

ANOTHER CLASS ACT

Alumni enjoy Reunion 2002

by Jake Spicer

Cranes, cement mixers and steel I-beams dotted the University of Chicago's lush and leafy campus as alumni gathered in June for the 2002 reunion. Signs of growth and construction were everywhere: new dormitories, a field house, a new children's hospital and an integrated research center for the Biological Sciences Division, the largest building project in the university's history.

For the 145 alumni and their guests, the three-day reunion was a time for weaving the present and past, for polishing treasured memories and assimilating new insights and recent changes on campus. It was a time for acknowledging the faculty for providing students the foundation and mentoring that enables excellent personal and professional achievement. It was also a time for

learning and fun. Many alumni enjoyed off-campus attractions like the river-front architecture tours of downtown or the famous Hyde Park Art Fair. Others hung around campus attending the *UnCommon Core* lectures that featured David Bevington's "Shakespeare Faces Retirement" or David Oxtoby's "The Chemistry of Global Climate Change."

And it was a time to honor people who live the university's values in their professional and civic roles. The 2002 Distinguished Service Awards, bestowed by the Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association, recognize graduates who have brought honor and distinction to the university by demonstrating leadership in the field of health through basic research, clinical care, health

administration or public service.

Recently appointed dean of the BSD, James L. Madara, MD, said one of his goals is to further develop the synergy between the school and the hospital by "mining the interfaces between the physical and social sciences" and reminded alumni of the rapid advances taking place on every front of the biological sciences.

"I'd love to be a first-year resident in biology here," he said. "It's just such an exciting time to be working in the sciences."

The unprecedented pace of discoveries on the frontiers of science and the importance of the social sciences were themes echoed by many of this year's Distinguished Service Award recipients.

PHOTOS BY DAVID JOEL



Clockwise from above: Former interim BSD Dean Bruce Weir (left) and newly appointed BSD Dean James Madara at the Distinguished Service Awards ceremony; 1962 class symposium presenters: B.H. Gerald Rogers, Donald Switz, John Schneider, Edward Crowell and Marvin Stone; Janet Gray with husband Kenneth Hayes, MD '52, Joseph J. Ceithaml, SB '37, PhD '41, and Weldon Thomas, MD '52; and Ian Lafitte Tong, MD '02, (front) with Ernest Mhoon, MD '73, during the alumni senate meeting.





PHOTO BY DAVID JOEL

Fourth-year medical student David M. Adelman, PhD '01, (left) talks with Robert K. Adamson, MD '48, during the alumni lunch, "Bench to Bedside Medicine."

In addition to citing the excitement of work in the sciences, many referenced the importance of some interdisciplinary component of their education, experiences that had been especially memorable and balancing.

Philip Fireman, MD '57

Professor of pediatrics and internal medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Fireman served as chief of allergy and immunology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine for nearly 30 years and is recognized internationally for his research, teaching and practice. His clinical research helped identify the mechanism of hypersensitivity and expression of upper and lower respiratory allergic diseases. He has written more than 300 scientific articles, in addition to the popular medical text, *Atlas of Allergy*. "Never in my wildest dreams as a student did I think that I would someday be up here receiving an award from my medical school," he said. Fireman has

the distinction of receiving the National Institutes of Health Career Research Award for 10 years. He has served as chairman of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology and president of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

Joseph C. Kiser, MD '57

Kiser founded and served as chief surgeon, teacher and fundraiser for the Children's Heart Fund, an international organization that provides free treatment for indigent children with heart defects. He also founded and served as president of the Minneapolis Heart Institute and Foundation. For his dedication to serving children throughout the world, Kiser received the highest award given to a civilian by Korea and is the recipient of the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor and Humanitarian of the Year Award. In accepting his award, Kiser thanked his classmates and Joseph Ciethaml, "the most important person that I've known professionally."

Award recipients during this year's reunion weekend: (from left) Ralph Kuncil, Bruce Koeppen, Adrian Katz, Robert Waterston, Bernard Strauss, Philip Fireman, James Hopson, Lewis Seiden (sitting), Joseph Kiser, Norma Wagoner and Marvin Stone. (Philip Hoffmann not pictured.)



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GRADUATION 2002



PHOTOS BY BRUCE POWELL

Top: Ian Lafitte Tong, MD '02, now an internal medicine resident at Stanford University Hospital, introduced former Dean of Students Norma Wagoner, PhD, who spoke to graduating BSD students at the Divisional Academic Ceremony in June on the importance of living your values. **Above:** Since mom and dad are doctors, Rebecca Leah Bennett, MD '02, (center) was hooded by her parents, Mona B. Bennett, AB '63, MD, and Michael Isaiah Bennett, MD, during June graduation exercises. Bennett is now in Syracuse as an orthopedic surgery resident at SUNY.

Bruce M. Koeppen, MD '77, PhD

Professor of medicine and physiology and dean for academic affairs and education at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Koeppen serves on many medical education committees. He also has found time to co-author four textbooks. He has received many teaching awards, including the Alpha Omega Alpha-Robert J. Glasser Distinguished Teaching Award, presented in 1998 by

the Association of American Medical Colleges. "Two defining moments have shaped my career," he said. "The first was when I was exposed to research. The second was when I sampled teaching for the first time."

Ralph W. Kuncel, PhD '75, MD '77

A neurology professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and provost of Bryn Mawr College,

Kuncel has directed the Neuromuscular Pathology Laboratory at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where his team discovered the central role that loss of glutamate transport plays in Lou Gehrig's disease and developed novel growth factor drug treatments for the disease. Kuncel served as associate editor of the *Annals of Neurology* for the past five years and chaired the finance committee of the American Neurological Association. His book, *Motor Neuron Disease*, was published in June. In his remarks, Kuncel stressed the impact of alumni contributions on his life as a student. "I had the most depressing little apartment when I was here, that I could barely afford, and so I had to ask Dean Ciethaml for more money from the school. It was only a few hundred dollars per quarter, but that extra money made all of the difference," he said, "and it was thanks to some anonymous donor."

Marvin J. Stone, SM '62, MD '63, MACP

Chief of oncology, director of the Charles A. Sammons Cancer Center and director of immunology at Baylor University Medical Group in Dallas, Stone heads an active research group and has published more than 150 articles. He has received numerous honors, including the dedication of the Marvin J. Stone Library at the Baylor Institute for Immunology Research. An active teacher and clinician, Stone serves as a role model and mentor to many



The awards reception was held in the Duchossois Center for Advanced Medicine. Inset: Members of the class of 1952.



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Members of the class of 1962.

physicians. He is incoming president of the American Osler Society. "At every stage of my life, I've been so grateful for the education that I received here," he said.

Robert H. Waterston, MD/PhD '72

As the James S. McDonnell Professor of Genetics, chairman of the department of genetics and the head of the Genome Sequencing Center at Washington University School of Medicine, Waterston is a leader in the effort to sequence the human genome, as well as those of other animals and plants. He serves on the Advisory Council of the National Institutes of Health Human Genome Research Institute. In 2000, he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, and in 2001 the Genetics Society of America awarded him the Beadle Medal.

Waterston cited the impact of Joseph Ceithaml and Frank Fitch during his time as a student. "Frank Fitch's fondue got me here in the first place, and Dean Ceithaml helped our struggling family so much. I couldn't have done any of this without his help," he said. "Joe and Frank and the University of Chicago showed me the importance of following what is interesting to you. I'm especially grateful for that."

Donald Rowley, SB '45, SM '50, MD '50,
Robert Waterston, MD '72, PhD '72, and
Frank Fitch, MD '53, SM '57, PhD '60.



2002 GOLD KEY AWARDS

Each year the Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association recognizes faculty members with Gold Key Awards for service to the Division of Biological Sciences and the university. This year's recipients are:

Philip C. Hoffmann, SB '57, PhD '62 Professor Emeritus of Pharmacological and Physiological Sciences and the College

Hoffmann joined the Chicago faculty in 1964. He taught the basic pharmacology course to second-year medical students for 30 years and served as master of the Biological Sciences Collegiate Division from 1985-88. His research focuses on developmental pharmacology and has contributed to our understanding of neural interactions during the formation and development of the brain.

James A. Hopson, PhD '65 Professor Emeritus of Organismal Biology and Anatomy

Since joining the staff in 1967, Hopson has become a favorite professor and mentor of graduate and undergraduate students. He also is a research associate in the department of geology at Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History. His research in vertebrate paleontology centers on the evolutionary transition between reptiles and mammals.

Adrian I. Katz, MD Professor of Medicine

Katz joined the faculty in 1968 and served as section chief of nephrology for nine years. A devoted clinician with expertise in kidney function and disease and hypertension in pregnancy, his work focuses on the regulation and function of sodium-potassium ATPase in the kidney.

Lewis S. Seiden, AB '56, SB '58, PhD '62 Professor Emeritus of Neurobiology, Pharmacology and Physiology

Seiden serves as section chief of pharmacology and serves on the Committee on Neurobiology and the Committee on Psychiatry. He has dedicated his career to undergraduate teaching and research on interrelationships among psychotropic drugs, transmitters, genetics and behavior.

Bernard S. Strauss, PhD Professor Emeritus in the Department of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology

A faculty member since 1960, Strauss chaired the department of microbiology for 15 years and served as dean of basic sciences for three years. He serves on the Committee on Cancer Biology and the Committee on Genetics. His research focuses on the mechanisms of mutation and recombination.

Norma E. Wagoner, PhD Former Dean of Students for the BSD and Pritzker School of Medicine

Wagoner served as dean of students for the Biological Sciences Division and the Pritzker School of Medicine and a professor of organismal biology and anatomy since 1988. A much-loved professor, she taught dissection to first-year medical students for more than 31 years. Former Dean Joseph Ceithaml led a standing ovation for Wagoner, who retired after accepting her Gold Key Award.