



SCHOOL OF
OSTEOPATHIC
MEDICINE

University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

SOM NEWS

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SPECIAL *30th Anniversary* EDITION



Beginning with William F. Ranieri, D.O., FACN, Founding Chair, Dept. of Psychiatry, Kenneth Nahum, D.O., alumnus from first class, Mary Coolen, staff member since 1977, James Giudice, D.O., FCCP, FACOI, faculty since 1977, Anne Jones, OMS IV, Mark Bratus, OMS I, Sarah Meng, OMS II, Jenaro J. Hernandez, OMS I, and Bobbie J. Daniels, OMS I.

History of UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine

In 1976, the UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine was founded by legislation authorizing funding for a new osteopathic medical school in southern New Jersey. Gaining approval for the legislation was not easy. It was fought by many who opposed creating a third medical school in New Jersey. Thanks to the persistence and energy of those who fought for the legislation, namely Senator Joseph Maressa, Dr. Howard Levine and Dr. Joseph Riley, the legislation was approved and a “school without walls” was created.

Since then, there have been countless milestones, accolades and remarkable growth in new programs, faculty, staff and students. The campus has also experienced tremendous growth, expanding from one building in 1977 to four dynamic centers dedicated to teaching, healing and discovering.

To initiate the educational program, a plan was developed to use the basic science facilities at UMDNJ-Rutgers Medical School (now Robert Wood Johnson Medical School) in Piscataway for the first two years of the curriculum, and affiliated community hospitals in southern

New Jersey for the last two years. Shortly thereafter, on September 7, 1977, the first class with 24 students began its osteopathic medical training.

UMDNJ-SOM’s first affiliate and its current principal teaching hospital is Kennedy Health System/University Medical Center, with divisions in Stratford, Cherry Hill and Washington Township. Other hospital affiliates include: Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center in Camden, Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County in Willingboro, Christ Hospital in Jersey City and South Jersey Healthcare in Elmer and Vineland.

Over the years, UMDNJ-SOM has greatly expanded. In 1987, the School opened the Specialty Care Center. In 1989, the adjoining Primary Care Center building was purchased. In July of 1990, UMDNJ-SOM completed the first phase of the Science Center and became a unified four-year campus in Stratford, two full years ahead of schedule. In the fall of 1993, the Academic Center was opened and completed the campus by providing students with state-of-the-art teaching facilities.

Broadway Building
in Camden, NJ



1977

- Benjamin Cohen, D.O. named first dean of the school
- First class of medical students accepted
- Departments of Osteoscience, Family Medicine and Surgery established: Charles Steiner, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Osteoscience; Richard Leedy, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Family Medicine; David Silverman, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Surgery

1978

- Departments of Pediatrics, Medicine and Psychiatry established: Thomas Santucci, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Pediatrics; Andrew Pecora, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Medicine; William Ranieri, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Psychiatry

1979

- Ob/Gyn Department established: Daniel Belsky, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Ob/Gyn

1981

- Pathology Department established: Sheldon Epstein, D.O., founding chair, Dept. of Pathology
- First class of graduates receives D.O. degrees

1984

- Gerald Scharf, D.O., named interim dean

1985

- Education and Research Building, used primarily for education and administration offices and for research programs opens in Camden. Today that building is occupied by the Coriell Institute and the UMDNJ-RWJMS.
- Robert Fogel, D.O., named interim dean

First class of UMDNJ-SOM receives doctor of osteopathy degree at commencement.



Education and Research Building



1986

- Frederick Humphrey, D.O., FACN becomes dean
- Center for Aging (now called the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging) established by Thomas A. Cavalieri, D.O., FACOI, FACP, AGSF

1987

- Specialty Care Center, housing primarily medical offices, opens on Stratford campus

1988

- Center for Children’s Support (now called the CARES Institute) opens under the directorship of Martin A. Finkel, D.O., FAAP

UMDNJ-SOM purchases the Primary Care Center



1989

- UMDNJ-SOM purchases the Primary Care Center on the Stratford campus
- Center for Aging designated a Center for Excellence
- UMDNJ dental clinic opens



Aerial view of UMDNJ-SOM campus

1990

- UMDNJ-SOM Science Center opens
- UMDNJ-SOM becomes a unified four-year campus in Stratford

1993

- New wing for Science Center opens
- Academic Center opens

1994

- New curriculum established
- First graduating class to receive all four years of instruction on the Stratford campus



UMDNJ-SOM Specialty Care Center



UMDNJ-SOM Science Center



UMDNJ-SOM Academic Center

1995

- Stanley S. Bergen, Jr., M.D., UMDNJ founding president emeritus; Frederick J. Humphrey II, D.O., FACN, UMDNJ-SOM dean and Benjamin Cohen, D.O., founding dean at portrait unveiling

1996

- UMDNJ-SOM becomes first osteopathic school to hold a White Coat ceremony
- Anita Chopra, M.D., FACP, AGSF, CMD appointed director of Center for Aging



White Coat Ceremony

1997

- Joint D.O./Ph.D. degree program established
- UMDNJ-SOM becomes first osteopathic school in the nation to offer dental medicine in its curriculum

1998

- First UMDNJ-SOM Golf Classic benefiting the student scholarship fund
- American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) reports that UMDNJ-SOM enrolls the highest percentage of women and under-represented minorities of all osteopathic schools
- UMDNJ-SOM becomes first osteopathic school to offer a problem-based learning curriculum

1999

- UMDNJ-SOM purchases the Specialty Care Center on the Stratford campus

2000

- UMDNJ-SOM named among the top 20 medical schools in the country for geriatric medical education by *U.S. News & World Report*
- Combined D.O./J.D. program established with Rutgers University School of Law



First UMDNJ-SOM Golf Classic



Camden Saturday Health Clinic

2001

- 20th anniversary of the first graduating class
- New standardized patient lab opens at UMDNJ-SOM
- 25th anniversary of the legislation to establish UMDNJ-SOM

2002

- R. Michael Gallagher, D.O., FACP appointed dean
- Student-run Saturday health clinic established in Camden with Dept. of Family Medicine and UMDNJ-School of Nursing



2003

- Kathryn Rizzo, D.O., Ph.D. becomes first graduate of combined D.O./Ph.D. program
- Groundbreaking ceremony for second addition to Science Center
- University Doctors Pavilion opens
- Alumni Association's "Osteo Path," honoring school's founders, deceased former students and faculty and alumni donors, dedicated
- Eric Seiger, D.O. '86 becomes the first alumnus of UMDNJ-SOM to establish an endowed scholarship fund at UMDNJ-SOM



University Doctors' Pavilion

2004

- Rachel Pruchno, Ph.D. named director of research at Center for Aging and the school's first University Professor and Endowed Chair in Gerontology
- Center for Children's Support becomes statewide center for excellence and is renamed the CARES (Child Abuse Research, Education and Service) Institute



CARES Institute Dedication

2005

- Osteopathic Heritage Foundation of Columbus, Ohio awards \$2 million to establish the Osteopathic Heritage Endowed Chair for Primary Care Research at UMDNJ-SOM
- Center for Aging becomes a statewide center for excellence and is renamed the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging
- The Kennedy Health System and the UMDNJ-SOM sign agreement that designates Kennedy as a Principal Hospital of UMDNJ
- Governor Codey signed legislation mandating cultural competency training for all New Jersey physicians. The legislation was spearheaded by UMDNJ-SOM.



Governor Codey signs legislation

2006

- Thomas A. Cavalieri, D.O., FACOI, FACP, AGSF named interim dean
- Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Laboratory named in honor of Eleanor V. Masterson, D.O.
- UMDNJ-SOM adopts a new Mission, Vision, Essential Values and Guiding Principles



New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging Dedication

- UMDNJ-SOM Student Lounge dedicated in honor of Howard Levine, D.O. Dr. Levine authored Senate Bill 1249 and lobbied for the legislation that created UMDNJ-SOM. He is considered one of the school's founders.
- The class of 1981, UMDNJ-SOM's charter class, celebrates its 25th anniversary



Student lounge dedication

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 of Lourdes Medical Center, Camden, NJ;
 Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington
 County, m, NJ; Christ Hospital, Jersey City,
 NJ; and South Jersey Healthcare,
 Vineland, NJ

Class of 1981



OMM Laboratory Dedication

