

# On Rounds

The University of Alabama  
College of Community Health Sciences

Volume 10, Number 2

Spring 2000

## Dr. Roscoe Shamblin Computer Lab Makes Newest Technology Available to CCHS Medical Students

A new computer lab for medical students was dedicated April 26, 2000. The lab was given in memory of long-time Tuscaloosa physician Dr. **Roscoe Shamblin**. Funds for the new state-of-the-art center were provided by his son, Dr. **Bill Shamblin**, who organized the CCHS Department of Surgery and recruited volunteer faculty when the medical branch campus was established in Tuscaloosa.

Dr. Shamblin's gift to the University of Alabama School of Medicine-Tuscaloosa is part of his long association with the college and demonstrates his appreciation for what the medical school here has meant to the medical community, he said. Dr. Shamblin served for twelve years as Chair of the Department of Surgery and taught students and residents throughout his 27 years of private practice in Tuscaloosa.

The Roscoe Shamblin Computer Lab is housed on the fifth floor of the Educational Tower at DCH Regional Medical Center next to the Medical Student Lounge. The state-of-the-art facility for medical students contains seven work stations. The room has been remodeled to accommodate the equipment, including a new air conditioning and heating system and an entry door with ACT card access for security.

"The computer is now an established tool in educating medical students. It is increasingly important to the way we take care of patients," said CCHS Dean **William Curry**, MD. "For many situations, it is the only way to obtain the most recent information on the best diagnostic or treatment choices. It is one way that a physician anywhere, even in the most distant rural setting, can have the same information as any other physician. This gift of a state-of-the-art computer lab for our fifty to sixty medical students here in Tuscaloosa is a guarantee that we can have them ready for this part of twenty-first century medical practice. It is really a gift to the physicians and patients of the future."

**Cathy Gresham**, MD, Director of the CCHS Office of Medical Student Affairs, expressed appreciation for Dr. Bill Shamblin's commitment to teaching-- both in his surgical practice and through his generosity in providing this facility. "This lab has been greatly needed to support the medical education process for our students and will facilitate the use of new developments in medical education in the areas of case studies, distance learning, and accessibility to a wide variety of medical resources," she said.



Bill Shamblin, MD, (right) provided a new computer lab for medical students in memory of his father, the late Dr. Roscoe Shamblin (shown in framed portrait). Dean William Curry, MD, (left) said the technology will allow CCHS to better prepare medical students for twenty-first century medical practice. "It is really a gift to the physicians and patients of the future."

Note: In the 1930s, DCH had 10 physicians on staff and four were Shamblin family members. There have been 10 Shamblins to practice medicine in Tuscaloosa. Dr. Roscoe Shamblin, for whom the CCHS computer lab is being dedicated, was in general practice/surgery. He died in 1962 at age 57.

*The University of Alabama's College of Community Health Sciences (CCHS) was established as a clinical branch campus of the University of Alabama School of Medicine (UASOM) in Tuscaloosa in 1974. After completion of the first two years of basic sciences in Birmingham, students may complete the last two years of clinical sciences in Birmingham, Huntsville or Tuscaloosa.*

*After this class of 2000 graduates (May 19), 434 medical students will have completed their medical school education while based in Tuscaloosa. Our students have earned entry into prestigious and well-known residency programs across the country including the Tuscaloosa Family Practice Residency and programs at UAB Medical Center, Johns Hopkins, Emory, Mayo, Vanderbilt, Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Baylor, the University of North Carolina, the University of Texas/San Antonio, and others.*

*While our mission emphasizes primary care and rural health issues, students from this campus have entered a wide variety of disciplines. In the past two years, for example, students have gained residency positions in the disciplines of Anesthesiology, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Internal (Adult) Medicine, Medicine/Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Otolaryngology (ENT), Pathology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Surgery.*

### New Name for BCM

## Community and Rural Medicine Better Signals Work of Former BCM

The University of Alabama Board of Trustees has approved a formal name change for the CCHS Department of Behavioral and Community Medicine. Dr. **James Leeper**, Chairman of the department since 1987, says

the new name, "Department of Community and Rural Medicine," better communicates the medical education and research missions, especially to external audiences including granting agencies and foundations.

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CCHS alums, John Brandon and Garry Magouirk, at First Annual Alabama Rural Health Conference. See pages 3-6 for special report and photos.

**SPECIAL 4-page SECTION on 1st Rural Health Conference**



## REFLECTIONS

by William Curry, MD, Dean

### Taking on the Ten Ton Gorilla

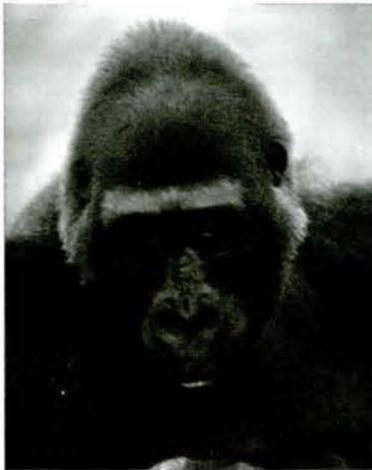
Dr. Curry

*At the First Annual Alabama Rural Health Conference held in April, Wil Baker of the Robert Wood Johnson Southern Rural Access Project warned us about the ten-ton gorilla we would unleash if we undertake fundamental change in the rural health of this state. He told us the options are to continue to "nibble around the edges" or to take on the gorilla.*

I have thought about the image of that ten ton gorilla ever since. Certainly, the gorilla is "out there": metropolitan interests and "special interests" that will get aroused and irritated by any rural gadflies buzzing about their heads. But I think the gorilla is not only "out there," but also "in here"...here, even in our recent meeting devoted to rural health, and in our treasured rural communities. He is here in the conflicts of interests of physicians and nurses, of hospitals and public health departments, of local system versus local system, community versus community. He is fighting what our wise new friend **John Hatch** of the University of North Carolina calls "cohesive communities."

In preparing for this conference, I read an eight-year-old review article in the *Policy Studies Journal* entitled "Why is there no coherent U.S. Rural Policy?" Now that's a very pointed title and a very pointed question. With all deference to our guest Dr. **Wayne Myers**, the Director of the Federal Office of Rural Policy, it's a question that deserves an answer. Why is there no coherent rural policy for this nation? What about this state? I think it takes us back to the gorilla. It's "out there," its "in here," and it's in us. The gorilla is within us...in our own fears and self-imposed limitations, our zones of safety and comfort.

At the opening of the conference, Dr. **Doris Holeman** of Tuskegee University gave us some statistics which indicate startling and sometimes discouraging health outcomes in rural Alabama. We were urged to read "between the lines" of these numbers, looking at educational, economic, and health system issues that underlie those statistics. Think of them as the "baby gorillas" that the ten-ton gorilla sends out to do gorilla work—"gorilla extenders," if you will.



What I heard about all those baby gorillas at the recent conference is that when it comes to education, it's not just facilities, not just teacher salaries. Those are "out there," important maybe, but not the whole story. It is the questions: "Are we educating our children for the demanding jobs of the twenty-first century? Are we continuing our own education and the education of our communities for healthy lives and healthy communities?" In other words, "Are we contributing to a community voice on education?"

In rural economics, I hear from you that it's not just tax reform, health insurance, or even rural transportation. Those are out there. It's also in here. It's looking into ways to encourage healthy entrepreneurship, adding value to our pine trees and chickens to make better jobs, promoting partnerships in our communities and with others to discover the new rural economy.

That new rural economy is likely to be entrepreneurial, digital, and community-driven. But the gorilla is also in us. We need to be asking ourselves daily: "What am I doing in my job that can connect to other people in my community to expand opportunity for our children and families?" If you are in a university, an agency, or a company that works in rural issues, where can you connect—the way, for example, Blue-Cross/Blue Shield has in their Child Caring Initiative—to energized rural people like **Alesa Judd** of Bibb County? Again, all of this to me says, "How do we contribute to an effective community voice?" In health system issues, clearly I hear that it is not just a matter of access to health providers,

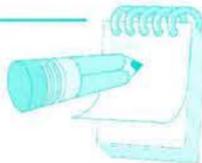
or E-911 systems, important as they are. It is not just a matter of fighting the effects on hospitals of the Balanced Budget Act, or the decimating effects of home health care cuts, threatening as they are and essential as fighting them may be. Those are out there. It's also in here. We must change the way we teach and train physicians, nurses, other health providers. We must do that if we are serious about what Dr. Hatch said about the critical difference between disease and illness, and what you have said repeatedly during this conference about communication.



Breakout group discussion on health in rural Alabama (bottom of page 3)

## Faculty Notes

Send faculty news items to Linda Jackson, Editor  
ljackson@cchs.ua.edu 348-1302 Fax 348-9417 (Dean's office)

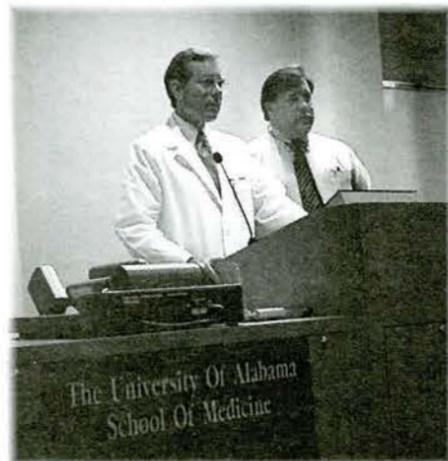


Elizabeth Rand, MD

revisions, research on insurance parity for mental health benefits, psychiatric education, and research training.

Dr. **Elizabeth Rand**, Chair of Psychiatry and Neurology, has been appointed to the American Psychiatric Institute for Research and Education (ASPIRE) Scientific Advisory Panel. She is one of 77 psychiatrists nationwide who will serve on the the Scientific Advisory Panel in a consultation capacity to ASPIRE, a new research and education institute. The Advisory Panel will rank the relative value of potential research objectives and will advise the organization on treatment guidelines, psychotherapy criteria for DSM

**Richard Jones III**, MD, PhD, joined the Internal Medicine faculty on May 1, and he will be active in the CCHS Office of Clinical Research.



As a CCHS medical student, he received the William R. Willard Award, the Family Medicine award, and a research award at the Honors Convocation in 1994. Dr. Jones completed his residency at Baptist Medical Centers in Birmingham, where he was Chief Resident in internal medicine.

Dean Curry (left) introduces Dr. Jones, who presented a special CME lecture May 3 on rheumatology, one of his primary research interests.

**John Wheat**, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Community and Rural Medicine and Internal Medicine, was honored by the Alabama Public Health Association at the APHA Annual Meeting April 26. He received the Ira L. Myers Award for Excellence. The Myers Award was established by the Alabama Public Health Association in 1986 in honor of Dr. Myers for his dedicated service during twenty-three years as State Health Officer in Alabama.



Michael Jones (l), Alabama Public Health Association, presents the Ira L. Myers Award for Excellence to John Wheat. The annual award recognizes a person or group for making a significant impact on public health in Alabama.

**Will Denton**, Area II Administrator, Alabama Department of Public Health, nominated Wheat, citing his tireless efforts to recruit and train rural students for medical practice in rural areas and for formation of partnerships which have had a positive impact on health care in rural Alabama. Letters of nomination and support called Wheat a "coalition builder" and commented that "he has worked with numerous individuals and organizations to bring about improvements in the health care of the citizens of Alabama."

His emphasis on community and his successful efforts to bring together multiple groups to work toward common goals and concrete results were repeatedly mentioned by his nominators. "Dr. Wheat is making a great difference in the lives of many people through his efforts," said one.

Dr. **Sam Gaskins**, Family Practice Residency Director, and residents **Shane Phillips**, MD, and **Minerva Pineiro**, MD, attended the LSU Residency Fair in May to provide information on the program and recruit medical students interested in family practice. Twelve CCHS residents graduate June 20, and 13 first year residents start July 1.

# Rural Health Conference Succeeds in Bringing Many Voices to Deliberation of Rural Health Issues in Alabama

## A Special Section on the First Annual Conference

The First Annual Alabama Rural Health Conference on April 27-28 at The University of Alabama's Bryant Conference Center brought together nearly 300 people from rural communities, health agencies, and education to discuss rural health issues in this state. But the conference was more than just information-sharing. Representatives of the various sectors which can impact health care discussed problems from their perspectives and began deliberation about how community leaders, doctors and other health professionals, public and private organizations, and education



Dr. Bob McKenzie  
Kettering Foundation  
A healthy rural Alabama requires the capacity of rural residents and the professionals who seek to assist them to work together positively."

officials can work together to improve healthcare services in rural areas.

"Rural health is more than rural medicine," says Dr. **Bob McKenzie** of the Kettering Foundation, who helped plan the small group sessions facilitated by Extension Service County Agents. "How community residents see problems and how they relate to one another in engaging problems if they do not agree are critical factors.

"How refreshing! A wide variety of citizens, gathered together with one goal—the improvement of health in rural Alabama. Egos were left outside the door. We came to find answers and we did!"  
-Donna A. Miles, LBSW  
Hospice of the Shoals Inc., Florence, AL

The conference was the first of a series to join persons of rural Alabama, The UA, health care providers, state and private agencies, education, and others concerned about health care in rural Alabama in partnerships to improve rural health and services. The conference planners hope that this ongoing dialog becomes the basis for creating partnerships to identify and solve issues of common concern by building on the strengths of all partners. Though the conference was initiated and hosted by The University of Alabama--College of Community Health Sciences; College of Human Environmental Sciences; Capstone College of Nursing; School of Social Work; and College of Continuing Studies--joint sponsors included the major "stakeholders" for health care in the state.



Co-sponsors for the conference were: Alabama Child Caring Foundation (which is set up by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama to provide health insurance for uninsured children); Alabama Cooperative Extension System at Auburn University; the state Department of Public Health; Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board; Alabama Farm Federation; Alabama Health Network; Alabama Hospital Association; Alabama Office of Rural Health; Alabama Power Foundation; Alabama Primary Health Care Association; Alabama Rural Health Association; state Dept. of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; Alabama State Nurses Association; Assisted Living Facilities of Alabama; Medical Association of the State of Alabama; National Association of Social Workers (Alabama Chapter); Rural Alabama Health Alliance; and the UA School of Medicine-Continuing Medical Education Division. (Continued next page...)



Jim Coleman, Family Health Care, Eutaw, (l) and Dr. Charles Hendrix (right), from Auburn University, in a small group session.

The conference brings together --for the first time-- representatives from rural communities, medicine, social work, nursing, education, hospitals, nursing homes, government, and private sector to discuss how to work together effectively in addressing rural health concerns.  
-John Wheat, MD, Program Chair

## Taking on the Ten Ton Gorilla (continued from page 2)

In our hectic high-tech system, the communication between health care providers and patients and between providers and communities is so poor that it amounts to an invisible barrier to access. Those are gaps that we with educational responsibility must attack, gorillas we must face. But again, the gorilla is also within us. *Each of us must insist, persistently, for community voice in the planning and operation of health systems.*

Finally, you have raised the issue of leadership. You are saying that it is not just a matter of insisting on competent, honest leadership in Montgomery or Washington, or as you said in discussion groups, even on better coordination among state,



This conference was a great success in many ways. We had more people, more diversity, more energy, more ideas than anybody expected, especially from a first-time conference. In a small way, the conference and what will follow from it may contribute to helping us face the issues -- the gorillas that are out there, in here, and within us -- by helping us to continue the quest to find the voices of our own communities and those of all of rural Alabama.

Here is how we anticipate our work, your work, will continue. We will publish the proceedings of this conference, with the kind

Why is there no coherent rural policy for this nation? What about this state? I think it takes us back to the gorilla. It's "out there," its "in here," and it's in us. The gorilla is within us...in our own fears and self-imposed limitations, our zones of safety and comfort.

local and federal stakeholders. Those are out there. The gorilla "in here" would keep us from encouraging and supporting community leaders and community groups that have the promise of bridging geographic lines, economic lines, social lines, racial lines that divide our communities and divide us one from another. Dr. Hatch spoke eloquently of the effectiveness and promise of church-based partnerships with the healthcare system. Many of you are eager to pursue that model here in Alabama, and so am I.

Ultimately, such partnerships may be a metaphor for so much of what we have been discussing. They could bring us together around community needs and talents that are so easily overlooked. They will bring us face to face with our own gorillas. We can continue to nibble around the edges or we can face the gorilla. It's up to us.

support of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Alabama. Those proceedings, though, are an interim report. What will follow will be a series of meetings around the state, seeking especially those who are not here, to contribute to the process for next year's conference to further refine the questions and perspectives of Alabama rural health.

The Cooperative Extension Service, Kettering Foundation, and The University are all agreed. We pledge to you our support and commitment to carry that process forward. I invite you to stay involved, and I hope to see you next April 26-27, right here, for the second annual UA rural health conference.

-from Dr. Curry's remarks to the closing session  
First Annual Rural Health Conference, April 28, 2000

# Rural Health Conference

(from page 3)

The conference brought in nationally known speakers in the field of rural health. **John W. Hatch**, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Chapel Hill School of Public Health, was keynote speaker at a luncheon session. Dr. Hatch focused on "community" and recommended working through churches to influence health behaviors. He emphasized the importance of trusted sources for effective health education. He described his experiences in rural Mississippi--how infant mortality was reduced by targeting older women instead of young women about

...the topics seemed as if someone visited my hometown, decided to call a conference on the problems that were taking place."  
*Frederick Cope, UA student*

the importance of prenatal care. The younger women *listened* to the senior women in their families and communities, he explained, where they ignored health professionals.

**Wayne Myers**, MD, Director of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, was keynote speaker for the concluding session, providing a summary of the common themes throughout conference sessions.

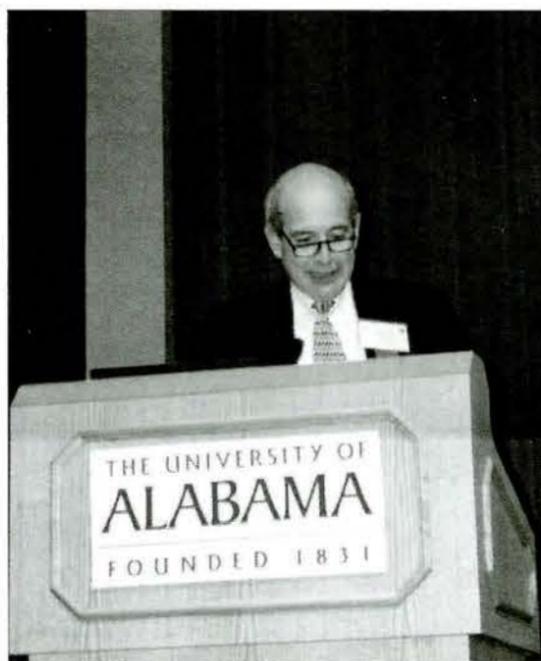
The opening session, "Current Status of Rural Health in Alabama: Reading Between the Lines," presented statistical data and information on health status from surveys, town meetings, and interviews. **Doris Holeman**, PhD, Associate Dean and Director, Nursing and Allied Health, Tuskegee University, moderated. Panel members were **Martha Johnson**, PhD, Assistant Director, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Auburn University; **Will Baker**, EdD, State Director, Robert Wood Johnson Southern Rural Access Project; and **Sherea Bowden**, a Graduate Research Assistant at UA's College of Community Health Sciences and a 1993 Rural Health Scholar.

A panel presentation by community leaders of initiatives to improve local health concerns was moderated by **Tracy Palmer**, Project Director of "Covering Alabama Kids," a child health insurance effort funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

**Erin Smith**, a pharmacist from Pickens County, described the formation of RAHA (Rural Alabama Health Alliance), a grassroots organization formed to provide a rural voice in discussions of medical education and health policy, and emphasized working through local community leaders. Dr. **Alesa Judd**, Chair of Bibb County Child Caring Initiative, described the process used to launch the first local child health insurance project in Alabama to assure that every child in the county had insurance coverage and access to health care.



The opening session, "Current Status of Rural Health in Alabama: Reading Between the Lines," was led by **Doris Holeman**, PhD, (left) Associate Dean and Director, Nursing and Allied Health, Tuskegee University. Panel members were (l-r) **Will Baker**, EdD, State Director, Robert Wood Johnson Southern Rural Access Project; **Sherea Bowden**, a 1993 Rural Health Scholar who is now a Graduate Research Assistant at UA's College of Community Health Sciences; and **Martha Johnson**, PhD, (right) Assistant Director, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Auburn University. The panel provided statistics and results from surveys, local interviews, and community meetings to provide a foundation for discussion in breakout groups.



Dr. Wayne Myers summarized recurring themes during the closing session.

She cited the crucial partnership with UA's Capstone College of Nursing students supervised by CCN professor Dr. **Marsha Adams**. **Debbie Yerby**, Chairman of Fayette County KID's Net project, said having Dr. Judd advise them about pitfalls as they kicked off their own local child health insurance project gave them a headstart. She shared humorous stories and also told how rewarded she felt when a mother of six, who didn't know she was the project chairman, told her how

much getting insurance for her children through KID's Net meant to her. **Marty Rittman**, Site Director for Coosa County's "Covering Kids" project, advised asking the right person to do the right job, choosing something that is a priority for him or her. Good volunteers are retired teachers, volunteer firefighters, and church leaders, she said.

I have been a nurse for 30 years, and I have been to many conferences and seminars. This is the first time I have been able to feel like I could be a part of and actually voice my concerns and talk with and meet many others with the same concerns."  
*Brenda J. Dubose, RN,  
 Lamar County Home Health, Sulligent, AL*

CCHS retired Dean, **Wilmer Coggins**, MD, and **Sandra Hullett**, MD, of Eutaw confer during a panel presentation.

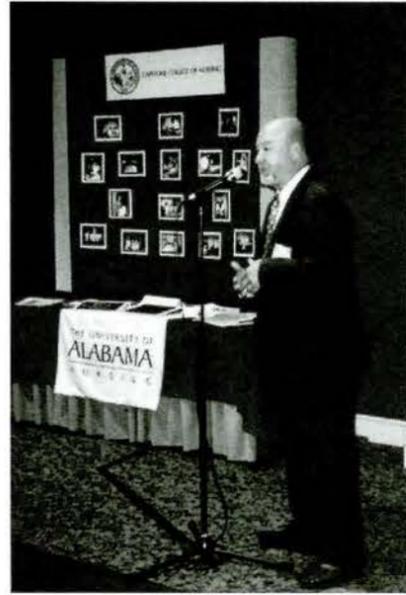


CCHS Dean **William Curry** concluded the conference by announcing UA's commitment to continue the work begun here (See his comments in Dean's Reflections, p.2). Post-conference follow-up deliberations in rural communities will be conducted jointly by communities, County Extension agents, UA, and Kettering Foundation to build the agenda for the next conference on April 26-27, 2001.



Dr. John Hatch (above) keynoted the luncheon session, speaking to almost 300 conference participants from all over Alabama.





Information was recorded to help guide continuing deliberations in communities. Far left: Rural scholars Sherea Bowden and RaSheda McAlpine enjoy a laugh with Dr. John Brandon (center), Brewton pediatrician Marsha Raulerson, and Cary Kuhlman, MASA Executive Director. Left: Al Fox, Exec. Director, Alabama Primary Health Care Assoc.



Dean William Curry (center) consults with Dr. Wayne Myers and Dr. John Wheat (right) as conference progresses.



Dr. Nancy Barrett, UA Provost, waits to address the conference as Dr. John Wheat, program committee chair, takes notes. Information from the conference on rural health issues and alternatives for addressing these concerns will be included in an issue book this fall.



Rural Medical Scholars (L-R) Frannie Sides, Lee Armistead, Carletta Collins, Kara Carpenter, and Bethany Campbell in plenary session at conference.



Community leaders shared their experiences forming local health initiatives. L-R: Tracy Palmer, UA, moderator; Erin Smith, Rural Alabama Health Alliance, Pickens County; Alesa Judd, Bibb County Child Caring Initiative; Debbie Yerby, Fayette County KID's Net; Marty Rittman, Caring for Coosa's Children.

Right: Juanita Williams gets contact information from Dr. John Hatch. Making connections and meeting new resource people was a major objective of the conference.



Bob McKenzie and Dr. Warren McCord, Auburn University Cooperative Extension System, take a break. Dr. McCord said the conference demonstrated AU-UA cooperation.



Alesa Judd, seated, cited Bibb County's partnerships with Tracy Palmer (l), who directed the evaluation component conducted by CCHS at The University of Alabama, and Dr. Marsha Adams (r), Capstone College of Nursing professor, who trained student nurses to assist with health screenings.



Representing Pickens County Medical Center were Rita McCafferty, Social Work; Sharon Hamlin, RN, Home Health Director; and Jo York, RD, Dietetics.



Information was displayed throughout the conference, with commercial exhibits and research posters on rural health by students and faculty in medicine, social work, nursing, and nutrition.



Debbie Yerby (r), a panel member, and others from Fayette County, were among those representing rural communities at the conference.



Presented at the  
First Annual  
Rural Health Conference

Bryant Conference Center  
April 27-28, 2000

***"A Day in the Life of Rural Alabama"***

The first annual Rural Health Conference, at The University of Alabama, April 27-28, 2000, provided an interdisciplinary setting for health professionals, community leaders, and educators to share expertise and begin formulating a common vision for advancing rural health initiatives in Alabama.

The conference theme was "A Day in the Life of Rural Alabama: Making It Better." Post-conference discussions in rural communities will build the agenda for the 2nd annual rural health conference in 2001.

A video created for the conference from photographs made by the 1999 UA Rural Health Scholars (eleventh graders from across the state) provides a visual collage of a day in the life of rural Alabama from their perspective.

If you would like to show this video at meetings or events, contact:

Linda Jackson, Communications Specialist  
UA Rural Health Projects, College of  
Community Health Sciences, Box 870326  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0326. (205) 348-1302  
[ljackson@cchs.ua.edu](mailto:ljackson@cchs.ua.edu)

FMI on becoming a Rural Health Scholar, contact:  
RHSP (205) 348-5892, [iwallace@cchs.ua.edu](mailto:iwallace@cchs.ua.edu)  
(Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0326) or  
Cynthia Moore, Director, [cemoore@sa.ua.edu](mailto:cemoore@sa.ua.edu).

**About the Photographers**

Alabama is a largely rural state. Most of our counties are "health professional shortage areas." To address this shortage of doctors and other health providers in rural areas, the Rural Health Scholars Program for high school students from rural Alabama was established at The University of Alabama in 1993. It introduces eleventh graders to college life and classes and gives them an orientation to the rewards and realities of practicing medicine and pursuing health care careers in rural settings. One hundred ninety-seven rural Alabama high school students have attended the program (1993-99), and the photographs for this video production were made by the 1999 class to show a day in the life of rural Alabama as they see it.



**SECOND ANNUAL  
RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE  
APRIL 26-27, 2001**

A major objective of the Rural Health Conference was to begin framing rural health concerns into an instrument for community and organizational decision-making. Communities and organizations have to make hard choices about directions they will take to address their concerns.

We cannot have all that we wish. We must choose. And to choose wisely, we must carefully consider the strengths and weaknesses of each course of action we could pursue. In the small group work sessions conducted by Auburn University extension agents, participants discussed their concerns and what they held valuable in holding those concerns.

Those comments were recorded, and that information will be formed into an "issue book" with potential strategies for communities and organizations to use in thinking through hard choices and taking more effective action. The Cooperative Extension System has agreed to make this issue book a part of their work with local communities. The issue book should be available by early fall.

-Dr. Bob McKenzie  
Kettering Foundation

**Conference Gets High Praise from Attendees**

(Excerpts from Conference Evaluations)

"Excellent conference. It was a wonderful chance to exchange information, ideas and resources. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to learn how to improve health and health care in their community!"

*Lynn B. Moser, RN  
Mountain View Hospital  
Jacksonville, AL*

"A conference such as this gives me hope that the state of Alabama is ready and willing to move into the 21st Century as a leader in tackling the multi-faceted problems of providing for our rural population."

*Roseanne Cook, MD, PhD,  
Staff Physician  
Rural Health Medical Program, Inc.  
Pine Apple, AL*

"This conference demonstrated the willingness of Auburn University and The University of Alabama to collaborate to further public involvement in Rural Health."

*R. Warren McCord  
Extension State Program Leader  
Alabama Cooperative Extension System  
Auburn University*

"I feel this is a real 'start' for the 'betterment' of Alabama healthcare. I am very eager to assist in any way I can. Thank you for the opportunity."

*Delaine Reaves, Clinical Coordinator  
Alabama Community Healthcare  
Network, Inc., Montgomery, AL*

"Our lives and communities all evolve around healthcare. We need and deserve the best possible care available. I look forward to the next conference."

*Rebekah McInerney, LBSW  
Department of Public Health  
Sumter and Hale Counties*

"A valuable conference for healthcare educators to hear first hand the problems and success stories associated with rural healthcare."

*Rebecca M. Edwards  
UA Capstone College of Nursing*

"It was encouraging to see a large number of rural citizens coming together to evaluate, network, and recommend changes to improve rural healthcare."

*Garry Magouirk,  
RAHA, Berry, AL*

"This was very refreshing. It's helpful to know that problems are being addressed in rural communities."

*Pollyanna Seufert  
Hospice of the Shoals Inc.  
Florence, AL*

"A must attend for those desiring to link community health needs with health professional resources."

*Charles Lail,  
Alabama Office of Primary Care  
and Rural Health Development  
Montgomery, AL*

-Compiled by Nova D. Hodo  
Professional and Management Development  
Programs, College of Continuing Studies  
The University of Alabama



Please send alumni news to *OnRounds*.

Include your graduation date from med school or residency and your current address and phone.

## Lampoon Events Added

Lampoon 2000 was held Saturday, May 6, and the agenda was expanded this year to include breakfast and CME lectures followed by a Family Picnic on the Quad. The Pharmacotherapy Update, sponsored by the Department of Family Medicine and Roche Pharmaceuticals for three hours of Category 1 credit,



Bobbie Adcock, 1991, now a family medicine faculty member, and Dean Curry get some lunch at the family picnic on the quad on the day of Lampoon.

1999 grad and Chief Resident Beau Freeman (right) and his wife Stephanie (left) join alums and faculty members, Jerry McKnight, 1985, (right, second from front) and Bob Ireland, 1984, (back left) and his wife Lynn Ireland (back right, in hat) for the picnic on the quad.

was presented by David Mauritsen, MD, (Congestive Heart Failure: Systolic and Diastolic Dysfunction); Michael Taylor, MD, (Asthma in Children); William Curry, MD, (Adult-Onset Diabetes Mellitus); and Sylvia Colon, MD, (Depression in the Elderly).

Alumni who attended requested that the format be made a regular part of the Lampoon Day agenda.

For more information: Vicki Johnson, CCHS Dean's Office, (205) 348-0093. email: [vjohnson@cchs.ua.edu](mailto:vjohnson@cchs.ua.edu)

## Robinson Is Olympic Team Dr.

Jimmy Robinson, 1988 CCHS Family Practice Residency grad, has been named one of the Team Physicians for the U.S. Olympic Team at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia, this coming Fall. Dr. Robinson has been team physician for University of Alabama athletic teams since 1989. He followed Dr. Bill DeShazo as team physician after he completed a fellowship in Primary Care Sports Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Ohio. He is also CCHS Clinical Assistant Professor in Family Medicine and Sports Medicine. He has promised us an inside look at the Olympics when he returns!



Dr. Robinson on game day with the Crimson Tide.

## Carletta Collins,

a graduate student and CCHS Research Assistant, who was recently accepted to the University of Alabama School of Medicine for Fall of 2000, has joined this year's class of Rural Medical Scholars.

In a letter inviting her to join the program, Dean William Curry, MD, and John Wheat, RMSP Director, said, "You have earned our respect through strong academic performance and good character as a student and research assistant on this campus."

Miss Collins was enrolled in and completed the same coursework as this year's RMS class, but she was admitted to UASOM through the regular application process. She did not gain admission to medical school through the Rural Medical Scholars Program application process, which sets aside UASOM spaces for ten qualified rural students each year.

In accepting the offer to join the Rural Medical Scholars Program, Carletta signifies her intent to become a primary care physician for rural Alabama. Following two years of basic sciences classes at the medical school in Birmingham, she will return to the UASOM Tuscaloosa campus for clinical training.



Carletta Collins

Ten students are chosen each year to become Rural Medical Scholars, a highly selective program of The University of Alabama and the University of Alabama School of Medicine (UASOM) which begins with the premed year and continues through out the four years of medical school and beyond to provide peer support for rural physicians. Students with rural backgrounds interested in practicing medicine in a rural area are eligible for RMSP. Admission to the program is based on high academic achievement, character, and leadership qualities. Each RMS class enters the University of Alabama School of Medicine in the summer following two semesters of study at the UA College of Community Health Sciences in primary care, community medicine, and rural health issues.

A native of Bangor in Blount County, Carletta graduated Cum Laude from Athens State University. In addition to her classes, she has worked with analysis of data for the Child Caring Initiative, a program designed to insure that all schoolage children in Bibb and Fayette Counties are enrolled in a health insurance plan. The UA College of Community Health Sciences is partner to Blue Cross and Blue Shield and these community-based initiatives with responsibility for compiling and evaluating data. UA has worked with Bibb's child health data since 1995.

## Scientific Poster Session Held

Research posters were presented at a reception sponsored by the Lister Hill Society on April 6. Faculty, residents, classmates, and others were invited to attend, said Dr. Elizabeth Rand, Chair of the CCHS Research Committee. Presentations by students and residents from UASOM-Tuscaloosa and Auburn University School of Pharmacy, were:

**Rusty Bedsole, MS4:** "Aids and the Elderly: A Brief Literature Review," — presented at the Alabama Academy of Science Annual Meeting, March 2000, Birmingham.

**Chris Christian, Pharm.D. Student:** "ACE Inhibitor Use in Clinical Practice: Are they Utilized Effectively?" — presented at Auburn University School of Pharmacy Poster Forum, March 2000.

**Amy Donaldson, Pharmacy Resident:** "Evaluation of Ibutilide Dosage Outcomes in Adverse Events" — presented at ASAP Clinical Mid-Year Meeting, December 1999, Orlando, Florida.

**Erik Richardson, Family Practice Resident:** "Saddle Pulmonary Embolism in a Young Diabetic" — presented at the Alabama Academy of Science Annual Meeting, March 2000, Birmingham.

**Ed Shackelford, MS4:** "Child Sexual Abuse in West Alabama" — presented at the noon research lectures series this past November.

**Elizabeth Smith, MS3:** "Potential Pollutants in Mobile Bay" — initial presentation of research done during rural medicine rotation.

**John Waits, MS4, two posters:** (1) "Oral Rehydration Therapy" — data collected and analysis presented at a Research Conference last October; and (2) "Preventive Agricultural Medicine: A Student Perspective on an Important Component of Rural Community Health" — presented at Annual Meeting of the North American Agromedicine Consortium, Sept. '99, in North Carolina. (Project made possible in part by a grant from Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board.)

**Kristi Watson, Pharm.D. Student:** "Warfarin Maintenance Protocol: Evaluation of Effectiveness of Appropriateness in Nursing Implementation" — presented at Auburn University School of Pharmacy Poster Forum, March 2000.

**Don Yarbrough, MS4:** "Using Birth Weight to Predict Chronic Adult Outcomes" — presented at UAB Medical Student Research Day, Fall 1997; at the AMSA National Convention, Spring 1998, Washington, DC; and at the Society of Epidemiology Research, Summer 1998, Chicago. The article was published in *Diabetes Care*, Oct. 1998.

## Outstanding CCHS Researcher



Dr. James Leeper, Chair of the Department of Community and Rural Medicine at CCHS, presents the Mu Sigma Rho Outstanding Graduate Student Award to Lei Wang for academic achievement in applied statistics. Lei is a graduate research assistant in Community and Rural Medicine working with Dr. Leeper's guidance on analysis of Alabama's infant mortality data, developing and comparing statistical methodologies for her doctoral dissertation. Lei and her husband Yun Bai, a graduate student in computer science, are natives of China. Lei's parents, Guozheng Xu and Yunfu Wang, live in Beijing.

## NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCH PROGRAM - 2000

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>SPECIALTY</u>
Eugene V. Acupan	Baptist Health System Birmingham, Alabama	Prelim. Surgery
John B. Averette	U. of Alabama Medical Center Birmingham, Alabama	Internal Medicine
Paula C. Belew	U. of Minnesota Hospital & Clinic Minneapolis, Minnesota	Pediatrics
Robert P. Bolling	Spartanburg Regional Medical Center Spartanburg, South Carolina	Surgery
E. Jay Bray	Medical Univ. of South Carolina Charleston, South Carolina	Anesthesiology
Monceny L. Chatman	East Tennessee State University Johnson City, Tennessee	OB/GYN
David T. Derrer	Spartanburg Regional Medical Center Spartanburg, South Carolina	Prelim. Surgery
Salih O. Faldon	Tuscaloosa Family Practice Tuscaloosa, Alabama	Family Medicine
H. Allen Foster	Carraway Methodist Medical Center Birmingham, Alabama	Surgery
Stephanie E. Freeman	Bowman Gray Winston-Salem, North Carolina	Internal Medicine
Scott R. Fulgham	UAB Medical Center Birmingham, Alabama	Internal Medicine
Christopher D. Jahraus	St. Louis Children's Hospital St. Louis, MO	Pediatrics
Theodore H. Mueller (Chip)	Univ. of North Carolina Hospitals Chapel Hill, North Carolina	Psychiatry
R. Ray Nettles	St. Vincent's Hospital & Med. Cntr Manhattan, New York	Prelim. Int. Medicine
Hitesh Patel	UT Southwestern Med. School Dallas, Texas	Emergency Medicine
Ronald M. Roan	David Grant AFMC, California	Transitional
C. Edward Shackelford	Tuscaloosa Family Practice	Family Medicine
Catherine A. Skinner	Tuscaloosa Family Practice	Family Medicine
L. Claiborne Stanford	Univ. of MS University Hospital Jackson, Mississippi	Pediatrics
Katisha T. Vance	Baptist Health Systems Birmingham, Alabama	Internal Medicine
John B. Waits	Image Family Practice Program Tulsa, Oklahoma	Family Medicine
Melissa H. Wysong	The Johns Hopkins University Hospital Baltimore, Maryland	Emergency Medicine
Donald E. Yarbrough	Mayo Graduate School of Medicine Rochester, Minnesota	Surgery

## History Committee To Record CCHS Founding and Progress Toward Goals

Dean Curry has appointed a CCHS History Committee to compile information about the establishment and development of the college. The committee held an organizational meeting on March 1, 2000. Attending were: former Dean Roland Ficken (Chairman), Dr. John Burnum, former Dean Wilmer Coggins, Dr. Riley Lumpkin, Dr. Richard Rutland, Dr. William Winternitz, and Ms. Lisa Russell.

Committee members discussed purpose in writing the history, determined general areas to be included, designated resource people to interview, and created a plan for information-gathering.

The Committee agreed that documenting the establishment of CCHS should include development activities, philosophy of medical education here, difficulties and distractions, funding, and accomplishments. Drs. Burnum and Rutland took responsibility for describing the development phase during 1968-72.

Suggestions of people who could provide facts related to the history of CCHS resulted in a preliminary list of resource persons to be interviewed. If you have knowledge, news clippings, or documents that could be helpful or suggestions of others who may, please contact the History Committee, c/o the Dean's Office, Box 870326, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0326. (205) 348-1288.

The new Lister Hill Society President is Tommy Hester, President, National Bank of Commerce in Tuscaloosa. Mr. Hester, right, chats with outgoing president, Dean Emeritus Wilmer Coggins, MD, at the University Club before the last meeting.



Below, Mr. Hester greets Lister Hill Board member Sammy Watson and introduces him to CCHS Chief Resident Jeff Laubenthal, MD, who was guest speaker for the Board's luncheon meeting in April. Board member Jim Fleming, President of the Bank of Tuscaloosa, right.



## OnRounds

The University of Alabama  
College of Community Health Sciences

The College of Community Health Sciences is a clinical branch campus of the University of Alabama School of Medicine. Established in 1972, CCHS emphasizes family practice and the other primary care disciplines and provides a sound basic medical education for all medical students assigned to this campus. CCHS also trains family doctors through a three-year family practice residency program to meet the urgent need for family physicians. A primary focus of the CCHS mission is seeking solutions for rural health care problems in Alabama.

*OnRounds* is published quarterly by CCHS. Send information to the editor, Box 870326 Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. (205) 348-1302, [ljackson@cchs.ua.edu](mailto:ljackson@cchs.ua.edu)

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