It’s Our Move...

CREATING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
IN A SHRINKING HEALTH CARE
DELIVERY SYSTEM
Dear Colleagues,

Every day we read about numerous challenges to maintaining quality health care delivery and affordable higher education. Difficult times call for bold actions, and PCOM is taking such action.

The perfect storm of diminished government support and escalating costs (including medical malpractice insurance premiums) requires that PCOM be proactive, creative, and determined in its pursuit of growth, security and excellence. We are moving ahead on several fronts, as outlined in this issue of Digest.

As our “Five Point Plan for the Future of PCOM” is implemented, the College will be bringing its instructional and service missions to new populations and communities. Since the American Osteopathic Association convention in New Orleans, we have been sharing our plan with alumni at numerous receptions. The response has been excellent. We hope you will become familiar with the Plan (see page 9) and participate in its fulfillment. We need you!

As you read about the Five Point Plan, I invite you to contact me and share your personal vision for the future of PCOM. We are a strong institution with a long and proud history. One recent example: PCOM’s Doctor of Psychology program in clinical psychology has been granted accreditation by the Committee on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association.

I look forward to working with you to forge a future that is worthy of our past, and of the almost 12,000 osteopathic physicians, health care professionals, researchers and organizational change leaders whose PCOM educations have enabled them to bring light to the world.

Best wishes to you and your families for a peaceful and happy spring!

With warmest regards,

Matthew Schure, PhD
President and CEO
IN MEMORIAM ALBERT F. D’ALONZO, DO ’56
The PCOM community mourns the passing of Albert F. D’Alonzo, DO ’56, a man who played many roles at PCOM, all of them important and influential in shaping the education of physicians and dreams of thousands of students.

STEM CELL RESEARCH
Dr. Mindy George-Weinstein and her associates are using chick embryos to study the complexities of stem cells.

THE CLOSING OF PARKVIEW HOSPITAL...
The closing of this osteopathic institution, founded by several PCOM alumni, leaves a void in health care and in the hearts of many. Still, its legacy will remain alive thanks to the Parkview Hospital Physicians Scholarship established by generous displaced doctors who called Parkview their second home.

COVER STORY
It’s our move… Creating training opportunities in a shrinking health care delivery system.
As the number of osteopathic hospitals dwindles, PCOM has made strategic moves, including new partnerships and PCOM MEDNet.

PCOM UPDATES
PCOM’s Five Point Plan Maps Positive Future; Student Saves Drowning Men; First Portrait of Female History-Maker, Dr. Cathie, Unveiled; Leonard Finkelstein, DO ’59 Honored; PCOM Mourns Losses; Golf Classic Winners and more…

CLASS NOTES
Find your class agent and stay in touch with classmates and PCOM!

ESSAY
Dedicated physician Burton Blender, DO ’62 expresses his thoughts on the closing of Parkview Hospital.
CORRECTION

The Annual Report, *A Sense of Purpose*, contained an error on page 15. The photograph shown there was of John W. Yunginger, MD, not his father Lewis M. Yunginger, DO ’35. Printed here are both photos with the correct names. We apologize to Dr. John Yunginger who has been a generous supporter of the Lewis M. Yunginger, DO Memorial Scholarship, originally established through a trust from his father, Lewis.

INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY CORE LECTURE SERIES IN PROGRESS

The internal medicine residency at PCOM holds its Core Lecture Series once a week, throughout the year. Alumni are encouraged to participate in the series as speakers or moderators. CME credits are provided for participation, through PCOM, for the AOA.

Also, for participating in the Residency Program, volunteer faculty are granted access to the PCOM online library, which includes Medline and MD Consult. Consider a return visit to your alma mater as a member of our volunteer faculty. For more information, contact associate chief residents at 215-871-6329 or Dr. Maureen Sestito ’02 at drsestito@aol.com or Dr. George Seavy ’02 at geoseav@aol.com.

SHAKE HANDS WITH OSTEOPATHY

PCOM’s chapter of the Undergraduate American Academy of Osteopathy (UAAO) sponsored it’s second annual “Shake Hands with Osteopathy,” during which physicians teach students their favorite techniques. Here, Michael Kuchera, DO, professor, OMM, demonstrates a technique for redoming the diaphragm and discusses its indications with PCOM students as Alexander Nicholas, DO ’75 Chairman, OMM observes.
BOARD WELCOMES FOUR NEW MEMBERS

Joseph A. Dieterle, DO ’70, FACOP, FAAP; Thomas J. Gravina, Pat A. Lannutti, DO ’71, MSc and Michael R. Walker have been elected to the PCOM Board of Trustees.

Dr. Dieterle, clinical professor, PCOM department of pediatrics, is division director of pediatric care at Shore Memorial Hospital in Somers Point, NJ. Certified by the American Board of Pediatrics and the American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics, he is also a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians, the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association and the Philadelphia Pediatric Society. He is also a former dean of PCOM.

Mr. Gravina, president and CEO of ATX Communications, an integrated communications provider, has been recognized by the Philadelphia and surrounding business communities with numerous personal and professional awards, including the Philadelphia Business Journal’s prestigious “40 Under 40” distinction in 1992. He has been honored as senior executive of ATX in a wide range of programs, from technology leadership awards to Chamber of Commerce events to fundraising campaigns. A graduate and active alumnus of Villanova University, Gravina supports many charitable organizations.

Dr. Lannutti, has been elected faculty representative to the Board of Trustees. Lannutti is chairman of PCOM’s division of general internal medicine and vice chairman of the department of internal medicine. He practices internal medicine with PCOM InterMed Associates. He was co-medical director of the Diabetic Treatment Center from 1985 to 1989 and chief of staff of Metropolitan Hospital’s Center Division from 1988 to 1989. Among his many achievements, Dr. Lannutti was named PCOM Clinical Teacher of the Year eight times and American College of Osteopathic Internists Teacher of the Year in 2000. He received the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1994.

Michael R. Walker founded Genesis Health Ventures, a diversified health service company, and served as chairman and chief executive officer of the company since its inception in 1985 through 2002. He is founder and chairman of the board of trustees of ElderTrust, a health care real estate investment trust. Prior to Genesis, Walker founded Health Group Care Centers, the predecessor to HCR Manor Care. Walker also led the Alliance for Quality Nursing Home Care, a coalition of the nation’s top 15 long-term care providers.

(clockwise from top left), Michael Walker, Joseph A. Dieterle, DO ’70, Thomas J. Gravina and Pat A. Lannutti, DO ’71

LEONARD H. FINKELSTEIN, DO ’59, HONORED

Leonard Finkelstein, DO ’59, has been an integral part of PCOM for over four decades. From his time as a student, professor, chairman of the division of urology and, ultimately, as president and chief executive officer of the College, Dr. Finkelstein’s efforts enhanced the curriculum, expanded the graduate medical education program and took the College from a $6 million deficit to a $4 million surplus. Vice Chancellor Finkelstein was honored for his contributions to the college as his portrait joined those of other PCOM past presidents in the Lotman Lobby of Evans Hall.

Dr. Finkelstein was joined by his wife, Marylyn and son Larry, DO ’87, when his presidential portrait was dedicated last spring.

DELAWARE DAY INTRODUCES STUDENTS TO PCOM

Amol Parikh talks to Deb Erdner, director of admissions, at Delaware Day.

College students from Delaware spent half a day on campus last fall during Delaware Day at PCOM. Students learned about the College from students, faculty and PCOM President, Matthew Schure, PhD. Thanks, in large part, to former alumni association president Vincent Lobo, DO ’65, the Delaware Legislature recognizes PCOM as the official osteopathic medical school for Delaware. As such, the state funds a PCOM medical education for five students from Delaware each year.
Rebecca Park | 1972-2003

Fourth-year medical student Rebecca Park was a thoughtful and caring friend, an animal and nature lover, a hard worker and a bright spirit. “She was always looking to make friends, to create a sense of community,” explains Refky Nicola (DO ’04). “There’s always one person in a group who brings life to that group,” adds Adrian Wilson (DO ’04). “Rebecca was that person.” By all accounts, she worked hard and played hard. “She was always active,” continues Wilson. “She took time to do what she enjoyed, but academics were her first priority. Rebecca kept an index card under the glass top of her desk that read, ‘Be strong. Work hard.’ She looked at that card every day, and she was a hard worker and a strong person.” Rebecca’s spirit will live on in all who knew her and in all the lives she touched. Park is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sung Park of Olney, Maryland and her brother, Rudy, of California, who was instrumental in the investigation which led to her recovery.

Willie Mae Johnson | 1938-2003

Meticulous and dedicated are the two words often repeated by those describing Willie (Billie) Mae Johnson, a laboratory technician in the biochemistry/molecular biology department at PCOM since 1977. When PCOM moved from 48th Street to City Avenue, Billie and Bill Laidlaw, senior research assistant, took the lab apart and put it back together. “Billie took the lab through a lot of changes,” explains Ruth Thornton, PhD, associate professor and director of biochemistry/molecular biology. “She was meticulous; everything had to be done a certain way, both in her home and in the lab. You have to be very careful doing cell cultures, and Billie made sure the floors were mopped and there wasn’t a spec of dust anywhere.” Irene Tasca, Supervisor, biochemistry/molecular biology, concurs, “I valued her judgment, I admired her strength and resolve. She had great faith and trusted in God. She was a truly good woman.”

Bruno Bromke, PhD | 1942-2003

As a professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, Bruno Bromke, PhD, was a devoted and accomplished teacher, mentor, researcher and lecturer. “His humility and unassuming personality were balanced by a keen sense of dry humor,” recalls his colleague Kerin Fresa-Dillon, PhD, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology. “Bruno was a pivotal member of the department,” says Robert Fogel, DO ’58, chairman, pathology, microbiology and immunology. “He accepted responsibility for everyone and everything. His standards were exacting for both himself and his students. He was devoted to science and to doing the very best he could. He approached every lecture with great preparation, he really cared and always wanted to do the very best he could do. Bruno was a simple, kind and gentle man, and he was loved by his students.”

Jarrid Bernhardt (MS ’04) was Dr. Bromke’s first master’s student, and he credits his successes to Dr. Bromke’s mentoring. “The first few weeks of the master’s program were difficult for me,” he recalls. “Dr. Bromke stuck by my side and guided me each step of the way. He took the time to explain every detail, to teach every technique. He had such a passion for the work he did, it was inspiring, not to mention how much he truly loved working with students. As my advisor, he taught me to be a good student; as my role model, he taught me to be a good person.”

Richard Notzold, PhD | 1929 – 2003

PCOM students who’ve graduated within the last 30 years have Richard Notzold, PhD, to thank for their solid education in histology. When Dr. Notzold joined the anatomy department in 1972, he ensured that students would have a solid education in histology by redesigning the course. He taught histology for 25 years and served as course director for 18 years. He taught gross anatomy for many years and was a lecturer in the nutrition course. Even retirement could not stop him from doing what he loved. Although he retired in 1997, he stayed at PCOM part time for another two years to help teach histology and anatomy. “Dr. Notzold was an excellent professor who really knew his material and had a great rapport with the students,” recalls Tage Kvist, PhD, professor and chairman of anatomy. “We miss his sense of humor, which was good for the students and good for the department.” In 1983 Dr. Notzold received the prestigious Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching and in 2000 was named Professor Emeritus.

Please see page 10 for article on the passing of Albert F. D’Alonzo, DO ’56.
Doctor of Psychology Program Receives Accreditation
The PCOM doctor of psychology in clinical psychology program has been accredited by the American Psychological Association. This accreditation speaks to the excellence of the program, which is designed for in-career professionals. To date, one-hundred percent of those graduating from PCOM’s PsyD program have passed their licensing exams.

School Psychology Program Receives State Approval
PCOM’s master of science in school psychology program and the educational specialist certification in school psychology program (the required credential to become a school psychologist) have been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Physician Assistant Program
The Department recognized National Physician Assistant Day with a panel discussion, "Current Trends in Clinical Practice." The panel was comprised of three graduates of PCOM’s PA program and one preceptor. They discussed the many options available to Physician Assistants. The audience included the PA students from PCOM and pre-professional students from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.

Also last fall, the PA class of 2005 went on a faculty and student retreat. The two-day, overnight retreat developed by Michael Huber, MMS, PA-C, assistant chair/assistant professor, consisted of team building exercises designed to strengthen student-to-student and student-to-faculty relationships. The students also used this time to elect class officers.

Last spring, PCOM’s PA Studies students went head-to-head with students from Drexel’s PA Department in the first annual PA Olympics to benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children, a network of 22 hospitals that provide expert, no-cost orthopedic and burn care to children under 18. Not only did PCOM’s PA program raise funds for this worthwhile cause, they brought home the first place award - the Rubber Glove Trophy.

Forensic Medicine Introduces Two New Options
The department of forensic medicine has created the pathway program for individuals with a bachelor’s degree and the desire to pursue advanced studies in forensic medicine. The 14-week program runs from May through August and provides a solid foundation in biology, human anatomy and physiology as they relate to forensic medicine. Upon successful completion of the Pathway program, students are prepared for the master of science in forensic medicine program.

A forensic medicine certificate program for working professionals has also been introduced. Courses are taught on weekends and cover various aspects of forensic medicine, death scene investigation and clinical pathology. This 20-credit program culminates in a certificate of advanced graduate study in forensic medicine.

For more information about graduate programs, call PCOM Office of Admissions at 1-800-999-6998 or visit our Web site at www.pcom.edu/grad.

NEW GME AWARDS PRESENTED
Two new GME Awards were presented at the Annual Survivor’s Dinner Dance: the City Avenue Physicians Scholarship Award and the Henrietta and Jack Avart Memorial Award. The City Avenue Physicians Scholarship Fund is awarded to medical residents in their last year of residency who have shown an interest in serving the Philadelphia community and a continued desire to serve this community. The Henrietta and Jack Avart Memorial Award was established by Mark D. Avart, DO ’79 to honor his parents. The award is presented to the graduating resident who has exhibited exceptional competency in orthopedic surgery.

Gregory Busch, DO ’98 and Linda Lam, DO were the first two recipients of the City Avenue Physicians Scholarship Award.

Jack Kazanjian, DO ’98 accepts the Henrietta and Jack Avart Memorial Award from Mark D. Avart, DO ’79.

PCOM SUPPORTS LIGHTS FOR THE CURE
In support of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, PCOM joined the consortium of buildings and landmarks in the city that turned their exteriors pink in a salute to the region’s thousands of breast cancer survivors and in memory of those who lost their battle with the disease. The lights also served as a reminder to everyone of the need to remain vigilant in the fight for a cure.
In the News

DR. SCHURE MAKES NEWS

President and CEO Matthew Schure, PhD, was interviewed for the local cable news program Newsmakers on CN8. Dr. Schure discussed the College’s programs, research and Healthcare Centers. The program aired for two weeks in November.

Also making news was Rosemary Mennuti, EdD, director of school psychology programs who was interviewed on the WHYY radio program “Voices in the Family.” She discussed the group therapy work she does with women on the show titled “Stigma on Obesity.” Dan Taylor, DO ’97, appeared on NBC10, “Live at Issue”, discussing flu shots for children.

STAN MAKES IT TO PRIME TIME

PCOM’s human patient simulator, Stan, was featured on NBC’s local affiliate, Channel 10, on their Healthwatch segment. A human patient simulator like Stan made a guest appearance on the November 20 episode of the television drama ER, during which he succumbed to a cocaine overdose.

PCOM’s Stan appeared on Channel 10 that same evening as a tie-in, but his life was saved due to the heroic efforts of PCOM fourth-year medical students Dammun Pierce, Jennifer Rakitt and Angela McClanahan under the watchful eye of Deanna Ligenza, DO ’96. Jane Cripe, BSMT, Patient Simulator Technician, put Stan through his scenario for the news crew.

STUDENT SAVES DROWNING MEN

On an Indian-summer day in early November, Jason Chew (DO ’05) was enjoying a slice of pizza with his girlfriend on the boardwalk in Ocean City, NJ when he saw a commotion on the beach. A man and his son had been swept out into the ocean by a rip current, and a bystander who had rushed in to help them was also struggling.

Chew, a trained lifeguard with 10 years of experience, ran to the beach, grabbed a boogie board from an onlooker and plunged into the ocean. Chew reached the would-be lifesaver first. “He had grabbed an old lifeguard buoy, but had gone into the water with all his clothes on and was really in trouble. I handed him the boogie board and brought him to shore,” Chew said. Chew then headed to the other two and handed them the buoy. Chew grabbed a rope attached to the buoy and began the arduous trek back to shore.

It was a difficult rescue. As he got to the men, “They were just panicking. Even I got a little nervous. Just as I got to them, a set of eight or 10 waves hit. I grabbed them in a bear hug as we were swept toward the jetty. I tried to swim in with them, but I couldn’t fight the current. So I swam on an angle, parallel to shore. Finally I ended up getting them in toward the Music Pier. It took a long time. I was probably in the water 10 to 15 minutes.”
Kudos

Andrea Bloomgarden, PhD, assistant professor, department of psychology, had her manuscript, *Self Disclosure in Psychotherapy*, accepted for publication by Springer Publishing.

Danielle Cavanaugh, supervisor, clinical education, was honored by the class of 2003 for her dedication, commitment and service to the students during their clinical years.

Marina D’Angelo, PhD, assistant professor, anatomy, was co-author of “The Small Bovine Amelogenin LRAP Fails to Rescue the Amelogenin Null Phenotype,” which appeared in the online edition of *Calcified Tissue International*. She also collaborated with two labs at the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania on the article “Gelatinase Activity in Synovial Fluid and Synovium Obtained from Healthy and Osteoarthritic Joints of Dogs,” published in the *American Journal of Veterinary Research*. She was co-investigator of “Joint and Bone Disease in MPD Type VI,” which received a grant from the National MPS Society, Inc.

Marilyn DiFeliciantonio, MLS, PA-C, assistant professor and clinical coordinator, department of physician assistant studies, was voted Outstanding Faculty Member by the Physician Assistant Class of 2003.

Jane Dumsha, MS, CHES, director, academic research development, presented “Grant Opportunities for OMM Research” at the Society for Teachers of Family Medicine, Northeast Region Conference.

Stephanie Felgoise, PhD, ABPP, associate professor, department of psychology, co-authored the article “Religiousness is related to quality of life in patients with ALS,” which appeared in the journal *Neurology*.

Arthur Freeman, EdD, chairman, department of psychology, has been named president-elect of the American Board of Family Psychology, a division of the American Board of Professional Psychology. He is also co-editor of *Cognitive Therapy with Children and Adolescents, A Clinician’s Guide, Second Edition*; co-author of *Cognitive Therapy of Personality Disorders, Second Edition*, and co-author with Gina Fusco, PsyD ‘00, of the patient workbook and therapist manual entitled *Borderline Personality Disorder*. In addition, he has recently published chapters on treatment of children with personality disorders and treatment roadblocks in cognitive behavior therapy.

Janet Friedman, PsyD ’02, was elected New Jersey Delegate to the National Association of School Psychologists.

Katherine E. Galluzzi, DO, FACFP, professor and chair of the department of geriatrics, was honored by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians for her work as program chairperson for the 2003 AOA/ACOFP Annual Convention October 12-16 in New Orleans, La. Also at that meeting, Dr. Galluzzi presented an interactive, case-based seminar, sponsored by Purdue Pharma, on “Quality Care at the End of Life: Pain, Palliation and Promise.” She received the designation Certified Medical Director for Long Term Care from The American Medical Director’s Association.

Barbara Golden, PsyD, assistant professor, department of psychology, was co-presenter, with interns Jeffrey McCleary and Stewart L. Barbara, of “It’s Not all in Your Head” at the PA Psychological Association Annual Convention. She and Bruce Zahn, EdD, ABPP, assistant professor, department of psychology, presented “Psychology Across the Lifespan in Urban Healthcare Centers: Challenges and Opportunities” at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association.

Elizabeth Gosch, PhD, ABPP, coordinator, master’s program, department of psychology, was board certified by the American Board of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology.

Saul Jeck, DO, FACOOG, was recently awarded Life Membership in the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association by the POMA House of Delegates.


Rosemary Mennuti, EdD, NCSP, director, school psychology program and Andrea Bloomgarden, PhD, department of psychology, co-authored, with two Clinical PsyD students, the article “Making Connections: Collaboration between the Renfrew Center and Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine,” which was published in the journal, *The Renfrew Perspective*. In addition, Dr. Mennuti has co-written a Renfrew Foundation working paper, “Body Balance: An Innovative Treatment Model for Large Women.”

Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO ’77, associate dean, primary care and Etheldra Templeton, chair/executive director, library, presented “Evidence-Based Medicine: Approaches and Resources” at the AOA/ACOFP meeting in October.

Daniel J. Parenti, DO ’87, professor in the department of internal medicine and pulmonary physician from InterMed, successfully passed the Examination for Recertification in pulmonary diseases by the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine. He received the highest score among his peers in Pulmonary Medicine across the country.

Fred Rotgers, PsyD, ABPP, associate professor, department of psychology, has been named to the editorial board of the international journal *Addiction Research and Theory*. He has had a chapter published in the book *Cognitive Behavior Therapy: Applying Empirically Supported Techniques in Your Practice*. He also presented a full-day workshop to the National Football League’s Substance Abuse Treatment Program providers on “Moderation Training for Problem Drinkers.” In addition, Dr. Rotgers spent a week in Manila, Philippines training professional counselors in “Harm Reduction: The Cutting Edge Paradigm in Addiction Management.”

Dr. Rotgers was the principal editor of *Treating Substance Abuse: Theory and Technique, Second Edition*, F. Rotgers, J. Morgenstern & S. Walters (Eds.) New York: Guilford Publications, which has been chosen as a main selection for the Behavioral Sciences Book Club.”
GOLF CLASSIC WINNERS

The winning foursome of the 11th Annual PCOM Golf Classic was sponsored by University Open MRI and was led by Stephen Ficchi, DO ’77. The real winners, however, were the PCOM Healthcare Centers, which were the recipients of the net proceeds of the event, which raised over $106,000. Mark your calendar for next year’s Golf Classic to be held at the Waynesborough Country Club on October 4.

INTERNATIONAL TALENT AT PCOM

The Student National Medical Association (SNMA), American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) and Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APMSA) hosted the First Annual International Multicultural Dinner and Talent Show last fall. In addition to raising cultural awareness at PCOM, the event raised over $500 for the Point Breeze Performing Arts Center, a Philadelphia-based organization dedicated to arts for social change. The evening included a talent show and dinner that represented cuisine from around the world.

FIRST PORTRAIT OF FEMALE HISTORY-MAKER, DR. CATHIE, PRESENTED

Ruth Waddel Cathie, DO ’38 was honored on campus mid-year when her portrait was dedicated. Lisa Sklar, (DO/PhD ’05) and Jen Rakitt (DO ’04), co-chairs of PCOM’s Women’s Medical Association, led a fund-raising campaign that raised more than $10,000 from students, alumni, faculty and staff for the portrait of Dr. Cathie – the first portrait of a woman to grace the halls of PCOM. Dr. Cathie was a faculty member of the College’s department of pathology for 21 years and served as its chair for seven years. She was the first female chair of any basic sciences department in the College, and at that time, the only woman outside of Women’s Medical College to hold such a position in the city of Philadelphia.

Ami Shah (DO ’07) and Ruby Sahoo (DO ’07) (foreground, from left) perform an Indian Garba Dance during the international talent show.

Stephen Ficchi, DO ’77 (far left), led the winning foursome at the 11th Annual PCOM Golf Classic.

Jen Rakitt (DO ’04 right) and Lisa Sklar (DO/PhD ’05) led the fund-raising campaign for Dr. Cathie’s (left) portrait.
PCOM’S FIVE POINT PLAN MAPS POSITIVE FUTURE

Over the past two years, the PCOM community has worked together to create a strategic plan that will take the College to the next level. We have the determination to make these goals of academic and financial excellence a reality. But we also need the financial resources to do so. Despite strong, conservative financial management, PCOM faces significant challenges. State appropriations are uncertain and insurance costs are rising. PCOM has created a five-point plan to meet financial challenges and to help succeed with all of our strategic goals.

• Expansion - PCOM is moving forward in its efforts to create a branch campus in Georgia. The projection is that by 2006, PCOM’s southern branch campus will have its first class of 80 DO students. In addition, PCOM continues to build on non-DO graduate programs that utilize existing resources while broadening the tuition base.

• Land Development - The College is in discussions with developers and potential business partners concerning the development of the former hospital site. Projects under consideration include apartments for student housing and ground floor shops.

• Clinical Partnerships - We are looking at potential clinical partnerships that would generate net revenues by 2007. One prospective project being reviewed is a partnership with the Philadelphia Department of Corrections to provide health care for prisoners.

• College-Administered Student Loans - By providing direct student loans, we can generate revenue and offer students savings on their loans. PCOM will offer this new program to students by the spring.

• Unrestricted Annual Fund - PCOM’s annual unrestricted fund allows the College to use funds where they are most needed, whether it is to enhance student services, recruit faculty or to support new opportunities such as research and clinical education. Last year, PCOM raised $262,000 in unrestricted support, and with this campaign hopes to raise $362,000 this fiscal year and to reach $1 million dollars per year by 2007. Faculty and employees have generously pledged over $46,000 toward this ambitious goal and with alumni and friends raised over $320,000 by December 31, 2003.
Albert F. D’Alonzo, DO ’56, was a member of the PCOM family for over forty years -- first as a student, then as a physician, teacher and department chair. Of the many roles D’Alonzo played at PCOM, the one most important to him was that of teacher. He would take any opportunity to instruct students -- in or out of the classroom. Ron Mosiello, DO ’97, recalls, “Whenever he saw a group of students, he’d walk up to them and explain something. It didn’t matter who they were or what year they were in.” “If I can excite one student,” he once said, “I’m happy.”

“Every student, every intern, every resident has a D’Alonzo story to tell,” remarks Ken Veit, DO ’76’, Dean, PCOM. “Whether it’s about an esoteric differential diagnosis he once made or a story about the 1948 World Series; he seemed to know something about everything.”

Pat A. Lannutti, DO ’71, a former student of D’Alonzo’s, agrees. “He was a renaissance man. He loved golf and opera. He played piano, ukulele and banjo. He loved football. He was a genie in a bottle; when you could harness his energy, it was fantastic.”

“One of the most wonderful people I’ve ever met; he was a class act and a gentleman.”

– Carol Fox, assistant vice president for enrollment management
Carol Fox, assistant vice president for enrollment management, credits D’Alonzo as being “one of the most wonderful people I’ve ever met; he was a class act and a gentleman. But he was always late. I remember he would bound into the College offices a half hour before he was to administer a test. He would hand write the questions and then someone would have to type the test and mimeograph it. It was still wet when he handed the tests to his students, but they were probably the greatest tests on campus. He was a brilliant man.”

Lannuti, concurs. “He taught a terrific course in physical diagnosis. He knew more in one finger than anyone knew in their whole body. Years later, after we had become friends, he asked me to examine him when he wasn’t feeling well. I did this with great trepidation; here I was diagnosing the man who had taught me to do this.”

“He was one of our leading diagnosticians,” confirms Veit. “When one of the other doctors had difficulty diagnosing a tough case, they would always go to Dr. D’Alonzo.”

John Simelaro, DO ’71, was also a student of Dr. D’Alonzo. “Not only was he a great teacher, he was like our father; he was our mentor. He held every position in the department of medicine,” recalled Simelaro.

D’Alonzo started his career at PCOM as an instructor in 1960. In 1971 he was named vice chairman, department of internal medicine, and in 1981 he became clinical professor, internal medicine. D’Alonzo was appointed interim chairman, department of internal medicine in 1984, and he served as clinical professor and clinical director of medicine from 1986 until 1990, when he was named chairman and professor, division of cardiology, department of internal medicine. Most recently, Dr. D’Alonzo was medical director of continuing education.

But medicine was not D’Alonzo’s first career choice. Although osteopathic medicine ran in the family, with father Henry E. D’Alonzo, DO ’27, and older brother Henry A. D’Alonzo, DO ’51, Albert aspired to professional baseball. After graduating from Northeast High School in Philadelphia, he attended Duke University on a baseball scholarship. For two years after his college graduation in 1950, he played baseball for White Sox farm teams. But he was destined to continue the family tradition and become an osteopathic physician.

“Al was my role model,” reminisces Alexander Nicholas, DO ’75, chairman, OMM division. “Because he and my dad were friends, he was a part of my life since my childhood. We both went to college on baseball scholarships, so he was my mentor in both baseball and medicine. He had an amazing photographic memory, but it wasn’t just memorization; he digested the information and processed it. Al had a huge depth of knowledge. He was truly unique.”

D’Alonzo’s career was marked by many accomplishments. He was honored with the O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal in 1996, the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1985 and PCOM’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 1962. In 2001, he was named professor emeritus. D’Alonzo was a member of PCOM’s Board of Trustees, former president of the alumni association board of directors and an alumni association life member. In addition to his contributions to PCOM, D’Alonzo was a member of the American College of Cardiology and maintained a cardiology practice in Bala Cynwyd for many years.

“He was so much a part of PCOM for so many years, it’s hard to believe he’s gone,” says Veit. “His speech at the Founders’ Day ceremony when he received the O.J. Snyder Memorial Medal still stands out in my memory as a reflection of who he was. He didn’t use the occasion to talk about himself. He used the opportunity to talk about and thank those who helped make him the doctor he became. But it was Dr. D’Alonzo who made so many of us the doctors we are today.”

Dr. D’Alonzo is survived by his wife, Harriet, brother Henry, sons Albert and H. Christopher, daughter Sallie, a sister and five grandchildren.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the Dr. Albert F. D’Alonzo Memorial Fund, Office of Alumni Relations and Development, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, 4180 City Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19131-1695
PCOM Scientists Use the Chick Embryo to Study the Complexities of Stem Cells.
The advantage of working with chick embryos is similar to that of mammals. The process of tissue formation in the chick embryo is similar to that of mammals. The advantage of working with chick embryos is that unlimited quantities of material can be obtained at a relatively low cost for experimentation. However, the embryos are tiny and delicate. Tremendous skill and patience are required to perform the necessary dissections and isolation of cells.

“When we first began dissecting embryos it was difficult to see the structures, even with the aid of a microscope,” recollects Gerhart. “Now that we’ve manipulated thousands of embryos the structures seem so obvious. I don’t know how we ever missed them.”

Experiments performed by the Weinstein team have revealed that some stem cells make up their minds to form certain tissues during the earliest stages of embryonic development, while others remain undecided even after the tissues and organs have formed. Adults contain both types of stem cells. The “undecided” cells are called pluripotent stem cells since they have the potential to form multiple tissues such as muscle, nerve and skin. Most investigators work with pluripotent cells since, conceivably, they could be used to regenerate any tissue from the heart to the pancreas.

The Weinstein team has turned its attention to the more mature stem cells that are already biased to form a particular tissue, pursuing the hypothesis that these cells would be able to influence the pathway of development of pluripotent cells. This turned out to be the case for stem cells programmed to form skeletal muscle. When isolated from the early embryo, these cells can recruit pluripotent cells to form skeletal muscle by producing molecules that turn on genes coding for muscle proteins such as myosin.

These findings are of interest not only to embryologists, but also to stem cell biologists and clinicians because they may be applied to the use of stem cells therapeutically. “Implanting mature stem cells along with pluripotent cells into diseased tissues may facilitate tissue regeneration because the more mature cells could communicate with the naïve cells and instruct them to form the desired tissue,” suggests Dr. Weinstein.

Crucial to the success of the research program in the lab is student involvement. The lab has hosted two high school seniors, nine MS in biomedical sciences students and seventeen DO students.

“The experience that I gained in the lab when I was a high school student opened the door for me to work here full-time while I obtain my bachelor’s degree at night,” relates Neely. Stewart opened the door for me to work here full-time while I obtain my bachelor’s degree at night,” relates Neely. Stewart attended Cabrini College as a third-year DO student, Ben Stewart; two-second year DO students, Kathleen Zazzali and Noah May, and Dolores Tornambe, an undergraduate from Cabrini College.

The hard work and dedication of the students have awarded them the opportunity to present their work at national meetings and authorship on publications. The group works as a closely knit team to contribute to our knowledge of the behavior of stem cells and to create an environment in which every member can enjoy learning and appreciate the intricacies and beauty of embryonic development.
College’s Highest Honor,
THE O.J. SNYDER MEMORIAL MEDAL

Recipient

Herbert Lotman, LLD (Hon.)

Leader and Family Man
As you walk around the campus of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, you cannot help but notice the indelible, positive mark left by the recipient of this year’s OJ Snyder Memorial Medal and chairman of its Board of Trustees, Herbert Lotman. Improvements in infrastructure, burgeoning academic programs and exciting buzz about PCOM’s promising future are rooted in the vision, leadership, business skill and commitment of Herbert Lotman. For Lotman, his service here has been about family - his extended family - the PCOM community - and his own family – the Lotmans and Levins. For Herbert Lotman is a man who understands the true meaning of family - and for family, there isn’t anything he wouldn’t do.

In fact, “the Herbert Lotman success story” begins with family. Today, Lotman is chairman and CEO of Keystone Foods Corporation, a $3 billion multinational corporation based in West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania. Keystone’s principal lines of business are food manufacturing and restaurant distribution for McDonald’s restaurants in the United States, Europe, Asia and South America. But family is at the foundation of this American success story.

In the 1960’s S. Lotman & Son, a small beef-boning business started by Lotman’s father, Samuel, grew into a manufacturing facility. The business was propelled to legendary success when it developed a mass production and freezing system for producing hamburgers. By 1974, S. Lotman & Son was renamed Keystone Foods and it purchased M&M Restaurant Supply. Keystone Foods pioneered the “total distribution” concept that enables restaurants to receive their entire delivery from one truck. By the end of the 1970’s, a research and development group was formed, resulting in the first chicken nugget. By the 1990’s Keystone expanded to several international locations and cemented its place as a global power. Today it maintains that success and shares its prosperity with various institutions, not the least of which is PCOM.

Why PCOM? Amidst his hard work, Lotman fell in love with Karen Levin and won her heart. Karen came to their marriage with strong family ties, including her father, osteopathic physician and PCOM alumnus, Dr. Abraham Levin ’35, and four additional family members also among the ranks of PCOM alumni.

Acknowledging his family ties Lotman said, “I am especially proud to receive this award because of the long-standing relationship of Karen’s family and the College. The love that my late father-in-law, Dr. Abraham Levin, had for this institution is why I am on the board. That relationship is also one of the things that makes winning the OJ Snyder award so special to me. It is the College’s highest honor and I am pleasantly surprised and deeply honored to have been chosen. It is extra special because it means so much to our family.”

From the Levins, Lotman learned of the unique philosophy of the osteopathic profession and soon became one of its strongest supporters. Lotman came to PCOM and took the lead on the Board of Trustees with the same wisdom and vision that propelled Keystone Foods to success. And though his tenure is a remarkable story, it is not without its difficult moments and tough decisions that in the end ensured the financial stability of the College.

Lotman joined the board in 1990 and in 1992 was unanimously elected chairman. “My goal when I became chairman was and remains to keep the College healthy, financially stable, improve communications with alumni, treat students like they are our customers and provide them with the best education possible, and enhance its reputation as one of the finest medical schools in the country,” Lotman recalled. That was no small task as

“Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine owes its very existence to Herbert Lotman. At a time of institutional crisis, he stepped forward to lead a revitalization of the College. In the decade since his leadership began, Dr. Lotman has, with enormous generosity, given his time, talent, and personal resources to insure the fulfillment and continuance of the College’s instructional, research, and service missions. By putting the College back on a solid foundation, Dr. Lotman has given us the exciting future that stands before us.”

—MATTHEW SCHURE, PHD, PRESIDENT AND CEO
Lotman assumed leadership at a difficult period in PCOM’s history. “It has been very gratifying to take the College from the verge of bankruptcy and turn it around to a financially stable institution with an outstanding campus and the distinction of being a national leader in primary care education. It’s a long way from almost being nonexistent,” he said. “I am proud to have been able to use my corporate experience to help remove the danger of bankruptcy. We had to make some difficult decisions. When the suggestion to sell the hospital first came up, many in the community were ready to attack the idea. But since that time, the fate of many hospitals in the region has suggested that we made the right decision. We’ve also taken the PCOM Foundation from pittance to almost $80 million thus establishing financial stability for PCOM for what I hope will be forever,” Lotman added.

PCOM President, Dr. Matthew Schure, says Lotman’s leadership was vital to PCOM. “Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine owes its very existence to Herbert Lotman. At a time of institutional crisis, he stepped forward to lead a revitalization of the College. In the decade since his leadership began, Dr. Lotman has, with enormous generosity, given his time, talent, and personal resources to insure the fulfillment and continuance of the College’s instructional, research, and service missions. By putting the College back on a solid foundation, Dr. Lotman has given us the exciting future that stands before us,” Schure said.

Just as he has guided PCOM’s past, Lotman has big ideas for its future. “I think one of the most important things for the future of the College is going to be alumni support,” he said. “It is very important. It is the strength of the College and we need more alumni to support the College financially.”

“Giving back” is something Herbert Lotman can speak about with confidence. In addition to PCOM, Lotman is involved in various other community service and charitable organizations. Lotman is co-founder of the McDonald’s LPGA Championship, a major Ladies Professional Golf Association tournament that benefits Ronald McDonald House Charities. The McDonald’s Championship has raised more than $40 million for charity in twenty-three years since its inaugural event and is the largest single fund-raiser in all of golf. He is a board member of Strategic Diagnostics, Inc. in Newark, Delaware, The Children’s Cancer Research Foundation in Philadelphia, co-founder and board member of the Macula Vision Research Foundation and serves on the board of The Ronald McDonald House Charities International Board.

Lotman is especially enthusiastic about his role as co-founder, with his wife Karen, of the Macula Vision Research Foundation (www.mvrf.org). To date, the foundation has awarded 37 grants totaling $6.3 million and scientists associated with the research say their progress is promising. “We are very active on this board in the hopes that we can find a cure and methods of prevention for the disease of Macular Degeneration, the leading cause of severe and irreversible loss of central vision in people over age 50. We want them to be able to see the faces of their loved ones. I have family members affected by it and I want to do all I can to help.”

Once again, it provides further proof of the affection and dedication that Herbert Lotman, LLD (Hon.) has for his family. And as we bestow the College’s highest honor, the OJ Snyder Memorial Medal, we can reflect upon how blessed PCOM is to be counted among that family.
When Stacey Franz decided to enroll in the doctor of osteopathic medicine program at PCOM, she felt as if she had found her way home. Everything about PCOM and the osteopathic philosophy felt right to Franz. Even more than just being a comfortable fit, Stacey found the osteopathic philosophy to be an affirmation of the way she lived. Already a physical therapist with work experience and a master’s degree from Springfield College, Stacey wanted to go the extra mile for her patients.

“I found physical therapy to be limiting to me as a provider. I wanted to do more for my patients,” Franz said. “I wanted to treat the whole patient and incorporate preventative, curative and rehabilitation into my practice. When I was at Springfield College, I learned about the humanics concept. It incorporates the spirit, mind and body and teaches that to be a balanced individual you must focus on all of these areas. I’ve adopted that as the basis of my life. When I started to look for medical schools, I learned about PCOM and the osteopathic philosophy and it was clear I would be able to have that balance in my life and care for my patients in a more complete way,” Franz said.

Throughout her PCOM education, Franz had many opportunities to put the philosophy into practice. Some were pure joy, while others were extremely challenging, she recalled. But all helped her to develop the skill, instincts and experience that make her confident and eager to begin serving patients.

In particular, Franz recalled that her rotation at Lehigh Valley Hospital was very rewarding. Franz said, “The rotation at the ICU at Lehigh was a very positive environment. We managed a lot of patient case responses, under direction from the attending, of course. But I learned a lot about procedures. And I learned how to interact with families about decision making and ancillary services. It was the first time I experienced death and it was very emotional. You cared for someone and it was hard to lose them. But it gave me insight into end-of-life care issues and what to do for the family. It has an effect on you and it makes you a better person,” she said.

As the 2004 Mason W. Pressly Memorial Medal recipient, Franz is well on her way to becoming the outstanding physician she aspired to be, utilizing the osteopathic and humanics philosophies, which seem to meld into one. Franz studied hard, but along the way she always found time to give back to the community and inspire others with her dedication and commitment to service. Her activities were varied but included good works such as volunteering at Shriners Hospital for Children and coaching three to five year olds in soccer. She also served as a volunteer for the following organizations: AOA Young Physician’s Committee, West Philadelphia High School Health Fair, Ronald McDonald House, Keystone State Games, National Youth Leadership Forum in Medicine, NBC10 FitFest, and American Heart Association (AHA) Heart Walk.

Franz has held various leadership positions such as managing editor, PCOM Synopsis yearbook; class representative and recording secretary, PCOM student government association; student interviewer, PCOM faculty committee on admissions; group leader, PCOM clerkship rotation group; president of PCOM sports medicine club; computer instructor, PCOM new student orientation and co-chair, PCOM financial aid committee.

In addition to her alma maters, Franz credits her parents, Ron and Linda Franz as her guiding force. “Both of my parents sacrificed for me and my brother, Matthew,” she said. “They put a lot of emphasis on our education. They promoted us and supported us and offered unconditional love that allowed each of us to develop into individuals. They helped us become the people we are today,” she said gratefully.

Franz credits PCOM as well. “PCOM is a very positive experience. Faculty want students to succeed. They foster well-rounded people, and they are open to change or suggestions. The student support is great,” she said.

Franz is also grateful to her PCOM classmates. “I am so honored and excited to receive this award,” she said. “I never do things to be recognized but to be chosen by my classmates is an honor and it is so nice to be appreciated. I feel better when I do something of service. I am blessed to have the opportunity to have a good life and to have this knowledge and I want to give back. To know that my peers are the ones who chose me for this honor makes it even nicer,” she said proudly.

As happy and at-home as Franz has been at PCOM, she is looking forward to the next stage of her life. “I’d like to become a part of a wellness center, possibly working with those with muscular-skeletal dysfunction,” she said. No doubt, wherever the new Dr. Franz ends up, she will deliver health care to her patients in a way that honors the osteopathic philosophy and in turn, benefits those fortunate enough to have her as their physician.
For hundreds of physicians who trained and practiced at Parkview Hospital, it is difficult to drive by the closed facility on Wyoming Avenue in Philadelphia's Juniata Park section. No physicians bustling about. No patients who need care. Just an empty, silent building remains. But memories of what took place within those walls over the past 40 years live on in the minds of those physicians and their patients.

Parkview was founded in 1963 by 13 osteopathic physicians who wanted to open a hospital where they and other DOs could care for their patients and offer more training opportunities to osteopathic medical students, interns and residents.

"Before Parkview, osteopathic physicians in Philadelphia had privileges only at Metropolitan Hospital and PCOM's hospital at 48th and Spruce," recalls Simon Lubin, DO, '38, professor of obstetrics and gynecology and one of Parkview's founding fathers. "In addition, there was a deficiency of training opportunities because allopathic hospitals wouldn't accept osteopathic interns and residents at that time."

After a full year of weekly planning sessions, the founders opened their one-story, 60-bed hospital, which ultimately grew to five stories. The very first resident to train there was Saul Jeck, DO, chairman and professor, department of obstetrics and gynecology. "The physicians at Parkview were totally dedicated to the education of osteopathic physicians and to the welfare of their patients and the community," Dr. Jeck remembers. "An
osteopathic physician chaired every department and they invited medical students, interns and residents to participate in weekly committee and departmental meetings. They considered it part of our education. It was a wonderful atmosphere.”

During its 40-year history, Parkview Hospital had several owners. PCOM purchased the hospital in 1990. Three years later, the College sold it along with Barth Pavilion, later known as City Avenue Hospital, to Graduate Health System. Subsequently, the hospital was sold to Allegheny Health System and its final owner was Tenet Health System.

“Seeing Parkview close is comparable to losing a baby,” says Arnold Melnick, DO, ’45, another founding father. “We spent so much time and energy meeting and discussing the possibilities every Wednesday night for a year before we opened. I’m sorry to see it close on a personal level, and also because medical care for the community will be affected.

“Parkview played a very important role in serving the healthcare needs of the local community,” says co-founder Martin S. Neifield, DO ’46. “Now Parkview physicians and their patients are spread out among other hospitals in the city. It’s sad to see the community hospitals closing.”

According to Kenneth J. Veit, DO ’76, vice president of academic affairs and dean, the closing of Parkview and City Avenue Hospitals represents a loss of community among osteopathic physicians and students that is keenly felt. “A hospital is one of the most sacred places we have other than our places of worship,” he says. “Passing by the grounds where these hospitals used to reside is a very emotional experience for any practitioner who sweated, worried, had children born or patients die in those hospitals. Any one who was trained inside those walls recognizes that special events happened there. So it creates a sacred ground that will always be there in our hearts and minds, regardless of what happens to the land or facilities. They cannot be replaced.

“But obviously, the profession must move on,” Dr. Veit continues. “And as a profession, we are so good at doing that . . . at taking what the environment provides and continuing in our mission using the resources that are available to us. We morph with the changing service delivery system, yet we strive to keep our core educational values alive. Our students learn in a different, more diverse environment now. But that is the way the real world is and we must educate our future physicians to practice successfully in it.”

“With every loss comes gain,” adds Dr. Veit. “As other medical institutions have recognized the tremendous value and capabilities of osteopathic physicians, they’ve opened their doors to us. The quality of the hospitals where our interns and residents are receiving training is very high and they are doing exceptionally well. Our physicians also have been very successful at integrating into other hospitals.

“The community and sense of family we felt in our own hospitals is something we can’t totally replace,” Dr. Veit admits. “But that sense of family lives on at PCOM and will remain a part of who we are as a College, as students and as physicians.”

Legacy of Osteopathic Hospitals Continues with Parkview Hospital Physicians Scholarship

When Parkview closed in 2003, its physicians decided to continue the hospital’s legacy as a leader in osteopathic training by establishing The Parkview Hospital Physicians Scholarship at PCOM. Parkview physicians donated their remaining hospital dues to fund the scholarship and to honor the memory of the hospital. The scholarship is awarded each year to a second, third or fourth year DO student who was raised and attended high school in Philadelphia and who demonstrates financial need and academic excellence.

Under the leadership of Larry Belkoff, DO, a similar award fund was established when City Avenue Hospital closed. The first City Avenue Hospital award was given this year (see page 5). The remaining physicians’ hospital dues are used to fund a residency for PCOM students who plan to practice in Philadelphia.

See the “My Turn” commentary on Parkview Hospital by Burton Blender, DO, ’62 on page 32.
A Glossary of Chess Terms

Active: An aggressive move, line of play, or position. When mentioned in a player’s style, it denotes a preference for sharp, tactical or vibrant types of play.

Advantage: Having superiority in position or based on a particular imbalance of a series of moves leading up to a critical position.

Analysis: Done in actuality or future (or sometimes in a tournament) to discover the best move or position. Analysis is done in a series of moves leading up to a critical position. A critical position is one in which the move is to be made and is of central importance. The analysis is done to discover the best move or position, whether or not the move is actually taken. Analysis is done in actuality or future (or sometimes in a tournament) to discover the best move or position. Analysis is done in a series of moves leading up to a critical position. A critical position is one in which the move is to be made and is of central importance. The analysis is done to discover the best move or position, whether or not the move is actually taken.

Centralized: Refers to pieces in the center and their ability to reach maximum activity. For example, a Queen can attack more than one piece at once or three pawns versus a Bishop.

Close range: The sole use of a file, a square or group of squares, a central area or the board, etc. Having the initiative would also put one in “close range” as, for example, a Queen can attack more than one piece at once or three pawns versus a Bishop.

Critical Position: That point in a position when the evaluation will shift to one side’s advantage or stabilize down to equality. In such a position, the opponent is delicately balanced and the slightest error can lead to disaster.

Development: The process of moving one’s pieces from their start or initial positions where their activity and mobility are enhanced.

Ghosts: Threats that exist only in your own mind. A fear of your opponent’s potential threats or of ghosts and the consequences of ghosts and the consequences of not executing a threat.
It’s Our Move
CREATING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN A SHRINKING HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM.

Looking at the board...

Across Pennsylvania, hospitals, especially community hospitals, are finding it hard to stay afloat. Many have closed due to the complex mix of rising operating costs, decreasing reimbursements and the financial realities of operating in areas with high numbers of uninsured patients. Closures have created a void in the health care delivery system.

On campus, despite a successful adjustment period after the closing of Tenet Health Care System / City Avenue Hospital in April 2000, the losses hit home.

Hospital closings, especially the recent closing of Parkview Hospital (see article on page 18) have resulted in the loss of training opportunities for students, interns and residents.

PCOM has responded strategically, especially by growing our PCOM MEDNet network and cultivating new partnerships for our own programs. Response to this course of action has been positive but tempered with concerns that osteopathic graduate medical education is becoming disconnected from osteopathic physicians and institutions.

Analysis: The calculation of a series of moves in a given position.
A s dean, Kenneth Veit ’76 DO, MBA has been wrestling with the challenges of hospital closings. “In the last three years, two key osteopathic hospitals have closed. Our question is how do we continue to provide clinical education in this environment?”

Veit explains, “What PCOM has done is to form affiliations with many more hospitals than we have in the past. The depth, scope and volume of our clerkships are at an all-time high. However, they are not in traditional osteopathic hospitals. They are in hospitals where DOs and MDs practice side by side. This does give training a bit of a different flavor than it had ten years ago. In a way, the declining number of hospitals has opened up new areas for our students. Hospitals like Abington, Lankenau and Lehigh Valley are now our partners. They are key in clinical education and graduate medical education.

“The unknown is that most of our graduates are trained in a hybrid environment of DO and MD teachers,” Veit continued. “We are thankful for these MDs who are dedicated to the education of our students; but the question in many minds is does it enhance or diminish osteopathic medical education? One positive benefit of this hybrid environment is that it reinforces the fact that the training and skills of DOs are second to none. A concern is that there will be fewer ties to osteopathic organizations and/or less commitment to the practice of the osteopathic philosophy and OMM.”

Veit believes that the philosophy of osteopathic medicine can be carried with the student regardless of where they train or practice. Despite changes, osteopathic physicians will continue to influence our students, interns and residents.

Veit said, “It is clear that osteopathic physicians at these institutions are role models and critical to the education of our students. Every DO who interacts with a PCOM student must recognize the capacity to positively influence these students. We must meet our mission within a changing health care delivery system. The osteopathic educational system must be flexible and responsive to the delivery system.”

He continued, “We may lose one hospital but then we gain two more. We continue to expand our partnerships that welcome residents asNever before – recognizing the quality of PCOM graduates. Our graduates now have a greater number of opportunities to do whatever they want. PCOM continues to be in the business of teaching-oriented health care centers and many PCOM students benefit from those training opportunities. They also train at doctors’ offices and nursing homes. The genie is out of the bottle. We can’t push him back in. We must follow our graduates and develop relationships with many institutions.”

Joanne Jones, MBA, assistant director of PCOM MEDNet (center) talks with Paul Roediger, MD and Joseph Rigotti, DO ’84 of Abington Hospital.

Richard A. Pascucci, DO ’75, senior associate dean of clinical education, works diligently to maintain and expand PCOM’s training programs and PCOM MEDNet. He says the challenges created by hospital closings are real and significant but that PCOM has turned them into an opportunity to gain new training venues in places and specialties that were previously not available to the College and its students. “One cannot measure the impact that hospital closings have had on training programs and what PCOM has lost. But the bright side of that is that our OPTI, PCOM MEDNet has expanded and brought new opportunities. While PCOM GME numbers have decreased, overall opportunities have multiplied with the growth of PCOM MEDNet,” Pascucci explained.

Looking to the future, Pascucci is optimistic about opportunities for continued growth. “PCOM has been fortunate that we have looked at a crisis as an opportunity to administer high quality post-graduate training programs linked to PCOM. We have had success in locating new partners such as Chestnut Hill hospital for internal medicine and Northeastern hospital for OB/GYN. We’ve also maintained strong relationships with long-time supporters of PCOM.

“We are working proactively at finding new partners,” Pascucci explained. “We are currently in discussions with two large health care systems. One of the challenges we face is that the 1997 Balanced Budget Act made it difficult for hospitals to expand training programs, since it

Compensation: An equivalent advantage in one imbalance that balances the opponent’s advantage in another. For example: material versus development or space versus a superior minor piece or three pawns versus a Bishop.
capped the number of residents for which hospitals could be reimbursed by Medicare. But we are determined in our pursuit of new partners and we actively seek out arrangements with institutions that have a need for residents in one or more disciplines. Often our residents themselves or our alumni will tip us off to opportunities, or their experience at an institution will give us entree to approach that institution’s administration. We seek out institutions that have not had residents and interns, such as Lehigh Valley – Muhlenberg and work with them to initiate a program. The main thing is that we are creative and persistent in our pursuit of opportunities for graduates whether the openings are in PCOM’s own network or in our PCOM MEDNet,” Pascucci explained.

A bold move – a beautiful friendship

Across the board, Dr. Pascucci says, our partner institutions welcome our graduates. “No one has left MEDNet,” he says proudly. “It’s beneficial to these institutions. They love our graduates and appreciate the quality of their education and training.”

One glowing example of this win-win situation is PCOM’s relationship with Abington Memorial Hospital in Abington, Montgomery County, Pa. Abington is a well-run, well respected and financially secure community hospital that draws diverse patients from Philadelphia, Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Abington Hospital currently has 45 PCOM graduates on staff and PCOM graduates fill a variety of residency positions. Just recently, Abington has been approved by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to offer training opportunities, meaning DO residents can complete PGY-1 there and receive credit from both the AOA and Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

Paul Roediger, MD, Abington’s director of graduate medical training, is enthusiastic about the hospital’s relationship with its DO staff members and the opportunity to open residency programs to more PCOM graduates. “PCOM graduates have a strong medical presence on our staff. We have a desire to offer osteopathic graduates the ability to train here without repeating. Our experience with them has been excellent. We want them to learn everything they can – we want each one of them to become the chief resident,” he added.

“It is most rewarding to see over my 40 years here, Abington’s financial commitment to education. It is outstanding. The residents are the future physicians in this community and we invest substantially in their training. The PCOM students who come here are excellent primary care providers. They are well trained and motivated. We want them to stay and it is very gratifying to see them stay and benefit the community,” Roediger added.

Joseph Rigotti, DO ’84, director of osteopathic medical education at Abington Hospital and senior physician in the department of medicine, said Abington’s AOA accreditation opened the pool. Although this is not Abington’s first experience with osteopathic residents (Rigotti notes that he trained at Abington after first completing an osteopathic internship) the AOA stamp of approval will help Abington attract PCOM graduates. That’s good news not only for

### Facility Closings

From January 1, 2001 to the time of Digest publication the following facility closings have been recorded by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Please note that Tenet Health Care System/City Avenue Hospital closed on April 1, 2000.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACILITY NAME</th>
<th>CLOSING DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming Valley Surgery Center</td>
<td>6/30/01</td>
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<tr>
<td>LifeCare Hospitals of Pittsburgh, Inc. Discontinued Ambulatory/Outpatient Services</td>
<td>7/1/01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgewater Psychiatric Center Discontinued Inpatient Services</td>
<td>7/1/01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jefferson Surgery Center</td>
<td>7/1/01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union City Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>11/30/01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercy Community Hospital</td>
<td>2/2/02</td>
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<td>Pittsburgh Specialty Hospital</td>
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<td>St. Francis Medical Center</td>
<td>9/6/02</td>
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<td>St. Francis Hospital/Cranberry</td>
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<td>St. Francis Hospital of New Castle</td>
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<td>Main Line Plastic Surgery</td>
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<td>Metro Health Center</td>
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<td>Lancaster General Hospital/Susquehanna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endoscopy USA York Center</td>
<td>9/23/03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tenet Hospital / MCP</td>
<td>3/31/04</td>
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Abington, but for PCOM graduates as well, he says. “The benefits to PCOM residents are enormous. They have the opportunity to train at a wonderful program. Abington is one of the best. Its internal medicine department has a large staff of full-time faculty who are committed to teaching. It is a great opportunity for osteopathic graduates to learn and practice in a community setting. When I look around Abington, I see growth and success. We can compare what is going on here to what is going on at other community hospitals in the region and the difference is amazing. What that translates into for osteopathic students is an excellent medical education and professional opportunities for them after completion of their residencies,” Rigotti said.

Maintaining and Supporting DO identity
Even with the positive benefits of expansion, some members of the osteopathic community worry that osteopathic identity will become diluted in allopathic institutions. Not so, says Rigotti. In his eighteen years of service, he’s been able to maintain his DO identity and has received respect, admiration and support from all his colleagues – be they DO or MD.

Abington’s newest chief resident, PCOM graduate, Mike Benninghoff, DO ’01 concurs. Benninghoff says these new opportunities are great for osteopathic residents. “The clinical experience I am receiving is exceptional. The core faculty includes DOs and MDs and they are all dedicated. I am excited that

What’s in a Name?
THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN OPTI AND PCOM MEDNet AND PCOM TRAINING PROGRAMS

Even within PCOM faithful, there seems to be a bit of confusion concerning the distinction between OPTI and PCOM MEDNet. So, let’s set the record straight. It’s actually quite simple once you know the terms.

OPTI is the acronym for Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institution. In 1995 the AOA mandated that every osteopathic training institution had to be affiliated with an osteopathic medical college. Colleges were given four years to develop a network of training institutions. By 1999, a total of 18 OPTI networks were established across the country. PCOM named its OPTI network “PCOM MEDNet,” short for PCOM Medical Education Network. We are the college partner to institutions in our OPTI network.

In addition to PCOM MEDNet, the college has its own training programs which includes an internship of 30 positions and 13 specialty residencies.

PCOM MEDNet Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PENNSYLVANIA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abington Memorial Hospital *</td>
<td>Hospital/Muhlenberg*</td>
<td>UPMC- Shadyside Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albert Einstein Medical Center *</td>
<td>The Medical Center, Beaver *</td>
<td>Williamsport Hospital</td>
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<td>Altoona Hospital Center for Medicine *</td>
<td>Mercy Catholic Medical Center</td>
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<td>Community Hospital of Lancaster</td>
<td>Mercy Suburban Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crozer Chester Medical Center</td>
<td>Nesbitt Memorial Hospital (WVHCS)*</td>
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<td>Delaware County Memorial Hospital/Crozer</td>
<td>PCOM Consortium</td>
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<td>Keystone Health System</td>
<td>The Reading Hospital and Medical Center*</td>
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<td>Easton Hospital *</td>
<td>Pinnacle Health at Community General Osteopathic Hospital</td>
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<td>Frankford Hospitals</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Hospital (Allentown) *</td>
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<td>Geisinger Health System *</td>
<td>St. Joseph Medical Center (Reading) *</td>
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<td>Good Samaritan Hospital *</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s Hospital (North Philadelphia Health System)</td>
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<td>Guthrie Clinic/Robert Packer Hospital *</td>
<td>St. Luke’s Hospital – Allentown Campus *</td>
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<td>Lankenau Hospital*</td>
<td>St. Luke’s Hospital – Bethlehem Campus *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lehigh Valley Hospital*</td>
<td>Tenet-Graduate</td>
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</table>

Ghosts: Threats that exist only in your own mind. A fear of your opponent or a lack of confidence will often lead to the appearance of ghosts and the cropping up.
Abington is part of PCOM MEDNet. There is such a warm feeling here – it’s like family. I love coming to work. It’s great to be part of such an exceptional training situation and it’s great that Abington is an option to us.”

Bennighoff says Abington’s mission and style supports the philosophy of osteopathic medicine and creates a supportive environment in which he can practice that philosophy on a daily basis. “I am involved in the ambulatory care unit here at Abington,” he explains. “It is located in the outpatient care building and run by residents. They are our patients and we provide a continuity of care. Each day, I am able to employ the osteopathic philosophy of caring for the whole patient. In my eyes, my Abington experience has embodied osteopathic philosophy. I talk to patients about their lives – not just their symptoms. We talk about what’s going on with them and about preventative care. Abington supports this. This is another step in my osteopathic training. I feel my time at PCOM Healthcare Center – Cambria division prepared me for working here with patients. That’s why I went into medicine. PCOM drove that home for me. And here at Abington, we have the resources to support that philosophy. I can direct my patients to things like nutritional counseling nurse-educators, psychological help, pain management and acupuncture, to name a few. Abington has the tools and the access to allow me to employ the osteopathic philosophy everyday,” Bennighoff reiterated.

It is clear that PCOM must change with the times and respond to the health care delivery system. With the growing number of openings and specialties that our students and graduates can now enter, in numbers greater than ever before, much good has come out of difficult times. In the end, patients and communities will be the ones who reap the benefits of the caring, skilled and dedicated osteopathic physicians graduated from PCOM.

E. Noble Wagner
DO ’55, was one of the first osteopathic physicians to be granted privileges to an allopathic institution and years later, his commitment to and practice of osteopathic philosophy and OMM is still strong.

E. Noble Wagner

One day, an elderly homebound patient presented with signs of appendicitis. She did not want to travel to the College’s hospital at 48th Street so Wagner called nearby Jeanes’ Hospital and asked its chief of surgery to see her. He told Wagner, “Young man, it is unlikely that a woman her age would have an appendicitis. Send her over and I’ll see what the problem is.” A few hours later, Wagner received a call from the doctor. “Young man,” he said again, “you were right.” And so Wagner began to make inroads at Jeanes and among allopathic colleagues. But at that time, DOs were not permitted to be on staff if the hospital had interns and residents as Jeanes did. Wagner continued practicing and networking with other physicians in the community through community and professional groups. In 1969, the head of Jeanes’ Hospital’s credentialing committee approached Wagner and invited him to submit an application to Jeanes. Today, Wagner sits on that committee and DOs play a significant role at the hospital.

Through it all, Wagner’s commitment to his patients, OMM and osteopathic philosophy were the foundation of his practice. Wagner never wavered from his belief in OMM and, he says, even MDs have come to him for OMM treatments. “I believe in OMM,” he said. “It works. Patients can feel the difference. They know you are doing something to help them.”

Noble concedes that it can be difficult for young physicians to employ OMM in their practice but stresses that it is an invaluable tool. “There’s not a lot of reimbursement or time allotted for the practice of OMM these days. But it is something that must be maintained. I would encourage all osteopathic physicians to employ OMM no matter where they practice.”
1935
Ida C. Schmidt, DO, Glenside, Pa., was granted life membership by the American Academy of Osteopathy.

1938
Ruth Waddell Cathie, DO, W. Brandywine, Pa., volunteers in the skilled care section of the Inn of Freedom Village.

1944
Arthur Snyder, DO, Adventura, Fla., was the recipient of the “2003 Living Tribute Award” presented by Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine’s Alumni Association for his significant contributions to the college and osteopathic profession.

1945
Albert S. Heyman, DO, Furlong, Pa., was awarded life membership in the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association.

1947
Philip Shtasel, DO, Narberth, Pa., was awarded life membership in Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association.

1952
Sidney Malet, DO, Stockton, Calif., received the “Lifetime Achievement Award” presented by the Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California. He is a fellow of the American Osteopathic College of Rheumatology.

1954
William G. McDowell, DO, Hermitage, Pa., was the recipient of the “2003 Humanitarian of the Year Award” presented by the Shenango Valley Foundation.

1957
Norman M. Charney, DO, Spokane, Wash., was highlighted in an article titled “Retirement fails to slow Spokane physician” published in the Journal of Business. He spent 30 years practicing medicine, 15 years practicing law, and 14 years in health-insurance management.

1958
William Levin, DO, Miami, Fla., was appointed associate professor in the department of family medicine at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

1959
Bertram Greenspun, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., authored a chapter on multiple sclerosis in Essentials of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He also serves as a manuscript reviewer for the Annals of Internal Medicine and the Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He is employed by Psychiatric Associates in Wilmington, Delaware.

1960
Joseph V. Koehler, DO, Plymouth Meeting, Pa., received the “2003 Courage Award for Compassionate Care” from the Mercy Foundation. His specialty is gastroenterology and internal medicine.

1961
Mark R. Orlow, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., was awarded life membership in the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association.

1962
James H. Black, DO, Norfolk, Va., was granted life membership in the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. He is a member of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine’s Board of Trustees.

1964
Charles R. Bridges, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., received the “Edward S. Cooper Award” presented by the American Heart Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

1965
Bernard Kazdan, DO, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., was featured in an article published in Newsday titled “After trying retirement, physician finds work is therapeutic.”

1966
Merrill J. Mirmian, DO, Springfield, Pa., became certified as a long-term care professional by the Health Insurance Association of America. His specialties are family medicine and pain management. He also received the Physicians’ Advisory Board “2003 Physician of the Year” certificate in recognition of integrating successful business practices with health care reform.

1967
Ronald R. Blanck, DO, Fort Worth, Texas, was named to the Biodefense Council by the Association of Academic Health Centers. He is president of the University of North Texas Health & Science Center at Fort Worth-Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

1968
Paul E. Wallner, DO, Bethesda, Md., was appointed chief, Clinical Radiation Oncology Branch, Division of Cancer Treatment & Diagnosis, at the National Cancer Institute. He is board certified by the American College of Radiology.
### Class Agents

Would you like to serve as a class agent? Contact Pam Ruoff at 215-871-6120 or Pamr@pcom.edu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>CLASS AGENT</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Morris J. Cherrey, DO</td>
<td>610-623-8712</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjconcall@verizon.net">mjconcall@verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Sidney Malet, DO</td>
<td>209-474-3071</td>
<td><a href="mailto:malet@attbi.com">malet@attbi.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>John R. Goulding, DO</td>
<td>781-324-1181</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drjigg@rcn.com">drjigg@rcn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>William G. McDowell, DO</td>
<td>724-347-4163</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William C. Bryers, DO</td>
<td>215-491-4015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Jay H. Joseph, DO</td>
<td>610-237-5060</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Marvin Rosner, DO</td>
<td>215-465-2323</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mrosner320@aol.com">mrosner320@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Murray H. Cohen, DO</td>
<td>602-249-4750</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Tomulys Moody, DO</td>
<td>937-298-9151</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>James H. Black, DO</td>
<td>757-489-5450</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ftsurg@sprynet.com">ftsurg@sprynet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert S. Maurer, DO</td>
<td>732-494-6688</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bmaurer789@aol.com">bmaurer789@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Harvey M. Spector, DO</td>
<td>215-745-4111</td>
<td><a href="mailto:do63@aol.com">do63@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>James P. Tierney, DO</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:teas@aol.com">teas@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Sherman Leis, DO</td>
<td>610-667-1888</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Alfred J. Poggi, DO</td>
<td>814-443-3637</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>David A. Bevan, DO</td>
<td>610-642-7637</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harry E. Manser, Jr., DO</td>
<td>609-499-0800</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Joan M. Watkins, DO</td>
<td>813-615-7755</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jwatkins@mail.uch.org">jwatkins@mail.uch.org</a></td>
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<td>1973</td>
<td>Herbert J. Rogove, DO</td>
<td>949-574-6058</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Dennis B. Zaslow, DO</td>
<td>215-925-0600</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>H. Sprague Taveau, IV, DO</td>
<td>806-212-5750</td>
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<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Lorraine M. Disipio, DO</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Earl H. Brunser, DO</td>
<td>717-272-7321</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Anthony J. Silvagni, DO</td>
<td>954-262-1407</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>Mary Ann DiBiagio, DO</td>
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<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Paul V. Suhey, DO</td>
<td>814-231-2101</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Thomas J. Dagney, III, DO</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:tjd3@charter.net">tjd3@charter.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Eric M. Lipnack, DO</td>
<td>856-784-0444</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dvmpa@erols.com">dvmpa@erols.com</a></td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Judith Richmond Pryblick, DO</td>
<td>423-722-9355</td>
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<td>Coleen M. Smith, DO</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>Daniel J. Kupas, DO</td>
<td>215-361-5882</td>
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<td>Clara M. Higgins, DO</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Judith A. Gardner, DO</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Daniel W. Matkiwsky, DO</td>
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<td>Jessica Otto, DO</td>
<td>215-629-5246</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>James V. Lieb, DO</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000 - PA Alumni</td>
<td>Kristen Lehmann, PA-C</td>
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<td>Christiane M. Petrillo, PA-C</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001 - PA Alumni</td>
<td>Melissa K. Hoffman, PA-C</td>
<td>610-828-2529</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mkhp@aol.com">mkhp@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nicole Miller, PA-C</td>
<td>215-677-1167</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002 - PA Alumni</td>
<td>Heather C. Beraducci, PA-C</td>
<td>215-321-3322</td>
<td><a href="mailto:heatherbpc@aol.com">heatherbpc@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erin G. Wolf, PA-C</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:emesarick@hotmail.com">emesarick@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 - PA Alumni</td>
<td>Jacob Matthew, PA-C</td>
<td>856-384-9532</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Norris, PA-C</td>
<td>610-526-2815</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lpiliero@aol.com">lpiliero@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1969
Lewis J. Brandt, DO, Bensalem, Pa., was awarded life membership in the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association.

1970
Dudley W. Goetz, DO, Arlington, Texas, received a certificate for five years of service in the House of Delegates of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. His specialty is dermatology.

1971
Barry Eisenberg, DO, Pocono Pines, Pa., joined Lawrence J. Howard, M.D. in a family practice. He is board certified by the American Academy of Osteopathy.

Gary S. Packin, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ, was elected secretary-treasurer of Kennedy Health Systems. He is board certified in obstetrics and gynecologic endocrinology.

1972
Edward H. Lentz, DO, Millersburg, Pa., joined Family Practice Center, P.C. in Lykens, Pa.

1973
Ronald J. Librizzi, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ was named to the “Best Doctors Database” (www.bestdoctors.com). Dr. Librizzi joins the less than four percent of all US doctors named to this prestigious database.

Daniel J. Raub, DO, Aurora, Ohio, was named Medina County Commissioner of Health. His specialty is family practice.

1974

Glenn N. Wagner, DO, San Diego, Calif., was appointed chief medical examiner of San Diego County, California. He was director of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, DC. He retired from the United States Navy in June 2003.

1975
Eugene Andrczyk, DO, Iyland, Pa., graduated from LaSalle University, May 2003, with an MBA in finance and was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma National Business Honor Society.

Michael Centrella, DO, Golden Valley, Minn., was appointed staff psychiatrist and consultant to the chemical dependency treatment program at St. Peter State Mental Hospital.

Robert V. Kiel, DO, Fairview, Pa., joined the medical staff at Erie Physicians Network. He specializes in gastroenterology, internal medicine and addiction medicine.

Roy M. Kring, DO, Bedford, Mass., joined the medical staff in the emergency medicine department at Emerson Hospital. He is certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine.

1976
Ralph E. Aldinger, Jr., DO, Philipsburg, Pa., joined J.C. Blair OB/GYN Associates. He is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology as well as maternal-fetal medicine by the American Osteopathic Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

D. Douglas Gilbert, DO, Lake View, NY, was highlighted in an article titled “Born to heal” which was published in the Buffalo News. Besides being a family physician, he is a pastor in the First Presbyterian Church in Lewiston, New York.

William R. Henwood, DO, Sharon, Pa., was named “Teacher of the Year” by the 2002-2003 Intern Class at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Horizion, Shenango in Farrell, Pennsylvania. He has a private general surgery practice at Shenango Valley Medical Center.

Gabriel G. Martyak, DO, East Stroudsburg, Pa., joined the medical staff at Pocono Medical Center’s Mattioli Emergency Center. He is board certified in emergency medicine and medical management.

Gregory J. McGinley, DO, Nazareth, Pa., was appointed medical director for the School District of Philadelphia and Concorde 2000, Inc. His specialties are cardiology, family medicine and occupational/environmental medicine.

Francis P. Sutter, DO, Gladwyne, Pa., was listed in Main Line Today as “Top Doctor in Thoracic Surgery.”

1977
Thomas D. Falasco, DO, Erie, Pa., served as guest author of a weekly forum which appeared in the May 9, 2003 issue of the Erie Times-News titled “Pennsylvania’s liability insurance crisis: Source, solution.” His specialty is anesthesiology.

Stephen F. Ficchi, DO, Merion Station, Pa., received board certification by the American Academy of Pain Management. He opened a fourth office in Broomall.

Norman E. Vinn, San Clemente, Calif., was elected second vice president of the American Osteopathic Association. He is clinical associate professor of family medicine at Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, California.

Arthur S. Maslow, DO, Sunbury, Pa., was named director of maternal and fetal medicine at the Janet Weis Women’s Pavilion at Geisinger Medical Center.

Michael P. Najarian, DO, Johnstown, Pa., a major in the United States Army Reserves Medical Corp., has been called up for duty in Iraq. He reported to Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas to begin processing for weapons training.

John H. Nicholson, DO, Palmerton, Pa., was the recipient of the “Citizen of the Year Award” presented by the Palmerton Chamber of Commerce. He was selected for 25 years of “selfless dedication” to the well-being of his patients and the betterment of the Palmerton area.

Michael Venditto, DO, Langhorne, Pa., co-authored an article published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association titled “Presence of Chapman Reflex Points in Hospitalized Patients with Pneumonia.”

Robert Zelenak, DO, Lima, Ohio, and his wife Mary Zelenak, MD, are emergency medicine department staff physicians at St. Rita Medical Center in Lima, Ohio.

1978
David A. Baron, DO, Lower Gwynned, Pa., was featured in an article published in The D.O. titled “Healing minds.” He also co-authored an article published in the Journal of the AOA titled “Treating
patients in primary care: the impact of mood, behavior, and thought disturbances.” He is a fellow of the American College of Neuropsychiatry.

Oliver C. Bullock, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., was the recipient of the “Ambulatory Care Physician of the Year Award” presented by the PCOM Student Chapter of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

Richard A. Istrico, DO, Howard Beach, NY, was featured in an article published in the New York Daily News titled “Doc helps gloves and safety see eye-to-eye.”

Bruce S. Margolis, DO, MBA, FACOI, Philadelphia, Pa., was awarded re-certification by the American Board of Preventive Medicine and is certified in addiction medicine by the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

1979

Daniel J. Boyle, DO, San Antonio, Texas, received a certificate for five years of service in the House of Delegates of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. His specialty is physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Jeffrey C. Brand, DO, East Norriton, Pa., was elected chairman of the professional staff at Mercy Suburban Hospital in Norristown, Pennsylvania.

Paul Evans, DO, Broken Arrow, Okla., co-authored an article published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association titled “Relations between academic performance by medical students and COMLEX-USA - Level 2: A Multisite Analysis.”

Maria A. Limberakis, DO, Rydal, Pa., was highlighted in the News Gleaner article titled “Compassion along with the healing.” Her specialty is family medicine.

Bruce S. Margolis, DO, MBA, FACOI, Philadelphia, Pa., was named medical director for GE Financial Assurance’s long term care insurance division.

1980

David A. Bitonte, DO, Paris, Ohio, earned the degree of masters of business administration from Youngstown State University. He is medical director at Ohio KePRO, the Quality Improvement Organization for Medicare in the state of Ohio.

Thomas M. Bozzuto, DO, Jacksonville, Fla., completed FAA Aviation Medicine training and was appointed aviation medical examiner.

Don A. Koenigsberg, DO, Bryn Mawr, Pa., is chairman, Department of Anesthesiology, American Osteopathic College of Anesthesiologists and was program chairman of the Annual Convention for the American College of Osteopathic Medicine in September, 2003.

Paul A. Terpeluk, DO, Chestertown, Md., joined Healthtrac, Inc. He is board certified in occupational medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine and is certified in addiction medicine by the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

1981

John W. Fornace, DO, Norristown, Pa., joined the medical staff at Phoenixville Hospital.

Fred K. Khalouf, DO, Hollidaysburg, Pa., was awarded re-certification by the American Board of Anesthesiology, Subspecialty Board in Pain Medicine.

Hugh E. Palmer, DO, York, Pa., was named president of the medical staff at Memorial Hospital. He is a board certified family physician who practices at Mount Rose Family Medicine.

Frank Paolantonio, DO, York, Pa., was named director of the new breast center at Memorial Hospital in York, Pa. He is board certified by the American College of Radiology.

John H. Potomski, Jr., DO, Pensacola, Fla., is chairman of the board of the Florida Medical Directors Association. He is president of District 16 of the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association.

1982

Michael J. Allshouse, DO, Johnson City, Tenn., was appointed chief of pediatric surgery at East Tennessee State University’s James H. Quillen College of Medicine and ETSU Physicians and Associates.

Steven T. Dinsmore, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ, wrote an article published in the Journal of the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons titled “Mild Cognitive Impairment.” His specialties are neurology and psychiatry.

Janice A. Knebl, DO, Fort Worth, Texas, was named the first Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians Inc. “Distinguished Chair of Clinical Geriatrics” at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. She currently serves as a professor of internal medicine and chief of geriatrics at the college.

Ralph S. Wolf, DO, Mico, Fla., is the co-founder of Psychotherapeutic Services, providing out-patient treatment in Maryland, Delaware, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Jeffrey A. Yocum, DO, Lebanon, Pa., was elected to a third term as Coroner for Lancaster County.

1983

Frederick W. Ammerman, DO, Frederick, Md., was appointed to the medical staff at Jefferson Memorial Hospital.

Scott J. Deron, DO, Lancaster, Pa., wrote a book titled C-Reactive Protein. He is an interventional cardiologist practicing in Lancaster for the past 14 years.

Brian L. Fellechner, DO, Allentown, Pa., was appointed to the department of medicine, division of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Just Born, Inc. He is board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation, electro diagnostic medicine, and pain medicine.

Carol L. Henwood, DO, Pottstown, Pa., was re-elected to serve on the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association. She is a fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. She was also the recipient of the “Primary Care Physician of the Year Award” presented by the PCOM Student Chapter of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

Richard D. Kimmel, DO, Boca Raton, Fla., was appointed chairman, cardiothoracic and vascular discipline, American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

Karen M. Sciavetta, DO, Northampton, Pa., joined the department of obstetrics and gynecology, division of gynecology, at Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network. She practices at Bethlehem Gynecology Associates.

Timothy J. Yeager, DO, Allentown, Pa., was appointed to the department of pediatrics, division of general pediatrics at Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network. He practices at LVH Pediatric Inpatient Care in Allentown.
1984
Vanessa Ragland-Payne, DO, Haleyville, Ala., was profiled in the NorthWest Alabamian. Her specialty is family medicine.
Michael J. Sarik, DO, Wintersville, Ohio, received board certification in electro-physiology. He is also board certified in cardiology and internal medicine.

1985
Mark M. Bernardi, DO, Pittston, Pa., was elected director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory. He is board certified in vascular disease and internal medicine.
Neil Feldman, DO, Allentown, Pa., became president-elect of the Pennsylvania Allergy and Asthma Association. His specialties are allergy and immunology.
Peter J. Isaac, DO, Allentown, Pa., was appointed to the medical staff at Warren Hospital. His specialty is general surgery.
Karen Lustig, DO, Mount Pleasant, S.C., was appointed family medicine clinical instructor for the Medical College of Wisconsin.
Salvatore A. Moscatello, DO, Mount Pleasant, S.C., was named to the board of directors of Goodwill Industries. He has a gastroenterology practice in North Charleston, South Carolina.
Deborah Popowich, DO, Fox Point, Wis., was appointed family medicine clinical instructor for the Medical College of Wisconsin.

1986
Mark D. Baker, DO, Erie, Pa., was honored as “Doctor of the Year” by Millcreek Community Hospital. He is medical director of the State Correctional Institute in Albion.
David J. Ball, DO, Bloomsburg, Pa., was highlighted in an article titled “Dr. Ball and his devoted staff offer years of experience,” which was published in the Press-Enterprise. His specialty is orthopedic medicine.
James M. Bonner, DO, Mullica Hill, NJ, was highlighted in an article titled “ER doctor,” which was published in the Gloucester County Times. His specialties are family medicine and emergency medicine.

Dr. Katherine Erlichman, DO ’87
BRINGING A NEW TREATMENT OPTION TO THE COMMUNITY

Because Katherine Erlichman, DO ’87, got tough when the going got rough, lymphedema patients in and around Bedford, Pa., have a much smoother road to travel while seeking treatment for their condition.

In 1997, Erlichman was a successful ophthalmologist and busy mother of three when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. After a lumpectomy and 36 radiation treatments, her cancer was in remission, but a new problem surfaced — her right arm was swollen three to four times its normal size, a consequence of her cancer treatment.

“Medical school never taught what to do about lymphedema,” says Erlichman. She said the prevailing theory was “you just have to live with it.” Not content with this scenario, which would have meant an early end to her career, she searched for information about treatment options. That’s when she realized the closest treatment center for lymphedema was two hours away, in Pittsburgh.

Erlichman had little choice but to close her practice for two weeks to travel to Pittsburgh where she had treatments twice a day for 10 days. Her lymphedema improved. Word spread of the effectiveness of the treatment, and Erlichman began receiving phone calls about the treatment and the center. Not only did Erlichman set up a lecture series to educate people about the condition, she made treatment more available to residents of her community by establishing a lymphedema clinic at her practice.

Erlichman describes how lymphedema affects the lives of those living with the condition. “It affects every aspect of their lives. It affects their mobility, self-confidence and ability to perform tasks the rest of us take for granted. It also affects their overall physical and mental well-being. Some patients have been forced to give up their jobs due to the extreme swelling of their arm or leg. If left untreated, lymphedema will progress, causing skin changes, pain and hardening or fibrosis of the tissues, making the patient much more susceptible to infection and vascular ulcers.”

Erlichman explains the treatment, called CPD therapy or complex physical decongestive therapy, which has been used successfully in Europe for decades, but has only recently been available in the United States. “The treatment consists of skin care, manual lymphatic drainage, which is very similar to OMM techniques we learned at PCOM, bandaging of the affected limb, remedial exercise and compression garments at the conclusion of the therapy. This is a lifelong condition,” explains Erlichman, “but patients are taught how to maintain and optimize the reduction in the affected extremity.”

In 2003, Erlichman received the “Source of Life Award for Community Service Advocacy” from Mage Women’s Hospital, in recognition of her community service and contributions to the treatment of cancer in women. Today, after successfully battling cancer, Erlichman maintains a thriving medical practice, stays actively involved in the lives of her three very busy children, serves on the board of UPMC Bedford Memorial and participates in fundraisers for the American Cancer Society. And, thanks to her dedication to lymphedema patients, she has enabled countless other to remain active in their own lives as well.
Thelma J. Citta, DO, Voorhees, NJ, is a physiatrist specializing in pediatric rehabilitation medicine in charge of the A.I. duPont Hospital for Children's outpatient clinics in Voorhees, New Jersey (Virtua duPont) and Philadelphia (duPont at Jefferson). She continues her private practice in Stratford, New Jersey, with special interest in disability and electro diagnostic medicine.

Cathleen D. Roberts, DO, Easton, Pa., was appointed to the medical staff at Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network. She is a fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians.

Mary B. Russo-Colt, DO, McKean, Pa., was highlighted in an article that appeared in the Erie-Times News titled “The doctor is in.” Her specialty is family medicine.

Charles Sophy, Beverly Hills, Calif., was named medical director of Los Angeles County’s Department of Children’s Services. His specialty is psychiatry.

Paul D. Williams, DO, Harrisburg, Pa., was appointed associate medical director at Capital Blue Cross in Harrisburg. He is a family medicine physician.

1987

Kim Kuhar, DO, Schwenksville, Pa., joined the department of medicine/ internal medicine at Doylestown Hospital.

Douglas L. McGee, DO, Birchrunville, Pa., wrote a commentary titled “Doctor prescribes helmet laws” which appeared in The Philadelphia Inquirer. His specialty is emergency medicine.

Robert J. Sass, DO, Lebanon, Va., joined the medical staff at Russell County Medical Center.

1988

Elizabeth M. Cerva, DO, Brookhaven, Pa., joined Einstein Neighborhood Healthcare.


Nicholas P. Dardes, DO, Beaufort, SC, was recertified by the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine.

John R. Gimpel, DO, Wash., DC, was the recipient of the “Golden Apple Teaching Award” presented by Georgetown University. He also received the “2002-2003 Humanism in Medical Education Award” presented by Georgetown University’s student chapter of the American Association of Medical Colleges. He co-authored two articles published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association titled “Using national medical care survey data to validate examination content on a performance-based clinical skills assessment for osteopathic physicians” and “Evaluating the clinical skills of osteopathic medical students.” His specialty is family medicine.

LoriAnn Musto-Skelly, DO, Pacific Palisades, Calif., has been enjoying private family practice for the past seven years. She resides with her husband, producer Mark Skelly, and two children, Sienna, 5 and Shane, 2.

Erik W. Niemi, DO, Bennington, Vt., joined the medical staff at Southwestern Vermont Healthcare. He practices at Advanced Eyecare in Bennington.

Craig F. Turner, DO, Martinsville, Va., is on staff at a new comprehensive cardiac care office at Carilion Cardiology Associates.

Robert W. Wilkeson, DO, Columbus, Ga., retired from the United States Army after 20 years of service. He is currently working as a staff pathologist at Martin Army Community Hospital.

1989

Stuart H. Goldstein, DO, Abington, Va., joined the medical staff at Pulaski Community Hospital. He will also provide on-call emergency room surgical services. He moved his private practice to Pulaski from Abington and Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

1990

David A. Forstein, DO, Voorhees, NJ, joined Greenville Hospital System’s Center for Women’s Medicine. He will be working in the division of reproductive endocrinology and infertility.

1991

James D. Bove, DO, Athens, Ohio, was elected president of the board of directors for University Medical Associates.

This is a new privatized clinical faculty multi-specialty practice plan for Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Robert A. Crossey, DO, Pittsburgh, Pa., was appointed 2003 president of the medical staff at Forbes Regional Hospital. His specialty is family medicine.

Richard Rudloff, DO, Danville, Pa., joined the medical staff at Berwick Hospital. He is board certified by the American Board of Family Practice.

1992

Donald M. Brislain, DO, Perkasie, Pa., joined the department of medicine/ internal medicine at Doylestown Hospital.

Brenda A. Goodrich, DO, Factoryville, Pa., was named “April Doctor of the Month” for Tyler Hospital. Her specialty is family medicine.

Raymond C. McKoy, DO, Rome, Ga., joined Urgent Care and Occupational Medicine of Cedartown. His specialties are internal medicine and family medicine.

1993

Diane A. Adams, DO, Milford, Del., received media coverage in the Milford Chronicle. She is a 22-year veteran of the United States Army Reserve and has been activated and is awaiting orders at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Her specialty is gynecology and obstetrics.

Kenan Aksu, DO, Exton, Pa., joined Core Orthopaedics P.C. He is courtesy staff in the orthopedic section of the surgery department at Chester County Hospital.

Vishal Bhalal, DO, Downingtown, Pa., is attending staff in the department of medicine, section of cardiology, at Chester County Hospital. He has recently joined the practice of West Chester Cardiology.

Stuart A. Bradin, DO, Ann Arbor, Mich., is a clinical assistant professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine at the University of Michigan. He recently published an article on pediatric anaphylaxis in the Air Medical Journal.

Thomas M. Motyka, DO, Chapel Hill, N.C., co-authored an article published in the Journal of the AOA titled “Do osteopathic physicians differ in patient
interaction from allopathic physicians? An empirically derived approval.” His specialties are internal medicine and osteopathic manipulative medicine. Keith P. Radbill, Philadelphia, Pa., joined Barry Korn, DO ’91, at the Center for Pain Management in Cherry Hill, NJ.

1994
Gerard Foti, DO, Berwick, Pa., joined the medical staff at Berwick Hospital. His specialty is orthopedics.

James L. Hubbard, DO, Rock Hill, SC, was appointed chairman of the obstetrics/gynecology department at Piedmont Medical Center. He is senior partner and owner of Carolina OB/GYN of York Co.

William J. Liaw, DO, Whitehall, Pa., was appointed to the medical staff of the department of family practice at Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network. He will practice at Macungie Medical Group.

Helen M. Suchanick, DO, Dunkirk, NY, joined the medical staff at the Resource Center’s Health Services. Her specialty is family medicine.

1995
Robert S. Dolansky, Jr., DO, Allentown, Pa., was named director of Osteopathic Medical Education by St. Luke’s Hospital and Health Network. His specialty is family practice.

Tanya Ermolovich, DO, Emmaus, Pa., joined the department of medicine/dermatology of St. Luke’s Hospital, Fountain Hill, Pa. She is associated with Advanced Dermatology Associates.

Leo H. Eschbach, DO, Lewes, Del., received board certification from the American Board of Osteopathic Obstetrics and Gynecologists. He practices at Bayside Health and sees patients in Lewes, Georgetown and Ocean View, Delaware.

Marianne T. Longacre, DO, Charlestown, RI, was the recipient of the “2003 Young Careerist Award” presented by Charriho Business and Professional Women.

Robert M. Oley, DO, Dallas, Pa., recently left active duty with the United States Air Force serving as Chief of Emergency Services, 39th Medical Group, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey in support of Operation Northern Watch and Operation Enduring Freedom. He has joined the medical staff at Dallas Family Practice, LLC.

Joyce L. Vrabec, DO, Bear Creek Township, Pa., opened a new internal medicine practice. She was named medical director of Bear Creek Healthcare Center.

1996
Christopher C. Clark, Erie, Pa., is a family physician and director of the osteopathic medical education and osteopathic internship program at Saint Vincent Health Center.

Frank J. Colarusso, DO, Cranford, NJ, was appointed attending physician in the department of rehabilitation medicine at Erie County Medical Center. He specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Gregory W. Coppola, DO, Erie, Pa. was highlighted in an article published in the Erie Times-News titled “Physician scores high marks for treating athletes.” He practices at Saint Vincent Sports Medicine Center at Family First Sports Park.

Richard R. Cunningham, DO, Vero Beach, Fla., received board certification in palliative medicine by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. He is medical director for the Visiting Nurse Association Hospice of Indian River County.


Joanne E. Hullings, DO, Bristol, Pa., became board certified by the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians and the American College of Osteopathic Internists. She currently practices in the emergency room at St. Mary’s Medical Center in Langhorne, Pa.

Adriana Klucar Stoudt, Maple Plain, Minn., joined Children’s Hospitals and Clinics in Minneapolis as a pediatric emergency medicine attending physician.

Brian K. Lang, DO, Erie, Pa. was named medical director of the new hospice program at Community Nursing Services of North East. His specialty is internal medicine.

Scott Lintz, DO, Myrtle Beach, S.C., joined Grand Strand Regional Medical Center. He is board certified in emergency medicine.

Richard C. Lorenzo, Jr., DO, Beaver, Pa., joined the medical staff at Ohio Valley General Hospital in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dennis P. McHugh, DO, Plymouth Meeting, Pa., has an orthopedic practice in Norristown.

Terri White McHugh, DO, Plymouth Meeting, Pa., recently joined Main Line Oncology and is assistant program director of the fellowship.

1997
A. Jody Ackerman, Stroudsburg, Pa., was highlighted in an article published in the Pocono Record titled “There’s a doctor in the house.” She recently opened Swiftwater Family Practice. She’s also physician on call for Kidspeace in Orefield, Pennsylvania.

Stacey L. Fitch, DO, King of Prussia, Pa., completed her clinical rheumatology fellowship program at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. She is board certified in internal medicine and rheumatology.

Richard A. Gilbert, DO, Macungie, Pa., joined Craig Krause, DO ’79 at Tamaqua Family Practice.

Gretta A. Gross, DO, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was named osteopathic director of medical education for the PCOM/Nesbitt Internship Program.

Maria J. Henwood, DO, Marlton, NJ, was selected as a member of the Associates Council to the Endocrine Society. She is completing her last year toward a pediatric endocrinology fellowship at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

1998
Gregory H. Busch, DO, Wenonah, NJ, successfully completed his geriatric fellowship program at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Caitlin Songey Clark, DO, Erie, Pa., practices family medicine with obstetrics and is a member of the faculty for the Saint Vincent Family Practice Residency Program.
CLASS NOTES

On a personal note


Myron A. Forim, DO ’58, and his wife, Miriam, Woodmere, NY, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June 2003.

Melissa Schwartz, DO ’91 and husband Seth, Bala Cynwyd, Pa., are the proud parents of Rebecca Schwartz, born July 3, 2003.

Jeffrey Gold, DO ’94, Oley, Pa., and his wife, Michelle, are the proud parents of Alexander Benjamin Gold born February 11, 2003.

Sean Conroy, DO ’95 and Robyn Shore-Conroy, DO ’96, Glen Mills, Pa., are the proud parents of Dean Bailey Conroy, born June 5, 2002, weighing in at 8 lbs. 12 oz., 21” long.

Terri White McHugh, DO, ’96 and Dennis P. McHugh, DO, ’96 Plymouth Meeting, Pa., are the proud parents of their third child, Olivia Grace McHugh, born July 10, 2003.

Christopher C. Clark, DO ’96 Erie, Pa., is married to Caitlin Songey Clark, DO ’98. They welcomed a son, Jacob Gerald Clark, born July 11, 2002.

Corey Smith, DO ’97, and wife Tammy, Chesapeake, Va., are the proud parents of Talia Grace Smith, born June 9, 2003.

Matthew W. Lawrence, DO ’98, and his wife, Michelle, Chicago, Ill., are the proud parents of Dean William Lawrence born March 17, 2003.


Glen R. Miske, DO ’99 and Heather M. Miske, DO ’99, Oakmont, Pa., are the proud parents of their third child, Madeline Marie born February 20, 2003.

Ellen Kozloski, PA-C ’00, Carlisle, Pa., married Don Shiffer on October 12, 2002 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. They are building a new home in Carlisle.


Marquis T. Hamwright, DO, Devon, Pa., is on the medical staff of Discovery Health Channel and Discovery Health On-Line; assistant medical director of the Pennington Institute of Health and Wellness; and attending physician at the Holistic Healing Center of Devon. Dr. Hamwright is starting a six month certificate instructional program at PCOM covering a wide variety of holistic medical topics. Students will have online instruction as well as weekend and monthly seminars. More information will be forthcoming.

Jennifer Landes, Pennington, NJ, joined Delaware Valley OB/GYN Infertility Group in Lawrenceville, NJ. She recently graduated from St. Luke’s OB/GYN residency program.

Matthew W. Lawrence, DO, Chicago, Ill., has been admitted to the cardiovascular-thoracic surgery residency program at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Medical Center in Chicago.

Bradley J. Miller, DO, Reedsboro, Pa., was the recipient of the 2003 (Health Professions) Committee Health Professions Alumni Appreciation Award, presented by Juniata College. He is board-certified by the American Board of Family Practice.

Cherie M. Mininger, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., was appointed assistant professor in the emergency medicine department at Temple University Hospital and School of Medicine.

Jeffrey B. Musser, DO, Puyallup, Wash., has joined the pulmonary and critical care service and the department of anesthesia and operative service at Madigan Army Medical Center. He also serves as medical director of Respiratory Care Service.

Jessica B. Pagana-DeFazio, DO, Sunbury, Pa., was appointed to the board of directors of the United Way of Central Susquehanna Valley. Her specialty is family medicine.

Amy N. Saracino, DO, Harrisburg, Pa., joined Community Services Group as a staff psychiatrist.

Dana E. Sless, DO, Margate City, NJ, opened a new practice, Brighton Pediatrics, in Atlantic City and Egg Harbor Township. She is board-certified by the American Academy of Pediatricians.

Stephanie C. Waecker, DO, Portland, Maine, will be entering into a new career working as an osteopathic manipulation medicine specialist and assistant professor at the University Of New England College Of Osteopathic Medicine.

David P. Zambo, DO, Bethlehem, Pa., joined the department of family medicine at Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network in Nazareth, Pennsylvania.

1999

Jason R. Aronovitz, DO, Boston, Mass., was elected secretary-treasurer of the American Osteopathic Academy of Medical Informatics.

Mario Riccardo Coella, DO, Baltimore, Md., is the first Emergency Medical Services Fellow at Johns Hopkins Medical Institution. One of his responsibilities is providing medical coverage for the United States Secret Service which has taken him to Africa for the President’s visit.

Lawrence M. Gibbons, DO, Portsmouth, RI, was appointed anesthesiologist in Naval Health Care New England, Newport, RI.

Lauri A. Hicks, DO, Atlanta, Ga., completed an internal medicine residency and served as chief of internal medicine at the University of Connecticut. She was the recipient of the following awards: “Philip T. Goldenberg, MD Award for Leadership,” “Pamela Kisluk Spirit Award” and the “Harold N. Willard Award” for excellence in ambulatory care. She joined the Epidemic

33

2004
Intelligence Service of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a medical detective.

Stacy L. Hockin, DO, Fairport Harbor, Ohio, joined the Ashtabula Clinic. Her specialty is pediatrics.

Charles N. Krome, DO, Aurora, Ohio, joined a private practice in primary care sports medicine with Precision Orthopedics in Cleveland, Ohio. He is board certified by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians.

Susan L. Ledbetter, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., successfully completed her geriatric fellowship program at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Timothy E. Marra, DO, Camarillo, Calif., has been deployed overseas since October 2002. He is serving in Operation Enduring Freedom with VMA-513, a Harrier squadron, based out of Yuma, Arizona.

Tammy L. McBride, DO, Spring Grove, Pa., joined Hanover Family Care Center. She is school physician for Hanover School District.

Glen Miske, DO, Oakmont, Pa., is chief resident of internal medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and started a cardiology fellowship at Allegheny General.

Heather M. Miske, DO, Oakmont, Pa., is completing a hematology/oncology fellowship at West Penn Hospital.

Evan R. Restelli, DO, Oakmont, Pa., is currently completing a fellowship in pulmonary medicine at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh. He is board certified in internal medicine.

Gregory S. Smith, DO, Omaha, Neb., was sent overseas in January as a staff physician for the 405th Expeditionary Medical Group in the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps. He is serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Jodie L. Strauss, DO, Pittsburgh, Pa., received board certification by the American Board of Internal Medicine. She is currently practicing at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Jennifer J. Zambo, DO, Bethlehem, Pa., joined the emergency medicine division of Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network. She will practice at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Salisbury Township.

2000-DO Alumni

Kelly Hindman Barki, DO, Wheeling, W. Va., was named “2003 Resident of the Year” at Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh. Her specialty is internal medicine.

Jonathan J. Burke, DO, Bethlehem, Pa., joined Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network’s medical staff. He practices at Pleasant Valley Primary Care, Brodheadsville, Pennsylvania.

Matthew M. Collins, DO, Glenside, Pa., was named chief resident of the department of internal medicine at Abington Memorial Hospital. His specialties are internal medicine and cardiology.

Dominick A. De Frances, Jr., DO, Pittsburgh, Pa., joined Associates in Internal Medicine in Tarentum, Pa.

Nicole J. Heisman, DO, Lafayette Hill, Pa., joined Pottstown Medical Specialists as a general internist.

Matthew R. Kozma, DO, Stroudsburg, Pa., joined Geisinger Medical Group-Mount Pocono as a family practice physician.

Matthew T. McElroy, DO, Danville, Pa., joined Geisinger Medical Group-Knapper Clinic as a family practice physician.

Jason J. Sanderson, DO, Drexel Hill, Pa., joined Ware Medical Associates in Aston, Pennsylvania.

Italo Subbara, DO, MBA, Whitehall, Pa., received the “2003 ACOEP Resident Research Poster Competition” for “Use of Advanced Mannequin Simulation Combined with CD Simulation to Instruct ER Residents to respond to victims of Bioterrorism Attack.”

2001-PA Alumni

Laura E. Wildman, PA-C, Wayne, Pa., ran in her first marathon on October 27, 2003. She will also run in the Dublin City Marathon (Ireland) to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She is half way to her goal of $4,300.

2002-DO Alumni

Jeffery A. Gilbert, DO, Aldan, Pa., received the Golden Quill Award presented by the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association for his essay titled “Brain natriuretic peptide: the new measuring stick or a waste of health care dollars.”

Jonathan J. Kanz, DO, La Verne, Calif., had his medical update published in the Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association titled “Primary sclerosing cholangitis.”

Timothy A. Leone, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ, is completing his residency in general surgery at PCOM.

Keri Jo Vinson, DO, San Antonio, Texas, was recently awarded the “2002-2003 Save of the Year” by the San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium Emergency Medicine Residency Program.

George W. Young, DO, Folsom, Pa., received Honorable Mention from the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association for his essay titled “Parkinson’s Disease.”

2001-DO Alumni

Suzanne R. Fanning, DO, Schwenksville, Pa., has completed her second year internal medicine residency at Lehigh Valley Medical Center. She has been offered a three-year fellowship in hematology/gynecology at the Cleveland Clinic.

Jocelyn E. Harris, DO, Charlotte, N.C., co-authored an article published in Catus titled “Protracted calciphaxis, Part II.”

Jennifer Hampton-Montavon, DO, Wallingford, Pa., was named 2003-2004 family practice chief resident at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Carl Hoeгер, DO, Farmingville, NY, began a neurology residency at University Hospital, Stony Brook, New York.

Dominic J. Valentino, III, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., received honorable mention from the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association for his essay titled “A fatal case of West Nile Virus in Philadelphia 2002.”

2002-PA Alumni

Melanie Oppenheim, PA-C, Philadelphia, Pa., is working at the Community Health Center at Philadelphia Community Health Alternatives in center city Philadelphia.
Lynn Schoenherr, PA-C, Philadelphia, Pa., is working in the dermatology department at Frankford Hospital with Dr. Mitchell Anolik.

PCOM’s 57th Annual Alumni/Survivors’ Dinner Dance Awards June 20, 2003

The Dean’s Appreciation Award: Vanessa Tara Brennan, DO ‘99 Bruce Kornberg, DO ‘78

The Emanuel Fliegelman, DO Memorial Award: John William Brinker, DO ’00 Michael Lester Levin, DO ’01

In Memoriam

Donald C. Bruckner, DO ’52, Ormond Beach, Fla., May 19, 2003.
David L. Dreizen, DO ’64, Huntington, NY, April 7, 2003.
Robert L. Incorvati, DO ’84, Beaver, Pa., June 6, 2003.
Joseph J. Mancini, DO ’78, Blue Bell, Pa., August 9, 2003.

The H. Jeffrey Tourigian, DO Memorial Award:
Matthew William Lawrence, DO ’98

The Vickers Foundation Award:
Matthew Robert Kozma, DO ’00

Henrietta and Jack Avart Memorial Award:
Jack Elias Kazanjian, DO ’98

Intern of the Year:
Bao-Dan Tran Nguyen, DO ’02
George Neil Seavy, DO ’02
Kathleen Ann Walsh, DO ’02

Resident of the Year: Family Medicine:
John William Brinker, DO ’00
Brendan Michael Flynn, DO ’00

Resident of the Year: Internal Medicine:
Lori Ann Lavelle, DO ’00
Michael Lester Levin, DO ’01
Scott Paul McGlynn, DO ’00

Clinical Teacher of the Year:
Tenet-MCP…Pat Lannutti, DO ’71

Certificates of Merit award

PCOM’s Alumni Association board of directors awarded the following alumni certificates of merit for outstanding achievement in osteopathic medicine:

Robert G. Binder, DO ’63, Voorhees, NJ, was the recipient of the “2003 Physician of the Year Award” presented by the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.
Lynn F. Sumerson, DO ’64, Clearwater, Fla., was bestowed the title of Professor Emeritus by Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.
Wayne A. Hey, DO ’75, Arlington, Texas, was the recipient of the “2003 Texas Physician of the Year” award presented by the National Republican Congressional Committee.
Steven D. Kamajan, DO ’78, Agoura Hills, Calif., was the recipient of the “2003 Physician of the Year Award” presented by the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California.
Domenick N. Ronco, DO ’78, Mifflinburg, Pa., was inducted as the 92nd president of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association.

Pascuala C. Reyes, DO ’89, Tomas, Wisc., became a fellow in the 2002-2003 Osteopathic Heritage Health Policy Fellowship Program.

Thomas J. Dagney III, DO ’87, Vincennes, Ind., was the recipient of the “2003 Physician of the Year” award presented by the National Republican Congressional Committee’s Physician’s Advisory Board.
Kristi D. Johnson, DO ’97, Philadelphia, Pa., was the recipient of the 2003 Meta Christy Award presented by the Student National Medical Association.
Editor’s Note: Dr. Blender’s commentary on the Closing of Parkview Hospital appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer on September 12, 2003. It is reprinted with permission.

Parkview Hospital served its neighborhood family for more than 40 years. As a physician, I find it difficult to watch an old friend die, but I am mourning the demise of Parkview Hospital in the Feltonville section of Northeast Philadelphia, where I have practiced family medicine for 40 years. On Monday, this small community hospital that served a diverse, economically challenged population, officially closed.

Founded as Juniata Hospital more than 40 years ago, Parkview was established by a group of dedicated osteopathic physicians. It was owned and operated by numerous health care providers, among them the Graduate Health Systems and the Allegheny Health System, whose financial woes led to eventual bankruptcy and the indictment of its chief executive officer. Throughout this turmoil, the highly qualified and loyal administrators and staff physicians continued to serve and support the hospital. The dedicated nurses, repeatedly offered competitive wages from other health care facilities, chose to remain at Parkview.

These health care providers always seemed to rescue Parkview, maintaining the hundreds of jobs held by local residents – 80 percent of whom lived in the neighborhood. When the Tenet Health Care System acquired Parkview along with seven other Allegheny Hospitals, it seemed that once again Parkview would be saved.

There were genuine concerns that the Tenet organization’s for profit policy would not provide services for those patients without “suitable” insurance plans. The community however, was reassured that Tenet’s mission was to serve everyone’s needs, regardless of insurance coverage and ability to pay.

Parkview’s dedicated staff continued providing needed services: the Ob-Gyn group delivered 1,600 babies in 2002; the emergency department cared for thousands of admissions; the radiology department, with state-of-the-art equipment, diligently provided outpatient as well as inpatient care; and the Esperanza Medical Group, in the medical building adjacent to the hospital, served the area’s largest Hispanic population.

Despite Parkview’s achievements, the combination of increasing malpractice insurance, which is driving physicians out of Pennsylvania, and decreasing medical reimbursements from the federal government, led to continued poor financial health. Tenet, in accounting to its investors, determined that the hospital was not an economically viable facility.

During a meeting in June on the hospital’s impending closing, it was clear that the closing would cause particularly serious hardship for Latinos living in Feltonville. Other hospitals in the Greater Northeast provide care for Latinos, but Parkview was unique. Its staff of neighborhood-based employees, many of them Latino, provided personal, family-like care.

Now, neighborhood patients will be forced to travel to other hospitals for care, and there will be long waits at emergency facilities with overworked staffs. Babies born at other hospitals will be cared for by unfamiliar doctors, rather than neighborhood primary-care physicians. The Esperanza Clinic will be severely limited by the loss of on-site hospital services. Sick patients, including those needing surgery or suffering from acute symptoms, could endure delays in being transferred to other facilities.

The federal government must step in to assist the thousands of uninsured, acutely ill patients who seek medical care at hospitals. Part of the answer is providing universal health care coverage, lowering malpractice premiums for physicians and hospitals, and providing adequate reimbursements to medical facilities caring for patients unable to afford the burgeoning cost of medical insurance. If these issues are not dealt with – and –quickly – Parkview Hospital will not be alone among acute care facilities forced to close.

We in Feltonville have indeed lost a longtime friend, one that was important and reliable. How tragic that Parkview’s doors have closed forever.

By Burton Blender, DO ’62
Schedule of Events

Friday, June 4, 2004
• Continuing Medical Education Seminars
• Manayunk Brewery and Restaurant Party

Saturday, June 5, 2004
• Continuing Medical Education Seminars
• Family Fun Barbecue and Campus Open House
• Reception (PCOM Campus) and Dinner Dance at the Hilton Philadelphia, City Avenue

Sunday, June 6, 2004
• Champagne Brunch at the Union League
• Alumni Day at the National Constitution Center
“Five Point Plan for the Future!”

PCOM is proud to introduce its “Five Point Plan for the Future.” See page nine for details.

PCOMEVENTS

SAVE THE DATE...

March 31 to April 3
Atlantic Regional Osteopathic Convention
Atlantic City, NJ / Taj Mahal

April 28 to May 1, 2004
Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA)
Philadelphia, PA / Adam’s Mark

June 4 to June 6, 2004
PCOM Alumni Weekend
PCOM Campus

June 5, 2004
Alumni Association Board meeting
PCOM Evans Hall, 9:00 am

June 6, 2004
DO Commencement
Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

July 30, 2004
Graduate School Commencement
Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
4180 City Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131-1695

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