

Congratulations!  
Dr. Wynne, Our New Dean



## **Advise and Consent:** The School of Medicine and Health Sciences Advisory Council

**Presence of Mind**

**Living Life to the Fullest**

**Match Day**

**Increasing the Flow Through the  
North Dakota Health Care Workforce Pipeline**

"AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF cure." Benjamin Franklin's advice was about fire fighting in his hometown of Philadelphia, advice that led to his helping to found a fire insurance company in 1752 that does business to this day. Franklin realized that major projects for the common good required everyone to sacrifice a little and pool their resources. His investment philosophy helped to establish not only a fire insurance company but also a library, learning society, and a hospital—all of which are in existence today.

### Two Trends Affecting North Dakota

Franklin's "ounce of prevention" is wise counsel for the future of health care. A looming health care workforce shortage is getting closer each day. Two significant trends are worth noting in 2010: first, the inexorable increase in both the population of the United States and the number of Americans aged 65 and over; and second, the much flatter line in the number of physicians projected to be available to care for Americans.

This year marks an inflection point in the rate of increase in the number of Baby Boomers who will turn 65. Hereafter, the rate of increase accelerates until the year 2030, when the rate of increase slows, but does not decline. Common sense tells us that the older we get the more likely we are to need medical attention. Facts bear this out. People aged 65 and older do have more physician visits than younger age groups.

The wide divergence between the demand for and the concomitant supply of physicians is a national problem; however, unlike the recent recession, North Dakota is not immune from these demographic trends. In North Dakota, the problem will not be exacerbated by population growth but by a greater aging effect, which will be amplified by a shift in the gender makeup of the workforce and a generational change in the time devoted to the practice of medicine. Based on projections, North Dakota will need an additional 160 physicians by the year 2025. Coupled with the current 50 or so openings for physicians across the state, the projected shortfall in 2025 will be about 210 physicians. Demand will also increase for essential members on physicians' health care teams.

By taking Franklin's advice, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences is working to meet the need for health care professionals. We are more than just a school of medicine. Along with future doctors, we educate and prepare athletic trainers, clinical laboratory technicians, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and physician assistants who provide indispensable care to North Dakotans. However, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences realizes it needs to do more to meet the demand for health care professionals in North Dakota.

We have proposed to the State Board of Higher Education a plan to expand the School and boost enrollment. By the

2015–2017 biennium, we hope to expand our class size to be able to train an additional 16 medical students, 30 health sciences students, and 17 post-graduate residents each year. An additional 47 faculty members (most of whom would be located out in the community) would be hired to educate these students. To help meet enrollment goals, our proposal includes a new health sciences building that would provide more classroom space as well as laboratory and office space.

Other components of the School's plan are to institute a geriatrics-training program to complement the Eva Gilbertson MD Endowed Chair in Geriatrics and to provide a new Master of Public Health degree in collaboration with North Dakota State University.

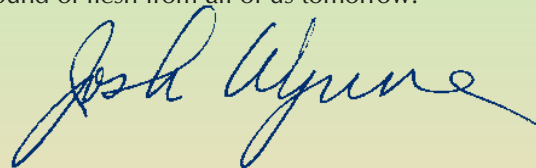
"What about the cost?" In order to expand the School and boost enrollment, we need to make a substantially increased investment in the School. This investment, however, will have a positive return.

### Investing in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences

The School of Medicine and Health Sciences provides a significant number of physicians who practice in North Dakota. Physicians who receive their training at the School are more likely to stay in North Dakota, thus reducing the need to fill openings by recruiting out-of-state physicians—physicians who are in high demand elsewhere, expensive, and less likely to stay in the state, providing only a temporary solution to the shortage problem. By educating our own doctors, we act here and now to address the physician shortage we face.

Financial analysis has shown that, through the multiplier effect, for every additional \$1 invested in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, \$2 more are generated to stimulate North Dakota's economy, a rate of return that would be the envy of any investor. Investing in the School also boosts the value of the higher education enterprise in North Dakota.

The physician and health care professional shortage is imminent. The time to educate a doctor takes more than 10 years from college entry until he or she is ready to practice. The twin levers of any sound investment plan are discipline and time. The question is do we have the discipline to allocate funds today for a much greater return in the future? We need to invest today to meet an all but certain future need; otherwise, we will squander Franklin's sound advice. The ounce of investment we fail to make today may exact a pound of flesh from all of us tomorrow.



Joshua Wynne, MD, MBA, MPH  
Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean



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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA  
 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

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# Advise

and

# Consent



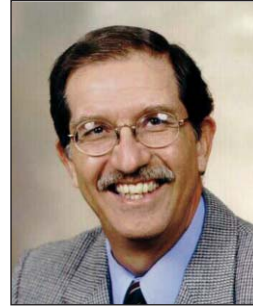
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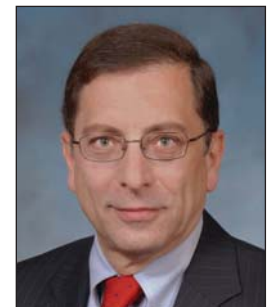
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Joshua Wynne

**A**s the state's only medical school, the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences plays a crucial role not only in training and supplying the state's much-needed health care workers but in providing critical health services to the state's predominantly rural and increasing senior population. Given the School's mission to educate physicians and other health care professionals as well as ensure the health and well being of all the state's citizens, the North Dakota Legislature created a special School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) Advisory Council to serve as both advocate and advisor for the state's health care and health care workforce needs.

Instituted in 1945, the Advisory Council is the only one of its kind in North Dakota and is composed of seventeen members representing a diverse cross section of the population and the health care community.

Instituted in 1945, the Advisory Council is the only one of its kind in North Dakota and is composed of seventeen members representing a diverse cross section of the population and the health care community. Legislators from both parties as well as representatives from the Department of Human Services, the State Board of Higher Education, the State Department of Health, the North Dakota Medical Association, the North Dakota Healthcare Association, the Veterans Administration Hospital in Fargo, the University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health, and all four UND SMHS campuses work directly with the School's dean to secure funding, services, and facilities that serve the health care needs of the state.

#### **Why is the Advisory Council so essential, especially in a rural state like North Dakota?**

According to Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean **Dr. Joshua Wynne**, the Council not only ensures "representation from all parts of the state, but provides the essential function of coordinating, channeling, and focusing the activities of the School and the provider community."

In addition, "the Council gives the remote rural regions of our state a voice at the table regarding their medical needs," said Senator and Council member **Robert Erbele**.

To that end, "the Council serves as a vehicle for regular and institutionalized communications between the Legislature and the SMHS. The legislators on the Council

are able to transmit the needs of the School to the legislative body and the concerns of the legislators to the School. This leads to a partnership working in the best interest of ALL North Dakotans," said Senator **Tim Mathern**, a Council member from Fargo.

And what exactly are the School's needs? Primarily, training and fostering the state's next generation of physicians; ensuring that these physicians stay in state to practice to meet the growing demand for family medical practitioners; and expanding and upgrading facilities and services to meet the state's growing health care needs.

The Council, of which Dr. Wynne is a member, is chaired by **David Molmen**, CEO of Altru Health System and a longtime health care and community advocate. Molmen prepares meeting agendas, conducts Council meetings, testifies before the State Board of Education and the Legislature on behalf of the Council and represents the Council to various state constituencies, all to secure funding to operate, augment, and expand health services for the state.

"My job is to serve North Dakota citizens the best way I can," said Molmen.

According to Dr. Wynne, the Council has played an increasingly important role in recent years by bringing forward budgetary recommendations to the State Board of Higher Education during each biennial budget cycle. The School prepares each budget request, which gets vetted and approved by the Council and then forwarded to the State Board of Higher Education for approval.

"Because the state legislature only meets every two years, the School has to be really forward-thinking about its needs and those of the population, and having the

...having the Council's validation... is vitally important in gaining buy-in from legislators and constituents alike.

Council's validation of its programs and strategies is vitally important in gaining buy-in from legislators and constituents alike," said Dr. Wynne.

And the results of this collaborative partnership have been extraordinary.

During the last legislative session, which ended last spring, the Council worked to increase the School's base appropriated budget by 20 percent, which included additional financial support for the Centers for Family Medicine in Bismarck and Minot; the development of a RuralMed Program, which will assume all tuition costs for eight medical students pursuing careers in family medicine who wish to practice in rural areas of the state, and half a million dollars to develop the state's health care workforce pipeline, particularly in rural areas. In addition, the Council

secured \$5.4 million for the construction of a new family medicine clinic in Bismarck.

"None of this would have been achieved without the input and endorsement of the Advisory Council," said Dr. Wynne.

## The Council will pursue an increase in state funding over the next three biennia.

"The family medicine clinic in Bismarck was completely inadequate, and it serves a very large senior population. With this funding from the Legislature, we can build a new facility in a convenient downtown location between two major hospitals and provide the most up-to-date amenities and services for our staff, faculty, and patients."

### What's next on the Council's agenda?

The Council will pursue an increase in state funding over the next three biennia. Why?

The issue is twofold. One, there's a looming health care workforce shortage due to the increasing number of Baby Boomers requiring advanced medical care and the number of younger health care workers leaving the state. Two, UND, the state's only medical school, simply doesn't have the capacity to accommodate all those wanting to pursue degrees in medicine.

While all states will be struggling to keep pace with the medical needs of aging Baby Boomers, North Dakota is predicted to be the state with the largest population of people over 85 by the year 2030. Coupled with the state's shortage of health care workers is the fact that it takes over a decade to turn a high school graduate into a physician. If changes aren't made to the current system, "North Dakota will be short 210 doctors by the year 2025," said Dr. Wynne.

The funding increase proposed by the Council will allow the school to expand the number of students it trains from 869 today to 1,074 in 2015, a 23.6 percent increase. UND's SMHS faculty and staff would grow from 500 to 657 in 2015, a 31.4 percent increase.


Since the entire country will be facing a health care worker crisis, "competition for those workers will intensify," said Molmen. "It's always harder to compete for outside talent, who often don't stay long in North Dakota, than to nurture our own talent, who have a bigger connection to the state and a much better understanding of our rural needs."

To that end, Dr. Wynne and the rest of the Council are working toward the following goals over the next few years:

- expansion of class sizes;
- expansion of residency training slots;
- development of a master's degree in public health;
- additional funds for geriatrics training and clinical services; and
- keeping tuition relatively flat.

To accommodate the growth in services and training for the state's future health care workers, Dr. Wynne and the Council have also proposed \$25 million to fund a new building that will house ALL of the SMHS programs. It will be the culmination of their vision to continue to provide the citizens of North Dakota with the best possible medical care.

"The Council is a tremendous asset to the School and an important partner in our goal to provide the best possible medical care to all of North Dakota's citizens," said Dr. Wynne.

And it's this type of collaboration that makes UND's SMHS a leader in both family medicine and rural health care and will continue to meet and exceed residents' needs both today and beyond. 

— Laura Scholz

## The Council is a tremendous asset ... and an important partner...

# Match Day - Residency Sites

FIFTY-FIVE SENIOR MEDICAL STUDENTS, MEMBERS OF the Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) Class of 2010 at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences, learned where they would spend the next chapter of their lives as resident physicians. On Match Day, medical school seniors across the United States find out where they will complete their residencies, a period of advanced intensive training in their chosen medical specialty before independent practice as a physician.

Depending on the specialty, medical school graduates complete anywhere from three to seven years of training. Each residency program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, which is responsible for the accreditation of post-M.D. medical training programs within the United States. Accreditation is accomplished through a peer review process and is based upon established standards and guidelines.

Match Day is the culmination of The National Residency Matching Program (NRMP), a private, not-for-profit corporation established in 1952 to provide a uniform date of appointment to positions of graduate medical education or residency in the United States.

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR MDs

Each year approximately 16,000 U.S. medical school seniors participate in the residency match. Students as well as residency program directors register their preferences for each other with the NRMP. The NRMP then takes the rank ordered choices of the students and directors and provides an impartial match between the two groups. In the third week of March, the results of the match are announced.

The most popular specialty choices for UND medical students were family medicine with nine matches, obstetrics-gynecology and general surgery, each with eight, and pediatrics, selected by five students. In total, seventeen students or 31 percent of the class chose a primary care specialty, that is, family medicine, internal medicine, or pediatrics. Following graduation, the new physicians will be located in twenty-three different states from Washington to Florida and California to Connecticut. Minnesota will be home to the greatest number, 12, followed by North Dakota with eight, Michigan with seven, and Missouri with three.

### Lacey Armstrong

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota

Psychiatry

### Miran Blanchard

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota  
Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, Minnesota

Transitional

Radiation - Oncology

### Nathan Bro

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota  
University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals, Salt Lake City, Utah

Transitional

Anesthesiology

### Jared Darveaux

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota

Internal Medicine

### Daniel Dixon

Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center, Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Orthopaedic Surgery

### Mark Eaton

Allina Family Residency Program, St. Paul, Minnesota

Family Medicine

### Joshua Eken

University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa  
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa

Med. -Prelim

Neurology

### Jonathan Eklof

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota

Transitional

### Tiffany Foster Weber

University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals, Salt Lake City, Utah

Obstetrics/Gynecology

### Todd Gaddie

Creighton-Nebraska Health Foundation, Omaha, Nebraska

Orthopaedic Surgery

### Katrina Gardner

Sacred Heart Medical Center, Spokane, Washington

Family Medicine/Rural Track

# MATCH DAY - RESIDENCY SITES

<b>Ashley Gorby</b> Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana	<b>Pediatrics</b>
<b>Justin Gross</b> Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, Minnesota	<b>Surgery Preliminary</b>
<b>Donald Gullicks</b> University of Missouri–Columbia Program, Columbia, Missouri	<b>Obstetrics/Gynecology</b>
<b>Ashley Hagel</b> Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota	<b>General Surgery</b>
<b>Chad Hanson</b> University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, Minnesota	<b>Radiology-Diagnostic</b>
<b>Jason Haus</b> University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan	<b>Anesthesiology</b>
<b>Matthew Hefty</b> Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center/Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan	<b>General Surgery</b>
<b>Nathan Herman</b> Creighton–Nebraska Health Foundation, Omaha, Nebraska	<b>Psychiatry</b>
<b>April Hess</b> University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota	<b>Internal Medicine</b>
<b>Kyle Hoffert</b> Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, Minnesota	<b>Family Medicine</b>
<b>Kelsey Hoffman</b> Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri	<b>Internal Medicine</b>
<b>Stephanie Jallen</b> University of Florida College of Medicine-Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Florida	<b>Psychiatry</b>
<b>Amanda Johnson</b> Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana	<b>Obstetrics/Gynecology</b>
<b>Jennifer Johnson</b> Akron General Medical Center/NEOUCOM, Akron, Ohio	<b>Obstetrics/Gynecology</b>
<b>Aaron Jones</b> University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa	<b>Transitional</b>
<b>Kendra Kamlitz</b> University of Kansas School of Medicine–Wichita, Wichita, Kansas	<b>Radiology-Diagnostic</b> <b>General Surgery</b>
<b>Kathryn Kingsley</b> Alaska Family Medicine/Providence Hospital, Anchorage, Alaska	<b>Family Medicine</b>
<b>Emily Koeck</b> Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts	<b>General Surgery</b>
<b>Lacey Krebsbach</b> Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center, Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan	<b>Obstetrics/Gynecology</b>
<b>Ian Lalich</b> Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, Minnesota	<b>Otolaryngology</b>
<b>Gillian Lavik</b> Mary Imogene Bassett, Cooperstown, New York	<b>General Surgery</b>
<b>Justin LeBlanc</b> Intermountain Medical Center, Murray, Utah Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio	<b>Transitional</b> <b>Radiology-Diagnostic</b>



# MATCH DAY - RESIDENCY SITES

<b>Dustin Leigh</b> University of Nevada School of Medicine, Las Vegas, Nevada	<b>General Surgery</b>
<b>Jessica Lichter</b> University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals, Seattle, Washington	<b>Pediatrics</b>
<b>Erica Martin</b> Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation, La Crosse, Wisconsin Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, Minnesota	<b>Transitional</b>
<b>Jocelyn Mattson</b> University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa	<b>Radiology-Diagnostic Anesthesiology</b>
<b>Sara Mayer</b> University of Minnesota, Medical School, Minneapolis, Minnesota	<b>Neurology</b>
<b>Matthew McLeod</b> University of Minnesota/Health East St. Joseph's Hospital, St. Paul, Minnesota	<b>Family Medicine</b>
<b>Megan Miller</b> Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center/Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan	<b>Obstetrics/Gynecology</b>
<b>Daniel Morgan</b> University of Kansas School of Medicine–Wichita Wesley Program, Wichita, Kansas	<b>Family Medicine</b>
<b>Jennifer Mullally</b> Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, Minnesota	<b>Pediatrics</b>
<b>Jeffrey Nelson</b> University of Minnesota/St. John's Hospital, St. Paul, Minnesota	<b>Family Medicine</b>
<b>Rachel Ott</b> Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota	<b>General Surgery</b>
<b>Mahate Parker</b> University of Oklahoma College of Medicine–Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma	<b>Obstetrics/Gynecology</b>
<b>Rachel Redig</b> Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center/Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan	<b>Emergency Medicine</b>
<b>Rodrigo Rios</b> Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Missouri	<b>Pediatrics</b>
<b>Kris Sabb</b> Northridge Hospital Medical Center Program, Northridge, California	<b>Family Medicine</b>
<b>Priyanka Singh</b> University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Fargo, North Dakota	<b>Psychiatry</b>
<b>Tracy Sollin</b> University of Arizona, Affiliated Hospitals, Tucson, Arizona	<b>Pathology</b>
<b>Patrick Stevens</b> University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, Connecticut	<b>Otolaryngology</b>
<b>Ana Tobiasz</b> Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center/Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan	<b>Obstetrics/Gynecology</b>
<b>Luke Van Alstine</b> Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, Minnesota	<b>Anesthesiology</b>
<b>Aaron Van Ningen</b> University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, Wisconsin	<b>Pediatrics</b>
<b>Stacie Wellman</b> Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho	<b>Family Medicine</b>



# Living Life to the Fullest

THAT FORKFUL OF SPAGHETTI and meat sauce makes quite a trip from plate to mouth. It's a carefully—if unconsciously—choreographed series of moves that, hopefully, end up with the satisfaction of a good meal well eaten. Indeed, most of us never give that mealtime performance a second thought, until we lose some function or other through accident or illness. Then something that looks as easy as one-two-three becomes a painstaking task taking a lot more time than it used to. Whatever the diagnosis behind the problem, it clearly takes a team of helpers to put us back on track.

For occupational therapists, helping a patient get through a meal with all the right utensils is one of thousands of tasks they're trained to guide people back into. These days, the profession is about a whole lot more than knitting, says **Janet Jedlicka**, an occupational therapist and PhD-prepared associate professor and chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy. Tucked away on the second floor north of the Hyslop Sports Center, the Department—and its Casper, Wyo., division—is part of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

"The profession has changed over the last 20 years," said Jedlicka, herself a graduate of the UND occupational therapy program. "When I went through school in the early 1980s, we used crafts and similar activities to help people become more independent."

That recalls images of nurses in the World War I era—when occupational therapy first developed as a separate profession—helping wounded and traumatized servicemen recuperate with knitting needles.

"The profession's focus is still on helping clients remain as independent as possible," Jedlicka said. "But over the last

Through evidence-based best practices, occupational therapists enable clients to do what adds meaning and value to their lives at work, home, or play

"Occupations can be anything from employment—and that's what a lot of people think of when they hear the term *occupational therapy (OT)*—to all the things we do at home or for leisure," Jedlicka said. "Helping people to get or hold a job is not our primary focus. We want to help people do things that they find valuable and meaningful. It could be fishing, organizing themselves to be able to write, or preparing meals for family."

Occupational therapy as a profession also has shifted to evidence-based practice. "We're looking to increase the support for research and documenting that our interventions actually do make a difference," Jedlicka said. "We're returning to the roots of our profession, helping service people returning from wars with injuries."

"We're helping veterans get engaged in productive kinds of activities," she said.

"When we started back in the early 1900s, the main work kind of thing was in terms of crafts, such as carpentry, because many people were involved with craft-type work," Jedlicka said. "Now we have a lot of assistive technology needs in the profession, and we have to be a lot more technically competent."

For example, one of the department's faculty members in the Casper, Wyo., facility presented a workshop in "agribility" targeted at helping ranchers and farmers stay in their careers.

"We're using technology to help maintain farmers and ranchers in their traditional roles, instead of having to give up what amounts to a lifestyle they've lived all their lives," Jedlicka said.

Part of the technology aspect of the new OT is how it's changed teaching at UND.

"We've always been learning-based, but there's definitely been a big change in having our satellite in Wyoming," Jedlicka said. "We have e-mail communications that facilitate faculty discussions between our campus and our campus in Wyoming, where we now have two full-time faculty members. We also use video links to teach courses."

UND Occupational Therapy has openings for 36 students annually at the UND campus and 12 openings at the Casper campus.

"They're all UND students," Jedlicka noted. "It's not an 'us-and-them'; we're one program with two sites, and our faculty together are very collaborative."

The profession's focus is still on helping clients remain as independent as possible

25 years, we've become more occupation-based rather than using crafts."

**Occupation—the word calls to mind "work" or things we do at work.**

But in terms of occupational therapy, the word means any activity that "occupies" one's time—whether it's typing on a keyboard at work, cooking at home, or manipulating the television remote control unit.



A major challenge over the last few years has been building the program enrollment back after the 1990s budget scare that made lots of prospective students think that there wouldn't be enough jobs in occupational therapy and many other professions.

"But that's changing, especially since we need people in the health care professions and we need health care faculty members," Jedlicka said. "What makes OT unique—and what helps us attract new students—is that we're focused on the individual's wants and needs. It's about mind, body, and spirit, not just a client's physical needs."

OT today is part of a growing array of medical and health care services available to clients.

"It's definitely an interprofessional service in terms of providing good health care," Jedlicka said. "Within the

profession there's been a strong drive to move away from the medical model—all hospital- and clinic-based practice—and to support people in the community who're looking at wellness."

Today's occupational therapy classes still are predominantly female. The current academic year's starting class has six males in a group of 32 students. Most of the students come from North Dakota, with some from Minnesota and South Dakota; most of the Casper students are from Wyoming, with a few from Colorado.

"Health care reform has impacted what we're doing and where we're going," Jedlicka said. "We're continuing to market the profession as one that increases people's quality of life." 🌿

— Juan Pedraza

Jennalee O'Keefe and Brittany Larson practice texture identification for purposes of sensory re-education after a peripheral nerve injury.

THE CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH USES A THREEFOLD APPROACH TO expand health care workforce initiatives. It's no secret that North Dakota, along with the rest of the nation, is in the midst of a health care workforce shortage. Increasing the number of health care professionals is crucial to ensuring access to quality health care in years to come.

The North Dakota health care workforce pipeline is long and segmented. To increase the flow of health care professionals out of the pipeline, it must increase in diameter and the valves must ensure seamless connections. Though the time it takes to educate interested and qualified students is lengthy, it is only one part of the pipeline.

To facilitate effective flow throughout all parts of the pipeline, the Center for Rural Health at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences is using a threefold approach. Funds appropriated by the North Dakota Legislature in the 2009 session are being used to expand workforce initiatives in the areas of health career awareness programs, rural recruitment and retention efforts, and health professions workforce assessment.

"The appropriated funds are being leveraged with federal grant funds to maximize the impact of our programs so more opportunities can be made available and ultimately increase the health care workforce," said **Lynette Dickson, MS, LRD**, workforce development director at the Center for Rural Health.

#### **Health Career Awareness**

Exposing young children to health care professions and encouraging older youth to explore health careers are fundamental parts of the pipeline. The Center for Rural Health led health career awareness efforts for students in grades K–12 previously through the Fostering Opportunities in Rural Health Occupations and other programs, but the new initiatives allow for even more students to be reached.

This spring, 14 communities hosted Rural Collaborative Opportunities for Occupational Learning in Health (R-COOL-Health)

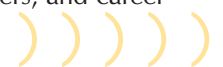
Scrubs Camps for students in grades 5–12. In an effort to help communities "grow their own" health care professionals, partnerships between schools, health care facilities, and economic or job development authorities created innovative programs that increased awareness, interest, and understanding of health careers available in rural North Dakota.

"A critical piece of the camps was exposure to a variety of health careers through fun, creative, and interactive activities," said Dickson. "Student participants even received a scrubs top so they could feel like a real health care professional."

Another new statewide initiative, Health in Partnership with Education (HIPE) Week, underscored the numerous opportunities that exist in the field of health care. After garnering support from more than a dozen state organizations and agencies and receiving a proclamation from **Governor John Hoeven**, schools and health care facilities sponsored health care-related events and activities during the week in March. Plans are already being made for next year's HIPE Week.

Expanded online resources are also available for students, teachers, and career

# Increasing the **FLOW** Through the North Dakota Health Care Workforce **PIPELINE**



counselors to learn more about North Dakota-specific health career information and programs.

### Rural Recruitment and Retention

The recruitment and retention sections of the pipeline are the closest to patients. North Dakota has about 50 physician openings currently and is expected to have a shortfall of 210 physicians by 2025. Increased demand due to an aging population, an evolving change in the time devoted to the practice of medicine, and a shift in the gender makeup of the workforce are only magnifying the problem.

Rural facilities often don't have the needed resources to recruit providers who will be good matches for their communities. To help rural facilities combat the challenges of recruitment and retention, the Center for Rural Health now has a full-time staff member devoted to these efforts.

**Aaron Ortiz**, workforce specialist at the Center for Rural Health, helps coordinate resources and connect candidates with facilities. Since recruitment and retention of providers requires community-wide efforts, Ortiz works directly with facilities and communities to revise and enhance recruitment plans.

"Coaching facilities on the best ways to promote North Dakota, their communities, and their practice opportunities effectively is imperative to turning an interested provider into a future employee," said Ortiz. "But the process doesn't end when the contract is signed."

Ortiz stays in contact with facilities after successful matches are made in order to help provide an adequate transition for the provider and facility. Helping set up infrastructures of support and connecting facilities and providers to appropriate resources are necessary for successful retention.

### Health Professions Workforce Assessment

It is hard to tailor pipeline development effectively without concrete data about the health care workforce needs that exist. Unlike some states that have a health care

Web exclusive: For more information on the Center for Rural Health workforce initiatives, visit [www.ruralhealth.und.edu/topics/workforce/](http://www.ruralhealth.und.edu/topics/workforce/)



Lynette Dickson



Aaron Ortiz



Sheila Johnson

workforce data center, North Dakota has limited data about the health care workforce.

"To ensure efforts are being made at the right places in the pipeline, current data is needed," said **Sheila Johnson**, research coordinator at the Center for Rural Health.

"The assessment will help answer the

**Coaching facilities on the best ways to promote North Dakota, their communities, and their practice opportunities effectively is imperative to turning an interested provider into a future employee. . .**

looming questions surrounding the state's health workforce supply and demand."

Once the results of the survey are reviewed by the multidisciplinary research team, a comprehensive report will be published. This information will be used to guide future health care workforce efforts throughout the state in order to help the North Dakota health workforce pipeline flow at an adequate rate.



—Tara Mertz



This penguin is the mascot for the Rural Collaborative Opportunities for Occupational Learning in Health (R-COOL-Health) Scrubs Camps.  
[www.ruralhealth.und.edu/scrubscamp](http://www.ruralhealth.und.edu/scrubscamp)



# Presence of Mind

Two UND bioscientists bring the brain to mind for students

CAR COMING. IN A BLINK OF AN eye—about 1/10th of a second—a signal zips from your eye to the brain’s image-processing center and from there to your feet. You see the car; you jump out of the way.

It’s all about the brain, about three pounds of often miraculous functions that scientists are working around the clock to fathom.

That image of the oncoming car, for example, travels through the human optic nerve, a bundle of about 1.2 million fibers that, for most of us, provides the main sensory inputs for living. And all that input and output is processed by the brain’s 100 billion neurons, which are hooked up like a

Bee. Both are part of a loosely affiliated group of similarly named nationwide organizations and contests.

“We started Brain Awareness Week when my daughter was just starting grade school,” said Cisek, who coordinates Brain Bee activities in the region. “I was looking for ways to enrich her experience and make science more interesting.”

For Pyle, the impetus—after attending a Brain Awareness Week kick-off meeting at a national convention—was to make learning about science more interesting in her biology classes.

“I’d met Karen when I taught experimental pathology and toxicology of the nervous system in the biology department. I was looking to develop a very different kind of learning experience,” Pyle said. “So Karen and I blended our ideas, and we became partners in the Brain Awareness Week.”

The ultimate fascination with the brain is that it’s what makes us human.

“And while we study it all the time and understand more and more about it, that just leads to more questions,” Pyle said. But, she noted, there’s a lot more to Brain Awareness week than teaching kids about the human central nervous system.

Brain Awareness Week is a global campaign that unites those who share an interest in elevating public awareness about the progress and benefits of brain and nervous system research, according to the Society for Neuroscience, which kicked off this international movement.

“Its primary concern is to inspire the next generation of scientists,” Cisek said.

Not just neuroscientists—though that’s always a nice perk to the group of neuroscientists that cooked this up—but all science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers, the so-called STEM professions.

“We also aim to raise public

People know about Alzheimer’s and other neural disorders, but **we want to help people understand what’s going on right now** in neuroscience. That’s important, too, as the government shapes science policy...

vast computer network in trillions of connections—0.15 quadrillion synapses, to be exact. In comparison, Intel’s next-generation microprocessor will contain 2 billion transistors.

“The brain is truly the most fascinating organ that we have,” said **Sally Pyle, PhD**, professor of biology and an anatomist, who now heads the University of North Dakota (UND) Honors Program. “It’s simply amazing!”

Pyle and colleague **Karen Cisek**, a biologist who works in program development for North Dakota INBRE at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, run the regional Brain Awareness Week and the annual Brain

awareness about what's going on in brain science," Pyle said. "People know about Alzheimer's and other neural disorders, but we want to help people understand what's going on right now in neuroscience. That's important, too, as the government shapes science policy and considers our national science priorities and budget."

Brain Awareness Week activities are all locally funded—the national BAW organization doesn't supply cash to local BAWs, Pyle noted. But the activities are loosely tied to the Dana Alliance, which asks professionals in the field of neurosciences to do community outreach.

"We're seeing more partnerships, too, more than just outreach," Cisek said. "That's great for us because it helps sustain the activities from year to year. Many of the teachers who work with us invite us back into their classrooms year after year." At UND, this effort has turned into a semester-long class because the national Brain Awareness Week usually coincides with spring break, which would eliminate many UND students from participating.

According to the organization's website, the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives was born out of a three-day meeting at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in 1992, in the early days of "The Decade of the Brain." There, 30 eminent neuroscientists convened to debate the progress and promise of brain research. The meeting was organized by James Watson, director of the lab and a Nobel laureate for his co-discovery of the structure of DNA, and the late David Mahoney, chair of the Dana Foundation. Their vision was to establish a group of vanguard neuroscientists who would commit themselves to translating the advances in brain research to the public, the ultimate beneficiary of these advances.

"People want to know what you can do for them," Mahoney told the neuroscientists. "They want results that can benefit them." Only by convincing the public of the direct benefits of their work, Mahoney cautioned the scientists, could they hope to receive the funding, public and private, that would speed vital work. From those founding members, the Dana Alliance has grown to include more than 280 neuroscientists, including 10 Nobel laureates. "We are driven by two key goals: increase the number of students in the STEM pipeline, then generally increase the public's scientific literacy," Cisek said. "When we started Brain Awareness Week here, there was nothing like this that we knew of in Grand Forks."

"People in the community sometimes look at the University as its own isolated entity," Pyle said. "What we wanted was to make some connections, and we've done that by going out to the schools. We've been very well received. We've even been asked by civic organizations to make presentations."

The core cadre of Brain Awareness Week comprises UND students, most—but not all—of whom come from the ranks of science and education majors.

"We don't tell them what to teach to the kids in the

classroom, and we don't give them content," Pyle said. "Instead, each student is expected to create a 40-minute presentation, in essence to become an 'expert' in the field they're going to talk about. The kids in the classroom love it because they're hearing from someone who's a lot closer in age to them than we are—they can relate to the college students, take inspiration from them."

Cisek and Pyle help their student presenters deal with logistics, while the students themselves organize the content,

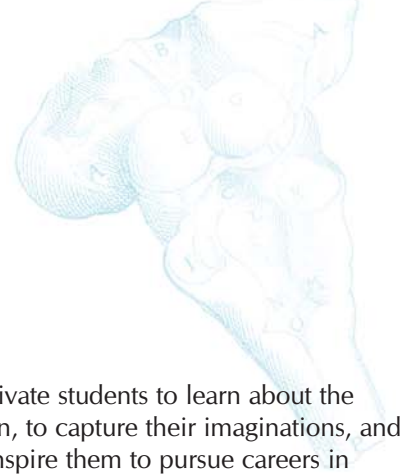


Stephane Blanchard, senior biology major, pre-med, uses vanilla wafers, twizzlers, and other candy to make a model of a brain neuron. Students in the Building Brain Awareness class constructed these before taking the activity to various venues in the community, including ArtWise, Super Science Saturday, and individual classrooms. Always a hit with K-12 students, the edible neuron allows a simplified explanation of the basic components and function of a neuron.

do the research, and connect the dots.

"Basically, we help them in every way besides telling them what to say," Pyle said. "What we have is college-level students preparing presentations for elementary, middle, and high school students. For the presenters, it's a very different

# Presence of Mind continued



way of learning. They have to do all the research themselves, fill in the gaps in their own knowledge, and develop age-appropriate ways to deliver their content to the age group they've chosen to teach

that year. Several of our students have come back multiple years to do this—they love it, they love connecting with kids who get enthusiastic. It's a painless and fun way to learn."

From here, the Society for Neuroscience, which started Brain Awareness Week, is encouraging local organizers to develop more scientist-educator partnerships and move away from "outreach," Pyle said.

Those partnerships now include regional activities such as ArtWise, Super Science Saturday, Science Night at Lewis and Clark Elementary School in Grand Forks, and activities with the local chapter of the Girl Scouts of America.

"This is very exciting for us because

we can reach more children in one place at venues such as ArtWise," Cisek said.

The Regional Brain Bee grew out of the local Brain Awareness Week. It's a separate activity, loosely affiliated with the International Brain Bee, which was originally organized as a competition by Norbert Myslinski of the University of Maryland. The Brain Bee aims "to

motivate students to learn about the brain, to capture their imaginations, and to inspire them to pursue careers in biomedical brain research," the group says on its home page.

There are about 70 Local Brain Bee coordinators worldwide—including Cisek here in Grand Forks—who conduct competitions annually. The winner of each local Bee is invited to attend a National Brain Bee competition in his or her own country, and the winner of each National Bee is invited to compete in the International Brain Bee Championship. Several competitors from the Grand Forks region competition have won national awards. One is now majoring in neuroscience at Harvard, and another is a science major at Stanford University. Most recently, Phil Brockman, a 15-year-old Grand Forks homeschooled student, represented North Dakota at the 2010 National Brain Bee. "We have eight to 10 students a year competing in our Brain Bee, and we have a few dedicated teachers who are definitely behind this program," Cisek said. "

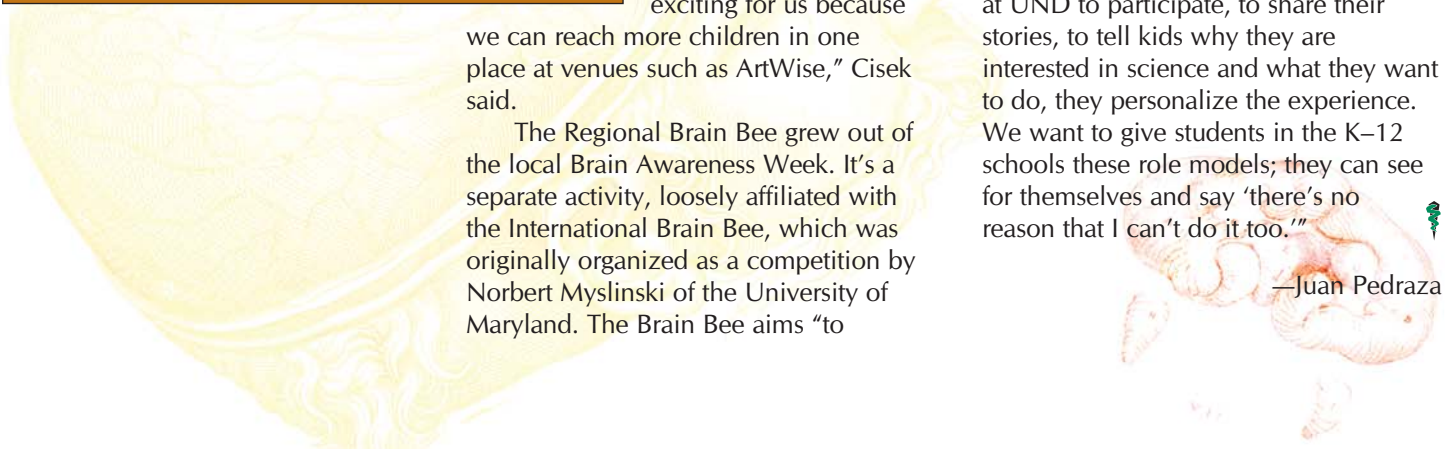
Ultimately, it's all about understanding how and why things work, the core questions that drive folks who go into science, engineering, math, and technology.

"Science can be lots of fun, and that's why we do these activities," Cisek said. "By encouraging our students here at UND to participate, to share their stories, to tell kids why they are interested in science and what they want to do, they personalize the experience. We want to give students in the K-12 schools these role models; they can see for themselves and say 'there's no reason that I can't do it too.'"

—Juan Pedraza



Maren Kludt, a junior pre-physical therapy major, completes her "edible neuron."





# Following a Passion

"I ALWAYS KNEW I WANTED TO HELP others in a meaningful way," said Grant McFadden, a student in the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences Physician Assistant (PA) program, about what influenced his decision to pursue a career in the allied health science field. "I loved science, and I loved helping people."

McFadden works and studies in his hometown of Buffalo, Minn. After high

love for fellow man and for helping people."

The Physician Assistant program at UND is twenty-four months in length, with the objective of preparing individuals who will provide primary health care services as clinically competent physician assistants. Moreover, the PA program prepares students to serve rural or underserved populations. The program also strives to develop physician

It's a **life commitment to helping people,**  
but it's worth the work...

school, he interned at a local hospital, where he discovered his passion for the health science field. The purpose of the internship program was to give graduating high school students hands-on experience in a clinical setting under the guidance of a health care professional.

After the internship, McFadden was interested in physical therapy, but his scientific interests led him to study clinical laboratory science (CLS) at UND. After graduating from the CLS program, he worked as a clinical scientist in Minneapolis for five years. Although he enjoyed his work, he decided he wanted to be more involved with patient care, and as a result, he returned to UND and entered the Physician Assistant program. McFadden credits his success to the dedicated mentoring he has received from his preceptor, **Dr. Andrew Burgdorf**. His PA training has been at Buffalo Hospital (Allina Hospitals & Clinics), which is the same hospital he interned at as a teenager. McFadden's dedication to community is also present in his advice to interested youth. "First, you have to have your heart in the right place," McFadden said. "You can't do it for the money; you have to do it for your

assistants who will serve as positive role models for future physician assistant students.

Students in the program take courses online for two semesters, then work with a preceptor in a clinical setting, and finish the program by performing a series of specialty clerkship clinical rotations, completing a scholarly project, and taking final examinations. Physician assistants, like doctors, experience high workloads and limited resources, which is why the heavy course load and high expectations are important in preparing students to provide the best quality of care for patients. "It is a lot of work," McFadden comments. "It's a life commitment to helping people, but it's worth the work and commitment."

— Alex Cavanaugh

**Grant McFadden**  
Major: Physician Assistant  
Class of 2010  
CLS Degree: 2003  
Hometown: Buffalo, Minn.



# A Long and Winding Road



WHEN MARK SUPER CAME TO UND, he believed his career path would lead him to the courtroom. It turned out he was right. But instead of being a lawyer, Super sometimes finds himself on the witness stand detailing his findings as a forensic pathologist. Several of his cases have ended up on national television, but perhaps nothing is as exciting as helping law enforcement solve cases that have left them stymied.

"I am the forensic pathology faculty participant in the annual California Department of Justice Cold Case Investigation course in which we spend a week in a hotel with detectives from police agencies from all over the world going over old homicide cases, brainstorming what new things can be done in order to revive the cases," Super said. "Many cases have been solved over the years."

**UND grad's path leads to exciting career in forensics**

## A Career in California

Super was appointed chief forensic pathologist for the Sacramento County (California) Coroner's Office in 2002. He performs autopsies on people who have died by nonnatural means, such as homicides and accidents, and on people who have died by natural means but do not have a physician willing or able to sign their death certificates.

"As chief, I supervise two staff forensic pathologists who do the same thing, and I act as medical director of the office," Super explained. "Essentially, I am responsible for medical decisions regarding causes of death."

In Sacramento County, this is no small task. The county's forensic pathologists help law enforcement by responding to homicide scenes where bodies are found. Because homicides can occur at any time, Super and his staff

are always on call.

Super also helps the community through his academic appointment to the University of California–Davis medical school. Each of the school’s pathology residents rotate through Super’s office to gain experience in forensic pathology.

In addition, Super serves as vice chair of the Sacramento County Child Death Review Team, which meets monthly to review the deaths of all children in the community.

All of this is a long way from where Super started.

### **Struggling to Find His Path**

Originally from Bismarck, Super came to UND in 1969 intent on becoming a lawyer and ultimately a judge. Unfulfilled by the classes he was taking, Super struggled for a couple of years trying to find a career that would fit him. He knew he enjoyed biology and steered toward a major in life sciences. But most of these majors required calculus, a class in which he did poorly.

“So—and this really happened—I came onto campus as a junior with no major, so I picked up the UND catalogue to look for a major that was in the life sciences but didn’t require calculus,” he said. “I opened the catalogue right to (physical therapy). That field sounded interesting, so I went and met with Bud Wessman, the UND PT Department chair. That meeting turned my academic life around.”

As a physical therapist, Super found he enjoyed working with the elderly. “I had spent a lot of time as an altar boy at a neighborhood Catholic nursing home in Bismarck and didn’t know that it had planted a seed, which blossomed later when I began working with (the elderly) as patients,” Super said. “So when I entered UND med school in 1976, my plan was to be a geriatrist.” That changed during Super’s third year.

“I realized that what I liked most about medicine, and had an aptitude for, was diagnostics,” he said.

Super’s first rotation his fourth year

at UND was in pathology at St. Alexius Hospital in Bismarck.

“I took it first to see if pathology was a fit for me early, yet in time to seek other residencies,” Super said. “I loved it. I knew that a pathologist was the type of physician I was meant to be. But even better, while on that rotation, they allowed me to do an autopsy. Immediately, I knew that autopsies were the part of pathology most interesting to me. And that interest in the autopsy never went away.”

### **Finding Forensics**


After earning his MD in 1980, a pathology residency with the U.S. Navy led him to San Diego.

“It wasn’t until my second year in residency that I was exposed to forensics,” Super said. “I didn’t even really know what forensic pathology was about until then. The Navy sent a forensic pathologist to be on staff at Naval Hospital in San Diego. He let me help him with forensic cases. When I realized that there was a specialty that primarily performed autopsies, which I already liked doing, but also uses autopsies to assist law enforcement in figuring out how someone was murdered—I was hooked.”

In 1984–85, Super completed a forensic pathology fellowship in Washington, D.C. He came back to California after the fellowship to become command forensic pathologist for the U.S. Navy on the West Coast.

In 1988, he joined the staff of the newly created San Diego County Medical Examiner’s Office. Seven years later, he went into private forensic pathology.

Now Super is one of fewer than 600 practicing forensic pathologists in the United States. And his zeal for his job has never waned.

“Every autopsy is a puzzle that needs to be figured out—and a different puzzle from every other autopsy,” he said. “Every day is something new.” 

— Brenda Haugen

**Every autopsy is . . .  
a different puzzle  
from every other  
autopsy** ”

## COMMENCEMENT



OB-GYN: Steffen Christensen, MD; Dean Joshua Wynne, MD, MBA, MPH; Tiffany Weber, Don Gullicks, Jennifer Johnson, Amanda Johnson, Lacy Kresbach, Megan Miller, Mahate Parker, Ana Tobiasz and Dennis Lutz, MD. The UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences continually produces the highest percentage of graduates of all medical schools who choose Ob/Gyn for their specialty; half of our Ob/Gyn residents come back to practice in North Dakota.



**Above:** Dean Joshua Wynne, MD, MBA, MPH, and Mary Ann Sens, MD, PhD, present the Charles E. Kupchella Award to Thomas Seaworth, MD, clinical assistant professor of Family and Community Medicine. The Kupchella Award recognizes individuals in North Dakota and the surrounding region who have contributed significantly to disease prevention and healthful living.

**Below:** Dean Wynne and Dr. Sens present the Pathology Book Award to Tracy Lundberg.

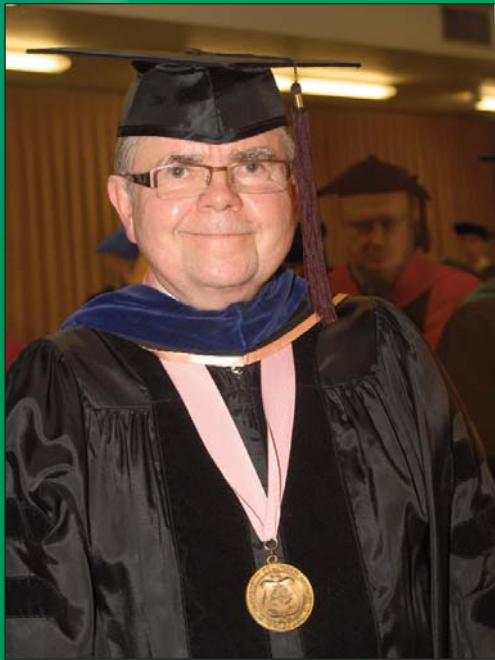


### Congratulations DPTs!

(left to right): Emily Maurer, Tiffany Czarnomski, and Paula Barry are part of a class of 49 newly graduated DPTs.

MD graduates who participated in a four-week, fourth-year elective in Chimbote, Peru, with their preceptor Dr. Stephen Tinguely. They gained experience in the unique challenges of delivering health care to impoverished people in a developing country. (back row, from left): Priyanka Singh, Kelsey Hoffman, Amanda Johnson, Stephen Tinguely, MD, and Emily Koeck (front row) Jessica Lichter, Sara Mayer, and Ashley Gorby.





Edward Carlson, PhD, Professor and Chair, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, and Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor

**Congratulations to ALL the School of Medicine & Health Sciences Graduates!**



**Congratulations new PAs!**



Sons Chase and Jaden Wilcox assist with the hooding of their parents, Christine and Dave Wilcox of Yukon, Oklahoma, during the Physician Assistant Program's Hooding Ceremony for the 37th Graduating Class. Sixty Physician Assistants from 17 different states received their hoods during the ceremony.



Future Class of 2036? MD graduate Nathan Bro with his son



**Congratulations MD Class of 2010!**

For more commencement photos, please see [und.med.edu/commencement](http://und.med.edu/commencement)

# Magnificent Teachers

Donors to the Deeded Body Program transmit the light of knowledge to the next generation of students



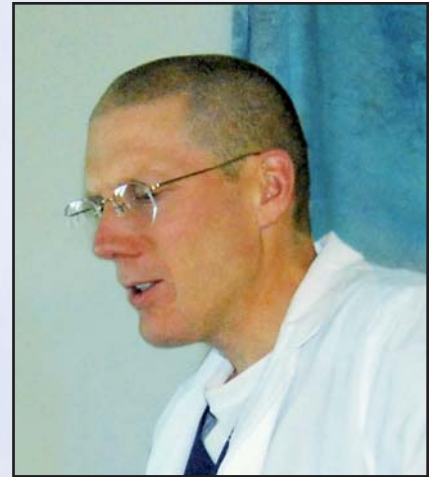
EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IS A hallmark of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences and represents the commitment of a diverse group of people who have come together to help teach, train, and mentor the students from our region and beyond. In one way or another, we all have significant roles in providing an outstanding educational experience for our various constituents that include not only undergraduate, graduate, and professional-program students but also the general public. Our in-house faculty teach as part of their occupation. Our graduate students teach as part of their training. Our volunteer clinical faculty teach as part of their profession, and our indispensable staff provide us with the resources and vital support that make it all possible. All are dedicated people that are essential to the successful fulfillment of our mission.

However, another set of teachers at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences should be recognized

that is the human body in a way that books, computer programs, plastic models, or discussion cannot achieve.

The breadth of this experience is not obvious. Students not only learn human anatomy and have the opportunity to observe the impact of pathological states but also are confronted with important issues in humanism, such as death and dying, medical compassion, respect, aging with dignity, and foundations regarding the practitioner-patient relationship. This rare opportunity to glimpse our inner self never ceases to be enlightening. From those exposed to cadaveric material for the first time to the veteran faculty member, it is impossible not to learn something from each of these remarkable teachers.

The spirit with which a person must donate his or her body is difficult to fully grasp. This ultimate commitment to teaching is a decision that many of us have not considered and most would not make. It is a completely selfless act of generosity



Patrick A. Carr, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology

The spirit with which a person must donate his or her body is difficult to fully grasp. This ultimate commitment to teaching is a decision that many of us have not considered.

and appreciated as well. These people perform a remarkable teaching service, although their backgrounds are likely quite varied and many may not have had any formal training in the classroom. Their commonality is bequeathal to our Deeded Body Program, a gift that allows them to perform one last physical act as magnificent teachers. The value of those who have chosen to join our program cannot be overstated. Because of the generosity of our cadaveric donors, our students can study and experience the ultimate accomplishment

and a desire to be involved in teaching those who will end up caring for us all. In light of this, and on behalf of all who have benefited from such a gift, I would like to extend a profound "Thank you" to past, present, and future donors for your teaching excellence and invaluable contribution to our institution.

— Pat Carr

For more information about the Deeded Body Program, please visit [http://www.med.und.edu/depts/anatomy/deeded\\_body.html](http://www.med.und.edu/depts/anatomy/deeded_body.html)

## Integrative Medicine Delivers John R. Fischer, MD, Lecture Series

**Debra G. Bell, MD, and Neena E. Thomas-Eapen, MD, FAACP**, are the interim codirectors of integrative medicine in the Department of Family and Community Medicine for the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Bell gave the inaugural John R. Fischer, MD, Integrative Medicine Lecture on January 20 at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Bell is a family physician from Crookston, Minn. Bell introduced the grant for integrative medicine, provided a brief overview of integrative medicine



Daniel Wolpert, Debra Bell, Neena Thomas-Eapen

and its importance in medical education, and reviewed new plans for its addition to the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Thomas-Eapen delivered the second lecture on February 18. Thomas-Eapen is associate director of the UND Center for Family Medicine in Minot.

The Fischer Lectures cover topics in integrative medicine and include a wide range of clinical issues. The goal of the series is to introduce a variety of practitioners



David Rakel

and experts in the field who will help create an awareness of the importance, depth, and breadth of this discipline. The lecture series is the first step in incorporating integrative medicine into medical education at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The series is made possible by a grant from **John R. Fischer, MD, BS Med. '65**.

**David Rakel, MD**, gave the third integrative medicine lecture, titled "The Salutogenic Oriented Session: A Healing Focused Patient Encounter, Combining the Science and the Art," on March 26. Rakel is editor of one of the main texts in the field, titled *Integrative Medicine*.

The **Rev. Daniel Wolpert, MDiv, MA**, presented "Science, Medicine, Human Bias, and the Future of Healing," the fourth lecture in the series on April 19. Wolpert is cofounder and codirector of the Minnesota Institute of Contemplation and Healing, a multifaceted facility for the practice and study of contemplation, healing, and the arts. He is the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Crookston, Minn.

## Center for Rural Health Partners with the National Institute of Mental Health

The Center for Rural Health at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences has been selected as the National Institute of Mental Health's (NIMH) Outreach Partner for the state of North Dakota. The Center joins a nationwide network of organizations that educates the public about mental and substance use disorders, and scientific progress in these areas to promote the prevention, early detection, and treatment of these disorders, and reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with them.

Through the Outreach Partnership Program, NIMH strives to increase public awareness about the importance of basic, translational, and clinical research to the understanding, prevention, and treatment of mental illnesses and addiction disorders, paving the way for recovery and cures. NIMH also seeks the input of its partners from national and state organizations to strengthen the public health impact of the research it conducts and funds through better understanding of community needs. In addition to 55 partners from every state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, over 80

national organizations participate in the program, representing the patient, professional, advocacy, and service-related communities primarily concerned with mental health, alcoholism, and drug use disorders.

The NIMH provides the Partners with research updates, opportunities to network with state and national organizations through an annual meeting and other regional meetings, access to NIMH publications for statewide distribution, and an annual stipend.

Outreach Partners are chosen through a competitive process in which applications are reviewed by a panel of experts and NIMH staff. The Program is an initiative of the NIMH with support from the National Institute of Drug Abuse and in collaboration with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The National Institute of Mental Health is one of 27 components of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the federal government's principal biomedical and behavioral research agency. NIH is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



### Plans take shape for Bismarck Center for Family Medicine

The North Dakota Legislature appropriated \$5.4 million to the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) to construct a new facility for its Bismarck Center for Family Medicine and Southwest Campus offices. The SMHS has selected Ritterbush-Ellig-Hulsing, P.C., of Bismarck as the architects and planners for the construction project.

The SMHS solicited advice on a potential building site from the community, the City of Bismarck, Medcenter One, and St. Alexis Medical Center. The SMHS appreciates the helpful and positive community contributions that will lead to a favorable location for the facility. The center will benefit the medical student and residency training programs of the SMHS and ultimately the citizens of Bismarck and the surrounding area. The SMHS hopes to complete the building by July 2011.



REH Architects, Bismarck, ND

### 25th Annual Dakota Conference Draws Record Attendance



A record number of over 400 participants and 56 exhibitors met for the 25th Annual Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks, N. Dak., on April 13–15, 2010. The theme “Health Care in Transition: Creative Strategies” set the tone for the pre- and post-conference workshops, breakout sessions, poster presentations, and annual awards banquet. The keynote speakers included

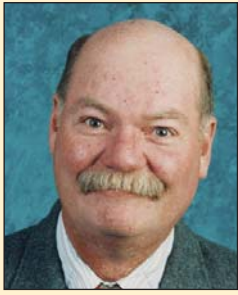
- **Jim Hart, MD**, director, Executive Program in Public Health Practice and the North Central Public Health Leadership Institute, University of Minnesota School of Public Health;
- **Robert O. Kelley, PhD**, president, the University of North Dakota (shown above);
- **Wanda Agnew, PhD**, director, Nutrition Service, Bismarck Burleigh Public Health; **Sandra Poitra, RD, LD**, community dietitian, Quentin N. Burdick Memorial Health Care Facility; and **Karen Ehrens, LRD**, health and nutrition consultant, Ehrens Consulting; and
- **Tom Morris**, director, Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Next year’s Conference on Rural and Public Health will be held March 23–25, 2011 in Mandan, North Dakota.



**Grant Achievement Award Reception**  
**Edward Sauter, MD, PhD, MHA**, associate dean for research, accepts a Grant Achievement award from Dean **Joshua Wynne, MD, MBA, MPH**, and **Phyllis Johnson, PhD**, UND vice president for research and economic development, at the inaugural Research Award Reception sponsored by the Office of the Dean and the Office of Research Affairs at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences on February 17 in the Vennes Atrium. The grants were awarded for new national funding received during fiscal year 2009. Eighteen other researchers in the medical school were also recognized with this award.

**Rudd Named to ND Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame**



**Jim Rudd, MS '81, ATC**, assistant professor in the Division of Sports Medicine at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, was honored by the North Dakota Athletic Trainers Association by being named to the NDATA Hall of Fame. The award was presented to him at the 2010 NDATA symposium and meeting in

Minot on April 10. Rudd has worked in the Division of Sports Medicine since 1989.

Rudd was instrumental in developing the Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training degree within the School of Medicine and Health Sciences in the early 1990s. He currently teaches classes within the BSAT degree program.

**Key Health Alliance Selected as Regional Extension Center for Health Information Technology for Minnesota and North Dakota**

Health and Human Services Secretary **Kathleen Sebelius** announced that Key Health Alliance (KHA), a Minnesota based partnership of Stratis Health, the Rural Health Resource Center, and The College of St. Scholastica, has been awarded a \$19 million grant to serve as the new federally designated Regional Extension Assistance Centers for Health Information Technology (REACH) for Minnesota and North Dakota. North Dakota Health Care Review, Inc., and the University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health are working with KHA to meet the unique needs of the North Dakota provider community and build a cohesive and effective program across both states.

**AAFP Achievement Award**

The School of Medicine and Health Sciences is the top medical school in the country for producing family medicine physicians, according to rankings released by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

Ranking first among the country's 132 accredited medical schools, UND earned the Achievement Award from the AAFP, which recognizes outstanding schools that, during a three-year period, graduate the greatest percentage of graduates who choose family medicine.

For the complete story, please visit <http://www.med.und.edu/news/release.cfm?releaseid=515>

**Bismarck College National Alumni Association Honors Alumni of the Year**

**Ronald Tello, MD '76 (Internal Medicine Residency '79)**, and **Michael Ray Brown, MD '92**, were selected as dual recipients of the Alumni of the Year Award for 2010 by the Bismarck State College (BSC) National Alumni Association.



Tello

BSC honored them at a dinner for friends, family, and associates on May 13, and during BSC's commencement on May 14. The trustees selected Tello, '70, and Brown, '82, for their extraordinary professional achievements, dedication to the medical field, and leadership in the Bismarck community.



Brown

Tello, an internal medicine physician at Medcenter One Health Systems since 1979, was cited by the trustees for dedicating time and service to the Bismarck-Mandan community far beyond expectations for doctors in private or group practice. For the past 25 years, he has been medical director for area businesses, nursing homes, and the youth correctional center.

Tello is Kidder County health officer and just ended 12 years as Burleigh County health officer, Burleigh County coroner, and medical coordinator for the USDA Agriculture Research Service's health surveillance program in Mandan. Tello originated the Occupational Health Services department at Q&R Clinic/Medcenter One and served as its medical director from 1992 to 2008. In 2008, he became chief of staff at Triumph Hospital in Mandan, where he has been a physician since 1999.

Brown joined the St. Alexius Heart & Lung Clinic in 2000 as a cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon with a special interest in research. Chief and co-investigator of numerous published and abstracted articles, he has completed studies on diabetes, heart and lung disease, surgical interventions, and cancer. Brown is now involved in two international clinical trials using stents for carotid artery stenosis and medication for people with high risk for coronary bypass grafting.

His research on cardiovascular diseases was recognized nationally by the American Heart Association as a finalist for the Melvin L. Marcus Investigator Award in Cardiovascular Science. Brown delivered an invited scientific paper at the 19th International Congress on Endovascular Interventions in 2006. He holds a doctorate in biochemistry and molecular biology and is an Army National Guard Medical Corps combat veteran.

127TH ANNUAL FOUNDERS DAY



University President **Robert O. Kelley, PhD**, presents the Departmental Excellence in Research Award to the Department of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Therapeutics, at the 127th Annual Founders Day ceremony in February at UND. *Standing, left to right: Xuesong Chen, PhD; Othman Ghribi, PhD; Colin K. Combs, PhD; Saobo Lei, PhD; Holly M. Brown-Borg, PhD; President Kelley; Jonathan D. Geiger, PhD and chair; Thad A. Rosenberger, PhD; Van A. Doze, PhD; Julie Horn, administrative officer; Debra Kroese, administrative officer; kneeling, left to right: Mikhail Y. Golovko, PhD, and Eric J. Murphy, PhD.*



President Kelley, presents the Excellence in Teaching, Research or Creative Activity, and Service Award to **Mary Ann Sens, MD, PhD**, and chair of the Department of Pathology.



**Richard Riegelman**, founding dean of The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services presented “Public Health and the Future of Undergraduate Education” to students, faculty, and staff at the School on March 25.

## ALUMNI NOTES

'00s

**John Lyng, MD '05**, of Apple Valley, Minn., is aiding efforts to secure an ambulance for a hospital on the Caribbean island community of Vieux Fort, St. Lucia, which was damaged in a fire. Lyng, who is an emergency medicine doctor and registered paramedic, had volunteered in St. Lucia in 2008 and 2009, during which he discovered that ambulance runs were a major necessity. Now, Lyng and others are raising funds for supplies and equipment for the hospital, including a new ambulance. The project is in coalition with Hewannora Health Volunteers, a U.S.-based nonprofit organization.



**Tami Parker, DPT '05, MPT '01**, has joined MeritCare Mayville Union Hospital's Department of Physical Therapy as a physical therapist. She previously worked for MeritCare in Thief River Falls, Minn. Her interests include manual therapy of extremities and the spine, sports medicine, general orthopedics, and biomechanical assessment. She is also

trained in treating incontinence and pelvic pain.



**Justin Reisenauer, MD '08**, who is completing an emergency medicine residency at Michigan State University/Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies, won a resident teaching award from the M-4s at the MSU/KCMS Match Day luncheon for his teaching in the pediatric intensive care unit.

**Thomas Gray, MD '02**, has joined the St. Alexius Medical Center in Minot, N. Dak. Gray has worked in hospitals in Minot, Port Angeles, Wash., and New Town, N. Dak. He is board certified in family medicine.

'90s



**James Neumann, MD '95, IM Res '98** has joined the hospitalist team of Innovis Health in Fargo, N. Dak. He is currently in the process of re-certifying through the American Board of Internal Medicine.



**Jay LaBine, MD '91**, has been named medical director at Priority Health in Grand Rapids, Mich. LaBine most recently served as chief of staff at St. Mary's Health Care in Grand Rapids. In his new position, LaBine will work in the Medical Affairs department where he will be responsible for utilization management, reducing per capita

costs, and building provider relationships. Prior to joining Priority Health, LaBine also served as chief of surgery and trauma director at St. Mary's Health Care. His experience as a surgeon will complement the expertise of the Priority Health medical staff, which includes pediatrics, family practice, internal medicine, geriatrics, hospice and palliative care, and psychiatrics. LaBine completed a fellowship in trauma and critical care at the University of California at San Diego Medical Center.

'80s



**Lee Glasoe, BSOT '87**, has been honored with the South Dakota Physical Therapy Association Hall of Fame Contributor Award. Glasoe is CEO of Prairie Rehabilitation Services. Under his direction, Prairie Rehabilitation has become one of the largest private employers of physical therapists in South Dakota.



**Craig Lambrecht, MD '87**, has been named to the board of directors of the Missouri Valley Family YMCA in Bismarck, N. Dak. The Wishek, N. Dak., native is the president and CEO of Medcenter One. He has three business and management master's degrees and has served in leadership positions with the North Dakota National Guard for 26 years.



**Vani Nagala, IM Res '84**, celebrated her twenty-fifth year as a part of the Southeast Medical Center staff in Oakes, N. Dak. She has been in North Dakota with her husband Dr. Rup Nagala since November of 1979.

## ALUMNI NOTES

'80s

**David E. Grosz, MD '80, Transitional Residency '81; and Harold T. Rodenbiker, BS Med '78, Transitional Residency**



Grosz



Rodenbiker

**'81; of Fercho Cataract and Eye Clinic in Fargo, N. Dak., have been named two of the Best Doctors in America for 2009–10.**

This is the seventh time they have received the Best Doctors award. Boston-based Best Doctors Inc. recognizes only the top three to five percent of doctors in their specialties in the United States.

**Jo Van Winter, MD '80,** has joined the St. Alexius Minot Medical Center in Minot, N. Dak. A Minot native, she previously worked for the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. She is board certified in family medicine as well as pediatrics.

'70s



**Scott Harris, MD '79,** has joined Southeast Medical Center in Lisbon, N. Dak. Before working with Southeast Medical Center, he practiced at MeritCare in Fargo, where he started the transplant program in 1989.

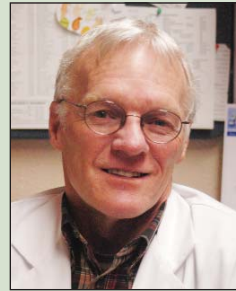


**Russel J. Kuzel, MD '79, Family Practice Residency '82,** has been hired as senior vice president and chief medical officer of UCare, a nonprofit health plan based in Marshfield, Wisconsin. UCare provides health care and administrative services to 200,000 members through partnerships with health care providers, counties, and

community organizations. Kuzel was with Dakota Clinic–Innovis Health in Fargo, N. Dak., from 1984 to 2003. He held leadership positions with Dakota Community Health Network and the Innovis Health Hospital board of directors. In 2008, he earned a Master of Medical Management from the University of California Marshall School of Business in Los Angeles.

**Ernest Godfread, MD '77,** has been named to St. Alexius Medical Center's board of directors. He is a retired orthopaedic surgeon and a native of Stanley, North Dakota.

**Alan B. Lindemann, MD '77,** has opened the Harvey Clinic in Harvey, N. Dak., specializing in obstetrics, gynecology, and family medicine. He has been practicing medicine since 1981.



**Rodney Zimmerman, MD '77,** has begun practice at the Hazen Sakakawea Clinic and at the Beulah Sakakawea Clinic, both in North Dakota. He spent the majority of the last 31 years in Cameroon, Africa, where he performed medical mission work, practicing family medicine.



**Amy Oxentenko, MD '98,** assistant professor of medicine in the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., visited with **Judy DeMers,** associate dean, Student Affairs and Admissions, on April 7 at the School. Amy's husband **Shawn Oxentenko, MD '98,** is an instructor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Mayo Clinic.

**Don Vernon Smith, BS Med '42**, passed away at the age of 90 on January 14, 2010, after a series of strokes. For the past year, he lived at the Catalina Foothills Adult Care Home with his wife, Rebecca.

He was born Sept. 16, 1919 in Stanton, N. Dak., the son of Dr. Cecil and Mrs. Winnifred Smith. He grew up in Mandan, N. Dak., and attended the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, where he met his future wife, Rebecca Onstad. After two years of medical school in Grand Forks, he moved to Chicago where he completed his degree at Northwestern University. After interning at Cook County Hospital, he joined the Army as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Initially, he assisted in surgery for wounded soldiers in Ithaca, N.Y., before being assigned for a year to the Army of Occupation in Japan. In 1947 he returned to join his family and begin a surgical residency at Eitel Hospital in Minneapolis.

He moved to Blue Earth, Minn., in 1950 to join the Blue Earth Medical Center doing general surgery and family practice. In 1972 he moved to Arizona where he served on the Ganado Indian Reservation with Project Hope. After two years, he moved to Phoenix to work with the Arizona Health Plan.

He is preceded in death by his sister, Margaret; his brother, Dale; and a son, Dean. Don is survived by his wife of 66 years, Rebecca; a son, Dr. Stephen Smith and his wife, Carla Granat, of Seattle, Wash.; daughters, Christine Austin, Deborah Haynes, Dr. Linda Turner, and her husband, Justin, all of Tucson, Ariz., in addition to 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.



**Siegfried Detke, PhD**, associate professor and director of graduate education in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences, passed away in Grand Forks Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at the age of 59.

Born in Bobingen Germany, he spent his childhood in Cleveland, Ohio. Detke earned a B.S. in Biology from Case Western Reserve University and his PhD in Biochemistry from Colorado State University in Fort Collins. He completed postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Florida and the University of Chicago Medical School before coming to UND in December of 1987. Detke was a well-known scientist interested in understanding the mechanism of infectious disease at the genetic level. His work centered on the infectious process of a protozoan parasite, *Leishmania*, responsible for a disease that affects about 350 million people worldwide. Detke's research was funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the World Health Organization. He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and

**Raymond R. Schale, BS Med '59**, of Tampa, Fla., formerly of Kankakee, passed away at the age of 73 on March 7, 2010, at Tampa General Hospital. Funeral services were held March 12 in Tampa and March 13 in St. Augustine, Fla.

**Gordon Michael Fillipi, BSMT '62, MS Micro '70, PhD Micro '73**

Dr. Fillipi, 69, Grand Forks, N. Dak., passed away on December 23, 2009.

He was born in Warren, Minn., on October 17, 1940, to Henry and Grace (Osvak) Fillipi, and he was the older of two boys. He was raised on a farm near Tabor, Minn., and then moved to Grand Forks to attend college at the University of North Dakota. He served as laboratory supervisor of the sanatorium at Nopeming, Minn., near Duluth and later continued his education and graduated with a PhD from the University of North Dakota. He worked as a microbiologist in the hospital laboratories of St. Michael's Hospital, United Hospital, and Altru Hospital, where he retired in 1997 as director of the pathology lab.

Survivors include his sons, Greg (Bita) of Moses Lake, Wash., Steve (Shelly) of Aurora, Colo., Tom (Patty) of Farmington, Minn., Jim (Lori) of Bemidji, Minn.; daughter, Suzanne (Brad) Berry, Grand Forks; grandchildren, Nicole, Austin, Sydney, Ashley, Preston, Brianna, Brooke, Bauer, Chase, and Aiden; great-granddaughter, Christine; brother, Scott (Lorna) of Warren, Minn. and many in-laws, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Shirley, an infant son, his parents, and in-laws, Johannes and Amy Hedlund.

the American Society of Microbiology. He served as the secretary-treasurer for the North Dakota Academy of Science.

Detke was an exceptional teacher. He taught basic biochemistry and molecular biology to medical, graduate, and undergraduate students and mentored one doctoral and three master's degree students. His passion and commitment to his work was an inspiration to students and faculty alike. While he was happiest experimenting in his lab, he was also a bibliophile with a special interest in science fiction and a movie buff.

Dr. Detke is survived by his wife of 36 years, Jan Detke of Grand Forks; two sons, Karl of San Diego Calif., and Kyle of Lincoln Nebr.; his parents, Emil and Anna; sisters, Sigrid (Rick) Straka and Heidi Detke, all of Daytona Beach Fla.; and sister, Eleanor Detke of Cleveland.

The Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology marked the deaths of two faculty colleagues with a Remembrance Celebration on May 3, 2010, at 3:30 in the Reed Keller Auditorium, at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. **Gene Homandberg** passed away on December 21, 2009. Family, colleagues, students, and friends attended the celebration.



**Dr. Keith Foster** died peacefully on April 4, 2010, at Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center. Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, April 9, 2010, at Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, with Rev. John Guthrie, Rev. Thomas Kramer, and Rev. Russell Kovash officiating. Burial was held in St. Mary's Cemetery, Bismarck.

Keith was born August 21, 1924, in Mandan, N. Dak., to Fay and Alfreda (Farr) Foster and was raised in Dickinson. He attended the College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn., and Marquette University of Medicine in Milwaukee, Wis., where he met his wife, Dorothy Geach. They were married in Hurley, Wis., in 1947. Their marriage was blessed with five children.

Keith completed residencies in internal medicine in Detroit, Mich., and Seattle, Wash. From 1943 to 1946, he served in the U.S. Army. He served in the U.S.A.F. as Assistant Chief of Medicine at Wright Patterson Air Force Base Hospital in Dayton, Ohio from 1951 to 1953. In 1953, Keith moved his young family back to Dickinson, where he was in private practice at the Rodgers-Gumper Clinic. In 1970, he moved to Bismarck and practiced at the Q & R Clinic. In 1974, Keith was appointed professor and assistant dean at the University of North



Dr. Foster and Dean Edwin James, MD, at Dr. Foster's retirement reception on January 31, 1988.

Dakota School of Medicine where he was instrumental in taking the medical school from a 2-year to a 4-year program. Keith was a compassionate teacher and mentor to many future physicians.

He was medical director of the Heartview Foundation from 1979 to 1989 and from 1991 to 1993. Keith was a pioneer in treating alcoholism as a disease. He furthered his understanding of alcoholism as a Bush Clinical Fellow at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Md., and the Royal Free Hospital in London, England from 1985 to 1986. In 1986, he became the first North Dakota physician to be American board certified in addiction medicine.

Keith is survived by his loving wife, Dorothy, of 62 years; sons, Mike (Marilee), Bob (Linda); Dan (Myra); and daughter, Sue Glasser (Ray); 16 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one brother, Bill Foster (Kay); and sister, Sally May (Tom).

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Mary Jean Hendrickson; and his daughter, Kathleen Jane.

Keith's greatest legacy is his family. He will be remembered for his wisdom, sense of humor, kind supportive personality, and his devotion to his family, students, and patients.

Memorials may be given to either the God's Child Project or the Epilepsy Foundation, in memory of his daughter Jane.

**Ralph Warren Pierson, BS Med '52**, of Minot, died Sunday, April 18, 2010, in a Minot hospital. He was 83.

Longtime Minot physician and farmer Ralph Warren Pierson was born and raised in York. He attended school on the home farm until his graduation from the Benson County Agricultural Training School in Maddock. In 1950, he graduated from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., with a pre-med major. He attended medical school at the University of North Dakota and at the University of Illinois in Chicago, where he met his future wife.

He married Wilma J. Kvenild in 1954. Together they had five children, raising four of them to adulthood with a strong sense of family loyalty and a love of learning.

He and Wilma shared many adventures. After their wedding, the couple moved to Los Angeles to begin Warren's internship. They also lived in Bismarck, where they made lifelong friends. They returned to California for Warren's stint in the Navy aboard the USS Toledo as a naval officer.

He traveled extensively overseas before returning to the Quain Ramstad Clinic in Bismarck. He continued his service to his country in the Naval Reserve.

Warren felt a calling to become a missionary, and thus began the couples' biggest adventure. With round-the-world plane tickets, they began their journey to Ethiopia, Africa, to serve four years as medical missionaries for the American Lutheran Church with their three daughters.

Warren treated hundreds of patients, including delivering his youngest son, Steve, while in Selek Leka, Ethiopia.

Upon returning from Africa, Warren decided to expand his medical expertise to surgery. They moved to Seattle so he could begin his surgical residency. After four years, Warren moved his family to North Dakota in a return to his roots. They settled in Minot, where Warren enjoyed years of working with his beloved patients at Medical Arts Clinic and in his private practice.

## ND OPPORTUNITIES

The following is a listing of communities in North Dakota with current openings for all specialties. For more information about these opportunities, please contact the site directly or Mary Amundson, MA, at the Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, 701-777-4018 or at [mamundson@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:mamundson@medicine.nodak.edu)

### Ashley

Ashley Medical Center  
Kathy Hoefl, CEO  
701-288-3433  
[khoefl@primecare.org](mailto:khoefl@primecare.org)  
Family medicine

### Bismarck

St. Alexis Medical Center  
Carol Lindsey, Physician Recruiter  
Office: 701-530-7172  
Cell: 701-226-9910  
[clindsey@primecare.org](mailto:clindsey@primecare.org)  
Neurology, cardiology, electrocardiology

Medcenter One  
Connie Long, Manager,  
Physician Recruitment and Retention  
701-323-5417  
[clong@mohs.org](mailto:clong@mohs.org)  
Obstetrics

### Bottineau

St. Andrew's Health Center  
Jodi Atkinson, CEO  
701-228-9300  
[jodia@standrewshealth.com](mailto:jodia@standrewshealth.com)  
Nurse practitioner or physician assistant, registered nurse, clinical lab science

### Cando

Towner County Medical Center  
Jac McTaggart  
701-968-4411  
[jacm@tcmedcenter.com](mailto:jacm@tcmedcenter.com)  
Family medicine

### Carrington

Carrington Health Center  
Mariann Doeling, Administrator  
701-652-3141  
[mariandoeling@catholichealth.net](mailto:mariandoeling@catholichealth.net)  
Physician assistant with family practice

### Cavalier

Pembina County Memorial Hospital  
Kathy Duff  
701-265-6228 Fax: 701-265-6269  
[kathy.duff@cavalierhospital.com](mailto:kathy.duff@cavalierhospital.com)  
General surgery

### Devils Lake

Altru Clinic-Lake Region  
Kerri Hjelmstad, Physician Recruiter  
[khjelmstad@altru.org](mailto:khjelmstad@altru.org)  
Jennifer Semling, Physician Recruiter  
[jsemling@altru.org](mailto:jsemling@altru.org)  
Elonda Nord, Branch Manager  
[enord@altru.org](mailto:enord@altru.org)  
701-662-2157  
Family medicine, family medicine with obstetrics, internal medicine

Towner County Medical Center Clinic  
Jac McTaggart  
701-968-4411  
[jacm@tcmedcenter.com](mailto:jacm@tcmedcenter.com)  
Family medicine

### Dickinson

Great Plains Clinic, PC  
Mark Grove, Administrator  
701-456-5161  
[markgrove@greatplainsclinic.com](mailto:markgrove@greatplainsclinic.com)  
Family medicine with obstetrics, internal medicine, general surgery, nurse practitioner

Med Center One – Dickinson  
Connie Long, Manager,  
Physician Recruitment and Retention  
701-323-5417  
[clong@mohs.org](mailto:clong@mohs.org)  
Family medicine

St. Joseph's Hospital and Health Center  
Denise Lutz, Executive Director of HR  
701-456-4274  
[deniselutz@catholichealth.net](mailto:deniselutz@catholichealth.net)  
Emergency medicine, registered nurse, clinical lab science

### Fargo

Family Healthcare Center  
701-239-2287  
[bweik@famhealthcare.org](mailto:bweik@famhealthcare.org)  
Family medicine with obstetrics, nurse practitioner, physician assistant

MeritCare Health System  
Jill Gilleshammer, Physician Recruiter  
701-280-4851  
[jill.gilleshammer@meritcare.com](mailto:jill.gilleshammer@meritcare.com)  
Family medicine with obstetrics, internal medicine, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, obstetrics, physical therapy, occupational therapy, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse

### Grand Forks

Altru Health System  
Kerri Hjelmstad, Physician Recruiter  
[khjelmstad@altru.org](mailto:khjelmstad@altru.org)  
Jenny Semling, Physician Recruiter  
[jsemling@altru.org](mailto:jsemling@altru.org)  
701-780-6596 or 1-800-437-5373  
Family medicine, internal medicine, general surgery, medical oncology, neurology, interventional cardiology, psychiatry, dermatology, gastroenterology, urology, pediatrics

### Harvey

St. Aloisius Medical Center  
Rocky Zastoupil, CEO  
701-324-4561  
[rockyz@stalouisius.com](mailto:rockyz@stalouisius.com)  
Internal medicine, family practice, registered nurse

### Hazen

Sakakawea Medical Center  
Pam Fitzgerald, Recruitment  
[pfitzgerald@sakmedcenter.org](mailto:pfitzgerald@sakmedcenter.org) or  
Darrold Bertsch, Administrator  
[dbertsch@sakmedcenter.org](mailto:dbertsch@sakmedcenter.org)  
701-748-7240  
Nurse practitioner, physician assistant, occupational therapy, registered nurse

St. Alexis Medical Center  
Carol Lindsey, Physician Recruiter  
[clindsey@primecare.org](mailto:clindsey@primecare.org)  
Office: 701-530-7172  
Cell: 701-226-9910  
Family medicine, internal medicine

### Hettinger

West River Regional Medical Center  
Jim Long, Administrator & CEO  
701-567-6183  
[jjml@wrhs.com](mailto:jjml@wrhs.com)  
Michelle McCornack, Recruitment  
701-567-6013  
[michellem@wrhs.com](mailto:michellem@wrhs.com)  
Family medicine, internal medicine, general surgery

### Jamestown

MeritCare Health System  
Jill Gilleshammer, Physician Recruiter  
701-280-4851  
[jill.gilleshammer@meritcare.com](mailto:jill.gilleshammer@meritcare.com)  
Family medicine with obstetrics, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse



**Jamestown, continued**

*Med Center One*  
 Connie Long, Manager,  
 Physician Recruitment and Retention  
 clong@mohs.org  
 701-323-5417  
 Family medicine, family medicine  
 with obstetrics

*North Dakota State Hospital*  
 Lyle Grove, HR Director  
 701-253-3015  
 lgrove@nd.gov  
 Psychiatry

*South Central Human Service Center*  
 Candace Fuglesten  
 701-253-6313 or 701-253-6300  
 cfuglesten@nd.gov  
 Psychiatry

**Kenmare**

Kenmare Community Hospital  
 Shawn Smothers, Administrator  
 Office: 701-385-4296 or 701-721-4156  
 shawn.smothers@trinityhealth.org  
 Shar Grigsby, Physician Recruiter  
 800-598-1205 or 701-857-7860  
 shar.grigsby@trinityhealth.org  
 Family medicine, internal medicine,  
 nurse practitioner, physician assistant,  
 registered nurse

**Langdon**

*Cavalier County Memorial Hospital*  
 Lawrence Blue, CEO  
 701-256-6180  
 lblue@ccmhnd.com  
 Family medicine, internal medicine

**Linton**

*Linton Hospital*  
 Roger Unger  
 701-254-451; Fax: 701-254-0112  
 rogerunger@bektel.com  
 Family medicine, nurse practitioner,  
 registered nurse, clinical lab science

**Mayville**

*MeritCare*  
 Jill Gilleshammer, Physician Recruiter  
 701-280-4851  
 jill.gilleshammer@meritcare.com  
 Family Medicine

**Minot**

*St. Alexius Medical Center – Minot Clinic*  
 Carol Lindsey, Physician Recruiter  
 clindsey@primecare.org  
 701-530-7172  
 Cell: 701-226-9910  
 Family medicine, internal medicine

**Minot, continued**

*Trinity Health*  
 Shar Grigsby, Physician Recruiter  
 800-598-1205 or 701-857-7860  
 shar.grigsby@trinityhealth.org  
 Internal medicine, dermatology,  
 emergency medicine, ear nose throat,  
 endocrinology, gastroenterology,  
 hospital medicine, neurology,  
 obstetrics-gynecology, physical  
 medicine and rehabilitation, child and  
 adolescent psychiatry, pulmonary/  
 critical care, urology, nurse  
 practitioner, physician assistant,  
 physical therapy, occupational  
 therapy, registered nurse, licensed  
 practical nurse, clinical lab science

**Oakes**

*Oakes Community Hospital*  
 Lee Boyles, Administrator  
 701-742-3602  
 leeboyles@catholichealth.net  
 Family medicine

*Southeast Medical Center*  
 Theresa Kelly, Administrator  
 701-742-4113  
 terri@semed.com  
 Family medicine, internal medicine,  
 physical therapy, x-ray technology

**Park River**

*First Care Health Center*  
 Louise Dryburgh, Administrator  
 701-284-7500 or 701-284-4538  
 (Recruitment)  
 stald@polarcomm.com  
 Family medicine

**Rolla**

*Northland Community Health Center*  
 Faye Hagen, CEO  
 701-448-2054  
 fhagen@northlandchc.org  
 Family medicine

**Rugby**

*Johnson Clinic*  
 Bonnie Mattern, Administrator  
 701-776-5235 ext. 407  
 bonniehr@gondtc.com  
 Family medicine, internal medicine

**Turtle Lake**

*Community Memorial Hospital*  
 Dean Mattern, CEO  
 701-448-2331 ext. 249  
 dmatter@primecare.org  
 Clinical lab science

**Valley City**

*MeritCare Health System*  
 Jill Gilleshammer, Physician Recruiter  
 jill.gilleshammer@meritcare.com  
 Linda Lane, Administrator  
 linda.lane@meritcare.com  
 701-280-4851  
 Family medicine

**Williston**

*Trinity Community Clinic-Western Dakota*  
 Marci Arnold  
 800-735-4940 or 701-572-7718,  
 marcia.arnold@trinityhealth.org  
 Shar Grigsby, Physician Recruiter  
 800-598-1205 or 701-857-7860  
 shar.grigsby@trinityhealth.org  
 Family medicine, internal medicine,  
 general surgery

*Mercy Medical Center*  
 Jolene Lordemann, Director of Practice  
 Management  
 Office: 701-572-7651; Cell: 701-770-4252  
 JoleneLordemann@catholichealth.net  
 Family medicine, family medicine  
 with obstetrics, internal medicine,  
 nurse practitioner, physician assistant,  
 urology, psychiatry, emergency  
 medicine, pediatrician

**Wishek**

*Wishek Hospital Clinic Association*  
 Trina Schilling, RN/Chief Executive Officer  
 701-452-3147  
 trinas@wiskehospital.com  
 Family medicine, radiology technician

# Sanford Health-MeritCare Establishes Endowed Chair

Sanford Health-MeritCare and the University of North Dakota (UND) Foundation recently announced a \$1.5 million gift to establish the **Dr. Roger Gilbertson Endowed Chair of Neurology** at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences. Dr. Gilbertson is president emeritus of MeritCare Health System.

Endowed chairs provide an invaluable means to ensure academic excellence in teaching and research. The Dr. Roger Gilbertson Endowed Chair in Neurology “will provide support for the development of an academic program in neurological diseases, which will complement the School’s highly regarded basic science research efforts in neurodegenerative disorders,” said **Dr. Joshua Wynne**, Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

“This gift through the UND Foundation is a true demonstration of Sanford Health-MeritCare’s dedication to the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences and their interest in creating unique opportunities for students,”

This gift ... is a true demonstration of Sanford Health-MeritCare’s dedication to the UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences and their interest in creating unique opportunities for students.

said **Tim O’Keefe**, executive vice president and CEO of the UND Foundation. “The foresight and generosity of friends like Sanford Health-MeritCare is providing this university its margin of excellence. By honoring Dr. Gilbertson in this fashion, there will also be permanent recognition of his commitment to quality medical education in North Dakota.”

**Lauris Molbert**, vice chair of the Sanford Health-MeritCare Board of Trustees commented, “The Board wanted to do something to honor and recognize Roger Gilbertson’s service to MeritCare that would be as lasting and significant as his contribution to health care throughout the region. This gift recognizes his leadership role as a physician, teacher, and scientist.”

“Combining excellence in medicine, teaching and research is a hallmark of our organization. Supporting



**Marcia Kelley, Roger Gilbertson and UND President Robert O. Kelley** at the announcement of Dr. Gilbertson’s gift.

leadership in the further development of the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences is an important way for us to see that is accomplished. This has been an integral part of the growth of MeritCare,” said **Kelby Krabbenhoft**, president and CEO.

“Sanford Health-MeritCare has even greater potential to help set the bar involving innovation in clinical medicine, research, and academics. Working together with the UND and Sanford University of South Dakota medical schools, we can be a national model for the future training of physicians and health professionals,” said Krabbenhoft.

Dr. Gilbertson served as president and chief executive officer of MeritCare Health System for 17 years, from its beginning in 1993 until his retirement in 2009. His leadership fostered tremendous growth in size and capabilities, and brought MeritCare to national prominence as an integrated health care system and as a national voice in health care reform and public policy.

One of Dr. Gilbertson’s greatest accomplishments was firmly establishing the vision for coordinated health care in the region, starting with his key role in the merger of St. Luke’s Hospitals and Fargo Clinic, and the expansion of MeritCare’s regional network from a Fargo-based operation to a regional health care system.

Dr. Gilbertson served on the Medical Center Advisory Council (now the SMHS Advisory Council) from 2001 to 2009.

Visit us online at [www.med.und.edu/alumni](http://www.med.und.edu/alumni) today to see how **YOU** can help!

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA  
**FOUNDATION**

## PARTING SHOTS



On January 28, the Christian Medical and Dental Association sponsored a Medical Missions dinner. Participants who spoke about their mission experiences were (from left to right) Dr. Lawrence Lee, a physician at Aurora Clinic in Grand Forks, Jennifer Risan, MS II; and Dr. Terry Dwelle, North Dakota state health officer.



Altru Health System hosted the first Spin for Kids indoor stationary bike race in April at the Betty Engelstad Sioux Center in conjunction with Altru's Here for Life Expo. The 16 teams participating in the race raised over \$20,000, which will provide for programs, services, and equipment to children with special needs within the region. Participating in the race from the School were **Tara Mertz** (above), MD Class of 2014, a communications specialist with the Center for Rural Health, who rode for the Spin Dips team; and students from the **Physical Therapy Department** team (below) back, left to right: **Miranda Johnson, Pam Peter, Jon Beck, Tom Ebertowski, and Jamie Hiltner** and front, left to right: **Jennifer Hohl, Alishia Daily, and Kelsey Hest**.



Mary Ann Laxen writes from Haiti

"This young woman has taken in the two boys (one in my arms and one looking up at me) whose parents were both killed in the earthquake. She stands beside me with her own daughter. The two boys arrived unharmed, but both with typhoid fever. We treated them and have put the family on the feeding program for the malnourished, because the one in my arms is below expected weight for his age. The picture was taken at the Center of Hope in Jérémie, Haiti during the second week of March. I do love what I am doing, and if you are interested, you can learn more on my blog: [maryanninhaiti.blogspot.com](http://maryanninhaiti.blogspot.com)."





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The vocal duo **Kayla Odegard** and **Benjamin Ehrichs**, medical students from the MD class of 2013, performed in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences Student Talent Show. The show was held on February 1, with student musical acts, dance groups, and a spelling bee entertaining a full house at the Ramada Inn. The event consisted of dinner, social hour, and nine performances. The talent show has been held for several years, previously in the Memorial Union.



**Science Day**  
 In April, **Shannon Hagan**, (MD Class of 2013), demonstrates rotational inertia by spinning a participant in a chair.