
THE REVIEW

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES



A

t \$10.3 million, for the **Center of Biomedical Research Excellence** is the largest research grant the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences has ever received. The project is aimed at increasing researchers' understanding of the underlying causes of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Biomedical scientists involved in the five-year study are (clockwise, from lower left): Jody Rada, Ph.D., principal investigator; Colin Combs, Ph.D.; Bryon Grove, Ph.D.; Patrick Carr, Ph.D.; James Porter, Ph.D.; Eric Murphy, Ph.D.; Michael Atkinson, Ph.D.; Matthew Picklo, Ph.D.; Van Doze, Ph.D., and Masaru Miyagi, Ph.D.

Student Projects Demonstrate Concern for Those in Need

Continuing a holiday tradition, UND medical students this year gathered gifts for those in need through the Giving Tree project, conducted in conjunction with the Northeast Human Service Center in Grand Forks. About 70 presents were given by students, faculty and staff for distribution to foster grandparents, adults and children with disabilities, and other children with special needs.

Student Council President **Jon Machayya**, second-year medical student, led the effort which he said drew "good participation."

Carol Siverson (pictured with Machayya), administrative assistant for child welfare at the center, said, **"I don't believe the spirit of Christmas comes**



Student Council President John Machayya and Carol Siverson of Northeast Human Service Center with dozens of gifts collected for the needy

Rick Montz, M.D. (B.S. Med. '78), Leaves Outstanding Legacy

Fredrick ("Rick") Montz, M.D. (B.S. Med. '78), died suddenly of a heart attack while jogging Nov. 21 in Baltimore, MD. He was 47.

He delivered the keynote address for commencement exercises of the M.D. Class of 2002 in May at the University of North Dakota. His moving and inspired message, titled "...for those we serve," was printed, almost entirely, in the May '02 edition of *THE REVIEW*.

A native of Bismarck and 1973 graduate of Bismarck High School, Dr. Montz was director of the Johns Hopkins

Hospital's gynecologic oncology service. In 2000, he was the focus of an hour-long ABC-TV broadcast, "Hopkins 24/7," which described his role, expertise, philosophy, and approach to his practice and teaching.

According to a Johns Hopkins press release, "He was a nationally recognized authority on the use of minimally invasive techniques that preserved fertility in the treatment of gynecologic cancers."

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Ryan, M.D., and four children, Baltimore, and parents, Dr. and Mrs. Charles Montz of Bismarck.

to us; you have to go out and find it. I think those who participated in this project have found it. And I hope that to be true."

Similar projects were conducted by local members of the Christian Medical Association, who held bake sales to sponsor a needy American child and to send medical students this spring to Honduras on a medical mission, and the UND chapter of Physicians for Human Rights who sponsored a "goods drive" to collect basic supplies - detergents, bath tissue, lotions - for refugees who've settled in Fargo.

Widow of Former Dean Harwood Dies in Vermont

Mrs. Theodore (Laura Jean) Harwood, wife of the former dean of the UND School of Medicine, passed away Dec. 6 in Bennington, VT. She was 92.

A native of Manchester, VT, she was graduated from Burr and Burton Seminary in Manchester and taught in Vermont from 1930 to 1937. She married Dr. Harwood in 1936. The family moved to Grand Forks in 1953 when Dr. Harwood was appointed dean of the UND medical school. She was active in numerous groups in Grand Forks. They retired to Vermont in 1973.

She is survived by children: **Judith Harwood, Ph.D.**, of Manchester, VT; **Theodore Harwood, M.D. (B.S. Med. '67)**, Duluth, and **William Harwood, Ph.D.**, Washington, D.C. Gifts may be given in her memory to: Delta Zeta Foundation, 202 E. Church St., Oxford, OH 45056, or the Theodore Harwood Medical Scholarship, UND Foundation, Box 8157, Grand Forks, ND 58202.

Visit our web site: <http://www.med.und.nodak.edu>

Send address changes to: UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, attn: Kitty Monley, P.O. Box 9037, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037.

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DEAN'S LETTER

In 2002, Dreams Realized and Outstanding Leaders Recognized

Three important events we've celebrated in the closing months of 2002 are highlighted in this issue of THE REVIEW:

- **the receipt of the \$10.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE)** - our cover features a photo of the research team that intends to break new ground in the battle against neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's;

- **the establishment of the Rural Assistance Center, designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as the national resource for information** on rural health and human services at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and

- **dedication of the newly remodeled front entrance of the UND medical school** and a permanent display to recognize the career contributions of former Dean Theodore Harwood, who led the school from 1953 to 1973.

We note, with sympathy for the family and friends, the passing of Laura Jean Harwood, widow of Dean Harwood, who died this month in Manchester, VT, not long after our dedication event which honored her husband and his accomplishments here.

INMED graduate at forefront of cancer research in Native Americans

Among those who have attended the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences through our INMED (Indians Into Medicine) are many very capable physicians and other health care professionals. We are most pleased to know that one of the most respected researchers investigating cancer in Native Americans in this country is an alumna of our program, **Judith Kaur, M.D. (B.S. Med. '77)**, who leads the Native American Programs of the Mayo Comprehensive Cancer Center in Rochester, MN.

Her visit here this fall gave us all a

greater understanding of how cancer is affecting Native American and Alaska Native peoples and the effort she is leading to improve their lives.



'Medical School for the Public' offers local citizens a chance to explore the brain

This fall, about 70 adults from the local and surrounding communities participated in our first, "Medical School for the Public," series of classes which focused on the theme, "Exploring the Brain." While many medical schools throughout the country have hosted such programs for some time, this was our first attempt. Based on the overwhelmingly positive response (we had to turn away about 35), we plan to continue it.

Meeting on Tuesday evenings for six weeks, class members heard from a few of our finest faculty members who have expertise on the brain and the central nervous system. It was the love of learning that brought these people to our Clinical Education Center each week; and it was a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase our finest teachers and researchers.

Wishing you all the very best in the New Year,

H. David Wilson, M.D.
Vice President and Dean



In the first "Medical School for the Public," Ken Ruit, Ph.D., associate professor of anatomy and cell biology, Grand Forks, describes the functions of the brain and spinal cord to some of the 70 people, members of the general public, who signed up for the six-week course this fall.

By U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Center for Rural Health Designated as National

The Center for Rural Health at the University of North Dakota (UND) medical school has been designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to provide a new national resource for rural residents and others seeking information on health and human services for rural communities.

U.S. Secretary of DHHS Tommy Thompson announced plans earlier this year to establish a Rural Assistance Center to provide a single point of entry for people across the country seeking information about rural health and human services. This contract has been awarded to the Center for Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The Center for Rural Health has received \$600,000 from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), a division of DHHS, to establish the Rural Assistance Center which will serve as a resource for rural residents and anyone seeking information about health policy and social services for rural communities.

"We are delighted to join with the University of North Dakota and its partners to create the Rural Assistance Center, which will provide a single point of entry for people across the country seeking information about health and human services in rural America," said Elizabeth Duke, Ph.D., administrator of HRSA, Washington, D.C.

"The Rural Assistance Center is an integral part of Secretary Thompson's push to improve the delivery of health and social services in rural areas."

According to Mary Wakefield, Ph.D., director of the Center for Rural Health, "With this grant, the nation's 'information highway' for rural health and rural human services starts in North Dakota - at UND's doorstep. This initiative positions UND as a national resource for rural health - able to respond to health care professionals from Georgia to hospital administrators in Alaska to state government workers' requests for information.

The RAC is an integral part of Secretary Thompson's "One Department, Serving Rural America" initiative, which strives to improve and enhance the services the DHHS provides to rural America, Wakefield said. The initiative's task force report may be accessed on the web at: <http://www.ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/initiative.htm>.

RAC will capitalize on information technology by making virtually all information web-accessible.

"We'll use technology, our own experts and new employees to broker information that helps improve rural health care across the country," Wakefield said. Once established, the RAC will provide rural communities, researchers, state policymakers and national organizations with information on a range of rural topics including the complex web of 225 different federal health programs serving rural areas.

"People from throughout the nation will have access to information specialists who will provide customized assistance, such as database searches on rural health and human services topics and funding resources, linking users to organizations for additional information, furnishing relevant publications, and posting a wide variety of timely information on the RAC web site," she said.

A quarterly newsletter on rural health and human services and an annual com-

At a recent news conference, Mary Wakefield, Ph.D., director of the Center for Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Grand Forks, describes how the Rural Assistance Center will be used to enhance rural health care and human services. The Rural Assistance Center is located at UND by designation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). It is part of a plan by DHHS Secretary Tommy Thompson, called "One Department, Serving Rural America," to improve the delivery of health and social services in rural areas by providing a single point of entry for people seeking information on rural health and human services.



Information Clearinghouse for Rural Health

How to reach the Rural Assistance Center (RAC):

call 1-800-270-1898

fax 1-800-270-1913

e-mail information requests to info@raconline.org

visit the web site, www.raconline.org

pendium of federal programs serving rural America will also be developed and distributed nationally through the UND Rural Assistance Center.

“The UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences is recognized as one of the nation’s leaders in rural health and this Rural Assistance Center further strengthens our position,” said **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, dean of the medical school and vice president for health affairs at UND. “It marks another major achievement for UND and the Center for Rural Health!”

Locating the administrative base of the RAC at UND enables the project to capitalize on the firsthand experience Center for

Rural Health personnel have gained over the past 21 years, Wakefield said. The Center for Rural Health is one of the premiere rural health organizations in the nation and the Rural Assistance Center will increase public awareness of its activities across the United States.

“The designation as the nation’s Rural Assistance Center is an excellent fit for UND,” said UND President Charles Kupchella. “Through our Center for Rural Health, our partnership in the Healthy North Dakota Initiative and our own UND Wellness Center, we already have an interest in seeing that health policies and campaigns are implemented nationwide, as well as in North Dakota and on campus.

“The designation also ties nicely into our College of Business and Public Administration’s e-government project, which seeks to find ways to make the best use of technology to help provide social services and information to all individuals, but particularly those who live in rural communities,” he said.

The RAC will use and build on the resources and expertise of the Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences, also located within the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The library has an established track record of providing personal assistance using available technology to meet rural health information needs for a range of users well beyond the university boundaries.

To implement the Rural Assistance Center, the Center for Rural Health serves as the lead entity in a partnership with several of the best rural health and human services academic institutions in the United States, Wakefield said. Other partners include: the Rural Policy Research Institute, at the University of Nebraska and the University of Missouri-Columbia, and the Welfare Information Network, located in Washington, D.C.

The partnership will capitalize on the existing resources and expertise of each entity in order to enhance the quantity and quality of information the Rural Assistance Center makes available to the public.

Established in 1981, the Center for Rural Health was an early leader in the national rural health movement. It has created and led numerous initiatives throughout its history that have contributed to greater understanding of rural health in the state, and provided critical leadership, quality research, policy analysis, and significant community-focused models at the national level.

For more information about the Center Rural Health at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, visit: <http://medicine.nodak.edu/crh> or call 701-777-3848.



Mary Markland, clinical campus librarian, Fargo, demonstrates how the Rural Assistance Center will receive and respond to inquiries at its base office in the Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Grand Forks.

'77 INMED Grad

Mayo Researcher Leads Fight Against Cancer in Indian Country

Judith Kaur, M.D. (B.S. Med. '77), is a cancer specialist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN; alumna of the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences' INMED (Indians Into Medicine) program, and member of the Choctaw and Cherokee nations.

And she is the only female Native American cancer researcher in the United States, she said.

Kaur returned to her alma mater last month to talk about the fight she is leading on cancer in American Indians. Her talk, "The Spirit of Eagles: Fighting the Cancer Burden in Indian Country," included an overview of her work with the Mayo Comprehensive Cancer Center.

She also took time to visit with INMED students about their backgrounds and interests, goals and plans for the future. She answered questions about the place of Native American spirituality in today's medical practices. She offered her assistance in career planning and encouraged them to consider pursuing research, especially on Native American health issues.



'The mark of a good education: It prepares you to do things you never thought you'd be doing. I never thought I'd be a cancer researcher.'

Kaur, an associate professor of oncology at Mayo Clinic and Medical School and medical director for the Native American Programs of the Mayo Comprehensive Cancer Center, is committed to recruiting more people "to take up the fight against cancer in Indian country," she said.

Her research includes a special interest in women's cancers, particularly breast and cervical cancer. She is principal investigator for a molecular markers study in breast cancer in American Indian and Alaska Native women and also a mammographic and clinical risk factor analysis study. She also serves as medical director for Mayo's hospice program.

Of Mayo's three-pronged mission of patient care, education and research, she said, **"Research is the basis of everything new we have to offer patients."**

Funded for the past three years by the National Cancer Institute, her research program provides 28 grants across Indian Country, from a student project in Alaska to a survivor's group in Arizona.

Kaur earned the bachelor of science in medicine degree from the UND School of Medicine in 1977 and the doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree with honors from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver in 1979.

She attended med school at a time when few women did - she was one of 12 in her class and the only one with a child, she said. A mother in med school was "unheard-of at that time."

She took residency training in internal medicine and a fellowship in hematology and medical oncology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

A diplomat of the American Board of Medical Education and board-certified in internal medicine and oncology, Kaur has been an affiliate investigator with the North Central Cancer Treatment Group since 1985. From 1984 to 1994, she was a member of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' clinical faculty in Bismarck.

She has won numerous awards and is a member of several professional organizations including the Association of American Indian Physicians, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Cancer Society and the American Association of Cancer Research.

'If not for the INMED (Indians Into Medicine) program and Eagle Feather Child Care (at UND) for my daughter, I wouldn't be in medicine.'

Judith Kaur, M.D. (B.S. Med. '77), is medical director of Native American Programs of the Mayo Comprehensive Cancer Center:

- **Native WEB** that does outreach training for nurses serving Native American and other under-served women to provide access to breast and cervical cancer prevention and screening;

- **Native C.I.R.C.L.E.** that provides and develops culturally appropriate cancer education materials for lay persons, allied health and clinicians working in Native communities, and

- **"Spirit of Eagles"** that empowers intervention studies in Native populations, provides scholarship for students in medicine and biological sciences training and advocates for improved cancer prevention and control in American Indian and Alaska Native populations.

From the University of Illinois - Chicago

Burns Selected as Chair of Family Medicine

Elizabeth Burns, M.D., professor of family medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has been named chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Her appointment was official Nov. 1.



She succeeds **Roger Schauer, M.D.**, who has been serving as interim chairperson since the resignation in February of **William Mann, M.D.**, both of whom continue with the department in administrative and teaching capacities, respectively.

"I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Burns who was selected from an outstanding group of candidates that included graduates of Harvard and Johns Hopkins (universities)," said **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, dean of the medical school and vice president for health affairs at UND. "Dr. Burns is a superb teacher, having recently served as president of the national Society of Teachers of Family Medicine.

"**She is an outstanding doctor who will be an excellent role model for our students and family physicians-in-training,**" he said. "She is an experienced and skilled administrator, and an accomplished researcher with a very substantial record of research" in the areas of medical education, patient education, women's health, maternal and child care, and domestic violence.

"The Department of Family Medicine is one of our most important clinical departments," Wilson noted. "And I am confident Dr. Burns will further enhance our reputation in family medicine throughout the state and nation."

As family medicine department chair, she is responsible for all medical education

activities of the department as well as the residency program through which family physicians are trained in Grand Forks, Minot and Bismarck.

From 1992 to 2000, Burns served as chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Illinois College of Medicine and clinical service chief of the family practice service at the University of Illinois at Chicago. From 1985 to 1992, she served as associate director and director of the family practice residency program at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City.

Burns holds a doctor of medicine (M.D.) degree from the University of

Michigan, and took residency training at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and Harrisburg (PA) Hospital.

She earned a bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, from Marygrove College in Detroit. She was a fellow in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Faculty Development Fellowship Program at the University of Iowa Department of Family Medicine. During that time she earned a master of arts degree from the University of Iowa, Division of Instructional Design and Technology, with an emphasis in health sciences education.

She and her husband, Roger Zinser, Ph.D., reside in Grand Forks.



Everson Receives UND Sioux Award

Lloyd Everson, M.D. (B.S. Med. '67), of The Woodlands, TX (center), received the Sioux Award, the highest honor that is bestowed by the UND Alumni Association, during Homecoming activities in October. Pictured with him are (left) Tim O'Keefe, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the UND Alumni Association and UND Foundation, and UND President Charles Kupchella. A board-certified medical oncologist, Everson is vice chairman and a member of the board of directors of US Oncology Inc.

BRIN Program Attracts Topnotch Researchers to North Dakota

Researchers are coming to North Dakota with the help of a federal grant designed to increase the state's capacity to conduct biomedical research.

The North Dakota Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN) is providing seven researchers with up to \$100,000 each in start-up packages that enable them to pursue their biomedical research at the state's two research universities, University of North Dakota and North Dakota State University.

Among those researchers have been recruited to the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences through the BRIN program are:

Mary Ann Sens, M.D., Ph.D., chair of the Department of Pathology, Grand Forks, who conducts research in cancer related to the kidney, breast and bladder. A Ph.D. graduate of the University of South Carolina and M.D. graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina, she came to UNDSMHS from West Virginia University.

Masaru Miyagi, Ph.D., assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, Grand Forks, who was recruited from the Cole Eye Institute of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Ohio where he studied retinal degeneration. He earned the doctorate in biochemistry from Osaka University in Japan.

Brij Singh, Ph.D., assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, Grand Forks, who will begin his role at UNDSMHS in January. He comes to the UND medical school from the Gene Therapy and Therapeutics Branch of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research in Bethesda, MD, where he studies the role of calcium in cellular function. He earned the Ph.D. in microbial biochemistry from Bhopal University, India, and the Botanisches Institute Bonn University in Germany.

"The UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences is making remarkable strides as a regional and national leader in biomedical research," says **H. David Wilson, M.D.**, dean of the school and vice president for health affairs at UND. "The BRIN program is a significant component in our ability to attract the most experi-

The role of BRIN is not only to stimulate new biomedical technologies that solve human health issues, but also lead to spin-off companies that create economic growth.

enced, knowledgeable and capable scientists to help us realize even greater levels of success in the research arena."

"The most important part of building North Dakota's capacity to conduct biomedical research is bringing highly skilled researchers to the state," said North Dakota BRIN Director **John Shabb, Ph.D.**, assis-

tant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, Grand Forks. "They not only provide their expertise, but also valuable knowledge and expertise in building research programs that attract federal funding."

Officials point to the role of BRIN in stimulating not only new biomedical technologies that will solve human health issues, but also lead to spin-off companies that create jobs and economic growth.

The North Dakota BRIN was created last fall with a \$6 million, three-year grant from the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), a federal agency within the National Institutes of Health.

North Dakota is one of 23 states and Puerto Rico in the national BRIN program, which assists states in building biomedical research capacity to improve their ability to compete for NIH research funding.

Carlson Appointed to USMLE Test Material Development Community for Psychiatry

David Carlson, M.D. '91, M. Div., assistant professor of neuroscience, Fargo, has been appointed as a member of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 2 Test Material Development Committee for Psychiatry, effective Jan. 1, 2003.

He will serve concurrently as a member of the NBME Psychiatry Test Committee that develops the Psychiatry Subject Tests. Subject texts are developed by the NBME in the basic and clinical medical sciences for schools and other institutions with an interest in the education of physicians or other health professionals for the purpose of assessing educational achievement.

Carlson serves as director of the third-year psychiatry clerkship and undergraduate medical education in psychiatry in the Department of Neuroscience at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. He is a 1991 M.D. alumnus of the UND School of Medicine and a graduate of the school's psychiatry residency program.

The distinguished corps of examination committees for the USMLE program is composed of representatives of the aca-

demie, practice and licensing communities. The contributions of these individuals, working closely with the board's staff of evaluation and measurement experts, assure the quality and integrity of the USMLE evaluation system.

USMLE, a joint program of the National Board of Medical Examiners and the Federation of State Medical Boards, provides a common evaluation system for measuring the knowledge and cognitive competence within a clinical context of applicants for medical licensure in the United States.

USMLE is designed to assess the examinee's understanding of and ability to apply concepts and principles that are important in health and disease and that constitute the basis of safe and effective patient care. Results of USMLE are reported to state medical licensing authorities for use in granting the initial license to practice medicine.



O'Brien Elected National Delegate in AAMC Student Organization

Katie O'Brien, a first-year medical student at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences, was elected as one of five national delegates in the Organization of Student Representatives (OSR) during the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) meeting recently in San Francisco.

O'Brien, who was elected by OSR members with voting rights, will serve on the organization's Advisory Board for a one-year term ending in November



2003. Her new position calls for her to attend four advisory board meetings in Washington, D.C., a regional meeting next spring, and the AAMC annual meeting in the fall of 2003.

O'Brien plans to bring her knowledge and experience in insurance to the national discussion on health insurance for students, the coverage for whom "is incredibly diverse and is increasingly costly," she said. Due to her background as a business manager in a physician's office, where she worked extensively with health insurance companies, she understands the insurance process from the institutional as well as the individual's standpoint.

"I feel that this knowledge will be very beneficial to the (OSR) Advisory Board as they tackle the project of defining medical student health care coverage across the nation," she said.

"It is very unusual for a first-year medical student to win this prestigious office," said **Judy DeMers**, associate dean for student affairs and admissions, Grand Forks. "I think the medical students at the national meeting recognized Katie's innate leadership abilities, her very solid knowledge about and interest in medical education, and her exceptionally strong work ethic.

"We are very proud of her accomplishment and see this election as just the begin-

"It is very unusual for a first-year medical student to win this prestigious office."

*Judy DeMers
Associate Dean for Student Affairs*

ning," DeMers went on to say. "Her involvement in OSR/AAMC will benefit both the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and our students."

Within the UND medical school, O'Brien was selected as an OSR representative in a decision that occurs only once every three years. Appointment by the Student Council to this position is a competitive process involving several very well-qualified candidates, according to DeMers.

O'Brien will serve on the planning committee for the OSR annual meeting, collaborate on OSR projects and initiatives with the advisory board of regional representatives, work with OSR staff on completion of projects, attend advisory board conference calls and submit at-large reports before each advisory board meeting.

As a national delegate she will head one of five committees, each with a specific focus - on community and diversity, legislative, student affairs, communications and medical education. The decision on which committee appointment she will fill is expected to be made in December, she said.

O'Brien is the daughter of The Reverend Patrick and Audrey O'Brien of Oakes, ND.



In 50-year History

Biochemistry Department Led by Only Four

The Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology has had but four chairmen in its 50-year history. Here they are seen at the entrance of the department in the Edwin C. James Medical Research Facility (from left): Robert Nordlie, Ph.D., Grand Forks, who served from 1983-2000; (pictured on wall) Eugene Cornatzer, M.D., Ph.D. (founding chair who served from 1951-1983), retired with his wife, Margaret, in Huntsville, AL; Gene Homandberg, Ph.D., who took over the reigns earlier this year, and David Lambeth, Ph.D., Grand Forks, who served as interim chair from 2000-2002.

Funded by Gifts from Alumni and Friends

New East Entrance Honors Career of Former Dean Harwood

The newly renovated east entrance of the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences was formally dedicated in a ceremony held Oct. 18 as part of Homecoming activities at UND.

Construction of the new entrance and interior lobby has been funded in part by gifts from about 300 alumni and friends to the Harwood Initiative in honor of **Theodore Harwood, M.D.**, who served as dean of the school from 1953 to 1973.

Special guests who attended the ceremony were family members of the late Dean Harwood and other former deans.

Career achievements of Dean Harwood, along with his portrait, are

displayed in the entry area, along with a “wall of honor” listing the names of all donors who gave to the Harwood Initiative. Portraits of all the school’s deans, past and present, are also featured.

The project, completed at a cost of about \$400,000, has resulted in a new facade for the school, including an entrance accessible to persons with handicaps, and a beautiful interior flanked by dark cherry wood and updated with new lighting, paint, tile and carpeting.

“We are most grateful for the gifts from alumni and friends who contributed to this major renovation,” said **Dean H. David Wilson, M.D.** “Without their gen-

erosity, this project would not have been possible.”

Donors who gave to the Harwood Initiative and whose names appear on the lobby display near Dean Harwood’s portrait are:

Gifts of \$5,000 and greater

John A. Berger, M.D.

John R. Fischer, M.D.

John V. Hanson, M.D.

Dr. William L. Harwood

Dr. and Mrs. Donald Meredith

Donald P. Mersch, M.D.

Dr. and Mrs. David O. Monson

Dr. and Mrs. Wallace E. Radtke



The new facade of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences features an expansive concrete staircase flanked by permanent flower boxes. Columns grace the approach which also includes a ramp for handicap-access and heavy glass doors.



During Homecoming activities this fall, the ceremony to dedicate the newly renovated front entrance of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences drew a large crowd of donors to the Harwood Initiative, other guests, and medical school faculty and staff. Names of donors who gave to the Harwood Initiative to honor the career of the late Dean Theodore Harwood, M.D., can be seen (at left) alongside the portrait and information on Dr. Harwood.

Dr. and Mrs. Jon B. Tingelstad
 Dr. and Mrs. Richard P. Wenham
 Dr. and Mrs. H. David Wilson

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Beck
 Dr. and Mrs. Stefan D. Laxdal
 Wallace W. Nelson, M.D.
 William C. Owens, M.D.
 Colonel Donald A. Person, M.D.
 Dr. and Mrs. Bruce A. Porter
 Manuel A. Rodriguez, M.D.
 Albert F. Samuelson, M.D.
 Dr. and Mrs. George A. Sarosi
 Roger and Janet Schauer
 Richard A. Zorn, M.D.

\$1,000 - \$2,499

John F. Altenburg, M.D.
 Richard D. Anderson, M.D.
 Dr. and Mrs. Philip L. Barney
 Dr. and Mrs. Ronald O. Bergom
 Dr. and Mrs. Richard W. Blaine
 Dr. and Mrs. Gordon J. Bos
 Dr. and Mrs. Eugene H. Boyle
 Richard D. Brunning, M.D.
 Dr. and Mrs. Eugene B. Byron
 Mary Ann Carlson, M.D.
 Colonel Dr. Paul Christianson

Drs. Ralph and Barbara Cushing
 Dr. and Mrs. Byron D. Danielson
 G. David Dixon, M.D.
 Dr. Manuchair Ebadi
 Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Eisenbeis
 Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd K. Everson, Jr.
 Dr. and Mrs. Jon V. Eylands
 Richard L. Fabian, M.D.
 Dr. and Mrs. James L. Frisk
 Dr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Goodwin
 Thomas E. Gretter, M.D.
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Grossman
 Dr. and Mrs. Dale G. Hadland
 Dr. and Mrs. E. Jerome Hanson, Jr.
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 Dr. and Mrs. John A. Lambie
 Sidney C. Lerfald, M.D.

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 L. William Traverso, M.D.
 Allen L. Van Beek, M.D.
 Dr. and Mrs. John W. Vennes



UND President Charles Kupchella (left) and Vice President for Health Affairs H. David Wilson, M.D., cut the ribbon to ceremonially open the newly renovated east entrance of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences October 18 in Grand Forks.

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 Dr. and Mrs. Reinhold Goehl
 Gigi M. Goven, M.D.
 Ashton L. Graybiel, M.D.
 Vernon M. Griffin, M.D.
 Dr. James D. Haigh
 Cordell K. Halverson, M.D.
 Paul R. Hamann, M.D.
 Samuel J. Hardy, M.D.



Bruce Christianson, Minot, spoke for the State Board of Higher Education during the dedication ceremony.

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 Kenneth N. Hepper, M.D.
 Robert E. Hieb, M.D.
 W. Allen Hill, M.D.
 John J. Hochwalt, M.D.
 Ralph G. Holt, M.D.
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 John D. Loucks, M.D.
 Tom Magill and Sarah McCullough
 Michel R. Mandel, M.D.
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 Dr. and Mrs. Jerry D. Wolf
 Dr. and Mrs. David J. Wright
 Howard S. Young, M.D.
 Stephan M. Zentner, M.D.



Among the honored guests who attended the dedication ceremony for the new entrance of the UND medical school were the children of Dean Theodore Harwood: William Harwood, Ph.D., Washington, D.C.; Judith Harwood, Ph.D., Arlington, VT, and Theodore Harwood, M.D. (B.S. Med. '67), Duluth, MN. They each spoke about their father during the ceremony program.

ALUMNI

Alumni Notes

'76

Michael Vandall, M.D. '76, is an obstetrician-gynecologist practicing in Minot. He also serves as clinical assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

'85

Kaye Obregon, M.D. '85, practices pediatrics with Mid Dakota Clinic at Kirkwood Mall in Bismarck. She is an assistant professor of pediatrics at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

'94

Susan Betting, M.D. '94, practices family medicine with Quain and Ramstad Clinic Mandan East. She completed residency training at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' Family Practice Center in Bismarck in 1997.

Yvonne Gomez, M.D. '94, Grand Forks, was among several individuals who received a Grand Forks Humanitarian Award in Human Rights this fall from a group of organizations committed to human rights. She was recognized for her work with the Third Street Clinic for under- and uninsured people in Grand Forks.

Gomez, clinical assistant professor of family medicine, practices with Altru Health System in Grand Forks.

'96

Shelly Seifert, M.D. '96, is a family physician with the Mid Dakota Clinic-Kirkwood Mall in Bismarck. She completed residency training at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences' Family Practice Center in Bismarck in 1999.

'97

Joseph Binegar, M.D. '97, a physiatrist, practices in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center in La Crosse, WI.

The Bismarck native earned a bachelor of science degree in biology and a bachelor of arts degree in English from UND in 1992. After earning the M.D. degree at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences in 1997, he took a transitional year of training at Erlanger Medical Center/University of Tennessee in Chattanooga. He went on to complete residency training in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, MN, in 2001.

Melissa Halvorson, M.D. '97, has completed residency training in obstetrics-gynecology at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids, MI, and is practicing in Howell, MI, at St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital.

She held offices for four years in the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, most recently as District V Junior Fellow Chair.

In April, she married Daniel Smith. They live in Williamston, MI.

"(Mayo) staff comment frequently on how well-trained we are... (we) really shine in the clinical skills."

*Amy Oxentenko, M.D. '98
Mayo Clinic*

'98

Amy (Korkowski) Oxentenko, M.D. '98, is taking fellowship training in gastrointestinal medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She has had a "wonderful residency experience," she says, which has "opened up a lot of opportunity for me in terms of my chief year and starting my academic career, as well as... for fellowship here in a highly competitive program." She has been able to do some research in residency that continues in fellowship.

"Staff comment frequently on how well-trained we are in the clinical skills coming from UND," she said. "I tend to agree, as I have worked with several other UNDers... (as well as others), and they all really shine in the clinical skills. UND medical school should be proud!"

"It has been great getting to know all the new residents coming here each year who trained at UND, and we continue to form a great cohort down here!"

Her husband, **Shawn Oxentenko, M.D. '98**, has finished his residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Mayo Clinic and is working at Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center in LaCrosse, WI, as a staff physiatrist.

They live in Rochester and are expecting their first child in December.

'99



Julia Bolding, M.D. '99, is planning to pursue a fellowship in rheumatology at Indiana University when she completes her residency training in medicine/pediatrics at the University of West Virginia at Morgantown next summer.

In her search for a fellowship, she was offered a position in "every program to which I applied," she said, "but decided Indiana would best suit my needs since they had the strongest pediatric rheumatology department."

She has already been offered a position as a faculty member by the chair of rheumatology at the University of West Virginia following completion of her fellowship program, she said.

"Very flattering. It's so nice to be appreciated!" She feels "pretty strongly that, no matter where I end up, I would prefer to work in an academic setting."

Heather Phillips, MSPT '99, married Christopher Lundeen July 27 in Beulah. They reside in Bismarck.

The daughter of John and Lesley Phillips of Beulah, she is employed at the Medcenter One Rehabilitation Center in Bismarck.

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