Saving Kids with Science p.10
1930s
Bernard G. Sarnat, SB '33, MD '37, is featured in Pete E. Lestrel’s book Bernard G. Sarnat: 20th Century Plastic Surgeon and Biological Scientist. Sarnat was a practitioner in the formative years of modern plastic surgery as well as an internationally known biological researcher in the area of craniofacial biology. He was among the first bone researchers to apply the stain alizarin red S to document the pattern of dental and bone growth, and he published over 220 research papers dealing with bone and teeth biology. The biography tells the story not only of a successful physician-scientist, but also Sarnat’s dedication to his family.

1940s
Albert Sjoerdsma, PhD '43, SB '46, PhD '48, MD '49, is the subject of a new biography, Starting with Serotonin: How a High-Rolling Father of Drug Discovery Repeatedly Beat the Odds, written by his daughter, Ann G. Sjoerdsma, a professional journalist. Called the father of modern clinical pharmacology for his research at the National Institutes of Health in the 1950s and 1960s, Sjoerdsma conducted groundbreaking serotonin studies that led to diagnosis of the carcinoid syndrome and discovery of the antihypertensive, methyldopa, among many other accomplishments. Later, as president of the Merrell Dow Research Institute, Sjoerdsma oversaw development of a breakthrough antiepileptic, the first-ever non-sedating antihistamine, and a cure for African sleeping sickness. Sjoerdsma, now 84, received the 1967 University of Chicago Distinguished Service Award.

1950s
James A. Roberts, SB '56, MD '59, reports that he is enjoying retirement in the mountains of North Carolina.

1960s
“Medicine has changed markedly since our graduation, but academic medicine continues to be intellectually stimulating, challenging and lots of fun.”

Abdollah Sadeghi-Nejad, SM '64, MD '64, writes, “It has been a wonderful journey. Medicine has changed markedly since our graduation, but academic medicine continues to be intellectually stimulating, challenging and lots of fun. Professionally, I continue to work full time and enjoy my life as a triple-threat dinosaur. After 35 years of marriage, Marion and I still love holding hands, traveling, sharing a glass of wine and challenging one another to a game of Scrabble on the beach. A fabulous journey indeed. See you all at the Reunion.”

Samuel Jacobson, MD '68, is sorry to have missed the Reunion but is still alive and well and surfing in southern California.

Jeffrey P. Froehlich, MD '69, was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps from 1972 to 2000, stationed at the National Institute on Aging (NIA). He became the chief of the Membrane Biology Section at the NIA in 1985. In 2005, he was appointed professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and in 2007, joined the faculty in the Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology at Johns Hopkins University. His current research focuses on congestive heart failure and the development of novel drugs for treating prostate, breast and pancreatic cancer. He is married to Sandra Rose and has one son, Paul.

Richard M. Gottlieb, AB '65, MD '69, is in clinical practice in New York City and Sharon, Conn. He also recently became a sheep farmer. In addition, he teaches, writes and edits literature in his field. He has two sons, one to graduate from law school and the other a college sophomore who ran the Grand Canyon in his whitewater kayak in December.

Karen L. Kaplan, PhD '67, MD '69, is enjoying retirement in New York City and thinking about a non-science master’s degree. She also enjoys her grandchildren, who live nearby.

1970s
Robert A. Kaufman, MD '74, has been the radiologist-in-chief at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital since 2003. His wife, Elaine, is now retired from “Facing History and Ourselves” but has become a board member of that organization and two others. Their daughter, Jenny, is a pediatric hospitalist living in Philadelphia, and their son, Jay, is in the MBA program at the Chicago Booth School of Business, Class of 2010. Kaufman says, “We’re still having fun, which is a good thing, since we’ll be working for a long time to come.”

Nathan Szajner, AB '74, MD '74, was appointed to the Sigmund Freud Chair of Psychoanalysis at the Hebrew University, which was established at the urging of Anna Freud. Previous recipients have included Al Solnit, Joseph Sandler, Sidney Blatt and Bennett Simon. Szajner’s study of Israeli soldiers, Resuscitating Warriors, was reissued in 2008.

Alan R. Rushton, PhD '75, MD '77, has published Royal Maladies: Inherited Illnesses in the Ruling Houses of Europe. The work presents the effects of the hereditary diseases hemophilia and porphyria on the personal and political lives of the Royal Families of England, France, Russia, Spain, the German states and Scandinavia from the ninth century to modern times.

Frank S. Lieberman, MD '79, currently serves as the director of the Adult Neuro-Oncology Program at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Centers.

Paul Sternberg Jr., MD '79, moved to Nashville in January 2003, when he joined the faculty at Vanderbilt to build its eye program. It has been a successful move, with the opening of the Vanderbilt Eye Institute in the spring of 2008. The new space includes a 50,000-square-foot clinical and educational facility with 53 exam rooms and a 15,000-square-foot vision research laboratory. There are 34 full-time faculty, 15 residents, and a number of clinical and research postdoctoral fellows. Sternberg is enjoying life in Nashville.

1980s
Anne L. Peters, MD '83, recently received the American Diabetes Association’s Distinguished Clinician Award. This award is presented to an individual who has made outstanding efforts in diabetes care and is recognized as a highly regarded clinician and educator with more than 10 years of distinguished service. Peters currently serves as the director of the Clinical Diabetes Programs
at the University of Southern California (USC) and a professor of clinical medicine at the USC Keck School of Medicine.

Ira S. Rubin, PhD '83, MD '84, runs a mini-medical school for high school students, in an effort to encourage them to pursue careers in medicine. The program is 16 hours long and held at Edward Hospital in Naperville, Ill. Rubin created this program with the help of his son, Zachary, who is now a Pre-Professional Scholar in Medicine at Case Western Reserve University.

Maxine Barish-Wreden, MD '85, has co-written The Complete Idiot's Guide to Secrets of Longevity, which includes tips for healthier living. Barish-Wreden, who completed her internship and residency at UC Davis Medical Center, has been a practicing internist in Sacramento since 1988.

1990s

Gretchen L. Birbeck, MD '94, spends six months annually in southern Africa, where she provides clinical services and conducts clinical and epidemiologic research on common neuropsychiatric conditions in Zambia, Malawi and Uganda.

Gretchen L. Birbeck, MD '94, is the director of Michigan State University's International Neurologic & Psychiatric Epidemiology Program. She spends six months annually in southern Africa, where she provides clinical services and conducts clinical and epidemiologic research on common neuropsychiatric conditions in Zambia, Malawi and Uganda.

Loren Schechter, MD '94, has been appointed division chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at Chicago Medical School, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. With almost 10 years of experience in plastic surgery, Schechter will mentor Chicago Medical School students and will be responsible for proposing appointment, promotion and retention of faculty members, developing an annual divisional report and evaluating faculty status on an annual basis.

Ithaa H. Derweesh, MD '95, joined the University of California at San Diego Division of Urology faculty in July 2008 as associate professor of surgery. His practice and research will be centered at the Moores UCSD Comprehensive Cancer Center.

William Dale, AM '94, PhD '97, MD '99, returned to the University of Chicago following his residency (Internal Medicine – Primary Care) and fellowship (Geriatrics) at the University of Pittsburgh. He cares for older geriatric-oncology patients in his Specialized Oncology Care & Research in the Elderly (SOCARE) Clinic. He recently accepted the position of section chief of Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine. He is married to Tamara Dale, and they have three boys (two 2-year-olds and a 5-year-old).

Anjali Karen Fedson Hack, LAB '85, AB '88, AM '90, MD '99, PhD '99, writes that after completing her anesthesia residency and obstetric anesthesia fellowship at Brigham, she and her husband (Andrew Hack, AB '95, PhD '00, MD '02) moved to New York where she took a faculty position at Columbia University. She currently practices high-risk obstetric anesthesia and does research in the social anthropology of medicine. They live in New York City and have two healthy, lovely children.

2000s

Sean A. McKay, AB '96, MD '01, graduated from his Pulmonary & Critical Care Fellowship at the National Naval Medical Center in June 2008. He has been assigned to Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune in North Carolina as a staff Pulmonary & Critical Care physician.

Elizabeth Sailhamer, MD '03, a general surgery resident at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), was honored by the New England Surgical Society for research presented at its annual meeting. Sailhamer earned second place in the Resident Essay Prize competition based on a paper and oral presentation of research she conducted as part of the MGH residency program. Her study identified predictors of mortality and the need for colectomy among patients with fulminant Clostridium difficile colitis (CDC). She found that reliable predictors of mortality exist and should be used to prompt aggressive surgical intervention, and that survival is higher in patients cared for with surgical instead of non-surgical services, perhaps because of more frequent and earlier operations.

Rekha Vij, MD '04, married Sujit V. Janardhan, PhD '07, MD '08, on September 27, 2008, in Chicago, Ill.

Andrew Stan Flotten, MD '07, was recognized by his program leader as the Transitional Intern of the year, out of 25 interns. He also held the position of class leader for the 77 interns at the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Va. He will be spending two years as a Navy flight surgeon before pursuing a residency in radiology.

Former Faculty

Richard M. Bergenstal, MD '76, a former endocrinology fellow at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, has become President-Elect, Medicine & Science, for the American Diabetes Association. Bergenstal works as the executive director of the International Diabetes Center at Park Nicollet in Minneapolis, Minn., and clinical professor for the Department of Medicine at the University of Minnesota.

Samir Haji, MD, a longtime faculty member and recently retired chief of Gynecology, has been recognized with an honorary lectureship in his name. The first Professor Samir Haji Honorary Lecture will take place May 15 at the University of Chicago Medical Center. Arthur L. Herbst, MD, former chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, will present the inaugural lecture. Alumni are welcome to attend; for more information, contact Gail Isenberg at gisenber@babiesbsd.uchicago.edu.

Peter A. Ubel, MD, a fellow in clinical ethics from 1991 to 1992, is the author of Free Market Madness: Why Human Nature is at Odds With Economics—and Why It Matters (Harvard Business Press, January 2009). In his book, Ubel exposes the limits of human rationality and shows what happens when capitalism meets human nature. He shows what markets could look like if they were designed to consider human nature and reminds policymakers that when freedom and well-being collide, carefully calibrated restrictions on freedom are a small price to pay for a healthier, happier populace.

Correction

The e-mail for alumni Richard Neudorfer, MD '31, was misspelled in the previous issue. His correct e-mail address is neudorfe@bellsouth.net.
In Memoriam

1940s

John E. “Jack” Charles, MD ’39, died December 9, 2008, in Fond du Lac, Wis., at the age of 86. Charles, a veteran of the US Army and Navy during World War II, worked as a radiologist at St. Agnes Hospital in Fond du Lac from 1957 until 1989. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dorothy; four daughters; three sons; two grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

1950s

John B. Aycrigg, MD ’57, passed away on August 11, 2008. Aycrigg was a leader in the field of psychiatric hospital care in both the public and private sectors. He was a distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a member of the Colorado Psychiatric Society. Aycrigg was recently preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn J. Aycrigg, whom he met while they were both students at the University of Chicago. He is survived by his five children: Charlotte, Benjamin, Jocelyn, Maria and Victoria.

1980s

Ronald M. Davis, AM ’81, MD ’83, lost his battle with cancer on November 6, 2008. Davis, a preventive medicine physician, served as the President of the American Medical Association in 2007. His distinguished career included positions as medical director for the Michigan Department of Public Health and director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office on Smoking and Health. Davis recently served as the director of the Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit. He was also a longtime public health and anti-tobacco advocate. He is survived by his wife, Nadine, and sons Jared, Evan and Connor.

Beutler enrolled at the University of Chicago when he was 15. By age 21, he had earned his medical degree.

Ernest Beutler, PHB ’46, SB ’48, MD ’50, a leading hematologist whose studies opened an important new window for the treatment of leukemia, died on October 5, 2008, in San Diego from lymphoma.

Born in Berlin, Germany, and raised in Milwaukee, Beutler enrolled at the University of Chicago when he was 15. By age 21, he had earned his medical degree. He completed an internship and junior residency at the University of Chicago before serving in the medical corps during the Korean War. After discharge from the Army, Beutler returned to the University of Chicago, finished his residency and worked as an assistant professor. Leon Jacobson, a pioneer in the use of radiation in medicine and on diseases of the blood, encouraged his work in hematological research.

Beutler left Chicago to become chairman of the division of medicine at the City of Hope Medical Center in Duarte, Calif., in 1959. He then moved to Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif., as head of the division of hematology and later as chairman of the department of molecular and experimental medicine.

Among his many professional highlights, Beutler performed wide-ranging research in biochemistry and medical genetics, especially inherited blood-borne disease. That work included the development of a drug used to treat hairy cell leukemia, as well as major investigation into the role of iron in the blood.

Beutler is survived by his wife of 58 years, Brondelle, AB ’49; three sons (including Bruce, MD ’81, and Steven, MD ’77); a daughter; and eight grandchildren.

Seymour Glagov, MD, professor emeritus in the departments of Pathology and Surgery at the University of Chicago Medical Center, died at a Chicago nursing home on October 29, 2008, from complications of neurovascular disease. He was 83.
Glagov was best known for his studies on the early response of blood vessels to partial blockage, a phenomenon now known as “Glagov remodeling” or the “Glagov phenomenon.” In 1987, he showed that atherosclerotic plaque began to build up within an artery, the arterial wall would expand enough to maintain normal blood flow. Only after the blockage reached about 40 percent was the artery unable to keep pace and blood flow began to decrease.

He also, with colleague Donald Ross, MD, professor emeritus of pathology at the University of Chicago, helped invent the gel electrode, now used universally to monitor the heart by electrocardiogram. In 1959, in order to study the relationship between heart rate measured over the course of a day and atherosclerosis, the two pathologists serendipitously discovered that a bare copper wire, embedded in a gel but not contacting the skin and held in place by a small rubber container glued to a ring of adhesive gauze, could transmit an electrical signal without “electrical noise.”

Glagov was best known for his studies on the early response of blood vessels to partial blockage, a phenomenon now known as “Glagov remodeling” or the “Glagov phenomenon.”

The native of Brooklyn, New York, earned a bachelor’s degree in medicine from Brooklyn College and later completed medical school at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. He moved to Chicago in 1956 as a junior pathologist at Cook County Hospital and came to the University of Chicago as a pathology resident in 1957 for additional training in vascular disease. Except for two visiting professorships at Oxford, he never left. He became a full professor in 1970, directed the autopsy service at the Medical Center for more than 20 years and taught the clinical pathophysiology course for all second-year medical students from 1971 to 1975 and again from 1978 to 1993.

His wife of nearly 55 years, Sylvia Glagov, died from ovarian cancer in 2001. Glagov is survived by his brother, Lester, of Orlando, Fla.; son, Hershel, of Oak Park, Ill.; Hershel’s wife Jennifer; and one grandson, Benjamin.

Moscona showed that the individual cells from an organ can find each other and reassemble properly, “like parts,” he said, “of an animated jigsaw puzzle.”

Aron A. Moscona, PhD, the Louis Block Professor Emeritus of Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology and of Pathology at the University of Chicago and a member of the U.S. National Academy of Science, died from heart failure January 14 in Manhattan. He was 87.

Moscona was best known for a series of experiments that revealed how cells arrange themselves to form tissues or organs in the body. He developed techniques to separate cells at early stages of development, suspend them in fluid and allow them to grow back together. He showed that the individual cells from an organ can find each other and reassemble properly, “like parts,” he said, “of an animated jigsaw puzzle,” and that specific molecules on cell surfaces govern these interactions during development. Moscona’s work, beginning at Strangeways Research Laboratory in Cambridge, England, in 1952, and continuing at the University of Chicago from 1958 to 1992, influenced a generation of scientists.

Aron Arthur Moscona was born July 4, 1921, in Haifa, Israel. He graduated from the Reali High School in Haifa then attended Hebrew University, in Jerusalem, where he earned his PhD in endocrinology-biochemistry in 1950. He spent two years as a post-doctoral fellow at the Strangeways Research Laboratory at Cambridge, before joining the faculty at the University of Jerusalem as an associate professor of physiology in 1953. He then spent two years as an investigator at Rockefeller University in New York City, before joining the faculty at the University of Chicago as an associate professor of zoology in 1958.

He rose quickly through the ranks at the University, becoming a professor in 1960. He co-founded the committee on developmental biology in 1969 and was named the Louis Block Professor of Biology in 1974.

Moscona, who retired in 1992, is survived by his wife of 55 years and scientific collaborator, Malka; his daughter Anne; and two grandchildren, Jacob and Ari, all of Manhattan.