

OnRounds

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College of Community Health Sciences

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Special Retirement Edition

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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 to come and 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 granddaddy, 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 36 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 1990.

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)



Jerry McKnight, M.D.

McKnight Becomes Interim Chief of Family Medicine

Jerry T. McKnight, M.D., has been appointed to lead the Family Medicine Department until a new discipline chief can be named. Dean Roland Ficken made the appointment following the departure of Dr. Alan Maxwell, who has taken a position on the faculty of the University of Kentucky. "Dr. McKnight has demonstrated leadership skills," said Dr. Ficken. "His patients at Capstone are devoted to him, and he is committed to excellent academic preparation for our students and residents."

Dr. McKnight, a native of Gleason, Tennessee, graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry from Union University in Jackson, TN, and earned his M.D. degree from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis. He completed the University of Alabama School of Medicine's CCHS Family Medicine residency in Tuscaloosa in 1985, and after five years in private practice in Tennessee and Decatur, Alabama, he returned to CCHS as an assistant professor. He received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor of Family Medicine in August, 1995. He is the author of 10 published articles, and he has co-authored additional materials. He contributed a chapter on "Occupational Lung Diseases" to *Manual of Family Practice* published in March.



Alabama basketball fan, retiring Dean Roland Ficken, and his grandson Timothy rest after a lesson on "Roll Tide!" cheering.

In This Issue . . .

This special edition of *OnRounds* is provided by contributions to the Lister Hill Society. It is dedicated to the CCHS pioneers who helped found and shape the future of this college. Two of these special people are retiring this summer: William W. Winternitz, M.D., Professor and first Discipline Chief of Internal Medicine; and Dean Roland Ficken, who came to CCHS in 1973.

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Linda Jackson, Editor

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Dr. Winternitz Retires

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, his 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



William W. Winternitz, M.D.

Physiological 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.

Dr. Winternitz left Yale University in 1959 to take a U.S. Public Health Service, Medical Unit fellowship in London, England, at University College Hospital Medical School where he observed teaching and research methods. He then spent seventeen years at the University of Kentucky School of Medicine, as Associate Professor and Professor of Medicine. 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 discipline chief 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 of graduate students in the UA School of Social Work, and to see more of his three grown children and three grandchildren who live in California and New York.

Linda Jackson

Preserve the Inner Space

Excerpts from an address by
Dr. William Winternitz

17th Annual Honors Convocation at CCHS

The advice Dr. Winternitz gave graduates three years ago and his predictions for their future is valid for past and future CCHS alumni as well as the new physicians leaving CCHS in 1993.

Your transition has been long and gradual, but the MD degree indicates that society now recognizes your status. You are officially accorded the awesome rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities that go with this title.

This is an era of change -- economic, political, social, and moral. You will enter the profession as pioneers, developers, and experimental subjects! You will participate in the new organization of medicine, and you will have a unique opportunity to help shape the future and ensure progress in medical care.

You have probably heard some physicians say that, today, they would not advise a daughter or son to go into medicine: "too much interference/paperwork/red tape," "not fun any more," etc. I believe you will not find this to be true. The basic unit, the doctor-patient relationship, will continue to be central to your future practice.

...Your science must be solid and up-to-date -- not easy to do. But when applied to the human dilemmas you confront, bio-science must be tempered. Psychology, sociology, economics, and humane concern must be brought into your interactions with the people who come to you for help. This is a challenge few professions can match. To so serve society is a reward in itself.

The present turmoil concerning health care is important, but it need not, should not, invade the inner space of the doctor-patient relationship.



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.

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 this area," said Dr. **Jerry McKnight**, Interim Discipline Chief of Family Medicine, in announcing the appointment.

Dr. **Marc Armstrong** is also adding new responsibilities. In addition to being Director of the Residency Program, seeing patients, and teaching, he serves as Interim Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Medical Director of the Capstone Medical Center. He was "drafted" for this role, said **Dean Roland Ficken**, because 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 be in charge of medical student clerkships as Director of Pre-Doctoral Family Medical Education. Dr. Adcock returned to CCHS from a successful private practice in Tennessee because of her desire to teach Family Medicine, which involves all kinds of people and health care needs. Dr. McKnight commented that Dr. Adcock has great enthusiasm for patient care and concern for students. "That she is able to communicate that to medical students who rotate on Family Medicine is a special gift," 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 psychiatric facility on the Bryce campus. He will continue to be a Family Medicine faculty member on a part-time basis. He will retain night call and hospital duties and care for his nursing home patients.

Colleen Beall, Dr. P.H., 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 Behavioral and Community Medicine with Dr. Beall's appointment. Dr. **Lorin Baumhover**, former director of the Center for Aging, retired from UA in January and relocated to Boone, North Carolina. The Center maintains an active research and service agenda including evaluation of health services, health education and screening, and planning for a conference on living with developmental disabilities. The Center maintains offices in Nott Hall, and 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 all three campuses of UASOM. The committee surprised her at a December 5, 1995 meeting with a congratulatory plaque and a new leather-bound calendar planner. Dr. Philp is involved in several research projects related to the OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Exam), including evaluation of OSCE as a method of teaching and assessing the skills of medical students, the effect of being a standardized patient on one's own health care, standardized patients' evaluation of training methods, and comparing faculty and standardized patient evaluations of medical students' clinical skills. She is also working 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 for a book published in March, 1996, by Health Professions Press in Baltimore and Jessica Kingsley, Publishers, London, England. 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** also wrote an article for the March, 1996 issue of *Epidemiology* titled "Brain Tumors among Electronics Industry Workers," and she co-authored "Are Health Care Professionals 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 P.H. **Teitze, A.J. Maxwell, W.O. Smith, and M.C. Nagy**. Dr. **Adcock** has submitted a manuscript on "Ampicillin 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 Boston 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 Enteral Nutrition" for *American Family Physician*.

Pat Norton, Medical Education Facilitator, co-authored "Navigating the Library Maze: Introductory Research and the Athletic Trainer" in *Journal of Athletic Training* (March, 1996).

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 **Teitze, M.D.**, a former CCHS faculty member now practicing family medicine in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and **James Philp, M.D.**, Internal Medicine. The dilemma which precipitated the research is that "a large component of a family physician's practice is the recognition and management of psychosocial disease. Studies estimate the incidence of psychiatric illness presenting to the family physician at 25% to 32%," and "psychosocial problems occur in an estimated 43% of patients in a primary care practice."

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 factual aspects of their curriculum," and a PBL (problem based learning) approach to the biopsychosocial model of medical care was implemented. Third year residents presented current problematic patients at the PBL 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 bio-psychosocial problems."

Dr. Philp from CCHS Chairs Committee

Evaluation of All UASOM Courses Begins

There is a small sign on the desk of the CCHS doctor who chairs the committee to evaluate the effectiveness of every medical school course on all UASOM campuses for all four years. It says:

*Education is man's going forward from
cocksure ignorance to thoughtful uncertainty.*

Jim Philp, M.D., has spent years of his career defining what medical education should be and how success should be measured. His desk plaque reflects an underlying philosophy that a physician's knowledge is not primarily what he learns once, considers an absolute, and uses thereafter 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 service providers to define the need(s) and design a management plan that works.

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 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 for all departments.

Students are an integral part of the evaluation process, he says, not just the object. "They need to be part of a circuit of on-going quality improvement. Students must have ownership of the process and sequence by which they learn, and faculty need to have ownership of standard-setting and course content."

The work of the evaluation committee has begun in the areas of physiology and pediatrics. Dr. Philp says the committee hopes to use these departments for models as other areas begin the evaluation process.

Members of the different Evaluation Committees will include faculty and students from each clerkship/course for each campus. Dr. Philp will chair every committee.

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 for all departments.

What we learn after we know it all is what counts.

-seen on bulletin board in Family Medicine

OB/GYN Welcomes New Faculty, Attends Medical Meetings

Thomas J. McHattie, M.D., has been appointed Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He came to CCHS from Pontiac, Michigan, where he has been Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Residency Program Director at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital since 1993. Prior to that he was Director of OB/GYN and directed the OB/GYN Residency program at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania. He also served on the clinical faculty at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. Other positions he has held include Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Oklahoma/Tulsa Medical College, Medical Director of the Tulsa Ambulatory Obstetrics and Gynecology Center, Clinical Associate Professor at University Hospital in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, and Obstetrics Section Chief at Regina General Hospital in Regina, Saskatchewan. Dr. McHattie had a private practice in Arkansas in the early 1980's.



Thomas McHattie, M.D.

Dr. McHattie earned his M.D. in 1969 from the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine. He completed residencies in obstetrics and Gynecology at Hurley Hospital in Flint, Michigan, and at University Hospital in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He has Certification and Fellowship status in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and he is a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He is Board eligible with the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and he has been a member of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology since 1984.

Dr. McHattie is the father of four grown children: "my 25-year-old baby twins and an older son and daughter." Both sons live in Phoenix where one is preparing to join the pro golf tour and the other is a gifted musician/composer. His twin daughter (a former national and international award-winning gymnast, injured doing a triple back flip three days before she was to leave for the Olympics in Seoul) is completing her psychology degree at Oakland University in Detroit, and his other daughter, who lives in Ontario, is mother of Dr. McHattie's three grandchildren. Andrew, born on June 6, 1992, is nicknamed "Hurricane Andrew" after the famous storm which swamped U.S. coasts on that date.

He is equally eager to talk about his special project -- medical missionary work in the Dominican Republic. He was recruited to go on the mission trip by nurses in his hospital who had volunteered to serve on the trip. He goes with the mission team, organized by a doctor in Toledo, Ohio, to sites in the Dominican Republic every October and February. He says the need is great, because extreme poverty exists in the country side-by-side with the wealthy Caribbean resort areas. Using an interpreter, he lectures at a medical school in San Pedro while he is working on the island, 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 **Ellen Reddington**, a recovery room nurse who volunteers for the same project. He initially got her attention by pushing her in a swimming pool after a grueling day for them both in surgery. ("Six hysterectomies," he said, "and I pushed *all* the nurses in the pool, even the 66-year-old PhD nursing supervisor!") He apparently redeemed himself the next day, Valentine's Day, with an invitation to go dancing followed by a walk on the moonlit Caribbean beach near where their mission team was housed. "Very romantic," he comments. The wedding is planned for June 29 in Toledo.

Dr. McHattie looks forward to living and working in Tuscaloosa. He says the lifestyle in Tuscaloosa allows him to maintain a semi-normal life and still do the work he loves. He chose to come because he could combine teaching and practicing medicine with research. His research interests are cost-effective measures in medical treatment, particularly the schedule and procedures used for prenatal visits, and how (why) a mother's knowledge of the sex of her baby affects (increases) her need for pain medication during delivery.

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 he 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 protocol and supervised family practice residents in OB/GYN.



James Graham, M.D.

"The majority of our residents graduated with a sufficient amount of level II type obstetrical experience to continue to manage their patients in private practice," said Dr. Graham. "Under my close supervision, they trained to perform C-sections, D&C's, and tubal ligations, and they delivered almost 3000 babies." Residents also assisted him in all gynecological surgery.

Since OB/GYN care in rural areas is most often a part of a family physician's practice, Dr. Graham feels that it is a critical part of their residency training in family practice. "Obstetricians or gynecologists are unlikely to establish a practice in Centre, Alabama, for example," he said. "There would not be enough deliveries to support the specialty and a solo OB practice which lacks a partner for backup coverage is very difficult." He favors thorough OB/GYN training in the family physicians' curriculum, and he is supportive of the OB fellowship offered by CCHS which allows interested doctors to obtain more intensive training. He still corresponds with his former residents, and one in north Arkansas recently told him to "please send me a family physician who can do OB!"

"Managed care considers OB/GYN to be the specialty field and expects family practitioners to attend to routine care and deliveries, referring patients only for problems," said Dr. Graham. "An interesting development in the politics of managed care is that obstetricians and gynecologists have requested primary care status, and family physicians are opposing that shift in classification." He thinks the best solution, especially for rural regions, is to make sure that family physicians, the doctors most likely to serve those areas, are well-trained for obstetrics and gynecology.

Dr. Graham, 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 in 1961. He completed a Rotating Internship and an OB/GYN residency at Confederate Memorial Medical Center (later University Hospital) in Shreveport. He became a Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology in 1967.

He began his medical career in the U.S. Air Force at Laughlin AFB in Del Rio, Texas. After a two-year stint, he moved to Louisiana and joined the staff of Glenwood Hospital in Monroe, where he served as Chief of OB/GYN. He was also 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 Fertility Society 1976-87. In 1987, after delivering approximately 3645 babies, he limited his practice to gynecology because a solo obstetrical practice is very demanding, he said. He has missed teaching and looks forward to working with residents and students at CCHS.

Dr. Graham and his wife Peggy have an eleven-year-old son. Dr. Graham has five grown children 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.

In other news from the OB/GYN Department, **Paul Mozley, M.D.**, was co-author (with Cindy **Dedmon, M.D.**, and Ghassan **Hamadeh, M.D.**) of "Postpartum Fever" in *American Family Physician* (August, 1995). Dr. Mozley attended the 5th Annual Psychopharmacology Review in Tuscon, AZ, in February, 1996, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Annual Meeting in April in Denver, CO. Dr. **Larry Graham** attended "Progress in OB/GYN 1996" in Birmingham, Alabama in February and the annual meeting of ACOG, Alabama Chapter in April. **Clifton Youngblood, M.D.**, is attending an Endoscopy course in Atlanta in May. Dr. Youngblood is also serving on the Admission Interview committee and the Search Committee for Dean of CCHS.

Psychiatry Dept. Is Home to National President

In March of this year, **Elizabeth Rand, M.D.**, was chosen president-elect of the Association of Academic Psychiatry, a national organization of teachers of psychiatry. She will become president for 1997-98. During her tenure, her theme -- the role of psychiatry in primary care education -- will be reflected in the annual conference to be held in New Orleans in 1998: "The Psychiatry/Primary Care Interface: Challenges for Teaching and Research."

Studies have shown that 50% of people with mood disorders who seek help from a medical provider see only their primary care provider, not a psychiatrist or other mental health specialist. This means that "they are coming to see you!" said Dr. Rand in a CME lecture to family practice residents, medical students, and community physicians.

"Since many patients who need mental health care are only going to be identified by their family physicians, it is essential that we include psychiatric training in the primary care curriculum," Dr. Rand said. "I am thrilled to have the opportunity to make this important area the theme of a national meeting." Dr. Rand hopes colleagues in Tuscaloosa and Birmingham will be able to participate in the conference, either presenting their own work or learning from that of others.

Psychiatry faculty members, Dr. **Nancy Rubin** and **Pam Parker, M.D.**, are co-authors of "The Difficult Patient: Creation of a Curriculum by Third Year Family Practice Residents," an article for *Family Medicine*, currently in press. **Elizabeth Philp, M.D.**, Family Medicine, was primary author. (See "CCHS Faculty Collaborate," on p. 3.)

Dr. **Nancy Rubin** also worked with **Elizabeth Philp, M.D.**, and **Julia Hartman**, a CCHS research associate in Behavioral and Community Medicine, to research and publish "Health Care Perceptions: Do They Change for the Standardized Patient?" in *Medical Encounters*. The article reports results from their study of simulated patients' opinions of their own doctors after they have participated in the training and testing of medical students and residents as "pretend" patients. In addition, Dr. **Rubin** is co-author of "Client-Therapist Intimacy: Responses of Psychotherapy Clients to a Consumer Oriented Brochure" in press for *Ethics and Behavior*.

In May, 1996, **Pam Parker, M.D.**, will serve on the faculty for "Primary Care Medicine Today," the fourth in an annual series of CME conferences in Bermuda sponsored by the University of Alabama School of Medicine - Birmingham, Huntsville, and Tuscaloosa campuses. Dr. Parker will speak on "Substance Abuse and Depression" in a focus session, and she will preside at a session entitled "Interdisciplinary Approach in the Treatment of HIV Infections." The conference faculty also includes **Robert Goldenberg, M.D.**, and **Kathleen Nelson, M.D.**, UASOM faculty from Birmingham who have made CME presentations at CCHS. Dr. Goldenberg will discuss low birthweight deliveries and infection in preterm births; Dr. Nelson will address smoking and child health and medical management of low birthweight babies.

Dr. **Parker** is author of a chapter for a book currently in press. Her topic is "Psychological Factitious Disorders" in *Factitious Disorders*, edited by **Stuart Eisendrath** and **Marc Feldman**. The book deals with illnesses deliberately created by the patient, and Dr. Parker discusses psychological conditions pretended by psychiatric patients. Her first encounter with such a patient, she explained, was a woman who spent two weeks in therapy with her to "work out the trauma of an attack which I eventually discovered had never really occurred."

Behavioral and Community Medicine Department Busy with Research and Publications

James D. Leeper, Ph.D., is co-author of the article, "Stability of Standardized Patients' Performance in a Study of Clinical Decision Making," published last year in *Family Medicine* (Vol. 27, No. 2, February 1995, pp. 126-131). Authors are **Badger, deGruy, Hartman, Plant, Leeper, Ficken, Templeton, and Nutt**.

Dr. Leeper's research and evaluation projects include interdisciplinary teaching at West Alabama Health Services in Eutaw, Alabama. WAHS is the community health organization in Greene County which serves as program site for the Rural Alabama Health Professional Training Consortium. Dr. Leeper is program evaluator and instructor. He is also doing research with Drs. **Ogunyemi** and **Hullett** on historical and perinatal determinants of birthweight. Dr. Leeper is Program evaluator for Sumter County School System Learn and Serve Alabama Project; and he serves on the evaluation team for the Bibb County Child Caring Program, an effort to insure all children in Bibb County for basic health care. He is a member of the analysis team for a National Institute for Nursing Research project, "Effects of Gentle Human Touch on Preterm Infants," a study initiated by Dr. Lynda **Harrison** in the Capstone College of Nursing.

Dr. Leeper is a member of a research team from UAB, UA, and Samford working on a "Pilot Study of the Transtheoretical Model and the Development of Suicidal Behavior." He also chairs the Task Force for Longitudinal Curriculum for Primary Care at the UA School of Medicine, Tuscaloosa Program. Dr. Leeper is very active in the American Public Health Association: he serves as Chair of the Program Development Board; Co-chair of the Joint Policy Committee; and ex-officio member of the Executive Board.

Bill Dressler, Ph.D., worked with co-authors Gerald A.C. **Grell** and Fernando E. **Viteri** to publish "Intracultural Diversity and the Sociocultural Correlates of Blood Pressure: a Jamaican Example" in *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* in 1995 (9: 291-313). Dr. Dressler wrote two articles published this year on blood pressure -- "Hypertension in the African American Community: Social, Psychological, and Cultural Determinants" in *Seminars in Nephrology* (16: 71-82); and "Social Identity and Arterial Blood Pressure in the African American Community" in *Ethnicity and Disease* 6: 176-189. He also collaborated with Dr. James R. **Bindon**, Professor and Chair of Anthropology at UA, on "Intercultural Diversity and Health in the African American Community," which appeared in the *Abstracts of the 1996 Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology* (March 27-31, Baltimore, MD).

In 1995, **Dr. Dressler** was a discussant for a foundation planning initiative on "Socio-economic Status and Health" held in Phoenix, AZ in January; and he addressed biocultural, culture, and health topics in presentations and three published articles: "Modelling Biocultural Interactions in Anthropological Research: an Example from Research on Stress and Cardiovascular Disease" in *Yearbook of Physical Anthropology* (38:27-56); "Connecting Culture and Behavior" in *Abstracts of the 1995 Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology* (March 29-April 2, Albuquerque, NM); and "Culture, Social Support, and Health Status in Brazil" in *Abstracts of the 94th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association* (November 15-19, 1995, Washington DC). He also organized a roundtable discussion for this annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association titled "Anthropology and Epidemiology: What's Culture Got To Do with It?"

Dr. Dressler was keynote speaker for an international conference in Mexico in November, 1995. His topic was "Stress: Social and Biological Foci" at VIII Coloquia Internacional de Antropologia Fisica "Juan Comas" in Mexico City. He also taught a 12-hour short course on "Social and Biological Factors and the Stress Process" in the National School of Anthropology and History at the Universidad Autonoma de Mexico in Mexico City.

Dr. Christine Nagy, Director of the Health Research Consulting Service at CCHS, worked with Cathy **Gresham**, M.D., CCHS As-

sistant Professor of Internal Medicine, and Dr. Peggy **Jessee** in the UA Department of Human Development and Family Studies to develop two poster presentations on AIDS for the Fourteenth Biennial Conference on Human Development, held March 29-31 in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. Nagy was senior author of "Children with AIDS and Their Involvement in Group Activities: The Public's Perspective." The study indicates a need to place a high priority on educating about AIDS to supplant irrational fears and misunderstanding in the public's perception. The second poster presentation - also on the involvement of children with AIDS in group activities - examined the "Physicians' Perspective," and surveyed residents in Pediatric, Family Medicine, and Internal Medicine training programs from ten states.

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 **Poteet-Johnson**, M.D., a former CCHS faculty member, collaborated on the article, "Are Physicians Ready?"

Dr. Nagy was lead 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 Aging and Human Development* (Vol. 39, No. 4, pp. 337-351). Co-authors were **Beall, Kwan, and Baumhover**. Dr. Nagy discussed "Emotional Indicators and Trends of Substance Use among Southern Adolescent Females: A Five Year Window" at a Partnership for a Drug-Free Tuscaloosa meeting last fall; and she collaborated (with **Schade, Bailey, and Prentice-Dunn**) on a paper presented at the American Public Health meeting last November which studied women entering a rural substance abuse treatment program. She also co-authored (with Steve **Nagy** and Anthony **Adcock**) and presented the paper, "Discriminators Between Female Perpetrators and Victims of Violence" at the Association for the Advancement of Health Education annual meeting in April.



Tara Haynes (right) of Lamar County was a counselor in the first Rural Health Scholars summer program. She returns to campus this summer as a CCHS medical student. She poses here with **Dr. John Wheat** at a picnic for the RHSP.

John Wheat, M.D., M.P.H., remains active in the development of rural medical education programs. Dr. Wheat and colleagues at UA, the UA School of Medicine, RAHA (Rural Alabama Health Alliance), and the state Family Practice Rural Health Board are developing rural education programs based on the concept of a "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* (RHSP), will be conducted for the fourth time this summer on the UA campus with funding from the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA), and the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). RHSP brings bright, interested eleventh graders from medically underserved counties in Alabama 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 have been placed all over the state, including 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., RAHA, and Tim **Key**, M.D., from UAB, on the *Alabama Agrimedicine project*. "This program involves students in pre-med and health sciences and residents in primary care with occupational and preventive health issues important to agricultural and rural living," said Dr. Wheat. He helped host the 1996 Agrimedicine Consortium meeting at Auburn in April where the Alabama programs were highlighted. In addition, he has joined Dr. **Leeper**, John **Brandon**, M.D., and Robert **Centor** in their work on the Longitudinal Curriculum Task Force to develop a UASOM Rural Primary Care Track at CCHS. This track will begin with rural pre-medical students and proceed through residency in primary care.

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. He is working with Drs. **Marc Armstrong** and **Jerry McKnight** at CCHS to formalize an occupational medicine rotation for residents.

Presentations and Projects Keep Faculty on the Road

Timothy W. Winkler, M.D., Assistant Professor and Associate Discipline Chief, Dept. of Surgery, was invited as Visiting Professor at St. Georges University School of Medicine in Grenada, West Indies, on April 29-May 3, 1996. His topic was "Physical Diagnosis of the Abdomen." **Joseph C. Wallace**, M.D., Associate Professor and Discipline Chief of the Surgery Dept., attended a General Surgery meeting in Charleston, South Carolina, at the end of April.

Michael A. Taylor, 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 speak on child abuse 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. Philp, M.D., will present papers at the Seventh Ottawa International Conference on Medical Education and Assessment, June 25-28, 1996, in Maastricht, The Netherlands. His paper topics are: "Ten Year Observation of Problem Based Learning: A Guide to Future Evaluations?" and "Fair Reliable Essay Examinations for a Problem-Based Curriculum." Dr. **Tracy Johns**, a pharmacist on the Internal Medicine faculty until May of 1996, has also been invited to present his paper, "Non-Redundant Problem-Based Learning by Family Practice Residents," at the Ottawa Conference.

David Hefelfinger, M.D., Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics, began a sabbatical on May 10. His first six weeks will be spent working in Turku, Finland, on field studies on new vaccines for childhood diseases, acellular pertussis and RSV. He then plans to teach at a branch of the University of Hawaii Medical School in Okinawa, Japan. He will work in the Chubu Hospital Pediatrics Dept. for three months, and he will return to CCHS the first of October, 1996. Dr. Hefelfinger provided a commentary article for the March 1996 newsletter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He said he has had a great deal of response to this article, "Religious Faith Provides Strength to Confront Death." In it he tells of caring for an eight-year-old dying of a brain tumor, describes the faith and understanding of the little boy's mother in helping the child to face death, and shares how their experience affected his own faith.

Dean Ficken (from p.1)

and the program. He and Dr. (Riley) **Lumpkin** and Dr. (Bill) **deShazo** made a great team through that stormy development period." 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 coerced into becoming its residency director.

"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 Virgene Ficken soon after they moved to Tuscaloosa from Kentucky. "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 warmth and understanding of people's needs and the needs of rural areas that is so important to represent this 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. He was an NIMH (National Institutes of Mental Health) 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 neurocardiology research.

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 color preference (I'm not making this up) in 1967 and the effect of divorce on adult children in 1979.

He has taught graduate and undergraduate courses in medical behavioral science and co-developed a course for premed students to introduce them 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 institutions.

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 Subcommittee 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**, Ph.D., a retired UASOM faculty member who chaired the Medical Student Admissions Committee, was his work as a member of the UASOM Admissions Committee (1984-91). "His love for and interest in students is evidenced by his years of counseling with medical students and 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 entering 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 UASOM Medical Student Affairs Committee for ten years and the UASOM 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 LCME Self Study, Student Committee.

"He brings some real strengths to his role as Dean," said **Camille Elebash**, a UA Professor Emeritus who is a member of the CCHS Capital Campaign Committee and a 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."

Dr. Ficken is an active 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 membership in the prestigious Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, 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. A native of Oklahoma, Dr. Ficken married Virgene Shore in 1957, and they have two sons and a grandson.

Dr. Ficken has not cemented his plans for post-retirement activities. He knows he will not be idle, but he is looking forward to paying attention to some different issues, he says, "perhaps the flower beds and a vegetable garden." He may continue to teach some classes, something he really enjoys, and he plans to remain active in the CCHS capital campaign. "We need continuity in the CCHS 'Campaign for Alabama' and I am committed to our fundraising priorities," he said. Dean Ficken has been personally involved with CCHS supporters and volunteers since the Campaign began in 1992. The College's first million-dollar contribution came during his tenure when **Celia Wallace**, CEO of Spring Hill Memorial Hospital in Mobile, in 1994 committed funds to support a Chair of Family Medicine in memory of her late husband.

"There is more to be done," said Dean Ficken, "both in fundraising and program improvements to keep CCHS in the forefront of primary care medical education. This college and these faculty physicians have produced excellent doctors, and many of our former students and residents are truly fulfilling the basic mission of this college when they settle in rural areas to practice medicine." (See *Dr. Ficken's farewell message*, p. 7.)

"The times are changing in medicine and medical education," said Dean Ficken. "I am pleased to have been part of the growth and adjustment of CCHS during these years. I hope to see CCHS continue to address the needs of physicians in training, their patients, and -importantly- the patients of the future. The College will need all our support to accomplish its mission, and I look forward to working with new leaders and longtime friends to see that happen. . ."

-Linda Jackson

Notes from Alums



Send professional and personal news to share to *OnRounds*, c/o the Dean's Office, UA Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0326.

FAX: (205) 348-9417 attn: Editor. Be sure to include your graduation date (as medical student or resident), other residency or specialty training, and information about your present practice.

Kenny R. Sizemore, M.D., a former CCHS medical student and 1986 graduate of UASOM, is practicing in Knoxville, Tennessee. He completed an internal medicine residency at Baptist Medical Centers in Birmingham in 1990 and finished specialty training in Rheumatology at the Medical College of Georgia in 1992. 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 born on 11/1/95. "We are very happy living in 'Big Orange' country, he writes of his proximity to the University of Tennessee, "although our blood is crimson!" Dr. Sizemore's office number is (423) 691-4100.

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 in Atsugi, 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 28, 1995, with the birth of their son John "Jack" Harris Pyle in Okinawa, Japan.

Michael F. Blum, M.D., is presently in a solo Orthopaedic Surgery practice in Alexander City, Alabama. He is about to move his practice into a 3,000 square foot new office next to the hospital, and he hopes to recruit a partner in the next two to three years. He recently wrote Dr. **Winternitz** a note when sending in his contribution to the Lister Hill Society to support CCHS activities and the newsletter for alumni. He thanked Dr. Winternitz 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 new in the Residency Office at CCHS but she is very familiar with residency programs and the medical/health discipline in general. She has worked 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 at 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 and set up orientations; handled resident licensing, malpractice insurance, and medical staff privilege issues; assisted with Medicare audit grants and reports; and prepared data for AAFP (American Academy of Family Physicians), the American Board 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.

"We are extremely fortunate to have Kay with us," said **Marc Armstrong**, M.D., Director of the Family Practice Residency Program based at CCHS. "Her knowledge and experience in medical education and administration will be valuable in both our graduate and undergraduate medical education programs. Her role will be to oversee the Residency Office and the Office of Medical Student Affairs." CCHS has 36 residents and up to 50 third and fourth year medical students in its programs at any one time.

Ms. Hall said she was looking forward to working with resident recruitment and alumni communications and developing relationships between medical students and the residency program. "I want medical students to be familiar with family practice as a specialty training program so more will consider becoming family physicians," said Ms. Hall. "I am pleased to be very ably assisted 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."

Ms. Hall'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.



Kay Hall

CCHS Staff Retire

Three staff members are retiring this year: **Willene Davenport** in Purchasing; **Patsy McKnight**, radiologic technologist at Capstone Medical Center; and **Shirley Barton**, medical receptionist at Capstone. Ms. Barton and Ms. McKnight both started their work at CMC in 1977. Ms. Davenport has worked at UA for 25 years, the last 21 as assistant to **Joe Malone**, Purchasing Coordinator in the Dean's office.

Dean's Message:

by

Roland P. Ficken, Ph.D.



Dean Ficken

When I arrived at the newly chartered College of Community Health Sciences 23 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 staff. It has been exciting and gratifying to see this kind of growth. Only a few of us remain from the very early days of the College. Many others have joined us to start their careers and then moved on. All made important contributions to the mission of the College.

It has been a great opportunity for me to work for this nearly quarter of a century with excellent faculty and staff, and we have always been blessed with outstanding residents and medical students. What can be better than having constant association with the brightest and the best.

The mission laid out for CCHS by the legislature was to provide training for medical students and family practice residents who could then help to improve the health care in the smaller communities and rural areas of our state. We have made an excellent start. By the end of June, 222 family practice residents will have completed their training at CCHS. Over half of this number are practicing in Alabama and of that group more than half are in communities of 25,000 or less. The number of medical students finishing the final two years of their training on our campus by June is 347. Over this 20 some years, more than 20 percent of these students have elected family medicine as their first career choice. That compares well to the 12 percent national figure. In the last seven years the College has established a one-year fellowship for family practice residents in obstetrics and gynecology. Eight fellows have now finished this training and are in practice in Alabama and the southeast. It is a model to be emulated.

Our faculty have received many grants over this period including a \$1,000,000 Macy grant and this University's first NIH-HLB research grant. In addition, the CCHS--faculty and residents--provides a significant amount of health care in West Alabama.

Our resident graduates' individual achievements are also noteworthy. Two have become president of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP); one, president of the Georgia Chapter of AAFP; she was also named outstanding family physician in Georgia. Five of our former residents have been president of the Alabama Chapter of AAFP. And, it is of particular note that a former resident is a member of the UA Board of Trustees. We are certainly proud to have had some small role in the development of this kind of leadership for health care.

Medical schools nationwide are struggling with the advent of managed care, with decreased state funding and potentially decreased research resources. More and more of the burden of funding medical education programs will fall on faculty practice plans. CCHS no doubt faces significant challenges in securing its future. Primary care income cannot alone support the needs of a first rate medical education program. Continuing support from DCH Regional Medical Center, the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and the Dept. of Mental Health and Retardation is essential to our programs. This College will be successful, however, because of the resolve of our faculty along with the obvious importance of our primary care emphasis.

Come July 1, 1996, there are certainly some things I will miss. In no particular order they are: monthly meetings with our Chief Residents-- always a joy; the faces of our students on match day; and the smiles of our students on the delivery of their first baby. Very recently, two junior faculty members came by to tell me about recently accepted publications. Their excitement was obvious, and I'll certainly miss seeing that first hand. And, of course, the many friends on the campuses both in Tuscaloosa and in Birmingham, I'll miss. Especially, my staff, department chairs, UA Deans -- they are each and every one great people and it has been my real pleasure to have had the opportunity to work with them.

Lister Hill Society's Priority Continues to Be Support for Primary Care

The new Board of Directors of the Lister Hill Society continues to work to revive support for primary care medical education as well as to recruit new members for the society. The Lister Hill Society is the support group for the 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; seed money for 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 Lister Hill Society also funds special projects as funds are available, including cash awards for medical students and residents who earn top honors during their work at CCHS and the *OnRounds* 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**, who is vice president of the Society's 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 training and to address the specific 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 preparation of family physicians to care for 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 higher 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 Lister Hill Society.

Lister Hill Society Board of Directors

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

Ms. Susan Cork
Mr. Billy LaGrone
Ms. Alice Maxwell
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Ms. Julie Sittason
Dr. Wil Coggins, V.P.

Dr. Bill Winternitz, President

For information contact: **Vicki Johnson**, Dean's Office, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.
Call (205) 348-0093.

Search Committee Reviews Twenty for Dean

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

"We have resumes 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 J. Fallon**, M.D., and is chaired by **Kathleen Nelson**, a pediatrician on the faculty at UASOM's Birmingham campus. Search Committee members from CCHS are: **Cathy Gresham**, M.D., Internal Medicine; **Harry Knopke**, Ph.D., Behavioral and Community Medicine; **Jerry McKnight**, M.D., Family Medicine; **Clifton Youngblood**, M.D., Obstetrics and Gynecology; and **Dr. Winternitz**. **Bryan Kindred** of DCH Healthcare Authority and **Garry Magourik**, M.D., a former CCHS student and resident now in private practice in Fayette, are also on the committee.

The Search Committee expects to make recommendations in the next few months. To protect the privacy of the applicants, names of those being considered have not been announced, but 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 V.A. Hospital, September 16-27. Each third year student at UASOM will spend one-half day in the exam. Beginning with the graduating class of 1997, all students will be required to pass the OSCE before graduation. Taking it at 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 of 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 life income from your gift
- 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 designating a charitable gift for the College of Community Health Sciences, contact **Dean Roland Ficken** or **Vicki Johnson**, CCHS, P. O. Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL (205) 348-1288. For additional information about planning your gift to conform to your financial needs, contact **Ken Massey**, Director of Planned Giving, UA Development Office, Box 870122, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. Phone: (205) 348-4767.

Note: The Residents' drive to fund a Chair of Family Medicine has accumulated contributions and pledges which total \$70,000.00. Individual contributions to the Chair of Family Medicine have averaged \$5,000 each, and contributions are still being accepted. Please send your donation (with class year of graduation for recognition on a permanent plaque) to CCHS Dean's Office, Attn. Vicki Johnson, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487.

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 seniors - Dr. Chelley Alexander, Dr. Angela Smelley, Dr. Lori Stanfield, 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 orthopaedics and radiology respectively.

"Students at CCHS consistently place well in national testing and in the national match 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."

NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCH PROGRAM - 1996

NAME	PROGRAM	SPECIALTY
Chelley K. Alexander	Tuscaloosa Family Medicine, Tuscaloosa, AL	Family Practice
Brian C. Bacot	Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL	Orthopedics
Todd D. Bell	Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC	Preliminary Surgery
Dearl V. BirdSong, Jr.	Providence Hospital, Southfield, MI	Surgery
Rachel Z. Chatters	LSU School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA	Pediatrics
Thomas E. Dobbs, III	University of Alabama Hospital, Birmingham, AL	Medicine-Primary Care
Benjamin L. Glover	Baptist Health System Inc, Birmingham, AL	Internal Medicine
Robert Douglas Hamiter	University of Alabama Hospital, Birmingham, AL	Radiology-Diagnostic
Cedric L. Harris	University of Alabama Hospital, Birmingham, AL	Medicine-Primary Care
Stephen J. Langston	Georgia Baptist Medical Center, Atlanta, GA	Surgery
C. Brantley Lehman	University of Tennessee, Memphis, TN	Internal Medicine
Monica Popov	Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA	Obstetrics-Gynecology
Angela K. Smelley	Tuscaloosa Family Medicine, Tuscaloosa, AL	Family Practice
J. Michael Stanfield	Tuscaloosa Family Medicine, Tuscaloosa, AL	Family Practice
Lori Stanfield	Tuscaloosa Family Medicine, Tuscaloosa, AL	Family Practice
Kimberly M. Stewart	LSU School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA	Pediatrics
Heather S. Turner	University of Alabama Hospital, Birmingham, AL	Obstetrics-Gynecology
Marc T. Warner	Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, TX	Surgery

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 and practicing physicians 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." Lectures will be held (12:15-1:15 p.m.) in the Willard Auditorium in the UA Educational Tower at DCH.

"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 wrong antibiotic or poor psychotherapy has the same result: the illness recurs and requires additional medical management." 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 initiated at CCHS 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 in June. It has been an enriching experience for our students, faculty, and guests," she said. "We will also present a special emphasis week on AIDS, sponsored by Abbott Laboratories, September 23-27. For more information or to request a schedule, contact **Vicki Johnson**, CME Coordinator, Dean's Office, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0326. Phone: 205/348-0093.

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 Hanley, M.D., Family Practice Resident
Martin Harvey, M.D., Family Practice Resident
ex officio members
James Philp, M.D., Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Martha Tillotson, CCHS Health Sciences Library

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