Dean Curry Outlines Four Major Initiatives for CCHS

In First Joint Meeting of All Faculty and Staff

William A. Curry, MD, F.A.C.P., who became Dean of the College of Community Health Sciences on July 1, 1998, addressed an unprecedented joint meeting of faculty and staff on September 11 in the William R. Willard Auditorium to share his vision for CCHS and his 3-year goals.

Dr. Curry's 3-Year Initiatives

- New Facility to House all of CCHS
- Sustaining/Developing Clinical Program
- Faculty and Staff Development
- Technology Advancement

Reiterating the CCHS mission -- to educate and train medical students and family practice residents; to provide services to patients that enable medical education to take place; and to engage in research to support educational goals and service to rural Alabama -- Dr. Curry expressed his deep sense of the "great tradition and serious responsibility" he shares with all those present in upholding a powerful heritage of medical education.

"As I have met and worked with you, I am impressed with your dedication to the work of the college, your loyalty, your skills, and your openness to new methods and technology," said Dean Curry. "Indeed, it is your commitment, skills, and energy as a faculty and staff that will enable us to take our next steps. I am excited to be here, I am honored to be your dean, and I am ready to join you in getting to work -- to create a future that meets the needs of our students and the citizens of Alabama."

A Vision for CCHS

In the year 2001, CCHS will be providing quality education, expanded research, leadership in rural community health, and an excellent multi-disciplinary clinical practice in a new facility, managed effectively using advanced technology. We will be respected throughout Alabama as a place to visit, to work, to study, and to support financially.

-Dr. William Curry, Dean

The complete text of Dean Curry's remarks as well as summaries of it are available from the Dean's office (Call Shirley Florence at 948-7707. E-mail: sflorence@cchs.ua.edu)

Dr. Blum to Fill Gerald Wallace Endowed Chair of Family Medicine

Professor Alan Blum, MD, one of the nation's foremost authorities on tobacco and its effects on society, renowned family medicine educator, practitioner and innovator, will join the CCHS faculty by early summer of 1999 as first chairholder of the newly created Gerald Leon Wallace Endowed Chair in Family Medicine. Dr. Blum has spent the past ten years as a clinician and teacher of family medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. In 1977, he founded DOC (Doctors Ought to Care), a national non-profit organization assisting in school health education and in community health promotion through the mass media. He also created an International Tobacco Archive, one of the world's largest resources on tobacco problems. Dr. Blum is developing a Center for the Study of Tobacco and Society for instruction, research, and service. He is committed to instructional components for professional education and public education, and to an international research program that is a Collaborating Center for the World Health Organization.

Dr. Blum has received numerous awards for his work including the first "Smoke Free American Award" presented by C. Everett Koop, the first "National Public Health Award" from the American Academy of Family Physicians; the Humanitarian Award of the American Lung Association; and the Surgeon General Medalion.

Celia Wallace, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Springhill Memorial Hospital in Mobile, provided the $1 million gift to create the Gerald Leon Wallace, MD, Endowed Chair in Family Medicine. She attributed his death from lung cancer to his being a cigar smoker and said she hopes that others can learn about the dangers of smoking through Dr. Blum's work as Gerald Leon Wallace Chair of Family Medicine.

Dr. Wallace, one of Alabama's most distinguished and innovative family physicians, founded Springhill Memorial Hospital in Mobile. The Gerald Leon Wallace, MD, Endowed Chair in Family Medicine is one of only a few endowed chairs in family medicine in the nation. It is the first endowed chair in CCHS and is a milestone toward expanding research in medical care focusing on family medicine.

23rd Residency Class Joins Ranks of CCHS Family Physician Alums

Members of the 1998 graduating class of the Family Practice Residency program were honored at an awards dinner hosted by DCH Healthcare Authority and DCH Regional Medical Center at the University Club on June 18. This is the twenty-third graduating class to complete the Tuscaloosa Family Practice Residency program at CCHS. Ten 1998 graduates join 234 previous graduates of the program in practice across the state, the South, and the nation.

Graduates were joined by their families, CCHS faculty, and DCH officials as departmental honors and special awards were presented. Marc Armstrong, MD, Director of the Residency program, presided. He was the first resident in the program in the early 70's. Lisa Sward, MD, received the Internal Medicine award and the Research Award as well as the Society of Family Medicine Resident Teaching award. Chief Resident Kent Kanatani, MD, won recognition in family medicine, receiving the William F. DeShazo III award. Chief Resident Chris Sward, MD, received the Pediatrics departmental award. Dr. Chris Sward (Continued on p. 3)

Kent Kanatani, MD, (center) receives the William F. DeShazo III Family Medicine award from Family Medicine Chair Jerry Krickright, MD, (left) and Dr. DeShazo, Professor and Chair of Family Medicine Emeritus, for whom the award is named.
Promotion

Three members of the CCHS faculty have been promoted and Elizabeth Philp, MD, has received tenure along with promotion.

Research Projects

CCHS has a great deal of research underway or pending. Kay Fendley, Coordinator of Sponsored Programs in the Dean's Office, shared this information from a recent report.

An ongoing contract David Hefelfinger, MD, Chair of Pediatrics, set up with the Alabama State Department of Public Health funds the high risk clinic at Capstone for High Risk Infant Development.

Michael Taylor, MD, is conducting child abuse research with his study, "Sexual Abuse in West Alabama: A Prospective Case Study."

Elizabeth Cockrum, MD, is working with Dr. Jeri Dunkin, Capstone College of Nursing, PI, of a two-year study of "Home Environment Control in Childhood Asthma." The study was proposed pending with the American Lung Association to further explore this topic.

Ashley Evans, MD, is collaborating with PI, Terry Wall, MD, MPH, in Alabama's Children's Outcomes Initiative: Sensory Screening in Primary Care Settings.

Jerry McKnight, MD, Chair of Family Medicine, has a proposal pending with the Health Resources and Services Administration on "Women's Health, Geriatrics, and Pharmacotherapy Curriculum in Family Medicine Residencies" for 7/199-6/30/02.

Debbie Byrd, Pharm.D, in the Dept. of Family Medicine, and Charles Taylor, Pharm.D, in CCHS Internal Medicine, have initiated a Primary Care Pharmacy Practice Residency Program at DCH Regional Medical Center, Department of Pharmacy.

Drs. Byrd and Taylor are working with Bobbie Adcock, MD, on a "Family Medicine-Pharmacology Curriculum" with the Alabama State Perinatal Advisory Committee, and Elizabeth Philp, MD, is working with the Alabama State Perinatal Advisory Committee to further explore this topic.

Dr. Byrd and Dr. Taylor have been awarded a grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics, which encouraged funder of the "GAP" Program, and they have applied for a research study grant from the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Foundation for a Rural Education and Drug Information (REDI) Project on "Health care optimization for patients at high-risk for medication-related adverse events."

Robert E. Pieroni, MD, and Forrest Scoggins, PhD, are preparing a grant proposal for National Institute of Mental Health funding on "Treatment of Depression in the Elderly in Rural Primary Care Settings." Dr. Pieroni and Bill Curry, MD, Chair of Internal Medicine and CCHS Dean, are working on a proposal to the Health Resources Service Administration (U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services) for a Geriatric Education Center.

Dr. James Leeper, Chair of Behavioral and Community Medicine, works with program evaluation for West Alabama Health Services, Inc., and provides assistance on Perinatal Provider Education and Network for the Alabama State Perinatal Advisory Committee. He also serves as biostatistician on an Environmental Health Sciences Grant and is a member of the Academic Award from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, a project which continues until 6/30/02.

Dr. Leeper is also working with Dr. Min Qi Wang of UA, who is PI of an Environmental Health Sciences grant and is a principal investigator of a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

John Wheat, MD, MPH, is PI of an Occupational Health grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to develop a rural occupational health curriculum for medical education. He also coordinated the planning for the "Area Health Education Center for the Rural Alabama Area Health Education Center, a newly incorporated 501c(3) organization," and is the AHEC director and creates training for health and medical personnel, work on recruitment and retention of health providers, and promote rural community development.

Dr. Wheat is PI of the Rural Health Scholars and Rural Medical Scholars Programs funded by the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board, and he has recently become coordinator of a similar project for science scholars as part of a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to the UA Dept. of Biological Sciences, which is a biological sciences undergraduate education program. Dr. Wheat manages the AHEC grants.

The University of Alabama Research Advisory Committee (RAC) provides grants for up to $5000 to full-time, permanent faculty for research projects. Funds may be requested for salary grant-in-aid (for all or part of summer), assistants, supplies, equipment, books, and travel. Some restrictions are involved.

January 29, 1999, is the deadline to apply. Applications are available in the RAC office, G-60 Rose. For more information or to request an application, call the RAC office at 348-5152.
Lisa Sward, MD, accepts the Family Medicine teaching award from Marc Armstrong, MD, Residency Director. Dr. Sward also won the Internal Medicine and Research awards.

The class of 1996 Family Practice Residents celebrated their graduation with dinner at the University Club on June 18. Seated: Tracie Miller, MD, Chris Sward, MD, and Lisa Sward, MD. Standing: Michael Guignier, MD, Jason Fields, MD, David Zellinski, MD, David Williams, MD, Ann Drum, MD, Paul Guillaud, MD, and Kent Kanatani, MD.

Class of 1998 Family Practice Residents Honored at Graduation (Continued from page 1)

and Dr. Kanatani also received University of Alabama captain's chairs to thank them for their leadership as chief residents.

Ann Drum, MD, received the Psychiatry award presented by Elizabeth Rand, MD, Chair of Psychiatry and Neurology. Harvey Fair, MD, Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, presented the OB/GYN award to Jason Fields, MD; and Paul Mozley, MD, presented Martin Harvey, MD, the OB Fellowship Award for his year of work in the field. A 1997 residency graduate, Harvey won OB/GYN and Internal Medicine awards and Resident Teaching award last year.

Rock Helms, MD, received the V.A. award to a second year resident for outstanding work from Dr. Robert Thornton of the V.A. Medical Center.

Jeff Laubenthal, MD, received the Willard Award Dean's Award, to recognize a first year resident who epitomizes the CCHS mission to train physicians in the art and practice of family medicine. This prestigious award is named for the late William R. Willard, MD, founding dean of the College, and the "Father of Family Medicine."

"We are the house Willard built," said Dr. William A. Curry, who was the graduation speaker. Dr. Curry urged the graduates to build relationships with patients, communities, and colleagues. He defined medicine as "a calling, not a business" and recommended compassion over "detached concern" in the ongoing transition to managed care. He shared personal experiences that had shaped his attitudes toward illness and the sick and advised grads to be aware of defining moments in their own lives which may affect their attitudes and sensitivity.

Ann Drum, MD, (right) accepts the Psychiatry award from Dr. Elizabeth Rand, Dept. Chair.

Above: Chris Sward, MD, (left) receives the Pediatrics award. Presenting the award is Ashley Evans, MD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics.

Above right photo: Dr. William Curry, Dean of the College and Professor and Chair of Internal Medicine, (center) recognizes Dr. Kanatani (left) and Dr. Sward for their service as Chief Residents.

Near right photo: Dr. Robert Thornton of the V.A. Medical Center (left) presents the V.A. award to Rock Helms, MD.

Far right: Jason Fields, MD, (left) accepts the OB/GYN award from Dr. Harvey Fair.
Dr. Blum Appointed to Gerald Wallace Chair of Family Medicine

"Mrs. Wallace has a deep and abiding interest in developing medical professionalism through the education of young physicians. Out of that has come her generous and consistent support of our College," said Dr. William Curry, Dean of CCHS. "Alan Blum will be a model of that to students and residents every day - by showing them what it looks like to be a family physician who cares about patients, about families, about communities. Medical education today will be even better tomorrow and in the years to come because of her commitment."

Lee Wallace (left) and K.C. (for Kristin Celia) Wallace greet Dr. Blum (center), who is the first holder of the Gerald Leon Wallace Chair of Family Medicine, established in memory of their father. They joined their mother Celia Wallace at a reception in October to honor Dr. Blum.

Mrs. Wallace hosted a reception at Springhill Hospital in Mobile in October to welcome Dr. Blum. Dean Curry and President Sorensen joined Mrs. Wallace, her son Lee and daughter K.C., and several hundred guests in the Gerald Wallace Auditorium to greet Doctor Blum. He told the gathering that he remembered his father's fight against tobacco in the years when "fighting tobacco meant fighting everything from politicians to the media to organized baseball." The Dodgers were sponsored by Lucky Strike, he explained.

Dr. Blum, the son of a physician, has previously shared lessons from his father with CCHS. He was the speaker for the 1997 family practice residents graduation, and his message to the class members was the importance of listening and communicating with patients, a lesson he said he learned in his father's waiting room -- also their living room -- during Dr. Blum's boyhood years. He gave many examples from his own experience as a family physician as well, sharing his sketches and stories in the years when "fighting tobacco meant fighting everything from politicians to the media to organized baseball." The Dodgers were sponsored by Lucky Strike, he explained.

Building on Our Tradition

Founded in 1972 by the governor and the Alabama legislature, The University of Alabama College of Community Health Sciences had a mandate to do something simple but difficult: "do something about the need for family doctors in rural Alabama.

CCHS set out to train family practice residents and educate medical students with an emphasis on primary care and rural needs. Leading the new enterprise was William Willard, MD, the founding Dean of the University of Kentucky School of Medicine whose authorship of the charter document for the new specialty of Family Medicine, brought him recognition as "the father of Family Medicine."

In 24 years of residency, we have graduated 244 family practitioners. Fifty percent of them are in towns smaller than 25,000 and 51 percent are practicing in Alabama. One of nine family practitioners licensed in Alabama were trained here. Over 400 medical students have been here for their junior and senior years of medical school, scoring well on boards, entering virtually every specialty in an array of programs. Many of them are primary care physicians, with a knowledgeable staff. The staff is here to serve you.

Currently, we are very busy fulfilling our mission. In teaching, we have a full complement of 25 junior medical students and 19 seniors. There are 39 family practice residents. We are 28 full-time and five part-time faculty. Our service component includes the only multi-disciplinary practice in West Alabama, with a clinic staff of 64. Academic staff numbers 44. In the region and state address our rural mission. Research has new interest and energy. At this time, at least 16 of the 28 full-time CCHS faculty are engaged in 25 active projects totaling $1.82 million in funding, 13 projects pending approval totaling $1.13 million, and 12 projects in preparation.

CCHS Today: Working Together

The way I believe I can work most effectively as your dean will mean that most matters will be identified, evaluated, and discussed by groups of people. Overseeing all CCHS matters is the administrative council: the dean, associate dean for academic affairs (Dr. Jim Phil), associate dean for clinical affairs (Dr. Marc Armstrong); director of advancement and community relations (Vicki Johnson), administrator of Capstone Medical Center and assistant to the dean for finance (John Maxwell), and my administrative assistant (Shirley Florence).

Working groups for technology, research, and advancement will meet monthly to assure that we are networked across traditional departmental, disciplinary, and committee lines. The current committee structure remains unchanged at this time. The Executive Committee (the clinical chair) will meet with me monthly.
Grand Rounds
Continuing Medical Education Lectures
12:15-1:15 p.m., Willard Auditorium

Grand Rounds speakers during the fall have included Robert Kreisberg, MD, on "Osteoporosis," sponsored by Lally (Stennis); D.J. van Leeuwen, MD, on "Viral Hepatitis," sponsored by Amgen (Parishor); David Bell, MD, on "Type II Diabetes," sponsored by Bristol-Meyers (Fritz); and Christopher Paramore, MD, on "Lumbar Spinal Stenosis," sponsored by Depuy-Motec (Llewellyn). The fall schedule concludes with:

November 20 "Treatment of Malignant Melanoma" Sponsored by Chiorave(Freeman)
Donald Miller, MD
Professor of Medicine
Hematology/Oncology, UAB

December 4 First Friday Conference
Sponsored by CCHS
Susan C. Fleming, D.M.A.
Associate Professor of Voice
UA School of Music

December 11 Tenth Annual Bahar Lecture
Sponsored by the Natica Bahar Memorial Fund

Research Committee Continues Lunch Series

The CCHS Research Committee continued its Research Lunch Series with a report November 10 by Sam Gaskins, MD, on practice demographics and OB services of residency grades. This is a forum for presentation of research conducted within CCHS or projects of interest from outside the College, said Dr. Rand, Research Committee Chair.

The research series is held on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:15 p.m. in the renovated Carrel Room at Capstone Medical Center. This change allows more access to the residents and students and also makes it possible to utilize the new technology available in the Carrel Room. Call 348-1255 for more details or to reserve lunch.

December 8: John Wheat, MD, The Rural Physician's Duty

January 12: James Leeper, PhD
"25 Year Trends in Infant Mortality in Alabama Counties"

The CCHS Research Committee is encouraging medical students and residents to become involved in research. At dinner in September, sponsored by the Research Committee and Bristol Myers-Squibb, staff presented information on the College's resources to support research, and Dr. Elizabeth Rand, Mike Taylor, MD, Sam Gaskins, MD, and Charles Taylor, PharmD, shared some of their research projects. Mentors with similar research interests will be matched to residents and students who request follow-up meetings will be held Nov. 24. For information, contact Dr. Rand at 348-1325 or erand@ccchs.ua.edu.

New Faculty Member Dr. Karl Hasik Brings Rural Practice Experience to Department of OB/GYN

Jarl J. Hasik, MD, Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, joined the OB/GYN faculty October 1. He came to CCHS from Quincy, Illinois, where he was in a multi-specialty clinic of about 60 physicians. He also worked with family practice residents who were training at the hospital where he was on staff.

Dr. Hasik earned a B.A. in psychology and his MD degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia. He won medical school departmental honors in human ecology and behavioral science, surgery, and obstetrics and gynecology. He also received a letter of commendation in psychiatry and was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the national honorary medical fraternity. He did residency training at East Carolina and completed his residency at St. Louis University.

Dr. Hasik enjoys teaching and hopes to share with students from the College what he learned during his residency. He and his wife Kathy, a former home ec teacher, have an 8-year-old son, 7-year-old daughter, and five-year-old twins. Not surprisingly, he spends much of his leisure time in family activities, including cub scouts, brownies, and tee ball, which he hopes to coach now that they are settled in Tuscaloosa. He also enjoys golf and is training to run in a marathon within the next year. Kathy, who has sung professionally, and their daughter are already practicing to sing in the special Christmas program at Holy Spirit Catholic Church.
"Pipeline" Working as First Rural Health Scholars Start Medical School

Katie Powell became interested in medicine when she took anatomy in high school. Salutatorian at Douglas High School in Bessemer, she received a full academic scholarship and matriculated in the honors curriculum at Belmont University in Nashville, earning her Biology degree in three years. She performed with the Vanderbilt University marching band color guard during college and worked as a nursing assistant at Vanderbilt Medical Center in neurology. She plans to be a small town family physician and said that the rural scholar programs gave her some insight into her planned career.

I was always interested in helping the underprivileged, and I had thought of becoming a medical missionary—perhaps in Africa or somewhere in the third world," said Katie. "The Rural Health Scholars Program showed me that I need not travel to another country, to even another state, to help underserved people. Medical need exists in rural Alabama.”

During her year as a Rural Medical Scholar, Katie attended class lectures, participated in community health projects and field trips, and assisted at the employee health clinic at Harrison GM plant in Tuscaloosa. She also spent one day a week with Dr. Smith.

John Brown was at his family practice in Gordo.

"The Rural Medical Scholars Program provided an unbiased, practical view of rural family practice and prepared me for a variety of issues related to healthcare in rural areas,” she said. Dr. Brandon's grandfather was born on the family farm in Pickens County, and Dr. Brandon has been known since boyhood in this rural community where he is in practice. "You can't hide in a small town," he says. "A family doctor holds a special place in the community, and it is a great responsibility. People want to talk to you at lunch or the drug store and will seek your opinion on many aspects of their lives. Katie cares about people, and her patients will know she is truly concerned about them."

Med Student Going Home to Frisco City

Many young people from small town Alabama go away to college and never return. Stephanie Brown ("Buffy" Chandler), a 1989 graduate of Frisco City High School in Monroe County could have been one of them. Instead, CCHS medical student Stephanie Brown won a National Merit Scholarship, graduated from UA, and is working toward returning to her hometown as a family physician. She recently completed a community medicine/rural rotation with Sage Smith, MD, in nearby Monroeville. He is an appropriate mentor since he, too, went away to become a physician and returned home to practice.

"There is a lot to tell students that they don't learn in major medical teaching centers,” says Dr. Smith, when asked why he serves as preceptor. "I live with these people," says Dr. Smith. "I see them at church and in the grocery store. They teach my children. We go to ball practice together. They want to know what I think about their problems. There is no anonymity for a small town doctor. They know my truck. They know my dog's name is Deke. They know my voice on the telephone. I am a care giver and service person at all times."

Billy McCrory—local pharmacist, former Frisco City mayor, and founder of its medical board—employed Stephanie in his drug store when she was a high school co-op student. Filling prescriptions for local residents at the only pharmacy in town, he knew how far people were traveling to get medical care, not just across the county to Monroeville, but to Mobile and Pensacola as well. He wanted to get medical care in Frisco City, he said, and he started working with local leaders and the hospital in Monroeville to start a clinic in Frisco City. He encouraged Stephanie to apply for the rural scholarship.

"I knew Buffy could do it," he said, using her teenage nickname. "I was always interested in helping the underprivileged, and I hoped to see Dr. Stephanie Brown in practice at home in years to come." Stephanie received an additional scholarship from her hometown and the state health department through the “Rural Family Practice Act” to help finance medical school. On the home front, her mother has moved in with her in Centreville while she is in medical school to help care for her two children, 7-year-old Alex and 2-year-old Jessica, during the week while Stephanie's husband, Larry Brown, Jr., lives and works in the Frisco City area. They are together at home in Frisco City on weekends.

"We have a real Sunday mentalty," she said, talking about the weekly leave-taking on Sunday afternoons. "But sometimes, it all comes together. It was great to be home for this rotation, not only to work with Dr. Smith...I got to watch Alex play in his T-ball all star games!” She plans to return to Monroeville for her family medicine rotation, and Dr. Smith thinks it's important for her to get obstetrical experience as she trains for family practice.
McBrearty Becomes Hospital's First Medical Director

Michael McBrearty, MD, a 1976 graduate and first Chief Resident of the CCHS Family Practice Residency, was recently named first medical director of Thomas Hospital in Fairhope. He, graduate and first Chief Resident of the

McBrearty becomes the growing hospital. The lead article of this business and lifestyle magazine for physicians was "Thomas Hospital: Physicians and Hospital Work Together for Better Care." Dr. McBrearty was quoted extensively in the article, and his comments about community involvement and support for growing medical and health care services were used to conclude the article.

"Medicine is about people," said Dr. McBrearty. "The new buildings and facilities are wonderful, but the patients need to know that all of this is for their good... If you put the patients' needs first, then everything else falls into place.

Tuscaloosa Medical College Graduates Recognized by UAB

The UAB Medical Alumni Association's 1998 Community Service Award recognizes the extensive contributions made by the 855 graduates of the two-year Medical College of Alabama which operated in Tuscaloosa, 1922-45.

"These outstanding physicians served their country in World War II, served their communities by bringing medical care to the towns and communities across the South, and have rendered tremendous service to the medical profession as teachers and mentors," says Synopsis, the newsletter of the UAB Health System.

The School of Medicine was moved to Birmingham in 1945. CCHS, the branch of the UA School of Medicine in Tuscaloosa, was founded in 1972. A plaque engraved with the honorees' names will hang in the Medical Alumni Building.

Dr. Schilling's Mission Trip Becomes African Adventure

Blane Schilling, MD, a 1993 residency grad, returned to his Pickens County family (and OB) practice from Zimbabwe on September 2 after a 3-week mission trip. He took care of the sick and delivered babies at the Baptist hospital in Sanyati. He said the medical care was similar to what he provides at home, but his experiences with local wildlife while running near Victoria Falls were not. He encountered a water buffalo, the meanest African game animal, who looked ready to charge. Dr. Schilling decided to reroute behind bushes until he could get out of sight. Then he met two huge wart-hogs who were four feet high at the shoulder and decided to finish his run early. Once he was home, he organized a fund-raiser run to help restore the "face in the window" of the Pickens County Courthouse. Participants didn't have to worry about meeting water buffalo or war-thogs. And there was a nice trophy... he designed it himself!

Medical Graduates Return to Tuscaloosa Area

Stephenie Dillard, MD, a native of Coker, and a CCHS medical student who graduated at the top of the 1993 UASOM class, has returned to Tuscaloosa to live. Dr. Dillard won the Internal Medicine Award and Scholastic Achievement award at CCHS. She completed residency at UAB and a fellowship in pathology in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and is working with CytoPath in Birmingham. Her husband, James Geyer, MD, a neurologist at Neurology Consultants of Tuscaloosa, has recently accepted a CCHS faculty appointment. They have a 2-year-old daughter, Sydney, and expect a baby in May.

Dr. Winternitz is happy to report that former CCHS medical student Curtis Tucker, MD, is a radiation/ oncology specialist at the DCH Cancer Center.
Pharmacotherapy and Academic Medicine.

Timothy Winkler, MD, and Joseph David Hefelfinger, MD, is lead author of an PharmD, made a poster presentation, medical education in the Physician.


Bobbi Adcock, MD, and Debbie Byrd, PharmD, made a poster presentation, "An evaluation of primary care residents' knowledge of pharmacotherapy," at the 1998 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Annual Meeting in July 1998. Dr. Adcock and Dr. Byrd are preparing an article on the same topic for submission to Pharmacotherapy and Academic Medicine.

Dr. Adcock has submitted "Facial Nummula: A Manifestation of Sarcoidosis" to the Journal of the American Board of Family Practice, and she is working with lead author Sam Gaskins, MD, on "Twenty-two year reassessment of obste
tetist practice and family practice graduates."

"Health care perceptions: do they change for the standardized patient?" by Dr. Nancy Rubin, Elizabeth Philp, MD, and Julia Hartman will be in Medical Education and Assessment, Maastricht, The Netherlands.

Elizabeth Philip's article, "Persistent Cough," has been accepted by American Family Physician.

Dr. Philip, with Dr. Nancy Rubin and James Philp, MD, wrote "Problem based learning in a family medicine residency program," an article for Family Medicine.

She was also lead author of "Asthma: Education in a residency program using the ONSE format" with former faculty member Colleen Beall for Family Medicine.

Cathy Gresham, MD, has written "Physician's attitudes toward children with AIDS: Issues of group care" with co-authors Chris Nagy and Peggy Jesse of the UA College of Human Environmental Sciences.


He was co-author with former CCHS faculty member Tracy Johns, PharmD, of "A problem-based approach to noninfectant resident education," in the same book.

Dr. Philip's articles, "Self-directed library research by family practice residents in problem based learning" and "Five-year student positive and negative student evaluations of clinical problem based learning," have been accepted for publication.

Nancy Rubin, PsyD, has an article in press for Medical Education on "Health care perceptions of the standardized patient," with Elizabeth Philip as co-author.


She has submitted "Propafenon in a patient on sertaline" to Journal of Clinical Psychiatry, and she is preparing "Use of the PRIME-MD in a university health service.

Charles Taylor, PharmD, is co-author of "Modification of weight-based heparin nomogram" in Annals of Pharmacotherapy 1998. He is co-author of "Determination of method-specific therapeutic APTT ranges for heparin monitoring," "Omeprazole and cyanoac-
balmin deficiency," and "Vancocyn-induced neutropenia associated with Fever."

Robert Pieroni, MD, is co-author with CCHS medical students for acceptance of several abstracts in Journal of Alabama Academy of Science, Vol. 69, 1998: "Diagnosis and treatment of myelodysplasia" (with Jennifer Burdette), "Antiphospholipid syndrome: Clinical spectrum" (with Mukul Mehra and Grant Eudy), "The utility of C-reactive protein (CRP) in infectious and other disease states" (with Chris Jahraus), and "Hyperlipidemic Pancreatitis" (with Miranda Edwards, MD). He collaborated on "Use of Romosozumab in Combined Benzodiazepine and Alcohol Toxicity" with Greg Bradford, PharmD, of DCH, Internal Medicine faculty member Charles Taylor, PharmD, and medical student Les Lenning. He also collaborated on "The relationship between bone density and premature vascular disease" with faculty from the UA Dept. of Human Performance. These topics were presented at the society's annual meeting. He has made several presentations on chronic fatigue syndrome, and published "Physical activity assessment in the elderly: A review." In August, Dr. Pieroni was selected Vice Chairman for Health Sciences of the Alabama Academy of Science. Pieroni, listed in Who's Who in America and Who's Who in Medicine and Health, received an honor closer to home when he was named "Physician of the Year" by the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame on Sept. 27.

Lisa Russell, Chief Medical Librarian, Health Sciences Library, and Martha Cook, Technical Services/System Librarian, co-sponsored the "Clinical Digital Collections to Provide Web-Based Information Services" at the Medical Library Association meeting held in Lexington, KY, in April 1999. Russell is co-chaired the Clinical Digital Library project developed by Steven MacCall of UA, which can be used on computers in remote preceptor clinics in rural sites.

For more information or individual instruction in using clinical digital collections, contact Lisa Russell at (334) 348-1362 or lrussell@cchs.ua.edu.

The University of Alabama
College of Community Health Sciences
P.O. Box 870326
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0326

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 16 Tuscaloosa, AL