

On Rounds

The University of Alabama
College of Community Health Sciences

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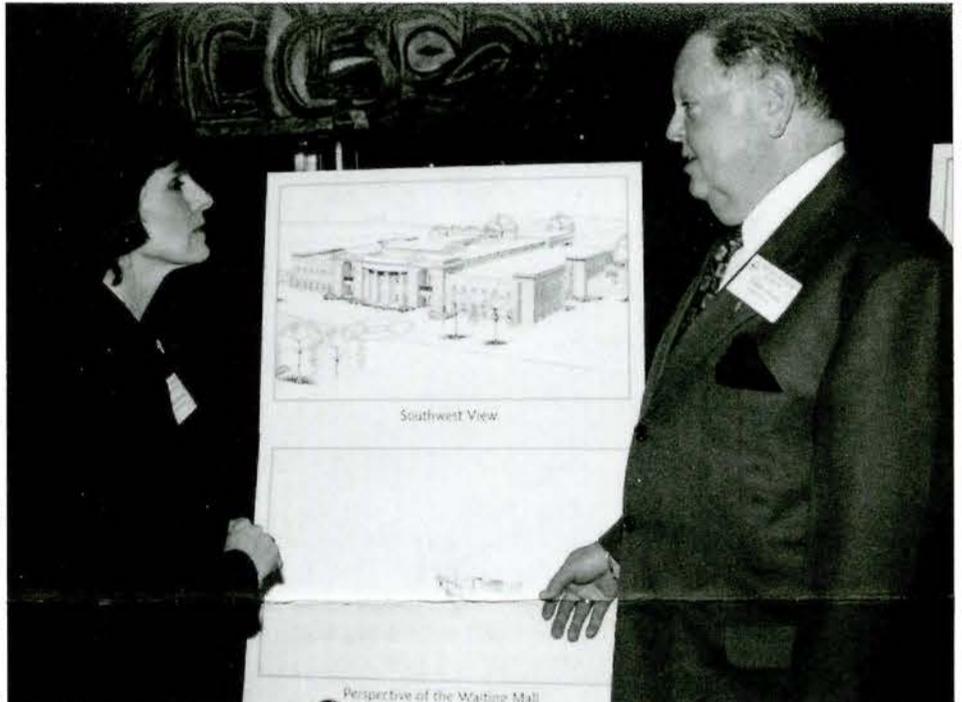
Lister Hill Society Celebrates Vision for CCHS Future

The annual **Lister Hill Society** reception was held Thursday, November 1, at Gulf States Paper Corporate headquarters. The focus of this year's fundraising efforts was the new building being planned for the College. Groundbreaking is expected in the late spring.

Hosts for the reception were Mr. & Mrs. Jack Warner and Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Meredith. More than a hundred faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the College attended. Guests were able to view Mr. Warner's world-renowned art collection, part of which is displayed in the halls, offices, and conference rooms, and "visit" with exotic talking birds which live in the large glass walled lobby area of the office complex.

"The event gives CCHS a chance to honor donors, thank supporters, and recognize the achievements of our medical education programs. It's a great opportunity for us to gather in a social setting and celebrate our ongoing success in preparing physicians for Alabama," said **Vicki Johnson**, Director of Advancement for CCHS. "It was also a good opportunity to share the latest sketches of the new building for CCHS. The final plans have been approved by the University and the architects are in the final stages of their drawings plans."

Past Lister Hill receptions at the President's Mansion, Mildred Warner Home, and Chancellor's Guesthouse drew hundreds of guests and raised thousands of dollars for medical education.



Tommy Hester (right), President of the Lister Hill Society Board, and Board member Julie Sittason look at sketches of the new building planned for CCHS. Construction is scheduled to begin next spring.

About the Lister Hill Society...

The Lister Hill Society, named in honor of the late U.S. Senator from Alabama who worked for better health care for all citizens, is the annual fund for CCHS, the College of Community Health Sciences. The focus of this branch of the University of Alabama School of Medicine is community medicine and primary care, especially in the preparation of family physicians to care for patients in rural areas.

Contributions from alumni and friends to the Lister Hill Society fund cash awards to recognize outstanding medical students and residents, special projects to enhance medical education curriculum or facilities, student travel to professional meetings, alumni publications, research, and library information.

History Committee Gathers Facts for Book about the College

CCHS was established to accomplish a unique mission, says Dean Emeritus **Roland Ficken**, PhD. Dr. Ficken is chairing the History Committee appointed by Dean Curry to preserve a record of the founding of CCHS. Dr. **Wilmer Coggins**, who served as the second Dean of CCHS and who has actively supported the college through his work with the Lister Hill Society since his retirement, is another key member of the committee.

Both agree that CCHS has a special legacy from its founding dean, William R. Willard. Dr. Willard was known as the "Father of Family Medicine" in the U.S. and was coaxed to Alabama by Governor George Wallace with the help of Bank of Moundville President **Victor Poole** after Willard had founded the University of Kentucky School of Medicine.

Winning the support of the local medical community and instilling in the fledgling college a sense of how important community medicine and primary care are to rural health were two of Dr. Willard's greatest achievements, said Dr. Ficken. He and other committee members are interviewing key people from the early days who were involved in developing CCHS programs, including Dr.



Founding faculty members--Dr. Robert Pieroni (Internal Medicine) and Dr. Riley Lumpkin (former Family Medicine Chair), center, visit with Patricia West who is compiling information to write the history of the college.

Richard Rutland of Fayette, who served as the first residency director (an *interim* position, stressed Dr. Rutland!) until Dr. Willard recruited Dr. **Bill DeShazo** as the first permanent residency director.

Members of the History Committee are: John Burnum, MD, Wilmer Coggins, MD, Roland Ficken, PhD, Riley Lumpkin, MD, former Health Sciences Library Director Lisa Russell, and Richard Rutland, MD.



Enjoying the Lister Hill reception were Fuller Kimbrell (left), who recently published a book about his fifty years of service in state government, and Dr. Bill Winternitz of CCHS.

REFLECTIONS

by William A. Curry, MD, Dean

Building on Success

The Lister Hill Society's reception this fall gave me the chance to meet with friends and supporters of the College of Community Health Sciences, the UA School of Medicine, Tuscaloosa. I was pleased to be able to share our progress of the past four years, and I am struck with how much our programs have grown, despite limited resources. Though I know you are familiar with much of what we are doing here, I thought you might find the story interesting too.

The core of our work is the education of junior and senior medical students and the training of family practice residents. To support this effort, like all medical school regional campuses, we maintain faculty practices that allow for clinical education in both office and hospital settings. Our medical school graduates have earned admission to prestigious residency programs across the country and practice across the spectrum of medical specialties. Our Family Practice Residency is one of the most productive in the country, and one in eight family physicians licensed to practice in Alabama trained here.

Our distinctive mission is a focus on rural health. More than half of our residency graduates have gone on to practice in small towns. Our Rural Scholars Programs identify and mentor rural students into and through undergraduate studies, medical school, and residency in order to prepare them for rural practice. These programs are among the most successful in the nation. For the past two years, we have hosted the Alabama Conference on Rural Health, with the third conference set for April 25-26, 2002. The conferences and their follow-up sessions are sharpening our focus for improving rural health and rural communities in Alabama. We recently established the Institute for Rural Health Research, a collaborative effort with five other UA colleges, which will bring greater attention and understanding to the challenges facing Alabama's rural communities.

Our faculty are excellent clinicians and teachers. Not only do they gather impressive teaching awards from The University and the School of Medicine, more and more students have chosen to spend their clinical years here because of the quality of the teaching. As a result of an initiative begun four years ago, our faculty are employing the newest methods of information technology in teaching and patient care. From the Health Sciences Library to the clinic to the Shamblyn Medical Student and Resident Computer Laboratories, we are training physicians for effective 21st century medical practice. At the same time, we maintain an emphasis on the best of traditional teaching, with dedicated faculty time for classical physical diagnosis and bedside teaching.

Even with the demands of clinical teaching and patient care, our faculty have expanded their research and scholarly work. Although we are one of the University's smaller colleges, we are near the top of all colleges in per capita faculty research. Those efforts center on what we do every day, finding ways to improve medical education and patient care, along with many projects that focus on rural health issues.

We have challenges. We have been planning a new building, a project that is essential to our future. While we could construct a building housing nearly all of CCHS, we would have to wait some time to do so. Instead, we plan to begin construction on the first phase very soon, so that we can begin to meet the demands of expanding services and quality space for patient care.

We needed a new information system in order to meet the demands of modern medical practice and to strengthen our abilities to improve clinical care and clinical research. We are in the final stages of implementing a system which gives us exciting new ways to manage our operation and to show our students and residents the optimal use of technology in practice.

With all of these projects, we have faced the reality of decreases in state funding and limitations on major gifts because of the economic downturn. I want to thank the many people who have given their loyal support for our programs over the years.

The mission of CCHS is unique. Nowhere else in our state is this kind of work being done. I appreciate the opportunity to lead such an able faculty and to work with the college's friends and supporters to keep the vision intact. I believe Alabama's future can be so much more than many seem to expect. We can make a great contribution to that future through CCHS/UASOM—Tuscaloosa, where we are educating the next generation of physicians.



Dr. Curry



Dean Curry visits with Gorden Rosen (I) and his wife Ann at the Lister Hill reception.

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Institute for Rural Health Research Wins Grants

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has awarded nearly a quarter million dollars to Dr. **John Higginbotham**, Director of the UA Institute for Rural Health Research. The Institute, which is based in the CCHS Department of Community and Rural Medicine, will conduct a two-year study titled "Prediction of

Vaccination Among Older African-Americans."

"With several co-investigators including CCHS's Dr. **Jim Leeper**, Dr. Higginbotham will seek insight into why vaccination rates for older African Americans are substantially lower than for the general population," said Naomi Clewett, Assistant Director, Editorial Services, for the Institute. "Results from this investigation will allow for the identification and development of effective strategies for the introduction, acceptance, and receipt of adult vaccines."

The **Institute for Rural Health Research** has been awarded a \$45,000 one-year contract to assist with the Alabama Dept. of Public Health's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. IRHR will provide web-based data collection and reporting for the project, which offers outreach to educate women regarding cancer prevention.

Grand Rounds to Bring Experts to CCHS

The CME schedule for spring includes a lecture by **Pete Pappas, MD**, on "Fungal Infections," an update on HIV-AIDS during February by **Michael Kilby, MD**; and information on GERD (gastro esophageal reflux disease) by **Jerry Canakis, MD**. On March 15, **Robert Goldenberg, MD**, Chair of OB/GYN at UAB, will address Pre-term Birth"; **Vera Bittner, MD**, UAB Professor of Medicine, will speak on "New National Guidelines for the Treatment of Cholesterol" in April; and in May, **Pat Ryce, MD**, will highlight the role of Quality Improvement in medical practice. **Conway C. Huang, MD**, Director, Dermatologic & Cutaneous Laser Surgery at UAB will speak on "Non-melanoma Skin Cancer" in May, which is Skin Cancer Awareness Month. The First Friday Arts and Letters series will include: Professor **Bryan Fair** of the UA Law School; the McNair Scholars Program by Dr. **Jacqueline Morgan**; and in April ("National Poetry Month") a reading by **Robin Bain**, Director, UA Creative Writing program.

OSCE Held in Tuscaloosa for Senior Med Students

The 2001 Senior Objective Structured Clinical Examination was held July 27-August 9 at the Alabama Health Network Building in Tuscaloosa. One hundred sixty 4th-year medical students from all three UA School of Medicine campuses were examined on their clinical skills via eight different medical scenarios. Thirty-three volunteers (University students and spouses, young people from the community, and retirees) were recruited and served as standardized patients, said Dr. **Pat Norton**, Medical Education Coordinator in the CCHS Dept. of Family Medicine, who organized the examination and trained the volunteers.

Feedback from medical students indicated that the OSCE was a valuable learning experience and feedback from the volunteers indicated they thought that we have some very talented physicians in training and that being a standardized patient was a learning experience for them, too.

Anthrax Videos Available at CCHS Library

The Health Sciences Library has the following videos available for checkout: *Anthrax: What Every Clinician Should Know, Parts I & II*. They are copies of recent broadcasts by the Center for Disease Control. Faculty, staff, residents, and students can borrow the videos, and our alumni can check them out with no fee. The checkout period is 7-days. For those who wish to access this or other information without borrowing a copy, see: <http://webcasts.sph.unc.edu/about/webcasts/>

The CDC will provide a single VHS tape of the 11/1/01 program free of charge to anyone who is unable to view the live broadcast. You can order the video from the Public Health Foundation by phone 1-877-252-1200 or online: <http://bookstore.phf.org/prod174.htm>.

Additional copies may be purchased in packages of 5 copies for \$35. There is a 15% discount on orders of 100 videos (20 or more 5-packs).

-**Nell Williams, Medical Librarian**
nwilliams@cchs.ua.edu

RAHEC Sponsors Pharmacy Week Events

The Rural Alabama Area Health Education Center, which is housed in the Department of Community and Rural Medicine, sponsored activities associated with National Pharmacy Week, October 22-26. Students and staff presented information on pharmacy careers to a UA health class, gave presentations on poison prevention and drug abuse prevention to elementary school students, and taught residents at a retirement home to read prescription labels. They also checked blood pressure and did osteoporosis and cholesterol screenings at Northport Pharmacy.

-**Miranda Andrus, PharmD**
Assistant Professor, Community and Rural Medicine



Family practice residents who started at CCHS in July 2001 are: Front Row - David Hubbs, MD, Valerie Sloan (no longer in the program), Diep Nguyen, MD, Tracy Lane, DO (2nd year transfer to program), Stephanie Morgan, MD, Stacy Horsley, MD. 2nd Row - David Moore, MD, Tamara Hughes, MD - 2nd Year Drake Lavender, MD, Larry Thead, MD - 2nd Year, Tony Sloan (no longer in the program), Franklin Lo, MD. Top Row - Thomas Carter, MD, Thomas Linberg, MD - 2nd Year, Brian Wood, MD, Residency Director Samuel Gaskins, MD, and Jonathan Southworth, MD.

Family Practice Residents Enter CCHS Program

Thomas Carter – Tom was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi. He received his M.D. in May 2001 from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. Tom's hobbies and interests include hunting, fishing, woodworking and auto racing. His wife, Sharon is a neonatal nurse at DCH.

Stacy Horsley – Stacy is an Alabama native and received her M.D. in May from the University of South Alabama. For relaxation, she and her husband, Rick, enjoy the outdoors, especially hiking and gardening.

Tamara Hughes – Tamara was born in Orlando, FL. She received her M.D. from the Medical College of Wisconsin in 1997. Tamara began a psychiatry residency, but realized that family practice was much more suitable for her. She is a second year resident.

David Hubbs – David is from Canada. He received his M.D. degree in June 2001 from Saint George's University. David enjoys scuba diving, golf, reading novels, and travel.

Tracy Lane – Tracy was born in Newport News, Virginia. She is a second year resident in the program. Tracy received her D.O. from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2000. Tracy is married to Robert Lane. She enjoys traveling, cooking, and gardening.

Drake Lavender – Drake was one of our medical students at CCHS. He was born and raised in Eutaw, Alabama. Drake received his M.D. from UASOM in June. He was recently married to JoAnn and they have two children, Lane and Ashley Pearson.

Tom Linberg – Tom joins us in his second year of residency. He was born in Cumberland, Maryland. He is a 2000 graduate of Ross University School of Medicine. He and his wife, Diane, have a 13-year-old daughter, Renu.

Franklin Lo – Frank was born in Hong Kong, but has called California home since he was five years old. He received his M.D. from Ross University in 2001. Frank enjoys reading and tennis.

David Moore – David was an officer and an infantryman in the US Army Reserve. He also is a Registered Nurse. He graduated from the American University of the Caribbean. David and his wife, Pam, have one son.

Stephanie Morgan – Stephanie is also a former CCHS medical student. Her husband, Todd Morgan, is a Tuscaloosa police officer. Stephanie served as Family Medicine Interest Group President last year. In her spare time, she enjoys mountain biking, reading, traveling and spending time with her family.

Richard Nance – Rick, a Mississippi native, joined us in October. He received his D.O. from the Pikeville College of Osteopathic Medicine. Rick enjoys tennis, golfing, hunting and fishing. He has two children.

Diep Nguyen – Diep was born in Vietnam but came to the United States in 1980. She is a graduate of Emory University School of Medicine. Her hobbies include cooking and spending time with family and friends.

Jonathan Southworth – Jonathan is a native of Alabama. He graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. Jonathan is married to Jolinda and they have a daughter, Jessica. In his spare time, he enjoys playing tennis, golf and basketball.

Larry Thead – Larry completed his medical school training at the University of South Alabama. He spent one year in a general surgery residency. He then began a practice in Demopolis, Alabama. Larry is married and has two children.

Brian Wood – Brian is a second year resident who came to us from the University of South Alabama. His wife, Jina, is a law student at The University of Alabama. They have one daughter. Brian interests include camping, hiking, traveling and exercise.

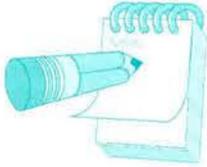
*by Katrina Stakem, Residency Coordinator
Department of Family Medicine
The University of Alabama*

CCHS Has Certified Grant Experts

Julia Hartman, PhD, Assistant Director for Research, Institute for Rural Health Research, and **Naomi Clewitt**, Assistant Director for Editorial Services, recently became Certified Grants Specialists. They completed a five-day grant development seminar in Hilton Head, S.C. and received certification through the National Grant Writers Association after completing intensive day-long courses in developing government, foundation and corporate grants; creating budgets, desktop publishing, and writing styles.

Faculty Notes

Send faculty and alumni news to:
Linda Jackson, Editor
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Garner Heads Higher Ed Partnership

Margaret Garner was elected Chair of the Higher Education Partnership Board at its meeting in late June and began her term in July. The Higher Education Partnership, the advocacy group for all 15 four-year public universities in the state, works for better funding of higher education and to inform the state about the importance of a strong higher education system to the state's economic development and future progress.

Pieroni Lectures in Japan

Dr. Robert Pieroni lectured on lipids and diabetes at Kameda Medical Center, Kameda, Japan, and made rounds with residents and clinical faculty (August 23-29, 2001). While in Singapore (Aug. 30-Sept. 2), Dr. Pieroni visited sites and discussed Elder Care in Singapore and the U.S.

Dr. Philp Retires

Dr. James Philp, Professor of Internal Medicine and CCHS Senior Associate Dean, retired October 1. He and his wife, **Dr. Elizabeth Philp**, who retired from Family Medicine at CCHS in 1999, have been restoring a family home in Scotland.

RMSP Faculty and Scholars Attend Pickens County Farm-City Event in Carrollton

Dr. John Wheat, Professor of Community and Rural Medicine and Internal Medicine and Director of the Rural Medical Scholars Program (RMSP), **Dr. John Brandon**, RMSP Medical Director, recent Family Medicine residency graduate **Dr. Tara Haynes**, and four Rural Medical Scholars attended the Farm-City luncheon in Carrollton on November 14. Rural Medical Scholars who attended were **Clay Campbell**, **Lindsay Evans**, **Terry James**, and **Laura Sutherland**.

They were guests of Pickens County Extension Agent **Sam Wiggins**. The keynote speaker at the luncheon was **Charles Bishop**, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industry; and local winners of essay, poster, and computer presentation competitions were recognized. The luncheon was sponsored by local businesses, Pickens County Schools, the Extension office, and farming-related associations.

Third Annual Conference on Rural Health

The Time for Action: Building Connections to Improve Rural Economics and Health

April 25-26, 2002 Bryant Conference Center

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Please call me to discuss financial options and tax advantages from a gift to the College of Community Health Sciences.

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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

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