Boosting Science Literacy
**ON THE COVER:**
Dan Anderson, M.D., uses anecdotes and self-deprecating humor to explain the intricacies of cardiovascular disease at a Science Café.

**BOOSTING SCIENCE LITERACY**
A more scientifically literate populace is the goal and young professionals are the target audience for the Science Café.

**THROUGH THEIR EYES**
Fourteen women photograph their north Omaha community to identify resources and barriers to breast health.

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Thank you for reading this issue of "Connect." UNMC’s vibrancy has never been greater, and this magazine certainly reflects our impact on the communities we serve.

You may have noticed a new graphic design for this publication. The design reflects a branding effort at UNMC that was launched on Aug. 13. A new secondary icon, themeline, color palette and dynamic photography are all visual elements of our brand. Combined, these elements help us to tell UNMC’s story in a cohesive, dynamic way.

Our brand, however, goes far beyond our "look and feel." Through this process, we’ve done extensive research to learn how UNMC is perceived – both by the general public and among our more targeted audiences – alumni, employees, opinion leaders, students and others. We found that the public’s perception of UNMC and our own view of ourselves often are in concert: We are innovative, cutting-edge professionals who understand the value of hard work and care deeply about the people we help.

We have no-nonsense, hard-working health care professionals who resolve to clear obstacles and fuel discovery. You can be assured that we are driven to excel at all aspects of our mission – educating students, conducting breakthrough research, caring for patients and reaching the underserved. Those around the world are taking notice – making it possible for us to build a critical mass of experts right here in Nebraska.

As citizens, as alumni and as potential patients of UNMC, I can assure you that our promise to you remains strong – we will push for progress that means a better life and a stronger economy for all Nebraskans.

Harold M. Maurer, M.D.
UNMC Chancellor
From the recently completed second research tower on one end of campus to the state-of-the-art Sorrell Center on the other, the look of UNMC is changing. And organizations such as the Edward A. Holyoke, M.D., Ph.D. Society are playing a vital role in the change. The Holyoke Society exists for one purpose—to support the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Medicine.

The Holyoke Society is an organization of College of Medicine graduates and other physicians who have committed $100,000 or more to the college since 2005. The society is named in honor of Dr. Edward A. Holyoke, long-time UNMC educator and mentor. Dr. Holyoke was committed to providing excellence in education.

If you share Dr. Holyoke’s passion for medicine and vision for UNMC, please consider joining the Holyoke Society. To join, or to learn more, contact Amy Volk, University of Nebraska Foundation, 402-502-4112, avolk@nufoundation.org.

Founding members:

Beth Ann Brooks, M.D.
Ward A. Chambers, M.D.
Marvin L. Dietrich, M.D.
Richard H. Fritz, M.D.
Robert L. Grissom, M.D.
Robert C. Hendler, M.D.
James Linder, M.D.
Harry W. McFadden Jr., M.D.
Richard R. Miles, M.D.
Gerald F. Moore, M.D.
William C. Nash, M.D.
James R. Newland, M.D.
Myrna C. Newland, M.D.
Audrey A. Paulman, M.D.
Paul M. Paulman, M.D.
Walter E. Reiss, M.D.
Dennis L. Ross, M.D.
Robert F. Shapiro, M.D.
Carol J. Swarts, M.D.
Stanley M. Truhlsen, M.D.
H. Nicholas Vondrak, M.D.
Peter J. Whitted, M.D.
John G. Yost, M.D.
There aren’t any Bunsen burners, microscopes or test tubes in the dimly lit room. The oversized periodic table is absent from the wall. The students are, for the most part, young professionals.

Yet, in this relaxed atmosphere nearly 70 people gather - eager to spend an hour of their time to learn about the science behind weight loss from Dan Anderson, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of cardiology at UNMC.

Like a nightclub comedian, Dr. Anderson uses anecdotes and self-deprecating humor to capture and hold the attention of the 21- to 70-year-olds in the audience while he explains the intricacies of cardiovascular disease.

The Slowdown – a chic bar near the Qwest Center Omaha – is the backdrop for UNMC’s newest science literacy program: the Science Café. Here, people gather the first Tuesday of the month to learn about health topics in a face-to-face conversation with a scientist.

The free program, hosted by UNMC, BioNebraska and the Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures, has become so popular that similar sessions have started in Lincoln.

Amy Recker, executive director, BioNebraska Life Sciences Association, sees this as an opportunity to bring science to the general public in a fun way.

“Most people don’t have direct access to the experts,” she said. “UNMC has led the charge to provide access to the information. It’s been well received by the public.”

A more scientifically literate populace is the goal and the Science Café is the first of UNMC’s three strategic initiatives to be set in motion, said Amber Donnelly, Ph.D., director of UNMC’s cytotechnology program and a member of the science literacy team.

The 17-member team is composed of UNMC faculty and staff, as well as Omaha area community leaders. The K-12 teacher work group is focused on the second project:
creation of a centralized online resource for Nebraska’s science teachers. The third project, still on the drawing board, is a mobile science lab that will travel to schools across the state.

Brenda Zabel, a 24-year veteran science teacher at Omaha’s Westside High School, said the comprehensive Web site would list science competitions and learning opportunities – complete with contact information. The group plans to announce the resource this fall at the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science conference.

“It was a real eye-opener for me to learn how much is out there,” she said. “There’s a nature preserve near Albion and study programs on the geology and biology of the Panhandle. I had no idea these were available.”

UNMC has been at the forefront of science literacy for more than a decade with such programs as the eighth-grade science meet, summer workshops for the state’s elementary through high school science teachers and Mini-Medical School, which offers the public an in-depth look at various health issues.

But, other than curiosity, why should anyone care about science?

Simply put: science is omnipresent. Start your car. Get a flu shot. Call a friend on your cell phone. Without science and technology,
none of these activities would exist. Society evolves based on the discoveries made by scientists, engineers and medical researchers.

Scientific issues – from global warming to genetically engineered food to emerging diseases – are debated publically. Yet, a recent study shows that middle and high school students in the United States are falling behind in life sciences.

“Part of UNMC’s mission is to ignite the spark for learning, educate the public and promote health science education to meet the growing workforce shortage,” Dr. Donnelly said.

Back at the Slowdown, conversations overlap and jukebox music blares from wall-mounted speakers. People order drinks while others line up for free pizza, courtesy of the Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures.

When 7 p.m. rolls around, the chatter dies down. Everyone’s attention is on Dr. Anderson, who begins with a story about one of his patients who had a heart attack.

“This man, who was just a little older than me, was lying in a hospital bed after his attack. His young children stood there, crying, ‘Daddy, don’t die.’

“I had children the same age. I was overweight, ate junk food and rarely exercised. I knew then I had to make a change,” he said.

His epiphany turned into a lifestyle change dedicated to healthy foods and exercise. He shed 50 pounds five years ago and has kept it off.

“Your main arteries are like a garden hose. Imagine how the water pressure is cut when you park a car on the hose. That’s what a heart attack is like. The heart tissue dies and you never get it back,” he said.

With a doctorate in molecular biology, Dr. Anderson looks for ways to detect heart disease at an early stage. “Inflammation seems to be the root cause of many diseases. We need to get that under control. Simple aspirin decreases factors, but we don’t know why.”

“Obesity; hypertension, diabetes and high cholesterol all lead to heart disease. We need to get these under control and lead healthier lifestyles,” he said.

“Weight loss as well as the medical management of these other risk factors improves your quality and length of life.”

Research will help improve the management and treatment of cardiovascular disease, he said.

“We each have the ability to significantly improve our risk of developing cardiovascular disease. The question is: Will you do what you know is right?”

In his PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Anderson shows the attentive audience pictures of clogged blood vessels and points to a build-up of cholesterol.

“Was that the french fry you ate in 1997?” he asks. 😄

True or false?

Scientific theories are just ideas about how something works.

Answer:

False. In science, the word “theory” means an idea has considerable evidence behind it and has endured attempts to disprove it. This is one of the most commonly misunderstood aspects of the nature of science, largely because the word “theory” has a different colloquial meaning. A theory must be extensively tested or confirmed and it must continue to survive attempts to disconfirm its predictions in order to win and keep such a title. Otherwise, it is more properly called a hypothesis.

Omaha Science Media Project:

UNMC partners with UNL, school district and media
by Jo Giles

Viruses change so rapidly it can be difficult for the researchers who study them. That may be why many high school teachers find it a challenge to explain virology. A unique partnership between UNMC, the Center for Biopreparedness Education (a joint endeavor between Creighton University and UNMC), the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Omaha Public Schools (OPS), media companies and Northwestern University in Chicago hopes to make a difference.

A journalist joined a team of teachers, students and UNMC researchers this summer to help them create multimedia projects about infectious disease, HIV, pandemic disease and juvenile diabetes. OPS will use the audio and video segments in a pilot curriculum program next spring to teach other students about viruses. The project, funded by the Sherwood Foundation, could become a model for schools nationwide.
THROUGH THEIR EYES
PHOTOGRAPHS SHINE LIGHT ON BREAST CANCER IN BLACK COMMUNITY

by Lisa Spellman

We R Family.
You need to start with the education of your own family.
The photograph shows a beautiful woman in her early 20s with a metallic scarf wrapped around her head.

Her strong presence defies the fear in her eyes.

Jackie Hill took her picture to share her story, which goes like this:

Two years ago, she found a lump in her breast and went to a doctor. “Don’t worry about it, you’re too young to get breast cancer,” she is told.

But, the feeling of dread doesn’t go away. So, the young woman goes to another doctor. This time her lump is tested. “I’m sorry, you have stage four breast cancer.”

Jackie Hill took her picture so every woman knows: no one is too young to get breast cancer.

The photograph is one of many Hill took for “Breast Health Inclusion Initiative: Closing the Gaps in Breast Health in North Omaha,” the capstone project of Adrianne Marinkovich, a student in the UNMC College of Public Health.

Marinkovich got the idea and funding for her project, nicknamed Photo Voice, from the Nebraska Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, where she’s worked for the past two years. She also received funding from the Dr. Robert D. Sparks Research Award.

“The whole idea behind the project is to empower women to become advocates in their community,” said Marinkovich, who, with the help of Hill, recruited 13 other women to photograph their north Omaha community.

Through pictures, the women identify the resources in their community that promote breast health. Loved ones, books about dealing with breast cancer and parks are just a few of the images that reflect this idea.

They also took pictures that represent barriers to breast health, such as cigarette stores, empty bus stops and dilapidated houses.

Yet, the most startling images aren’t the pictures but the predictors for breast cancer mortality.

In 2009, the American Cancer Society reported:

- African-American women have higher rates of breast cancer before age 40.
- African-American women are more likely to die from breast cancer at every age.

In Nebraska, African-Americans make up only 4 percent of the state’s population, but African-American women are 1.7 times more likely to die from breast cancer than Caucasian women. The report found that between 1996 and 2005, 40 out of 100,000 African-American women died from breast cancer compared to 24 out of 100,000 Caucasian women.

The reports strike at the heart of Photo Voice participant Deborah Dailey.

“Something has to be done to educate our community, especially our women,” Dailey said. Not enough women in her community talk about breast health, she said, or why screenings are needed or where to access those screenings.

“Do we need to put something on the grocery sacks at the store to remind women to get their mammogram? How do we get the word out?” Dailey asks.

She and other participants in the Photo Voice project have formed a group, North Omaha Voice, to tackle those and other questions.

“If we want change in our community, WE have to do it,” said Photo Voice participant Jimmie Johnson.

For information about North Omaha Voice contact Jackie Hill at 402-595-3807.
View the photos at www.komennebraska.org
THE

TV DOCTOR

by Tom O’Connor
IN THE COURSE OF THEIR CAREERS, MOST PHYSICIANS TOUCH THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. BUT, FOR NANCY SNYDERMAN, M.D., THAT’S JUST A DAY AT THE OFFICE. SHE HELPS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE EACH WEEK.

A 1977 graduate of the UNMC College of Medicine, Dr. Snyderman is perhaps the most recognizable alum in UNMC history.

Three years ago, she joined NBC News as the chief medical editor. Each day, her face and words are seen and heard by millions, as she provides medical reports for “Today,” “NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams,” “Dateline NBC,” MSNBC and MSNBC.com.

As if that’s not enough, she just launched her own TV show, “Dr. Nancy,” on MSNBC’s new high definition network earlier this summer. And, she just finished her fifth book, “Diet Myths That Keep Us Fat.”

Although her medical school years were the only time she spent in Nebraska, Dr. Snyderman will always hold a special place in her heart for UNMC.

“You would never imagine that a girl from Indiana would find her soul in Nebraska,” she said. “I never thought I would stay here.”

Since graduating, Dr. Snyderman has made a financial donation to UNMC every year. In 1996, she delivered her first commencement address at the UNMC College of Medicine hooding ceremony.

Growing up in Fort Wayne, Ind., Dr. Snyderman was a third-grader when she knew she was going to be a doctor. Both her father and grandfather were physicians, and she often accompanied her father on Sunday morning hospital rounds, where she would eat chocolate-covered graham crackers and drink chocolate milk while she waited for him in the doctor’s lounge.

After graduating from Indiana University in 1974, Dr. Snyderman went looking for a medical school. The search took her to Omaha, where her mother was born, and to UNMC.

Although it’s been 35 years since she started medical school, she still has many fond memories.

“The first day I was so intimidated by the third- and fourth-year med students coming through the bookstore,” she said. “There were 21 women in my class, which represented a big jump in female students. And, I remember students from Creighton and UNMC getting together for beers on the weekend.”

Perhaps her most vivid memory of medical school took place in gross anatomy class.

“The professors wanted no nonsense in the cadaver lab,” she said. “They instilled a tremendous sense of obligation to treat the bodies with the utmost respect. It set the tone for my entire medical school experience and made me have even more respect for the living.”

She recalls an “extraordinary” urology rotation at Methodist Hospital, which allowed her to conduct patient exams and assist with surgical procedures. She also remembers being impressed with her first exposure to electronic medical records.

After completing medical school, Dr. Snyderman did a pediatrics residency at the University of Pittsburgh, where she decided to change direction and become a head and neck surgeon. As she put it, “I loved the anatomy of the head and neck.”

She completed a second residency at Pittsburgh in ear, nose and throat surgery and then, in 1983, joined the surgical staff at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock. It was there that her TV career was launched.

Dr. Snyderman had conducted television interviews as a resident in Pittsburgh, so in Little Rock she approached KATV, the ABC affiliate, about being the station’s medical reporter.

“The first segment I did was on head lice,” she said. “I was proud that I negotiated with the station to be paid $37.50 for each segment – up from my starting salary of $25.”

After five years in Arkansas, Dr. Snyderman moved to San Francisco in 1988 to join the staff at the University of California San Francisco. Her TV career took a leap forward as she became a medical correspondent for ABC News. Her medical reports appeared on “20/20,” “Primetime” and “Good Morning America.” She was a frequent substitute co-host on “Good Morning America.”

Following 17 years with ABC, Dr. Snyderman moved east in 2005 to become vice president of consumer education for Johnson & Johnson. One year later, she landed her present position with NBC News.

Dr. Snyderman lives in Princeton, N.J., with her husband, Doug, and their three children, Kate, Rachel and Charlie. Between TV segments and books, she continues to practice medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Snyderman’s love of television and medicine mesh well, she said. “Whether I’m at a patient’s bedside or on television, I try to deliver the information plain and straightforward so everyone can understand it whether they have a high school degree or a Ph.D.”

UNMC Connect
FROM ONE GRAD TO ANOTHER: THANKS

Recent College of Medicine graduate Curtis McKnight, M.D., summarized his classmates’ sentiments in two powerful words — thank you. McKnight penned the words in a letter to Richard Hirschmann, M.D., ’73, of Chicago, who co-created an award that allows the graduating class to select and honor outstanding faculty members who have significantly influenced their medical education. Dr. Hirschmann and his father, Jerome Hirschmann, M.D., ’41, established the Hirschmann Prize for Teaching Excellence in 2000 with a gift to the University of Nebraska Foundation. This year’s recipients are Drs. J. Scott Neumeister and Paul Larsen.

“The Hirschmanns’ gift is one example of how meaningful alumni philanthropic contributions are to UNMC,” said Amy Volk, vice president, University of Nebraska Foundation. “The Hirschmanns’ support is an investment in our faculty and enhances the Medical Center’s efforts to recruit and retain outstanding educators.”

Additionally, graduates’ philanthropic gifts have helped physically transform the campus in the past decade. From the Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education to the Durham Research Center II, these new facilities provide state-of-the-art environments for learning, teaching and research. Less visible, but equally significant, are the scholarship and support funds graduates have created to benefit students in every UNMC college. These gifts are especially important as the average debt upon graduation ranges from $32,600 for nursing students to $128,300 for medical students.

“During the previous academic year more than 83 percent of UNMC students received some form of financial aid,” Volk said. “With the continuing increase in tuition and in competition for financial assistance, securing additional private support for students is a priority for every UNMC college. In some cases, it can be the difference between students having the resources to complete their degrees and pursue their dreams or not.”

 Privately-funded scholarships also enable UNMC to effectively compete for top students from across the state and country.

“UNMC graduates should be proud of their generous commitment to UNMC over the years,” Volk said. “It has benefited UNMC students and faculty and, ultimately, the patients who receive their care.

“UNMC is committed to becoming a world-class academic health science center. With that, the opportunities for growth and progress are tremendous and alumni support is critical to this vision.”

For information on how you can make a gift, either today or through your estate plans, contact Amy Volk at (402) 502-4112 or at avolk@nufoundation.org.

SUMMER 2009
The University of Nebraska Medical Center has signed an agreement with the UNMC Alumni Associations and the University of Nebraska Foundation to create a structure that will strengthen alumni programming and fundraising initiatives supporting the medical center.

This new coordinated structure will enhance collaboration among all three entities and create greater efficiencies in alumni relations, database management and fundraising efforts. It also is expected to enhance each group’s individual missions while collectively supporting UNMC’s priorities.

“The new structure allows the UNMC Alumni Relations Office and the alumni chapters to focus primarily on alumni programming and the Foundation on fundraising,” said Bob Bartee, UNMC vice chancellor for external affairs. “This collaboration ultimately will benefit UNMC, students, faculty and alumni.”

With this agreement a new organizational structure was created for UNMC Alumni Relations in the areas of strategic planning, budgeting and programming. Individuals from each of the three entities and participating college alumni association boards will comprise two new oversight committees:

- The UNMC Alumni Coordinating Committee will review annual budgets, financial transactions and staffing plans for the UNMC Office of Alumni Relations.
- The UNMC Alumni Engagement Council will oversee the strategic plan for the UNMC Office of Alumni Relations and coordinate all-alumni programming, communications and marketing activities.

“As the new director of UNMC Alumni Relations, it is exciting to be part of the grassroots development of this new relationship,” said Roxanna Jokela, who assumed the alumni leadership position in April.

The UNMC Alumni Association and NU Foundation will work from a newly created alumni/donor database shared by all four University of Nebraska campuses and coordinated by the foundation. This structure will yield greater efficiencies in the management of the database, streamline the updating process and eliminate duplicate records.

“Historically, UNMC Alumni Relations and the University of Nebraska Foundation have worked closely together,” said Amy Volk, vice president of the University of Nebraska Foundation. “This new agreement helps us clarify our missions and further coordinate our efforts to build strong alumni involvement at UNMC.”
Summertime is a season for smiles, sunshine and, for swimmers of all abilities and ages, the Big Splash.

The Aug. 28 and 29 benefit for UNMC's Munroe-Meyer Institute marked its first recreational and competitive swimming fundraiser in Omaha and Lincoln.

Swimmers at 17 participating pools had a chance to meet three-time gold medal Olympian Josh Davis, who helped organizers champion advocacy and inclusion for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Proceeds from the University of Nebraska Foundation event enhance and expand the specialized services and programs MMI provides each year to more than 10,000 individuals and their families.

That is something we can all celebrate with a big splash.

Find Big Splash details at www.mmibigsplash.org.
Dr. Leibowitz fills big shoes at MMI

Bruce Buehler, M.D., left some big shoes to fill in 2007, when, after 25 years, he stepped down as director of UNMC’s Munroe-Meyer Institute.

After a national search, the committee found their Cinderella in Mike Leibowitz, Ph.D., who already was serving as interim director.

Sharing the Vision of student-run clinics

Australian University professor Steve Trumble, M.D., traveled nearly 10,000 miles from his home in Melbourne to attend UNMC’s SHARING the Vision conference and satisfy his skepticism about student-run clinics.

What he learned at the two-day conference in March changed his mind.

“I feared the clinics allowed students to practice their unformed skills on people who had no choice,” he said.

“But it is clear that student-run clinics are places that people go to get the very best treatment and the students who lead them do so because they care about others’ needs more than they do about their own,” Dr. Trumble said.

The first-of-its-kind conference was organized entirely by UNMC medical students who oversee several student-run health clinics in Omaha. It drew more than 190 individuals from 36 health professional schools across the United States, as well as Canada and Australia.

New dean for UNMC’s College of Public Health

A global leader in maternal and child health issues, Ayman El-Mohandes, M.B.B.Ch., M.D., M.P.H., becomes the new dean of UNMC’s College of Public Health, Sept. 1.

Dr. El-Mohandes is internationally known for his innovative solutions to eliminate health disparities. With uninterrupted funding from the National Institutes of Health since 1994, he collaborated with health departments, organizations and community members to improve outcomes of minority pregnant women and their children.

He joins UNMC from George Washington University, where he was chairman of the department of prevention and community health in the School of Public Health and Health Services, a practicing neonatologist and professor of pediatrics and obstetrics in the School of Medicine.
Prestigious fellowship funds student research in South Africa

Brady Beecham, an M.D./Ph.D. student, is in Durban, South Africa for the next year to conduct HIV/AIDS research with African scientist Quraiisha Abdool Karim, Ph.D.

Beechman is the first UNMC student to receive the Fogarty International Clinical Research Fellowship, a $25,000 grant sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

The Lincoln native is one of just 28 students from around the country to receive the fellowship, which allows recipients to study with top NIH researchers who work in developing countries.

The fellowship includes a strong mentorship component and Beecham – whose Ph.D. emphasis will be in HIV/AIDS epidemiology – is particularly excited to work closely with Dr. Karim.

“She’s one of the authorities on HIV/AIDS research, which is proving to be the defining epidemic of our era,” Beecham said.

While in South Africa, Beecham will conduct epidemiology work and also assist with clinical trials. While there, she will blog about her experiences. Read her updates at blog.unmc.edu/student/.

UNMC programs among the best in 2010 U.S. News rankings

UNMC continues to be positioned among the nation’s top programs in U.S. News & World Report’s 2010 edition of America’s Best Graduate Schools.

The rankings reflect UNMC’s longstanding hold in such program areas as primary care, rural health and physician assistant education.

U.S. News & World Report ranked the College of Medicine’s rural health medicine program 15th and its primary care program 17th.

Also ranked among the top in the country: the UNMC School of Allied Health Professions’ physician assistant program (ranked 14th) and physical therapy program (33rd), the College of Pharmacy (29th) and the College of Nursing’s master’s programs (32nd).

UNMC launches TV segments on Omaha station

When it comes to your health, you want to hear from the experts.

That’s why UNMC initiated a partnership with Omaha’s KETV NewsWatch 7 earlier this year. The partnership, called “Ask UNMC,” allows viewers to ask pharmacists, nurses, dentists, doctors, researchers and physical therapists questions about everyday health concerns.

The one-minute segments air during five newscasts each weekend and provide timely, educational health information to the public. Ask your own question or view the library of segments at www.unmc.edu/askunmc.

Pharmacy ranks sixth nationally in research funds

The College of Pharmacy ranks sixth nationally among 110 pharmacy schools in terms of National Institutes of Health (NIH) research dollars per Ph.D. faculty member.

The rankings – compiled annually by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy – show that the College of Pharmacy’s 18 Ph.D.-level investigators collectively received more than $5 million in NIH funds in 2008. That equates to about $280,434 in NIH funds for each pharmacy Ph.D. faculty member.
Six UNMC faculty members were honored last spring for outstanding research, teaching and community leadership.

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA’S OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY (ORCA) AWARD**

Stephen Rennard, M.D., Larson professor of internal medicine-pulmonary medicine, was named the recipient of the ORCA this year.

“The universitywide awards recognize faculty whose research and teaching have made an impact on students, the university and the state,” said University of Nebraska President James B. Milliken. “The strength and reputation of any university depends on the quality of the faculty, and we have some of the best in the country on our four campuses.”

**UNMC SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

Jeffrey Baldwin, Pharm.D., associate professor in the College of Pharmacy, was honored for his scouting activities, as well as his role as a board of director’s member and camp counselor with Camp CoHoLo and other service activities.

“Dr. Baldwin’s remarkable community service contributions have had local, national and, potentially, even international impact,” his nominator said. Last year when a deadly tornado ripped through a Boy Scout camp, Dr. Baldwin assisted emergency personnel in their medical efforts, helped identify victims from the storm and helped with camp evacuation.

Stan Harn, D.D.S., professor in the College of Dentistry, was recognized for developing and acting as curator for the dental museum, coordinating Children’s Dental Day and running logistics for the dental SHARING clinic.

And that’s just what he does in his spare time. Most of the time the professor of oral biology teaches gross anatomy to the students in the College of Dentistry.

**OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARDS**

Marlene Lindeman, assistant professor in the College of Nursing and psychiatric clinical nurse specialist, has impacted many lives in and out of the classroom. Lindeman is a teacher, counselor and mentor.

Seldom in her office, she’s either with students in one of Omaha’s in-patient or community clinics. She also has a small practice at the college’s nurse-run clinic at the Family Health Care Center in south Omaha that allows her to keep in touch with what’s going on in clinical practice.

Connie Miller, Ph.D., assistant professor in the College of Nursing, is all about quality and interprofessionalism.

She recently redesigned the clinical expectations for undergraduate students in the cardiac intensive care unit to reflect concerns identified in the Institute of Medicine report on quality and safety in health care. Because her pilot study was so successful, these expectations have been implemented on all four UNMC College of Nursing campuses across the state.

Jennifer Parker, M.D., assistant professor in the College of Medicine, brought a unique skill set to UNMC when she started in 2003. She was the first faculty member to have clinical appointments in both internal medicine and pediatrics.

“The medicine-pediatrics combination is new to the Midwest,” she said. “It’s more common in other parts of the country. But, I’ve always thought medicine and pediatrics are complimentary, not mutually exclusive.”

Dr. Parker is the weekly lecturer for the junior internal medicine clerkship and teaches the EKG portion of the clerkship.
Research funding at the University of Nebraska Medical Center soared 22 percent to more than $100 million during the past fiscal year. More than $76 million of that funding came from federal sources.

UNMC’s net research funding support for fiscal year 2008-2009 was nearly $100.5 million – an increase over last year when UNMC investigators brought in $82.2 million in external research funding.

“This is like breaking through the sound barrier for us,” said UNMC Chancellor Harold M. Maurer, M.D. “But we’re not satisfied with $100 million. We would like to hit $200 million by the end of 2012.”

In 1998, when he became chancellor, Dr. Maurer challenged UNMC’s researchers to double funding in five years and triple it in 10. Researchers have exceeded that goal, increasing funding 322 percent in that time period.

“The new twin research towers helped make all of this happen,” Dr. Maurer said. “The buildings allowed us to recruit top researchers from around the country.”

Durham Research Center and Durham Research Center II, which opened in May, are home to a combined total of 215 labs and more than 550,000 square feet of space dedicated to research. Nearly 400 research projects are underway at UNMC today, in bench science labs, translational research centers and clinical trials.

Thomas Rosenquist, Ph.D., vice chancellor for research, said that rising above the $100 million mark in extramural support is a major benchmark for the UNMC research initiative.

“UNMC research is like a rocket rising above 100,000 feet, now we have momentum and we’ve risen above the major forces holding us back. Now we can accelerate more rapidly to the next benchmark, $200 million. The developing initiative in clinical and translational research will be the booster that gets us there,” he said.

“This achievement is a great tribute to the outstanding corps of UNMC scientists, who continue to amaze me with their innovation, energy, and growing reputation among scientists around the world,” Dr. Rosenquist said.

Research at UNMC has helped to provide economic development to the citizens of Omaha and Nebraska, Dr. Maurer said. “New people with good paying jobs are moving here because of research.”

Every $1 million in research funding generates about 32 new jobs, Dr. Rosenquist said. The $100 million a year in research funding equates into about 3,200 skilled jobs.

Some of the funding highlights at UNMC this past year were:

- $17.2 million NIH renewal grant, the largest grant in Nebraska history, to James Turpen, Ph.D., to support the INBRE program aimed at producing more scientists in the state.
- $11.1 million program project grant to Ken Bayles, Ph.D., from the NIH to research this country’s most dangerous bacterial pathogens - community-acquired methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (CA-MRSA), nicknamed the “superbug.”
- $10.6 million COBRE grant from the National Center for Research Resources to Alexander Kabanov, Ph.D., to research nanomedicine, drug delivery, therapeutics and diagnostics.
- $9.1 million National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute program project grant renewal to Irving H. Zucker, Ph.D., that will allow a team of UNMC cardiovascular scientists to continue its groundbreaking heart failure research.

Assistant dean named to nursing division in Norfolk

A 40-year veteran of academic nursing who has worked tirelessly to help expand nursing education in Nebraska was named interim assistant dean of the new UNMC College of Nursing Northern Division in Norfolk.

Ruth (Pakieser) Macnamara, Ph.D., took the position July 1 and will identify a permanent assistant dean by January 2011. The Norfolk facility, named the J. Paul and Eleanor McIntosh College of Nursing, is scheduled to open in 2010 and will house nursing programs of UNMC and Northeast Community College.

Dr. Macnamara has served as an associate professor and clinical instructor in mental health nursing since 2007. In the past year, she has laid the groundwork for UNMC’s newest division, which will serve the northeast region of Nebraska.
Alumni Relations Office moves

After more than 20 years in the Alumni House on South 38th Avenue, the Alumni Relations Office relocated two blocks away to 518 S. 38th St., the former Omaha Woman’s Club. This beautiful home will provide new opportunities to hold events and welcome our alumni and students to gather at our facility.

The three-story Jacobean home was built in 1923 in the prestigious Gold Coast area of Omaha. It features large open rooms with hand carved paneling and woodwork, leaded windows and bronzed lamps. The house was one of the first in Omaha to feature a recreational basement and attached heated garage, with servant’s quarters above.

Stop by to see the new Alumni Center or contact us for rental information - (402)559-4385 or email alumni@unmc.edu.

Radiation Science Technology Education holds first-ever alumni reunion

What started with a simple idea – let’s have a party mushroomed into a full-blown reunion.

In celebrating 75 years of the UNMC Radiation Science Technology Education program, RSTE alumni had their first official reunion July 17-18. Alumni and friends travelled from such states as Arkansas, California, Georgia, Minnesota and New York.

The weekend started with a gathering at the new UNMC Alumni Center Friday evening. On July 18, guests took tours of the campus and the evening culminated with a celebration dinner and program.

The guest speaker was Dennis Strauss, M.D., who graduated from UNMC in 1968 with his medical degree and completed his radiology residency in 1975. He practiced general diagnostic radiology at Methodist Hospital for 30 years. Dr. Strauss now teaches medical students who are on radiology rotation and radiation technology students.

“It was a pleasure and honor to speak at the RSTE reunion. Everyone enjoyed celebrating 75 years of this very important UNMC School of Allied Health Professions’ program,” Dr. Strauss said.

“Radiologists depend on the knowledge of radiation technologists in every aspect of a radiology practice. Over the years, dedicated educators of this program have prepared students with the necessary skills to be productive in today’s medical care.”

“It was exciting to see alumni return to UNMC to celebrate RSTE’s 75th anniversary,” said Jim Temme, ‘74, associate director. “We look forward to creating an RSTE Alumni Chapter as a way to keep alumni engaged in UNMC and our division.”

Joe Anderson, M.D., ’68, professor and vice chairman of radiology, was presented with an Outstanding Service Award during the reunion.

The mastermind of the party idea was Carol McGlade, ’82.

“For years, I’ve been suggesting to Jim Temme that we have a party,” McGlade said. “I’m a graduate of the UNMC program, but I’ve never received a single mailing from the school since I graduated.”

McGlade said when they discovered it was the 75th year for RSTE, the timing seemed right to have a reunion.
The board of directors of each of the UNMC College of Nursing, Pharmacy and Medicine alumni associations have approved the creation of a new combined entity named the "UNMC Alumni Association." This new Nebraska nonprofit corporation, which will be exempt from federal income tax under I.R.C. section 501(c)(3), will streamline administrative and financial management while retaining the unique identities of UNMC's individual alumni associations.

Required actions pertaining to each of the associations are:

- Merge the University of Nebraska College of Nursing Alumni Association, Inc. into the UNMC Alumni Association.
- Merge the University of Nebraska College of Pharmacy Alumni Association, Inc. into the UNMC Alumni Association.
- Dissolve the University of Nebraska College of Medicine Alumni Association, Inc. into the UNMC Alumni Association.

Please plan to attend your Alumni Annual Meeting on Oct. 2, to be held at the Sorrell Center on the UNMC Omaha campus, at 1:30 p.m. One of the purposes of the annual meetings is to have the voting members of each alumni association vote on approving the merger or dissolution (as applicable) to create the new organizational structure.

Under this structure, each member alumni "chapter" will retain its own Board of directors to govern individual chapter budgets and activities and to direct individual chapter expenditures, and each chapter will have its own bylaws.

The new UNMC Alumni Association will have a board of directors comprised of representatives from each of the UNMC colleges and the School of Allied Health Professions alumni chapters to provide direction on interdisciplinary activities and overall fiscal management.

Your vote is important as we move forward in this new organizational structure. The plan of merger, plan of dissolution, articles of incorporation and bylaws of UNMC Alumni and additional information on the new structure are posted on our Web site unmc.edu/alumni.
1930s

**Carol Cain Knecht M’34**
Ukiah, Calif., will celebrate her 100th birthday in January 2010.

1940s

**Annabel Weare Lee N’42**
Glendale, Calif., is enjoying retirement.

**Max M. Raines M’43 (died in 1991)**
Cazad, Neb. His children have set up the “Raines Memorial Scholarship” to provide financial assistance to UNMC students who are pursuing degrees in medicine or nursing and are residents of western Nebraska or Sedgwick County, Colo.

**Lela Truedson N’43**
Oak Brook, Ill., is 88 and walks daily. Her husband is 99 and enjoys walks and visits with their nine grandchildren.

**George W. Loomis M’47**
Omaha, Neb., is a retired general internist.

**Elise Pavovcek Weyrauch N’49**
Marietta, Ga., has a son, Karl F. Weyrauch, who founded a 501(c)3 “Coffee Rwanda.org” project of Health Leadership International, a medical training and support program for the people of Rwanda. For her 80th birthday they started a nursing scholarship program for street girls who are victims of genocide.

1950s

**Jean Schropfer Molde N’52**
Reno, Nev., stays in touch with classmates with an annual newsletter.

**Jackie Severa N’52**
Omaha, Neb., had her second knee replacement in June. She enjoys golf and plans to take her two grandchildren on a trip to the Mediterranean.

**A.J. Brauer M’55**
Florence, Ore., became a major donor to the Rotary Foundation for the Guatemalan Water Project that was started through the local Florence Rotary Club. Dr. Brauer’s donation will provide clean drinking water to more than 4,000 people in Guatemala.

1960s

**Fredric M. Boyden M’60**
Reno, Nev., was awarded the C.H. Woods Award for 2009 from the Washoe County Medical Society.

**Aija L. O’Neil N’61**
Seal Beach, Calif., is retired.

**Charles E. Hamm M’63**
Kingsley, Iowa, was recently recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Iowa Academy of Family Physicians.

**Calvin Hobel M’63**
Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., works 60 percent of a full day, doing mostly research with Community Child Health Network, a National Institutes of Health grant with CO-PI National Children’s Study.

**L. Donald Wanek M’58**
Wilber, Neb., was honored by the American Medical Association (AMA) for his 50-year anniversary of graduation from medical school. He is a member of the AMA’s Senior Physicians Group, which includes 60,000 physicians who are 65 years or older.

**Joann M. Graves N’59**
Lincoln, Neb., spends winters in Arizona.

**Marilyn G. Myers M’59**
Santa Ana, Calif., is being honored by the American Medical Association for the 50th anniversary of her graduation from medical school.

**Donald D. Bell M’64**
Norfolk, Neb., works seven days a week with no retirement in sight.

**Dale L. Nitzel M’64**
Hastings, Neb., and his wife, Wauneta, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their family at Deer Valley Ranch, Colo.

**Marjorie E. Dietrich N’66**
Omaha, Neb., and her husband are fully retired. They spend half of their time in Omaha and the other half in Rio Verde, Ariz.

**John Y. Donaldson M’66**
Omaha, Neb., retired from his office practice in 2008. He continues to do some part-time consulting and remains active in the Nebraska Psychiatric Society and PCH CHI CHI’S Club.

**L. Donald Wanek M’68**
Wilber, Neb., works seven days a week with no retirement in sight.

**Norman J. Schafer M’68**
Cottage Grove, Ore., and wife, Mary, are retired. The busy grandparents fish, travel and garden.

**Kanchan L. Lodhia M’69**
Lawton, Okla., is semi-retired working every other month. His son, Keith, practices in a neurosurgery group in Omaha. His daughter, Karen, teaches at Northwest High School in Omaha.

Enjoying themselves at the College of Pharmacy Class of 2009 Farewell Reception are Stephanie Pestotnik, John Ridgway, ’71, president of the College of Pharmacy Alumni Association, and Amy Kratzer.
**1970s**

- **John H. Stevens M’70**
  Bayard, Neb., and wife, Diana, tend a small farm and wallow in grandchildren. He practices primary care one day a week at Bridgeport, Neb.

- **Mary Beth Millard P’72**
  Turner, Ore., is partially retired working part-time at the Salem Hospital Outpatient Pharmacy.

- **Mary L. Blair N’73**
  Blair, Neb., retired from active nursing in 2008.

- **Mark H. Meyer M’73**
  Kearney, Neb., has received his subspecialty certificate in orthopedic sports medicine from the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery.

- **Ronald W. Klutman M’73**
  Columbus, Neb., was the recipient of the 2008 Lifetime Membership Award from the Public Health Association of Nebraska. He has practiced longer in the Columbus area than any other provider.

- **Gerald W. Luckey M’73**
  David City, Neb., received the Outstanding Rural Health Practitioner Award at the 2008 Nebraska Rural Health Association Conference.

- **Sandra J. Kinsella N’74**
  Omaha, Neb., is a full-time volunteer at an adult day care facility and active in St. Bernadette Parish music ministry and RCIA program for adults. Her husband is retired. They have six grandchildren.

- **Alan S. Seifer M’74**
  Miami, Fla., is the tournament physician for Ericsson Tennis in Key Biscayne, Fla.

- **Margaret Stockwell M’74**
  Helena, Mont., moved to Montana in 2006 and works in a hospital group’s outpatient family practice unit.

- **Michael N. Crawford M’75**
  Omaha, Neb., recently joined the staff of the Ear, Nose and Throat Institute at Boys Town Hospital in Omaha.

- **Max W. Linder M’75**
  Lincoln, Neb., does cataract surgeries and treatment of other eye problems once a month at the Crete Area Medical Center in Crete, Neb.

- **Gene F. Stohs M’75**
  Lincoln, Neb., began a consulting service at Community Memorial Healthcare in Marysville, Kan.

- **F. Edward Waechter M’75**
  Livingston, Texas, moved to Texas in 2005 to get away from the cold and snow. He has endured two hurricanes since but can still play golf 12 months out of the year.

- **Timothy J. Stroup P’76**
  Lansing, Kan., recently received the American Pharmacists Association’s 2009 Distinguished Federal Pharmacist Award.

- **Mark P. Christiansen PA’77**
  Gretna, Neb., completed his doctoral dissertation and graduated from UNMC in May with a Ph.D. in medical sciences.

- **John J. Jacobsen M’77**
  Mankato, Minn., an allergy specialist, is board certified in pediatrics. He joined the River Edge Hospital and Clinic.

- **Les A. Spry M’77**
  Lincoln, Neb., was recently installed as president of the Nebraska Medical Association.

- **Samuel C. Augustine P’79**
  Omaha, Neb., received the 2009 American Pharmacists Association’s Daniel B. Smith Practice Excellence Award at their annual meeting in San Antonio in April.

**1980s**

- **Michael L. McCarty M’80**
  McCook, Neb., joined the Community Hospital orthopedic staff as a visiting specialist.

- **Rose Remington M’80**
  Columbus, Neb., joined the McCook Clinic and the medical staff at the Community Hospital. She is board certified in family medicine.

- **Charles “Curt” Barr P’81**
  Blair, Neb., was selected as a 2009 Fellow by the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management. He was honored at the annual meeting in San Antonio in April.

- **Thomas R. Brandt M’81**
  Norfolk, Neb., joined the staff at the Osmond General Hospital Cardiology Outreach Clinic in Osmond, Neb.

- **Mary D. Moller N’82**
  New Haven, Conn., joined the staff of Yale University School of Nursing as associate professor and interim director of psychiatric-mental health nursing.
Susan B. Hassmiller N’83
East Windsor, N.J., is one of three nurses chosen by the International Committee of the Red Cross to receive the 42nd Florence Nightingale Medal, nursing’s highest international honor. She holds the position of senior adviser for nursing with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) in Princeton, N.J., and is currently on loan to the Institute of Medicine as director of RWJF Initiative on the Future of Nursing.

Julie M. Vose M’84
Omaha, Neb., was elected to serve another five-year term on the Lymphoma Research Foundation Scientific Advisory Board. Dr. Vose received the Internal Medicine Career Excellence Research Award from UNMC.

Marjorie J. Heier M’86
Crete, Neb., was the guest speaker at the Hispanic Heritage Month women’s health event at Doane College.

Mark R. Swenson P’86
Norfolk, Neb., is on disability leave due to chronic renal failure with subsequent complications.

Russ Ebke M’87
Crete, Neb., and wife, Laura, volunteer with a variety of organizations including the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Crete Noon Sertoma Club, the Crete School Board and the Girl Scouts. Dr. Ebke enjoys fishing and woodworking.

James E. Smith M’88
North Platte, Neb., was appointed to the First National Bank of North Platte board of directors.

1990s

Lois E. Coulter P’90
Springdale, Ark., is an associate professor of pharmacy practice at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Northwest Family Medical Center.

Tom W. Hejkal M’90
Omaha, Neb., was named interim chairman of the UNMC Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

Annette S. Miller M’90
Ainsworth, Neb., joined the staff at Ainsworth Family Clinic, PC.

M. Shannon Bonness M’91
Omaha, Neb., has a son, Eric, who will start his second year of medicine at UNMC.

Cynthia M. Lewis M’91

Todd A. Rave M’91
Stevens Point, Wis., has been named medical director for neuromedsciences of Ministry Medical Group.

Leanna J. Scott-Timperley M’92
Santa Fe, N.M., delivered the commencement address at Chadron State College in May. She earned degrees from Chadron in 1974 and 1976.

Robert J. Singer M’92
Nashville, Tenn., is a neurosurgeon who joined Vanderbilt Medical Center as an assistant professor in February 2009. He primarily works with stroke, brain aneurysms and blood vessel malformations. He plays, collects and manufactures guitars.

Scott L. Franssen M’92
McCook, Neb., recently joined the Community Hospital Orthopedic Clinic staff as a visiting specialist.

Carmella N. Imig M’93
Gretta, Neb., was recently featured in an article in the Gretta Guide News.

Vilma Rodriguez-Cline M’95
Norfolk, Neb., recently joined the staff of Faith Regional Family Medicine Services.

Paul E. Collicott M’96
Broken Bow, Neb., received the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons Distinguished Service Award for 2008.

Vilma Rodriguez-Cline M’95
Norfolk, Neb., recently joined the staff of Faith Regional Family Medicine Services.

Paul E. Collicott M’96
Broken Bow, Neb., received the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons Distinguished Service Award for 2008.

Recipient of the Rena Boyle Award, sponsored by the College of Nursing Alumni Association, were LaTasha Berks, Jennifer Dick and Andrea Rabe. Pictured, from left, are Rebecca Keating-Lefler, president of the College of Nursing Alumni Association, Berks and Rabe. The award was presented at the Spring Research Day.
Robert D. Kobza PT’96
Lincoln, Neb., is starting a Foot and Ankle Consultative Therapeutic Services (LLC) CE course on Foot and Ankle Rehab.

Donald J. Schnidt M’96
Gretna, Neb., joined the Nebraska Internal Medicine P.C.

Amy Pinkall Holst M’97
Lincoln, Neb., gave the commencement address to Gretna High School this past May.

Daniel J. Tomes M’97
Lincoln, Neb., practices with the Neurological and Spinal Surgery LLC. Dr. Tomes is president of the newly opened Southwest Lincoln Surgery Center LLC, which offers multispecialty outpatient surgical services.

Sarah Linderman PT’98
Lincoln, Neb., is certified as a STOTT Pilates instructor.

Nichelle R. Horton-Brown M’99
Omaha, Neb., has opened the Cass Family Medicine clinic in Plattsmouth, Neb.

Andrew Reynolds M’99
Blair, Neb., recently joined the staff of Alegent Health Memorial Hospital’s Outpatient Specialty Clinic and Services in general surgery in Clarkson, Neb.

Tami DenOtter M’02
Omaha, Neb., joined the staff at the Radiology Consultants of the Midwest.

Don L. Evans M’02
Omaha, Neb., joined the staff at the Radiology Consultants of the Midwest.

Niki L. Salomon (Frates) P’02
Gothenburg, Neb., was selected for a One to One Counseling Recognition Award by the American Pharmacists Association. Her profile appeared this spring in “Pharmacy Today,” the magazine of APhA.

Timothy D. Narjes M’04
Alliance, Neb., recently joined the board of directors of the Panhandle Public Health District.

Tori A. Sorensen PT’04
Omaha, Neb., started AMBULS, a non-profit group in Omaha. She has given away more than 100 adapted tricycles and various used pediatric equipment. She looks forward to adopting twins this summer.

Charles H. Harper Jr. M’05
Norfolk, Neb., received his internal medicine certification from the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is employed by Faith Regional Health Services.

2000s

Kelli K. Reilly PA’00
Kearney, Neb., is relocating to Lincoln with her husband, John, and two boys, Cole, 4, and Coen, 2, due to her husband’s promotion. She just completed her eighth year of service at the New West Orthopedic & Sports Rehab LLC in Kearney.

David C. Bendorf M’01
Harlan, Iowa, has signed a letter of intent to practice at Myrtrue Medical Center.

Kristi Kohl M’01
Ogallala, Neb., joined the medical staff at Perkins County Health Services to specialize in family practice with obstetrics.

Joseph G. Willmitch PA’01
Coral Gables, Fla., was recently made a Distinguished Fellow of the American Association of Physician Assistants and received recognition from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants for maintaining continuous certification since graduating from the PA program in 1978.

J. Chad Byrd M’02
Wenatchee, Wash., joined the staff of the rheumatology department at Wenatchee Valley Medical Center.

M.D./Ph.D. students John Eggers and David Clausen sit and soak up the sun during the June Term Picnic sponsored by the College of Medicine Parents and Family Association. They are joined by Clausen’s wife and child.

Second-year medical students Tyler Ketterl, Angie Presher and Emily Hadley enjoy the June Term Picnic.
Jennifer Hirschbrunner N’05
Omaha, Neb., recently received the Rita VanFleet Rising Star Award from The Nebraska Medical Center for her commitment to the profession of nursing.

Clancy E. McNally M’05
Bellevue, Neb., joined Children’s Physicians in Bellevue.

Clayton B. Schroeder M’05
Omaha, Neb., joined the Methodist Physicians Clinic at Indian Hills as an internal medicine physician.

Thomas Bowden M’06
Little Rock, Ark., has been selected to become the Thunderbirds’ new flight surgeon. The doctor reports for training in early November and begins touring with the team in early 2010. His new position requires him to travel with the “Ambassadors in Blue” for the next two years.

Jason C. Schultz M’06
Rochester, Minn., has been selected to receive the 2009 Outstanding Achievement Award for the Internal Medicine Residency Training Program of the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education.

Richard A. Carstens N’07
Lincoln, Neb., has been accepted to the UNMC College of Dentistry starting this fall.

Hadley J. Sharp M’07
Houston, Texas, joined the staff at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center last summer. She made it through her first hurricane in September 2008.

Kevin R. Emge M’09
Grinnell, Iowa, joined the staff at Grinnell Regional Medical Center.

Medical Residents

Heather Babe, M.D.
Shenandoah, Iowa, recently completed her residency with Clarkson Family Medicine at The Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.

Corey Zetterman, M.D.
Omaha, Neb., received the Best Innovations Poster Award at the fourth annual Perioperative Medicine Summit in February 2008.

Celebrating the end of medical school at their senior banquet are members of the College of Medicine Class of 2009, Natalie Riedmann, Holly Keyt and Ashley Fogat. The banquet is sponsored by the College of Medicine Alumni Association.

Reminiscing about their four years in the College of Pharmacy are Class of 2009 members Scott Fegter, Jon Swanson, Greg Schardt and Emily Pohlman.
Marriages

Jennifer Obermeier P’06
Omaha, Neb., married Matthew Skradski Aug. 16, 2008.

Richard A. Carstens N’07

Angela Semerad Rystrom PT’07
Dodge, Neb., was married July 26, 2008.

Births

Chelsea Schauer PT’01
Lincoln, Neb., and her husband welcomed their third son, Samuel John, on April 8, 2009.

Mikhael Loots M’04
Omaha, Neb., and husband, Ryan welcomed their second baby girl, Emily Anne, on March 18, 2009.

Scott Welch M’04
Fernandina Beach, Fla., and his wife, Rebecca, welcomed their first child, Eliana Cathleen, on Nov. 3, 2008.

Teresa L. Bracken (Gray) P’05
Scottsbluff, Neb., and husband, Joe, welcomed their first child, Sophie Jean, on Dec. 22, 2008.

Elizabeth J. Hytrek N’06
Council Bluffs, Iowa, and her husband, Chris, welcomed Evie Katherine on Aug. 1, 2008.

In Remembrance...

Vene Overturf M’35
Peoria, Ariz., July 8, 2008

Nathaniel Charles Scott M’41
Lincoln, Neb., April 12, 2009

E. Maxine Bennett M’42
Madison, Wis., Dec. 23, 2008

Jonas A. Proffitt M’42
Grand Island, Neb., Nov. 10, 2008

Robert C. Fenstermacher M’43
Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 30, 2009

John “Jack” Lavendar M’43
Sioux Falls, S.D., July 13, 2009

Bradley B. Woodruff M’43
Grand Island, Neb., May 5, 2009

William L. Rumbolz M’44
Phoenix, Ariz., May 19, 2009

Fern R. Beck (Barge) N’47
Denver, Colo., Feb. 6, 2006

Malcolm Byers M’47
Medford, Ore., Feb. 4, 2008

Zada E. Shane N’48
Omaha, Neb., March 30, 2009

Lewis U. Ledyard P’49

Kenneth E. Carrico P’50
Rawlins, Wyo., Feb. 2009

Louise Paone N’51

James E. Loukota, M’56
Friend, Neb., March 14, 2009

Robert Clifford Anderson M’57
Holdrege, Neb., Feb. 25, 2009

Nancy W. Schneckloth N’60 Former faculty
Lincoln, Neb., April 17, 2009

Thomas G. Erickson M’61
Fremont, Neb., Feb. 15, 2009

J. Gil O’Rourke M’62
Jackson, Miss., Jan. 26, 2009

John B. Byrd M’69
Sargent, Neb., Oct. 27, 2008

Ginni Schluckebier M’96
Lincoln, Neb., April 11, 2007

Carl B. Camras M.D., Faculty
Omaha, Neb., April 14, 2009

Walter J. Friedlander M.D., Former faculty
Omaha, Neb., May 1, 2009

Robert Grissom M.D., Former faculty
Omaha, Neb., March 17, 2009

Norah F. Metcalf M.D., Former faculty
Elkhorn, Neb., March 2, 2009

We love hearing from you! Please send your professional and personal news for Class Notes to:

UNMC Alumni Relations
985200 Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE 68198-5200

Phone: (402)559-4385
Toll free (888)725-8664
email: alumni@unmc.edu
Web site: www.unmc.edu/alumni
Students entering the College of Medicine and School of Allied Health Professions never truly know their first teacher. Though they spend hours together each day, they never hear their voice, learn their name or share favorite pastimes. And, yet, these quiet souls have an invaluable and lasting impact on each student as they begin their professional journey.

Nearly 200 people annually donate their bodies to the Nebraska Anatomical Board and about half of those bodies go to UNMC to be used in the medical center’s Gross Anatomy Lab or the Advanced Anatomy Laboratory for Research, Education and Clinical Skills.

The appreciation for, and understanding of, anatomy can only be experienced fully when students have contact with cadavers, said Robert Binhammer, Ph.D., who has taught anatomy for more than 50 years, including 30 at UNMC.

“Books can teach you a whole lot but they’re inadequate,” Dr. Binhammer said. “No textbook or patient simulator can account for the variety these students will encounter in reality – it’s vital that the students understand that.”

It’s also important that donor families understand the gratitude UNMC students have toward their loved ones – mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters and grandparents – who donate their bodies to advance medical science.

“Mom always said when she died she wouldn’t need her body, so why not do some good.”

“He believed research was important and he wanted to be a part of that.”

“(A lifelong teacher) she wanted to keep on teaching.”

First-year physician assistant, physical therapy and medical students host a ceremony each spring to honor those who have donated their bodies for scientific research and training.

And, while students know only their teacher’s age, gender and what pathology took their life, they know their selfless gift will touch countless lives. 

For more information on anatomical donation, contact the Nebraska Anatomical Board at 402-559-6249.

Watch a ceremony that recognizes these remarkable teachers. www.unmc.edu/discover
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