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A TRADITION CONTINUES: White Coat Ceremony Launches Students on Medical Career

Countless cameras flashed as proud parents and spouses captured the moment when more than 100 men and women took their first steps toward becoming physicians at the tradition-filled White Coat Ceremony held by the UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine in the school's Academic Center in Stratford.

"The White Coat Ceremony marks the beginning of your career in osteopathic medicine and the beginning of your becoming part of our family," Dr. Thomas A. Cavalieri, interim dean at the UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine and director for the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging, said as he officially welcomed the 29th class in the medical school's history.

The White Coat Ceremony is a highly symbolic

event that culminates with each student receiving a new white lab coat that symbolizes entry into the medical profession. During the ceremony the new students stood together to recite the "Pledge of



Paul M. Krueger, DO, FACOG, associate dean for academic affairs, announces student names as Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, FACOI, FACP, AGSF, interim dean, assists Alyssa Rubinstein with her white coat. Keynote speaker Judith Lightfoot, DO, a volunteer faculty member and physician with the Garden State Infectious Disease Association and William F. Ranieri, DO, FACN, associate dean for Clinical Affairs, look on.

Commitment" in which they promised to "show compassion and respect" throughout their careers and to "set worthy examples in the application of humanistic principles."

During his remarks to the Class of 2010, Dr. Cavalieri reminded the students that they have chosen a great profession. "At the heart of what you do is service... to your patient and to humanity," he said.

Dr. Judith A. Lightfoot, a volunteer faculty member at the school and a physician with Garden



Kathryn Lambert, DO, acting assistant dean for Student Affairs, presents a copy of "On Doctoring" to first year student Sayani Niyogi.



First year students Emily Goldenthal and Natali Gleimer recite the "Pledge of Commitment."

Dean's Message

Our new academic year provides each of us with an opportunity to reflect on the many achievements that our school has enjoyed while also looking forward to the future with optimism. As medical educators, it is our noble responsibility to provide a stimulating yet nurturing environment for our students as they seek to absorb all that our school can offer in support of our patients and their families.

This year we welcomed the largest incoming class in our school's history and this year also marks a milestone as we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the signing of the legislation that created our school. Originally founded as a "university without walls," our school is now nationally acknowledged as a leader in medical education and research with faculty and staff who are considered top professionals in their chosen fields.

While we perform the important task of educating our students, we must also remain cognizant that acquisition of medical knowledge is not the entire equation. We must adhere to the values that compel us: professionalism, integrity, compassion, clinical excellence, diversity and mutual respect.

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State Infectious Disease Associates in Voorhees, delivered the keynote address. She warned the students that they have not chosen an easy road. "Medicine is a jealous master," she said. "It is not always easy but it is always a worthy and respectable profession."



From left: first year students Michael Garcia, Olamide Oladipo, Michael Jerome, Aman Gebre-Egziabher and Samuel Brown.

NJ Governor Corzine Addresses UMDNJ

New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine spent Tuesday, September 5, visiting three of UMDNJ's campuses in a series of Town Hall meetings with members of the University community. The sessions were the follow-up that Governor Corzine had promised to UMDNJ employees during a meeting last March.

UMDNJ Interim President Dr. Bruce C. Vladek made it clear that the statewide meetings were a demonstration of the Governor's deep, personal interest in the University and his wish to talk with and hear from faculty, staff and students. In his opening remarks, Governor Corzine expressed his belief in the "reality of much excellence at UMDNJ" and his desire to have the public understand this as well. He also noted his confidence in the Board of Trustees— both new and continuing members— under the leadership of Mr. Robert J. Del Tufo, who attended all three meetings.

More than a thousand people attended in Newark, Piscataway and Stratford; the meetings were connected to other campus locations by interactive video-conferencing. After brief introductory comments, the Governor answered questions posed by audience members on topics that ranged from charity care and the merger proposals to New Jersey's budget constraints and ethics limitations on honoraria.



Governor Corzine speaks to students.



From Left: Richard E. Murray, president and CEO, Kennedy Health System; Bruce C. Vladek, PhD, interim president, UMDNJ; Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, interim dean, UMDNJ-SOM; and Governor Jon S. Corzine.

SOM's "Top Docs"

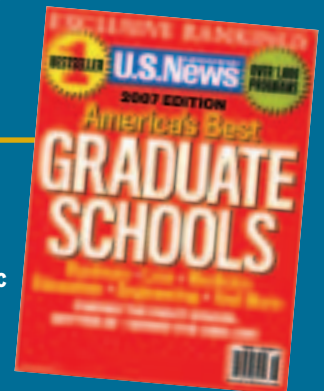
There's no higher accolade than to be selected by peers as the best in a profession. Being a "coach's coach" or a "writer's writer" is to be at the pinnacle of professional achievement. That's why UMDNJ-SOM is proud that more than two dozen of its physicians and faculty have been selected as "Top Docs" by three area publications— *Philadelphia Magazine*, *South Jersey Magazine* and *SJ Magazine*. At the same time, SOM's faculty practice plan was selected "best physician group" by readers of the *Courier-Post* newspaper.

Mark Wallen, MD, Addiction Psychiatry
 Martin Finkel, DO; Marita Lind, MD, Child Abuse
 Lydia Vender, DO, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
 Carman Ciervo, DO, Family Practice
 Thomas Cavalieri, DO; Anita Chopra, MD,
 Geriatric Medicine
 David Rissmiller, DO; Stephen Scheinthal, DO,
 Geriatric Psychiatry
 Thomas Cavalieri, DO; H. Timothy Dombrowski, DO,
 Internal Medicine
 Joseph Bottalico, DO; Peter Konchak, DO,
 Maternal and Fetal Medicine
 Steven Dinsmore, DO, Neurology
 Ronald Ayres, DO, Obstetrics & Gynecology

James Weese, MD, Oncologic Surgery
 Eleanor Masterson, DO, Osteoscience
 Richard Jermyn, DO, Pain Medicine
 Cynthia DeLago, MD; Jacqueline Kaari, DO,
 Pediatrics
 Martin Finkel, DO, Pediatrics Specialist
 Richard Jermyn, DO, Physical Medicine
 & Rehabilitation
 Timothy Arnold, DO; Douglas Leonard, DO;
 David Rissmiller, DO, Psychiatry
 Thomas Morley, DO, Pulmonary Disease
 John D'Emilia, MD, Surgery
 John Cooper, DO,
 Vascular Surgery

UMDNJ-SOM named among "America's Best" for the sixth consecutive year

U.S. News & World Report magazine selected the UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine one of the best graduate schools in geriatric medicine education.



22ND ANNUAL UMDNJ University Day Celebration

On September 19, the UMDNJ community came together to celebrate the University's accomplishments in research, clinical care and education and to set a course for the future. "As most of you know, University Day allows us an opportunity to reflect upon how each of us contributes to our mission, vision and values, as we reaffirm our commitment to excellence as an academic institution that is entrusted with preparing our next generation of caring health professionals — a truly sacred trust," said Interim Dean Cavalieri.

Robert J. Del Tufo, Esq., president of the Board of Trustees, welcomed several hundred faculty, students and staff to the 22nd Annual University Day celebration and Bruce C. Vladeck, PhD, interim president, delivered a State of the University address to the hundreds who took part in the celebration in Stratford and from two other University campuses via closed-circuit broadcast.

At this event, Dr. Vladeck outlined a series of steps and controls put into place since March to restore and reinvigorate the University, as well as to establish financial and ethical controls to prevent the problems of past administration from reoccurring. Among the reforms are:

- Expansion of the UMDNJ Board of Trustees to include six new members, the reorganization of Board committees and the anticipated appointment of five new members by NJ Governor Corzine.
- The creation of an Office of Compliance at UMDNJ with 28 newly created positions for investigators and auditors.
- The near completion of the University's 2005 financial statement audit and the expected certification of the 2006 financial statement by the end of the calendar year.
- A review of the University's procurement and purchasing policies and procedures and the creation of a contract management office to ensure better monitoring and completion of contractual requirements.
- Recruitment of a new CFO of University Hospital, an important step in rebuilding trust in the Hospital's financial oversight and overall strategic leadership.

"With some of these basic building blocks now in place, we can begin charting the next phase of our institution's recovery and growth," Dr. Vladeck said. "To that end, I am today announcing five strategic priorities for the University. In doing so, I hope to define a short-term agenda which will begin to reinforce the University's strengths; create the reality as well as the atmosphere of positive, forward movement; and lay the groundwork for future greatness in all of the central areas of the University's mission." The strategic priorities are:

- An ethics initiative that will allow UMDNJ to learn from recent experiences and convert a period of insti-

tutional trauma into the starting point for the development of a national model for institutional conduct with the creation of an innovative program in ethics education for the entire UMDNJ community.

- A plan to reinvigorate the University's research with an investment in infrastructure that supports our researchers, especially those in the early stages of their careers: by reorganizing the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, strengthening staffing at the Office of Research and automating the Institutional Review Board.

- Revisiting and refocusing the clinical services provided to the residents of Newark by the New Jersey Medical School and University Hospital.
- An overdue investment in UMDNJ's IT systems to expand data center capacity, enhance security of data systems and information repositories and modernize certain basic business applications.
- A plan to enhance collaborative activities across schools and campuses to encourage interdisciplinary education and research opportunities in both biomedical research and the provision of health services.

Among other University Day highlights, 12 faculty members were inducted into the Stuart D. Cook, MD, Master Educators' Guild, which recognizes selected faculty members for their long-term commitment to excellence in education, scholarship, creativity, and their ability to motivate students and garner the respect of their peers.

"We are especially proud of two of our own distinguished UMDNJ-SOM faculty, Dr. Anita Chopra and Dr. James Guidice, who were both honored as Master Educators for their educational contributions to our University," said Interim Dean Cavalieri.

Other highlights

Anne Jones, MSII, gave remarks on behalf of the students.



From left: Anita Chopra, MD and James Guidice, DO, 2006 Master Educators' Guild program inductees, with Dean Thomas A. Cavalieri.



From left: David Callahan, PhD, keynote speaker at the Stuart D. Cook, MD, Master Educators' Guild Academic Grand Rounds; Sandra L. Kaplan, PT, PhD, associate professor and assistant director, Doctoral Programs in Physical Therapy, and president, Stuart D. Cook, MD, Master Educators' Guild; Kai Mon Lee, PhD, assistant professor and president-elect, Stuart D. Cook, MD, Master Educators' Guild, and Carl E. Hock, PhD, associate dean for research and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.



From left: Robert J. Del Tufo, Esq., chair, UMDNJ Board of Trustees; Leah Z. Ziskin, MD, recipient of University Day Distinguished Leadership Award and Bruce C. Vladeck, PhD, UMDNJ interim president.

of University Day included Academic Grand Rounds "Addressing Conflict of Interest in Health Sciences" presented by David Callahan, PhD and sponsored by The Stuart D. Cook, MD Master Educators' Guild.

The 2006 University Medal for Distinguished Leadership, which is presented annually to an individual whose career reflects extraordinary commitment to protecting the health and well-being of New Jersey residents, was presented to Dr. Leah Ziskin. She is a former associate dean of the UMDNJ-School of Public Health and the former deputy commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.

"There is no doubt that this is a critical time in the history of our great University. As we take time to celebrate our accomplishments and ongoing commitment to education by honoring our Master Educators, we must never lose sight that we are also charged with charting the course for those who will follow us in pursuit of educational excellence," said Interim Dean Cavalieri.

Chinese Delegation Tours CARES Institute

Stratford site one of two in U.S. chosen by UNICEF as a model for child protection services

In August, representatives from three Chinese provinces visited the CARES (Child Abuse Research, Education and Service) Institute at UMDNJ-SOM on a mission that is vital to the health and well-being of countless children in China. The CARES Institute was one of just two sites in America chosen by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPAN) as model programs for helping children recover from abuse, neglect and violence.

"Because China does not have a formal child protection system, this visit exposed the government officials to best practices and system designs required to address this huge challenge for their country," said Dr. Martin Finkel, co-founder and co-director of the CARES Institute. "We were delighted to have been able to help this delegation obtain insight into these challenges."

More than a dozen representatives from China participated in the three-day visit to the CARES Institute that included an overview of the New Jersey child protection system, meetings with state officials in Trenton and a tour of the Support Center for Child Advocates in Philadelphia.

During the Chinese delegation's visit to the Stratford campus, CARES Institute staff reviewed the institute's unique multidisciplinary approach to

providing state-of-the-art medical and mental health diagnostic and treatment services to children and their families. CARES staff members also discussed the institute's highly successful research program that has created evidence-based therapy models for children who have suffered abuse.

"Visiting CARES provides an opportunity for Chinese officials to see first hand a comprehensive integrated model to deliver diagnostic and treatment services and its integration into the development of a child protection system," said Kimberly Svevo, executive director of ISPAN. "The CARES Institute is an excellent example of the ground-breaking and innovative medical and mental health programs

servicing children and families in the United States."

The CARES Institute provides an array of medical and mental health services developed to meet the diagnostic and treatment needs of children and families who have experienced abuse, neglect and violence.

From left, standing: Deborah Mulgrew, DO, Meredith Schalick, Esq., and Marita Lind, MD, FAAP, of the CARES Institute standing with the Chinese Delegation. Seated in the center are Esther Deblinger, PhD, and Martin A. Finkel, DO, FAAP, co-directors of the CARES Institute.



Dean's Message *continued*

Recently, I was pleased to announce several administrative appointments that vest responsibility for the major domains of our mission—education, research and clinical affairs—with individuals with both specialized expertise and extensive experience at UMDNJ-SOM. Those appointments are:

- **Paul M. Krueger, DO, FACOOG**, to Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. In his new role, Dr. Krueger will assume responsibility for all aspects of the UMDNJ-SOM undergraduate educational programs, including direct oversight of the admissions process. He will also manage our faculty development and continuing education programs.
- **Kathryn C. Lambert, DO**, has assumed the new position of Acting Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. In this part-time role, Dr. Lambert will report to Dr. Krueger and will be responsible for student and academic support services.
- **Carl Mogil, DO, FACOS, FAOAO**, will continue in his current role as Acting Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education.
- **Carl E. Hock, PhD**, has been appointed Associate Dean for Research and the UMDNJ-Graduate

School of Biomedical Sciences. By combining the two administrative positions that currently handle these responsibilities, we will enhance efficiency and coordination between these related areas and provide strong leadership for the continued development of the research mission and graduate education programs on our campus.

- **William F. Ranieri, DO, FACN**, is now Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, responsible for the UMDNJ-SOM Faculty Practice Plan as well as for Clinical Trials.
- **David C. Mason, DO**, is now Acting Chairperson for the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine.

I look forward to working with each of you this coming year as we look fondly upon our past achievements and anticipate our future successes. Thank you for your support.

All my best,

Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, FACOI, FACP, AGSF
Interim Dean
Director, NJISA

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