Dean Ficken Takes Early Retirement

When he says he can’t afford to pass up early retirement, others may think of the incentives offered by The University of Alabama to early retirees, but you remember how many weekends in Mobile (where the new grandson lives) he had to cut short and how many baby pictures and first grandchild stories he has to share. His staff at Nott Hall on the UA quad (where his office is located) have also observed the visits by Timothy Ficken, now age 2, to see his grandfather, Roland.

"Roland is definitely his favorite," says Dean Ficken’s wife, Virgene. "He is the one who is asked to read story books and come to explore Timothy’s newest discovery." Timothy’s parents agree and look forward to more grandparent participation after Dean Ficken’s retirement from the University in June.

"The decision to retire was not easy," said Dean Roland Ficken. "My entire career has focused on medical education, and CCHS has been my consuming concern for over twenty years." Key word consuming. And he is electing early retirement to pursue longstanding and new interests: travel, gardening, entertaining friends, watching Alabama basketball, being grandaddy, etc. Perhaps since he and Virgene plan to renovate their kitchen, he may do more of the cooking while she continues her work at the UA Capstone College of Nursing. "He’s a very good cook," she has said. "He started cooking as ‘therapy’ while he was working on his dissertation, and he loves to cook for company."

Dr. Ficken became Dean of the College of Community Health Sciences and Associate Dean of the University of Alabama School of Medicine (UASOM) in October 1991. Created by legislative mandate in 1971, the College is the University of Alabama School of Medicine Program at Tuscaloosa and provides two years of clinical education for a portion of the medical students enrolled in the University of Alabama School of Medicine (at UAB) and operates a family practice residency program. At any time there are approximately 50 medical students and 16 residents in training on this campus.

"Every physician who has graduated from CCHS owes something to the dedication of Roland Ficken," said Marc Armstrong, M.D., acknowledging his own debt. Dr. Armstrong was the first resident in the brand new CCHS family practice residency program in the mid 1970’s. He is now back as Director of that residency program. "Dr. Ficken was here at the creation of CCHS, and he has devoted his entire professional career to this college," said Dr. Armstrong.

Prior to becoming Dean, Dr. Ficken served the College as Interim Dean from January through September 1991; Associate Dean for Academic Affairs from July 1987 through December 1990; Associate Professor (1977) and Chairman of the Department of Behavioral Science from October 1977 through July 1987; Acting Associate Dean for Academic Affairs from November 1983 through December 1984; and Director of the Office of Medical Student Affairs from April 1982 through December 1980.

Mike McBrearty, M.D., a family practitioner in Fairhope who was the first Chief Resident in the CCHS Family Practice Residency Program, came to CCHS in 1974. He remembers Dr. Ficken’s contributions in the early days. "Dr. (Douglas) Scutchfield was the chair of the new family medicine/community medicine program," said Dr. McBrearty, "but Roland was the one who really helped define what community medicine meant. ‘Scutch’ was the one responsible for uniting ‘town and gown’ behind the fledgling medical school branch, but Roland was the one who really helped us understand what we were trying to do in community medicine. To me, it just sounded like helping people!" The main thing Dr. McBrearty remembers about Dr. Ficken is his kindness and understanding. "I didn’t keep up with his academic accomplishments and appointments, but Roland always got the job done and he was always very considerate and incredibly supportive of individuals" (Continued on p. 6)
Dr. William Welch Winternitz, Professor and former Discipline Chief of Internal Medicine, will retire from The University of Alabama on July 1, 1996, after almost twenty years of UA service and a 51-year career as a physician. Born in New Haven, Connecticut, and educated in New England, Dr. Winternitz was one of the first faculty members at CCHS. He came to Tuscaloosa at the request of Dr. William Willard, a pioneer in primary care known as the “father of Family Medicine,” who was the first dean of the College of Community Health Sciences.

Dr. Winternitz met Dr. Willard, a Yale graduate, through his father Milton Winternitz, M.D., who was dean of Yale Medical School from 1920-1935. In 1960, Dr. Willard recruited Dr. Winternitz to the faculty at the new University of Kentucky School of Medicine just being opened in Lexington and later invited him to West Alabama to help develop the CCHS clinical campus for medical students and the Tuscaloosa Family Practice Residency.

Dr. Winternitz was well-prepared to help launch new medical education programs. The son of two physicians (his mother graduated from medical school at a time when very few women entered the field) — he comes from a medical family. He is a third generation physician, and his son and seven nieces and nephews are the fourth generation of doctors in his family. Dr. Winternitz graduated magna cum laude from Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, where he was Phi Beta Kappa. Dr. Winternitz chose Johns Hopkins School of Medicine where both of his parents had graduated. In fact, parents named him for William Henry Welch, M.D., the first chair of Pathology at Hopkins and a particularly influential figure in medicine for nearly fifty years. Dr. Winternitz had a successful tenure at Johns Hopkins. He was elected to AOA in his senior year. Members are chosen for Alpha Omega Alpha, the Honor Medical Society, by faculty and students. Election to membership recognizes high standing in one's medical school class and that a candidate has the qualities needed by a good physician.

Dr. Winternitz had three years of post graduate training on the prestigious Osler Service at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. He was drafted into the U.S. Army (lieutenant, later captain) and stationed at the Army Chemical Center in nearby Edgewood, Maryland in 1946-48. After completing his residency training, he went to Yale University School of Medicine in 1950 where he was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pathological Chemistry and later assistant professor of physiology and medicine. Although he loves patient care and often considered private practice, he chose to pursue a career in academic medicine, combining patient care and teaching. He has focused on general medicine and endocrinology, and he particularly enjoys the practical applications of scientific advances.

During his years at the prestigious University of Kentucky School of Medicine, as Associate Professor and Professor of Medicine, Dr. Winternitz was one of the first African American faculty. He was also Chair of the Endocrinology Division and Director of the Clinical Research Center. He came to CCHS from Kentucky in 1977 as Professor and Discipline Chief of Internal Medicine. He stepped down as chair in 1992, but he later resumed administrative responsibilities as Director of Medical Student Affairs.

Dr. Winternitz won the “Outstanding Commitment to Teaching” Award from the UA National Alumni Association in 1989. He has been named “Outstanding Teacher” by graduating medical students on two occasions (1983 and 1990), and he received the “Golden Stethoscope” Award from residents in 1990. In 1994, he received the prestigious Laureate Award from the American College of Physicians in recognition of lifetime achievement. His current interests are clinical medicine, especially endocrinology, and, of course, teaching at all levels. His research topics include diabetes, pituitary disease, hormone-dependent cancers, thyroid disease, endocrine effects of cigarette smoking, exercise in the elderly, and student health.

As Dr. Winternitz retires, he does not completely relinquish his stake in the CCHS mission for primary care education. He plans to teach, part-time, and see patients at the Internal Medicine clinic at the UA Capstone Medical Center, and he will also continue, as a member of the CME committee at CCHS, to coordinate the Internal Medicine programs for Continuing Medical Education and oversee First Friday presentations. He plans to use his retirement time to enjoy outdoor activities and to pursue his hobbies of gardening, music, study, and possibly writing. He also hopes to spend more time with his wife, Madeleine Hill, an active community volunteer and instructor, and his three grown children and three grandchildren who live in California and New York.

Linda Jackson

Dr. Winternitz salutes 1993 graduates and the future he envisions for them.

Predictions

Predictions are difficult, and with this in mind, allow me to look into my crystal ball.

Prediction #1: Most of you will practice medicine at the forefront, and you will be busy, appreciated, and professionally fulfilled.

Prediction #2: As a group, you will continue the traditional role of doctor/teacher for the benefit of students, residents, and colleagues when you have the opportunity.

Prediction #3: Your incomes will be more than adequate, but most of you will be comfortable rather than wealthy. You will not miss the extra cash! (My sense has been that income is not your major motivation.)

Prediction #4: Health care reform will evolve, costs will be more controlled, and access to basic care will be open to most Americans. Controls will be present, but they may be no more onerous than now.

You will be active citizens of your community. Many of you will be on the firing line, but — more significantly — you enter your profession at a time that will allow you to exert significant (read profound) leadership.

OnRound • 2 • Spring 1996
Family Medicine Faculty Add New Roles

Dr. Robert Ireland has been appointed to the position of Assistant Director of Residency Affairs. "His demonstrated concern for resident education will be an asset to our program as he works with Dr. Armstrong in the "area," said Dr. Jerry McKnight, Interim Discipline Chair of Family Medicine, in announcing the appointment. Dr. Ireland will be responsible for the following responsibilities. In addition to being Director of the Residency Program, seeing patients, and teaching, he will serve as Interim Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Medical Director of the Capstone Medical Center. He was "drafted" for this role with the approval of the CCHS board of directors, in light of his "significant experience in a multi-specialty group practice. For ten years he managed a successful large group practice in Texas." In his new role, Dr. Armstrong will have a "major role in negotiating managed care contracts," and "he is charged with running the CMC as a business." Dean Ficken said he had asked Dr. Armstrong to "help the faculty be more productive and decrease [CMC's] overhead because - like the rest of us - he has significant, vested interest in the success of the Capstone Medical Center and the College." Dr. Bobbi Adcock of the Family Medicine faculty will become one of the clerks at the Department of Family Medicine. Dr. Adcock returned to CCHS from a successful private practice in Mississippi because of her desire to teach Family Medicine, which involves all kinds of people and health problems. Dr. McKnight commented that Dr. Adcock has a "unique ability to relate to patients for care and concern for students." That she is able to communicate that to medical students who "are not sure what they want to do," said Dr. McKnight, "and one of the reasons I asked her to assume her new responsibilities." Dr. Sam Gaskins has been appointed Interim Medical Director of the Harper Center, a geriatric psychiatry facility on the Bryant campus. He will continue to serve as the family medicine faculty member on a part-time basis. He will remain on call and hospital duties and care for his nursing home patients.

Colleen Beall, Ph.D., assistant professor of Family Medicine and an associate of the UA Center of the Study for Aging since 1986, has been named Director of the Center. The Center for the Study of Aging has been administratively relocated to the Department of Family Medicine from Benfey Community Medicine with Dr. Beall's appointment. Dr. Lorin Baumhover, former director of the Center for Aging, retired from UA and relocated to Boone, North Carolina. The Center maintains an active research and service agenda including evaluation of health education and screening, and planning for a conference on living with developmental disabilities. The Center maintains offices in North Hall and the research associate, John Gillum manages most of the contractual research and service. Dr. Beall has offices at the Capstone Medical Center (348-1372) and at Nott Hall (348-1342).

Family Medicine Research Recognized

Elizabeth Philp, M.D., was commended by the University of Alabama Medical Education Committee for her ongoing and outstanding work planning for the OSCE exam for students on three campuses. The committee surprised her at a December 5, 1995 meeting with a congratulatory plaque and a new leather-bound notebook in appreciation of her efforts. She was involved in several research projects related to the OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Exam), including evaluation of students' exposure to problem-based learning, evaluation of training methods, and comparing faculty and standardized patient evaluations of medical students' clinical skills. Dr. Philp works closely with students, residents, and other faculty on teaching health promotion skills using standardized patients and how curriculum change affects student career choice and level of satisfaction.

Dr. Colleen Beall is co-editor of a book published in March, 1996, by Health Professions Press in Baltimore and Jessica Kingsley, Publishers, in London. The book, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of Older Persons: Strategies for Assessment and Intervention, was also edited by Dr. Lorin Baumhover, a former CCHS faculty member who now chairs the Sociology Department at Appalachian State University. Beall, Baumhover, and John Gillum presented a paper on ways to improve nurses' knowledge of Alzheimer's Disease at an aging conference in Little Rock in May. Baumhover and Gillum presented other topics at the same conference: "RV Retirement Living," and "Psycho-social Interventions for Homebound Elderly Persons." Dr. Beall wrote a report for the March, 1996, issue of Epidemiology titled "Brain Tumors among Electronics Industry Workers," and she co-authored "A Health Care Professionals' Guide Ready for Alzheimer's Disease: A Comparison of U.S. and Hong Kong Nurses' in the International Journal of Aging and Human Development. Chris Nagy was the primary author. Jerry McKnight, M.D., and Bobbi Adcock, M.D., were authors of "Screening for Prostate Cancer: A Comparison of Urologists and Primary Care Physicians," accepted for publication by Southern Medical Journal in October, 1995. Co-authors were Ph.D. Teltze, A.J. Maxwell, W.O. Smith, and M.C. Nagy. Dr. Adcock has submitted a manuscript on "Teens and Specific Rashes" to "Archives of Family Medicine.

Dr. McKnight and Dr. John Wheat (Associate Professor of Behavioral and Community Medicine) wrote "Occupational Lung Diseases," a chapter for the Manual of Family Practice published in 1996 by Little, Brown, and Co. Dr. McKnight is serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians, and he has been appointed to the UA Research Grants Committee for a three-year term ending in 1998.

Dan Rodman, Pharm.D., and Sam Gaskins, M.D., co-authored "Optimizing Institutional Nutrition" for American Family Physician.

Pat Norton, Medical Education Facilitator, co-authored "Navigating the Library Maze: Understanding Library Users' Motivations and Concerns" for a book authored by Jim Philp, M.D., has spent years of his career defining what medical education should be and how success should be measured. His desk reflects an underlying philosophy that a physician's knowledge is not primarily what he learns once, an absolute, and uses thereof as an unchanging fact. The role of the physician is more of a problem-solver and team player who can listen, cooperate, and synthesize information from the patient and other medical or professional service providers to define needs and design a meaningful plan. Dr. Philp and his committee were charged by a UA School of Medicine Assessment Committee to set up a quality improvement mechanism for every course on all three campuses of the medical school. "Curriculum change based on outcome and perception is history," said Dr. Philp. "We are working toward information-based curriculum reform based on outcomes and how well our students learn to gain knowledge and skills."

Dr. Philp said he expects the initial phases of the committee's work to last approximately four years after which an on-going self evaluation process should be in place in all departments.

CCHS Faculty Collaborate on Difficult Patient Curriculum

Elizabeth Philp, M.D., was primary author of "The Difficult Patient: Creation of a Curriculum for Third Year Residents," an article for Family Medicine currently in press. Collaborating were Nancy Rubin, Psy.D., and Pamela Parker, M.D., Psychiatry faculty; Pam Teitzel, M.D., a former CCHS faculty member now practicing family medicine in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and James Philp, M.D., Professor of Family Medicine. The dilemma which precipitated the research is that "a large component of a family physician's practice is the recognition and management of problems with a difficult patient. Studies estimate the incidence of psychiatric illness presenting to the family physician at 25% to 35%." Dr. Philp said he expects the initial phases of the committee's work to last approximately four years after which an on-going self evaluation process should be in place in all departments.

Substance abuse, major depression, and sexual history which may point to risk of HIV infection are all factors which often go undiagnosed. According to the article's abstract, "Family Practice residents tend to perceive psychosocial problems as less important than other actual factors of their curriculum," and "a PBL (problem based learning) approach to the biopsychosocial model of medical care was implemented. Third year residents were presented current case reports to the patients at the BPL conference in Advanced Psychiatry. The residents generated a topic list which closely matched a prior faculty-generated list, thus "designing a curriculum which is considered as addressing all the necessary topics." "PBL promoted efficient use of residents' time because they were required to research the literature about group knowledge deficits," concluded the researchers. Faculty found the conference to be helpful for themselves and "learned better to predict the reasons why certain types of patients frustrate residents. For example, several patients presented during the conferences had been the victims of child sexual abuse and it became clear that unrecognized sexual abuse is an important and recurrent cofactor in patients with difficult biopsychosocial problems."
OB/GYN Welcomes New Faculty, Attends Medical Meetings

James L. Graham, M.D., a gynecologist from Gadsden who taught family practice residents in a hospital residency program there, has joined the CCHS faculty as Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Graham had maintained a private practice in Gadsden since 1975 and was also coordinator of Obstetrics and Gynecology for the independent family practice residency program (now closed) at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Gadsden for seven years. He set up the training routines and procedures and reserved the hospital in the early 1980's.

Dr. McHattie looks forward to living and working in Tuscaloosa. Dr. McHattie earned his M.D. in 1969 from the University of Oklahoma/Tulsa Medical College, Medical Director of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, a member of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology Center, Clinical Associate Professor at University Hospital in Tuscaloosa, and Obstetric Section Chief at Regina General Hospital in Regina, Saskatchewan. Dr. McHattie is a native of Gadsden, the South Carolina of 1880s.

Dr. McHattie and his wife Peggy have an eleven-year-old son. Dr. Graham has five children, three by marriage and two grandchildren, and he has begun learning Spanish with a CD Rom program for his computer. The mission work is also how he met his wife-to-be, Toledo native Dr. Graham, who lives in Ontario, is mother of Dr. McHattie's three grandchildren.

Dr. Graham has four grandchildren by a previous marriage and six grandchildren. Dr. Graham stays busy with the activities of an active pre-teen interested in everything from music to team sports, but he also enjoys golf. Dr. Graham is a Louisiana native, received his B.S. degree from LSU in Baton Rouge, and he earned his M.D. degree from LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans. He served on the staff of hospitals in West Monroe, serving as Chief of Staff at E.A. Conway Memorial in 1971. He moved to Gadsden in 1975. He became a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in 1977, and he was a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Annual Meeting in April in Denver. Dr. Larry Graham attended "Progress in OB/GYN 1996" in Birmingham, Alabama. He has served as President of the Alabama Chapter of Chapter in April. Clintond Youngblood, M.D., is attending an Endoscopic course in Atlanta in May. Dr. Youngblood is also serving on the Admission Interview committee and the Search Committee for Dean of CCHS.

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The majority of our residents graduating are from the University of Florida, the University of Alabama, the University of Tennessee, and the University of Texas. If you are a resident from one of these institutions, you will be able to participate in the conference, either presenting your work or attending the sessions that interest you.

Oxford, Ohio, to teach medical students. "Dr. McHattie has a special interest in everything from music to team sports, but he also enjoys golf. Dr. Graham is a Louisiana native, received his B.S. degree from LSU in Baton Rouge, and he earned his M.D. degree from LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans. He served on the staff of hospitals in West Monroe, serving as Chief of Staff at E.A. Conway Memorial in 1971. He moved to Gadsden in 1975. He became a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in 1977, and he was a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Annual Meeting in April in Denver. Dr. Larry Graham attended "Progress in OB/GYN 1996" in Birmingham, Alabama. He has served as President of the Alabama Chapter of Chapter in April. Clintond Youngblood, M.D., is attending an Endoscopic course in Atlanta in May. Dr. Youngblood is also serving on the Admission Interview committee and the Search Committee for Dean of CCHS.

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Behavioral and Community Medicine Department Busy with Research and Publications


Dr. Leeper is program evaluator and instructor. He is also doing research with Drs. William Grell and Fernando E. Viteri, among others on the Effectiveness of the Trans theoretical Model and Its Application to Pediatric AIDS patients. The article, in press for *Children's Health Care*, concludes that there appears to be a need for further AIDS-related education in residency programs.

Dr. Nagy also worked with Dr. Jessee and Dr. Gresham to prepare "Pediatric AIDS: Are Physicians Ready?" which assesses medical residents' perceptions of their overall competence to provide primary care to pediatric AIDS patients. The article, in press for *Children's Health Care*, concludes that there appears to be a need for further AIDS-related education in residency programs. Deborah Poteat-Johnson, M.D., a former CCHS faculty member, collaborated on the article, "Are Physicians Ready?"

Dr. Nagy was senior author of "Are Health Care Professionals Ready for Alzheimer's Disease: A Comparison of U.S. and Hong Kong Nurses," which was published in the *International Journal of Nursing Practice* (November 1995, pp. 337-351). Co-authors were Beall, Kwan, and Baumhower. Dr. Nagy discussed "Emotional Indicators and Trends of Substance Use and Discharge from Adolescent Female Five-Year Window" at a Partnership for a Drug-Free Tuscaloosa meeting last fall; and she co-presented with selective colleagues (Bailey, and Dennis) on a paper presented at the American Public Health meeting last November which studied women entering substance abuse treatment programs. She also co-authored (with Steve Nagy and Anthony Adcock) and presented the paper, "Women's Experience of Violence and Victimization" at the Association for the Advancement of Health Education annual meeting in April.

Tara Hargis (right) of Lus ton County was a co-awardee in the first Rural Health Scholars summer program. She returns to campus this fall 1995, as a student.

She goes home with Dr. John Wheat in a exile for the RISP.

John Wheat, M.D., M.P.H., remains active in the development of rural medical education programs. Dr. Wheat and colleagues at the University of Alabama School of Medicine, RAHA (Region of Alabama Health Alliance), and the state Family Practice Rural Health Board are developing rural education programs based on the "pipeline" that "attracts rural students into an educational track designed to produce excellent primary care physicians for rural Alabama.

A summer program for high school students, provided in conjunction with the UA College of Arts and Sciences, helps recruit eligible potential pre-med students from rural counties. This program, the Rural Health Scholars Program (RISP), will be conducted for the fourth year in a row this summer on the UA campus with funding from the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MSA), and the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians (AAP). RISP brings bright, interested eleventh graders from rural counties to campus for a special five-week session each summer. The students experience college life, take college courses for credit, attend special lectures by health professionals, and take field trips to medical facilities. Dr. Wheat also directs the CCHS Community/Rural Medicine rotation for third year medical students. Closely coordinated with the rural Family Medicine rotation, students participate in activities which bring them to Muscle Shoals (Colbert County), Centre in Cherokee County, Lee, Pickens, Mobile, and Baldwin counties.

Dr. Wheat is working with Charles Ogburn, Ph.D., of Auburn, Bill Curry, M.D., and Dr. James Ogburn, Jr., to create the Alabama Agricience project. "This program involves students in pre-med and health sciences and residents in primary care with an educational interface and an active health awareness program in agricultural and rural living," said Dr. Wheat. He helped host the 1996 Agricience Consortium meeting. At Auburn, three weeks of Agricience programs were highlighted. In addition, he has joined Dr. Leeper, John Brandon, M.D., and Peggy Nagy, M.D., and is co-director of the Curriculum Task Force to develop a UASOM Rural Primary Care Track at CCHS. This track will begin with rural pre-medical students and proceed to a medical student level in the future.

In Occupational and Preventive Medicine, Dr. Wheat continues as Consulting Medical Director for Gulf States Paper and Plant Medical Director for General Motors Delphi Harrison Thermal Systems. He and Delphi Harrison recently conducted a Total Disability Management seminar at the Tuscaloosa plant for area physicians interested in industrial health.

Robert Centor, M.D. will present a paper with Jerry McNtch to formalize an occupational medicine rotation for residents.

Presentations and Projects Keep Faculty on the Road

Timothy W. Winkler, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, has presented workshops across the state on recognizing and addressing child abuse. He works in conjunction with Children's Hospital Intervention and Prevention Services, and he was speaker for two-day meetings in Florence, Birmingham, and Montgomery earlier this year, and he will be a speaker in Dothan on June 4. He also presented information on adolescence and puberty for boys to a Tuscaloosa City Schools audience in February. He is scheduled to address the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians on June 3 at their annual meeting at Perdido Beach, Alabama.

James R. Pickens, M.D., will present four papers at the Seventh Ottawa International Conference on Medical Education and Assessment, June 25-28, 1996, in Montreal, The Netherlands. His paper topics are: "Ten Year Observation of Problem Based Learning: A Guide to Future Evaluations" and "Faith Based and Problem Based Learning: The Role of Liberal Education". He will also present a paper on "Reliable Essay Examinations in Clinical " and "Physicians' Perspective," at the University of Alberta, which assesses medical residents' perceptions of their overall competence to provide primary care to pediatric AIDS patients. The article, in press for *Children's Health Care*, concludes that there appears to be a need for further AIDS-related education in residency programs. Deborah Poteat-Johnson, M.D., a former CCHS faculty member, collaborated on the article, "Are Physicians Ready?"

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She goes home with Dr. John Wheat in a exile for the RISP.
Dean Ficken (from p.1) and the program. He and Dr. (Riley) Lumpkin and Dr. (Bill) deShazo made it a great three decades of career development together. Others, of course, who were crucial to making CCHS a reality were John Burnam, M.D., of Tuscaloosa, and Dick Rutland, M.D., of Fayette who was finally convinced by those three to consent.

"One of the first things that impressed me," said Dr. Rutland, "was that Roland never lost touch with his roots." Dr. Rutland met Roland and Virginia Ficken at a conference in 1968 when they moved to Tuscaloosa from Alabama. Roland grew up in a tiny community in rural Oklahoma, and even though he has developed a nice, sophisticated touch, he is low key and extremely human and he still exudes that, warm and understanding of people's needs and ideas that is so valuable in representing the program. There has never been a time that he has not been an advocate for the mission of CCHS, and I think his own experience has helped him convey the importance of that mission.

Before he came to CCHS in 1973, Dr. Ficken was Instructor in the Department of Behavioral Science at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine. (National Institute of Mental Health Training Grant Trainee at the University of Kentucky and a research assistant in the Department of Medicine at the University of Oklahoma Medical Center where he participated in a clinical research program. Dr. Ficken has published in numerous refereed journals, written book chapters, and has been active on the state, regional, and national scene as a panel member, presenter, and discussant. Recurring themes in his research and writing are psychosocial factors in medical care and diagnosis, mental health training for family physicians, and management of mental disorders by primary care physicians. He has often addressed self-medication issues and, more recently, compensation for care in the medical school setting. Interesting, but non-recurring, topics he has presented and published include primate (baboon) behavior and designing literature (writing this up) in 1967 and the effect of divorce on adult children in 1979.

He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses in medical behavioral sciences. He has developed a course on how to introduce students to issues in contemporary medicine. He teaches "Death, Dying, and Bereavement" for students in Pediatrics. He has also taught about social and cultural factors, alcoholism, and sociology of medical education. He has served on numerous Doctoral and Masters committees; and he is a member of many College, University and School of Medicine committees, the Governor's State Health Care Reform Task Force, on Health Professions Education, and a committee of the AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges) Clinical Campus Deans.

One of his most valuable contributions, according to Henry Hoffman, M.D., is the student admissions committee that he chaired the Medical Student Admissions Committee, was his work as a member of the USAM Admissions Committee (1984-91). "His love for and interest in students, community, and medical students is a trait all students interested in health careers," said Dr. Hoffman. "He always loved the visits to college campuses [for the Admissions Committee] to talk to students about the family medical school. Given a choice about priorities, he always made time for student counseling, even when he had multiple responsibilities." Dr. Ficken served on the USAM Medical Student Affairs Committee for ten years and the USAM Graduate Medical Education Committee from 1991 until the present. He is a former member of the Health Professions Advisory Committee at The University of Alabama, and he chaired the CCHS Medical Student Programs and Promotions Committee and the Medical Student Activities Committee.

"He brings some real strengths to his role as Dean," said Camille Eiebash, a UA Professor Emeritus who is a member of the CCHS Capital Campaign Committee and Capstone Health Services Foundation Board member. "He clearly loves this college, and he is considerate, diplomatic, and very effective at getting people to work together." Ms. Hoffman is a former member of the AAMC, American Sociological Association, Association for Behavioral Science and Medical Education, and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. He was also elected to the prestigious American Board of Family Medicine, and he is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, and National Society Honoring, serving as president of the local chapter in 1993.

He received his A.B. degree from Phillips University in Oklahoma; and he earned both his M.A. in sociology and his Ph.D. in medical sociology from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Ficken married Virgene Shore in 1957, and they have two sons and a grandson.

Dr. Ficken has not cemented his plans for retirement. "I am pleased to be very ably succeeded in these efforts by Sue Thomas, who has worked with Family Practice residents for five years, and Patti Belk, who has worked in Medical Student Affairs since 1986. Mr. Sizemore's recent marriage to a Goodrich employee brought her to Tuscaloosa. Together, she and her husband have five grown children, a teenage grandson, and a twenty-month-old granddaughter.

Kenny R. Sizemore, M.D., a former CCHS medical student and 1966 graduate of USAM, is practicing in Knoxville, Tennessee. He completed an internal medicine residency at Baptist Medical Centers in Birmingham in 1969 and completed specialty training in Rheumatology at the Medical College of Georgia in 1962. He is working with the Rheumatology Associates of East Tennessee, a group practice in Knoxville. He says his practice is growing steadily. He and his wife Michele are "the proud parents of twins" he writes. Scott Mitchell and Leslie Virginia were welcomed into the family on March 7, 1993. They are very happy and he says they love their life. He writes of his proximity to the University of Tennessee, "although our blood is primarily crimson," he writes, "I am pleased to have been part of the CCHS capital campaign."

Patricia K. Harris, M.D., completed her pediatrics internship at the University of Arkansas Children's Hospital in June 1993. She is now on active duty in the U.S. Navy at Atugiu, Japan, until August 1996. She is a General Medical Officer at a Naval Air Station Branch Medical Clinic. She and her husband, J. Wesley Pyle, became parents on May 26, 1995, with the birth of their first son, J. Landry Harris Pyle in Oklahoma.

Michael F. Blu, M.D., is presently in a solo Orthopaedic Surgery practice in Alexander City, Alabama. He is about to move his practice to a 5,000 square foot new office near the hospital, and he hopes to recruit a partner in the next two to three years. He recently wrote Dr. Ficken congratulating him on his service in his capacity as the Last Hill Society to support CCHS activities and the newsletter for alumni. He thanked Dr. Wintzheim and other faculty for the education he received at CCHS, saying he considered his training in Tuscaloosa to be "the finest years of my medical education."

Kay Hall Working with Residency and Medical Student Affairs

Kay Hall is the new Resident Officer at CCHS but she is very familiar with residency programs and the medical health discipline in general. She is currently working with the University of Texas Department of Family Practice, the Department of Family Practice at the University of Kansas Medical Center, and the Department of Family Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Hall has coordinated residency programs; planned, implemented, and revised curricula; supervised the application process for new residents; set up orientations; handled resident licensing, malpractice insurance, and medical staff privilege issues; assisted with Medicare, Medicaid, and private payor reports; and prepared data for AAPF (American Academy of Family Physicians), the American Academy of Family Practice, the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine; and the National Residency Matching Program. She has also worked with Healthmark Inc., Coors Industries, and Petro Lewis Corporation; managing administrative services, public relations, personnel, payroll, and budget functions in her professional roles in health and industry. Ms. Hall was fortunate to be married to a Goodrich employee who brought her to Tuscaloosa. Together, she and her husband have five grown children, a teenage grandson, and a twenty-month-old granddaughter.

CCHS Staff Retire

Three staff members are retiring this year: Willene Davenport in Purchasing, Patsy McKind, radiologic technologist at Capstone Medical Center; and Shirley Barton, medical receptionist at CCHS. Willene retired on December 31st last year and the two later as assistant to Joe Malone, Purchasing Coordinator in the Dean's office.

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Dean's Message:

by Roland P. Ficken, Ph.D.

When I arrived at the newly chartered College of Community Health Sciences some 24 years ago there were four faculty members, Dean Willard, and seven staff including nurses. In May, 1996, we have 35 full-time and 46 part-time faculty. There are 95 full-time and 23 part-time staff. We have made an excellent start. By the end of June, 225 family practice residents will have completed their training at CCHS. Our College of Community Health Sciences which is designed to link health and community leaders directly with the College, its medical education program, family practice residency and the Capstone Medical Center. Current areas of need are: establishing endowed chairs and professorships and medical student loans and scholarships and purchasing library materials, audiovisual teaching aids, and laboratory equipment. Other major priorities are construction of faculty office space and teaching facilities at the Capstone Medical Center; securing money for educational and research related to the problems of rural health and clinical research relevant to primary care; and support for continuing education, consultation and physician placement services for rural communities. The List College also funds special projects as funds are available, including awards for students who earn top honors during their work at CCHS and the OnRound newsletter produced by the College for active alumni and friends.

Members of the new board have been very helpful in providing ideas and guidance for fund raising activities," said Dr. Wilmer Coggins, vice president of the Board of Directors. They are also helping to identify new members for the Society who share a commitment to the mission of this college - to provide excellent medical education stressing primary care for physicians in rural areas and to address the health needs for medical care in rural areas.

"Most of the Board members are non-medical community volunteers who understand the importance of this college in the medical education system in Alabama. Our focus is community medicine and primary care, especially the care of patients in the small towns and underserved rural counties of the state. Board members also realize the financial impact in this city and region of the civic contribution and professional service of faculty and resident physicians, to local and outlying county hospitals, clinics and private practices.

With declining state and federal support for education and medical education, it is even more critical to maintain the private and corporate contribution to the work of this branch of the UA medical school," said Dr. Bill Winternitz, president of the List College.

Search Committee Reviews Twenty for Dean

A ten-member search committee for the CCHS chairmanship of UA, for Associate Dean has received twenty applications for the position which will become vacant when Dean Ficken retires in June, 1996.

"We have a diverse from across the country," said Dr. William Winternitz, CCHS Professor of Internal Medicine.

The Search Committee was appointed by President Roger Sayers and University of Alabama School of Medicine (UASOM) Dean Harold R. Hill, M.D., M.B.B.S., and is chaired by Kathleen Nelson, a pediatrician on the faculty of the College. The committee has been meeting regularly and will make recommendations in the next few months. To protect the privacy of the applicants, names of the candidates will be considered but not announced, and interviews are being scheduled with the top candidates.

'96 OSCE Scheduled

The 1996 OSCE (objective structured clinical exam) will be administered in Tuscaloosa at the VA Hospital, 16-27 September. Each third year student at UASOM will spend one hour on each OSCE in the exam. Starting with the graduating class of 1997, all students will be required to pass the OSCE before graduation. Taking the end of their junior year allows time for remediation of any areas (stations) in which performance was inadequate. The OSCE Planning Committee, under the direction of Dr. Elizabeth Philp, is presently compiling a list of areas and criteria to be covered.

It Pays to Plan Your Gift

During the course of the Campaign for Alabama many people have requested help in planning their gifts. Today, more and more people are taking advantage of the many gift-planning options available.

Careful planning can actually make a good gift better, whether you are considering a bequest in your will, an outright gift to securities or real estate, or a gift that pays you income for life. Consider these benefits of planning your gift:

- Maximize the size of your gift
- Obtain lifetime income
- Optimize the tax-related benefit
- Tailor your gift to a specific need
- Increase your personal satisfaction

As part of the Campaign for Alabama, CCHS encourages those gifts that hold special meaning or interest for the donor. Gift and naming opportunities are available for endowed professorships, chairs, scholarships, or facilities. The University would like to give special recognition to contributing donors.

If you are interested in exploring opportunities and options in designing a charitable gift for the College of Community Health Sciences, contact Roland Ficken or Vicki Johnson, CCHS, P. O. Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. Call (205) 348-6093.

Note: The Residents’ drive to fund a Chair of Family Medicine has accumulated contributions and pledges totaling $70,000. The Church of Community Health Sciences has established an endowed Chair of Family Medicine to provide financial support for the Department of Family and Community Medicine on a continuing basis. Contributions to the Chair of Family Medicine have averaged $5,000 each, and contributions are still being accepted. Please send your donation to the CCHS Development Office (Attention: Fundraising for a permanent plaque) to CCHS Dean’s Office, Attn: Vicki Johnson, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487. On Rounds • 7 • Spring 1996

Lillian B. List College Board of Directors

Ms. Sarah Burchfield Mr. Jim Flemming Mr. Tommy Hester Ms. Cathy Parker Dr. Bill Shamblin Mr. Sammy Watson Dr. Bill Winternitz, President

For information contact: Vicki Johnson, Dean's Office, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. Call (205) 348-6093.
Tuscaloosa Seniors Choose Residencies

Senior medical students at CCHS participated this spring in the national program which matches medical school graduates with residency programs in the specialty of their choice for further training. Four of the eighteen seniors -- Dr. Chelley Alexander, Dr. Angela Smelley, Dr. Lori Stenfield, and Dr. Mike Stanfield -- in this year's graduating class chose to specialize in Family Medicine. They will all enter the Family Practice Residency program at CHS. Six other graduates have also chosen primary care residencies: four in internal medicine; and two in pediatrics. Four graduates will enter surgery residencies; two will train in obstetrics and gynecology; and one each in orthopedics and radiology respectively.

"Students at CCHS consistently place well in national testing and in the national matching program," said William W. Winternitz, M.D., Director of Medical Student Affairs. "Our students get a great deal of one-on-one teaching and actual experience with patients. Again this year we are sending well-prepared graduates to prestigious residencies in a variety of specialties in Alabama and other states.

Dr. Marc Armstrong, Director of the Family Practice Residency Program here, said he is particularly pleased that the majority of the senior class on the CCHS campus chose primary care for residency training. "Family doctors and other primary care physicians will be increasingly important as the health care field changes in the future," said Dr. Armstrong. "The doctor-patient relationship and the broad diagnostic and treatment expertise offered by the family physician is becoming more and more valuable to patients seeking cost-effective quality care and the personal attention of a caring physician."

CME Presents Emergency Medicine Series in July and August

Plans More Medical Experts for Grand Rounds This Fall

The Emergency Medicine Series, which was initiated by the CCHS Continuing Medical Education Committee in 1982, was designed to provide physicians in training with the latest information on diagnosing and treating illness and trauma. "Emergency Medicine does not encompass only trauma and injury," says Pamela Parker, M.D., chair of the CCHS Continuing Medical Education (CME) committee. "Whether in the emergency room or in his or her office, a doctor must be able to recognize serious syndromes before they become irreversible."

"The Emergency Medicine Series is presented by experts in most medical specialties and is designed for physicians in training, but it is a concise review and update for practitioners or personnel in all medical fields in recognizing an emergency." She gave the example of a technician who recognized a patient's heart and respiratory failure and immediately started the code that brought doctors and nurses to his aid and saved his life.

The Emergency Medicine lectures are scheduled for every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday (except July 4) during July and August. "The lectures cover basic emergencies in a variety of areas," said Vicki Johnson, CME Coordinator in the Dean's Office who staffs the CME committee. "The speakers are chosen and invited by faculty physicians on our CME Committee," she said, "and we will publish a final schedule of topics and presenters before the end of May. Topics covered in previous series include: internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, surgery, cardiology, psychiatry, urology, gastroenterology, allergies and respiratory conditions, renal failure, ophthalmology, endocrinology, multiple injuries, and adolescent suicide."

"Continuing medical education beyond the level of medical school is going to be increasingly important in reducing the cost of medical care," said Dr. Parker. "To manage illness in a cost effective manner means to recognize and treat medical problems efficiently so that they do not recur. The Emergency Medicine Series will provide the emergency medicine experts that will staff hospitals as well as the other primary care physicians." She said that the CME program this fall will continue to bring "cutting edge experts" from across the country on Fridays for Grand Rounds.

The First Friday Arts and Letters Series at CCHS initiated by Dr. William Winternitz will continue, and I am very pleased that Dr. Winternitz has agreed to coordinate the First Friday lectures after his retirement this June. We are confident that our students, faculty, and guests, will say, "We will also present a special emphasis week on AIDS, sponsored by Abbott Laboratories, September 25-27. For more information or to request a schedule, contact Vicki Johnson, CME Coordinator, Dean's Office, Box 870026, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0236. Phone: 205 348-6093.

CME Committee

Pam Parker, M.D., Psychiatry, Chair
Bobbi Adcock, M.D., Family Medicine
William Dressler, Ph.D., Behavioral & Community Medicine
Ashley Evans, M.D., Pediatrics
Eugene Marsh, M.D., Neurology/Psychiatry
Timothy Winkler, M.D., Surgery
William Winternitz, M.D., Internal Medicine
Alan Henley, M.D., Family Practice Resident
Martin Harvey, M.D., Family Practice Resident
ex officio members
James Philip, M.D., Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Martha Tillotson, CCHS Health Sciences Library

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NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCH PROGRAM - 1996

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<tr>
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<td>Chelley K. Alexander</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa Family Medicine, Tuscaloosa, AL</td>
<td>Family Practice</td>
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<td>Brian C. Baccot</td>
<td>Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL</td>
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<td>Todd D. Bell</td>
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<td>Preliminary Surgery</td>
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<td>Rachel Z. Chatters</td>
<td>LSU School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<td>Thomas E. Dobbs, III</td>
<td>University of Alabama Hospital, Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>Medicine-Primary Care</td>
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<td>Benjamin L. Glover</td>
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<td>Angela K. Smelley</td>
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