

After one year as a science educator for court-adjudicated high school students and another as an analytical chemist in the oil industry, Maria began teaching science at the Scotland School for Veterans’ Children in Chambersburg, Pa. That’s where she confronted the raging hormones and infamous testing behaviors of junior high students. “I enjoyed teaching, but I think it was the seventh graders who did me in,” she recalls, laughing. “I will always be grateful for my seventh grade class because they were the ones who reminded me that I really wanted to go into medicine! I decided that when I was 40 years old, I would be ready to go to medical school.”

To prepare, Maria started taking graduate courses at Wilson College in Chambersburg, where she also taught math classes and worked as a counselor for the college’s program for single parents.
During that time, she had an experience that pointed the way to PCOM. She met Deanne Endy, DO, '86, a family physician with a practice in Hummelstown, Pa., through a program for prospective medical students offered by Community General Osteopathic Hospital in Harrisburg.

The experience gave her two important insights about being a physician: "That I really wanted to do it and that it was a lot harder work than I had expected," Maria says. "The responsibility to patients was not something you could turn off at the end of the day."

Indeed, Maria credits Dr. Endy for her resolve to become a DO. "She gave me the map to City Avenue," Maria says. "She has always been the ideal family physician in my mind. I wanted to be like her. She was my mentor."

Through Dr. Endy, Maria was introduced to Charlotte Greene, PhD, PCOM professor of biomedical sciences, whom she describes as her "hero." To participate in research with Dr. Greene, Maria began commuting from Chambersburg to Philadelphia. She took her MCATs and took the plunge — applying for admission to PCOM.

Meanwhile, Maria went to Honduras for two weeks with a group from her church, volunteering to assist physicians working with the Christian Medical and Dental Society. "The only thing I knew how to do was sterilize instruments and help set up a laboratory," she says. "It was the first time I assisted in surgery."

When she returned from Honduras, she learned she had been accepted by PCOM. "I started to cry," she says. "Really, the privilege of being allowed to train is an astounding thing to me."

Maria, who enrolled in PCOM's joint DO/MPH program, also began pursuing a master's in public health at Temple. "People said 'are you crazy?' but one of the things I've always loved to do is develop programs — the brainstorming, the problem-solving," she says. "What the master's program did for me is expand my awareness of all the things that go into the health care system today."

In addition to a family practice, which she is pursuing through PCOM's family medicine internship/residency program at Parkview Hospital, Maria wants to continue to be part of research and program development. She feels the two disciplines are complementary. "The responsibility of a family physician is not only for the health of her individual patients, but also for the health of her patient population," she says. "People are becoming much more knowledgeable about health issues, and that is a direct result of health education programs."

This past summer, Maria's daughter, Miranda, 25, graduated from Towson University in Baltimore with a bachelor's degree in international business, finance and economics, and her son Kenneth, 22, graduated from Arizona State University, Tempe, with a bachelor's in aviation management.

So, just like her children, Maria is starting a new career. She chose family medicine in part because of the flexibility to adapt her practice over the years — not a minor consideration for someone who says she intends never to retire. But there is something more behind it. "Family medicine is unique in that you have the honor of caring for families," she says. "People have such drama in their lives. To be admitted to that drama is a commitment, a responsibility and also a privilege."
Among the talk at Meridian High School's upcoming reunion will no doubt be the fact that Kerry Scott, DO, '99, delivered a high school classmate's baby when he was home doing an OB/GYN rotation last year. Perhaps Kerry will even have the opportunity to care for that young family when he returns one day to his hometown in Mississippi to start a family practice.

Kerry has planned for a career in medicine since he was in high school, although earlier it seemed that he would become an entrepreneur. "Everybody thought I was going into business because I was always organizing one," he says. "My first little enterprise was when I was 10 or 11, selling Sunshine greeting cards to neighbors. Some of the kids in the neighborhood were my employees." In college, he started Creations, a novelty gift and fashion business that used both his talent in fine arts and his practical sewing skills.

But his businesses were always sidelines on the path to medical school. Growing up in a small city of 50,000, Kerry has had several mentors in the medical profession, including the family's doctor, Terry French, DO. Another is Romyne Purvis, MD, an OB/GYN who came to Meridian, a physician shortage area, with the National Health Service Corps. "He was the only minority OB/GYN in town," Kerry says. "From him I learned what I would need to do to get into medical school, and what the study process would entail. To this day he has still been there for me."

The community's access to healthcare is improving, and Kerry is eager to contribute to that progress. "I am definitely hoping to come back here and set up a family practice," he says. "There is a lot that needs to be done. I have worked in the community since I was young, and I think family medicine is the best outlet for me to help the community through mentoring and role modeling. That's a big thing on my agenda."

A positive influence for kids

While Kerry was an undergraduate at Dillard University in New Orleans majoring in biology, he was among five
Role Modeling is High on His Agenda

Kerry Scott

Kerry Scott, DO and his family gather in front of the Academy of Music after Commencement. Left to right are his father, Zebbie Scott Jr.; mother, Dianne Scott; Kerry and brother, Reggie Scott.

Co-founders of an organization called African American Males. "We went into the inner city and worked with kids ages 7 to 15, taking them to different colleges and letting them sit in on classes, teaching them what they needed to do to get into college," he says. For doing his part, Kerry received the "National Youth Service Award" from President Clinton in 1993.

Kerry says young people need role models in business and professional careers. "There are not many positive minority male role models in the community," he explains. "When I was growing up my father was one of the best. He always laid a straight path for me to walk. A lot of what kids see are the rap stars and basketball players, not many business people and professionals. I think I have a lot of responsibility ahead of me."

After college, Kerry spent two years working in retail sales and as a biology instructor and tutor at Meridian Community College to earn money for medical school. At first, he applied to medical schools in the South. "I wasn't too keen about moving too far from home, and my family didn't want me to go too far," he says. "Then I got information about PCOM and I was very impressed, so I applied here. PCOM was the only school I ever applied to where the minority recruiter would call every other week just to tell me to keep my fingers crossed. No other school was as responsive."

Kerry's good feelings about PCOM grew during his admissions interview. "The other schools were like a firing line," he says. "But everything at PCOM was laid back, and I was really comfortable. They were interested in the kind of person I am."

Three days before Christmas he received the acceptance letter. "It was one of the best gifts I ever got," he says. "The same day a friend took me to a casino to celebrate. I was on cloud nine. I dropped three quarters into a machine, without much interest in playing, and hit the jackpot. It paid for my acceptance fee."

Community Involvement

While at PCOM, Kerry resolved to concentrate on his studies and avoid too many extra activities. "But somehow I still got involved," he says. "The first year I worked with a program called Bridging the Gaps and designed a program for elderly black women with diabetes. We set up education and preventive care programs in senior centers in North Philadelphia. So it is not surprising that PCOM presented Kerry with the "Outstanding Minority Student Award" in his third year.

Kerry also found time to sing in the male chorus of New Bethel AME Church in Philadelphia. "I've sung in the church choir since I was a little kid," he says. "My father and I also are members of the male chorus in my hometown United Methodist church." He even sang the benediction at PCOM Commencement.

Now he is beginning a family medicine internship at St. Joseph's Hospital in North Philadelphia working with A. Scott McNeal, DO, '88. "Being a minority DO is going to make a big difference in the community," notes Kerry.
As an undergraduate at Penn State University, Patrick Gilhool was a business major. Although he was doing well enough, he was bored with the subject matter. In his junior year, he considered the fact that his brother, James (DO, '95), was a student at PCOM and thought, "If he can do it, so can I."

By the end of his senior year, Patrick had completed all his premedical requirements and taken the MCATs. He applied to PCOM. "I had the pre­requisites, but the minimum, and my MCAT scores were not high. Naturally, I didn't get in," recalls Patrick, of Havertown, Pa.

Then he learned about PCOM's new graduate program in biomedical sciences, a master's program designed to help students with baccalaureate degrees prepare for admission to medical and other professional schools in the health fields. Patrick applied for the program and was among the 35 students accepted for the premier class in fall 1993.

In June 1999, Patrick and three classmates - Catherine Maturo, John Spitalieri and Pamela Tedesco, who earlier had earned their master's degrees in biomedical sciences from PCOM - received their DO degrees.

"This year was a milestone," noted Richard M. Kriebel, PhD, assistant dean of curriculum and research and director of the master's program in biomedical sciences. "These are the first DO graduates who had previously received their master's in biomedical sciences degree at PCOM."

Patrick was typical of many students who apply to the biomedical sciences program. "The typical biomed student is one who, perhaps later in his or her undergraduate career, became serious about medicine," Dr. Kriebel explains. "These are students who have completed their premed requirements and have done well academically, but they do not have all the attributes of a competitive medical school applicant, including high MCATs and high GPAs. Here they are submerged into the biomedical sciences. They have an opportunity to demonstrate that they can excel in these areas, that they can handle the information on a graduate level and be successful in medical school."

The first year's courses, similar in many respects to the first year of medical school, emphasize biomedical concepts, including human anatomy, physiology, medical biochemistry, microbiology, pathology, neuroscience and pharmacology, with all instruction provided by PCOM medical school faculty. The second year (and, if necessary, subsequent years) emphasizes original research culminating in a master's thesis. "All the basic science chairs strongly supported the idea that the master's thesis be based on research leading to new information rather than be a library-based thesis," Dr. Kriebel says. "For those who go on to medical school, their research experience here will enhance their opportunity to secure a good residency program."

For Patrick, who is beginning an internship at Community Hospital in Lancaster, Pa., and plans to practice family medicine in a rural area, the program was just what he needed. "It gave me a huge head start for medical school," he says. It also gave Patrick the opportunity to co-author a research paper based on his work with Camille DiLullo, PhD, assistant professor, anatomy, comparing patterns of cellular adhesion molecules in cardiac and skeletal muscle.

Completion of the master's degree is no guarantee that a student will be accepted into PCOM or any other medical school. "Application and admission to the PCOM DO program are altogether independent of the biomedical sciences program," Dr. Kriebel notes.

Nevertheless, participation in the program can strengthen a student's candidacy for professional school. "Any additional coursework or programs that applicants take after graduation will certainly help to enhance their credentials for acceptance to medical school, be it PCOM or any other professional school," notes Carol A. Fox, associate dean for admissions and enrollment management.

Patrick Gilhool, DO is hooded on stage at Commencement June 6.
Pamela Tedesco, DO is congratulated by her mother and father after the ceremony.
Like Patrick, Pamela Tedesco chose to complete her master’s degree before applying to medical school. As an undergraduate at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., with a dual major in psychology and art, Pamela was interested in medicine but realized she would need additional background in the biomedical sciences. So she applied to the program at PCOM. “The first year was very challenging, but great preparation for medical school,” she says. “The professors treated us as though we were medical students and applied what we were learning to clinical settings. I thought another year would be even more beneficial, plus I could do research and get published.”

And, in fact, Pamela is co-author of a published paper based on research with Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, ’77, associate dean for primary care education and professor of family medicine, on the use of indirect calorimetry to measure basal metabolic rate and identify the nutritional needs of patients with diseases such as hypoglycemia.

Pamela’s experience at PCOM also deepened her interest in becoming an osteopathic physician. “Originally I applied both to MD and DO schools, but after being at PCOM and seeing the students and physicians, I really believed in the osteopathic approach to medicine,” she says. Now the Havertown resident is beginning an internship at St. Joseph’s Community Hospital in Reading, Pa., and plans to practice family medicine.

But medical, dental or another professional school certainly isn’t the goal of every student. In fact, the biomedical sciences program can meet the needs of other students interested in a graduate level program emphasizing a broad background in human structure and function.

“What I would like to see happen with this program is to open it up more for students who are not necessarily interested in pursuing a professional degree,” says Dr. Kriebel. “For example, community college teachers in allied health fields who would like to have additional exposure to biomedical sciences and research would gain a great deal from this program.”

Those who have earned the master’s degree can foresee its long-term benefits. “I think it definitely made me a more well-rounded person,” says Pamela. “Also I appreciate the research aspect of medicine, and I think there is a need for more osteopathic research.”

Ultimately, earning the master’s in biomedical sciences has a lot to say about a person’s character. “I think the key word is commitment,” explains Dr. Kriebel. “When you are doing research you can spend a lot of hours questioning what you are doing, going down the wrong roads, never with a guarantee that you will get any information back. The students achieving the master’s degree for original research – all of them – should feel that this is a pinnacle accomplishment.”
Lewis H. Gold, Esq. has always been fascinated by people working together to achieve consensus. Perhaps that is the common thread that runs through many of his interests, including his law career, his avid reading of biographies and history, particularly of the Civil War era, and his service as a member of the board of trustees of PCOM and other health care and educational institutions.

President of the Philadelphia law firm of Adelman, Lavine, Gold and Levin, PC, where he has built his career for 33 years, Gold says he finds each case interesting. "The satisfaction I get out of practicing law has nothing to do with the magnitude or significance of the case," he says. In fact, he refuses to identify his most significant cases because he says it would appear to diminish the others.

Gold is involved in all aspects of the firm's practice, including commercial litigation, corporate law and bankruptcy law. He loves "the challenge of trying to resolve whatever differences people might have and getting them together to agree on a solution."

After earning his law degree from Villanova Law School in 1962, Gold was selected for US Attorney General Robert Kennedy's honors program at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC, where he worked in litigation on behalf of federal agencies. In 1966 he joined his present law firm, which at that time was Adelman and Lavine.

Every case, Gold says, takes legal knowledge, experience and more: "Patience, understanding of everybody's point of view, compromise and tenacity, and a willingness to be available at all times to accomplish the purpose."

One could say the same about the qualities needed to serve the interests of a health care or educational institution as a board member. In 1995, Gold joined PCOM's board of trustees. "I feel good about PCOM's direction in the osteopathic areas of primary care and community service," he says. "I'm proud to be associated with an institution that has that emphasis."

Also vice chairman of the board of the Philadelphia Geriatric Center, Gold is co-chair of its medical committee and medical ethics subcommittee. "Among other things, medical ethics deals with preserving the self-respect and dignity of people who are failing, either physically or mentally," he says.

"I feel good about PCOM's direction in the osteopathic areas of primary care and community service."

A 1959 graduate of Penn State University, Gold is past-president and a member of its College of Liberal Arts' Alumni Society board. He also serves on the executive board of the Alumni Council, the governing body of Penn State's Alumni Association. He resides in Jenkintown with his wife, Karen, who teaches mathematics at Penn State-Abington campus. They have two children: Sara, who practices law in Washington, DC, and Judith, a social worker at Jefferson Hospital.

Gold sees a bright future for PCOM. He believes the osteopathic emphasis on primary care for the whole person and being a part of the community is appealing in the age of managed care and cost-consciousness. "PCOM's training, including the expanded and innovative programs, courses and clinical opportunities, addresses the health care issues of the 21st century," says Gold. "I'm optimistic about the long-term presence and impact of PCOM."
1949 1974

PCOM: The next 25 years

This article, third in a series of four, continues PCOM's history from the previous Centennial Supplement in Digest, No. 2, 1999. For a comprehensive look at the College's history, see PCOM's 100-year history book, To Secure Merit: A Century of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In the previous article on PCOM's history, we left off at the College's 50th anniversary, 1949. That year was also the osteopathic profession's 75th anniversary. Around this time, a new leader came forward: Frederic H. Barth. By the end of 1949, he was head of both the College and Hospital boards.

Clinical training emphasized

A major shift in the curriculum occurred in the early '50s, when the College expanded clinical training opportunities, especially for fourth-year students. This was due to the increased number of medical and surgical subspecialties that emerged at that time. Changes at PCO included starting clinical training in the second year, extending the daily clinical schedule in the 48th Street Outpatient Department and appointing more part-time clinical faculty.

To further meet the demand for more clinical training, the College formed affiliations with other hospitals, following the lead of the Chicago College of Osteopathy. Ralph L. Fisher, DO, '21, chairman, department of osteopathic medicine, approached Dean Otterbein Dressler with this new idea in medical education. PCO students started rotating at Riverview (now Suburban General) Hospital in Norristown, Pa., and Lancaster Osteopathic Hospital, and eventually rotated through Riverside Hospital in Wilmington, Del.

In 1951, PCO acquired Women's Homeopathic Hospital at 20th Street and Susquehanna Avenue, making it into a satellite facility called North Center Hospital. With a bed capacity of over 400 in its 48th Street Hospital and North Center Hospital, PCO had the largest teaching facility in the osteopathic medical profession. The same year, PCO received the first grant in the osteopathic profession from the Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health—$45,000 to improve cancer training.

In 1952, the theory and practice of osteopathic manipulative medicine were formally combined in a new department of osteopathic principles and techniques (renamed osteopathic principles and practice (OPP) in 1958). The first chair of this department was David Heilig, DO, '44, who went on to teach at the College for 54 years. Integrating the two areas actually started in the 1948-49 academic year, in response to faculty such as Frederick A. Long, DO, '24, professor of osteopathic principles, who advocated teaching theory alongside practice. By this time, Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO had joined the department. He went on to lead the profession in the teaching of OPP and to chair PCOM's OPP department from 1973 to 1987.
PCO was a pioneer in teaching technology in 1954, when the College installed the first closed-circuit TV system in the East for medical training. This set-up, which consisted of cameras in the Hospital televising activities into the classrooms, was especially helpful in teaching surgery.

**Specialty training expands, new courses offered**

In the early '50s, Arthur Flack Jr., DO, '33, chairman of surgery, expanded training to include cardiac and thoracic surgery. Then, in the mid-60s, Henry D’Alonzo, DO, '51, led the osteopathic profession in vascular surgery by implanting the first cardiac pacemaker and performing the first successful operation on a ruptured aortic aneurysm. He would go on to teach surgery at the College for over 40 years.

In the early '60s, PCO received a cardiovascular training grant from the National Heart Institute, a division of the US Public Health Service, to expand training in cardiovascular diseases. This further increased clinical training opportunities at the College. At this time, Dean Sherwood Mercer added two courses to give students a more well-rounded education: "History of Medicine and Osteopathy," which had been part of the Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP) curriculum, and "Public Relations and Professional Economics."

In 1967, the College changed its name to Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM). The same year, a
1964

The Beatles appear on the Ed Sullivan Show for the first time.

1965-73

US forces fight in the Vietnam War.

1967

World's first successful human heart transplant occurs.

1968

The Frederic H. Barth Pavilion of the Hospitals of PCOM opens on the former Men Estate on City Avenue.

1969

US astronauts become first people to walk on the moon.

1970

Philadelphia Phillies play final game at Shibe Park.

1974

After the Watergate scandal, Richard M. Nixon becomes the first US president to resign.

1974

Barth steps down as president to become College chancellor, and Thomas M. Rowland Jr. is named PCOM's fourth president.

1954

The College installs the first closed-circuit TV system in the East for training purposes. Students in classrooms could view procedures and surgeries that were occurring in the Hospital.

1967

During the Vietnam War, DOs are drafted to serve in the military as commissioned officers in the Medical Corps alongside MDs for the first time. Alumni such as Ronald R. Blanch, DO, '67, start their military careers at this time.

1973

PCOM moves to City Avenue. The College's academic building is named after H. Walter Evans, DO, '17, professor of obstetrics, for all his contributions to the College.

1999

milestone in the profession occurred when osteopathic physicians were drafted as medical officers during the Vietnam War alongside MDs.

In the early '70s, PCOM implemented substantial reforms to further emphasize clinical education earlier in the curriculum. To provide more opportunities for clinical training, the College opened Laporte Medical Center in rural Sullivan County, Pa. in 1970. Three years later, the center doubled its volume and branched out in areas such as school health care, maternal health and continuing medical education for local physicians.

PCOM moves to City Avenue

Again, PCOM needed a larger facility, a common theme in the College's history. This time, space was needed to accommodate bigger classes and the more technologically advanced equipment of modern medicine.

Frederic H. Barth, who had been president since 1957, stepped down in 1974 and was named College chancellor. Thomas M. Rowland Jr., then executive vice president, became PCOM's fourth president. He had served several positions at the College, including registrar and director of admissions. He would go on to become one of the most beloved and respected leaders in the College's history.

PCOM's history will continue in the next Digest Centennial supplement, which will feature the last 25 years, 1974 to 1999.
Dole speaks at Commencement

Presidential hopeful Elizabeth Dole, former president of the American Red Cross, gave PCOM's Centennial Commencement June 6 a festive flair. Her rousing speech hit home with graduates. She emphasized the importance of physicians and other health care providers having the freedom and flexibility to provide the best possible care.

Dole noted that primary and preventive care are often neglected in the current system, and she stressed the need for accessible and affordable health care for all Americans. She also said that, if elected president, she would work to double the funding for the National Institutes of Health over the next five years. For more coverage of Dole's speech, see this issue of Digest (1999, Vol. 3) page 5.

The College was thrilled to receive such extensive media coverage of our Commencement. Along with local television and print coverage, stories ran in newspapers across Pennsylvania and as far away as Florida, Texas and Arkansas.

Alumni/Survivors’ Dinner Dance “takes off” in Atlantic City

Many alumni and “survivors” of PCOM’s internship and residency programs enjoyed this year’s dinner dance, which featured the theme “The Millennium: An Osteopathic Odyssey.” The event, held June 26 at the Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center, was part of a weekend of activities that included continuing medical education programs. At the dinner dance, numerous graduating interns and residents received awards.
PCOM hosts AACOM

PCOM was proud to host the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) June 9-13. More than 100 members representing all 19 colleges were on campus to attend a variety of meetings and events. It marked the first time the different AACOM sectors met at the same place: the deans, financial aid directors, student services/admissions directors, development officers, public relations directors and fiscal offi-

cers. These meetings will now be held annually at a different college of osteopathic medicine.

PCOM held an evening reception June 9 to welcome the AACOM members to the College. To give the guests a flavor of Philadelphia, a Mummers' string band performed and “Ben Franklin” was on hand to greet and mingle. Throughout the week, guests were treated to traditional Philadelphia treats such as soft pretzels, water ice and Tastykakes.
Excerpted from the PCOM Archives oral history collection, prominent alumni share memories of their medical school days. Third in a series of four articles.

Arnold Gerber, DO, ’40, former chairman of surgery and chairman of orthopedic surgery

On the development of orthopedics as a specialty:
“Up until 1940, most orthopedic procedures, such as reconstruction, fracture treatment, bone tumors, were handled by the general surgeon. There were a few areas where there was specification with a man who denoted himself an orthopedist. Their major impact on healing arts at the time was directing their attention to the treatment of post-polio deformities, a variety of the neurological disorders that brought in paralysis or spasticity, and congenital deformities. Orthopedics began to develop as a well-recognized specialty in the early ’40s . . . By 1950, it was a well-established specialty all over the country.”

On Dean Dressler and Dr. Eaton
“I really owe my career to the motivation instilled by these two men that I mentioned – Otterbein Dressler and Eaton.”

On Otterbein Dressler, DO, ’28, former professor of pathology and PCOM dean:
“Dr. Otterbein Dressler, who was professor of pathology and pathologist to the Hospital . . . was a very exciting type of lecturer. . . He really, I guess, had an initial impact on almost all the students. He was an excellent teacher. A very well-prepared type of lecturer. He never used notes. He had total recall. I really mimicked him as I progressed in my career.”

On James M. Eaton, DO, ’28, former chairman of surgery and the College’s first chairman of orthopedic surgery:
“The first real orthopedist was Eaton here . . . I expressed an interest to work with him as an assistant, and his response was, ‘We’re starting a department of orthopedics, so we’ll start together.’ Patients would swear by him because he just came over as if you were the only person in his life, and gave a tremendous charismatic feeling to the individual that he’s going to get well . . . He’d buy any new instrument that came along, willing to try anything new . . . He developed a residency program, turned out many men . . . There are orthopedists practicing now . . . they’re the great-grandchildren, really, of Eaton.”
Samuel L. Caruso, DO, ’47, former chairman of pediatrics

On how osteopathic physicians were perceived:

“In the 1940s and 1950s, to about the middle 1950s, that (the DO degree) was always correlated with a person who gave ‘physio-therapy or massage treatments,’ which, of course, isn’t what it entailed. But in the 1950s, the federal government started to elevate them, and the patients started to appreciate the fact that DOs were much more than just massage doctors for osteopathic treatment. They just were a total doctor. Which I think today is a lot more extant.”

On the pediatrics unit at City Avenue Hospital:

“On how osteopathic physicians were perceived:
The building of City Line Avenue was a Godsend to our profession, and it certainly put our name on City Line Avenue, and we were fortunate that we bought the land. We owned all that land. Then we sold four acres to WFIL, and we used that money to help reinvigorate the Hospital and help the College. But it was a time of building and booming in the community and we were part of it, thank heavens.”

On advances in medicine during the '40s and '50s:

“The development of antibiotics was a Godsend to the pediatricians at the time . . . Second of all, the ability to help diagnose cases with much more advanced techniques we learned post-war . . . If we had a certain patient who had, we’ll say, an intestinal problem – we would have to do kidney x-rays first, then intestinal x-rays to see if it was kidney or if it wasn’t. You see, there were many more ideas we had to entertain prior to making a diagnosis, and part of your decision-making process was to go through a list of things that you had to eliminate.

And, of course, with the newer techniques, the newer forms of treatments, the newer antibiotics, they helped us a great deal. The vaccines were invaluable. The whooping cough, tetanus, diphtheria vaccines, then the development of oral polio.”

On choosing an osteopathic medical school:

“I thought osteopathic medicine had more opportunities to offer than the medical profession . . . I felt that osteopathic medicine seemed to have more of a flowering attitude that allowed the person to develop.”
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 .................................................. $57.75

Polished black marble quartz 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 .................................................. $43.75

Polished black marble miniature quartz clock with Roman numerals; size: 2-3/8" x 2-3/4"; this item can be personalized with engraved brass nameplate for an additional $5.00 .................................................. $35.00

Cuff link set with PCOM die struck centennial medallion .................................................. $17.50

Business card case; 24k gold plate with die struck centennial medallion .................................................. $17.50

Letter opener; 24k gold plate with die struck centennial medallion .................................................. $14.50

College seal playing card set; bridge size; packaged as double decks in burgundy & gold complete with black velour box decorated with centennial seal .................................................. $13.00

Centennial year logo playing cards; bridge size; single set packaged in black velour box decorated with centennial seal .................................................. $13.00

Burgundy leather and 24k plated brass coaster with die struck centennial medallion .................................................. $12.50

Leather key fob with die struck centennial medallion .................................................. $5.95

Mini umbrella with auto open/close; wine with college seal .................................................. $15.00

Expandable briefbag with filing compartment, organizer pockets, padded detachable shoulder strap; black with embroidered PCOM logo .................................................. $40.00

Champagne flutes, lead crystal with etched college seal; packaged in commemorative gift box .................................................. $35.00

TO ORDER CALL IMAGE INK at (610) 668-3668
As a family practitioner, Carol L. Henwood-Dahdah, DO, '83, conjures the image of an old-fashioned country doctor. She hugs her patients at the end of each visit. She talks of caring for five generations of one family - from "the nursery to the nineties." But lest your vision stop there, look again. You'll see a doctor unraveling the intricacies of managed care and breaking ground as the first woman president of the PCOM Alumni Association Board.

Building on a family tradition, Dr. Henwood-Dahdah has created a career based on caring, continuity and growth. Her father, William R. Henwood, DO, '76, a PCOM regional assistant dean, started the tradition. She and her siblings, Jon Henwood, DO, '90, and Maria Henwood, DO, '97, are continuing it.

Dr. Henwood-Dahdah doesn't feel that PCOM was the best place for her to train as a family physician; she believes it was the only place. "The philosophy of caring for the whole body was like coming home. "I believe in the idea of the laying on of hands," continues Dr. Henwood-Dahdah. "Manipulative medicine is a wonderful adjunct to the medicines of today. In addition to prescribing anti-inflammatory drugs and muscle relaxants, the laying on of hands returns normalcy to the spine and accelerates the healing process. But it's more than manipulative medicine. The idea is to go into a room and take the patient's hand in yours, to touch them in some way. No matter how you communicate it, the personal touch may be 50 percent of the solution some days. Just letting your patients know you care about them - it's all part of the osteopathic philosophy."

When she's not seeing patients, Dr. Henwood-Dahdah is, among other things, working through the managed care maze. For the past three years, she has served as chair of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) Managed Care Task Force. "Our main goal is physician education. The more you know about the rules of the game, the better you can play. And with managed care, the rules are constantly changing. "Medicine is not an easy field to practice in the managed care arena," she reports. "But managed care has also made family practice a stronger discipline. We fill the role of gatekeepers, and patients have come to recognize their family physician as someone who can care for the person as a whole."

As PCOM Alumni Association president for 2000, Dr. Henwood-Dahdah will use her position to make the institution she loves even stronger, and she challenges other board members to do likewise. "I feel PCOM has given so much to each of us that we really have a duty and responsibility to give something back," she emphasizes. "We can do that by being involved in the Alumni Association and by mentoring future osteopathic physicians. I would also like to charge the board to increase the membership of the Alumni Association and to make it even stronger."

In addition to her PCOM and POMA commitments, Dr. Henwood-Dahdah is president of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society and chairman of the board of Pottstown Family Care, the primary care affiliate of the Pottstown Regional Healthcare Network. She also serves on the board of the local YMCA and is campaign chairman for a community wellness initiative involving the YMCA.

One of her greatest accomplishments, insists Dr. Henwood-Dahdah, is her ability to serve as a role model to other women. "I'd like to be able to show women from all walks of life that they can, through hard work, reach places of rank and decision-making. And with approximately 40 percent of PCOM's incoming class comprised of women, it's more important than ever for women to get involved."

So, does Dr. Henwood-Dahdah want to be remembered as the first woman president of the Alumni Association? "I would rather be remembered," she concludes, "as a good Alumni Association president than a good female Alumni Association president."

Dr. Henwood-Dahdah lives in Pottstown, Pa. with her husband, John, a podiatrist and their 13-year-old son, John.
The Levin Legacy: Pioneers During PCOM’s First 100 Years

They were part of a family dedicated to helping other people as well as each other. Six Levin brothers grew up during the Great Depression, each dreaming of a career in medicine. Through hard work, determination and a passion for healing, three made the dream come true.

Abraham, Samuel and Jacob attended the college together in the 1930s. Thus began the Levin family’s long and enduring association with PCOM, spanning almost seven decades. Each brother contributed in his own way to a family legacy of caring and giving to students, patients and the College. At the same time, they pioneered new ideas that had a permanent influence on PCOM as well as the osteopathic profession.

The road to PCOM wasn’t easy. The cost of a medical education was especially formidable during the Depression. So Abe went into dentistry while Sam and Jack became pharmacists. But their hearts were still in healing. Together, they worked and gathered enough funds for all three to go to PCOM. Here are their stories.

Abraham N. Levin, DO, ’35

Abe Levin was an innovator both in the classroom and the operating room. As a professor of surgery at PCOM, he built his own anatomical models out of wax, which he used regularly in class. He invented and patented the “A-11” metal surgical skin clip that was used by surgeons for many years. As a result of this innovation, many companies have developed modifications of Abe’s original skin clip that are still widely used today.

In the classroom, Abe was known for his generous spirit. He took promising students under his wing, letting them work with him until they could try out their own wings. “He always felt that a student who showed promise should be given the chance to move ahead, even if it was faster than usual,” says Sophie Levin, his widow and wife of 26 years. “On many occasions, he lent money to new graduates who didn’t have the funds to start their own offices. He wanted to help them get on their feet so they could feel that sense of achievement... of really being a doctor.”

“Abe really cared about his patients, too,” Mrs. Levin continues. “If a patient didn’t have the money to pay for an office visit, he would never ask for it.”

In addition to teaching and practicing medicine in West Philadelphia, Abe helped to pioneer the opening of two hospitals in Philadelphia – Metropolitan and Juniata Park. “A handful of doctors put up their own money to start the original Metropolitan Hospital,” Mrs. Levin explains. As chief of surgery, Abe made internships available to PCOM graduates.

“Abe was always pushing himself and doing for others,” recalls Mrs. Levin. “He loved teaching and he lived for medicine.”

Samuel Levin, DO, '35

Sam Levin was on the cutting edge, teaching pharmacology at an osteopathic school in the 1930s. Originally trained as a pharmacist, he saw pharmacology as an important adjunct to the practice of osteopathic medicine - so important that he joined the battle to pass legislation allowing DOs to write prescriptions.

He also founded PCOM's department of pharmacology and was its first professor, teaching for eight years. The course he taught was experimental pharmacology, which dealt primarily with antiseptics, antidotes, anesthetics and narcotics.

"It gave him great pleasure to teach subjects they would not have known otherwise," recalls Evelyn Clothier, Sam's daughter.

Sam put himself through medical school as a mystery photographer for the former Philadelphia Ledger. "He rode the subways with a concealed camera in his hat," Clothier remembers. "If these folks discovered their photos in the paper, they got $3 each."

Clothier describes her father as a Renaissance man. In addition to photography, he loved music. "Few people know that he played clarinet with the Philadelphia Physicians Orchestra," she says.

But medicine was his first love, and he enjoyed a thriving practice in North Philadelphia in addition to teaching at PCOM. Clothier recalls her father's words about his profession: "The true study of medicine is a science - difficult and astute - but the practice of medicine is an art."

Jacob Levin, DO, '36

As a family practitioner, Jacob "Jack" Levin cared for generations of families in his West Philadelphia practice. "Despite the fact that he saw an average of 50 patients each day, he took the time to know his patients and their families, and he cared deeply," recalls Jack's daughter, Judy Felheimer.

"How can I cure people if they never get their prescriptions filled?" he would say. Licensed as a pharmacist before becoming a physician, Jack dispensed free medication to patients who didn't have the means to pay for it. "He was an incredibly dedicated physician," notes Felheimer.

Jack was also a remarkable diagnostician. "When other physicians couldn't figure out what was wrong with a patient, he could," says his daughter. "People came to him because they believed in his ability to figure out the problem and make them better."

A talented artist, he put himself through medical school by doing book illustrations. "My father loved medicine and he loved going to work," Felheimer recalls. "He once shared this philosophy with me: 'Ten percent of the patients you see won't get better no matter what you do. Fifty percent will get better no matter what you do. The other 40 percent is where you can really make the difference.'"

Joel Levin, DO, '69

Joel Levin showed promise as a physician even when he was a small child. The son of Abraham Levin, he learned a great deal from his father when he was growing up.

"When he was very young, he once put a bandage on my mother," recalls Sophie Levin, his mother. "And Abe said, 'You know my first year students couldn't do a better job!'"

As a medical student, Joel assisted PCOM instructors in teaching OMM because he was so skilled at the art.

After graduating from PCOM, Joel worked with his Uncle Jacob and showed great promise as a diagnostician. Sadly, he died a year after graduation. "Joel was a hard worker and very dynamic," says Sophie Levin. "He was an outstanding physician who was well liked by his patients and peers."

"I think that we were very privileged to have the love, guidance and companionship of these outstanding men," says Karen Levin Lotman, daughter of Abe Levin and sister of Joel Levin, and wife of PCOM chairman of the board Herbert Lotman. "They enriched our lives in countless ways and they will live forever in our hearts. I know that each of us will do our best to live up to the high standards that they set for us. I hope we will always be a credit to their beloved memory."
American Osteopathic Foundation.

Alumna named president of Ohio medical board

Anita M. Steinbergh, DO, '76, was named president of the Ohio State Medical Board. Dr. Steinbergh, who was recently profiled in the "Physician," a monthly publication of the Ohio State Medical Association, was elected to the board of the Ohio State Medical Board. Steinbergh is also an advocate of physicians taking an active role in their profession by getting involved in medical associations and other organizations.

Kudos to . . .

Michael A. Becker, DO, '87, assistant professor, family medicine, and medical director of Roxborough Healthcare Center, received the "Graduate Award in Health Administration" from St. Joseph's University. The award was presented in conjunction with Commencement ceremonies on May 15, when Dr. Becker received his master's degree in health administration.

PCOM dean Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76, and executive vice president Samuel H. Steinberg were named to the board of governors of City Avenue Hospital. The board's main responsibility is to facilitate the organization and delivery of hospital services. Steinberg was also named to the board of directors of the People's Emergency Center Community Development Corporation, an organization working to revitalize West Philadelphia.

PCOM president and chief executive officer Leonard Finkelstein, DO, '59 was elected to the board of the American Osteopathic Foundation.

Third-year student Andrew Weinberg had an article published in the February 22 American Medical News titled "Trimesters could save taxes for medical students." An article by fourth-year student Kevin Kirk titled "Iliotibial band friction syndrome: diagnosis and treatment" was published in the March 14 Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association.

Faculty news

Frederick J. Goldstein, PhD, professor of clinical pharmacology, conducted a seminar to help local clergy members better understand the principles of pain management. Clergy who are up-to-date on pain management options can act as advocates for their patients, ensuring that they get the best care possible, says Dr. Goldstein. The pilot program grew out of Dr. Goldstein's research regarding the reduction of post-operative pain. He learned that some patients may be more likely to communicate the extent of their pain to a clergy member than to their physician. Clergy representing the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths attended the seminar. A more extensive program is being planned for April 2000.

Katherine Galluzzi, DO, chairman, geriatrics; Tony Errichetti, PhD, associate professor, clinical education and Diane Fox, CRNP, nurse practitioner, geriatrics, were presenters at the Presidential Poster Session during the American Geriatric Society conference May 21 at the Philadelphia Marriott. Their poster presentation dealt with developing a computer program for geriatric teaching. The three also presented information about implementing home care into medical school education to representatives from the John F. Hartford Foundation.

Dr. Galluzzi also serves as a mentor for geriatrics fellow Jeff Heebner, DO, who presented preliminary findings of his study on the effects of tai chi on the osteopathic structural exams of older adults May 26 at the College of Physicians.

Patrick Coughlin, PhD, associate professor, anatomy, served as the tai chi instructor.

Grant helps College provide course via videoconference

PCOM received a $5,700 grant from CAPE (Community of Agile Partners in Education), an organization that supports innovative experiments in education and telecommunications. The grant will support a partnership between PCOM and Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. to offer a three-week medical biochemistry course live from PCOM and, via a two-way videoconference, at Moravian's campus.

GRANT UPDATE

Alzheimer's research grant received

Denah Appelt, PhD, assistant professor, biomedical sciences, was awarded a $2,000 matching grant from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases to continue research she is conducting with Brian Balin, PhD, associate professor, pathology, microbiology and immunology, on the link between the bacteria Chlamydia pneumoniae and Alzheimer's disease.

OB/GYN resident obtains grant

OB/GYN resident Melissa Delaney, DO, received a $3,000 grant from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists to study the effects of vitamin C on pregnant women who are at high risk for pre-eclampsia. Saul Jeck, DO, chairman and professor, obstetrics and gynecology, and Sherri Fair, DO, obstetrics and gynecology resident, are study co-investigators.

PCOM UPDATES
PCOM in the news

The expertise of David Castro-Blanco, PhD, assistant professor, psychology, was tapped for a recent article in the Philadelphia Daily News about the high school shootings in Colorado.

Tony Errichetti, PhD, associate professor, clinical education, and Harry Morris, DO, '78, MPH, chairman and professor, family medicine, were quoted in Good Times, a mature lifestyle magazine, in an article that provided recommendations on how to make the most of a visit to the doctor.

Research on the role that social support plays in compliance with hormone replacement therapy by Tana Fishman, DO, '95, instructor, family medicine, garnered media coverage on KYW and WILM radio and WHYY-TV.

Coping with stress was the topic of a guest editorial by Elizabeth Gosch, PhD, assistant professor, psychology and master's program coordinator, for the May Hospital and Healthcare News. PCOM's psychology program was also featured in the July Hospital and Healthcare News.

Arthur Freeman, EdD, professor and chairman, psychology, was quoted in an article in the Philadelphia Daily News about couples who are striving to have the first baby of the new millennium.

PCOM opens new Roxborough Healthcare Center

On June 21, the new Roxborough Healthcare Center opened at 5830 Henry Avenue in Philadelphia. The center, a spacious, three-floor facility, boasts modern equipment and more physicians on staff than at its previous location on Ridge Avenue.

The new Roxborough center has 11 larger and more private exam rooms and two procedure rooms – seven more rooms than the old center. It will also accommodate more patient visits, with two additional physicians for family medicine and a pediatrician on staff.

The center offers family medicine, pediatrics, gynecology, podiatry, dermatology and a Women, Infant and Children (WIC) office under one roof. In addition to providing primary medical care to patients, Roxborough also serves as a training site for PCOM's senior medical students, who gain valuable clinical experience such as interviewing patients, and performing physicals and exams.

The medical staff at Roxborough includes medical director Michael A. Becker, DO, '87; Anne J. Egan, DO, '91; David Kuo, DO, '96 and Izola B. David, DO, '85.
Alumni Office gets more involved with students

The Office of Alumni Relations and Development hosted a celebration party for a successful end of the first year for the Class of 2002. A barbeque was held in the Evans Hall courtyard May 28. First-year students, just completing their last exam, enjoyed a beautiful day and wonderful feast with classmates, faculty and administration.

At the event, the “Teacher of the Year” was voted on by the class, with a tie vote going to John Simelaro, DO, ’71, chairman and professor, internal medicine, and Robert Niewenhuis, PhD, professor and vice chairman, anatomy.

The Alumni staff provided moral support to the Class of 2001 at the Holiday Inn, King of Prussia, Pa. as the class took the National Boards on June 2. The office provided snacks during their break as well as pen gifts. Information on the new Alumni Ambassador program was distributed as well as details on the Centennial Ball.

These two events are part of the office’s strategy to become more involved with the students as well as provide information on the many services available to them.
PCOM STUDENT SKATEBOARDS HIS WAY TO FAME

Darren Menditto, PCOM '01, is a typical PCOM student: sporting jeans and a backpack, stressed out about an endocrinology exam. But he's seen more of the world than most medical students, and he's even participated in the closing ceremony of the '96 Summer Olympics. Why? He's a world champion skateboarder.

Menditto, who turned professional at 19, almost skipped college to pursue skateboarding. But his interest in sports medicine wouldn't die, so he earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science and planned to go to medical school. But before he could attend his first anatomy lab, he needed to conquer a few more skate ramps. He took a year and a half off before entering PCOM, traveling all over Europe, Australia and New Zealand, thanks to sponsors such as the shoe companies Airwalk and Vans. He skated in contests and performed demos. And, each year for the last five years, he finished in the top 10 in the "Triple Crown," where the top 35 skateboarders in the world compete.

"It's a part of me I can't give it up," says Menditto, who holds celebrity status in the world of skateboarding. He's been on TV and featured in magazines articles and ads, including one for Mountain Dew on the back cover of Sports Illustrated. He even has a skateboard named after him.

But the most exciting moment for him was participating in a choreographed show, "Sport is art," for the closing ceremony of the '96 Summer Olympics. How did it feel to be watched by 3.5 billion people? "It was such a rush," he remembers. "I kept telling myself, 'I'm not the one who's gonna fall in front of the world.'" He didn't.
MAINTAINING A POSITION OF STRENGTH: PCOM's Strategy to Recruit Students in Today's Market

The American economy is booming and jobs are plentiful. It's a job seeker's market out there. With so many choices available in popular fields like computer science, business and allied health fields, many college graduates are heading straight for a good-paying job rather than spending four more years in medical school. That's one big reason why medical schools nationwide - both osteopathic and allopathic - have experienced a decline in applications over the past three years.

The financial strain of a medical school education and the managed care environment have also contributed to the decline, according to Carol A. Fox, associate dean for admissions and enrollment management.

History repeats itself

This isn't the first time PCOM has experienced a decline in the applicant pool. In fact, it occurs on a cyclical basis. "The last time it declined was in the 1980s," recalls Fox. "We were experiencing an overall decline in the traditional age group that goes to medical school. And changes in health care reimbursement were just beginning."

But the applicant pool began to rally in 1990, booming until 1996. Again the economy was a driving force. Facing a weak job market, many college graduates opted to continue their education in medical school.

Even though the applicant pool is down currently, PCOM isn't facing a critical situation, emphasizes Fox. She expects a smaller decline next year, about seven percent compared to 14.5% for 1999.

"Osteopathic schools tend to mirror the experience of allopathic schools," Fox explains. "We usually run a year behind them. This year, their rate of decline slowed, so we expect PCOM and other osteopathic schools to follow suit next year."

In the meantime, PCOM is still in a strong position with far more applicants than places available. In 1999, the College received 4,300 applications for 250 seats in the class. And the classes being admitted continue to be very strong in terms of both grade point averages (3.30) and MCAT scores.

"Still, we would like to attract a larger piece of the applicant pie," says Fox. "Medical schools nationwide receive an average of 38,500 applications each year. Only 8,600 prospective students apply to colleges of osteopathic medicine. We want more of them to apply to PCOM and osteopathic schools in general."

"The applicants are out there," she continues. "We have an opportunity and a challenge to make sure they know about PCOM and the comprehensive, preventive health care DOs provide."

Alumni play critical role in PCOM strategy

PCOM has developed an aggressive marketing strategy to attract more candidates. And the College will also benefit.
from marketing efforts spearheaded by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM). But alumni play a critical role in the overall strategy to spread the word.

A recent AACOM survey revealed that nearly 40 percent of osteopathic medical school applicants learned about osteopathic medicine through osteopathic physicians in the field.

"Our alumni are our greatest potential recruiters and providers of information," claims Fox. "Their help is critical to our marketing success. No one has more credibility.

"Alumni can support our efforts by talking to the people they know - their patients, friends of their children, or anyone they know who may be interested in medical school," Fox continues. "They can encourage them to pursue a career in medicine, imparting the values of the osteopathic tradition.

The practice of medicine is still a very rewarding career filled with challenges and opportunities," she asserts. "It's important to convey that message to potential students.

Alumni are also encouraged to participate in PCOM's college and regional recruiting efforts. "It would be a huge advantage to have alumni available to answer questions and talk about their experiences at PCOM when we participate in recruiting events," Fox remarks.

Recruiting efforts intensified

Recruiting has always been important, and PCOM has maintained a strong presence at schools from which it has traditionally attracted students. As part of its marketing strategy, PCOM is increasing recruitment activities in a number of ways.

"We are making more on-campus visits," explains Fox. "And we're building on a new program of on-campus information sessions that we began last summer. We offer the sessions every other week to small groups of students and they are very successful."

PCOM continues to host several open houses each year for larger groups of students. And last year, for the first time, PCOM held a regional recruiting event in Pittsburgh. "We invited students from all colleges in the area," Fox says. "Students drove as much as an hour and a half to attend this event. We had 75 attendees and enrolled six students as a result.

"We plan to have more of these regional events and would welcome the help of PCOM alumni in identifying good recruiting locations and participating on-site," she continues. "Our alumni can also help by setting up a recruitment network among their peers, referring good candidates our way."

Marketing for the new Millennium

PCOM is also participating in AACOM's "Marketing for the New Millennium" program, which includes a mass mailing to everyone in the country who takes the MCAT exam.

"The letter will introduce osteopathic medicine as an exceptional choice and encourage candidates to apply to osteopathic medical colleges," Fox explains. "PCOM will then follow up with a second letter to candidates in the states where the College traditionally gets the most students: Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, New York, New Jersey and the New England states."

AACOM's marketing plans also include hiring an outreach coordinator who will recruit for all 19 colleges of osteopathic medicine at major events on college campuses nationwide; a speakers bureau featuring osteopathic physicians in the field and a survey on what college students know and feel about osteopathic medicine.

"PCOM is a great school with a strong program," concludes Fox. "And we want the whole world to know it! As a result, more students and patients will benefit from all that PCOM and osteopathic medicine have to offer."

We Welcome Your Help!

Do you have a prospective student to recommend? Do you think there's good potential for a regional recruiting event in your area? Or would you like to participate in on-campus recruiting? Please call Carol A. Fox in PCOM's office of admissions at (215) 871-6700 or e-mail at carolf@pcom.edu.

A PCOM student shows prospective students the OMM lab.
Granite stones available

Granite stones are still available in the Donor Garden Walkway, but supply is limited. For a gift of $1,000 or more to The PCOM Mission, you may place a message on a granite stone in the Donor Garden. The stones are a permanent part of PCOM’s campus.

Employee support essential

The PCOM Mission has benefited greatly thanks to the generosity of PCOM employees. Through payroll deductions and outright gifts, they have designated their contributions to all areas of the campaign. Employees pay PCOM a real tribute when they contribute, which helps to maintain the College’s level of excellence. To date, 40 percent of employees have participated in the campaign.

To donate funds

To donate funds to a scholarship or to obtain a granite stone, call PCOM’s campaign office at 800-739-3939.

New scholarships announced

Scholarship assistance to PCOM students will increase this coming academic year thanks to The PCOM Mission. Alumni, employees and friends, through their generous gifts, have made seven new scholarships possible. These funds will be disbursed for the first time to students this fall.

The Alumni Association Scholarship will be awarded based on academic achievement and extracurricular activities. The Sara and Benjamin Lincow Pain Management Foundation Scholarship, established by Arnold Lincow, DO, ’76, will benefit students interested in pain management. The Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of Dr. Nicholas, will assist candidates demonstrating high academic achievement in osteopathic manipulative medicine.

The PolyProbe Scholarship, established by PolyProbe, Inc. seeks students interested in molecular medicine. Our minority students will benefit from the Philadelphia Futures Scholarship, established by Jay Rosan, DO, ’71. Sara Sommers Rupert, RN, a member of the nursing class of 1933, directed her generous gift to a scholarship for students in the physician assistant program. The family of Lewis M. Yunginger, DO, ’35, in memory of their father, established a scholarship for students with academic excellence and financial need. These gifts truly make a difference to our students struggling financially with the high cost of medical education.

You can establish a named scholarship with a gift of $50,000 payable over five years. Or, you may direct a five-year pledge to a scholarship already established. Whatever your choice, your help is essential to PCOM so we may continue to graduate the nation’s finest doctors of osteopathic medicine. To obtain a listing of campaign scholarships, please call the campaign office at the number below. Your support is very much appreciated.
Morton Terry, DO, ’45, Pembroke Pines, Fla., was named to the 1999 Nova Southeastern University School of Business and Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame.

Morton Rothstein, DO, ’52, Seaford, NY, retired from his general surgical practice and was appointed medical director of Massapequa General Hospital.

Gerald Scharf, DO, ’54, Narberth, Pa., was named editor-in-chief of the Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association.


Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, ’59, Narberth, Pa., received the “Editor-in-Chief Award” from the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association for “16 years of unselfish devotion and loyalty as editor-in-chief of the Journal of the POMA.” He also was elected to the board of the American Osteopathic Foundation.

Paul P. Koro, DO, ’61, Tulsa, Okla., was appointed senior associate dean for academic affairs for proficiency in osteopathic manipulative medicine at Oklahoma State University/College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Robert S. Maurer, DO, ’62, Edison, NJ, was re-elected secretary-treasurer of the American Osteopathic College of Rheumatology. Additionally, he was named a fellow in the 1998-99 American Osteopathic Association National Health Policy Fellowship Program.

Seth W. Brown, DO, ’63, Masillon, Ohio, was elected chairman of the advisory board at Doctors Hospital of Stark County.

Jeffery Ginsberg, DO, ’65, Elkins Park, Pa., became board certified by the American Board of Psychotherapists and Psychodiagnosticians.

Miles Newman, DO, ’67, Elizabethtown, Pa., received the “Vincent W. O’Connor Public Service Award” from the Elizabethtown Borough Council for his ongoing dedication to making the community safer.

Mark S. Cooperstein, DO, ’72, Lancaster, Pa., had an article published in the Lancaster County Woman titled “Pelvic prolapse and incontinence in women.”


David E. Bruce, DO, ’74, Toledo, Ohio, became a fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

Alan L. Meshekow, DO, ’74, Canton, Ohio, was elected to a three-year term on the board of governors of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

Glenn N. Wagner, DO, ’74, Washington, DC, became director of the Armed Forces Institute in Pathology.

Alexander Nicholas, DO, ’75, East Goshen, Pa., received the 1999 “Frederick J. Solomon, DO Award of Merit” from the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society for his significant contribution to osteopathic education in Pennsylvania.


David H. Krahe, DO, ’77, Moreland Hills, Ohio, became a fellow of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopaedics.
William A. Schiavone, DO, ’78, Hudson, Ohio, was appointed professor of internal medicine at Northeastern Ohio University College of Medicine.

Walter C. Ehrenfeuchter, DO, ’79, Philadelphia, Pa., was re-elected to the American Osteopathic Board on Special Proficiency in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine.

Thomas Bozzuto, DO, ’88, Jacksonville, Fla., was elected president of the American College of Hyperbaric Medicine.

Mary Catherine Dillon, DO, ’88, Johnstown, Pa., was recertified by the American Academy of Family Practice Physicians.

Patrick J. Hanley, DO, ’89, Lehighton, Pa., was appointed chief of medicine at Gnaden Huetten Memorial Hospital.

Bryan S. McCarthy, DO, ’89, Wayne, Pa., joined Bayhealth as director of anesthesiology services at General Hospital.

Mark Monaco, DO, ’89, Havertown, Pa., was named chairman of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association for Chester and Delaware counties.


Scott L. Cohen, DO, ’92, Holland, Pa., opened a family medicine practice.

Stephen M. Massoud, DO, ’93, Newark, Del., co-authored an article in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association titled “Fortuitous diagnosis of iliac osteomyelitis: septic arthritis of the hip in the neonate.”

Michelle L. Stoudt, DO, ’93, Bala Cynwyd, Pa., received the “Oclassen Award” from the American Osteopathic College of Dermatology.

Nancy Fern Snow, DO, ’95, Washington, DC, was appointed a hospitalist at Memorial Hospital.

Certificates of Merit awarded

PCOM’s Alumni Association board of directors awarded the following alumni “Certificates of Merit” for outstanding achievement in osteopathic medicine.


Frederick J. Humphrey II, DO, ’66, Moorestown, NJ, who received the “Physician of the Year Award” from the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

Leonard V. Limongelli, DO, ’68, Yardley, Pa., who was installed as president of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association for 1999-2000.

Earl Noble Wagner, DO, ’55, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., who received the 1999 “Family Physician of the Year Award” from the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society for outstanding service to his profession and community.

Robert I. Barsky, DO, ’81, Cherry Hill, NJ, was elected president of the Urology Society of New Jersey and chairman of urology for the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey.

Francis W. Brooks, DO, ’82, Orlando, Fla., was awarded status as a certified diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association.

James J. Rodgers, DO, ’83, Tampa, Fla., joined the medical staff at Upper Bucks Internal Medicine.


Eugene A. Eline Jr., DO, ’85, Beaufort, SC, became a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

H. Brent Bamberger, DO, ’86, Kettering Ohio, became a fellow of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopaedics. He was also elected president of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopaedics - Hand Surgery Section.

Joseph J. Kuchinski, DO, ’86, Morristown, NJ, was named president-elect of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians.

Douglas L. McGee, DO, ’87, Birchrunville, Pa., was named treasurer of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians.

Scott L. Cohen, DO, ’92, Holland, Pa., opened a family medicine practice.

Stephen M. Massoud, DO, ’93, Newark, Del., co-authored an article in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association titled “Fortuitous diagnosis of iliac osteomyelitis: septic arthritis of the hip in the neonate.”

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POMA News
The following physicians were named officers and district trustees during POMA’s Annual Clinical Assembly April 28 - May 1.

1999-2000 officers
President:
President-elect:
Vice president:
Gary P. Plundo, DO, Greensburg, Pa.
Secretary/treasurer:

Board of trustees elected
District 1

District 2

District 3

District 4

District 5

District 6
Domenick N. Ronco, DO, ’78, Mifflinburg, Pa.

District 7
Stephany F. Esper, DO, Erie, Pa.

District 8

District 9

District 10

District 11
Samuel J. Garloff, DO, ’78, Orwigsburg, Pa.

District 12
John L. Johnston, DO, Rimersburg, Pa.

District 14

District 5

District 6
Leonard M. Popowich, DO, ’57, Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

District 7
Marvin L. Rosner, DO, ’57, Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

District 8
Gilbert B. Tabby, DO, ’58, Rydal, Pa.

District 9
Elvin E. Walker, DO, ’37, Wynnewood, Pa.

POMA Membership Certificates
The following physicians received membership certificates during POMA’s Annual Clinical Assembly.

40-year

Edmund T. Carroll, DO, ’58, Bristol, Pa. (deceased)

Albert F. D’Alonzo, DO, ’56, Blue Bell, Pa.

Frank A. DeLeo, DO, ’58, Harrisburg, Pa.


Leonard M. Popowich, DO, ’57, Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

Marvin L. Rosner, DO, ’57, Bala Cynwyd, Pa.

Gilbert B. Tabby, DO, ’58, Rydal, Pa.

Elvin E. Walker, DO, ’37, Wynnewood, Pa.

50-year
George H. Geuting, DO, ’48, Wilmington, Del.

David M. Masters, DO, ’47, Miami Beach, Fla.


60-year
Rachel A. Witmyer, DO, ’33, Middletown, Pa.

In Memoriam
Edmund T. Carroll, DO, ’58, AI, Bristol, Pa., May 16.


Ronald B. Ferris, DO, ’55, FP, San Francisco, Calif.

Daisy Fletcher, DO, ’26, FP, Flushing, NY, April 15.


Raymond S. Scholl, DO, ’55, FP, Lehighton, Pa., February 22.

Elizabeth Warntz, DO, ’24, FR, Abington, Pa., May 19.
**Alumni take note!**

Mark your calendars now with these important alumni events. PCOM's winter CME, usually held in St. Thomas, USVI, will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona in 2000. Also, in response to alumni feedback, the College has moved its Alumni Reunions to June. They were previously held in January as part of Founders Day/Alumni Weekend. See below for the new date in 2000.

**PCOM WINTER CME**

January 29, 2000 to February 5, 2000
Marriott Mountain Shadows Resort and Golf Club, Scottsdale, Arizona; 40 category 1 AOA credits requested

**PCOM ALUMNI WEEKEND**

June 9 and 10, 2000
Philadelphia Marriott Hotel

5 year class reunions:
1955, 1950, 1945, 1940, 1935, 1930

Traditionally, alumni reunions have been held in conjunction with the College's January Founders Day. Moving the reunions to June is in response to alumni suggestions for a more favorable travel month. The reunion dinner will take place Saturday night at the Crystal Tea Room in the Wanamaker Building. Hotel rooms will be available at the Philadelphia Marriott. Also, continuing medical education seminars will be held. Watch for upcoming notices from the Office of Alumni Relations and Development.

**PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE**

4180 City Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131

*Address service requested*