

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

SUMMER 2006

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES DIVISION

# Medicine

ON THE MIDWAY

AN ENEMY IN OUR MIDST



## 1940s

**Vernon Jim, SB '42, MD '44**, lives in Honolulu with his wife, **Yun Soong Chock Jim, SB '43, SM '44**. Although retired, they stay busy with their garden and giving back to the community through local charities, cultural organizations and education-related projects. They each have been named Chinese Citizen of the Year, making them the first couple ever to receive the title.

## 1950s

**Henry C. Maguire, MD '54**, continues to work in the areas of immunotherapy for AIDS (HIV-1) at the University of Pennsylvania and cutaneous and ocular melanoma at Jefferson University Medical School.

**Walter B. Eidbo, MD '56**, retired from his clinic Dec. 31, 2005, and has taken a position with Iowa Health Southwest Family Physicians. He and his wife, Mary, look forward to the next Chicago reunion and hope many classmates return.

**Norman R. Gevirtz, MD '56**, has spent the past 50 years at Western Reserve Hospital in Cleveland. Post-graduate training included the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, and Montefiore, Bellevue and Mount Sinai hospitals, all in New York. A fellow of the American College of Physicians, Gevirtz began his career in academic medicine with hematology and nuclear medicine; shifted to a practice of hematology, oncology and internal medicine; and finally joined "his own" in a geriatric center as medical director. His academic interest led to an appointment as associate professor of medicine at University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He retired two years ago and now devotes more time to family and his interest in stained-glass craft. He wrote, "There is not enough space to expound upon the derivatives of

*"Not the least of my passions is my love for the University of Chicago, which so wonderfully nurtured my intellectual and character development during six important years of my youth."*

—*Sheldon Wolfe, MD '56*

the productive years: four children and 13 grandchildren including step-grandchildren." He is looking forward to the Reunion celebration in Chicago this June.

**Sheldon Wolfe, MD '56**, wrote, "As I approach the 50th anniversary of receiving my MD, I continue to practice and teach psychoanalysis and psychiatry, although I am not keeping up the pace of a full-time practice any longer. I am still fulfilled and passionate about my profession. At the same time I am passionate about my wife of almost 49 years, Nancy, our four wonderful children and especially our nine grandchildren. Not the least of my passions is my love for the University of Chicago, which so wonderfully nurtured my intellectual and character development during six important years of my youth."

**Franklin J. Star, AB '53, SB '55, MD '58**, retired from active practice three years ago and works as a field surveyor for the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Physicians.

## 1960s

**Kenneth L. Kaplan, AB '57, SB '58, MD '60**, has been in private practice of child, adolescent and adult psychiatry in a Washington, D.C., suburb. He is on the clinical faculty at Washington University and works half time so there is more time for family, travel and enjoying life.

**Floyd Fried, MD '61**, wrote, "With deep regret I inform my classmates and friends of the death of my wife, Ellen Shapiro Fried, AB '63, AM '69, PhD '75."

**James W. Knecht, SB '60, MD '63**, retired in 2004 as chairman of surgery at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, N.J.

**Julian J. Rimpila, SM/MD '66**, has been a Chicago Medical Society Council member for 14 years, serving as president and secretary of the North Side Branch, vice chairman of the Continuing Medical Education Committee and now as the new district president. During the 1980s, he served on the executive committee and as chairman of medicine at Henrotin Hospital. He has published articles in *Gastroenterology* and *Journal of Internal Medicine* and has given papers on *Helicobacter pylori* infection and inflammatory bowel disease to international congresses. In 1993, his work on *H. pylori* earned the praise of Barry Marshall (the 2005 winner of the Nobel Prize in medicine). Rimpila lives in Westchester with his wife, Beverly. He has five children and four grandchildren.

*Audrius V. Pliophys, MD '75, was among those listed as America's Top Physicians in 2004 by the Consumers' Research Council of America.*

*When the medical mind meets the artist's brush, the results can be both startling and captivating.*



Scarlet Fever



Inflammation



Shock



Cancer

## Impressions of Disease

When the medical mind meets the artist's brush, the results can be both startling and captivating. Such are the 10 paintings surgeon and artist Harold (Hal) Laufman, MD '37, recently donated to the University of Chicago Hospitals. In these vivid portrayals of disease, cancer becomes the claws of a moving crab and the lawless growth of mushrooms. Inflammation glows like a red-orange, red-violet orb. Heart disease reveals itself as a curtain streaked with a small blood vessel constricted by a tight band.

Laufman painted these portrayals of disease while serving as a surgeon in a U.S. Army Evacuation Hospital during World War II. "During rest periods and at the end of hostilities, I got creative with my art," said Laufman, now 94. There were no canvasses so he crafted some from plywood and old hospital bed sheets.

"These are not so much fantasy as life-long impressions," he said. "I wondered what certain disease processes like shock and scarlet fever and diphtheria looked like in terms of design."

The paintings now hang in the fifth floor of the medical center's surgical wing.

—Susan Soric

**Eli Taub, MD '66**, has lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for 35 years, the last 28 of these in Los Altos, near Palo Alto. He and his wife, Donna, have two children, David, who married last year, and Ilana, who recently finished graduate school. Taub retired after 30 years of pediatric practice at Kaiser Permanente at the end of 2001. Now busily and gainfully unemployed, he is involved in Jewish community activities, both locally and nationally, and serves on the Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission. In his spare time, he hikes, goes to 49ers games and travels with Donna.

### 1970s

**David J. Palmer, MD '80**, a board-certified ophthalmologist, received the 2005 American Academy of Ophthalmology Achievement Award at its annual meeting in Chicago.

**Robert Scott Bresalier, MD '71**, is a professor of medicine and chairman of the Department of Gastrointestinal Medicine and Nutrition, and has been named the Resoft Distinguished Professor in gastrointestinal oncology by the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

**Michael Richard Brown, MD '71**, retired this year from a medical management position and is taking classes at the University of Arizona School of Public Health.

**Mitchell Glass, AB '73, MD '77**, was promoted to senior vice president and chief scientific officer at the Science Center in Philadelphia on Dec. 14, 2005.

**Royce O. Johnson II, MD '74**, retired from private practice in ophthalmology in January 2006. He has had "plateau phase" multiple myeloma since 1996. He has four sons: Royce III, is in the Marines, Graham attends Wheaton College, and Colin and Taylor are high school tennis players. He and his wife, Susan, have been married 25 years.

**Audrius V. Plioplys, MD '75**, was among those listed as America's Top Physicians in 2004 by the Consumers' Research Council of America. He also is a professional artist represented by Flatfile Galleries in Chicago and his work can be viewed at [www.plioplys.com](http://www.plioplys.com).

**William J. Ketcherside, MD '79**, is senior vice president and chief medical information officer at Methodist Healthcare in Memphis, Tenn.

### 1980s

**David J. Palmer, MD '80**, a board-certified ophthalmologist, received the 2005 American Academy of Ophthalmology Achievement Award at its annual meeting in Chicago. The award recognizes contributions to Academy programs and services. Palmer also received a Contributed Services faculty teaching award from the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. He is in private practice in Chicago and Des Plaines, Ill.

### 1990s

**Hossein Jadvar, PhD, MPH, MD '93**, was promoted to associate professor of radiology with tenure at the University of Southern California-Los Angeles. He has published the book *Clinical PET & PET-CT* (Springer-Verley Inc., 2005) and has

**Nader Salti, AB '89, MD '93**, just opened one of Chicago's hottest new restaurants, *Saltaus*, specializing in contemporary cuisine with Mediterranean and Asian flair, on *Randolph Street*.

received a National Institutes of Health ROI grant, worth \$3.3 million over five years with a top-priority score. In 2005, he earned an MPH degree from Harvard University and currently is enrolled in an Executive MBA program at the USC Marshall School of Business. He welcomed his second child, daughter Delara Ava, on July 28, 2005.

**Nader Salti, AB '89, MD '93**, just opened one of Chicago's hottest new restaurants, *Saltaus*, specializing in contemporary cuisine with Mediterranean and Asian flair, on *Randolph Street*. Salti also practices general and colorectal surgery in Racine and Kenosha, Wis., and resides in Chicago's River North district.

### 2000s

**Anna Chien, MD '05**, and **University of Chicago professor of medicine Raphael Lee, MD, ScD**, reviewed a book, titled *The Doctor's Plague: Germs, Childbed Fever, and the Strange Story of Ignac Semmelweis*, published in *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* by Johns Hopkins University Press.

# LIFE *after* MED SCHOOL

How many students would swap the rest and recreation of spring break for a glimpse into their future?

Ten students at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine recently made that trade in “A Day in the Life,” a program of the Medical & Biological Sciences Alumni Association that lets students shadow Pritzker alums who are practicing medicine.

Students apply to participate and are selected by a committee of alumni and faculty. The 10 in this year’s inaugural class praised the program for offering insight into their chosen specializations before they begin their residencies.

*“Through this program I was able to see the workings of a private doctor’s practice for a week, both the medical and the business sides.”*

—Tiphany Phillips

First-year Asima Ahmad chose to shadow Paul Rockey, MD ’70, MPH, director of the Division of Graduate Medical Education of the American Medical Association in Chicago.

“Before I even reached his office he had arranged for me to meet with different members of the AMA whose jobs fit into my interest area,” Ahmad said. “Not only did I get a good sense of what Dr. Rockey does, but I also met with several other doctors, some who were also Pritzker alumni, and was able to speak to them about how their MD degree led them into their current fields.”

Shira Dinner did her third-year rotation in hematology/oncology, which led her to choose Stephanie Williams, AB ’77, MD ’81, medical director of Hematology-Oncology Associates of Illinois in Chicago.

“I particularly wanted to shadow in this field because all of my rotation was based on an inpatient experience with mostly

terminally ill patients, and I didn’t experience the outpatient practice and the success stories of cancer,” Dinner said. “I also thought this was a good opportunity to see how another hospital does business, especially since I will be considering residency programs.”

Second-year Colin Walsh spent time both in the laboratory and at home with academic pathologist Richard Cote, MD ’80, a professor at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

He said Cote advised him “not to just make a diagnosis but to understand the process of your patient’s disease.”

“I learned a great deal about the practice of pathology and the possibilities and responsibilities of running a large research lab,” Walsh said. “I will use Dr. Cote’s professional advice regardless of what medical field I choose, but I will continue to be inspired by his jovial, respectful manner with his family, with his colleagues and with his students in all aspects of my life.”

Third-year Tiphany Phillips got double exposure to life in medicine when she shadowed Martin Fee, MD ’88, a self-employed infectious disease specialist in Newport Beach, Calif., and his wife, Janis Fee, MD, who has her own obstetrics/gynecology practice.

“We get some exposure to private practice pediatrics and family medicine, but most of our experiences are university-based,” Phillips said. “Through this



program I was able to see the workings of a private doctor’s practice for a week, both the medical and the business sides.”

At least one student chose to participate in the program because she saw the opportunity to spend time in an area that she would *not* choose as a career.

Third-year Sarah Cross shadowed Evanston Hospital’s senior attending pathologist, Michael Kaufman, MD ’72. A specialist in anatomic pathology, Kaufman offered Cross the opportunity to observe autopsies, among other procedures.

“I’m not going to go into path, but I know that it is so important in every field of medicine to our understanding of disease,” Cross said. “I wanted to learn more about all aspects of pathology so that I’d have a better understanding, as a clinician, of the work that went into biopsy results and autopsy findings.”

The daughter of two lawyers, Cross found the experience of an autopsy especially compelling.

“I got to see the intersection of medicine and the law. Dr. Kaufman works often as an expert witness in medical-legal cases, and I was able to sit in on a few depositions with him,” she said. “No matter what field of medicine I ultimately choose, I will have patients who get biopsies and have autopsies, and now I feel I will have a better understanding of the processes of pathological decision-making, including its vagaries and inconclusiveness.”

—Susan Soric

## In Memoriam

### 1940s

**Grace Baker Goebel-D'Esmond, MD '43**, died of pneumonia March 28, 2005, in Ross, Calif. She was 86. Born in Pennsylvania, she graduated from Manchester College in 1939 with a chemistry degree, married James Goebel, MD, in 1940 and earned her MD with honors from the University of Chicago in 1943. Among the first women physicians in Marin County, Calif., she earned her board certification in pediatrics in 1948, practiced pediatrics privately from 1948 to 1962 and served as Marin General Hospital's chief of pediatrics from 1955 to 1957. A medical consultant to the San Francisco Department of Public Health

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from 1962 to 1965, she earned an MPH from University of California-Berkeley in 1965 and was a public health medical

officer for the California State Department of Public Health for nearly two decades. A member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Marin Medical Society, the Northern California Public Health Association, Physicians for Social Responsibility and the First Presbyterian Church, Goebel-D'Esmond served on the boards of directors of Marin Hospital District and Marin General Hospital. Following her husband's death, she married and was widowed from retired Col. Adrian D'Esmond. She is survived by her children, Camille Goebel and James Goebel, and two sisters.

### 1950s

**David H. Heller, SM '42, PhD '52**, died of complications from prostate cancer on Dec. 19, 2005. Heller was a biology teacher, garden show judge, decorated veteran and scholar of Jewish history. His turn in the public eye was defined by the turbulent period after 1965 when he became dean of Loop College, a division of the City Colleges of Chicago. In 1970, he was named the Loop's first president. (The college later was renamed Harold Washington College in memory of the late African-American mayor of Chicago.) Heller is survived by his wife, Dvora; two daughters, Lynn MacBeth and Miriam Bader; a brother, Eugene; and four grandchildren.

### 1960s

**Guy D. Potter, SB '57, MD '60**, retired in 1995 and died Jan. 5, 2006, of acute myelogenous leukemia. A resident of New York City, he served as professor emeritus of radiology at Columbia University and was a retired radiologist from Roosevelt Hospital in New York. He wrote *Sectional Anatomy of the Head*, many book chapters and 70 articles. Potter, who loved the arts and travel, is survived by his wife, Pearl Baer Potter, JD '49.

**Duane W. Taebel, MD '60**, died Sept. 2, 2005. Upon graduating from medical school, he interned at the University of Chicago Hospitals and then moved to La Crosse, Wis., where he worked at the Gundersen Clinic as a gastroenterologist. He served as chairman of Internal Medicine and was president of the La Crosse Lutheran Hospital medical staff from 1973 to 1974. He was involved with several civic activities and was an avid outdoorsman who loved fishing, hunting, camping and exploring. He is survived by his wife and college sweetheart, Carol Ann Rosendahl; their three children, Scott Taebel, Heidi Morris and David Taebel; six grandchildren; and his two brothers, Donald and Delbert.

### 1970s

**Kathleen Flohr, PhD '73, MD '74**, died Aug. 16, 2005, in Indianapolis, Ind. She had been in practice with Indiana Heart Physicians since 1986 and is survived by her brothers and three nieces.

## Faculty & Staff

**Ronald L. Meng, MD**, a leading cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon who lived in Decatur, Ill., died Jan. 15, 2005, at the age of 55 after a brief battle with gastric cancer. Meng, a clinical associate professor of surgery at the University of Chicago from 1991 to 1996, was named Top Doctor in Chicago by the Donnelly Press and a Top Doctor in America by the Center for the Study of Services in Washington, D.C. In addition to his many academic achievements, he was an accomplished trumpet player, performing with a broad range of artists, including Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra and Tommy Dorsey. He is survived by his wife, Rochelle (Robinson); daughter Laura and son Christopher; dog, Daisy; and many extended family members.



Photo by Jeff Ellis

Chicago ARCS scholars (from left): Shannon Hensley (medicine), Rebecca Rowe (evolutionary biology), William Cooper (organismal biology and anatomy), Megan Collins (medicine), Shahnaz Kazi (medicine) and Michael Seifert (physics).

## ARCS WINNERS SEE THEIR FUTURES

**Eight University of Chicago students—three from the Pritzker School of Medicine and three in the Biological Sciences Division—received scholarships from the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation.**

ARCS awards the scholarships each year to the “best and brightest” young scientists around the country who are pursuing degrees in science, medicine and engineering. This past academic year, the ARCS Chicago awarded \$147,000 to 20 ARCS scholars.

“ARCS scholarship dollars make a tangible difference both financially and scientifically to the students who receive these funds,” said Holly Humphrey, MD ’83, dean for medical education at Pritzker and former ARCS scholar. “The ARCS scholarship was very important to me during my years at Pritzker because it not only eased the financial burden I was fast accumulating, but it supported my participation in research.”

The current Pritzker recipients of ARCS scholarships are fourth-year

students Megan Collins (Cashel Foundation Scholarship) and Shannon Hensley (Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America Scholarship), and first-year student Shahnaz Kazi (Baxter International Scholarship). BSD recipients are Jim Cooper, Robert Racadio and Rebecca Rowe. All attended an October awards banquet, sponsored by ARCS’s Chicago chapter, where they met their benefactors and presented their research.

“In monetary terms I feel a huge sense of relief,” said Kazi, a first-time recipient. “My family does not have the resources to contribute to the cost of my education, so I am relying completely on financial aid. Every little bit helps.”

Hensley’s research centered on the issues of racial disparities in the occurrence of Type 2 diabetes. This is her second ARCS scholarship.

“Meeting the ARCS’s women really gave me a sense of pride in research and rekindled my commitment to continue working on the area I’m most passionate about—disease prevention in underserved populations,” Hensley said.

Cooper, a PhD student in the Department of Organismal Biology & Anatomy and a three-time ARCS

scholarship winner, studies the evolution and development of damselfishes. Most of his research takes place on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.

“Large portions of my work would not have been possible without ARCS,” Cooper said. “Without them I could not have done the extensive field work that has been so crucial to my thesis work.”

Rowe, a PhD candidate in the Committee on Evolutionary Biology, examines the community structure and species richness patterns of small non-flying mammals along a series of mountain ranges in central Utah. She hopes to improve scientific understanding of the regional processes that shape local biodiversity.

“The \$7,500 award allows me to hire more assistants to help me work at multiple sites in the field to gather data and then to process our specimens,” said Rowe, now a five-time ARCS scholarship winner.

Rowe said she is grateful for the extended support and for the interest her benefactors show in her work. “These funders like supporting a student’s career, not just throwing a pot of money at you one time,” she said.

—Susan Soric