ALUMNI COUNCIL NEWS

Message from the President

Dear Fellow College of Medicine Alumni:

In a recent meeting of our alumni council, we had a discussion about the goals for our organization in the year ahead for supporting current students and engaging our alumni. One of the topics that emerged at our meeting was a renewed focus on medical student and resident well-being. We are fortunate that our UNMC College of Medicine has a Student Advocate, who is dedicated to the well-being of all medical students. An individual has a similar role in working with our residents. Our plan throughout this year and well into the future will be to provide support wherever possible to these medical students and residents. As physicians I encourage all of you to mentor and support your colleagues.

I look forward to working with you on this initiative, and many others. Thanks for all you do to support our students, the College of Medicine, and our University.

Sincerely,

Brett Kettelhut, MD ’82
President, College of Medicine Alumni Council
Alumni Reunion Weekend Held September 21-22, 2018 in Omaha

Over 180 College of Medicine alumni attended one of 12 reunion parties organized by class leaders during the 2018 Alumni Reunion Weekend. Highlights of the weekend included:

- The class of 1968 celebrated its 50 year reunion and was welcomed into the Half Century Club.
- The COM Alumni Council presented four alumni awards.
- Over 100 alumni participated in tours.
- Welcome Back Lunch attendees learned about iExcel.
- Countless new memories made!

The College of Medicine Alumni's Facebook page has photos posted from Alumni Reunion Weekend.

Save the Date: Alumni Reunion Weekend October 11-12, 2019

Mark your calendar for UNMC Alumni Reunion Weekend with the theme "Living the Legacy," October 11-12, 2019 in Omaha. Honor years are those ending in "4" or "9." There are exciting changes in the
works to make the 2019 reunion enjoyable for all. Watch your email for additional information, including hotel information, coming soon. If you are interested in serving as a class leader for your class, please contact Catherine Mello.

The Alumni Council is also seeking nominations for the 2019 alumni awards. Here is a link to the nomination information.

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**Victor J. Dzau, M.D. to Deliver John S. Latta Lectureship**

The College of Medicine Alumni Council will host the John S. Latta Lectureship on April 18, 2019 in Omaha. The lecturer, Dr. Victor Dzau, is the President of the National Academy of Medicine. More information about the lecture will be available in early 2019.

The John S. Latta Lecture was established by the College of Medicine Alumni Council in 1980 to commemorate John S. Latta’s dedicated service to the College of Medicine. Dr. Latta taught embryology and histology at UNMC from 1921 until 1963, and served a 20-year stint as the chair of the anatomy department. Dr. Latta became one of the most admired and respected faculty members of the college. He passed away in 1989 at the age of 94.

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**First Time Well-Being Event Held for Med Students & House Officers**

In September, the College of Medicine Alumni Council supported a Paint N’ Sip activity organized by the House Officer Assistance Program Manager and the Student Wellness Advocate. The event brought together over 145 medical students and residents with a professional artist to learn how to paint greeting cards (while enjoying food and beverages). Thanks to our alumni who have made generous donations to the College of Medicine Innovation Fund that help support programs like this one.
Alumni Council Hosts M4 Interview Night

The College of Medicine Alumni Council hosted the M4 Interview night at the beginning of the academic year. The annual event is an opportunity for students to learn tips for their residency interviews. The event included a presentation with interview tips from Kimberly Schenarts, PhD, and a panel of current residents who offered their personal advice and answered student questions. Rishi Batra, MD class of 2014 and general surgery house officer organized the panel (pictured at right). The program was followed by a reception.

Alumni Class Notes: Sharing Your Accomplishments

The UNMC Alumni Relations Office shares alumni news in the Connect magazine and in our first-ever digital version of class notes. Here are a few highlights from your fellow alumni; share your news via this link.

- Dennis Weiland, MD '63 was awarded the Arizona Chapter of the American College of Surgeons Lifetime Achievement Award
- Leo McCarthy, MD '64 was honored with the Leo McCarthy Award for History of Medicine Research at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
- Luanne Thorndyke, MD '83 received the Massachusetts Medical Society's Woman Physician Leadership Award.
- Harold Tu, MD '80, DMD, was appointed to the new federal Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force that was formed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- Angela Brennan, MD '03, received the Marion D. and Theodore H. Koefoot, Jr., M.D. Outstanding Preceptor in Rural Family Medicine Award from UNMC.
College of Medicine Innovation Fund Impact

Your investment in the UNMC College of Medicine Innovation Fund supports the people and programs of your alumni association, which now welcomes all graduates with automatic membership. It also supports student engagement and well-being, provides access to test banks and simulation resources, helps to fund white coat ceremonies and facilitates student networking and professional development opportunities. With your support, current students will continue your tradition of giving because they'll understand their contributions will help launch careers just as your generosity helped launch their own. To learn more about the College of Medicine Innovation Fund, view the FY18 COM Innovation Fund Impact report.

Give Now

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE NEWS

Message from the Dean

I recently attended the UNMC Research Innovation Awards Banquet last week, and I was reminded of the power of collaboration and the special role played by university researchers. The banquet was the highlight event for Innovation Week, the annual celebration of the innovative research and discoveries in our university. The weeklong celebration is sponsored by UNeMed, UNMC’s longtime partner for our technology transfer and commercialization needs.
This year’s banquet was attended by a record crowd of more than 180 people. The attendance bump was due in large part to UNeMed signing an agreement last December to also handle the technology transfer activities of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, which contributed to a record number of new inventions for UNeMed, surpassing the previous record set in 2012 by 37 percent.

The College of Medicine is playing an important role in these efforts. Congratulations to the two College of Medicine researchers in the department of pathology and microbiology, Drs. Catherine Gebhart and Verun Kesharwani, who received the Most Promising New Invention Award. They were recognized for developing a multiplex assay that detects four types of human herpes viruses. We look forward to this invention reaching the market soon. Read more from Dr. Britigan.

My best to you.

Sincerely,

Bradley Britigan, M.D.
Dean, UNMC College of Medicine

UNMC Sorrell Center Celebrates 10 Year Anniversary and the Legend of Dr. Sorrell

The College of Medicine recently marked the 10-Year Anniversary of the opening of the UNMC Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education. The event honored the building’s remarkable namesake, Dr. Michael Sorrell ’59. Read more about Dr. Sorrell’s legacy.

Members of The Edward A. Holyoke, M.D., Ph.D., Society were also recognized during the event. The Holyoke Society recognizes and applauds physicians who provide support through gifts totaling $100,000 or more to UNMC’s College of Medicine.

College of Medicine Faculty Honored at Circle of Distinction Event
UNMC recently held its Circle of Distinction event to celebrate the 108 endowed chairs, professorships and fellowships that are held by 105 of its faculty members and recognizing the benefactors who have made the awards possible. The Sept. 12 program also recognized the 36 additional endowed stipend awards to be conferred in the coming years. View the College of Medicine faculty and generous donors honored at the event.

The Circle of Distinction, first established in 2012 by the College of Medicine, now represents all UNMC colleges and institutes. Its members include current faculty who hold endowed positions and the benefactors and their family members who generously gifted the endowed stipend funds.

"We are so grateful to our faculty who provide us with the opportunity to receive a world-class education," said Sarah Hotovy, third-year medical student from York who serves as UNMC’s student regent. "We’re also incredibly appreciative of the benefactors who saw that an investment in faculty is an investment in students and ultimately an investment in the future communities we’ll serve."

Read more and/or view a photo album of the event. The event was hosted by the University of Nebraska Foundation.
College of Medicine Students Assume Leadership Positions on UNMC Student Senate

Pictured above: Scott Mulder, Sarah Hotovy, Keith Ozanne and Jessica Wiens.

Medical students Sarah Hotovy and Keith Ozanne, both in the UNMC College of Medicine, will serve, respectively, as UNMC Student Senate president and vice president for the current school year. A third College of Medicine student, Scott Mulder, will serve as treasurer.

Hotovy, of York, Neb., also will represent UNMC as a non-voting member of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. Ozanne serves as a non-voting member on the UNMC Alumni Association Board of Directors, representing the student body.

Student Senate officers for 2018-19, and their hometowns, are:

- President: Sarah Hotovy (York, Neb.) - Third-year College of Medicine student.
- Vice President: Keith Ozanne (Lincoln, Neb.) - Third-year College of Medicine student.
- Secretary: Jessica Wiens (Grand Island, Neb.) - College of Public Health master's degree student.
- Treasurer: Scott Mulder (Sioux Falls, S.D.) - College of Medicine, biochemistry and molecular biology graduate student.

Upcoming Continuing Education Opportunities
The UNMC Center for Continuing Education has opportunities for both in-person and online CE activities. Some examples of upcoming sessions include:

- 2019 Webinar Series for Primary Care Providers (can be viewed from your desktop, tablet or smartphone. [Click here to view the schedule](#). Topics include: Acute Stroke Treatment, Breast Cancer Management and more.
- Nov. 13, 2019: Congestive Heart Failure: How to Treat and When to Refer (will be recorded)
- July 20-24, 2020: Pan Pacific Lymphoma Conference

[Click here](#) to view more continuing education opportunities.

**Preceptor Took-Kit Now Available**

UNMC's Interprofessional Academy of Educators (IAE), also sometimes referred to as the Teaching Academy, has recently made available a [Preceptor Tool-Kit](#). The Tool-Kit is a resource available for clinical preceptors to access resources focused on basic skills and "just in time" resources. The tool-kit is a combination of short videos on topics such as: "Being an Effective Preceptor," "Sounding," "Evaluation and Grading," and much more. The College of Medicine Alumni Council made a significant contribution to the IAE that helped in creating this tool-kit.

The tool-kit is accessible online [here](#). Learn more about the work of the IAE [here](#). Alumni preceptors are also eligible to apply for induction into the Academy.

**UNMC NEWS**

**UNMC Releases Rural Health 2030 Report**
UNMC’s Rural Health 2030 Task Force has released its "Rural Health 2030: 2018-2019 Action Plan." The plan details how UNMC, its partners, and rural Nebraskans can together shape a new vision for a healthy rural future.

The Rural Health 2030 Task Force’s goal is to assess and revitalize the collaborative vision and strategy necessary to address the disruptive change that will continue to impact rural Nebraska’s health workforce, patient care, health education, technology and research.

The action plan identifies timely priorities related to rural education and workforce preparation, rural health education and delivery models, the use of emerging technologies, rural health research, and maximizing our organizational structure to guide such action. Read more.

**Dr. Gold named priority candidate for UNO chancellor position**

University of Nebraska President Hank Bounds, Ph.D., announced Nov. 5 that following an 18-month period of growth and momentum for the University of Nebraska at Omaha under the interim leadership of Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., he has named Dr. Gold as the priority candidate for the position of UNO chancellor. If approved by the Board of Regents, Dr. Gold would serve as chancellor until June 30, 2022, at which time NU would initiate a national search for a successor.

Dr. Gold, chancellor of UNMC since 2014, has led UNO on an interim basis since 2017. Read more.
UNMC enrollment sets record for 18th straight year

Student enrollment at UNMC set another record high for the 18th straight year. There are 3,970 students enrolled for the 2018-19 school year, an increase of 62 students or 1.6 percent over last year's record of 3,908.

College of Medicine
There are 132 new students in their first year of medical school, bringing total enrollment to 524, which includes 39 students in the M.D./Ph.D. Scholars Program.

University of Nebraska Foundation among top charities
Contributors to the University of Nebraska are receiving the recognition they deserve. The University of Nebraska Foundation, the charitable arm of the University of Nebraska and its affiliates, is among America's top 100 favorite charities for 2018, coming in at 96th place. The rankings were released by the Chronicle of Philanthropy, a national publication that focuses on the U.S. nonprofit sector. This places the University of Nebraska in the company with many of its peer universities and the likes of the Mayo Clinic, American Red Cross, American Heart Association, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Harvard University and others. The Chronicle's ranking is based on charitable organizations that received the most in contributions of cash and stock gifts in 2017. Read More.

Learn More about the University of Nebraska Advocates
The University of Nebraska Advocates program is a coalition of individuals who are passionate about their University, informed about the issues impacting higher education, and prepared to raise awareness of the University's contributions to the state of Nebraska and beyond. If you'd like to participate, can sign up for the University of Nebraska Advocates program.

UNMC Alumni Association Travel Trips
Take advantage of amazing travel opportunities
The UNMC Alumni Association has partnered with Go Next to offer exceptional travel opportunities for
you, your family, and your friends in 2019. To learn more about these trips or to book, please visit the UNMCAA’s group [website](#). Be sure to [check other alumni event dates](#) before booking your trip!

### Masterpiece Montage

September 30 - October 11, 2019  
Rome to Barcelona Oceania Cruise  
*Discover enduring masterpieces along the Mediterranean coast during an incredible ten-night cruise aboard Oceania Cruises’ Sirena.*

### Cuba Charms

October 29 - November 9, 2019  
Miami to Miami Oceania Cruise  
*Discover the true depth and beauty of the once-forbidden country of Cuba on this impressive ten-night voyage, with an included one-night pre-cruise Miami stay, aboard Oceania Cruises’ elegant Insignia.*

Engage With the UNMC Alumni Association on Social Media

[UNMC College of Medicine Alumni Facebook](#)  
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[UNMC Alumni Association Twitter](#)  
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[UNMC College of Medicine Twitter](#)
It's easy to update your Email Preferences. Be sure to add alumni@unmc.edu to your address book or safe senders list so our emails get to your inbox. You may also review our Privacy Policy.