maintaining the DO identity

Students are doing clerkships in a growing number of allopathic hospitals, while keeping their osteopathic uniqueness. Story on page 6
We hope you’re all having an enjoyable and relaxing summer. A highlight for us was the visit by Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services, at our Commencement on June 4. Having a person who plays such a prominent role in the health and well-being of our nation’s residents as our guest was indeed an honor. But it was her vibrant personality, enthusiasm for PCOM and osteopathic medicine, and outstanding speech that made her visit such a pleasure and this Commencement such a stand-out.

Soon, we’ll return to the academic season, with a campus bustling with students and talk of lectures and studying. We have much to look forward to in this academic year. In a few short months, we will welcome to campus our new president and CEO, Matthew Schure, PhD. Dr. Schure is very active in the osteopathic profession. Since 1991, he has served as president and CEO of New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) in Old Westbury, NY, an eight-school institution that includes New York College of Osteopathic Medicine (NYCOM). He is chairman of the board of governors of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and a member of the American Osteopathic Association’s Council on Predoctoral Education. He also received the “President’s Citation” from the New York State Osteopathic Medical Society. We know you will all give him a warm welcome in December. Look for a profile on Dr. Schure in an upcoming Digest.

We are also excited about recent developments which will place PCOM on the forefront of technology. The College received a $1.4 million federal grant to establish a center for medical informatics, education and outreach. We are also implementing a web-based system to complement our regular classroom teaching and to keep students on clerkships connected to PCOM.

Recently, we broke ground and started construction at our Lancaster Avenue Healthcare Center. We can’t wait to see the transformation of the center into a larger, more modern facility, as we did with our Cambria and Roxborough healthcare centers, which are thriving.

In keeping with our efforts to increase awareness of the College, we’re happy to report that PCOM was featured on WTXF - Fox News in a story about the success of osteopathic manipulative medicine. Also, after much lobbying, we succeeded in having a sign with the College’s name placed on the Schuylkill Expressway’s City Avenue off-ramp. We continue to look for every opportunity to promote PCOM and the osteopathic profession, and we always welcome your ideas.

Sincerely,

Herbert Lotman, LL.D (hon.)
Chairman of the Board

Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, ’59
President and CEO
CLINICAL EDUCATION
Proposita: Excellent
Some alumni have likened the closing of City Avenue Hospital to the demise of clinical education at PCOM and the loss of our osteopathic identity. The reality looks much different. Although students are doing clerkships at a growing number of allopathic institutions, they're getting exposed to more clinically than ever before, while keeping their osteopathic identity intact.

DEPARTMENTS

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Send us your story ideas, feedback for Digest!
If you have any ideas for articles for Digest – things you feel would be of interest to other alumni and students – please let us know! If you are doing cutting-edge research, participate in a community service effort, have an interesting personal hobby, etc., we would like to know about it!

Also, we welcome any thoughts you have about Digest, so we can make sure we're giving you, our readers, what you want in an alumni/student magazine. Thank you for your help.

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STUDENT
ACHIEVERS

Laura Garawski, PCOM '02, helped develop and is coordinator for “Heart of the Matter,” a new community health education program for students at Harrington Elementary School in West Philadelphia. Through the program, Garawski and other PCOM students provide mentoring and interdisciplinary activities focused on the heart for students in grades 1-4.

Jesus Salas, a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology, presented a workshop on cognitive therapy treatment for depression at the Instituto Superior de Estudios y Tratamiento Psicológico in Murcia, Spain.

PCOM unveils new logo

In March, PCOM introduced its new corporate logo, a bold “flame of knowledge” in gold and red on a bright blue background. It replaces the special Centennial logo that was used throughout 1999.

“Much time and effort went into its creation — a more than six-month process that included numerous brainstorming and conceptual review sessions,” says Wendy Romano, assistant director of design, communications & design. “A wide variety of creative concepts were reviewed and presented to administration, who ultimately chose the final version.”

The logo has a range of applications, from stationery and print materials to the colorful flags and banners throughout campus. “It should have a great presence and visual impact throughout the College,” adds Romano.

New OMM fellows announced

The 2000 fellows in the Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Fellowship Program are, left to right, Thomas Haley, Payce Handler, Christina Ann Mitchell and Ari Grein, all class of '02. The program is funded by a capital campaign gift from the family of C. Paul Snyder, DO, '70 and the Oxford Foundation.

Portrait of Dr. Still added to Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery

In a unanimous decision, the Smithsonian Institution voted in February to induct a portrait of Andrew Still, DO, MD, father of osteopathy, into the permanent collection of its National Portrait Gallery. The addition also nominates Dr. Still to the National Portrait Gallery's Hall of Notable Americans, reserved for portraits of Americans who have “contributed significantly to American culture and history.”

The portrait selected is a pastel on canvas, completed circa 1900 by artist Floyd Horton. In it, Dr. Still is depicted seated and pointing with a pencil to a drawing of pelvic bones. (The National Portrait Gallery requires that each painting in the collection be a “life” portrait completed during the lifetime of the subject.) The portrait had been housed at the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The Smithsonian vote was the culmination of seven months of review and research by the National Portrait Gallery and the Still National Osteopathic Museum. After careful inspection and review of many life portraits, the Still National Osteopathic Museum decided that the chosen portrait not only best captured a faithful likeness of the man but also spoke to the science of osteopathic medicine.

The Hall of Notable Americans occupies the east wing of the second floor of the National Portrait Gallery — one of the 15 museums that comprise the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.
Kudos to...

Michael A. Becker, DO, '87, assistant professor, family medicine and director, Roxborough Healthcare Center, has been named to the 2000 edition of Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare. Dr. Becker serves as chairman of the Young Physician Section of the Philadelphia County Medical Society (PCMS) and wrote the article, "Stress: a young physician's perspective," which was published in the PCMS magazine, Philadelphia Medicine. He also was quoted prominently in the February 1999 issue of Ladies Home Journal in a feature about how doctors treat their own kids when they're sick (see right).

David Castro-Blanco, PhD, assistant professor, psychology, has passed the examination of the American Board of Professional Psychology and is now a diplomate (board certified) in clinical psychology. He also wrote a front-page article on rage, aggression and youth violence, which was published in Hospital and Healthcare News.

John P. Simelaro, DO, '71, professor and chairman, internal medicine, was named 1999 "Physician of the Year" by the VistaCare Foundation, a national nonprofit organization that advocates quality end-of-life care.

• My eight-year-old son was wiped out with a viral infection, and all he wanted to do was watch VH1. I said, "Okay, but every time a commercial comes on, you have to drink something." He drank plenty of liquids—key to reducing a fever—and I didn’t have to nag him.
• When a diaper rash doesn’t respond to Desitin, we use LOTRIMIN AF, an over-the-counter antifungal cream. It’s for jock itch and athlete’s foot, but also kills the candida yeast that causes diaper rash. Rub a thin layer over the rash and seal with a layer of diaper cream. When this fails, a nonprescription cream called Triple Paste Medicated Ointment [special order from pharmacies, or call 800-533-7546] is a dermatologic miracle!
• To soothe chicken pox or poison ivy itch, we add AVEENO oatmeal tablets to the bath water. For older kids, there’s an Aveeno shower gel.
• Another must for itchy skin is Benadryl Dye-Free Allergy.

Michael Becker, D.O., father of Christopher, 8, Kateyn, 4, and Claire, 2, is an assistant professor of family medicine at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Michael A. Becker, DO, '87 was included in a Ladies Home Journal article on how doctors treat their own kids.
Health Care

Osteopathic study: Treatment cuts pain

The Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine has produced what it is calling the first study that provides "objective data" demonstrating how osteopathic manipulative treatment, or OMT, can reduce pain after surgery.

OMT focuses on the body’s interconnected system of nerves, muscles and nerves, and understanding how an injury or illness can affect one another. Doctors in osteopathic medical schools are taught how to use their hands to diagnose injuries and illnesses, and how to manipulate the musculoskeletal system to encourage the body’s natural tendency to heal itself.

The study, led by Dr. Frederick J. Goldstein, involved 23 hysterectomy patients at City Avenue Hospital who were all unfamiliar with OMT.

Researchers measured the amount of morphine that was required to treat pain, and the patients’ perception of the pain levels, following the surgical procedure.

The study contained two variables. Some patients received morphine prior to surgery and others received a saline solution. After surgery, certain patients from each group received OMT while the others got "sham OMT," where a doctor placed his or her hands on specific areas of the patients, but did not perform any manipulation.

The preliminary results of the study showed OMT had a greater effect than drug in reducing postoperative pain, and that osteopathic treatment worked to reduce pain regardless of whether the patients received morphine or saline prior to surgery.

"This study is breakthrough scientific proof that OMT has a crucial role in treating patients who are in pain," Goldstein said.

Goldstein and his team plan to release additional study results within the next six months.

Lessons learned

Speaking at a health-care conference in Washington, D.C., earlier this month, Pennsylvania Deputy Attorney General Mark Paccola suggested hospital boards may want to consider having their hospital’s restricted endowment funds managed by an outside entity to avoid a repeat of what happened at the now defunct Allegheny health system.

In September, Delaware Attorney General Mike Fisher and his office had determined Allegheny had improperly transferred $203 million from its restricted endowment — gifts given to hospitals for specific purposes — to its general operating accounts. The state has filed a claim in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Pittsburgh seeking the return of that money.

Paccola said the state is not, at this time, considering any rules changes that would require health systems to use outside managers.

"It was more something I offered in re-

The study — led by Frederick J. Goldstein, PhD, professor, clinical pharmacology and director, Cancer Pain Research Center — provides the first objective data that OMT is effective in relieving post-surgical pain.

WPVI-TV (6 ABC) covered the Comprehensive Care Center's open house and ribbon-cutting Dec. 10. The segment highlighted the Center's expanded medical services, spacious exam rooms and state-of-the-art equipment.

In spring 2000, a comprehensive marketing campaign was also implemented for the center. Directed by communications & design, the campaign has two key objectives: building the center's patient base and increasing awareness within the community about the center's primary care and specialty services.

The marketing efforts include a direct-mail campaign to area residents, who received a newly designed brochure and a welcome letter. Advertisements were placed in major area publications, and press releases were distributed to generate media coverage.

In January, POCOM launched a radio advertising campaign to bolster student recruitment efforts for its master's and doctoral programs in clinical and health psychology. The ads, created by communications & design, targeted both working professionals and recent college graduates. The 60-second spots aired on KYW Newsradio 1060, WRRB-FM 101.2 ("B 101"), WOAS-FM 105.3 and WJZ-FM 106.1 ("Smooth Jazz") for two weeks during peak listening hours in the early morning and evening "drive times."

Alumni Association President Carol Henwood-Dahdah, DO, '83, AOA Ambassador, and student Ed Armbruster, POCOM '02, were featured on HealthWeek, a syndicated PBS television health series, in an in-depth segment about the osteopathic medical profession. The program aired locally on Feb. 6 on WHYY-TV and was seen on public television affiliates nationwide. The show's script is available online at www.pbs.org/healthweek.

The preliminary results of a POCOM study demonstrating that osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) reduces pain after surgery were published in the Philadelphia Business Journal and Hospital and Healthcare News.
Lupus grant received

Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, '77, professor and chairman, biochemistry/molecular biology; professor, family medicine and associate dean, primary care, was awarded the Sheryl N. Hirsch research grant to study metabolic function in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), or lupus. The grant is named for Sheryl N. Hirsch, a Philadelphia woman who died of lupus. Her parents, Ed and Goldie Simon, and representatives of the Lupus Foundation of Philadelphia, presented the grant during a ceremony at PCOM in December.

Dr. Mochan, in partnership with Larry Brent, MD of Albert Einstein Medical Center, will study metabolic events associated with the loss of body cell mass in lupus patients. Lupus—a widespread, chronic autoimmune disorder in which the body's immune system mistakenly attacks its own cells, causing inflammation and damage to organs and tissue—is estimated to affect two million Americans, primarily women.

Richard Kriebel, PhD, chairman, biomedical sciences and assistant dean, curriculum and research, co-wrote an article, "Pathology of the hippocampus in experimental feline infantile hydrocephalus," which was published in Neurological Research (January 2000).

Richard A. Pascucci, DO, '75, associate dean, graduate medical education, gave a presentation titled "Clinical efficacy of Vioxx in pain and osteoarthritis" in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Feb. 15-16. His presentations were in conjunction with Merck Pharmaceutical's launch meetings for Vioxx, an anti-inflammatory prescription drug.

Psychology faculty present workshops at convention

The following faculty members in psychology participated in the annual convention of the Association for Advancement of Behavior Therapy Nov. 11-14 in Toronto, Canada:

- David Castro-Blanco, PhD, assistant professor, presented a workshop about the use of the STAND-UP cognitive-behavioral intervention method in treating high-risk adolescents.
- Arthur Freeman, EdD, professor and chairman, was a featured presenter in the panel discussion, "From single case to database: resolving the 'manualized treatment' vs. 'case formulation' dilemma."

He also presented an intermediate/advanced institute about cognitive therapy treatment of personality disorders.

- Stephanie Friedman, PhD, assistant professor, chaired the symposium, "Family caregivers: innovative assessment techniques and problem-solving interventions for the unofficial members of the health care team."

Youth conference to prevent smoking held on campus

A smoking education and leadership program for teenagers was held Jan. 11 in Evans Hall. The American Cancer Society program, coordinated at PCOM by Associate Dean Robert Cuzzolino, EdD, was designed to train youths to be leaders in smoking prevention efforts at their schools.

More than 130 students from Philadelphia area high schools participated in day-long seminars and presentations, which received media coverage by KYW-TV (3 CBS) and WCAU-TV (10 NBC). President Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59 delivered the welcoming address.
The announcement that City Avenue Hospital would be closing stopped a number of osteopathic physicians right in their tracks. And it wasn’t just about history or nostalgia. It made them stop, take a deep breath and assess, sometimes aloud, exactly where osteopathic medicine is heading.

After all, City Avenue Hospital was where so many PCOM graduates received their clinical training. If City Avenue Hospital would no longer be in service, exactly where would PCOM send its students, interns and residents? And with so many osteopathic hospitals closing, how would osteopathic medicine be kept alive?

“There’s always been this perception that it was our hospital; we were so tied in there,” says Allan M. McLeod, DO, ’88, MBA, director of undergraduate clinical education. “There’s this thinking that whatever happens to City Avenue must be what happens to the school.”

The truth is that PCOM does not have all its eggs in one basket – or, specifically, one hospital. In the past decade, the leadership at PCOM has worked very hard to become aligned with numerous institutions. As a result, a large number of affiliated hospitals are providing security for PCOM and its students during a time when the medical community is riding some fairly rough seas of change.
ties while maintaining osteopathic identity

Peggy Chen, PCOM '01, gets ready to go on rounds during a clerkship at Mercy-Fitzgerald Hospital in Delaware County, Pa.
The leadership at PCOM has managed to navigate these seas by sending its third- and fourth-year students to some 27 affiliated hospitals and beyond. This network of institutions helps to educate our students in the hope that some of them will return as interns, residents and admitting physicians.

“The hospital industry is certainly very different than it was three or four years ago, and we've had to change the way we approach the market simply because the market has changed and remains so fluid,” explains Dean Kenneth J. Veit, DO, ’76.

One change that has had a great impact — and continues to strike fear in the hearts of many alumni — is the closing of the traditional osteopathic hospitals such as City Avenue. “Some of the alumni are worried about the future; things are so different from what they've known,” says Dr. Veit.

For instance, PCOM now sends third- and fourth-year students into four-week clinical clerkships in hospitals that have widely mixed staffs, institutions that traditionally have been allopathic. In these hospitals, PCOM students are taught, on the floor and in lectures, by both osteopathic and allopathic physicians.

making their mark

In these clinical settings, PCOM students are thriving. “The allopathic students may be more up on the literature about the latest experimental treatments, but the PCOM students clearly have a stronger desire to learn and are better in their clinical ability to handle patients,” says Ed Jones, MD, medical director of Albert Einstein Healthcare Network and one of two physicians at Einstein who oversees the medical education of students and residents.

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George Gradock, PCOM '00 starts his day on a clerkship at Albert Einstein Medical Center.
concern about osteopathic identity:
alumni share their views

Reginald Lee, DO, '86, grew up in Philadelphia's Chinatown, seeing osteopathic physicians at Metropolitan Central Hospital. These physicians became his role models, and he later became the first student from Chinatown to graduate from PCOM.

These days, Dr. Lee practices family medicine in Collingdale, Delaware County, Pa.

Like many others on the front lines of osteopathic medicine, Dr. Lee is concerned about what's happening to the osteopathic profession. "A lot of hospitals have gone under and the straight osteopathic institutions don't exist as they did not all that long ago," he laments.

Alumni who notice there are fewer and fewer osteopathic hospitals in their area can help to keep their profession thriving by being aware of osteopathic programs at the hospitals where they practice and by being good role models for osteopathic medical students, interns and residents, says Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76, dean. "The alumni are the role models and they can have a tremendous impact," he emphasizes.

Even in a mixed institution, the osteopathic identity still is preserved, contends Jon Brndjar, DO, '91, director of osteopathic medical education at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pa. At Lehigh Valley, for instance, there's a lecture series on using manipulation in practice, as well as a manipulation clinic twice a month for interns. "Some of the allopathic students will even watch," he says.

"We need to work to preserve our osteopathic identity, whether we're talking about manipulation or our emphasis on taking care of the whole patient," adds Dr. Brndjar.

According to Dr. Brndjar, about 75 percent of the medical staff at Lehigh Valley...
“PCOM students are much more relaxed with knowing what they have to do,” notes Dr. Jones. “They ask good questions and never complain when they’re asked to stay extra time or prepare for a lecture that is suddenly to be given the next day.” He adds, “PCOM is preparing them well for the next level.”

Dr. Jones has been working with PCOM students for several years, first at Germantown Hospital and now at Einstein. “What I see is osteopathic and allopathic students training in one institution, and both groups learning to come together. Our goal is to train good doctors, period.”

Dr. Veit emphasizes that the students are exposed to more and better training than at any time in the history of the school. Dr. McLeod agrees: “The reports coming back from the students are overwhelmingly positive. The breadth of what they see in tertiary care centers, the exposure to technology, the scope of these hospitals, is better than it ever was.”

One third-year student says he enjoys the exposure to large hospitals, such as St. Francis Medical Center in Pittsburgh, and he feels the allopathic physicians he’s been learning from in these settings are doing a good job. “They treat us well, encourage us and even tell us we’re better with patients than the allopathic students,” remarks Russell Adams, PCOM ’01.

Directors of osteopathic medical education at hospitals within PCOM’s osteopathic postgraduate teaching institution (OPTI) tell a similar story. “I hear from my MD peers that they are consistently impressed with PCOM students,” says Jon Brndjar, DO, ’91, director of osteopathic medical education at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pa. “My MD colleagues refer to PCOM students and osteopathic interns as good people – people they would refer a relative to,” says Dr. Brndjar.

Continued on page 12
Jay Harris Joseph, DO, ’56, director of osteopathic medical education at Mercy Catholic Medical Center — Mercy-Fitzgerald Hospital, notes, “Here, the osteopathic medical students and staff; and the allopathic medical students and staff, work together beautifully. There’s mutual respect.”

So, even though PCOM students are learning in mixed-staff institutions, the osteopathic identity is respected. Depending on both the student’s and attending physician’s desires, students might use osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) within the hospital setting. “We also reinforce OMM by having all students take an OMM refresher course at PCOM as part of their family medicine/OMM clerkship,” notes Dr. McLeod.

He likes to tell this story: “At one of the traditional allopathic hospitals with a trauma unit, a patient had developed intractable hiccups and our student had been asking to use OMM on the patient. Finally, the allopathic trauma surgeon overseeing the case agreed; our student did OMM and it worked — the patient’s hiccups disappeared. The trauma surgeon was impressed.”

In fact, students such as Adams say that OMM is experiencing a resurgence among underclassmen. “With the new studies out there, and articles in the New England Journal of Medicine extolling the benefits of OMM, students are becoming more interested,” says Adams. He says he hopes this will spill over into greater use of OMM, where appropriate, in all settings, including the large, urban medical centers. “You know, even having to explain OMM to people in these places is a good thing — it sharpens your communication skills.”

Send us your comments on this article and the issues it raises; we’d like to print them in an upcoming issue of Digest. Send to: Chris Dorian, Digest Editor, PCOM Communications & Design, 4180 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131; fax: (215) 871-6307 or e-mail: chrisdo@pcom.edu. Thank you.

PCOM MEDNet sets the pace

Today’s third- and fourth-year students at PCOM are tomorrow’s interns and residents at a variety of hospitals. The leadership of these hospitals hopes the students return to these institutions as interns and residents, providing house staff and growing into positions in which they will admit patients.

“Our students have something to offer the hospitals, and the institutions in our OPTI [PCOM’s osteopathic postdoctoral training institution is called PCOM MEDNet], have an excellent opportunity to recruit our students into their hospital systems,” says Richard A. Pascucci, DO, ’75, associate dean for graduate medical education. OPTI is the glue — it’s OPTI that helps to maintain an osteopathic identity in this era of disappearing osteopathic hospitals.

And it’s OPTI that provides the network linking PCOM with its affiliated hospitals. PCOM MEDNet includes 27 hospitals, the great majority of them in Pennsylvania. Some fast facts about it:

• There are 620 internship and residency positions in the 27 affiliates that belong to PCOMs OPTI.
• There are 220 internship and residency positions that are specifically PCOM’s Philadelphia consortium slots.
• It all begins with the 500 third- and fourth-year PCOM students who work in four-week clinical clerkships in the 27 hospitals and in other locations.

“Our dean and president had the vision to see the changes that were on the horizon in medical education, and they broadened our approach and our reach,” says Dr. Pascucci. “It became clearer that PCOM would have to utilize the consortium approach to continue offering quality training programs for students, interns and residents.”

PCOM’s theory is that you never have enough affiliates; each hospital has something to offer. The long-range goal of OPTI is to combine and maximize resources. “We’re focusing on our resources and also on faculty development and OMM to maintain our osteopathic uniqueness,” emphasizes Dr. Pascucci.
PCOM students realize something quickly when they start their clerkships: that their osteopathic training has prepared them well for working with patients in the "real world."

"I was on a psychiatry rotation at St. Francis Medical Center in Pittsburgh, where there were also a lot of students from big allopathic schools, when I noticed that a number of patients knew we were from PCOM and thought that was a good thing," recalls Russell Adams, PCOM 01. "You don't appreciate how good PCOM is and how well prepared you are, until you get out there and you see that people know where you come from."

And PCOM students, such as Adams, quickly learn that the teaching physicians - both osteopathic and allopathic - appreciate them, too. "Allopathic physicians have been good to me. One of the residents at St. Francis said that students from a major allopathic medical school knew the DSM-IV better than we did, but that we were definitely better with the patients," says Adams. "It made me feel good that someone recognized our ability to communicate with patients and how much that means."

Adams says this is so because of what students are taught at PCOM, but more importantly because of the kind of people whom PCOM selects as its students. "You can't really teach compassion," he notes.

He sees his confidence and that of other PCOM students growing as they are exposed to more medicine. "We no longer want to be as good as allopathic students, we want to be better."
When he talks about “Orbie” there’s a twinkle in his eye, as if he’s remembering a dear old grandfather. But Orbie isn’t a person, it’s a place: Orbisonia, Pa., a place that still holds a part of PCOM Dean Kenneth J. Veit, DO, ’76, MBA, more than 20 years later. It was in this tiny southern central Pa. town that Dr. Veit learned how to be a doctor, but not just any doctor: a rural family doctor.

“I was so enthralled in people’s lives,” recalls Dr. Veit. “I was the doctor 24 hours a day – in the general store, restaurant, everywhere. I loved taking care of an entire town.” He enjoyed it so much he made sure he always had two PCOM students with him to share the experiences. Those former students still like to reminisce with him about those two years that he can only describe as “magic.”

“My first house call was for an old woman named Dessie Snyder,” he remembers. “We went to her place, a two-room shack with cats and chickens running around, and found Dessie in bed. Beside her were a large jar of pills, all shapes, colors and sizes, and a bottle of whiskey. Seems that when Dessie wasn’t feeling well, she would grab a random pill and gulp it down with a swig of whiskey. We straightened out her meds, but didn’t think she would last through the winter. Well, Dessie survived eight more winters!”

It was the US Public Health Service that sent him, with his white coat barely broken in, to the “physician shortage area” of Orbisonia. He had applied for a Public Health Service scholarship after rotating through PCOM’s Sullivan County Medical Center in LaPorte, Pa., where he felt a rural doctor could truly make a difference.

Pathway to dean

Dr. Veit jokes that his classmates would have voted him “least likely to be dean” because he wasn’t a “politician” and he didn’t participate in many of the extra activities PCOM students are known for. But he’s quick to point out that his background was typical of PCOM students.

“I’m from a blue collar, immigrant family, and I was the first to go to college,” says Dr. Veit, whose own family includes wife Cindy and children Alicia, Daniel and Jonathan. “My father was a tool and die maker and my mother also worked, and they made sure my siblings and I got a good education.”

What eventually led him to the Dean’s office was his love of teaching. “Taking care of patients and having a student there to teach is a very exciting combination for me,” he notes. As he became more and more interested in teaching, a need to “see the big picture” and make positive changes took hold, leading him to administration.

After several more years in the US Public Health Service, he returned to PCOM in 1981 to practice at PCOM’s healthcare centers and teach family medicine. He quickly climbed the administrative ladder: director of the healthcare centers, director of medical education at the hospital and assistant dean of graduate medical education. He was appointed dean in 1992 when Dean Daniel Wisely, DO retired.

Dr. Wisely became a trusted mentor to the new dean. “Dr. Wisely’s clarity of mission and complete honesty made him one of the most unique people I’ve ever met,” notes Dr. Veit. “When I became dean there was a lot of turmoil at PCOM with the sale of the hospitals. Dr. Wisely called me every week to see how I was doing. He kept me sane through it all.”

Dr. Veit is proud he played a part in ensuring that PCOM’s graduate medical education program and healthcare centers were kept with the College when the hospitals were sold. He’s also proud of the continued development of a quality faculty and curriculum, and the growth of the osteopathic manipulative medicine department, which he says is stronger than ever. These days, he’s focusing on forming new partnerships with hospitals and clinics to ensure that students have a variety of clinical training opportunities.

But most of all, he looks forward to Thursday mornings, when he grabs his stethoscope and heads to PCOM’s family medicine practice to see patients.

“On Thursday mornings, I’m back in Orbic with the students,” he says with a grin. “I’m on top of the world all day.”
He’s director of the fifth busiest emergency room in the US, treating nearly 500 patients each day. Much like his “ER” television counterparts, he never knows what’s coming next at Lincoln Medical & Mental Health Center in the Bronx, New York — and he likes it that way!

Joseph J. Kuchinski, DO, ’86, FACOEP, chose a career in emergency medicine because he likes the challenge of critically ill patients and a daily routine that is unpredictable. That’s why he switched from his original plan of becoming a pharmacist.

“I started working in my father’s pharmacy when I was six,” recalls Dr. Kuchinski. “In high school, I was filling prescriptions. But as a senior in pharmacy school, I realized I needed a new challenge and decided to apply to medical school.”

Dr. Kuchinski learned about osteopathic medicine from PCOM alumnus Richard Colarusso, DO, ’66, who also switched from a career in pharmacy to become a physician.

“What really turned me on to osteopathic medicine was my interview at PCOM,” Dr. Kuchinski remembers. “Treating the patient as a whole person seemed like a better way to practice medicine.”

He started with the idea of becoming a primary care physician back home in Pennsylvania’s Pocono Mountains. But he soon realized that his real love was emergency medicine (EM), and he gravitated to urban areas because he wanted to be involved with academic EM. “That’s where you find the biggest and best EM teaching programs,” he explains.

While a resident at PCOM, Dr. Kuchinski was encouraged by PCOM EM residency director John W. Becher, DO, ’70, FACOEP to pursue a start-up training opportunity at St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx. Always up for a new challenge, he and his partner, Theodore Spevack, DO, FACOEP, founded St. Barnabas’ EM residency training program 10 years ago with one resident. Today, they have the second-largest osteopathic emergency medicine residency training program in the US.

“Osteopathic medicine lends itself especially well to emergency medicine, especially the treatment of trauma patients,” he says. “Unlike primary care, we don’t have a relationship with the patient and medical records at our immediate disposal. We only have one shot at the patient and we have to get it right. By looking at the whole person and investigating all facets of medical care in one encounter, we’re less likely to miss something important.”

Dr. Kuchinski uses osteopathic manipulative medicine regularly in the emergency department, mostly for treating low back pain and muscle tension headaches, but also for asthma and upper respiratory problems.

This year, Dr. Kuchinski will take on yet another challenge as the president of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians. His goals include a dramatic increase in membership, and increased funding for research and academic studies.

In July 1999, Dr. Kuchinski was named to the American Osteopathic Association’s Council on Federal Health Programs, where he lobbies for healthcare reform in Washington, DC.

As a member of PCOM’s Alumni Board, Dr. Kuchinski wants to ensure the quality of continuing education for alumni and PCOM’s continued success as the nation’s number one college of osteopathic medicine.

“I encourage alumni to continue their generous financial support to the College, especially for student scholarships,” he says. “The debt that students incur is tremendous. Someone helped me, so I’d like to extend not one but both hands to the students who follow me. We should never forget that PCOM gave us the knowledge and opportunity to practice medicine.”

Dr. Kuchinski doesn’t have much spare time these days, but when he does, he spends it “being the best husband and father I can be” with wife, Andrea and son, Michael Anthony, age 1½.

A former PCOM rugby player, Dr. Kuchinski also enjoys sports, and claims he learned the value of working together as a team from his athletic activities — critical to his success in the emergency department!

“Osteopathic medicine lends itself especially well to emergency medicine.”
Alumni, students have strong presence at spring conventions

Many PCOM students attended the American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) convention at the Renaissance Hotel in Cleveland March 22-25. In fact, several students were elected to leadership positions in the Undergraduate American Academy of Osteopathy (UAAO). They are Sandra Ranieri, PCOM ‘01, chair, UAAO executive council; Mary Greiss, PCOM ’01, ex officio member, UAAO executive council; and Payce Handler, PCOM ’02, UAAO regional representative.

At the convention, Constance Gasda, PCOM ’01 was awarded first prize in the A. Hollis Wolfe Case Presentation competition. Her presentation, “Working Pains,” focused on using osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) with a twist of occupational medicine. She discussed the case of a woman with thoracic and cervical musculoskeletal lesions, and how specific OMM techniques combined with changes in the workplace can prevent a recurrence and/or new musculoskeletal lesions. Gasda received an all-expense trip to Paris to work with French osteopaths.

About receiving the award, Gasda says, “It was great to show the rest of the osteopathic community that our school is serious about promoting and using osteopathic principles and practices.”

More than 100 alumni attended PCOM’s alumni reception at the American College of Family Physicians (ACOFP) convention at Bally’s Las Vegas in Nevada March 26-31. Three alumni won raffle prizes: Kirsten Santianni, DO, ’89 won the PCOM umbrella, Maria P. Dugan, DO, ’87 won the PCOM champagne glasses and Bradley Meek, DO, ’79 won the PCOM briefcase.

Another convention well-attended by PCOM alumni was the Atlantic Regional Osteopathic Convention (AROC) in Atlantic City, New Jersey April 12-15. Here, PCOM participated in “Student Day,” where DO students visit the other osteopathic colleges’ exhibits seeking information about rotations, internships and residencies. Richard Pascucci, DO, ’75, associate dean for graduate medical education, answered questions and provided information to the many DO students who inquired about PCOM’s programs. Also

Enjoying the alumni reception at the ACOFP convention are, left to right, Jeffrey Downing, DO, ’77, Kary Schroyer, DO, ’97, Cristin Trecroce, DO, ’97, Laurie Ann Fatz, DO, ’97, Keith Kappeler, DO, ’97, Christopher Salerno, DO, ’97, and Larry Finkelstein, DO, ’87.

Rachel Eisenbrock, first-year BioMed student, Brad Croft, DO, ’80 and his son Bryce take a break at the ACOFP convention.
CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Students, residents receive prizes in urology competition

The following paper presentations received prizes at the Philadelphia Urologic Society's Residents' Night Competition March 20 at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia:

First prize, basic science category: "Racial differences in prostate cancer related to loss of heterozygosity of chromosome 8p12-23," W. Jamie Malone, PCOM '00, John Kalaparakal, MD, A.N.K. Jacob, Sucha O. Asbell, MD, Philip C. Ginsberg, DO, '80 and Richard C. Harkaway, MD.

Second place, clinical category: "Discontinuation of alpha-blockade after initial treatment with finasteride and doxazosin for bladder outlet obstruction: the effect of increased alpha-blocker dose," Kelly C. Baldwin, PCOM '00, Philip C. Ginsberg, DO, '80 and Richard C. Harkaway, MD.

Honorable mention, basic science category:
"Replacement of a ureteral segment using a circumferential small intestinal submucosal xenogenic graft," Jamison Jaffe, PCOM '00, Philip C. Ginsberg, DO, '80, Stephen Yanoshak, DO, '90, Louis Costa, PCOM '02, Francis Ogbolu, DO, '95, Christopher Moyer, DO, '95, Charlotte Greene, PhD, Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59 and Richard C. Harkaway, MD.

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Monica Pedano, left (with her baby, Joseph) and Andrea Pedano, DO, '90, daughters of Nicholas C. Pedano, DO, '61, visit PCOM's exhibit at the POMA convention.
Class Acts

40s


Arthur Snyder, DO, ’44, Aventura, Fla., was awarded Emeritus Professorship by Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Martin J. Goldstein, DO, ’45, Riviera Beach, Fla., was awarded Emeritus Professorship by Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Arnold Melnick, DO, ’45, Aventura, Fla., had a book published on public speaking, titled Professionally Speaking, by The Haworth Press.

Daniel M. Finkelstein, DO, ’46, Miami Shores, Fla., was awarded Emeritus Professorship by Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

50s

Norman H. Ilowite, DO, ’55, Fort Lee, NJ, was appointed chairman, Board of Dermatology, an affiliate of the American Association of Physician Specialists.

Robert S. Ravetz, DO, ’57, Philadelphia, Pa., had an article published in the Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association titled “Obsessive compulsive disorder: diagnosis and treatment.” He also wrote a medical update titled “Psychopharmacology update: antipsychotics,” which was published in the Journal of the POMA.

Robert M. Fogel, DO, ’58, Media, Pa., co-authored an article titled “New England Journal of Medicine article may be misleading about OMT,” which was published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

Robert A. Promisloff, DO, ’73, Bryn Mawr, Pa., co-authored a Medical Update in the Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association titled “Pneumococcal pericarditis.”

Daniel D. Jania, DO, ’74, Pittsburgh, Pa., became a fellow of the American Academy of Osteopathy.

Joseph Tretta, DO, ’74, Towanda, Pa., joined Physician Care, P.C.

Arthur J. Jordan, Jr., DO, ’75, Clarks Summit, Pa., was appointed to the staff of Northeastern Eye Institute.

Anthony E. Niescier, DO, ’75, Lower Gwynedd, Pa., was appointed chairman of the staff at Mercy Suburban Hospital.

Ralph E. Aldinger, DO, ’76, Redesdale, Pa., joined the medical staff of Tyrone Hospital.

Theodore Eisenberg, DO, ’76, Merion Station, Pa., was featured on the national CBS television show “Inside Edition.”

Stephen N. Finberg, DO, ’76, Paradise Valley, Ariz., was elected chief of staff at Paradise Valley Hospital.

Brian M. Palmer, DO, ’76, Philadelphia, Pa., was elected to the board of trustees of The American College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine.

Thomas E. Trosko, DO, ’76, Harrisburg, Pa., was featured in The (Wilkes University) Beacon in an article titled “Trosko family line makes their mark on Wilkes.”

Kenneth J. Veit, DO, ’76, Lafayette Hill, Pa., wrote a case study titled “Role of the osteopathic family physician in profound hearing loss in childhood,” which was published in Family Physician, the journal of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

Gilbert D’Alonzo, Jr., DO, ’77, Huntington Valley, Pa., wrote an editorial titled “What is the standard of care for patients with low back pain?” which was published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

60s

Robert S. Maurer, DO, ’62, Edison, NJ, wrote an article titled “HMO legislative proposals – ERISA waivers vs. effective appeals,” which was published in the Journal of the POMA.

Ralph C. Lanciano, DO, ’65, Haddonfield, NJ, was appointed president of the Academy of Ophthalmology.

William A. Fliskey, DO, ’66, Philadelphia, Pa., was granted the designation of ASH Specialist in Clinical Hypertension by the American Society of Hypertension Specialists Program, Inc.

Miles G. Newman, DO, ’67, Elizabethtown, Pa., was profiled in the Chronicle in an article titled “E-town doctor practices what he’s taught for 30 years.”

John P. Bruno, DO, ’69, Bethlehem, Pa., co-authored an article in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association titled “The comprehensive osteopathic medical licensing examination, COMLEX-USA: a new paradigm in testing and evaluation.”

Gerald V. Klim, DO, ’69, Lexington, Ky., was appointed medical director of the traumatic brain injury unit at Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital.

70s

Robert Ivker, DO, ’72, Littleton, Colo., was featured in the Detroit News and Free Press in an article titled “Doctor of last resort.”

Robert T. Retter, DO, ’74, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the American Osteopathic Association.

P. Michael Johnson, DO, ’75, Davenport, Iowa, was named assistant professor of medicine at Des Moines University.

Peter A. Bucius, DO, ’76, Scranton, Pa., was appointed chief of staff at the Scranton VA Medical Center.

Thomas E. Trosko, DO, ’76, Harrisburg, Pa., was named chief of the department of medicine at the Lebanon VA Medical Center.

G. Newman, DO, ’76, of the American Osteopathic Association,

P. Michael Johnson, DO, ’75, Davenport, Iowa, was named assistant professor of medicine at Des Moines University.

Charles G. K. Chen, DO, ’76, of the American Osteopathic Association,

P. Michael Johnson, DO, ’75, Davenport, Iowa, was named assistant professor of medicine at Des Moines University.

G. Newman, DO, ’76, of the American Osteopathic Association,

P. Michael Johnson, DO, ’75, Davenport, Iowa, was named assistant professor of medicine at Des Moines University.
Daniel D. Wert, DO, '77, Lancaster, Pa., received the “E.O. Marlin Award” from the American Association of Physician Specialists, Inc.

Steven D. Kamajian, DO, '78, Agoura Hills, Calif., was featured in an article in The Acorn titled "Student volunteers get dose of life."

John Santoro, DO, '78, Linwood, NJ, was elected president of the board of the American Cancer Society of Atlantic and Cape May counties.

Ralph S. Carungii, DO, '79, Phoenix, Ariz., co-authored an article titled "Gastric leiomyosarcoma presenting as a sentinel hemorrhage," which was published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

Bruce B. Frantz, DO, '79, York, Pa., became a fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

Richard C. Hale, DO, '79, Centre Hall, Pa., opened a pulmonary medicine practice in Tyrone, Pa.

Lynwood W. Hammers, DO, '79, Trumbull, Conn., joined the radiology department at St. Vincent's Medical Center and the multi-specialty offices of Robert D. Russo, MD.

Carol L. Henwood-Dahdah, DO, '83, Pottstown, Pa., discussed the osteopathic medical tradition on the nationally-syndicated PBS television series, "Healthweek."

Angelo Mancuso, DO, '83, Decatur, Ala., was featured in an article in the Madison County titled "The balance of politics and medicine."

Jeffrey C. Brand, DO, '84, Norristown, Pa., was elected treasurer of Mercy Suburban Hospital's medical staff executive committee.

Maria F. Daly, DO, '84, Phoenix, Ariz., was voted "Top doc in family practice" in Phoenix Magazine.

Gregory Frailey, DO, '84, Williamsport, Pa., was elected president of The Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council.

Steven J. Karp, DO, '84, York, Pa., was named "Psychiatrist of the Year" by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

Richard B. Tancer, DO, '84, Montville, NJ, was appointed director of alumni affairs for the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons. He also was inducted as the association's president-elect.

Peter W. Taraschi, DO, '84, Palm Bay, Fla., was elected chairman, department of family practice at Health First Holmes Regional Medical Center.

Timothy Lilly, DO, '85, Danville, Pa., joined the medical staff at Covenant Clinic at Danville.


Michele D. Jones, DO, '87, Allentown, Pa., was appointed medical director of the injury care department of the Portville (Pa.) Hospital and Warne Clinic.

David Kruzewski, DO, '87, Erie, Pa., was elected president of the Erie County Medical Society – the first osteopathic doctor elected president in the society's 171-year history.

Daniel L. Parenti, DO, '87, Philadelphia, Pa., wrote a medical update titled "Bronchopulmonary sequestration case report and review," which was published in the Journal of the POMA.

Gwendolyn Poles, DO, '87, Harrisburg, Pa., wrote an update in the Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association titled "Breast cancer screening."

Joseph F. Cipriano, DO, '88, Norristown, Pa., was elected secretary of Mercy Suburban Hospital's medical staff executive committee.

Scott M. Dorfner, DO, '88, Cherry Hill, NJ, was featured in the Burlington County Times in an article titled "Home remedies...doctor takes to the road for house calls." He also was featured in an article in the Burlington County Times titled "Practicing good medicine."

Steve Halm, DO, '89, Reidsville, NC, developed a website for pediatricians across the United States that promotes health and safety issues for children.

Michael J. Olek, DO, '89, Boston, Mass., wrote an article titled "Multiple sclerosis – part I, overview, pathophysiology, diagnostic evaluation and clinical parameters," which was published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

Martin J. Wall, DO, '89, Lancaster, Pa., was appointed medical director of the Welsh Medical and Dental Center.

Brian E. Wind, DO, '89, North Canton, Ohio, was elected secretary/treasurer of the medical staff at Doctors Hospital of Stark County.

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80s

Philip C. Ginsberg, DO, '80, Narberth, Pa., co-authored an article titled "Testicular cysts: management and literature review," which was published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

Jack Bailey, III, DO, '81, Meadville, Pa., was recertified in geriatric medicine.

Robert A. Koenigsberg, DO, '82, Broomall, Pa., became a fellow of the American College of Radiology.

Scott Deron, DO, '83, Lancaster, Pa., was elected to the board of directors of the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation.
Joseph J. Conti, DO, '90, Glassboro, NJ, was named medical director for Virtua Health & Rehabilitation Center.

Emil P. Lesko, DO, '90, had an article published in the Archives of Family Medicine titled "An overview of osteopathic medicine."

Mary Martucci, DO, '90, Haddonfield, NJ, joined the medical staff of Kennedy Health System.

Kris Raineer, DO, '90, Vineland, NJ, was certified in nuclear cardiology.

Laurence V. Cramer, DO, '91, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., opened a new practice, Broker & Cramer, ENT.

Nancy Lobby, DO, '91, Moorestown, NJ, co-authored an article titled "Testicular cysts: management and literature review," which was published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

Charles Raudat, DO, '91, McAllen, Texas, joined the medical staff at McAllen Heart Hospital.

Christopher D. Still, DO, '91, Lewisburg, Pa., wrote a chapter on obesity in the 1999 Textbook of Conn's Current Therapy. He also gave a presentation titled "Obesity treatment in a managed care setting: design and outcomes" to the North American Association for the Study of Obesity in Charleston, SC.

David Toomey, DO, '91, Lancaster, Pa., was appointed medical director of Longwood Manor in Maytown, Pa.

Felecia S. Waddleton-Willis, DO, '91, Longview, Texas, was named a fellow of American Osteopathic Association's National Health Policy Fellowship Program.

Joseph M. Janzer, DO, '92, Elkhart, Ind., joined River Pointe Orthopedics and the medical staff of Elkhart General Hospital.

Rani Kapur-Pado, DO, '92, Apalachin, NY, joined United Medical Associates.

John Lee, DO, '92, Ashtabula, Ohio, joined Ashtabula Clinic.

Tracy M. Skolnick, DO, '92, Chattanooga, Tenn., joined TCFPA Family Medical Center.


Nance A. Lovelace, DO, '93, Shavertown, Pa., was appointed medical director of Pennsylvania Health.

Michael J. Reihart, DO, '93, Columbia, Pa., was featured in an article in the York Dispatch titled "From volunteer to doctor."

Kenneth A. Thompson, DO, '93, Dublin, Va., joined New River Valley Women's Health Center.

Maria Azarcon, DO, '94, Linwood, NJ, joined the offices of Dr. David Jenkins in Ewing, NJ.

Nicholas De Angelo, DO, '94, Scranton, Pa., joined the anesthesiologist group of Northeast Pennsylvania at Community Medical Center.

Camille Dillard, DO, '94, Dolgeville, NY, joined the medical staff at Little Falls Hospital's Primary Care Centers in Dolgeville and St. Johnsville.

Robert D. McGann, DO, '94, New Castle, Pa., was appointed to the medical staff at St. Francis Hospital.

Sean P. Conroy, DO, '95, Bryn Mawr, Pa., joined Collegeville Family Medicine.

Donna Leonardo, DO, '95, Lancaster, Pa., was awarded a grant by the Glaucoma Research Foundation to study genetic factors that may cause glaucoma.

Robert M. Parrick, DO, '95, Pittston, Pa., was certified in internal medicine by the American College of Osteopathic Internists.

Michael C. Roman, DO, '95, Norristown, Pa., opened a new practice, Jeffersonville Internal Medicine, PC.

Salvatore P. Sparich, Jr., DO, '95, Drum, Pa., opened Family Practices Associates of Hazleton, PC.

Stephanie A. Tarapchak, DO, '95, Easton, Pa., joined the practice of Dr. Walter W. Setlock in Frackville, Pa.

Joyce L. Vrabec, DO, '95, White Haven, Pa., joined the Penn State Geisinger Health System.

David J. Addley, DO, '96, Upper Marlboro, Md., received the "Meta Christy Award" from PCOM's chapter of the Student National Medical Association.


Patricia M. Novobilski, DO, '96, Philadelphia, Pa., joined the Hospitalist Service Team at Conway Hospital.

Baxter D. Wellmon, DO, '96, Shippensburg, Pa., was featured in the Shippensburg Sentinel in an article titled "Shippensburg doctor specializing in osteopathic medicine."

Todd Bezella, DO, '97, Philadelphia, Pa., wrote an article titled "OMT and diffuse musculoskeletal complaints following a motor vehicle accident," which was published in the American Academy of Osteopathy Journal.
Ronald Hudanich, DO, '98, Rosemont, Pa., wrote a case report titled "Congenital absence of the anterior and posterior cruciate ligaments in the presence of bilateral absent patellae," which was published in the American Journal of Knee Surgery.

Certificates of Merit awarded
PCOM's Alumni Association board of directors awarded the following people "Certificates of Merit" for outstanding achievement in osteopathic medicine:

Joseph Casee, PCOM director of financial aid, who served PCOM students for 17 years.

Robert B. Goldberg, DO, '77, Short Hills, NJ, who was installed as president of the New York County Medical Society.

Luke Nelligan, DO, '91, Indianapolis, Ind., who was elected president of the Indiana Osteopathic Association.

Gregory G. Papadeas, DO, '88, Englewood, Colo., who was appointed president of the American Osteopathic College of Dermatology.

John R. Soccy, DO, '67, Flint, Mich., who received the "Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award" from the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

John P. Simelaro, DO, '71, Bryn Mawr, Pa., who was named 1999 "Physician of the Year" by the Vista Care Foundation, a national nonprofit organization that advocates quality end-of-life care.

Glenn N. Wagner, DO, '74, Captain, MC, US Navy, Olney, Md., who was named director of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

In Memoriam


Bernard Coppolelli, DO, '65, Coventry, RI, Feb. 18.


Sharon Qureshi Khan, DO, '98, Wilmington, Del., April 29.

Chester S. Kwoka, DO, '53, San Diego, Calif., April 5.


Leonard V. Limongelli, DO, '68, FP, Bensalem, Pa., May 24. Dr. Limongelli was the 1999-2000 POMA president.

Albert L. Mathews, DO, '41, Palm Springs, Calif., April 1999.


Charles Morrone, Jr., DO, '74, FP, Wrightstown, Pa., Jan. 1.


Whitlaw M. Show, DO, '46, FP, Bird-In-Hand, Pa., Dec. 12.


Herbert Zachringer, DO, '37, Kenmore, NY, Jan. 30.

Alexander Xenakis, DO, '56, old-fashioned family physician, dies

Alexander Xenakis, DO, '56 of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, died January 22 at age 75. Dr. Xenakis had practiced family medicine in Ft. Lauderdale since 1961. He still made house calls and would provide needy patients with free medication. In the '60s and '70s, he volunteered at the Migrant Mission in Pompano Beach, where he provided free medical care to migrant farm workers who had no access to medical care.

He was a founder of the former Doctors General Hospital in Plantation, Fla., where he served as chief of staff. He also served as chairman of the general practice department at North Ridge Medical Center. He was president of the Broward County Osteopathic Medical Association and served as PCOM Alumni Association president in 1984-85. He also was a clinical preceptor to third- and fourth-year PCOM students.

Dr. Xenakis, a Philadelphia native, served in the US Marine Corps as an aerial reconnaissance photographer in World War II. He worked as a photographer to pay his way through Temple University, graduating in 1952. After graduating from PCOM, he practiced in Philadelphia before moving to Florida in 1961. He was involved in numerous community organizations and was very active in his church.
Got ideas? Then we want to hear from you!

Your ideas for stories and feedback on Digest are valuable to us. We are always looking for compelling stories for the magazine, and we welcome your ideas. Also, take a minute and let us know how we're doing and how we can improve. Please see page 1 for information on how to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you,
Staff of Digest

COMING EVENTS

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 11-13</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society Annual Convention, Hershey, Pa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 16</td>
<td>PCOM Board of Trustees Meeting, 1pm</td>
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<td>327 A&amp;B, Evans Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>8th Annual PCOM Golf Classic</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Frankford-Torresdale Country Club, Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21-24</td>
<td>Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Specialists</td>
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<td>Boston, Mass.</td>
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<td>October 26-29</td>
<td>Student Osteopathic Medical Association Convention</td>
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<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
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<td>October 29-</td>
<td>American Osteopathic Association Convention and Scientific Seminar,</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
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<td>November 15</td>
<td>PCOM Annual Corporation Meeting, 10:30am</td>
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<td>Ginsburg Amphitheater, Evans Hall</td>
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<td>PCOM Board of Trustees Meeting, 1pm</td>
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PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
4180 City Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131

Address service requested