Interactive Future Dawning on MSU-COM

The Stefan H. Kobiljak, Jr., Interactive Learning Resource Center — a state-of-the-art study area four years in the planning — is scheduled to be up and running by summer 1991. Construction of the $295,000 facility started in January following the MSU Board of Trustees' November approval of a local contractor to complete the job.

"Students have a great need for quiet study space and an area where they can use and learn from the newest instructional technology," said Patricia Grauer, director of the MSU-COM Office of Health Information. "And there is a reasonable expectation by students that a high quality medical school such as this one would have a learning resource center."

Thanks to a generous $500,000 contribution made by the Kobiljak family in memory of their son Stefan, a 1985 MSU-COM graduate, the college will fulfill the expectations of current and future students.

Grauer, in collaboration with Perrin Parkhurst, director of instructional systems, and others in MSU-COM and throughout the university, developed the ILRC plan. Together, they have designed a facility covering 4,000 square feet of classroom space on the first floor of Fee Hall. The renovation will provide study space for 96 students — more than three times the space currently available — and 30 computer work stations, compared with the eight stations used now.

Beyond the physical enhancements of spacious study carrels, comfortable couches and more computers, the ILRC will provide faculty with the technology to teach in completely new ways and give students the flexibility to learn according to their own style and pace.

The idea is to provide COM faculty and students with the technology to better organize and access the overwhelming amount of medical information available.

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Fundraising Campaign Underway
Teaching Residents and Residents as Teachers

Osteopathic graduate medical education would be strengthened if more physicians were trained to be educators, according to Dennis Lemasinski, director of medical education at Riverside Osteopathic Hospital.

"The majority of physicians involved in graduate medical education programs are not formally trained in education techniques," said Lemasinski.

To compensate for this deficit, Lemasinski suggests incorporating education training into osteopathic residency programs. Newly trained physicians could then teach the residents that follow after them.

"It would be a farm system for the profession," said Lemasinski who sees MSU-COM as instrumental in furthering the idea of faculty development.

"The university needs to help us -- this is where their expertise comes in," Lemasinski said. "For instance, the [MSU-COM] faculty could give a workshop on teaching."

One reason for Lemasinski's confidence in MSU-COM springs from the university's successful role in the evolution of the Consortium for Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education and Training (COGMET).

"MSU played the role of a catalyst in helping form COGMET," Lemasinski said. "It got the hospitals to sit down on a formal basis and kept lighting the fire to make sure the process took place."

Impressed with COGMET's progress to date, Lemasinski noted that as the program becomes more operational, the university can play a greater role in GME curriculum, faculty development and evaluation.

"COGMET is a step in the right direction. It has helped us to add better structure to teaching programs," said Lemasinski who describes COGMET's educational philosophy as being more teaching than service-oriented and emphasizing more exposure to ambulatory care medicine.

"Service is one component of medical education but only one," said Lemasinski. "Medical students realize service is a component, but they want more than that."

The Riverside residency program, for example stresses the basics while trying to provide a well-rounded education. "We try cooperation."

"To better facilitate this partnership and his role as medical education director, Lemasinski makes sure he is within arms' reach of the house staff -- literally. When Lemasinski was named DME, he left a group practice and opened his own family medicine practice in a building right next door to Riverside Hospital.

"I felt I would have much more control of my schedule in a solo practice than a group practice," said Lemasinski. "Being right next door makes it much easier and I am readily accessible to the house staff."

Although Lemasinski admits that juggling his two careers is difficult, he said the experience has enabled him to be a better director of medical education.

"I am viewed a little differently by attending physicians, medical students and residents," Lemasinski said. "They don't see me as just an administrator. And it may give me a little different perspective because I have to deal with the same problems as they do every day."

Lemasinski emphasized that DMEs, along with residents, have enjoyed benefits from COGMET.

"It is an opportunity for people to get together, discuss different programs and hear how other people solve them," Lemasinski said. "We learn a lot through these interactions." Lemasinski noted in particular that COGMET's influence has resulted in stronger relationships between the directors of medical education and the heads of hospital residency programs.

"The director of medical education now serves as a resource," said Lemasinski who considers the residency heads at Riverside his partners in providing GME. "There is great
Learning to Live with Pain

Dee Nagle, graduate of MSU chronic back pain clinic.

In a word, the MSU Rehabilitation Medicine Chronic Pain Program means teamwork—between patients and their doctors and among the care-givers themselves.

In this special program, the patient’s physician coordinates the expertise of a team of health care providers who help patients learn to live with ongoing, sometimes incurable pain. Each specialist zeroes in on particular parts of a patient’s daily life in an effort to teach the patient how to manage pain, overcome disability and return to a rewarding, productive lifestyle.

Donald Stanton, acting-chairperson of the COM Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, likened the process to a symphony where the physiatrist is the conductor and all the other specialists involved in treatment—the physical therapist, the manual medicine physician, the speech pathologist, the nutritionist, the occupational therapist, the vocational therapist and the psychologist—make up the sections of the orchestra.

It is the patient, however, who must be dedicated to the practice necessary to make the team’s treatment, the “music,” flow smoothly and effectively.

“Our program is very much patient-directed,” said Stanton. “It is up to them to establish their goals and it is up to us to help them reach them.”

exercises, a lift in her left shoe, walking short distances and a short-term medication program. Yet, the even smallest activity was difficult for her. Nagle writes, “The pain is terrible. Gotta remember it feels worse before better! I’ll say that six times for every exercise!”

The pain, and new loneliness were ever present for Nagle. To blunt both, she volunteered to read for visually impaired MSU students.

Although at times she became very discouraged by her progress, after only three weeks of treatment Dr. Stanton, friends and family could see improvements in her motions. A month passed and Nagle had progressed sufficiently to begin physical therapy.

Determined to continue her treatment, Nagle writes after her first session of P.T., “I’m in so much pain, I can barely write. I’m dreading...all next week but that’s what I’m here for.”

After surviving a bicycle test to monitor her heartbeat, Nagle wrote: “I hope I can hang in there! No—I know I’m going to!”

Her medical team used this test and others, ranging from physical to psychological, to monitor her progress, strength and endurance.

By September, Nagle’s treatment intensified with patient education classes and therapy with a psychologist and a nutritionist.

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McGregor Awarded Chevron Fellowship

W. Glenn McGregor, research associate in the Carcinogenesis Laboratory, was awarded the Chevron/Society for Risk Analysis Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Risk Analysis. This award was the only one granted by the Society’s fellowship program, designed to support postdoctoral research on questions of risk to health, safety and the environment.

McGregor’s research will focus on whether a particular population exposed to environmental hazards has undergone mutation as a result of the exposure. His two-stage program will first determine the location and types of mutations in the coding region of the HMR1 gene of peripheral blood human T-lymphocytes (T-cells) which occur in the absence of mutagen exposure. Second, McGregor will strive to determine the mutational spectrum following exposure of T-cells in culture to mutagens.

Nancy M. Crewe, professor of counseling, educational psychology, and special education, and a researcher with the COM Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, received the Distinguished Member Award of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM). The award was presented in October at the organization’s joint meeting with the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and it recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exemplary contributions to the ACRM through leadership, committee work and other related activities.

Susan L. Hendrix, assistant professor of osteopathic medicine, became a certified diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology in December.

Peter S. Kanchak, assistant professor of osteopathic medicine, received the Golden Apple Award from the COM class of 1993 for his contribution to the reproductive system course (OST 559).

Joseph Papsidero, professor and acting chairperson of the department of community health science, traveled to Rome to present a paper titled “Social Aspects of Aging: Social Forces, Dependency, and Reforms,” at the National Conference of Longevity. The October conference was sponsored by the Italian Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology.

The Departments of Osteopathic Medicine and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation joined together during the holiday season to sponsor a needy family. Faculty and staff participated in a month-long drive to collect food and gifts for the family. The departments reported that the response was overwhelming and that the faculty and staff said it was a “very rewarding experience.” The family received the food and gifts through the St. Vincent’s Home for Children.

A cadre from the anatomy department presented papers at the 20th annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience held in St. Louis, Mo., in October.

Robert Bowker, assistant professor, along with J.P. Caron and R.H. Abohld presented “Substance P and Calcitonin-gene-related Peptides in the Synovial Membrane and Joint Fluid in Normal and Pathological Conditions.”

Irena Grofova and graduate student Kathy C. Bruce, “Investigation of Dysmaptic Pathways in a Double-Labeling Paradigm.”

William M. Falls, with graduate students Lizabeth A. Smith, Mark S. Cook and J. Stuk, presented “Origins and Terminations of Trigeminal Projections to Rat Spinal Cord.”

Professor Sharleen T. Sakai and graduate student Barbara Hannah presented “The Distribution of Pallidohyalamic and Nigrothalamic Projections in the Dog.”

William M. Falls and graduate student Elizabeth Smith presented “Projections from Rat Trigeminal Nucleus Oralis to the Cerebellum.”

Irena Grofova and Bryan Spann, a graduate student, presented “Ultrastructure of Cholergic Neurons of the Nucleus Tegmenti Pedunculopontinus in the Rat.”

Student Farshid Marzban, along with M.L. Weiss, A. Tackman, L.E. Koran and G.J. Hatton, presented “Ultrastructural Evidence for Synaptic Input to the Rat Supraoptic Nucleus from the Olfactory Bulb and the Sublumbar Organ.”

Kathryn Lovell, associate professor of pathology, gave a presentation on “Dysmyelination in Bovine Beta-Mannosidosis: White Matter Lesions in a Lysosomal Storage Disease in Selors Calves.”
COM Student Invention Braces Gymnasts' Fall

Gymnasts competing at the 1992 Olympics could be wearing a new device to help them reach perfection, an ankle brace designed by an MSU-COM student.

Larry Nassar, COM '93, who began working with gymnastic teams in high school, has designed a "wrist brace for the ankle," called the Nassar System.

"The brace is designed for anterior ankle capsularis," said Nassar, who explained that gymnasts put stress on their ankles when they dismount or land after an exercise. "The brace protects the anterior portion of the ankle from expanding and reduces the stress." Other braces protect the ankle by restricting movement and are generally time-consuming to apply. Unlike these, the Nassar brace flexes with the gymnast's movement, while decreasing the shock absorbed by the joint when the gymnast lands. The Nassar brace wraps around the ankle like tape and closes with Velcro, making it easy to apply and adjust for any size.

After selling for three years, Nassar is beginning to get a return on his invention. Gymnasts in the U.S., Canada, U.S.S.R., Venezuela, Argentina and the Dominican Republic are using the brace for protection during tumbling exercises and dismounts from vaults, parallel bars and the beam, said Nassar.

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Grant awarded to COM Student

Catherine Kerschen, COM '92, was awarded a $3,000 grant to study housing and care available to mentally-impaired senior citizens. The grant is funded by the Michigan Health Care Education and Research Foundation. Through her research, Kerschen will determine what housing alternatives exist for the elderly with chronic mental illnesses.

New Osteopathic Residency Grants Announced

Burroughs Wellcome Co. has announced the establishment of the 1991 American Osteopathic Association/Burroughs Wellcome Co., Residents' Leadership Award Program for Osteopathic Residents. The award program will provide residents, in at least their second year of residency, $1,000 stipends to finance their attendance at the AOA annual convention. Residents attending the meeting will participate in a four-day program, where they will receive special recognition. Award nominations can be made by residents and residency program directors. For award applications, write the Division of Postdoctoral Education, Department of Education, American Osteopathic Association, 142 E. Ontario, Chicago, Ill. 60611-2842 or call (800) 621-1773, ext. 5842. Nominations should be postmarked before midnight.
Alumni Help Needed for MSU-COM Student Scholarships

From January to June, MSU alumni from every college and school, including MSU-COM, will be given an opportunity to contribute to a special campaign to raise $160 million to prepare the university for the future.

MSU 2000: Access to Opportunity is a special five-year effort to increase funding for specific projects including long-range endowments, university buildings and program enhancements. Over $140 million has been raised. MSU is looking to its alumni to raise another $5 million.

In this special campaign, alumni can designate their contribution to a specific college or school within the university. The money raised by each school will then be dedicated to a particular area of need within that school.

Funds raised by MSU-COM alumni will support student scholarships and an emergency loan program.

For more information about the MSU 2000 campaign, contact Kathleen Gaines, assistant director of the annual giving program of the MSU Development Fund, (517) 355-8237.

Correction
An article in the January Communicate on a graduate medical education symposium inadvertently neglected to identify Eugene A. Oliveri, president-elect of the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, as one of the program’s panelists.

Ross Hazelwood, COM '78, and his wife Lucy have moved to Markesan, Wis., where Ross is working at the Berlin Memorial Hospital. Their new baby daughter Sarah Marie, also known as "Peanut," was born on June 2, 1990.

Richard Kovar, COM '90, attended a two-week seminar and workshop on the principles of osteopathic medicine, in Riga, Latvia. Kovar was part of the American delegation attending the seminar held by the Medical Academy of Riga Department of Rehabilitation. Specialists from a wide range of fields attended, including 26 Soviet physicians. Kovar noted that the seminar was "a huge success" and that "there are plans for future continued association and exchange on a professional basis with both Latvian and Russian Republics."

Further, osteopathic physicians have privileges to practice throughout the Soviet Union.

Linda L. Loewenstein, COM '85, was elected as vice president of the Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital. Kenneth Lim, COM '78, was elected as member at large.

Elia Noel, COM '88, has left general practice and started a residency in internal medicine at Bosford General Hospital in Farmington Hills.

David S. Rosenberg, COM '73, was given the the honorary degree of Fellow of the American College of General Practice at the organization’s November meeting in Las Vegas. Rosenberg, who is in private practice in West Bloomfield, received the award in recognition of his outstanding service to his profession and his community.

Do you have news for Communicate? Have new faculty members joined your department? Have you published a paper, given a presentation, received an award? Do you have news of interest to your former classmates? Let us know!
Interactive Future cont.

Students are facing a "curriculum crunch," having to teach or absorb too much information in too short a timespan.

"What we want to do is move students beyond just the ability to assimilate facts, and teach them how to become lifelong scholars and researchers," Grauer said. "The new technology offers very viable opportunities to develop these kinds of learning skills."

For instance, students and faculty will be able to use computers to communicate with community hospitals, the MSU library and major medical databases such as MEDLINE.

Along with access to established databases, faculty will have the technology to create their own teaching tools. Parkhurst offered the example of a series of 10 neuropathology videodisc modules, designed and taught by Kathym L. Lovell, associate professor of pathology.

In these modules, students use computers to access a series of visuals that support the lecture content. The videodisc technology enables students to completely control how long and which visual they choose to study.

Students using the neuropathology IVDs gave them high marks, with 95 percent rating them beneficial.

"Students have a strong interest in computers and new approaches to learning," Parkhurst said. "This is a direction we are trying to support for our faculty."

Parkhurst also noted that a cadre of faculty is becoming familiar with interactive materials. "As can be expected, patterns of use fall along a wide spectrum. Some faculty use this approach to present one or two concepts, while others have incorporated it into their entire curriculum. When it is a required component and closely tied to course content, use and acceptance is much greater."

"Our job is to identify faculty that are interested [in new teaching technology], find where they fall on the spectrum and support them," Parkhurst said.

Grauer and Parkhurst said they are confident that the ILRC will help prepare MSU-COM for the future.

Learning To Live With Pain-cont.

Nagle measured her own personal progress in increments pain-free people usually take for granted, such as sleeping soundly through the night or driving an hour to visit her daughter or sitting through an entire concert performance. Her determination gave Nagle the courage to try to do more both in her daily life and in her physical therapy. As her pain gradually became more manageable, she stopped taking medication and increased her activities.

"I know I'm stronger," wrote Nagle.

By October, Nagle felt strong enough to take a two-week vacation. California was her destination with everything from sightseeing to dancing to riding in a hot-air balloon in her itinerary.

When she returned to MSU, Nagle said she felt she had mastered the pain well enough for everyday living and set her next goal on building the strength needed to return to work. Eventually, Nagle worked up to 30 repetitions of each exercise, including push-ups, sit-ups and arm work using hand barbells. "I biked for 25 minutes today, started at 10 minutes!" wrote Nagle.

By November, Nagle's team told her that if her progress continued, she could return home in a month. "I can't believe I'm going home," wrote Nagle. "I just hope I have the self-discipline to keep up [my strength]."

Nagle's motivation and hard work were rewarded and she was home in Boyne City in time for Christmas. Although she will never be cured, the rehabilitation she dedicated herself to helped her to minimize the pain in her
CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Clinical Concepts and Strategies for the Primary Care Physician: Fifth Annual Family Medicine Conference
March 9, 1991

The goal of this program is to provide current information about new issues and important problems facing family and primary care physicians. A wide range of conditions will be discussed including diabetes, AIDS, silent myocardial ischemia and panic disorders. Treatment of sleep disorders, anxiety and depression in the elderly population will also be a conference focus. Margaret Aguwa, D.O., M.P.H., and Margot Kurtz, Ph.D., associate professors of family medicine at MSU-COM, will be the program moderators. Speakers include Michael Berelowitz, M.D., chief of the division of endocrinology at the Health Sciences Center, SUNY at Stonybrook, N.Y., Paul Schatz, M.D., director of endocrinology at Providence Hospital, Paul Wenig, D.O., of Bosford Hospital and faculty from MSU and the University of Michigan. To be held at the MSU Kellogg Center. 7 hours of AOA Category 1 credit. Sponsored by the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine Department of Family Medicine. Cost for physicians is $100; residents and interns, $50; students, free. Includes continental breakfast and luncheon.

Principles of Manual Medicine-Part B
March 9-11, 1991

Principles of Manual Medicine - Part B is a combination of didactic lectures and hands-on experience sufficient to understand the principles involved in the diagnosis and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders amenable to manual medicine methods. Emphasis will be placed on the integration of manual medicine into total health care. Faculty includes Philip E. Greenman, D.O., F.A.A.O., program chairperson. To be held at the Doubletree at Randolph Park, Tucson, Arizona. "Principles of Manual Medicine-Part A" is the prerequisite conference for this course. No phone reservations accepted. 20 hours Category I credit. Sponsored by MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and College of Human Medicine. Cost is $1,000; physicians in training: $500. Includes continental breakfast daily, and course materials.

Tutorial on Level I Muscle Energy Techniques
March 13-17, 1991

This course is designed to expand previous training in manual medicine in the area of use of muscle contraction as an activating force. Concepts of muscle contraction will be taught and will be utilized in the treatment of the vertebral column and the bony pelvis. The structural diagnostic system will be expanded in dysfunctions of the vertebral column and bony pelvis. Course chairperson is Philip E. Greenman, D.O., F.A.A.O. To be held at the Doubletree at Randolph Park, Tucson, Arizona. Prerequisite training is "Principles of Manual Medicine." Enrollment is limited. 40 hours Category I credit. Sponsored by MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and College of Human Medicine. Cost is $1,000; physicians in training: $500. Includes continental breakfast daily, and course materials.

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COMMUNIQUÉ

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