In 2008, the Medical University of South Carolina announced a grand journey called **A Partnership of Promise**, a visionary effort to raise $300 million to empower the University to enhance its educational, clinical, and research environments. The proceeds of this capital campaign will support four essential domains of stewardship: endowed chairs and professorships; student scholarships and fellowships; academic centers and program endowments; and patient care, academic and research facilities. Late in the year, when the State of South Carolina announced sweeping cuts to MUSC’s budget, the importance of the capital campaign became even more compelling.

The College of Medicine is central to this partnership of promise. As teachers, clinicians, researchers, and leaders, we have made a sacred oath to do everything in our power to educate the next generation of physicians and scientists, to care for the sick and injured, and to lead in the discovery of new treatments. We are passionate about the absolute necessity of making sure the promise is kept. That is why the College’s annual report is entitled **A Partnership of Promise**. We invite you to explore its contents and hope that you will be inspired when you see the many reasons why MUSC and the College of Medicine are so worthy of your support.
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“Dr. Pratt-Thomas was that rare breed of accomplished physician-leader that we all strive to emulate. He never failed to support the College throughout his incredibly productive career.”

Jerry Reves, MD, Dean

“As a student, I loved ‘P.T.’ He was very fair, gracious and understanding.”

Thomas C. Rowland, Jr., MD, Board of Trustees

“As a professor and mentor, P.T. was outstanding in his field of Pathology. As president, he demonstrated himself to be a great leader.”

E. Conyers O’Bryan, Jr., MD, Board of Trustees

“P.T. was among the school’s most outstanding teachers and loved by our medical class. I admired him as a pathologist, alumnus and faculty member.”

Stanley C. Baker, Jr., MD, Board of Trustees

This year marked the passage of one of the College’s greatest leaders, H. Rawling Pratt-Thomas, MD, to whom this year’s review is dedicated. Dr. Pratt-Thomas, Class of 1938, was a faculty member for forty-nine years, ultimately serving as chair of Pathology, dean, and president during his admirable tenure. In addition to serving as professor emeritus of Pathology, Dr. Pratt-Thomas also was president emeritus of the Waring Historical Library and former chair of the Faculty Alumni Liaison Committee, for which he was recognized in 1995 with the creation of the H. Rawling Pratt-Thomas Service and Leadership Award, presented annually to an outstanding senior. In 2002, Dr. Pratt-Thomas authored a memoir detailing his remarkable career entitled From Yorkshire Pudding to Hominy Grits, in which he reflected on his experiences teaching more than five thousand students and working with numerous other prominent College faculty, including Drs. Cyril O’Driscoll, W. Atmar Smith, Olin Chamberlain, Kenneth Lynch, John van de Erve, Robert Wilson, Horace Smithy, Joseph Waring, Billy Dennis, and Gordon Hennigar. Dr. Pratt-Thomas was truly a magnificent physician, and his lifelong commitment to the College of Medicine was clearly an enduring partnership of promise for which we will remain ever grateful.

“P.T. was my teacher, mentor, colleague, and friend. When I returned to MUSC to serve as dean of the medical school, I asked him to give me a candid assessment of how things were going. He was wonderfully forthright in what he thought should be done. This gracious manner continued even in his last several weeks. He was a great man.”

Layton T. McCurdy, MD, Dean Emeritus

“Dr. Pratt-Thomas was already retired when I came to the University. He was kind enough to give me a copy of his memoirs, which gave me a glimpse of a man who had traveled far in his life, aided by a keen intellect and a wonderful sense of humor. The entire university community has lost a loyal friend and leader.”

Raymond S. Greenberg, MD, PhD, President

“P.T.’s legacy will focus on several successes, including acquiring the library collection of the Medical Society of South Carolina to MUSC’s library and subsequently, the Waring Historical Library. He also was responsible for the Institution’s purchase of the former Porter Military Academy campus in 1963, which included St. Luke’s Chapel, Waring Historical Library and Colcock Hall.”

W. Curtis Worthington, Jr., MD, Professor Emeritus Director, Waring Historical Library

“Two of my father’s characteristics that encompassed all aspects of his personal and professional life were his larger than life command of the English language and his nurturing spirit. He never expressed anything, however mundane, without a flourish. He nurtured his family, his dogs, his orchids, and his students with the utmost love and compassion.”

Dorothy Pratt-Thomas Leonard, Daughter
The Medical College has had a great year. We admitted more students than in recent years, our faculty increased in size and quality, and we opened a magnificent new hospital, the Ashley River Tower. Topping the list of academic accomplishments was the outstanding score given to the Hollings Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute scientific site visitors.

As the year drew to an end, however, we received the largest financial cuts ever given by the State to our venerable Institution. The enormity of the millions of dollars in cuts has had a profound effect on our academic departments. We have done everything possible to keep the cuts from affecting the education of our students and residents, which in the end is our most important responsibility. As of this writing, it is difficult to look at the year ahead without focusing on the major changes that must occur within the College to maintain our educational, research and clinical missions. We will inevitably be doing more with less to achieve the excellence required in all of our undertakings.
This is not a time for the faint of heart, and as I have visited with various students, faculty members and chairs, it has been gratifying to find that most of us realize that, as with any adversity, this is an opportunity for us as a College of Medicine to examine everything we do, prioritize the many things we must do, and not tend those that are not absolutely essential.

Every great country or institution rises to the occasion when challenged. For example, World War II was a time when the free world rallied to defeat a formidable enemy. Before that, the Great Depression shook this country to its very core. Even before that, there was the great Civil War that took this part of the country a century to overcome. In all of these, the lessons have been clear. No matter how dreadful the circumstances, good can come from it if there is sufficient resolve and unity, not to mention steady leadership. In my opinion, it is not the leadership as much as the collective desire of every individual to do as William Faulkner put it, "not just persevere but prevail," that makes success inevitable.

Our very own faculty member in the Hollings Cancer Center and South Carolina’s former senator, Fritz Hollings, put it clearly when running for President in 1983: “It is time for us to sacrifice for a better future.” I was once told by a good friend never to ask anyone to sacrifice; “it’s un-American,” this emigrant physician from Russia told me. Nevertheless he recognizes, as we all do, the ethos of medical professionals who have long ago learned to work hard to achieve goals, knowing that often the only way to solve difficult problems is to work day and night in the laboratory or at the bedside. We all know a great deal about personal sacrifice and it is in difficult times, when we are being asked to make great investments of time and energy, that we discover new inventiveness to solve our problems.

We want all those who read this annual report to know that our goal remains to be a top ranked medical school. What must change is the way we do this, since we have fewer resources and will not have the luxury of operating as we always have. I am confident that in several years we will be stronger and better, but different than we were in 2008. The future is what we make it, and while we review this year, we look forward to the brave new world to come.

Sincerely,

Jerry Reves, MD
Dean, College of Medicine
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to add this note of congratulations to the Annual Report of the College of Medicine. The College continues to excel, and I applaud everyone associated with the College for their wonderful accomplishments this year. Dean Jerry Reves’ vision has been evident on many fronts, but none is more impressive than on the topic of diversity. His national leadership with regard to diversity was fittingly recognized recently by an award from the Association of American Medical Colleges. While Dean Reves was quick to share credit with many others here, our progress in diversity has been driven by his passion and commitment.

The College continues to grow in national reputation, as reflected by the U. S. News and World Report ranking of four separate MUSC specialty areas—pediatric cardiac care, digestive diseases, rheumatology, and nephrology—among the best in the country. The American Heart Association also singled MUSC out as a national leader in cardiac and stroke care. We congratulate the world class clinicians in each of these areas and fully anticipate that more of our other equally outstanding clinical programs will receive similar accolades in the future.

Research efforts at the College continue to thrive. In spite of a flat budget at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the NIH grant awards to MUSC have grown seventeen percent over the past two years. This is an amazing tribute to the hard work and talents of our investigators. We were pleased to celebrate a record of more than $200 million in research funding this year, as well as a new record for annual NIH support at more than $100 million.

In May, we opened a new Health Care Simulation Center on campus, providing students of all disciplines with access to state-of-the-art computer models that allow them to practice patient care in a life-like environment. Under the leadership of John J. Schaefer, III, MD, MUSC and South Carolina are developing a statewide network of linked centers to improve clinical skills development. We fully anticipate that these efforts will improve the quality of care delivered on this campus and throughout the State.

Our outreach to underserved communities was greatly augmented this year by the launch of REACH MUSC under the leadership of Robert J. Adams, MS, MD. Through this program, stroke experts at MUSC are linked by telemedicine to emergency departments in rural parts of our State. The goal is to assure that South Carolinians, regardless of where they live, have access to potentially life-saving treatments in the first few critical hours after a stroke occurs.

Many other outstanding efforts of the College warrant citation here, but space is limited and I will conclude where I began: the College has much to celebrate this year. On behalf of the entire Medical University community, I thank all of the College’s hard-working faculty, staff, residents, and students for their dedication to helping improve the lives of South Carolinians.

With best wishes,

Raymond S. Greenberg, MD, PhD
President
Medical University of South Carolina
Dear Friends:

This has been a year characterized by remarkable accomplishments within the College of Medicine and throughout the University, in areas of scholarship, clinical care, outreach, education, service, diversity, and research. Our faculty, staff, residents, and students have pulled together as a team in an exemplary fashion, embracing opportunities and challenges in the spirit of MUSC Excellence.

The hard work, ingenuity, and focus of so many individuals and groups have propelled the College of Medicine and our University to higher levels of achievement than ever before. We have reached new records in total and National Institutes of Health research funding, opened a world class hospital expansion, improved our facilities, garnered national recognition for the excellence of our clinical and basic science departments, recruited outstanding faculty from the finest institutions in the world, and attracted the most talented students from South Carolina to our University.

Our Institution has become a regional powerhouse, has continued to increase the return on the investments made by the State of South Carolina, and has served as an example of accountability for all state agencies. Although we are faced with extraordinary financial challenges as described in Dean Reves’ letter, I have no doubt that we will emerge from the difficult financial times as a stronger Institution, bolstered by the determination, talents, and sheer force of will of our dedicated people.

As a member of the faculty of the College of Medicine and as the Provost of our University, I could not be prouder of—or more inspired by—the dedication of our faculty, staff, residents, and students.

Sincerely,

John R. Raymond, MD
Provost
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Medical University of South Carolina
Front row, from left to right: The Honorable Robin M. Tallon, Jr.; Melvyn Berlinsky; Paula E. Orr, MD; Charles B. Thomas, Jr., MD; Thomas L. Stephenson, Esq.; E. Conyers O’Bryan, Jr., MD; Charles W. Schulze
Second row, from left to right: Stanley C. Baker, Jr., MD; Thomas C. Rowland, Jr., MD
Third row, from left to right: William B. Hewitt; Hugh B. Faulkner; Donald R. Johnson, II, MD; William H. Bingham, Sr.; Cotesworth P. Fishburne, Jr., DDS; James E. Wiseman, Jr., DMD

Stanley C. Baker, Jr., MD
Third District, Greenwood

Melvyn Berlinsky
First District, Charleston

William H. Bingham, Sr.
Second District, Columbia

Cotesworth P. Fishburne, Jr., DDS
Fifth District, Rock Hill

William B. Hewitt
At Large Member, Charleston

Donald R. Johnson, II, MD
First District, Charleston

E. Conyers O’Bryan, Jr., MD
Sixth District, Florence

Paula E. Orr, MD
Governor’s Designee, Charleston

Thomas C. Rowland, Jr., MD
Second District, Columbia

Charles W. Schulze
Third District, Greenwood

Thomas L. Stephenson, Esq.
Vice Chair
Fourth District, Greenville

The Honorable Robin M. Tallon, Jr.
Sixth District, Florence

Charles B. Thomas, Jr., MD
Chair
Fourth District, Greenville

James E. Wiseman, Jr., DMD
Fifth District, Prosperity
The Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology is among the premier departments in the United States, harboring nationally recognized expertise in nucleic acid research, lipidomics, structural biology, and molecular biology. It translates this research and collaborates in the study of cancer, cardiovascular medicine, neuroscience, and immunity/infectious diseases.

Since its creation in 1969, the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology has come into its own as an investigator of biomedical processes. Today, its scientists are funded by more than forty grants and contracts totaling over $40 million. These include awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Science Foundation, Environmental Protection Agency, American Cancer Society, and others.

The Department is a hub for many College of Medicine research cores, focusing on basic metabolism, signal transduction, structural biology, biophysical chemistry, molecular biology, and chemical biology. In 2008, the Department received a five-year, $10.9 million Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) grant funded by the NIH to establish the MUSC Center in Lipidomics and Pathobiology, examining the role fatty molecules play in cell development. It is research that could ultimately lead to new therapies in the fight against cancer, and against inflammatory and neuro-degenerative diseases. Lina Obeid, MD, is principal investigator for the grant, with Department Chair Yusuf Hannun, MD, as co-investigator.

Ultimately, work at the Center will advance knowledge and discovery of new approaches for preventing and controlling lipid-mediated disorders. “We hope to develop a premier center that defines the function of these fatty molecules in human disease, especially cancer, aging, neurologic disease and fungal pathogenesis,” said Dr. Hannun.

The grant also allows the Center to support the lipidomics research of junior faculty members mentored by senior investigators. Currently, more than twenty junior faculty members are involved, the majority of whom are from departments other than Biochemistry. This in itself is important, said Dr. Hannun. “The Center is a substantial mechanism for mentoring, recruiting, and allowing people to develop. Needless to say, we’re very excited. The fact that we were funded on the first try speaks highly of the national stature of this group and of MUSC,” he added.
The combination of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, and Epidemiology in one department provides a synergistic environment for cross-disciplinary research. The Department’s activities have educational, research and clinical significance, creating opportunities for faculty, fellows, and students to advance information technology used in biomedical research.

The College’s expanding research enterprise has created increased demand for the expertise of the Division of Bioinformatics, a discipline that bridges biology, mathematics, statistics, and computer science to develop and apply computational approaches for biomedical discovery and translational research. The Division interfaces with a spectrum of basic and clinical science departments to form partnerships that serve as the computational foundation of a multitude of research projects. Its involvement is critical to processing the huge amount of information generated by high throughput biotechnology, including transcriptomics, proteomics, lipidomics, and bibliomics. Led by Xinghua Lu, MD, PhD, the Division collaborates with the basic sciences of biochemistry, cell biology, and pharmacology, and clinical sciences of cardiology, hematology/oncology, neurosciences, psychiatry, and others. The group’s foci encompass functional genomics, DNA microarray modeling, imaging, and clinical informatics.

These efforts are yielding impressive results. Dr. Lu’s group is working with the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, integrating information from multiple high throughput technologies to study the roles of distinct sphingolipids. This family of cellular signaling molecules is involved in many biological processes, including vascular genesis, cellular response to stress, and cancer. Bioinformatics has contributed to research design, data processing, modeling, and biological discovery. This collaboration has led to the discovery of previously unknown signaling mechanisms of certain sphingolipids.

John Schwacke, PhD, is partnering with the Department of Pediatrics to develop novel mathematical and statistical approaches to build pharmacokinetic models for drug transportation in maternal-fetal systems using time series data spanning the birth event. The success of this research will enable clinicians to determine the time window for safely delivering medications to mothers without adverse effects on newborn babies. In conjunction with the Department of Surgery, W. Jim Zheng, PhD, is developing a lung cancer model by integrating clinical and genomic data, using ontologies to infer new knowledge. These and other partnerships offer great promise for the future.
The Department of Cell Anatomy and Biology has completed the final year of its five-year strategic plan. During this time, five interrelated foci of research strength were established: regeneration and wound repair, cardiogenic progenitor (stem) cells, cardiac morphogenesis and congenital heart disease, extracellular matrix signaling in developmental and cancer biology, and tissue engineering/biofabrication.

Competition for federal research dollars is intense, but by partnering with other research universities, the Department of Cell Anatomy and Biology has demonstrated that collaboration is the pathway to success. Together with Clemson University and the University of South Carolina (USC), the Department established the South Carolina Bioengineering Alliance to pursue funding for research that has the potential for transforming medical technology, patient care, and South Carolina’s economy.

The Department also led a statewide effort to renew a $40 million National Science Foundation research infrastructure grant in tissue engineering known as the “South Carolina Project.” The proposal forms a research and education network with Clemson and USC whose goal is to promote academic growth, diversity and economic development. If funded, it would be the largest federal grant to South Carolina. The proposed science was described as “stellar and spectacular” by grant reviewers, and the Department is optimistic it will be approved.

Additionally, funding is anticipated on a new National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center of Biomedical Research Excellence collaborative bioengineering center grant with Clemson and USC. The focus of the joint research is regenerative medicine, a field that may yield treatments such as growing replacement organs or neural tissue regeneration. These futuristic approaches offer the promise of hope to patients with severe heart disease and other disorders.

Despite a decline in percentile funding for individual NIH RO1 grants, a class of grants awarded to young academic researchers, the Department secured sixteen RO1 grants. Robert G. Gourdie, PhD, received a Phase II Small Business Technology Transfer grant to establish clinical trials for a newly discovered protein that promotes repair and regeneration of injured tissues. Additionally, the Department received U.S. Department of Defense, Small Business Innovation Research and NIH Independent Scientist Award (K02) grants. The fruits of these efforts already show great promise; two patents are pending.
This is a period of consummate opportunity within the Department of Cell and Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. A significant transformation, both at the infrastructural and faculty levels, is underway. The Department has relocated to a fully renovated facility and is actively recruiting faculty whose interests encompass the disciplines of cancer, cardiovascular disease and neuropharmacology. The enthusiastic, progressive environment supports and promotes intellectual development and interdisciplinary research.

Understanding the causes of breast cancer is the pathway to future therapies. Oncogenes such as the growth factor receptor ErbB-2 contribute to breast cancer development that involves an initial period of growth suppression followed by cellular “escape” into a period of uncontrolled growth. This transitional process is poorly understood, but can be accelerated by increased oxidative stress due to aging, smoking, environmental toxins, and gene mutations. Three junior faculty members in the Department of Cell and Molecular Pharmacology have formed a partnership to unlock the mystery, and have received a prestigious Synergistic Award in Breast Cancer Research from the U.S. Department of Defense.

The two-year, $500,000 award is allowing Lauren E. Ball, PhD, Scott T. Eblen, PhD, and Carola A. Neumann, MD, to study the transitional process in breast cancer development. Combining their expertise in cancer, oxidative stress, intracellular signal transduction and mass spectrometry, they are developing a mouse model of breast cancer that will allow them to explore the role of intracellular signaling in regulating breast cancer development by ErbB-2 and how increases in oxidative stress affect the process.

Competition for Department of Defense funding is fierce, says Department Chair Kenneth D. Tew, PhD, DSc. “This award reflects especially well on the Department and these talented young investigators. Drs. Ball, Eblen and Neumann are an excellent amalgam of three scientific disciplines—molecular genetics, proteomics, and pharmacology—to address an important medical issue. We are very proud of their success in securing the Synergistic Award, and even more excited about the potential of their research.”

According to Dr. Neumann, the Department of Defense tends to fund high-risk projects with life-saving potential. The team’s early findings are promising. “If we are successful, our research could lead to a possible preventive drug for women who are genetically predisposed to breast cancer or are at higher risk due to age. That would be significant.”

**AT A GLANCE**

- Relocated the Department to the newly renovated third floor of the Basic Science Building.
- Established the South Carolina Center for Botanical Medicine (SCCBM), a partnership between MUSC, Clemson University, the University of South Carolina, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The SCCBM will pursue “field to bedside” research centered on plants with biomedicinal properties and seek funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the USDA, and state sources.
- Resubmitted a $10.8 million NIH Center of Biomedical Research Excellence application on oxidants, redox balance, and stress signaling.
The Department of Comparative Medicine is the academic unit for veterinarians within the College. The Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR) is responsible for the procurement, veterinary care, and housing of all research animals used by MUSC faculty. DLAR provides excellence in laboratory animal care and a user-friendly service.

The Department of Comparative Medicine fulfills its partnership of promise by serving as a unique resource to clinical departments within the College and to other state and national agencies. The Department strengthened its intellectual capital with the recruitment of Kris Helke, DVM, PhD, from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. As an assistant professor of Comparative Medicine and Pathology, Dr. Helke is tasked with revitalizing the comparative pathology program at the College.

Dr. Helke has established a partnership with Lotta Granholm, DDS, PhD, in the Department of Neurosciences and the Center on Aging, to determine causes of neurodegeneration. Dr. Helke's research focuses on determining mechanisms and specific signaling pathways involved in the development of the types of neurodegeneration that occur with aging. Rats are important animal models in this field of study. Growth factors were injected into aged rat brains, and the levels of specific proteins within the neurotrophin signaling pathways were measured. These pathways are thought to be protective against cell damage leading to dementia and other degenerative conditions of the brain. A grant renewal was submitted to study the effects of unprocessed (pro-) neurotrophins and their signaling partners in aged rats and tissue culture to continue this important research.

The Department is further utilizing Dr. Helke's pathology skills through a partnership with the South Carolina Aquarium, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, and the College of Charleston, on behalf of the sea turtle rescue program. The Department is developing a tissue sample archive and a record of common lesions and parasites of South Carolina sea turtles to facilitate the prevention and treatment of diseases affecting these protected animals. As part of an ongoing effort to study the environmental impact of human products on wildlife, the Department is working with the National Institute of Standards and Technology at the Hollings Marine Laboratory to analyze perfluorinated compounds like Teflon in northern fur seals and California sea lions.

Looking ahead, the Department will continue to expand its programs to meet the needs of the College’s biomedical research faculty and allied programs within South Carolina.
The Department of Microbiology and Immunology maintains active research programs in gene and immunotherapy, environmental microbiology and microbial physiology, viral immunology, and immunopathogenesis. A major effort is underway to develop technology to suppress nosocomial infections in hospitals.

Upon college graduation, Natalie A. Sutkowski, PhD, joined the Peace Corps, serving as a teacher in Kenya. The devastating illnesses she observed inspired her to learn more about their causes. A night class in immunology led to a doctorate in molecular genetics and microbiology from Rutgers University, two patents related to gene transfer, and ultimately, an appointment to the faculty of the MUSC Department of Microbiology and Immunology. Today, Dr. Sutkowski has achieved her largest success to date: the invention of a novel in vitro technology used to develop therapeutic human monoclonal antibodies that one day may be used to fight a host of life-threatening diseases.

Human monoclonal antibodies are a class of agents known as biologicals that have been used therapeutically to combat cancer, autoimmunity and infectious diseases. While they hold great promise, their full potential has yet to be realized due to the technically difficult development process that impedes widespread production. Dr. Sutkowski and her lab have developed a novel method for creating fully human antibodies in vitro, using Epstein-Barr virus to immortalize naïve B cells, which are then induced to differentiate into antibody-producing cells. With this method, reusable libraries of antibody-producing cells are created, which can be screened for various antibodies of interest. So far, the lab has developed monoclonal antibodies with biodefense implications that target the avian Influenza virus, ricin and Staphylococcus toxins.

According to Dr. Sutkowski, the larger promise of her discovery lies in fighting cancer. In devising a simple method for making an entire class of biologic agents, she has overcome a major hurdle impeding their development. Using this same technique, she is now creating antibodies for cancer therapy that target tumor antigens, inhibit angiogenesis or prevent cancer metastasis.

Department Chair James S. Norris, PhD, says Dr. Sutkowski’s success is beyond expectations. A new company is being discussed to commercialize this program.

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**At a Glance**

- Opened the Biosafety Level 3 Laboratory, the only containment facility of its type in South Carolina.
- Harold D. May, PhD, secured a Small Business Technology Transfer grant from the U.S. Department of Energy and from SCLaunch! to support a start-up fuel cell technology company.
- James S. Norris, PhD, was awarded funds from SCLaunch! to support SphingoGene, Inc.
- The creation of the Center for Cellular Therapy supports the transition of laboratory-based investigations to preclinical Phase I research in humans.
The Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine’s scholarly activities are on the rise. The residency program matched the highest board scoring class (mean 220) in the Department’s history, a class that includes two African American physicians. The cardiothoracic (CT) fellowship graduated its first two fellows, George J. Guldan, III, MD, and Virgil J. Kenneda, DO, who joined our faculty. 2009 CT fellow Daryl L. Reust, MD, is the first two-year research fellow, increasing our collaborative effort with the Center for Cardiothoracic Translational Research.

With an eye to the future and the goal of engaging greater numbers of promising young minds in its research enterprise, the Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine made a significant investment in medical student and resident research in 2008, earning national recognition in the process.

With the full support and active involvement of faculty, six medical students were selected to participate in Department-sponsored research with faculty mentors Matthew D. McEvoy, MD, Frank J. Overdyk, MD, MSEE, Scott T. Reeves, MD, MBA, and John J. Schaefer, III, MD.

The Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research awarded the Department two of the thirty-seven coveted anesthesiology Medical Student Anesthesia Research Fellowship (MSARF) positions given each year. The Foundation created the MSARF fellowships to encourage talented medical students to consider careers in anesthesiology research and perioperative medicine. Working in conjunction with the Department, the Foundation offered an eight- to twelve-week research experience for the medical students, with the opportunity to present their research at the American Society of Anesthesiology (ASA) annual meeting. Rising fourth-year student Young Choi and rising second-year student Edward Lam were the MUSC MSARF recipients this year.

Three medical student abstracts will be presented at the ASA annual meeting, and the remaining medical students will present at the International Anesthesia Research Society annual meeting in spring 2009. The Department’s residents have also been successful in the research arena, with seven abstracts and case reports to be presented at the ASA meeting and additional abstracts submitted to other subspecialty meetings.

Commenting on these successes, Department Chair Dr. Reeves said, “One of the most rewarding results of the Department’s increased focus on medical student research is the number of high quality College of Medicine students pursuing a career in our field. This year, the College has fifteen medical students interested in anesthesiology.”
A regional referral center, the Department of Dermatology provides comprehensive care in medical, surgical and cosmetic dermatology and is proud to offer state-of-the-art Mohs micrographic skin cancer surgery at two convenient locations in the Charleston area.

Working in collaboration with Clemson University, the Department of Dermatology secured its first National Institutes of Health grant to develop and test new non-invasive skin cancer diagnostic technology and software, with the ultimate goals of improving early detection, reducing the need for surgical biopsies, and maximizing cure rates.

Principal investigators for the three-year, $250,000 grant are Department Chair Bruce H. Thiers, MD, and James Wang, PhD, Clemson University School of Computing. The hypothesis of their research is that single-scattered, polarized light spectroscopic methods combined with multiple-scattered, unpolarized light spectroscopy provide unprecedented information on tissue function and cellular structures to assist in the rapid, non-invasive diagnosis of skin cancer. The spectroscopy technology captures morphologies in specific diseased layers of skin. In an early pilot clinical study, the system achieved highly accurate results for skin cancer detection, providing a specificity of ninety-one percent. Guided by strong preliminary data, the study will focus on four specific aims: developing an optical spectroscopic system combining single/multiple-scattered light measurements; implementing reconstruction algorithms to improve parameter extractions based on more accurate calculation models; testing the system through simulation experiments and human subjects; and developing algorithms for skin cancer diagnosis by correlating optical signatures with pathophysiologic parameters using histomorphometric techniques.

According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 160,000 people develop life-threatening melanoma each year. Individuals in southern climates are particularly vulnerable. Diagnosis is typically done through surgical biopsies, a painful and costly process. Should this technology prove to be accurate in discriminating between benign and malignant lesions before they are visible to the naked eye, earlier diagnosis and improved prognosis would be possible. According to Dr. Thiers, the machine would be the ideal tool for a skin cancer screening program, as it would allow for the rapid assessment of large numbers of patients over a relatively short time period.
The Department of Family Medicine provides high-quality, patient-centered care to individuals, their families, and the community, characterized by compassion and adherence to the best evidence available. Our teaching formats are effective and innovative, while our research focuses on generating new knowledge to address the most common problems encountered by patients.

Experts estimate that it takes seventeen years from the time a significant new medical discovery is made to when it is finally implemented into medical practice. All too often, discoveries languish in obscurity and patients who are likely to benefit from the new knowledge are left out in the cold.

In an attempt to close the gap between discovery and practice, the Practice Partner Research Network (PPRNet) was developed. Created by Department of Family Medicine professor Steve Ornstein, MD, the network is a practice-based learning organization designed to improve healthcare in member practices across the United States. PPRNet is composed of one hundred and forty medical practices in thirty-eight states and includes more than seven hundred and fifty clinicians. These practices use the same electronic medical record system, Practice Partner, through which de-identified, aggregate data is captured each month to form a powerful database. Member practices benefit from practice quality reports and educational programs. Many also participate in PPRNet research programs, which help advance the adoption of new ideas.

The PPRNet staff is a multi-disciplinary team of experts. In addition to Dr. Ornstein, it includes Ruth Jenkins, PhD, a bioinformatics specialist; Heather Rose, MD, MS, a family physician researcher; Andrea Wessell, PharmD, a pharmacy researcher; Paul Nietert, PhD, a statistician; Lorain Roylance, a research associate; and Carole Lambourne, PhD, a quantitative anthropologist. The group works with PPRNet medical groups to help overcome barriers to change and establish best practices based on current research findings.

This innovative national partnership is on the right track. Between 1995 and 2008, PPRNet received more than $10 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
The Department of Medicine is the largest within the College, playing a critical role in medical education and patient care. Three divisions within the Department—Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Nephrology and Rheumatology—are ranked among the best in the country by U.S. News and World Report.

Competition for world-class researchers is fierce, so when the Department of Medicine committed to growing its research enterprise, it looked to its talented faculty and challenged them to “grow their own” researchers.

“Mentoring enjoys a great tradition in medicine,” explains Department Chair John R. Feussner, MD, MPH. “We all have someone who has inspired us to achieve. Establishing a formal junior faculty mentoring program was a natural way for the Department to leverage our senior faculty, many of whom are nationally and internationally known, and develop the next generation of faculty researchers.”

Donald Castell, MD, a professor of Medicine in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and the director of the MUSC Esophageal Disorders Program since October 2001, is one of the Department’s core mentors. With nearly five decades of experience, Dr. Castell is internationally recognized as a leading authority on diseases of the esophagus and esophageal function. He served as a medical officer in the U.S. Navy for twenty years before retiring as the Chair of Medicine at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. He has authored or co-authored more than five hundred scientific publications and is a former president of the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA). An acclaimed lecturer, the AGA presented him with its National Distinguished Educator Award.

Colleagues describe Dr. Castell as “simply the best teacher.” Said one, “Don is the best role model—kind, supportive, generous, and productive. His basic tenet is that he will do whatever he can to teach you how to be an esophagologist from a clinical and research point of view, and make sure your career is a successful one. His ability to convey concepts with grace, completeness, and simplicity is unparalleled.”

Dr. Castell has mentored three young physicians through training to positions on the MUSC faculty: Marcelo Vela Aquino, MD, Amit Agrawal, MD, and Jason Roberts, MD. His motivation was simple: “I want them to go on to be extremely successful and excellent mentors and investigators on their own.”
The art of patient care is caring for the patient.

In many respects, this is a story of David and Goliath, with David prevailing over a much larger foe. The Goliath is stroke, the third most lethal disease in South Carolina, a state that has among the highest rates of stroke in the United States. In 2004, 14,215 patients were admitted to South Carolina hospitals for stroke. One in five never returned home.

In 2006, a South Carolina Center of Economic Excellence (CoEE) in Stroke was established at MUSC. Stroke expert Robert J. Adams, MS, MD—“David”—was recruited as the CoEE’s endowed chair. Dr. Adams developed a multi-pronged stroke strategy that included increasing access to expert stroke care for all South Carolinians. This led to the creation of the REACH Stroke Network, a web-based, telemedicine system through which urgent, specialized stroke consultations are delivered to distant medical facilities caring for acute stroke patients.

An important goal of the REACH Stroke Network is to increase utilization of alteplase (tPA), an FDA-approved treatment for ischemic stroke. Usage of the drug, which is effective in returning stroke patients to good health, was less than 1.5 percent in South Carolina.

In 2008, Dr. Adams and his team—with support from the Duke Endowment, Health Sciences South Carolina and the Department of Neurosciences—began building the statewide REACH Stroke Network from the ground up, securing contracts with five hospitals in the Lowcountry and Pee Dee regions: Georgetown Memorial Hospital, Waccamaw Community Hospital, McLeod Health, Grand Strand Regional Medical Center, and Marion County Medical Center. These hospitals consult with stroke experts within the Department of Neurosciences when patients present to their emergency rooms with stroke symptoms.

Within five months, fifty-three REACH consults were conducted with physicians at contracting hospitals. The use of tPA increased by twenty-eight percent. One hospital increased its use of the “clot-busting” drug to forty-six percent. About a third of the patients were transferred to MUSC, home to an emerging Comprehensive Cerebrovascular Program that brings together experts in neurology, neurosurgery, radiology, emergency medicine, vascular surgery, anesthesia, internal medicine, rehabilitation science, and other disciplines to provide the best overall care for stroke patients.

Working with other REACH Stroke Network partners—Greenville Hospital System, Palmetto Health and the University of South Carolina—Dr. Adams hopes to expand the fight against stroke in 2009. This includes adding more contracting hospitals, developing new treatment models, and possibly expanding the telemedicine network to include other health applications.
The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology is dedicated to providing optimal patient care to women from all walks of life throughout the Lowcountry. Known for excellence in education, we are committed to enhancing the scope of our research initiatives and have made significant progress.

In research, persistence is rewarded. Such was the case of a fortuitous partnership between the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Pediatrics. When Gene Chang, MD, began his fellowship in maternal-fetal medicine in 2002, he expressed an interest in basic science research. At that time, the Department had neither the space nor the expertise to assist him. Undeterred, Dr. Chang approached Women's Health Research Director Roger B. Newman, MD, who had recently reviewed an institutional grant on multiple sclerosis from the lab of Inderjit Singh, MD. Dr. Newman suggested that it might be interesting to apply some of the ideas in the grant to pre-eclampsia, one of the most mysterious diseases in obstetrics. Dr. Chang met with Pediatrics Chair L. Lyndon Key, Jr., MD, who introduced him to Dr. Singh. Soon, Dr. Chang was attending pediatric research seminars.

At the North American Society for Hypertension in Pregnancy's annual clinical meeting, Dr. Chang learned more about animal models applicable to pre-eclampsia research. Back at MUSC, he received a $25,000 Women's Research Center grant, and with Dr. Singh's generosity in providing mentorship, space, expendables, the drug N-acetylcysteine (NAC), and support technicians, Dr. Chang began his research. His work culminated with his fellowship thesis and an award-winning presentation at the Society of Maternal-Fetal Medicine's annual clinical meeting.

Dr. Chang's progress was then threatened by the untimely departure of a collaborator, but fate intervened again. Ernest Barbosa, MD, a pediatric neurologist, and Dr. Singh had recently published on the beneficial effects of NAC in preventing perinatal white matter injury in an animal model. Dr. Singh suggested that it might be a good translational study. With Drs. Dorothea Jenkins and Chang as co-principal investigators, an RO1 was funded and subjects are now being recruited to test the neuroprotective effects of NAC in humans.

This successful collaboration between the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Pediatrics has fostered other research projects. Said Peter VanDorsten, Department Chair, “We are fortunate that within the College exists a willingness to mentor and facilitate beyond the confines of one’s own Department, which translates into success for all.”
Our mission is to advance the science of ophthalmology and meet the eye care needs of the public by committing to care, teach, serve, and discover. We have an opportunity to invest our know-how and document the sight-saving return as it ripples across the planet. That is what we are destined to do.

Forty-five million people around the world are blind. Causes include diabetic retinopathy, retinitis pigmentosa, eye or brain tumors, eye injury, detached retina, glaucoma, and others. The need for expert ophthalmic care around the world is significant. In 2008, the Storm Eye Institute (SEI) Center for International Ophthalmology made significant progress in expanding global access to eye care, working in partnership with international non-profit organizations such as ORBIS International, the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, the Himalayan Cataract Project, and the Christoffel Blindenmission. A major SEI focus has been to “teach the teachers” by accepting international fellowship trainees and following up with hands-on mentor training in the country of origin. The Department also exposes SEI residents and fellows to international ophthalmology and encourages commitment to annual service in the developing world.

This year the Department began preparations for what may be its most unique goal: developing and hosting an annual workshop to help prepare ophthalmologists from across the United States for developing world service. The Storm Eye Course will include wet-lab training in procedures using the concepts of appropriate technology for the environment as well as didactics, video-based discussions of best practices, infrastructure, and cultural sensitivity.

The Department hired recent SEI graduate, Nicole Evans, MD, to lead preparations for the inaugural Storm Eye Course in 2009. Dr. Evans is supported by an expendable gift from Bruce G. Pratt, DVM, who donated $1.5 million to establish the Pratt Chair in International Ophthalmology at SEI. Storm Eye Board Member and International Committee Chair, Byron Stratus, MD, will assist Dr. Evans.

Department Chair M. Edward Wilson, MD, says Dr. Evans is an excellent role model for students and international trainees. “We are pleased Dr. Evans has accepted this opportunity to spearhead the first Storm Eye Course and further advance the concept of service to mankind.”
The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery is a leader in developing innovative and visionary collaborations to treat patients, educate the next generation of physicians, and expand the knowledge base in musculoskeletal disorders.

One of the challenges of academic research is how to take novel ideas from the laboratory bench to the patient's bedside. Through an innovative partnership with Clemson University's Bioengineering Department, the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery is accelerating the pace of basic and translational research into commercially viable products with the power to change patients’ lives for the better.

The two groups have laid an impressive foundation for success. It includes a Center of Economic Excellence endowed chair made possible through the four-way efforts of MUSC, Clemson, medical device manufacturer Synthes, Inc., and the Wyss Medical Foundation. A worldwide search is in progress to recruit and hire an individual to hold the Wyss Chair in Orthopaedic Regenerative Medicine. A scientific advisory board composed of clinicians and researchers has been formed and will play a major role in directing the partnership's scientific effort.

Construction of the new Charleston Bioengineering Center will begin on the MUSC campus in early 2009. The facility will house bioengineering and orthopaedic regenerative medicine researchers from MUSC, Clemson and the University of South Carolina.

An integral component of the MUSC-Clemson bioengineering initiative is the Orthopaedic Research and Training Program, established to advance the treatment of patients with musculoskeletal system disorders through basic and translational research, training clinical residents and fellows as well as graduate and post-doctoral research scientists. Directed by Qian Kay Kang, MD, the program's vision is to lead biomaterials and implant research, focusing on surgical fixation, correction, and regeneration of the human skeleton and its soft tissues. The goal is to stimulate translational orthopaedic research and education aligned with those of the product divisions of Synthes, a supporter of the program. There are four thrusts: biomaterials, cranio-maxillofacial, spine, and trauma. Physicians and scientists work jointly to develop innovative technologies that address clinically relevant problems and have the potential for commercial translation.

AT A GLANCE

- Established the Richard H. Gross, MD, Endowment in Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery, honoring Dr. Gross' twenty years as a pediatric orthopaedic surgeon in the College.
- Sports medicine continues to grow through partnerships with the Family Circle Cup, Charleston Battery, and recreational and school teams.
- Launched the MUSC Musculoskeletal Service Line, which combines the expertise of orthopaedic surgery, rheumatology, radiology, and anesthesia to treat patients with arthritis, sports injuries and inflammatory disorders.
- Plan to recruit an orthopaedic oncologist.
The Head and Neck Tumor Program exemplifies how multidisciplinary collaboration can provide the greatest promise to our patients. The close interaction between physicians and scientists assures that discoveries in the laboratory will be extended to our patients of tomorrow.

The Head and Neck Tumor Program is an excellent example of a partnership across MUSC Colleges and Departments, providing optimal clinical care for patients suffering from head and neck cancer. This program is particularly vital to South Carolina, as our State ranks number one in the United States for oral and pharyngeal cancer mortality. In addition, South Carolina has one of the greatest disparities in head and neck cancer mortality, with rates twice as high for black males as white males.

Under the leadership of Terry A. Day, MD, this program has brought together professionals in the Colleges of Medicine, Dental Medicine, Health Professions, Graduate Studies, and Nursing. More than twenty physicians from the Departments of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Radiation Oncology, Radiology, Pathology, Medicine (Hematology/Oncology and Endocrinology), Cell Anatomy and Biology, and Microbiology and Immunology participate. This multidisciplinary approach provides the basis for the highly sophisticated and successful care received by patients with complex head and neck cancers referred to MUSC.

The Program currently presents more than four hundred cases of head and neck tumors at the weekly Head and Neck and Thyroid Tumor Board, the most of any site at the Hollings Cancer Center and approximately half of all such tumors diagnosed in South Carolina. There are currently ten open head and neck clinical trials representing a mixture of investigator-initiated, corporate, national cooperative group, and U.S. Department of Defense/Veterans Affairs sponsorship. The Program ranks second in clinical trial recruitment at Hollings Cancer Center, and is the main source of study tissue for the Hollings Tissue Bank Core with more than five hundred specimens submitted to date.

The growing reputation of the MUSC Head and Neck Tumor Program was recently displayed at the Seventh International Head and Neck Cancer Conference in San Francisco. MUSC had twenty-six presentations, more than any other university or institution. Notable achievements were Best Clinical Paper and Best Poster.
The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine is uniquely positioned at the frontiers of basic science and clinical medicine, engaged in research while addressing the immediate clinical diagnostic needs of patients. We are the only medical center in South Carolina providing subspecialty pathology and laboratory medicine expertise in all aspects of patient care.

The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine’s activities in cancer research, diagnosis, and treatment are vital to the mission of the Hollings Cancer Center (HCC). Partnering with HCC, our faculty members provide leadership and expertise essential to the success of the College’s research and patient care programs. Dennis K. Watson, PhD, leads the Cancer Genes and Molecular Regulation Program, while other faculty serve as directors of shared facilities critical to cancer research, including cores for flow cytometry and cell sorting, gene targeting and knockout, xenografts, carcinogenesis, and the tissue biorepository.

Although cancer patients rarely come in direct contact with pathologists or staff, our activities are critical to their care. Department laboratories perform tests to pinpoint specific biomarkers essential to cancer detection and management. Pathologists evaluate tissue specimens to identify malignant cells, grade and stage tumors, and determine the extent of metastasis. Together with results from the clinical labs, this data provides the basis for diagnosis of tumor type and extent of disease, and the selection of an appropriate treatment. Results of follow-up tests are used to monitor treatment outcomes, adjust therapeutic protocols, and screen for cancer recurrence. Department faculty and staff are working diligently to identify the mechanisms responsible for molecular alterations that lead to cancer, fostering new approaches to prevention and therapeutic intervention. Each year, the National Cancer Institute provides more than $2.5 million to support the Department’s research.

The Department’s cancer-related mission also extends to the community. One of our pathologists, James Madory, DO, is a volunteer physician for Camp Happy Days, a program for children who have cancer or are in remission. Dr. Madory not only participates in the diagnosis of these children’s tumors, but also provides the hands-on support that is essential to their recovery process.

**AT A GLANCE**

- Received two new National Institutes of Health grants aimed at identifying molecular mechanisms underlying radiation injury and designing ways to provide protection.
- P50 Clinical Center Grant for the study of age-related hearing loss was renewed. This is a twenty-year joint project with the Department of Otolaryngology.
- Introduced new molecular laboratory tests in the Emergency Department.
- Lifetime Master Teacher Award was presented to Debra Hazen-Martin, PhD.
The Department of Pediatrics’ slogan, “All About Children,” conveys the collective passion of its faculty, residents, and staff for children, and a desire to excel by building a better future in education, clinical care and research.

Over the past year, there was a sense among faculty and students that the Department’s residency program was under-performing. From adversity springs opportunity. Through the efforts of George Johnson, MD, William M. Southgate, MD, Rebecca J. McPherson, MD, and David Roof, the inaugural Sunflower Summit was conceived and held in April. This unique day of development brought together a large, diverse group of Department stakeholders to share their interests and ideas about the pediatric residency program. No one was left out; faculty, staff, residents, medical students, fellows, community physicians, and alumni were invited and encouraged to participate.

The Sunflower Summit followed an approach to organizational development called “appreciative inquiry” designed to identify problems, analyze root causes, promote brainstorming, and conclude with an action plan. Summit attendees agreed that the residency program must embrace a family-centered continuum of care, both personal and professional. Working together, the group created a number of innovation teams, which will collaborate on an ongoing basis to strengthen the residency program. The mentoring program that was the initial basis of change has now become the engine driving individual learning plans for all pediatric residents. These plans are the roadmap for study and evaluation.

Department Chair L. Lyndon Key, Jr., MD, says the Sunflower Summit laid the foundation for the future. “We have made major advances in our residency structure. One example is a program that gives residents, female and male, a stipend to help pay for daycare or in-home care. This program was highlighted in the October 2008 issue of the *Journal of Pediatrics*. We anticipate continued momentum with far-reaching implications,” he said.
The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences takes seriously its vision of being the best at what we do. What we have achieved is a balanced excellence in our education and training, clinical, community service, and research missions.

Roadside bombs are the weapon of choice in Middle East conflicts, and too often U.S. military personnel return stateside suffering from traumatic brain injury (TBI), a condition that can be difficult to diagnose and treat. Now, a unique partnership between the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and the Ladson, SC-based defense contractor Force Protection, Inc., gives those with TBI and other brain conditions a new source of hope: the Force Protection Center for Brain Research at MUSC.

Established with a $5 million commitment from Force Protection, the Center will conduct vital research to develop new diagnostic procedures and treatments for brain trauma that will assist Force Protection in the design, development, and manufacture of better armored military vehicles and other protections for the U.S. military. The partnership also includes the Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Affairs Medical Center, which receives a steady stream of soldiers from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq suffering from TBI and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Force Protection’s support enabled MUSC to acquire a $1.5 million Siemens MRI scanner for research on brain injuries. The sophisticated scanner has twice the field strength of a conventional MRI, and uses multi-channels to enable researchers to see details of the brain as it is being imaged. Eventually the Center could become the core of a national imaging network through which brain injury information from around the country would be stored and analyzed.

The Center will also receive federal funding to research other causes of TBI, such as automobile accidents. For this reason, Force Protection plans to share the research with automakers, said Mark George, MD, distinguished professor of Psychiatry, Radiology and Neurology. “Some things are too important not to share,” said Dr. George. “Combining the medical research expertise of MUSC and the engineering expertise of Force Protection will result in best-in-class service and treatment for those who have suffered devastating brain injuries.”
The Department of Radiation Oncology offers a full range of conventional and technology-based patient care services. The diverse backgrounds and experience of our faculty translate into a stimulating, innovative training and research environment.

Finding better ways to successfully treat cancer and preserve patients’ quality of life are top priorities of the Department of Radiation Oncology. Efforts toward meeting these objectives took a giant leap forward this year, when the Department and the Hollings Cancer Center partnered with the Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Affairs Medical Center to bring the very latest in precision radiation therapy—and new hope—to cancer patients.

The unique state and federal alliance sought to maximize limited financial resources and clinical expertise with the purchase of the TomoTherapy Hi-Art treatment system, one of only two in South Carolina. Considered the “crown jewel” of radiation therapy, the technology enables the delivery of high dose, tumor-killing radiation, while sparing normal tissue and organs. This is absolutely critical when treating tumors of the head and neck, prostate, lung, spine, and other areas where a patient’s normal functions might be compromised by less accurate radiation therapy. The system leverages the ring gantry geometry used in CT scanning for the delivery of state-of-the-art, intensity-modulated radiation therapy from all angles around the patient. It was designed so that highly precise treatment plans could result in more effective treatment deliveries.

Department Chair Joseph M. Jenrette, III, MD, says the acquisition of TomoTherapy is the most important breakthrough in radiation therapy in recent years. In addition to patient care, it will be used to develop new treatment protocols and train the next generation of physicians. The partnership that made it possible is now a national model of cooperation, demonstrating how cutting-edge technologies can be brought to a region by leveraging resources. Says Dr. Jenrette, “It’s said that great minds think alike. In this case, we both saw the tremendous potential of bringing this technology to South Carolina. We are happy and very fortunate to partner with the VA on this worthwhile endeavor.”
The Department of Radiology’s nationally recognized faculty of radiologists and basic scientists are experts in all areas of imaging and interventional radiology. With a research budget of about $1.4 million, the Department’s programs are rapidly expanding in the areas of cardiac imaging, neuroscience and interventional therapies.

What’s in a name? For the Department of Radiology and Radiological Science, a new name reflects its growing basic science and clinical activities and demonstrates progress in fulfilling its objective to provide translational imaging to researchers within the College and across MUSC.

Collaboration is at the core of this objective. In 2008, the Department partnered with the Departments of Medicine and Neurosciences to open small animal imaging research facilities. Michael Rosol, PhD, was recruited to lead a facility within the Hollings Cancer Center, which includes optical, CT and PET/CT imaging. This Small Animal Imaging Core provides state-of-the-art in vivo serial imaging of animal models of disease that can provide information not easily obtained by other methods.

Mehmet Bilgen, PhD, was recruited to direct the Department’s pre-clinical imaging and translational research program centered on a 7T MRI animal imaging device. Critical to basic Neurosciences research, this MRI unit is used in investigations of disease or injury models in small animals. MRI is also an essential tool in pre-clinical trials to test the efficacy and effectiveness of drugs. Multimodal data acquisition capabilities allow information to be obtained from live subjects and scans repeated without disturbing the natural disease process. In longitudinal studies, each subject acts as its own control. This facilitates the use of fewer animals, permits better control of experiments and data acquisition, and reduces variability.

A partnership with the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurosciences also led to the opening of a dedicated human research center with a 3T MRI unit. The center is directed by Paul Morgan, PhD, who was recruited from the University of Nottingham as the first endowed chair of the Health Sciences South Carolina-supported Brain Imaging Center of Economic Excellence (CoEE). Dr. Morgan, an innovator in the medical applications of MRI, is developing an MRI science group that will enhance multidisciplinary translational research at MUSC.
The Department of Surgery, which includes the Divisions of Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Pediatric Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Transplant Surgery, and Vascular Surgery, is dedicated to providing the finest in patient care while employing innovative research to advance medical science and support state-of-the-art training for our surgeons and future physicians.

A decade ago, endovascular techniques were used primarily for diagnostic procedures. Today, endovascular surgery, a form of minimally invasive surgery designed to access many regions of the body via major blood vessels, has emerged as an alternative to traditional surgeries like aneurysm clipping, coronary artery bypass graft surgery and carotid endarterectomy. The less invasive procedures often result in better patient outcomes.

The Department of Surgery recognized the need for a focused endovascular program, a move that would require an innovative collaboration with the Department of Radiology, which typically performs endovascular procedures. Under the leadership of Department Chair David J. Cole, MD, and Vascular Surgery Division Chief Bruce M. Elliott, MD, the Vascular/Interventional Radiology (VIR) Agreement was developed to create a new paradigm of patient care and inter-departmental relationships.

Dr. Cole says that similar agreements have been attempted in other medical institutions, with divisive results. “Endovascular surgery is a gray area—is it surgery or interventional radiology? Technology has changed treatment modalities so that it is unclear which medical specialty ‘owns’ the patients. We decided to set aside traditional silos in favor of better care for patients with complex vascular conditions. It also creates the opportunity for MUSC to become a national center of excellence in this emerging medical specialty.”

The two Departments lost no time in establishing the new program, recruiting Joseph P. Hart, MD, a talented endovascular surgeon, under the canopy of the VIR Agreement. Dr. Hart has privileges in both Departments. Procedures are now performed in the state-of-the-art endovascular surgical suite in the Ashley River Tower, which opened in September 2008. Recently, surgeons and interventional radiologists worked side-by-side to repair a complex ruptured aneurysm.

The Departments interact in an entirely new way, sharing patients, facilities, faculty, and finances. This collaborative, rather than competitive, environment is best for everyone, says Dr. Elliott. “This unprecedented partnership is helping us define new pathways for attaining outstanding patient-centered care. We all win.”
The Medical College

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The Department of Urology has experienced five years of outstanding growth. We offer excellent patient care in every urologic subspecialty; we are one of the few institutions in the Southeast to offer all approaches to radical prostatectomy, including laparoscopic, robotic-assisted, retropubic, and perineal surgeries.

It's a silent medical problem, one that causes embarrassment, inconvenience, and concern for those who suffer with it. By some estimates, as many as forty million Americans, most of them women, suffer from incontinence.

The prevalence of incontinence led to a unique partnership aimed at providing relief to patients through a multi-disciplinary approach to care. “The goal of the Department of Urology is to be recognized as one of the premier urologic institutions in the Southeast,” explains Department Chair Thomas Keane, MBBCh. “Achieving this goal requires exceptional faculty, so we have recruited physicians in many urologic specialties to provide the best care possible for patients with specific urologic conditions. This includes two specialists who are recognized experts in incontinence and urologic pelvic health.”

Together with the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN), the Department created the MUSC Bladder and Pelvic Health Program, the first of its kind in South Carolina. Working collaboratively, the Departments of Urology and OBGYN provide seamless care for patients with overlapping conditions related to incontinence and other pelvic health issues. It is an approach that increases access to the most up-to-date treatments for incontinence, uro-gynecologic and voiding problems, and does so in a manner that leverages the expertise of multiple disciplines without adding complexity to a patient’s treatment plan. Patients appreciate the coordinated approach to their care, which results in favorable outcomes.

The successful collaboration has created educational and research opportunities as well. The first bladder and pelvic health fellow is now learning and providing care as an integral part of the program. One of the Department’s senior residents is focusing her efforts in this area as part of her training and specialization in urologic care. Additionally, the program has attracted national and international multi-center clinical trials, further enhancing the treatment options available to patients.
In the core of every person there is optimism and pessimism. Successful aging happens when the optimism wins.

Partnerships have the rare ability to inspire great work. Such is the case with the Center on Aging, which leverages the talents of many across the College of Medicine, the University, and the State of South Carolina to achieve meaningful results for older adults. A partnership that has brought significant benefits to the Center on Aging is the South Carolina Aging Research Network (SCARN). SCARN is a statewide organization that promotes and organizes age-related research, outreach, and education activities at MUSC, Clemson University, the University of South Carolina, Palmetto Health, and Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center.

SCARN’s inter-professional members have experience in basic and clinical research, social science, rehabilitation, and disabilities of aging. The group includes two representatives from each of the member institutions, meeting six times a year to discuss ongoing research projects, policies, grant proposals, and institutional review board applications. This productive structure has yielded successful inter-institutional grant applications and two statewide aging research conferences involving more than one hundred and fifty participants from a range of disciplines.

In 2008, SCARN had several notable accomplishments. The Palmetto Geriatric Education Center secured a three-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration. Health Sciences South Carolina (HSSC) funded two research initiatives in secondary stroke prevention and vitamin D deficiency in older adults. Additionally, SCARN received funding for the SeniorSMART™ Center of Economic Excellence, an HSSC-sponsored research center focused on preserving independence and maintaining cognitive function. SeniorSMART™ has endowed chairs at Clemson and USC, with a third in Neurosciences to be added at MUSC.
Given our mission to provide the best possible care to the children of South Carolina, 2008 was a banner year—a top rating for our heart program, a full staff of pediatric surgical and medical specialists, and phenomenal success of our bone marrow transplant program.

Children’s Hospital learned that healing a child with a life-threatening illness is a powerful way to build bridges to other cultures.

With the help of the U.S. Marines, Hamad Muhammad brought his five-year-old son Ammar from Haditha, Iraq to MUSC Children’s Hospital for life-saving surgery. A lieutenant in the Iraqi police, Hamad risked his life everyday alongside U.S. Marines, clearing mines and protecting the borders from terrorists. Yet, there was little he could do to save his child from a potentially fatal condition called Tetralogy of Fallot. A large hole in his heart and an obstruction between his heart and lungs deprived his body of oxygen and gave him the classic “blue baby” look. In the United States, this relatively common congenital heart defect is repaired with a routine operation during the first year of life. In war-torn Iraq, such surgery is not available.

Learning of Hamad’s son, the Marines took action. Major Kevin Jarrard, a 1995 Citadel graduate, worked with the East Cooper Rotary Club to secure a Gift of Life grant from Rotary International to bring Ammar to MUSC for surgery. In April, Scott Bradley, MD, and the Children’s Hospital pediatric heart team surgically repaired Ammar’s heart, giving the boy a new chance at life.

The effects of the surgery were immediate. Within hours, the color in Ammar’s lips and feet had returned to normal. Three days later, he was playing with toys in his room. For the first time in his short life, he was able to walk the ten minutes from his hospital room to the parking lot without being carried. After two weeks of follow-up, Children’s Hospital staff sent a now healthy Ammar home to Iraq and his family, fulfilling our partnership of promise on a global level.

“Outreach is fundamental to our mission,” said Philip Saul, MD, director of both Children’s Hospital and the Children’s Heart Center. “While most of our efforts are focused locally and regionally, Ammar’s story is a striking example of how we can work together to impact children’s health on a far-reaching scale.”
The mission of the Digestive Disease Center is to promote digestive health through excellence in clinical care, research and education.

After months of planning, construction and anticipation, the Digestive Disease Center successfully moved to its new home in the Ashley River Tower in February 2008. The move was a milestone, as the “best in class” facility is designed to elevate the quality and safety of care, redefine how care is delivered, and amplify the satisfaction of all who come through its doors. It is a fitting home for a patient-centered approach to care that combines the medical expertise of gastroenterology, hepatology, surgery, anesthesia, radiology, and oncology in one location.

The Digestive Disease Center features facilities designed for the optimum diagnosis and treatment of all types of gastrointestinal disorders. The Center includes a forty-bed inpatient floor, an eleven-bed intensive care unit and a seven-bed step-down unit. The intensive care unit is one of the first of its kind in the United States, combining medicine, surgery, and anesthesia care teams. The endoscopy unit is composed of five diagnostic suites and four therapeutic suites dedicated to high technology procedures like endoscopic ultrasound, endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography, ablation therapy, and mucosal resection. Nine state-of-the-art surgical suites support complicated interventional surgical procedures. Because laparoscopic bariatric surgery is a special focus, the Digestive Disease Center is equipped to meet the requirements of larger patients safely and comfortably.

The public’s response to the new Digestive Disease Center is perhaps best reflected in the significant increases in clinical activity. Endoscopy has grown by nearly fourteen hundred and fifty procedures, a fourteen percent increase. The gastrointestinal medicine clinic experienced an increase of nearly seven hundred visits, a ten-point-five percent increase over the previous year. Overall inpatient volume for the year was up a remarkable forty-three percent. Overall volume in the gastrointestinal surgery clinic increased by nearly sixty percent. There was also a fifteen percent increase in digestive disease surgical procedures.

The Digestive Disease Center’s success story is just beginning. As leaders in the advancement of minimally invasive surgery, the Center will continue to bring new techniques like single port laparoscopy and natural orifice transluminal endoscopic surgery to the region—innovations that promise even better outcomes for our patients.
Created as one of SCTR Institute’s core initiatives, the SUCCESS Center—short for Support Center for Clinical and Translational Science—is a universal, consolidated point of entry for SCTR programs and services. The SUCCESS Center provides a full spectrum of coordinated research support services, training, and consultation for regulatory affairs and submissions. It also serves as a primary source of information for collaborator and mentor matching, as well as a central recruitment resource for potential research participants.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is transforming how clinical and translational research is conducted, ultimately enabling researchers to provide new treatments more efficiently and quickly to patients. It is creating a national consortium of about sixty institutions charged with energizing clinical and translational science. As of May 2008, the NIH had selected thirty-eight academic health centers as CTSA recipients.

Developing the CTSA grant application was a massive undertaking that required the efforts of more than two hundred and fifty researchers, clinicians, and leaders from all of MUSC’s Colleges. SCTR Institute director and principal investigator, Kathleen Brady, MD, PhD, and co-principal investigator, Perry V. Halushka, MD, PhD, led the effort, which involved thirteen core sections. SCTR project director Randal Davis likened it to birthing an “eight hundred and thirty-page baby.”

The CTSA network is the largest U.S. initiative in clinical research in thirty years and will replace the NIH’s General Clinical Research Centers. What it means to grantees is tangible infrastructure and programmatic support for basic, clinical and translational research. In 2008, MUSC received $101 million in NIH funding, making CTSA funding virtually imperative. While the grant is for research infrastructure, it also affects patient care by empowering the College of Medicine to ultimately bring new treatments and technologies to patients.

Dr. Brady is thankful for the extraordinary efforts of the many people at MUSC who contributed to the CTSA grant application. “Joining the national CTSA consortium will accelerate our ability to transform biomedical research and training activities, disseminate shared discoveries, and improve the health status of South Carolina’s diverse population. It’s been an inspiring process.”
The mission of the Heart and Vascular Center is to provide the best care to patients with cardiovascular disease, supported by research, education and innovation.

Already recognized as one of the best cardiovascular programs in the country, the Heart and Vascular Center “kicked it up a notch” with its move of adult cardiovascular services to the Ashley River Tower in early 2008. Patients and staff recognize the Ashley River Tower as a facility of unmatched excellence with state-of-the-art equipment, inpatient units, and outpatient clinics. We are now in position to provide state-of-the-art care to more than fourteen thousand patients a year in a world-class facility.

A major focus for the Heart and Vascular Center is excellence in quality. Faculty and staff were recognized for excellence in programs involving acute myocardial infarction, acute coronary syndrome and congestive heart failure. This included leadership in the South Carolina Heart Care Alliance and the American Heart Association’s Get with the Guidelines program. Participation in national heart and vascular quality registries was substantially expanded. An interdisciplinary collaborative quality team focused on patients presenting with chest pain was also developed, with the goal of elevating care and outcomes among this patient population.

Patient satisfaction also was a major emphasis in 2008 and our efforts were rewarded. Working together, our physicians, nurses, and staff at all Heart and Vascular inpatient units and outpatient clinics achieved remarkable results: patient satisfaction scores greater than the ninety-fifth percentile.

This year saw the development, initiation, and maturation of many important clinical programs. A significant feature of many of these programs is collaborative partnerships between different clinical units and academic divisions—partnerships that promise better health for our patients. Notable areas of excellence supported by interdisciplinary collaboration include the Atrial Fibrillation Ablation Program, the Acute Coronary Syndrome and Acute Myocardial Infarction Program, the Peripheral Vascular Disease Program, and the Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation Program—the only one of its kind in South Carolina. Other important clinical initiatives address interventional cardiology, prevention, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, imaging, valvular heart disease, and adult congenital heart disease.
Established in 1993, the Hollings Cancer Center is South Carolina’s largest academic-based cancer program. We have united the best medical, research, and scientific resources in a single location and extended them throughout the State via partnerships with other healthcare organizations, ensuring that all South Carolinians have access to our innovative cancer care.

While cancer survival rates have improved with standard therapies that utilize surgery, chemotherapy and radiation, cancer remains a significant health threat. A recently approved Center of Economic Excellence (CoEE) within the Hollings Cancer Center (HCC) will seek to improve cancer outcomes by developing new therapeutic options for killing cancer stem cells and stem cell replacement.

This summer, the CoEE Review Board approved $5 million in state funding for the CoEE in Cancer Stem Cell Biology and Therapy through the South Carolina Research Centers of Economic Excellence Act. Health Sciences South Carolina, along with other philanthropic funding, will provide the $5 million match required by the State.

MUSC is collaborating with Clemson University and other Health Sciences South Carolina member organizations on the Cancer Stem Cell CoEE, one of six that reside at HCC. The focus is two-fold: first, identify ways to use stem cells found in bone marrow or adult organs as treatment targets for cancer therapy; and second, develop and market the bioengineering aspects of stem cell collection and utilization for more functional, adaptable clinical applications. The CoEE will have endowed chairs in cancer cellular research and cancer bioengineering research. HCC’s Bone Marrow Transplant Program will enhance research efforts. The Cancer Stem Cell CoEE will interface with other CoEEs that address cancer and regenerative medicine, leveraging the intellectual talent of MUSC and Clemson.

HCC Director Andrew Kraft, MD, is the Center’s principal investigator. He says the Cancer Stem Cell CoEE will position South Carolina as a leader in this new transdisciplinary field, which merges bioengineering and biomedicine. “This CoEE will provide the resources to recruit outstanding individuals to explore the function and mechanisms for inhibiting cancer stem cells, and in so doing, lead to exciting new stem cell-based cancer therapies that will improve survival rates and create new economic opportunities for South Carolina.”
The Marine Biomedicine and Environmental Sciences Center sits in the middle of a highly unique partnership between the medical and environmental sciences communities, the interface of which provides each with exceptional research and training opportunities not found elsewhere in the United States.

The Marine Biomedicine and Environmental Sciences Center fosters interdisciplinary and inter-institutional partnerships within the College of Medicine and its sister MUSC colleges and across state and federal agencies. The Center is one of five agencies—the National Institute of Standards and Technology, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, and the College of Charleston—located in the Hollings Marine Laboratory. The Lab is one of three NOAA Centers of Excellence in Oceans and Human Health dedicated to integrative marine science that enhances the health and wellbeing of the marine ecosystem, which includes the human population.

This year, Marine Biomedicine and its partners at Hollings Marine Laboratory established the Oceans and Human Health (OHH) Center to address fundamental questions about the quality and safety of coastal waters. At the same time, the OHH Center is developing new methods and tools to evaluate the health responses of marine organisms to multiple stressors, along with identifying and characterizing chemical and microbial threats to marine ecosystems and human health.

Marine Biomedicine plays a pivotal role in the OHH Center, applying the analytical tools of molecular medicine to problems that link oceans to human health. The OHH Center has five doctoral students studying various aspects of dolphin health and disease as surrogates for human health. One particular project led by John Baatz, PhD, focuses on the protein lining of dolphin lungs, which possesses unique properties that may be relevant for assisting premature human infants in pulmonary distress.

The OHH Center’s core research areas include chemical contaminants, source tracking of marine pathogens and marine genomics. This year, a South Carolina Center of Economic Excellence in Marine Genomics was established. An $8 million endowment will be used to recruit a world-class researcher for an endowed chair, further enriching the strong fabric of interdisciplinary research already benefiting South Carolina and the nation.
The Clinical Effectiveness and Patient Safety Education Center is tasked with advancing the training of the health care workforce through the use of sophisticated simulation technology, and in the process, improving patient safety and health care quality across South Carolina.

The Center is the result of a partnership with the State of South Carolina through the Centers of Economic Excellence program and Health Sciences South Carolina (HSSC), a statewide research collaborative between MUSC, Clemson University, the University of South Carolina, Palmetto Health, Greenville Hospital System, and Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System. All of the HSSC partners participate in the Center; its endowed chair, John J. Schaefer, III, MD, resides at MUSC.

It’s from Charleston that Dr. Schaefer is revolutionizing the clinical education of the health care workforce. He and his team are creating and implementing inter-professional training curriculums using simulators and aggregating performance data. The intent is to develop evidence-based curriculums that have the potential to revolutionize how the health care workforce is educated not just in South Carolina, but across the country.

This year, the MUSC Health Care Simulation Center opened, with nearly $1 million in sophisticated simulation technology housed within the 11,000-square-foot facility. Adult and infant simulators are used to provide hands-on training to medical, nursing and allied health students on conditions ranging from childbirth and trauma injuries to cardiopulmonary resuscitation and heart attacks. The Center also serves as the headquarters for what eventually will be a statewide network of facilities called Health Care Simulation South Carolina.

Simulation training creates exciting new opportunities, enhancing existing educational programs and allowing investigators to explore the impact of emerging technologies upon the efficiency and effectiveness of health care team members. The cumulative result will be better outcomes for patients.

“This new Center puts South Carolina at the international forefront of health care simulation,” says Dr. Schaefer. “The use of simulation for education and patient safety training is very similar to its use in other high-risk, high-cost industries like aviation. We are very excited to bring this innovation to South Carolina.”
With the broad stroke of a magic marker, seven-year-old Joseph Greenwood signed his name to a campaign banner and launched the Medical University’s capital campaign, *A Partnership of Promise*, which aims to raise at least $300 million in private contributions by 2011. Joseph and his mother, Angela, took part in the kickoff ceremony to demonstrate the difference the Medical University is making in the lives of people throughout South Carolina and beyond. The young Florence resident received a new heart at the Children’s Hospital at the age of five.

“This is what *A Partnership of Promise* is all about,” said kickoff speaker Bob Sywolski, member of the MUSC Foundation Board. “It’s about building a Medical University that can bring hope to seemingly hopeless circumstances. And where does that hope come from? It begins with you.” Although MUSC is a state-assisted institution, the State provided less than seven percent of its annual operating budget last year, with recent reductions bringing that level of support substantially lower.

“You can’t create excellence on less than seven percent, not the kind of excellence that we expect from a nationally renowned leading health care institution,” said Sywolski during the ceremony. “We have a clear vision of what this University can be and needs to be, for each of us, individually, our families and the generations to come. And ultimately, we understand that it’s going to take money – private money – to make that vision a reality.”

Kickoff speaker Beverly Seinsheimer said this awareness led her and her husband Wally to make their campaign gift, a million-dollar contribution to build a preventive cardiology program in the University’s new hospital, Ashley River Tower. When Wally developed heart disease, the Seinsheimers discussed an idea with the Heart and Vascular Center for a new program that would help prevent heart disease by promoting healthier lifestyle habits. While the need for such a program was urgent, the financial resources were nonexistent. “We came to see that we had an opportunity to build something that would help people live longer, happier lives - not just today, but in perpetuity,” Seinsheimer said. “At that point, Wally and I both realized that we had discovered our passion. We knew that the Medical University offered us a way to turn our vision into something real.”

The new Seinsheimer Clinic for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease will offer comprehensive cardiovascular exams, nutrition assessments, counseling, rehabilitation, weight management, and exercise as a means to improving cardiovascular health, in complement to the successful pediatric Heart Health program within the Children’s Heart Center. “I believe this campaign brings to each of us a unique opportunity, maybe a once-in-a-lifetime chance to discover your passion, and to create a legacy that can touch people from this point forward,” said Mrs. Seinsheimer. “It’s an incredible opportunity. And when you realize it’s there, I’d encourage you not to wait; seize it, and seize it now. We did, and we’ve never felt better.”
Myrtle Beach resident Robin Edwards made a $3 million gift to Children's Hospital in 2008, providing a huge boost to researchers working to develop new treatments and cures for childhood diseases. Mrs. Edwards says she had three deeply personal reasons for making her recent gift. “It was the triplets,” she says without hesitation.

Ten years ago, her daughter developed a complicated pregnancy. “Nobody here at home would even touch triplets at the time, so we took her to MUSC,” recalls Mrs. Edwards. “Of course, we were very worried, but those three children arrived in perfect condition and their mother came through it just fine as well. Grandma was a mess, but everyone else was great! It was one of the happiest days of my life.”

Motivated by that positive experience, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards began discussing ways in which they might help the Children’s Hospital create similar happy situations for other families. Sadly, Tom passed away before their vision could be realized together, but Robin never forgot the firm sense of commitment they both felt upon the birth of their healthy grandchildren. “We talked about it a good bit before he died,” she says. “We felt that when you help doctors and others in health care, you’re helping people from all walks of life. We saw eye to eye on that. It was a very easy decision for us.”

Mrs. Edwards’ gift will be used to fund an endowed chair in Pediatric Nephrology, enabling the College to explore new treatments and ultimately seek a cure for chronic kidney disease, which currently affects an estimated four hundred and sixty-thousand South Carolinians. Her gift will also create a separate endowment to help launch promising new pediatric research projects.

In recognition of this generous gift, Children’s Hospital has named its Atrium in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards. Filled with toys, books and games, the Atrium is a colorful, light-filled solarium where patients and their families can relax and play during hospitalization.
University Medical Associates honors Dean Jerry Reves, MD, with the Jerry and Jenny Reves Diversity Scholarship Endowment

There is not much that escapes the eyes of Jerry Reves, MD.

So when he was named Dean of the College of Medicine in 2001, he quickly assessed opportunities to strengthen his beloved Institution. Among the most obvious issues was the lack of diversity. To the Dean, the paucity of under-represented minorities among the faculty, house staff and student body was unacceptable, particularly in South Carolina where thirty percent of its citizens are African American. It was time to change the face of the College, and Dean Reves lost no time taking action.

Under his direct leadership, the College implemented a five-year diversity plan, a diversity committee was appointed, and department chairs were charged with developing and activating their own diversity plans. Dean Reves held forums with minority students, house staff and faculty to gain a better understanding of concerns and formulate actionable solutions.

Dean Reves’ motivation was simple. “As a College of Medicine we are committed to making diversity a hallmark of our medical education at all levels—faculty, residents and medical students. Our State will reap the benefits in the coming years,” he said.

Making diversity a priority has yielded unprecedented results. By fall 2007, the College had increased the number of minority faculty by one hundred percent and nearly quadrupled its minority house staff. Minorities now account for seventeen percent of the student body. Equally striking, of the thirty minority graduates of the College in fall 2006, eleven were African American men. Ten African American men graduated in fall 2007. This achievement was realized at a time when most medical schools graduate fewer than two African American males.

To honor Dean Reves and his wife Jenny, University Medical Associates (UMA) created the Jerry and Jenny Reves Diversity Scholarship Endowment, raising nearly $2.2 million to fund it. The purpose of the endowment is two-fold: recruit and support the scholarly activities of under-represented minorities and address healthcare disparities in South Carolina.

In November 2008, Dean Reves received another honor, this time from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). The AAMC presented its Institutional Diversity Award to Dean Reves at its annual meeting, selecting him from a field of one hundred and twenty-five medical college deans for his work in making the MUSC College of Medicine a national model for diversity.

What follows are Dean Reves’ remarks made at the ceremony held in June to announce the Jerry and Jenny Reves Diversity Scholarship Endowment.

— Adonteng A. Kwakye
Second-year medical student
One day shortly after my return in February from surgery, Jack Feussner (John R. Feussner, MD, MPH, Chair, Department of Medicine) sent an e-mail saying he had something very important to tell me. When I heard that, I, just like most of you, was prepared for yet another crisis. I honestly wasn't sure I was prepared so soon for it.

Nevertheless, Jack came down to speak to me. He started, “I know you are not going to like this…” and I immediately began searching my soul for that last remaining strength to start a new battle, thinking all the while, am I really ready for this. He went on in Jack’s inimical and forceful way, “It is too late and I’m afraid there is nothing you can do about it.”

Feeling doomed, I gingerly sat down on my still sore rump resigned to hearing yet another difficult problem to tackle. Jack continued, “While you were out, the executive committee unanimously agreed to honor you and Jenny with endowment money for student scholarships from UMA (University Medical Associates).” He even muttered something about the possibility that Departments may chip in.

I was dumbfounded. My first reaction was to try and stop this. After all, I hadn’t died and I hadn’t left my post—although I wasn’t so sure that wasn’t perhaps the wish of some.

If I had had a chance a priori to halt this, I would have. But often things do happen to us that we can’t control and in those instances, it has been my experience that all we can do is make the most of the circumstances we find ourselves in. I do want to say how I felt at the time and do even more today about this humbling recognition.

I believe that we are made better and learn most when we expand our thoughts and experiences. This is most easily accomplished by surrounding ourselves with people who have different thoughts and experiences than we have had. We are made better by living and working in an environment that is diverse. Diversity brings us in contact with people who are different whether it be gender, race, financial status, religion, politics, or any other host of human characteristics. This scholarship money means we will be able to accomplish more easily our desires to diversify our student body.

I emphasized the importance of diversity for the majority or the entirety, but there are benefits to those minorities who help us diversify. I think that Booker T. Washington said it best: “Few things can help an individual more than to place responsibility on him, and to let him know that you trust him.”

I am profoundly grateful to all of you for this most meaningful gift on our behalf. It is difficult to express the sense of endearment I have for you, my fellow leaders in our College, who have done this. The fact that you have set aside your treasury for the recruitment of minorities that will allow us to improve our quality through diversity, demonstrates with deeds the determination and commitment you have to this important goal in the College.

College of Medicine
Alumni Giving in 2008

- Twenty-one percent (1,293 of 6,200) of College of Medicine alumni gave back to their alma mater in 2008.
- Sixteen percent (201 of 1,293) of College of Medicine alumni donors gave at least $1,000 in 2008, making them Society of 1824 members.
- Fourteen percent ($200,592 of $1,466,939) of College of Medicine alumni donations was directed specifically to the College’s Loyalty Fund.

Candace Gillespie has been named director of Alumni Development Relations after serving the Dean’s Office for ten years in the Student and Academic Services division of the College. On behalf of the Dean, she will serve as a liaison with College of Medicine alumni, maintaining responsibility for a comprehensive visitation/call program aimed at increasing communications and fostering excellent relations. Throughout the year, she will be traveling primarily in South Carolina, conducting personal visits with alumni. Candace may be reached via phone at 843.792.9243 or via email at gillescf@musc.edu.

Candace Gillespie
Director, Alumni Development Relations
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<td>Ryan Kalinsky</td>
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<td>Eastern Virginia Medical School, VA</td>
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<td>Sherief Khalil</td>
<td>Surgery-Preliminary</td>
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Gregor Kring
Dean Kubacz
Dianna Kubacz
Laura LaBoone
Christy Lee
Anthony Leoncavallo
Anthony Leoncavallo
Katherine Mastriani
Jenna McCall
Guy McClary
Theodore McCracken
Ross Michels
Richard Monk
Lara Moody
John Morris
Melissa Mueller
Denny Myers
Ryan Nobles
Meredith Northam
Jonathan Osorio-McKenna
Naval Parikh
Ashwin Patel
Rakesh Patel
Rakesh Patel
Chrystal Pauley
Walter Peters
Walter Peters
Margaret Prescott
Katie Price
Brittany Ray
Catherine Ridings
Rachel Rosansky
Haley Rowland
Sara Sadreameli
Larissa Saldana
Sarah Sandberg
Jack Scheuer
Mark Schweppe
Katherine Seawright
Todd Senn
Robert Shapiro
John Shea
Sachin Sheth
Sachin Sheth
Manasi Sinha
Jacqueline Smith
Jonathan Snipes
Laura Spruill
Eugen Stancut
Zachary Stroud
Laura Stuart
Brigid Sullivan
Julie Swick
Julie Swick
Amanda Turbeville
Ronald Turner
Zeke Walton
Thomas Way
John Weathers
Sean Whelan
Brice Williams
Kellese Williams
Nolan Williams
Charlie Wolford
Caroline Woolen
Caroline Woolen
Justin Wright
Amit Vajnik
Genevieve Vance
MaryShek Zafino
Alexei Zhadelevich

Pathology
Family Medicine
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Ophthalmology
Radiology-Diagnostic
Transitional
Radiology-Diagnostic
Internal Medicine
Surgery-Preliminary
Pediatrics
Family Medicine
Otolaryngology
Internal Medicine
Internal Medicine
Pediatrics
Medicine-Pediatrics
Anesthesiology
Pathology
Medicine-Preliminary/Neurology
Pediatrics
Family Medicine
Pediatrics
Orthopaedic Surgery
Family Medicine
Internal Medicine
Emergenc Medicine
Medicine-Preliminary
Radiology-Diagnostic
Pediatrics
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Psychiatry
Pathology
General Surgery
Psychiatry
Family Medicine
Dermatology
General Surgery
Ophthalmology
Medicine-Pediatrics
General Surgery
Medicine-Preliminary/Ophthalmo
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Psychiatry
Anesthesiology
Anesthesiology
Psychiatry
Family Medicine
General Surgery

Massachusetts General Hospital
University of Kansas School of Medicine
University of Kansas School of Medicine
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, NC
Greenville Hospital System/University of South Carolina School of Medicine
Riverside Methodist, OH
University of Florida
St. Joseph Hospital, IL
Duke University Medical Center, NC
Trident Medical Center, SC
Medical University of South Carolina
Medical University of South Carolina
Medical University of South Carolina
Medical University of South Carolina
McLeod Regional Medical Center, SC
Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN
Tulane University School of Medicine, LA
Medical University of South Carolina
Concord Hospital, NH
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, NC
Einstein/Montefiore Medical Center, NY
Greenville Hospital System/University of South Carolina School of Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina
Trident Medical Center, SC
University of North Carolina Hospitals
St. Mary's Hospital, CO
University of Miami/JFK Medical Center, FL
New Hanover Regional Medical Center, NC
Maimonides Medical Center, NY
Albert Einstein Medical Center, PA
University of Oklahoma
Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN
Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN
Wright Patterson AFB, OH
Medical University of South Carolina
University of Hawaii
Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN
Naval Medical Center, CA
Einstein/Montefiore Medical Center, NY
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, NH
Childrens National Medical Center, Washington, DC
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System
Duke University Medical Center, NC
U Texas SW Med Sch-Dallas
Wake Forest Baptist Med Ctr-NC
Trident Medical Center-SC
Johns Hopkins Hospital-MD
University of Virginia
Allegheny General Hospital, PA
Medical University of South Carolina
St. Vincents Hospital, NY
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, NH
St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital, NY
Medical University of South Carolina
Medical University of South Carolina
SAUSHEC ABF, TX
Medical University of South Carolina
Self Regional Healthcare, SC
Trident Medical Center, SC
Medical University of South Carolina
Medical University of South Carolina
Ochsner Clinic Foundation, LA
Medical University of South Carolina
Medical University of South Carolina
University of Kentucky Medical Center
Medical University of South Carolina
UPMC Medical Education Program, PA
University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals
Eastern Virginia Medical School, VA
Medical University of South Carolina
St. Vincents Medical Center, FL
Spartanburg Regional Healthcare, SC
Pitt County Mem Hospital/Brody School of Medicine, NC
Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN
Ochsner Clinic Foundation, LA
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Mountain Area Health Education Center, NC
Massachusetts General Hospital
“Nancy joins me in sending our warm congratulations to the “old grads” of the Medical University of South Carolina. As you gather for your first meeting on the occasion of the University’s one hundred fifty-fourth commencement exercises, you can reflect on your contributions to improved healthcare throughout our nation. I am proud to add my heartfelt appreciation to that of your fellow alumni and friends. God bless you.”

Former U.S. President Ronald Reagan
1983 MUSC Commencement

For the College of Medicine’s Class of 1958, this was indeed a year of great promise, as this venerable group of physicians joined the Golden Grads of the Medical University of South Carolina, marking the Silver Anniversary of this august assemblage. Clad in full academic regalia with commemorative medallions to signify their recent induction, classmates of fifty years past joined the graduation processional in May.

Created in 1983 under the leadership of former president James B. Edwards, DMD, the Golden Grads tradition serves to promote friendships, foster communications, and form a closer association between members and the Medical University. Originally called the “Old Grads,” two hundred and sixty-five alumni qualified for induction during the group’s inaugural year, with one hundred and eleven from the College of Medicine. That number has grown through the years to a current constituency of one thousand, one hundred and forty-five Golden Grads, four hundred and thirty of whom are College of Medicine alumni.

“It is with great pride and humility that we welcome the College’s Golden Grads back to our campus for commencement each year,” reflected Dean Jerry Reves, MD, Class of 1969. “It is immensely gratifying for our students, staff and faculty to witness the procession of our learned elders in this most important event of the academic calendar. As we send our newest physicians out into the world to make their mark upon the future of medicine, we also pay tribute to their forebears, for creating the tradition of helping and healing that has made American medicine the best in the world. Their collective legacy of service, to our College and to our society at large, is immeasurable.”
1945

J. Richard Sosnowski, a beloved Charleston OB/GYN physician and clinical teacher for many years at the College of Medicine, was also an associate dean for Student Affairs for a number of years. Adored by many classes of students, he was a member of the College’s Faculty Alumni Liaison Committee until recent retirement due to his and his wife’s health. In 1990, he was a recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

1948

Jesse Bowers is a dedicated alumnus and donor to MUSC. A flight surgeon with the U.S. Navy from 1949 until 1962, his medical field was physical medicine and rehabilitation. He was in private practice from 1962 until 1989. Despite his distant home in California, he remains very interested in MUSC and his medical class. He and his wife Jeannette have four children, Anne James, Catherine Frantz, Stephen and Paul Bowers.

Lawrence P. Emberton is a 2007 recipient of the Pride in the Profession Award, presented by the American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation. The award is given to four domestic physicians who aid underserved populations in the United States. The AMA Foundation presents the award in association with the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative. Presented to him at the 2007 Excellence in Medicine Awards Ceremony preceding the AMA National Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC, Emberton was honored for his fifty-six years of service to the community of Edmonton, KY. During his
storiéd career, Emberton made house calls on horseback and traded medical care for produce to accommodate patients with no other means of payment. He has practiced with compassion and without expectation, as the average per capita income in his community is less than $14,000.

"With an unrivaled work ethic, Dr. Emberton has served three generations, putting in twelve-hour-plus days. On many holidays, he has been spotted in his Jeep, racing to homes to set broken bones or soothe the aches and chills of those with influenza," said Metcalfe County Judge Executive Don M. Butler, II, who nominated him for the award.

1949

B. Lewis Barnett practiced family medicine in his hometown of Woodruff, SC, from 1950 until 1970, during which he served in the U.S. Navy. He then joined the MUSC College of Medicine faculty in the early years of the Family Medicine Department and later became professor emeritus and founding chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, VA. He was awarded the MUSC College of Medicine Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1993. In 1997, he was honored with the Thomas Jefferson Award, the University of Virginia’s highest award. After his retirement in 2000, his many students, patients, and colleagues at the University of Virginia School of Medicine established an endowed chair of Family Medicine in his name. He and his wife of fifty years, Annalyne, make their home in Kennesaw, GA. They enjoy spending time with their five grandchildren and friends.

Howard Barnhard is a diagnostic radiologist and was a faculty member in the Radiology Department of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) from 1958 until 1990. He served as the Chair of that Department from 1960 until 1973, at which time he resigned to become director of the Department of Planning, Organization and Development at UAMS. He still works two half days a week to review active cases with residents. He writes, “Training residents is a continuing pleasure for me.” Barnhard has been one of the guiding forces from the Class of 1949 and has been very supportive of the College of Medicine in recent years. He directed the last class reunion and has continued to work to keep his group together. On a recent visit to MUSC, he noted the College’s exponential growth. “Progress, yes, but I hope that the students still have the very personal relationships that I enjoyed as a student.”

1952

Stanley Baker is a resident of Greenwood, SC, and has served on the MUSC Board of Trustees since 1977 as the medical profession representative from Congressional District 3. He served as chair from 1986 until 1990. A retired general and thoracic surgeon, he has been involved in a wide range of professional and community activities, including past chief of Surgery at Self Memorial Hospital, and past president of both the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club. He is listed in Who’s Who in North America and is a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery.

Baker spends two and a half days a week teaching office surgery and surgical diagnosis to the Family Practice residents at Self Regional Healthcare. The rest of his time he spends in the woodshop or on his cattle farm. He enjoys bird hunting and traveling. As a message to fellow alumni, he says, “If you have not visited your alma mater recently, you would be amazed and proud of the research, education and patient care at MUSC.”

Mary Blanchard is a retired OB/GYN physician from Sumter, SC. An ardent MUSC supporter, she served as president of the Medical Alumni Association from 1993 until 1994. In 1996/1997, she served as the Joint Alumni Board President. She is a past member of the MUSC Board of Visitors and the Medical Alumni Advisory Council. She was selected as the recipient of the Winthrop University Mary Hildren Sullivan Award in 1995, which recognizes selfless dedication of time, energy and talent in service to others. One of few women in her class, her nickname in medical school was “Butch.” Her brother, “Doc Blanchard,” was a famous West Point football player who won the 1945 Heisman Trophy.

1955

Charles H. Banov is a retired allergist who practiced in Charleston, SC. In 2007, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI). The ACAAI is a professional medical organization headquartered in Arlington Heights, IL, that promotes excellence in the practice of the subspecialty of allergy and immunology. On his retirement, his family, the medical community of Charleston, and MUSC set up a special humanitarian award in his honor that was presented through “MUSC Gives Back” in July 2008.

Banov has authored a book called Office Upstairs, which shares his more than fifty years of career highlights and life lessons in an engaging account of how one man made a difference to his patients and community. His portraits of the teachers, fellow students and, above all, the patients who framed his career are recounted with warmth and insight, and provide a rare inside view into the making of a doctor. He is currently on a book tour to promote his publication.

Walter Bonner is a rheumatologist who was a member of the College of Medicine faculty for some time. In 2002, he published his book, Home in the Village: McClellanville in Old St. James Santee Parish, a local history and memoir. In 2005, he completed his work on a second
book, Living With It, a case report chronicling a physician’s experience during and after the long course of a life-threatening disease. The concluding chapter brings the story up-to-date on the disease, the field of medicine and MUSC.

He and his wife, Beverly, live in McClellanville. He continues to practice rheumatology two days a week in Mount Pleasant. Local history is an interest and he spends a lot of time in the yard. Looking back at his time at the College, Bonner recalls the challenging clinical pathological conferences. “When the pathology professors came on at the end to reveal the answer, I remember sitting with classmate John Scott, putting our hands on the desktop to compare how much our palms were sweating.”

Mims Mobley is a retired internist from Greenwood, SC. In 2006, he published a book, Sleep Well, Hippocrates, which creates a vivid picture of the everyday life of a healer in this century. His keen powers of observation and reflection illuminate the tale with beauty of the southern lifestyle and the impact of medical technology’s changes in daily life.

Daniel and Marjorie Mengedoht are married College of Medicine classmates who have been active in class reunions. Married for fifty-four years, they both retired after more than thirty-seven years in pediatric practice in Charleston, SC. They keep busy with their four children, ten grandchildren, church, and community. Recently, they left their home of 35 years on Rutledge Avenue in Charleston and moved to Bishop Gadsden Retirement Home on James Island. They write, “We love the facilities here. We are active on the Wellness and Health Committee, as well as the Habitat for Humanity and Activity Committees. Marjorie works in the gift shop and Daniel is on the Advisory and Executive Board of the Salvation Army and is the president of the Saint Andrews Society. Life can be very busy in retirement. We are blessed with good health and a loving family.”

1957

Palmer Fant, after earning his medical degree and completing his residency in Radiology at MUSC, practiced medicine in Galax, VA, for many years. At one time, his practice in this small rural town in the hills of Virginia had attracted seven College of Medicine graduates.

They write, “We love the facilities here. We are active on the Wellness and Health Committee, as well as the Habitat for Humanity and Activity Committees. Marjorie works in the gift shop and Daniel is on the Advisory and Executive Board of the Salvation Army and is the president of the Saint Andrews Society. Life can be very busy in retirement. We are blessed with good health and a loving family.”

Howard Barnhard, MD, (’49) works hard to keep the group connected.

Charles Banov, MD, (’55) is the author of Office Upstairs.

Palmer Fant, MD, (’57) and his wife at their home in Virginia.
1959

George Bailey traveled to Guatemala in April 2008 with Volunteers in Medical Missions (VIMM).

Horry Kerrison is a clinical professor emeritus of Ophthalmology at MUSC.

Thomas C. Rowland, Jr., is a current member and past chair of the MUSC Board of Trustees. Representing the Second District of South Carolina (Columbia), his service with the Board began in 1982.

Charles Still was awarded a Master of Arts degree in religion by the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary on May 18, 2007.

1960

Carl Bailey writes, “Now finally retired!”

E. Conyers O’Bryan, Jr., is a member and past chair of the MUSC Board of Trustees, representing the Sixth District of South Carolina (Florence). His service with the Board began in 1976.

1961

William Purcell (Resident) was presented with the Dr. Nathan Davis Award by the American Medical Association (AMA) for outstanding government service on February 13, 2007, in Washington, DC. It is the AMA’s highest award for a public official. “This award reflects Senator Purcell’s tireless commitment to ensure that all citizens of North Carolina, including children, receive the health care they need,” said AMA President William G. Plesed, III, MD.

Norman Walsh has published a book titled Plantations, Pineland Villages, Pinopolis, and Its People.

1962

Andrew Cracker writes, “Still practicing Gynecology.”

Richard Crooks has retired from the practice of Dermatology and writes, “The reunion was lots of fun! Thanks!”

1963

William Boggs retired from the University of South Carolina Thompson Student Health Center on October 1. He now divides his time between Columbia and Georgetown, SC.

Walter Edwards is enjoying retirement and his new hobby, traveling.

Thaddeus Kelly retired in 2007 after thirty-two years of heading Medical Genetics at the University of Virginia.

1964

Palmira Snape continues to volunteer as medical director of the Greenville Free Medical Clinic, Greenville, SC.

1965

Donald Gibson is author of the new book, The Country Doctor, profiling anecdotes, tales, medicines, and trends in house-call practices during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Bryan Walker suffered a stroke in November 2001 and has been confined to his home.

1966

Jeff Brooker writes, “Stormy health issues forced my retirement from Invasive Cardiology in 2006, but for now, good fortune has prevailed, and I am enrolled in Spanish classes at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. During my chemotherapy for one of the health issues, I realized there was no readily available formula to relate/equate survival and mortality data. I derived such a formula and published the formula and its derivation in the August 2007 edition of the Journal of the South Carolina Medical Association. Rhoda and I enjoy the companionship and occasional overnight company of our seven grandchildren. I am in a race with the two-year-olds to learn Spanish before they gain full command of English. They’re winning!”

Rion Rutledge writes that he has a seasonal home in Blowing Rock, NC, and a condo at Surfside Beach, SC. Some of his hobbies include Model A Ford cars, fly fishing and gardening.

George Varn retired from his private practice after nearly thirty-seven years. He notes that he is currently finishing his “honey do” lists.
“1959 to 1963 was a good time to live in Charleston and to be a married student at the Medical College of South Carolina. “Miss Catherine” was the registrar, loyal gatekeeper and the first person I met when I arrived. We were lucky to find a garage apartment next door to the old cancer clinic on Calhoun Street. Within the first month of school, we evacuated for a hurricane and returned to find a tree down on the roof. The move out was accomplished with the help of a ladder through a second story window. Good fortune again allowed us to walk across the yard into a slightly larger apartment on Ashley Avenue.

Most of us probably have more memories of our first-year professors, probably a case of ‘shock and awe.’ Dr. Knisely was still there and gave his wrenching, tearful lecture on the hemodynamics of burn casualties. The legendary Dr. Cy O’Driscoll even made several appearances in the dissecting lab and asked the identity of a nerve or muscle with the stem of his pipe and then put it back in his mouth!

Dr. Whip McCord did his urinalysis trick and Eston Williams drew the most comical historical medical account to deliver to the class.

Dr. Elsie Tabor and Dr. Curtis Worthington were favorites.

Then there was the incomparable, all-time favorite son of England and the Lowcountry, the late Dr. H. Rawling Pratt-Thomas.

The hardest working surgeon I’ve ever known was Dr. John C. Hawk who inspired a tough, gentle and caring work ethic.

The Class of 1963 had a delightful weekend reuniting with good food and fellowship. There was a relaxed pace with time to visit and catch-up. Let’s all make an effort to call old friends whom we haven’t seen at the reunion and encourage them to come to the next one.”

Laurie N. Ervin, MD
Class of 1963
“Had it not been for the College of Medicine, I would have never become a physician. Having to support myself through school, I didn't take for granted the top-notch education I received at such an affordable cost. I'm grateful for the teachers and faculty members who mentored, guided, and cajoled me.”

Brownie Lowry, MD
Class of 1968
1967

Harrison Jett is president of Saint Andrew's Society of Carolina. He is a board member of the Rotary Club of Charleston, SC, and a board member of Shepherd's Center of Charlotte, NC. He has retired from the practice of General Surgery.

Richard MacDonald recently completed twenty-five years as associate dean for Student Affairs at the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, located on the campus of the National Naval Medical Center in Washington, DC.

1968

Virginia M. Anderson, Rumson, NJ, will address an international conference of deans and educators in Beijing, China. Her title, inspired by Gordon J. Hennigar, Jr., MD, is A Medical School’s Success May Be Measured by the Strength of the Pathology Department.

Joel Cox has five wonderful grandchildren.

James Farr writes that he has been married to his “number one asset” for forty years. They have four grandsons.

Robert Grove is co-owner of International Marketing Business. He retired from Nuclear Medicine and Diagnostic Ultrasound in 1993. He is having fun being free and playing with his five grandchildren. His hobbies include ham radio, remote control jets and traveling.

John R. Langley resides in Cumming, GA, with his wife, Janet and three children. He is currently licensed in thirteen states. In addition to traveling and working as a locum tenens surgeon, he is the author of three published novels: Beja, Murder at Charing Cross and Hana’s Secret.

Robert Malanuk writes that his son, Rob, is practicing Cardiology in Columbia, SC, and his other son, Chris, was project director for the construction of the new MUSC Ashley River Tower.

Thomas Verdin and wife Jerrene have three children and five grandchildren.

Douglas Whetsell retired from the United States military as a colonel. His son, Doug Jr., passed away on May 22, 2006.

James Whitehead writes that he has four wonderful grandsons.

1969

Robert Brown writes, “Any ophthalmologists interested in medical mission efforts? Please contact me!”

Marvin Murdaugh, Charleston, SC, is recovering from C-3 quadriplegia after a fall in 2005.

Paul B. Pritchard, III, lives in Mt. Pleasant, SC, and is a professor of Neurosciences and program director of the Neurology residency and fellowships at MUSC. He and his wife, Nancy, have three children.

1970

Robert Ball returned to Charleston, SC, in 2003 to accept a new position (bioterrorism, port security and pandemic influenza). He serves on the Charleston County Medical Society Executive Committee and on the South Carolina Medical Association Ethics Committee. He formed, with Joe John, MD, the Charleston Infectious Disease Society. In 2008, he was elected as First Congressional District member of the State Board of Medical Examiners. He continues to lecture, write, teach, and consult on Epidemiology issues. He is enjoying these activities too much to retire.

Baxter McLendon worked as a volunteer ophthalmic surgeon in Ghana (West Africa) for three months beginning in January 2008.

1971

Thomas Mahon was listed in the Atlanta Magazine’s July 2007 issue among “Atlanta’s Top Docs.” He has practiced in the Atlanta, GA, area for thirty-three years as a pediatrician.

John McGill was named president-elect at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Society of Plastic Surgeons in Bermuda. He will be hosting the annual meeting in Charleston, SC, in September 2009 at the Charleston Place as president of the society. He continues to serve as delegate to the American Medical Association representing the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

William Powell is the medical director of Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center, which has clinics in Spartanburg, Gaffney and Union, SC. He also is senior active attending staff for the Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System.

Ray Quinn writes, “My wife Annette and I recently moved back to the Charleston, SC, area. I am practicing adult primary care medicine with Palmetto Internal Medicine of Summerville.”

1972

James Blake is practicing Gastroenterology in Annapolis, MD.

1973

John Davenport is director of Outpatient Operations for Kaiser Permanente of Southern California. He lives in Irvine, CA, with his wife Ginny and son Mason.

George Duncan, Jr., retired from North Carolina Children’s Developmental Services on March 1, 2007. He has a five-year-old grandson and an infant grandson. He is an avid hiker.

R. DeLores Gibbs enjoys traveling and gardening. She keeps very active with
“Having the privilege of my daughter also graduating from MUSC, I can say with much authority that a generation has made a difference. The milieu is decidedly more student-friendly, the medical students are smarter and the College of Medicine treats them, as they do the faculty, like they are competing for the best.”

Otis E. Engelman, MD
Class of 1973
various non-profit and community groups. She is also involved with community health education activities.

**Gerard Jebaily** is the associate director of McLeod Family Medicine's residency program in Florence, SC.

**Carl Jones, III**, writes, “Alive and well, still working part-time, urgent/ambulatory care.”

**1974**

**John Wieder** retired November 30, 2006, and writes that he is really enjoying retirement.

**1975**

**John Lentz** recently opened a medical clinic in Destin, FL, specific to Lyme disease, which is a rapidly growing illness in the Florida panhandle. He writes that it is complex, but gratifying to treat this disease.

**1977**

**E. Jackson Allison** retired from the Department of Veterans Affairs in June 2007. He served as president of the American College of Emergency Physicians (1991-92); was chair of the residency review committee for Emergency Medicine (1988-1990); was the first presiding president of the International Federation for Emergency Medicine (1991-1992); founded the Department of Emergency Medicine at the Brody School of Medicine of East Carolina University in 1980; and authored/co-authored approximately two hundred and eighty contributions to the medical literature.

**William Byars** recently married Ylva Belle. They live in Greer, SC, where he practices Family Medicine.

**Charles Coddington** writes, “Becki and I are doing well in Minnesota. The Mayo Clinic has been an excellent experience.”

**1978**

**Thomas Barton** writes, “For the past two years, I have been working to establish a medical clinic in the Santa Barbara region of Honduras. Approximately 1/1000th of the population of Honduras may eventually be served by this primary care clinic, which is to be located in the remote mountainous community of Concepcion Del Norte. It is our goal to open the clinic by Summer 2008. We anticipate hiring two Honduran physicians to be assisted by volunteer medical providers from the international community. More to follow…”

**James Brown** left in January 2008 for Cameroon (Africa), where he and his wife serve as medical missionaries.

**Scott Burner** was called back from retired status and deployed with the United States Army to Afghanistan in 2004 and to Iraq in 2006.

**Marcia Fartina-Morin** writes, “After practicing more than twenty years in the Detroit, MI, area, I returned to South Carolina in 2003 as medical director of McLeod Behavioral Health in Florence, SC. I am enjoying the southern hospitality and wonderful, sunny weather, but continue to work way too much!”

**E. Rawson Griffin** retired from office practice and is doing part-time nursing home care, home care and locum tenens.

**James Madison** and his wife Nancy celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 2008. He writes that they spend their time spoiling the grandchildren, traveling in the West, and playing in the woods. His two proudest achievements are marrying Nancy and being a member of the MUSC College of Medicine Class of 1978.

**Rick McCain** writes that he is thankful for the quality education he received at MUSC.

**Albert Mims** reports that his oldest daughter graduated from MUSC in 2005 and is now completing her residency at Wake Forest University. His middle daughter graduated from Duke University in 2004 and is teaching with her husband in Burma (Asia). His youngest daughter will graduate from Wofford College in 2009.

**John Miller** is a medical consultant with Biblical Ministries Worldwide.

**Charles Porter** retired from the United States Navy in 1989 after twenty-two years of active service. His last duty assignment was chief of Anesthesia and director of Anesthesia residency training at the Naval Regional Medical Center in Portsmouth, VA.

**H. Stanley Reid** writes, “Retirement is great—no call! I retired from my spine surgery practice after having extensive spine surgery in January 2007. I am now a licensed financial advisor to the great relief of my wife and children, as I drove them crazy during my six-month rehabilitation at home. The new career is not that far removed from my medical career. It takes advantage of my people skills and offers meaningful solutions for those with a fiscal instead of a physical problem, while distilling and acting on technically difficult material and information. It has been a challenging and rewarding transition.” Dr. Reid resides in Greenville, SC, with his wife Patricia. They have four children.

**Carl Shrontz** reports that he now enjoys cattle ranching and world champion cutting horses and is a member of his Episcopal Church choir and vestry.

**John Weaver** is an acting chief of Surgical Services at the VA Medical Center in Charleston, SC, and remains an active teacher for MUSC’s Ophthalmology residency, especially in regard to cataract surgery.
“After graduating from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1978, I went on to complete a residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at MUSC as well. The relationships I made during those years are a part of my daily life. Since entering private practice in Conway, SC, I have come to appreciate how well my medical training prepared me to go out into the world and provide good care to my patients. Because of the personal nature of the many relationships I formed at MUSC, consulting faculty members for advice on particularly difficult cases or services could not be easier.

There are three members of my graduating class who practice at Conway Medical Center. We have become close friends, and have worked and traveled together for many years. Our conversations frequently turn to tales of our days in training at MUSC, which we seem to remember with more joy and affection than was apparent during the actual experience. I believe that is true because our collective relationship with the Medical University provides us a continuing source of expertise and a connection with the place where our professional transformations occurred; a relationship of which we are very proud.”

Terry B. Levenson, MD
Class of 1978
1979

Neal Shealy was installed as president of the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians (SCAFP) during its Fifty-ninth Annual Scientific Assembly in November 2007. He is a board certified family physician who practices in Varnville, SC.

1981

Jeffrey Runge, formerly of Charlotte, NC, is the first assistant secretary for Health Affairs and chief medical officer for the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in Washington, DC. He joined the Bush Administration in 2001 as the twelfth administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. He joined the DHS in September 2005 as its first chief medical officer and serves as the primary point of contact to the public and private sectors on all medical and public health matters concerning DHS.

1982

John Cebe writes, “I found out I am OK at herding cats! Subsequently, I was voted managing partner for Upstate Cardiology (fifteen members).” Upstate Cardiology has offices in Easley, Greenville and Simpsonville, SC.

Jan Basile is now a professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics at MUSC. He is a recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award and the Golden Apple Award at MUSC. His interests involve hypertension and vascular disease. Dr. Basile was inaugurated as president of the Southern Medical Association during its Centennial Scientific Assembly in August 2008.

1983

Lillian Cavin is a radiologist with Nighthawk Radiology Services, LLC, one of the world’s largest providers of teleradiology services.

Joanne Conroy is married to D.J. Johnson and they live in Springfield, NJ. In 2005, she was named executive vice president of Atlantic Health System and chief operating officer of Morristown Memorial Hospital. Dr. Conroy was recently appointed chief health care officer of the Association of American Medical Colleges. She stated, “As we confront the challenges facing the U.S. health care system, it is important that teaching hospitals and medical schools anticipate future change while delivering safe, high quality care to all patients. We can accomplish this by working with physicians, students, and staff to create new knowledge and develop a culture of innovation and visionary leadership.”

Thomas Fassoulitis writes, “The passing of Rob Speir (2005) was a loss for all of the Class of 1983 and to our medical fraternity. He was a great friend, doctor, and dedicated husband and father to Patty and his children.”

Mark Foster is past president of the North Carolina Orthopedic Association. He is managing partner of Wilmington Orthopedic Group, Wilmington, NC.

Colby Grossman, Summerville, SC, reports a number of publications in areas such as community-acquired pneumonias and the metabolic effects of carvedilol with Avdin type 2 and HIV. He also did a poster presentation at the Infectious Disease Society’s annual meeting in 2001 on serious community-acquired pneumonias.

David Hayes is chief of the Department of Surgery at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, TX, since returning from deployment to Iraq in 2007.

Michael Hughes was named Heart Champion for 2007 by the American Heart Association in Summit County, OH. He also was named co-chairman of the board of Northeast Ohio Cardiovascular Specialists, a group of thirty-two physicians in Akron, OH.

John Jordan is practicing General Internal Medicine and Urgent Care in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Andrea Tresco is president of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians.

1984

Julian Belisle, a cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon, was elected chief of staff at University Community Hospital in Tampa, FL. He has three daughters, all in college, and writes, “Donations welcome!”

William Cotton is president of the medical staff at Nationwide Children’s Hospital located in Columbus, OH.

Donald R. Johnson, II, is a current member and past chair of the MUSC Board of Trustees. Representing the First District of South Carolina (Charleston), Dr. Johnson’s service with the Board began in 1994.

Charles B. Thomas, Jr., is the chair of the MUSC Board of Trustees. Dr. Thomas represents the Fourth District of South Carolina (Greenville). His service with the Board began in 1996.

1985

Janet M. Walker (Resident) has retired from the United States Air Force after twenty years and moved to Spokane, WA, where she is working for Group Health Permanente.

Mark Clarke has created a new medical software company, Diagempasys, Inc., which specializes in the production of medical expert software systems. The latest Windows®-based application will be installed at Decatur Memorial Hospital (DMH) in Decatur, IL, and will reduce procedure time in all twenty-five operating rooms, endoscopy suites and other treatment locations. DMH will be the first hospital in the world to employ this
“My time at MUSC prepared me exceptionally well for residency and my career in private practice. As a resident, I found myself to be more advanced than my fellow residents who went to larger medical schools. Now a successful orthopedic surgeon in Summerville, I couldn't have asked for a better education than what I received from the College of Medicine.”

James Spearman, MD
Class of 1983
“My twenty-year class reunion was a wonderful experience where my classmates and I reminisced on our fond memories of MUSC and the long hours spent studying. What an incredible Institution MUSC is, creating competitive, high-caliber physicians, who do more than just practice medicine. MUSC physicians are taught to give back where it counts, to their communities and organizations that make a difference, making them strong in the workplace and in society.”

Marc New, MD
Class of 1988
breakthrough technology. Dr. Clarke is most proud of this product since it has the potential to save up to seventy hours per year of operating room time, a projected value of over $300,000 to the hospital.

1986

Randy Kochel serves as chair of Family and Community Medicine at Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, PA. He also is managing physician for his practice, which has three physicians and two physician assistants. He and his wife celebrated the marriage of their son, Christopher, in July 2007. Chris was born in Charleston, SC, during Randy’s first year of residency.

Gregory Martin has successfully passed the inaugural board certification exam for the American Board of Phlebology, which was established in 2007 to improve the standards of medical practitioners and the quality of patient care related to the treatment of venous disorders. He is medical director of Coastal Georgia Vein Center, Brunswick, GA, and South Georgia Vein Center, Valdosta, GA.

Christine Thompson writes, “My vocation is medicine, specifically Anesthesiology. I am in private practice in Mt. Pleasant, SC. My avocation is art and horses.”

1987

Paula Wood is in her tenth year as a hospitalist and seventh year at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, NC.

1988

William Caldwell writes, “Full speed ahead with the kids’ activities. We have a new puppy.”

Brad Johnson was promoted to professor of Surgery with the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

Ann Kulze writes, “My expertise has been featured in a number of national media outlets, including “Oprah” and “Friends” radio, Time, USA Weekend, WebMD, and Prevention, among many others.”

William Lewis writes, “I am very happy here in the mountains of Western North Carolina. Our group serves a very busy emergency department with a volume of 97,000. My three children keep me very busy in my off-duty hours.”

Alexander Logan was appointed to the Hospital Board of Commissioners at Loris Healthcare System, Loris, SC, in October 2005.

Teresa Luhrs and John Camp were married September 22, 2007, at folly Beach, SC. She is department chair for Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical Center of Central Georgia/Mercer University School of Medicine, Macon, GA.

Leslie Pelzer of Charleston writes, “I’d love to catch up with anyone who would like to. Call when you’re in town.”

William Savoca was chief of staff for Palmetto Health Baptist, Columbia, SC, from 2006 to 2007.

John Tolhurst was re-certified in Emergency Medicine in October 2006. Some of his hobbies include jewelry making, photography and woodworking. His wife Annette enjoys painting, flower gardening and volunteer work.

1989

Deborah Deas is senior associate dean for diversity and associate dean for admissions for the MUSC College of Medicine.

James Koon moved to Kershaw, SC, and has been working since November 2007 in a clinic associated with Springs Memorial Hospital, Lancaster, SC.

Scott Seibels’ latest addition is Darren, born December 4, 2006. He is brother to Natalie and Daniel. Scott was a founding partner of Tristate Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery in January 2005. As of 2005, he also is medical director of Tristate Total Vein Care Center.

1991

Ellen Boney is moving back to South Carolina from GA. She is an anesthesiologist and will be practicing at Hilton Head Medical Center, Hilton Head, SC, and Okatie Outpatient Surgery Center. She is married and has two children.

Mitney Henshaw’s son Sam is enjoying the three’s class at the Children’s Garden School, where he likes “all the parts the best.” He recently stated, “Peace is…Bob the Builder and Thomas.” Sam intends to be a builder, and also a runner—not a great stretch of the imagination for those who know and love him. Mom continues to point out that doctors use cool tools as well, and are often fast on their feet!

Joseph A. Howe, of Thomasville, GA, is a dermatologist at the McIntosh Clinic in Thomasville. He and his wife, Laura, have two children.

1992

David Kuhlmann spent ten years in the United States Air Force until 2002. Since then, he has been in private practice in Neonatology at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport, MS.

Greg Milroy practices at Caromont Pediatric Partners in Gastonia, NC. He and his wife Lisa have two children, Christi and Hannah.

1993

H. Cooper Black and his wife, Deborah, have two children, Cooper and Carson. He practices in Columbia, SC, with Pitts Radiology & Interventional Radiology.

“For me, Julius Sagel, MD, embodies everything that is MUSC: loyalty, tradition and empathy. He was my mentor while I was a student and intern at MUSC, and later I was privileged to work side by side with him as a course director. He remains my mentor to this day, and I've found myself trying to emulate him at every step of my career.”

Alan N. Brown, MD
Class of 1993

“It became clear to me very soon after starting my residency how well-prepared I was compared to residents from other schools. Programs know that students from MUSC are ready for the next phase of training. Fifteen years later, I still draw from specific patients, cases, residents, and attendings. MUSC gave me a medical school experience and a foundation that allowed me to build a career that has spanned multiple fields of medicine outside my formal residency training. I feel fortunate and thankful for that.”

Jairy C. Hunter, III, MD
Class of 1993
Jay DeMarco coaches and plays soccer. He also teaches residents at MUSC on Fridays.

Steven Godwin writes, “I have four wonderful boys and the best wife.”

Leslie Long writes, “I am working part-time as I rear my son. I also have a consulting business for medical care at specialty hospitals as well as functioning as the medical director for a hospice. I still love to do missionary medicine, but that has been curtailed somewhat by having a small child. I also love traveling for fun, and before Paul was born, I was privileged to be able to go to Southeast Asia as well as to South America with my husband. But life has a way of changing!”

1994

Christy Bell and husband Brian announced the birth of their second child and first son, Keenan Asker Bell, on July 3, 2006. They reside in Charlottesville, VA.

J. Edward Robertson and wife Kim welcomed their baby daughter, Caroline Grace, on August 3, 2007.

Marian Taylor, assistant professor in Cardiology and director of the cardiac rehabilitation program at MUSC, has been awarded $311,400 for her project, “Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program for Women,” by the Duke Endowment. She was also the recipient of the Leonard Tow 2008 Humanism in Medicine Award in recognition of “exemplary compassion, competence and respect in the delivery of care.” These awards are presented annually to a graduating medical student and an outstanding role-model faculty member at nearly eighty of the one hundred and twenty-six medical schools in the United States.

1995

Jill Aiken is enjoying learning the business of medicine and working hard in solo practice. She says the benefits have outweighed the risks so far. She writes, “For me, there’s nothing better than Pediatrics.”

Robert Blackwell is a hand surgeon with Macon Orthopaedic and Hand Center, Macon, GA. He and his wife Kathy have two children, Grace and Isabel.

Brian Fowler was in private practice in Internal Medicine before he joined a hospitalist group in January 2008.

Jim Ward is in private Anesthesia practice in Caldwell, ID.

1996

Kenneth Faile lives in Florence, SC, with his wife, Louisa (Pharmacy ’95) and sons Tom and Mac. He writes that he can’t wait until the next class reunion!

1997

Blanding Jones moved back to the West Coast. He is performing adult cardiac surgery for Kaiser Permanente in the Los Angeles, CA, area.

Shannon Mitchum Noble and her husband, Marc, and children, Luke Davis Noble and Martha Morgan Noble, have returned to Charleston, SC, from Raleigh, NC. She practices with Seaside Pediatrics in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

1998

Henry Booker and wife, Christa, have a thriving family practice office in West Union, SC. They practice with Henry’s father, E.H. Booker, Sr. (COM ’78). They have three children.

Jean Chapman writes, “I can’t believe it’s been TEN years already. I’m still practicing in Alpharetta, GA, and now have a nine-month-old, Alex, in addition to five-year-old Andy. My husband Jim is practicing in Roswell, GA.”

Amanda Drosieko bought her own practice in 2001. Daughter Kate is in the first grade and daughter Mary is in kindergarten. She invites classmates to come see them in Pawley’s Island, SC.

Melissa Evans moved to California in August 2007. She had lived in Richmond, VA, since graduation.

William Jackson works with Bill O’Connor and David Everman in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Carla Jorgensen writes, “Moving to Greenville, SC, in June 2008 to practice with Cancer Centers of the Carolinas at Greenville Memorial Hospital. My husband will be practicing Interventional Cardiology with Carolina Cardiology in Greer, SC.”

Charles Leath writes that he and his wife Amy have two beautiful and healthy children.

Virginia Lilienthal is in private Pediatric practice in Murray, KY. Her husband Leslie and three-year-old daughter Rachel are all doing well.

William O’Connor is the board president of Helping Hand Myrtle Beach, which is a crisis intervention non-profit agency. He is also a board member of the Community Assistance Center of Myrtle Beach and a board member of Waccamaw Center for Mental Health. His wife Trisha is the editor of the Myrtle Beach Sun News.

Daniel Shuler writes that he has enjoyed living in Myrtle Beach, SC, for more than six years.

Amy Vance and her husband, David, welcomed their third child, Cameron Rose Vance, on August 9, 2007.

1999

Jeremy Austin was married in 2006. He and his wife Crystal adopted a son, Max, who is nine-years-old and welcomed their newborn biological son, Seth, in September 2007.
“The most lasting impact from my seven years in Charleston are the relationships with classmates and faculty at MUSC. I regularly have the opportunity to refer patients who are moving to another part of the State to a pediatrician that I know personally. The trust that I have in that practitioner means a lot to the family. It also is a great comfort to me to know MUSC faculty members. Whether I need a specialist referral or just a quick phone consult, I can usually get in touch with someone I know quickly. The response I receive is enhanced because of our shared experience. Of course, my fondest memories were not formed inside the walls of Baruch auditorium, the gross anatomy lab or the hospital call rooms, but on the beach at Sullivan’s Island, on the boat in Bull’s Bay, and on the dock on Wadmalaw Island. Those friendships go beyond the clinical realm to a shared experience that has enriched my life.”

Weave Whitehead, MD
Class of 1998
Mary Coble is married to Will Coble (COM ’00) and living in Richmond, VA. She practices Obstetrics and Gynecology with Virginia Physicians for Women. Will is a cardiologist with Virginia Cardiovascular Specialists. They have a son, Harrison, and a daughter, Sloan.

John Creel is the owner/director of Walterboro Adult and Pediatric Medicine, Walterboro, SC, the owner of Spruce Street Properties and pastor to Little Rock Holiness Church.

J. Brian Fowler is a hospitalist with Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, Spartanburg, SC.

Elizabeth Greer and Neal Dessouky were married August 11, 2007, at Moon Mountain, Sonoma, CA. The couple honeymooned in Alaska and reside in San Francisco, CA.

Michelle Hudspeth writes that she and husband Chuck were happy to return to Charleston, SC, with daughters Lauren and Sarah. She is an assistant professor of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and director of the pediatric bone marrow transplant program at MUSC.

Ben Phillips and Kimberly Phillips welcomed their third daughter, Lucy, into the world on November 21, 2007. Her sisters are McCall and Courtney.

Brayton Shirley, along with his wife Robyn and son William, has relocated to Greenville, SC, from Spartanburg, SC. He is practicing Orthopedic Surgery, specializing in hip and knee replacement.

Olivia Titus Dalu and her husband David live in Charleston, SC, with their daughter Charlotte. Olivia returned to MUSC as an assistant professor in Pediatric Emergency Medicine after residency and fellowship at Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital.

Tanya Wroblewski is serving in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. When she is not deployed, she is an assistant professor of Medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC. Her specialty is Hematology-Oncology, with focus in bone marrow transplantation.

**2000**

Shean Aujla completed his Pediatric Pulmonology fellowship and has joined the faculty at the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Alvin Cohn works in Birmingham, AL, at the Norwood Clinic as a cosmetic and reconstructive surgeon with a multi-specialty group.

Geoffrey Connor completed his fellowship in Orthopedic Sports Surgery. He is now in private practice in Birmingham, AL.

John Ramey reports that he has completed his Allergy-Immunology fellowship at the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, and returned to Charleston, SC, to start his own allergy practice. He and his wife live in Mt. Pleasant, SC, and have one child.

Christopher Robinson completed a fellowship in Maternal-Fetal Medicine in 2007 and joined the MUSC Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He is active in research in pre-eclampsia and teaches microbiology and medical ethics. “Look up our class site on Facebook and join. Many of us are listed there.” He and wife Stephanie Ann have two children.

**2001**

Michael L. Craig received the Charles P. Summerall, III, MD, Fellow of the Year Award for 2008 at the annual MUSC Cardiology banquet on June 12, 2008.

Bruce Easterling writes, “God has blessed us with two girls, Seabrook and Simmons. We thank God for his grace and mercy daily.”

David Grier is an assistant professor of Pathology at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC.

William W. Hope is an assistant professor of Surgery at SEAHEC/New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington, NC. He and wife Caroline have one child.

Leslie Meserve is an internist in a private practice in Newport Beach, CA, and has an eighteen-month-old son.

**2002**

Sasha Adams writes, “After a few years of research, I am back in a Surgery residency as a PGY3. John and I have a beautiful daughter, Lauren.”

William Brown is at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, VA, practicing Emergency Medicine.

Mary Garrison and husband Kevin welcomed their first child, Henry Boyce Garrison, on April 8, 2005.

Demetria Gordon is in private practice in Charlotte, NC, at Providance Obstetrics/Gynecology.

Dewey McWhirter writes, “Sabine, Fritz, Audrey, and I have relocated to Knoxville, TN, where I am practicing with Sleep Associates of East Tennessee. We hope to make this our permanent home.”

Thomas Phillips completed his Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology fellowship at Emory University and has accepted a position as a cardiac anesthesiologist with Anesthesiology Consultants of Florence, SC. On September 3, 2007, he married Karen McCchesney (CHP ’07).

**2003**

Thomas Dozier has completed his residency at MUSC and has joined Charleston Ear, Nose & Throat Associates, which has offices in West Ashley, Mt. Pleasant, Goose Creek, Moncks Corner, and Summerville, SC.
William Ingram recently joined Presbyterian Pathology Group in Charlotte, NC.

Brian Johnson and wife Anna welcomed a new son, Bennett Brian, on March 27, 2007. Brian is with Clemson Ophthalmology, Clemson, SC.

Emily McDaniel joined Tommy Phillips (COM ’02) and Steven Coker (COM ’74) in practice at Carolinas Hospital, Florence SC.

2004

Catherine Frederic writes: “I have finished residency in Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) at the University of Louisville, KY, and have returned to Greenville, SC, to practice OB/GYN.”

Caroline Hill is working on her first year of fellowship in Developmental Pediatrics at MUSC.

Susan Haynes began her Pediatric Cardiology fellowship at the University of Iowa in July 2008.

Ashley McGee and wife Sarah and daughter Maggie spent time in Kenya, Africa, where Ashley worked as a medical missionary. Due to unsettled conditions in Kenya, the family returned home and welcomed a son, Roy Harper McGee, on March 26, 2008.

Jason O’Dell is chief resident of Orthopedics at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, LA.

Bradley J. Robottom completed his Neurology residency and is beginning a fellowship in movement disorders at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He and wife Suzanne reside in Baltimore, MD.

Charlotte Teneback and husband Matthew Wargo welcomed their first son, Isaac, to the world on November 24, 2007.

2005

William Brabham is doing an Internal Medicine residency at Duke University.

Heather Henderson and husband David celebrated the birth of their first child, Maggie, in June 2007. Heather completed her Pediatric residency at the University of Alabama-Birmingham in June 2008 and began a fellowship in Pediatric Cardiology at Emory University in July 2008.

Karen May will complete a residency in Emergency Medicine at Louisiana State University in New Orleans, LA, in June 2009.

Catherine Tobin is a senior Anesthesiology resident at MUSC and hopes to remain in the area.

Richard Wendell is practicing Emergency Medicine at Palmetto Health Richland in Columbia, SC.

2006

Jennifer Bracey is an Internal Medicine resident at Emory University in Atlanta, GA.

Erin Cannington is currently in her second year of a Pediatric residency at the University of Florida, Shands Hospital, Gainesville, FL.

Kacey Eichelberger and husband Gary announce the birth of their daughter, Virginia Dodson, on August 20, 2007. Kacey is an Obstetrics-Gynecology resident at the University of North Carolina Women’s Hospital in Chapel Hill, NC.

Lisa Mills is a resident at the University of North Carolina.

Julie Payne was married on May 24, 2008, to Andrew Payne in Charleston, SC. She would like to thank her MUSC colleagues for attending, despite their busy schedules.

She currently resides in San Francisco, CA, while completing her Internal Medicine residency at CPMC.

Jocelyn Renfrow and husband Ben celebrated the birth of their second child, Ella Wallace Renfrow, on April 25, 2007.

William Clinton Sasser, III, was married to Margaret Caroline Rowell on April 19, 2008, at Christ Episcopal Church, Greenville, SC. They live in Birmingham, AL, where he is a Pediatric resident at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Shannon Wilso Aymes will be graduating this year from Robert Wood Johnson University Internal Medicine program, New Brunswick, NJ. She and husband Robert are expecting their first child this fall.

2007

Olga Chajewski is a Pathology resident at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA.

Laura Taylor is a Radiology resident at Oakwood Hospital and lives inDearborn, MI.
James Raynor Barham, Jr., '58, of Aiken, SC, died August 24, 2007, after a lengthy illness. Husband of Anne Short Barham, Dr. Barham was a graduate of William and Mary College and served a Pediatric internship at Duke University Medical Hospital. He returned to MUSC as a Pediatric resident from 1959 to 1961. For six years, Dr. Barham practiced pediatrics in Anderson, SC, and was president of the Anderson Chapter of the American Red Cross. In 1967, he established his practice in Aiken and was a member of the Helping Hands Executive Board and the Aiken County Mental Health Board. He was also the pediatrician for the Aiken County Crippled Children's Clinic and was involved in the life of Aiken's youth, serving as a team sports physician. Dr. Barham treated the children and teenagers of Aiken for twenty-nine years until retiring in 1996. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Anne B. Jones, Aiken, Elizabeth "Beth" B. Cerrow, Washington, DC, and Ellen B. Walker, Greenville, SC, and other family members.

Harold Dean Belk, '60, died February 3, 2008. He graduated from Duke University with honors, as well as MUSC. He attended Ohio University to complete his residency in Occupational Medicine. Most recently, he worked for National Diagnostics as a medical director and previously was employed with Western Electric in Winston-Salem, NC, as a medical director. He also worked for Carolinas Medical Systems Urgent Care Clinics in Marshville, Concord and Monroe, NC. He was a past president of the Occupational Medical Association. Dr. Belk is survived by his wife, Linda Charles Belk, and his daughter, Robin Belk Amick, both of Charlotte, NC, and other family members.

Samuel A. Black, '68, died November 12, 2007. Born in Paris, TN, he was a 1964 graduate of The Citadel and a 1968 graduate of MUSC. Husband of Carolyn Gordon Black, Dr. Black was a retired orthopedic surgeon in Sumter, SC, and was the medical director of the acute rehabilitation unit of Tuomey Regional Medical Center. Dr. Black was a member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, the South Carolina Orthopedic Association, the Sumter-Clarendon-Lee Medical Society, the South Carolina Medical Association. His hobby was forestry, cultivating the land and enjoying the serenity of the forest. Surviving are his wife; a son, Robin Belk Amick, of both, Charlotte, NC, and other family members.

Williams M. Bryan, Jr., '44, of Columbia, SC, died October 30, 2007. Born in Savannah, GA, he began the practice of Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) in Columbia in 1950 and restricted his practice to Gynecology in 1979. He served as chief of OB/GYN at Palmetto Health Richland. He was past president of the South Central OB/GYN Society and was a life member of the Medical University of South Carolina's Alumni Association. Dr. Bryan graduated from the University of South Carolina with a bachelor of science degree, where he was a member of the ODK honorary fraternity and the KSK leadership fraternity and was head cheerleader. Dr. Bryan did post-graduate studies at the University of Chicago and received a master of science degree from the University of Tennessee School of Medicine, where he was the Fred Adair Teaching Fellow in OB/GYN. Dr. Bryan served as a naval medical officer in World War II and the Korean War. He was a volunteer physician for the Columbia Free Medical Clinic. Surviving are his wife, Blanche Jines Bryan; children, Williams McVeer Bryan, III, Thomas C. Bryan, II, Barbara Bacot Bryan, and James Simons Bryan; and five grandchildren.

Anita H. Buckholtz, '79, passed away August 10, 2008, in Huntington, WV. She is survived by her life partner, Gerrit Kmney, MD; their loving daughters, Sylvia, Samantha and Anna; and other family members. She earned a bachelor's degree in Greek Classics from Beloit College, Beloit, WI, and her medical degree from MUSC.

Philip P. Claytor, '56, died October 15, 2007, after a long illness. Born in Columbia, SC, on January 25, 1928, Dr. Claytor grew up in Barnwell, SC, and later attended The Citadel in Charleston, SC, graduating from the University of South Carolina in Columbia. He married Marjorie McCorkle of York, SC, in 1953. Dr. Claytor graduated from the Medical College of South Carolina (MCS) in Charleston in 1956, completed a residency in Internal Medicine at MCSC, and upon graduation joined G.F. Hiott, MD, in York from 1957 to 1959. After leaving York, Dr. Claytor completed a residency in Ear, Nose and Throat in Bluefield, WV, in 1960 and moved to Columbia for a Cardiology residency from 1960 to 1963 at the Veterans Administration Hospital. Dr. Claytor served in Spain in the South Carolina Air National Guard during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962 and was the base physician at McEntire Air Base during that time. Upon completion of his training in 1963, he returned to Barnwell, where he practiced until his retirement in 2004. Dr. Claytor is survived by his children, Dorothy Calhoun Claytor Howell, Aiken, SC, Philip P. Claytor, Jr., Lexington, SC, Hugh McCorkle Claytor, Greenville, SC, and Elizabeth Cecilia Claytor Rutherford, Columbia; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and other family members.

James Walker Coleman, III, died July 14, 2008. Born February 8, 1942, he was a 1960 graduate of Charleston High School, the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Georgia Business School. Coleman served under four MUSC presidents, spanning a period of more than forty years. He began his career at MUSC on November 1, 1967, as director of communications in the Office of Development. In 1971, Coleman was made director of the SC Regional Medical Program. In 1976, he worked as assistant to the president for operations under President William Knisely. Recently, he was administrator of the SC Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund established by the SC General Assembly in 2000. Throughout his career, he helped guide the Institution through some of its most challenging periods and helped move MUSC toward numerous significant achievements. He is survived by his wife, Debby Larkin Coleman of Charleston; two sons, James Walker Coleman, IV, and Chisolm Larkin Coleman; and other family members.

Keidre Jenkins Corbett, '02, died June 27, 2008. She was a graduate of A&T University, Greensboro, NC. After graduation from the MUSC College of Medicine, she completed graduate medical training at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. She returned to MUSC as the first Nephrology fellow to enter the Master of Science in Clinical Research program. She pursued her
interest in health disparities research and focused on improving outcomes for patients with chronic kidney disease. Despite her own illness, she pursued her advanced training energetically and served patients not only as a nephrologist in training, but also as a volunteer with the National Kidney Foundation, to identify patients with early kidney disease. After the completion of her fellowship, she planned to enter private practice in Orangeburg, SC, and maintain a role in community outreach and education. She is survived by her husband, Andre Corbett; daughter, Khalin Corbett; stepson, Savion Z. Manuel; and other family members.

Charlton deSaussure, professor emeritus, died November 6, 2008. He was born in Charleston on December 9, 1920. A 1942 graduate of Princeton University and a 1946 graduate of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, he trained at Washington University (Barnes Hospital) in St. Louis, MO. He served in the U.S. Army at Walter Reed Hospital and returned to Charleston in 1950, practicing medicine for four decades. He combined a private practice in internal medicine with a teaching career at MUSC in Hematology from 1950 to 1965. Upon his retirement, MUSC named deSaussure professor emeritus of Medicine. In 2008, the College of Medicine established an award in his honor, the deSaussure Medal of the Omnes Recte Iuvare Society, given to the graduate who best exemplifies the “compassion, caring, humanity, and excellence, which for centuries has defined the art of medicine.” A past president of the Medical Society of South Carolina, he will be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather, as well as physician, teacher, mentor, genealogist, poker player, and friend. He is survived by his wife of fifty-six years, Mary Randolph Huger deSaussure; a son, Charlton deSaussure, Jr.; daughters, Mary deSaussure Cutler and Catherine deSaussure Mark; and nine grandchildren.

Ernest Behling Ellis, ’43, died at his home in Miami, FL, on July 15, 2007. Dr. Ellis trained as a resident in Internal Medicine and Cardiology at Memorial Hospital, Richmond, VA, and Jackson Memorial Hospital and the VA Hospital in Miami. He maintained an internal medicine and cardiology practice in South Miami, FL, from 1955 to 2001. He was instrumental in the building of Baptist Hospital in Miami and later served as chief of Cardiology at Baptist, Larkin and South Miami Hospital. A well-respected physician/diagnostician, he was the oldest doctor on the staff at Baptist Hospital. Dr. Ellis devoted his life to medicine, practicing for sixty-one years. He was still making house calls and reading cardiograms at age eighty-three. Dr. Ellis had many talents and hobbies. He was an avid fisherman, still fishing alone until the age of eighty-two. He enjoyed water skiing, duck hunting, and gardening, and he loved animals (particularly hunting dogs, even though his favorite pet was a cat named Euripedes). He lived a full life, making many memories that he loved to talk about and enthral any listener. He was formerly married to the late Mary Godwin Ellis. Dr. Ellis is survived by his children, Rosamond Goudeau, Macon, GA; Evelyn Montagu Ellis, Charlotte, NC, and Ernest Ellis; his grandson, Michael Walker Creswell, Atlanta, GA; and his loving wife, Aliette M. Ellis.

Charles Thomas Fitts died November 4, 2008. He was born in Jackson, TN, July 4, 1932. Dr. Fitts earned his BA from Princeton in 1953 and his MD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1957. During his long tenure at MUSC, he held several appointments, including professor of Surgery and medical director of the SC Organ Procurement Agency. He is credited with pioneering the organ transplant program at MUSC, where he performed the first kidney transplant on December 3, 1968. Among his numerous lifelong accomplishments, Dr. Fitts served as a trauma surgeon in Vietnam, as well as chief of the Trauma Study Branch, U.S. Army Medical Corps Surgical Research Unit, Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, TX. He authored over 100 medical articles and was a sought-after snake and alligator bite specialist in the Southeast. After retiring from MUSC, he entered private practice with his son, Casey Fitts, MD, at Coastal Surgical Associates in Charleston, SC. Throughout his life, he was a wonderful storyteller and teacher, with a flair and style that captivated all who knew him. Fondly remembered as “Daddy Fitts” by countless friends, he is survived by his wife, Marie Von Ohsen Fitts, and their children: Ansley Slicher, Georgia Slicher Gagliardi (Matthew), Kathryn Fitts, Summer Fitts, and Jenna Fitts; his children by his former wife, Ann Driver Fitts: Robert “Casey” Fitts, MD (Sue), Matthew Fitts, PhD, Layne Fitts Nelson (David), and Amy Fitts Marvin (Randy); his eleven beloved grandchildren; and his other family members.

Samuel P. Fleming, ’50, of Spartanburg, SC, died June 21, 2008, at Summit Hills Retirement Center. Born November 21, 1917, at Lantford Station, SC, he earned a bachelor of science in Biology from Furman University in 1941, where he was co-captain of the football team his senior year. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and then joined the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942, serving as a combat navigator in the European Theatre during World War II. He earned his medical degree from the Medical College of South Carolina in 1950. Dr. Fleming retired from the medical profession in 1994, after forty years of service. Survivors include two daughters, Catherine F. Jordan, Austin, TX, and Dorothy F. Green, Winter Park, FL, and two grandchildren.

Debra Frei-Lahr, former associate professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology/Oncology and founder of the MUSC Bone Marrow Transplant Program, died August 6, 2008, at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, after a long illness. Dr. Frei-Lahr devoted her life and career toward helping critically-ill patients. She was highly regarded for both her outstanding patient care and her great love of teaching. Dr. Frei-Lahr was born in Cottonwood, ID, on Nov. 20, 1953 and graduated from the Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago, in 1979. She went on to complete her Internal Medicine residency and Hematology/Oncology fellowship at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, and also conducted a bone marrow transplant fellowship at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Washington University in St. Louis, MO. With her husband, Christopher J. Lahr, MD, she moved to Charleston in 1989, serving as director of the MUSC Bone Marrow Transplant Program. In 1996, Dr. Frei-Lahr performed the first outpatient-matched unrelated donor transplant at MUSC, which was the first of its kind recognized by the National Marrow Donor Program. Under Dr. Frei-Lahr’s leadership, the Adult and Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Programs earned full accreditation by the Foundation for Accreditation of Cellular Therapy. She also chaired the Tissue and Organ Transplantation Committee and developed a referral
network for hematological malignancy patients throughout the Carolinas. Dr. Frei-Lahr held several departmental positions until her retirement in 2007. She is survived by her husband of Jackson, MS; daughter, Kelly Frei-Lahr Waldrop (Matthew), Raleigh, NC; son, Derek Frei-Lahr, Blacksburg, VA; and other family members.

M. Stewart Funderburk, ’66, died June 16, 2008. Born in Charlotte, NC, Dr. Funderburk was a general surgeon and practiced in Orangeburg, SC, since 1976. He was a graduate of Wofford College and the Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Funderburk enjoyed singing and spending time with his family at Garden City Beach, SC. He was a member of Jericho United Methodist Church and served as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He is survived by his mother, Cheraw, SC; daughters, Elizabeth F. Darden, Dallas, TX, and Virginia West Funderburk, Orangeburg; sons, Joshua Ness Funderburk and Marshall Stewart Funderburk, III, Brevard, NC; and three grandsons.

William Levi Gerald, ’83, renowned scientist and pathologist, died at home in Pelham, NY, surrounded by his loving family on September 14, 2008, after a valiant battle against cancer. Dr. Gerald graduated from Mc Clemnghan High School, Florence, SC; the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC; and MUSC. He completed a residency and fellowship in Anatomic Pathology at Yale University, New Haven, CT. He served as an assistant professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at MUSC from 1988 until 1992. He and his wife, Lucta Johnson Allen, have five children: William Clee land, Emma, Grace Lucta, Anne Marshall, and Sarah Todd.

Earl H. Godfrey, ’60, died July 22, 2008, at the Spartanburg Regional Hospice House. Born in Florence, SC, he was a U.S. Navy veteran. He graduated from the University of South Carolina and the Medical University of South Carolina, with honors. He specialized in Neurology and pursued additional study in Philadelphia related to neuromuscular disorders, qualifying him to return to teach Neurology at the Medical University. He was a co-founder of the Department of Neurology and conducted research under grants funded through the National Institutes of Health. He was a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the South Carolina Medical Association, and the South Carolina Neurological Association. In 1972, he started a private practice in Spartanburg, which continued for more than twenty-three years. Surviving are his son, Earl H. Godfrey, Jr.; daughter, Ann Louise Shirley; granddaughter, Alison Earley; and his beloved companion, Peggy Edwards, all of Spartanburg County. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan Simpson Godfrey, and daughter, Cynthia Joan Earley.

Winston Y. Godwin, Sr., ’60, died August 28, 2008. Born in Summerton, SC, he was a family physician who spent his life serving the community of Cheraw, SC. Upon graduating from Clemson College with a degree in agricultural engineering in 1949, Dr. Godwin served in the U.S. Air Force for two years. After graduating from MUSC and completing his internship, he moved to Cheraw, where he practiced full-time in a mostly solo practice until 2007. Later in life he returned to the Air Force Reserve, serving as base medical examiner with the rank of lieutenant colonel. One of Dr. Godwin’s major contributions was the establishment of Cheraw Convalescent Center and Nursing Home. He is survived by his five sons, Winston Y. Godwin, Jr., MD, Charlotte, NC; Rev. Paul L. Godwin, Michael Luke Godwin, both of Cheraw, David Alan Godwin, MD, Roger Thomas Godwin, both of Greer; his daughter, Mary Lynn Hart, Summerton, SC; twenty-four grandchildren; and other family members.

Paul Gross died March 11, 2008. An associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, he served as director of the Genomics Core Facility since 2004. Dr. Gross was born March 19, 1961, in Wurtzburg, Germany. He received his bachelor’s degree in Biology and Philosophy in 1983 and his PhD in Zoology with distinction in 1995, both from George Washington University, Washington, DC. Gross’ postdoctoral work was on Invertebrate Immunology at George Washington University. His fields of study were Invertebrate Zoology, Developmental Biology and Endocrinology. He is survived by his parents of Arlington, VA; his wife, Mi Young Mia Yoo Gross of Charleston; and other family members.

Thomas G. Herbert, ’42, of Summerville, SC, husband of Miriam Pope Herbert, died on June 10, 2008, at his residence. Born in Florence, SC, Dr. Herbert was a graduate of the College of Charleston (1938); the Medical University of South Carolina (1942); and was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and Korea. He practiced Obstetrics/Gynecology for more than thirty-five years. He is survived by his wife of sixty-five years, Miriam Herbert; daughters, Rebecca Herbert Schenk, Glenwood Springs, CO, and Bull Herbert Quillian, Atlanta, GA; four grandchildren; other family members; and many devoted friends.

James M. Hilton, ’58, of Palos Verdes Estates, CA, died August 1, 2008. Born October 20, 1933, in Kershaw, SC, he graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1954. In 1958, he graduated from the Medical College of South Carolina and moved to California with his new wife, Gillian, where he served in the U.S. Navy. Dr. Hilton served for two years as a lieutenant medical officer in Long Beach, CA. In 1960, he attended the University of Southern California Medical School, where he did his residency in Child Psychiatry. He practiced psychiatry in Southern California for more than fifty years. Surviving are his wife of fifty years, Gillian, six daughters and fourteen grandchildren.

Alton T. Holland, ’64, of Camden, SC, died August 10, 2008. Born in Cassatt, SC, he served as a captain and a medical doctor in the U.S. Navy. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Camden, where he served as a deacon for eight years. Surviving are his wife, Betsy Powell Holland; children, Gigi H. Davis, Camden, Dano S. Holland, Richmond, VA, Gila D. Holland, and Gina H. Ormond, DMD, MUSC Dental Class of ’90, both of Columbia, SC; six grandchildren; and other family members.

William H. Hunter, ’52, died April 14, 2008, in Anderson, SC. He was a family practice physician in Clemson, SC, since 1953. A graduate of Clemson College, where he lettered in football, track and boxing, Dr. Hunter was a Distinguished Alumnus of Clemson. He is a graduate of MUSC and was named a Distinguished Alumnus for his extensive work in medical education. During World War II, he served as a carrier fighter pilot and U.S. Marine.
Corps officer in the Black Sheep Squadron. During this time, he also acted as Air Group intelligence officer. Dr. Hunter was the founder of the Calhoun Lecture Series at Clemson University, where there is a William H. Hunter Endowment in his honor. Surviving are his wife of sixty-four years, Jane Minter Gardner; sons, John Mark McCarrrel Hunter, Clarksville, TN, James Madison Hunter, Chapel Hill, NC, William Harvey Hunter, Jr., Arden, NC, and Samuel Eugene Hunter, Santa Rosa, GA; daughter, Gwin Hunter Hanahan, Seneca, SC; ten grandchildren; and one great-grandson. Isabelle B. Kay has been associated with and close to Dr. Hunter’s family for fifty-five years.

Leon Davis Jacobs, Sr., ’71, of Waycross, GA, died August 24, 2007. An ophthalmologist, he was a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. He was a graduate of South Georgia College, the University of Georgia, the Medical College of Georgia, and MUSC. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. Survivors include three sons, Leon Davis Jacobs, Jr., Woodstock, GA, Robert Scott Jacobs, Waycross, and Jeff Jacobs, Marietta, GA; six grandchildren; and other family members.

Richard John Kahaly, ’50, of Columbia, SC, died August 14, 2007. He graduated from Columbia High School in 1939, the University of South Carolina in 1943, and MUSC in 1950. He was in family practice in Columbia from 1951 until 1986. As a staff sergeant and combat medic in World War II, he was a decorated veteran in the European Theatre. Dr. Kahaly was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. Surviving are his loving wife of fifty-six years, Mary Elizabeth Abdalla Kahaly; daughters, Rosemary Byrd and Elizabeth Cheslak, Columbia; sons, Richard J. Kahaly, Jr., Naples, FL, Gregory B. Kahaly, Anderson, SC, Michael C. Kahaly, John P. Kahaly, and Thomas A. Kahaly, all of Columbia; and other family members.

Reuben D. Knopf, ’54, of Roanoke, VA, passed away November 6, 2007. He was born October 26, 1929, in Fairfax, VA. Dr. Knopf graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1950. He studied medicine at MUSC and earned his medical degree in 1954. He married Janet McLeod Leach, Allendale, SC, soon after graduation. Dr. Knopf completed his medical residency in Radiology at the Hannaman Hospital in Philadelphia, PA, and served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, TX, before being stationed in Orleans, France in 1956. He was born October 26, 1929, in Fairfax, SC. Dr. Knopf graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1950. He studied medicine at MUSC and earned his medical degree in 1954. He married Janet McLeod Leach, Allendale, SC, soon after graduation. Dr. Knopf completed his medical residency in Radiology at the Hannaman Hospital in Philadelphia, PA, and served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, TX, before being stationed in Orleans, France in 1956. He was stationed there from 1956 to 1958. In 1960, he joined Radiology Associates of Roanoke, where he practiced medicine until 1992. During his career, he was elected fellow of the American College of Radiology, and was chief of Radiology at Roanoke Memorial Hospital. When not practicing medicine, Dr. Knopf enjoyed spending time with his family, and he regularly fished the Outer Banks at Cape Hatteras, NC, with family and friends. He endured a lengthy struggle with Parkinson’s disease with determination, resolution and an unflagging sense of humor. His spirit and faith in the face of adversity serve as an example to all who knew him. He is survived by his loving wife of fifty-three years, Janet Leach Knopf; sons, Reuben Eric Knopf, Mechanicsville, VA, Bradley DeLoach Knopf, and Mark Jonathan Knopf, both of Roanoke; daughter, Rebecca McCull, Newark, DE; eight grandchildren; and other family members.

Niels L. Low, ’40, of Tenafly, NJ, passed away in August 2007. Dr. Low joined the medical staff of Blythedale Children’s Hospital in 1956 and served as chief of Pediatrics and medical director from 1966 to 1989. His knowledge and experience provided superb medical care to children and left a lasting legacy of excellence. A warm, kind and compassionate person, Dr. Low made a profound difference in the lives of all who knew him. He served as a pioneering and beloved pediatric neurologist at Babies Hospital and the Neurological Institute of New York. Dr. Low was an outstanding clinician, inspiring teacher, and friend to generations of students and residents. He was a doctor’s doctor, and patients and their families loved him. He is survived by his wife, Mary Margaret, children and grandchildren.

Robert L. Lumpkin, ’51, died on April 1, 2008. He was born in Madison, WI, January 18, 1922, and grew up in Columbia, SC, where he attended Dreher High School and the University of South Carolina. World War II interrupted his education, and he served in combat in North Africa and Italy from 1942 to 1945. He was awarded numerous decorations including the Croix de Guerre, Bronze Star and Purple Heart. After the war, he completed his undergraduate work at the University of South Carolina (USC) and attended the Medical College of South Carolina. Upon his graduation from medical school in 1951, he married Sarah deSausure Parker of Georgetown, SC. He completed his internship at the Medical College of Virginia in 1952 and his residency in Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) in 1955. Dr. Lumpkin moved to Georgetown and practiced at Georgetown Memorial Hospital from 1955 until his retirement in 1987. While there, he served as chief of staff, chief of Obstetrics and chief of Surgery. He was inducted as a fellow into the American College of OB/GYN and was a diplomate of the American Board of OB/GYN. Dr. Lumpkin was a member of numerous organizations and boards including president, MUSC Medical Alumni Association; member, South Atlantic OB/GYN Board; chair, South Carolina Historical Society; and member, Georgetown County Medical Society, South Carolina Medical Association, Winthrop Indigo Society, Georgetown Cotillion Club, Carolina Plantation Society, South Carolina Agricultural Society, St. Andrews Society, Huguenot Society, Sons of the Revolution, Society of Colonial Wars, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Centurion Club, and the USC Alumni Association. Dr. Lumpkin made major contributions to the wildlife and fisheries resources of South Carolina during his service on the Governor’s Council on Natural Resources and the Environment and as a member and vice chair of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission. He was awarded the Order of the Palmetto by Governor James B. Edwards in 1976 for his significant contributions to the State of South Carolina. Dr. Lumpkin is survived by his wife, Sarah Parker Lumpkin, and his children, Robert L. Lumpkin, Jr., Sarah deSausure Lumpkin, and Rutledge Parker Lumpkin. He has seven grandchildren.

John W. Martin, Jr., ’66, of Anderson, SC, died April 21, 2008. Dr. Martin had been a family practice physician in Anderson since 1969. He was a graduate of Furman University, where he was president of his junior class and a member of Kappa Alpha Fraternity, IOTA Chapter. He was a 1966 graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina, where he served as president of his
Kelly Tilson McKee, professor emeritus in the Department of Medicine and faculty member for more than fifty-four years, died at MUSC on October 10, 2008. He was born March 9, 1916, in Bristol, TN. He received his undergraduate degree from Emory and Henry College in 1938 and earned his medical degree from the University of Virginia in 1941, going on to complete his internship at Cincinnati General Hospital from 1941-1942 and Cardiology fellowship at the University of Virginia from 1942-1943. He served as a medical officer in the U.S. Navy for three years and returned to the University of Virginia as an Allergy fellow from 1946-1947 and as an Internal Medicine resident from 1947-1948. In 1948, McKee came to Charleston to become a chief medical resident and teaching fellow at Roper Hospital, joining the Medical College of South Carolina as an assistant professor in 1949. From 1967 to 1970, he served as acting chair of the MUSC Department of Medicine. Following his retirement in 1988, he continued to work in the Division of Internal Medicine until 2003. Dr. McKee wrote a history of the Department of Medicine on behalf of the Institution that is filed at the Waring Historical Library. He is survived by his wife of sixty years, Gladys (Sandy) Harvath McKee; sons, Kelly Tilson McKee, Jr., MD, Chapel Hill, NC, and Thomas Wray McKee, MD, Savannah, GA; and other family members.

Mary E. Millar, ’74, of Winston-Salem, NC, died October 3, 2007, after a long illness. Born in Charleston, WV, she earned a bachelor of science degree at Marshall University, a master’s degree in Public Health at the University of Michigan, a master’s degree in Bacteriology at West Virginia University, and a medical degree at the Medical University of South Carolina. Surviving are her brothers, John Millar, Winston-Salem, Jim Millar, Fort Thomas, KY, and Richard Millar, Columbia, SC.


David L. Morrow, ’94, passed away in his home, surrounded by his family, after valiantly battling brain cancer. He lived an amazing life of integrity, service and absolute goodness. Born October 18, 1961, in Salt Lake City, UT, Dr. Morrow grew up in Utah, British Columbia and Idaho. He attended college and played baseball at Utah Technical College and Brigham Young University (BYU). He served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Michigan. He then returned to BYU and met his eternal sweetheart, Stephanie Nichols. After being drafted by the Montreal Expos Baseball Organization, David and Stephanie married in the Logan Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on June 6, 1986. Their baseball venture took them to New York, Florida and Iowa. David and Stephanie sought medical school as their next adventure. They moved to Charleston, SC, and attended MUSC. As they embarked on this, they were blessed to begin their best journey of all in raising their five sons, Lendrum, McKay, Quinn, Devin, and Chase, always placing family first. Dr. Morrow joined the partnership of Charleston Bone & Joint in 1999. He thoroughly enjoyed Orthopedics and Sports Medicine. He loved helping his patients and working with the Charleston medical community. He also loved serving in church capacities, most often working with youth. Most recently he served as bishop of the Mount Pleasant Ward congregation. He volunteered many hours coaching youth sports teams and working with the Boy Scouts. He is survived by his wife and sons, Mount Pleasant, SC; father, Mel Morrow and stepmother, Marsha; siblings, Sherilyn Woodall, Michael Morrow, Melanie Fillmore, Shawn Morrow, and Shannon Hunger; and other family members.

H. Rawling Pratt-Thomas, ’38, entered into eternal life March 29, 2008. Dr. Pratt-Thomas was born in Barnsley, Yorkshire, England, on June 9, 1913. He graduated from Davidson College in 1934 with an AB degree, and later received an honorary degree from his alma mater. He was granted his medical degree from the Medical College of South Carolina in 1938. After serving his internship and residency in Pathology at Cincinnati General Hospital, he joined the MUSC Pathology Department, where he remained for forty-nine years. During this time, he served as chair of the Department and dean of the College of Medicine, as well as president of the Institution. He established the School of Cytotechnology, which was among the earliest in the nation devoted to this discipline. He was a fellow of the American College of Physicians and Surgeons, a member of Alpha Omega Alpha and the Medical Society of South Carolina, and president emeritus of the Waring Historical Library. Among his many honors, he was awarded honorary degrees from the College of Charleston, Davidson College and MUSC. Dr. Pratt-Thomas taught approximately five thousand students during his tenure. He was selected twice by his students for the Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching. His students commissioned his portrait by Robert Bruce Williams, which currently hangs at MUSC. In addition to his devotion to his family, his avocations included being a master gardener, growing orchids, painting, photography, and being an avid outdoorsman. Dr. Pratt-Thomas is survived by his wife, Mary Douglas Pratt-Thomas; children, Dorothy Pratt-Thomas Leonard, Mary Pratt-Thomas Evans, Harold Pratt-Thomas, Jr., and Erskine Pratt-Thomas; eight grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.
Robert Alexander Pringle, ‘44, of Charleston, SC, died September 20, 2008. He attended The Citadel and the College of Charleston and graduated from MUSC. He was a member of St. Philip’s Episcopal Church and The French Huguenot Church. He served as a commander in the Medical Corps in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He practiced family medicine for more than fifty years in Charleston County. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Baldock Pringle; a son, Dr. Robert A. Pringle, Jr., Mount Pleasant, SC; two daughters, Barbara Pringle Claypoole, Charleston, and Anne Pringle Graham, Johns Island, SC; six grandchildren; and other family members.

F. Gregory Pruitt, ’82, of St. Petersburg, FL, passed away May 15, 2008 after a long struggle with ALS. He worked as a radiologist at Bayfront Medical Center for fourteen years. He is survived by his loving wife of twenty-seven years, Pam, and other family members.

Jasper F. Rawl, ’54, of Fort Myers, FL, passed away June 11, 2008. A native of Columbia, SC, he moved to Fort Myers in 1960 to commence his practice of internal medicine. Dr. Rawl graduated from the University of South Carolina and earned his medical degree from the Medical College of South Carolina with honors. He completed an internship at Philadelphia General Hospital and then served the U.S. Navy in Cuba and North Africa. He was certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and became the second internist to practice in Lee County with the group later known as Bryan, Rawl, Gore, Butler, Agnew, and O’Brien. He served as president of the Lee County Medical Society and of the Lee Memorial Hospital medical staff. Dr. Rawl was an avid pilot, boatsman, churchman, and gentleman farmer. More importantly, he was a loving husband and father. He is survived by his wife of fifty-four years, Carol; three children, Greg Rawl, Fort Myers, Julie Rawl, Park City, UT, and Janet Rawl-Bourret, Houston, TX; three grandsons; and one great-granddaughter.

Frederick Richards, ’64, died December 1, 2007, in Winston-Salem, NC, from Alzheimer’s. Dr. Richards graduated from Davidson and MUSC. He practiced General Medicine in the U.S. Air Force for two years and was retired from Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University, where he taught, practiced, and conducted research in Hematology and Oncology for twenty-eight years. He was a respected physician, lecturer, and author of more than three hundred peer-reviewed clinical papers, textbook chapters, and journal articles. Dr. Richards enjoyed travel, golf, gardening, and playing with his grandchildren. He was a member of St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church. He is survived by his wife of forty-five years, Ann, and his children, Frederick Richards, III, Washington, DC, Laura Richards Craig, Dutton, MT, and Dr. Charles Richards, Charlotteville, VA.

Francis G. Shaw, ’38, died June 22, 2008. Born September 17, 1913, in Highpoint, NC, he was valedictorian of his high school class in 1931. Dr. Shaw graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1934 and the Medical College of South Carolina in 1938. He interned at Emory University’s Grady Memorial Hospital, Atlanta, GA, and returned to Camden, SC, in late 1939 to begin the practice of general medicine. Dr. Shaw was an active member of Kershaw County Memorial Hospital and served ten years on the Kershaw County Memorial Hospital board of trustees. He was instrumental in establishing and was a devoted member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Camden. Dr. Shaw was a U.S. Army Medical Corps World War II veteran, having served in the European Theatre and reaching the rank of major. Dr. Shaw was predeceased by his wife, Lillian Ann Hegler Shaw. Surviving are his children, F. Grayson Shaw, II, and Linda Shaw Lupold; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

William R. Speaks, Sr., ’51, passed away December 23, 2007, at his home. He was born March 11, 1922, in Fairfax, SC. He graduated from The Citadel and was drafted along with the entire class of 1943. He was an infantry platoon leader in the Third Army and promoted to captain, fighting through Europe, including the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman’s Badge. Dr. Speaks was presented the Bronze Star for heroic achievement on March 11, 1945, his twenty-third birthday. He completed his medical studies at the Medical College of South Carolina and interned at Columbia Hospital. He opened his practice of medicine in Leesville, SC, in 1952, practicing for fifty-two years before retiring in June 2003. Poor health prevented Dr. Speaks from enjoying his love of gardening, fishing, hunting, and working in his outdoor kitchen and his work shed. Surviving are his wife of sixty years, Elsie Hollis Speaks; daughters, Susan Ruff, Beth S. McGill, both of Leesville, Jane Cochet, Stewartstown, PA, and Frances Cox, Lexington, SC; sons, William R. Speaks, Jr., Lexington, and Barry James Speaks, Leesville; eleven grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren.

Richard A. Steadman, ’55, passed away January 14, 2008. Dr. Steadman, a native of Ridge Spring, SC, was awarded the Boy Scout Life Saving Medal and named Outstanding Boy Scout of the United States. Graduating as valedictorian of Ridge Spring High School, he went on to Wooford College, where he was a member of the Blue Key Honor Society and the Senior Order of Gnomes and was senior class president. While completing his medical degree at the Medical College of South Carolina, he was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society and finished in the top ten of his class. After a two-year internship at Greenville General Hospital, he served two years as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. In 1958, he moved to Johnston, SC, to practice medicine. Because of his love for his patients, he continued to practice both full and part-time at McCormick Family Practice and other clinics until 1999 and served on the Carolinas Health Center Board. Dr. Steadman became a life member of the American Academy of Family Physicians in 1966 as well as being selected by the Jaycees as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America. He served on the Upper Savannah Health Advisory Board, was a consulting physician for the Agromedicine Program and an FAA flight pilot examiner. Dr. Steadman was never without a joke and in 2000, he published a book entitled Laugh and Live Longer. Surviving is his wife of fifty-five years, Elizabeth “Lib” Barber Steadman, North Augusta, SC; children, Richard A. Steadman, Jr., Mt. Pleasant, SC, Mark S. Steadman, MD, Florence, SC, Laura Barnett, Pendleton, SC, and Mary Louise Smith, North Augusta; ten grandchildren; and other family members.
**John Sughrue, Jr., ’58,** of Woodstock, GA, died February 2, 2008 at his home in Georgia. Born March 15, 1932 in Charleston, SC, Dr. Sughrue graduated from the College of Charleston and the Medical College of South Carolina. He served his Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) residency at St. Agnes Hospital, Baltimore, MD. Dr. Sughrue practiced OB/GYN in Charleston from 1963-1980: GYN/Sexual Medicine in Charleston from 1980-1995; sex therapy in Hilton Head, SC, from 1995-1997; and relationship and sex therapy in Atlanta, GA, from 1997 until his death. Dr. Sughrue belonged to several associations, including the Medical Society of South Carolina; the South Carolina OB/GYN Society; the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality; and the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists (AASECT). He was a member of the AASECT Professional Education Steering Committee and was recognized in 2003 as an AASECT diplomat of Sex Therapy. He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughters, Carole Sughrue Carter, Irmo, SC, and Judith Sughrue Smith, Norcross, GA; sons, John Sughrue, III, Mechanicville, VA, Kevin T. Sughrue, Mt. Pleasant, SC, D. Michael Sughrue, Sumter, SC, and Patrick J. Sughrue, Calhoun Falls, SC; two stepsons, Lee M. Chapman, Irmo, and John D. Chapman, Spartanburg, SC; and five grandchildren.

**O. Rhett Talbert, ’45,** died peacefully in the company of family members on June 2, 2008 at Pawleys Island, SC. Born March 30, 1921, Dr. Talbert was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Wofford College and the Medical College of South Carolina. He first practiced medicine in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII, where he met and married Jean F. Heidenry in 1947. Talbert returned to Charleston, SC, after a residency at Harvard Medical School to join the College of Medicine, and in 1958 was named founding chair of the Department of Neurology. He served as chair until his retirement from the MUSC teaching faculty, when he entered private practice with Al Aiken, MD, and Tom Dukes, MD. He fully retired in 1999, and was predeceased by his second wife, Marianne M. Barone, in 2001. Dr. Talbert was a tireless community leader, serving as chair of the Trident United Way, founder and president of Charleston Alert (for which he received in 1967 the Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge Award for Excellence in promoting Americanism), a Junior Achievement board member, officer of the Porter-Gaud Fathers Association, and founding physician and board member of Trident Hospital. Dr. Talbert is survived by his children, Rhett Talbert, Jr., Murrells Inlet, SC, James Bud Talbert, Calgary, Canada, and Jan T. Patterson and Layton M. Talbert, both of Greenville, SC; seventeen grandchildren; two great-grandsons; and other family members.

**John M. Thomason, ’65,** of Florence, SC, died May 9, 2008. Born November 18, 1935 in Olanta, SC, Dr. Thomason was a 1958 graduate of Clemson College, where he was a member of the football team under Coach Frank Howard. He also graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina and later served on its Board of Visitors. He practiced medicine as a general practitioner for thirty-four years at Bruce Hospital, which later became Carolinas Hospital System, Florence. While there, he served on the board of directors for Bruce Hospital and the advisory board of Carolinas Hospital. He was a founding member and vice chair of the board of directors for the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation and had a passion for the building of the county library system. Mercy Medical honored Dr. Thomason for his work in the community. He was predeceased by his wife, Martha Bruce Thomason, and is survived by his daughters, Kristy Ellenberg of Columbia, SC, Kim Turner and Karen Munn, both of Florence, along with six grandchildren.

**G. Fraser Wilson, ’43,** died June 29, 2008. Born in Charleston, SC, on November 22, 1918, Dr. Wilson was the son of George Fraser Wilson, MD, a founding professor of Obstetrics at the Medical College of South Carolina and at Roper Hospital. Dr. Wilson graduated from the College of Charleston in 1940. His class of 1943 of the Medical College of South Carolina was called into service six months prior to graduation. He graduated from the Medical College after completing his service to his country. Wilson served with the Fifth Army Air Corps in the Pacific Theater on the Caroline Islands, Eniwetok, Okinawa, finishing his service in occupied Japan. After the war, Dr. Wilson returned to Charleston and completed his residency at the Medical College of South Carolina. He practiced Obstetrics and Gynecology with Henry W. deSausure, MD, and later established a practice with the late Dr. Watson Cordes Finger. Dr. Wilson will be remembered for his love of antiques and his dedication to Charleston’s history and material culture. He was a Life Trustee of the Historic Charleston Foundation and opened his home for house tours for thirty-nine years. Dr. Wilson was appointed to the South Carolina Governor’s Mansion Commission by Governors James B. Edwards, Richard W. Riley, Carol Campbell, David M. Beasley, James Hodges, and Mark Sanford, for which he was awarded the Order of the Palmetto for exemplary service. He was a member of the Charleston Club, the South Carolina Society, the St. Andrew’s Society, the St. Cecelia Society, the Agricultural Society, and the Carolina Yacht Club. He was a member of St. Michael’s church. On October 31, 1953, he married Adele Petigru Conner Simons, who died January 14, 2004. Dr. Wilson is survived by his sons, Francis Preston Wilson and George Fraser Wilson, Jr., both of Charleston, and three grandchildren.

**Michael S. Wilson, ’77,** of Red Bud, IL, died May 6, 2008. Dr. Wilson was a retired obstetrician/gynecologist who was loved by his many patients. He retired after twenty-five years in the U.S. Air Force and Navy. He loved music and computers. Born Sept. 22, 1941, in Ancon, Canal Zone, Dr. Wilson married Jennifer S. Whitson. He is survived by his wife; sons, Scott Wilson, Red Bud, and Joseph Wilson, AZ; daughters, Barbara Mazur, AZ, and Brenda Wyatt, TX; and two grandsons.

**Walter Dick Wright, ’50,** of Columbia, SC, died August 1, 2008. He was a graduate of Akron University and MUSC and trained in Orthopedics at Stanford University. He was commissioned in the U.S. Air Force in 1941 and had a long and illustrious career, retiring with the rank of colonel in 1972. He was a chief flight surgeon and helped develop the SR71 program. Among his awards were the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, and Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. He is survived by his wife, Doris Martin Wright; his daughter, Charlotte W. Powell; and two grandchildren.
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FACULTY ALUMNI LIAISON COMMITTEE

“The Faculty Alumni Liaison Committee (FALC) was created in 1984 by W. Marcus Newberry, MD, then dean of the College of Medicine, to serve as a liaison between students and alumni. The committee was composed of veteran faculty members who had established relationships with students. Today, the FALC also makes recommendations on the College of Medicine Distinguished and Honorary Alumni Awards, and issues like member dues increases, student support and scholarships. The FALC is made up of fifteen members who serve until they choose to step down. New members are selected when there is a vacancy. Three original members of the committee still serve to this day: Peter Gazes, MD, Henry Rittenberg, MD, and myself.”

W. Curtis Worthington, Jr., MD
FALC Chair
Class of 1952
MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stoney A. Abercrombie, MD  
President  
Class of 1976

Charles L. (“Buddy”) Garrett, Jr., MD  
Vice President  
President-elect (2009)  
Class of 1966

Charlotte E. Lindler, MD  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Class of 1976

Samuel R. Stone, MD  
Past President  
Class of 1980

W. Curtis Worthington, Jr., MD  
FALC Chair  
Class of 1952

Layton McCurdy, MD  
Vice President (2009)  
President-elect (2010)  
Class of 1960

Peter C. Gazes, MD  
College Alumni Liaison  
Class of 1944

J.G. “Jerry” Reves, MD  
Dean, ex-officio  
Class of 1969

Henry F. Butenhorn, III, MD  
Class of 1998

John J. Daly, Jr., MD  
Class of 1992

Vincent J. Degenhart, MD  
Class of 1977

William B. Evins, Jr., MD  
Class of 1960

Deborah J. Grate, MD  
Class of 1982

Thomas B. Gue, MD  
Class of 1967

Michael C. Watson, Sr., MD  
Class of 1953

J. Parks Booker, Jr., MD  
Class of 1967

Angus M. Brabham, III, MD  
Class of 1972

Joanne M. Conroy, MD  
Class of 1983

Joseph F. Flowers, MD  
Class of 1961

James O. Herbert, MD  
Class of 1972

Vernon E. Merchant, MD  
Class of 1955

Celeste H. Patrick, MD  
Class of 1982

Palmira S. Snape, MD  
Class of 1964

Rowena Sobczyk, MD  
Class of 1974

C. Guy Castles, III, MD  
Class of 1988

Veena R. Chandler, MD  
Class of 1995

Otis E. Engelman, Jr., MD  
Class of 1973

Gaines W. Hammond, Jr., MD  
Class of 1975

William W. Hope, MD  
Class of 2001

Benjamin E. Nicholson, MD  
Class of 1961

Larry R. Winn, MD  
Class of 1975

Jeannie Grooms  
Director, ex-officio
A conversation with

CHARLES L. “BUDDY” GARRETT, JR., MD

A retired pathologist specializing in forensic studies, Dr. Garrett is now a private legal medical consultant in Jacksonville, NC. As president-elect of the Medical Alumni Association, he stresses to other fellow alumni the importance of giving back to the College.

Q. What made you want to attend the College of Medicine for medical school?

A. I grew up in Simpsonville, SC, and attended Wofford College for my undergraduate degree. When I asked others what medical school they would recommend, it was unanimous that MUSC was a superior choice. And what a great bargain it was back then—$500 a year for a top-notch education.

Q. Who were some of your mentors at the College?

A. A great mentor of mine was H. Rawling Pratt-Thomas, MD, a fellow pathologist. He was more than a teacher to me; he was my friend. We hunted together, socialized and even gardened. He was an incredibly intelligent man who greatly impacted my life professionally and personally.

Q. What are other fond memories you have of the College?

A. Aside from the amazing preparation I had for my medical career, MUSC holds a special place in my heart, as it is where I met my wife, Ann, of forty-four years. She was in nursing school at MUSC while I was attending medical school.

Q. As incoming president of the Medical Alumni Association, what piece of advice do you have for alumni?

A. Many of us will never be able to give back to the College what it has given us. We should be thankful for the education we received, the career path it has allowed us to take, and the friends we made along the way. The least we can do as alumni is to support the College so that today’s students receive the same education we had—if not better. It behooves us to give back to our alma mater, as it upholds our own personal “partnership of promise” with the College.

Recipient, 2008 MUSC Joint Alumni Board’s Life Members Scholarship

“I chose MUSC for medical school because of the kind and welcoming people. The College of Medicine had a close-knit feel with all the opportunities of a larger academic center. I couldn’t imagine a better place to begin my professional career. I feel fortunate to be at MUSC with its hardworking Dean’s Office and the entire supportive faculty. I’m grateful for them and the MUSC Joint Alumni Board’s Life Members Scholarship, which is helping me become the doctor that I always wanted to be. I look forward to a career in academic medicine and pursuing my interest in diagnostic radiology.”

Annie Leylek
Third-year Medical Student
Distinguished Alumni Awards

James Dewitt Bearden, III, MD, earned his undergraduate degree from The Citadel before completing his medical degree at the Medical University of South Carolina in 1969, where he served as vice president of his class. After completing his internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Kessler Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS, Dr. Bearden did a fellowship in Hematology-Oncology at Wilford Hall United States Air Force Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology (ABI Subspecialty Board), and board eligible in Hematology. Dr. Bearden was the first board-certified oncologist in the State of South Carolina. He and his wife, Ann, have two sons, James D. Bearden, IV, and Clayton K. Bearden, and two daughters, Sarah Jane Bearden Vaughn and Melissa Bearden Kocisko.

“Dr. Bearden has devoted his career to patients and families fighting cancer. From the moment you step through the door of the Gibbs Cancer Center, you know it is a special place; a center that meets the therapeutic, emotional, spiritual, educational, and rehabilitative needs of the cancer patient. Adjoining the Gibbs Cancer Center is the new breast cancer center, named the Bearden-Josey Center for Breast Health, for which he, along with another renowned oncologist, Julian Josey, MD, were honored in August 2008. Dr. Bearden was one of the founders of the hospice program and the first inpatient hospice unit. A very loyal alumnus, he has always been an ardent supporter of MUSC cancer activities. He spearheaded the collaboration of Spartanburg with the MUSC Gastrointestinal Center of Economic Excellence. He has always been a role model and team player in putting the care of his cancer patients as a first priority. His collaborative philosophy benefits MUSC, his profession and patients.”

Jerry Reves, MD
Dean, College of Medicine
Vice President for Medical Affairs
Medical University of South Carolina

A. Frederick Schild, MD, is a 1957 graduate of the MUSC College of Medicine. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 1953, completed his internship at Los Angeles County Hospital, and did his residencies at the Medical University of South Carolina and the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital. A professor of Clinical Surgery at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Dr. Schild has served during his career as chief of Surgery at several hospitals in the Miami area. His publication list is extensive, both peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed, and his impressive resumé of funded research is principally in the field of vascular surgery. Among his many honors is the Physician’s Recognition Award for outstanding service, leadership, and dedication to all general surgeons as president of the American Society of General Surgeons. He and his wife, Judith, have one son, Bill Schild, and one daughter, Mrs. Jeffrey (Lisa) Henschel.

“Dr. Schild’s parents were first generation immigrants to the United States; his mother arrived from Lithuania when she was three years old; his father came from Austria, alone, at the age of fourteen. His early education was in Conway, SC, and is noteworthy in that he graduated as co-valedictorian of his high school and was voted by the senior class as ‘most likely to succeed’ and ‘most athletic.’ He lettered in basketball, baseball and football. Following high school, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at the University of North Carolina. Immediately following his residency, he was inducted into the U.S. Army and assigned to the eleventh evacuation hospital in Pusan, Korea. During this tour of duty, he had the opportunity to render care to the commanding general for non-combat related injuries, thereby ingratiating himself to his superior officers.”

C. Dayton Riddle, Jr., MD
Chair Emeritus
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center
Maria G. Buse, MD
2008 Honorary Alumna
Distinguished University Professor
Medical University of South Carolina

Maria G. Buse, MD, is an alumna of Pazmany Peter University School of Medicine in Budapest, Hungary; the University of Basel School of Medicine in Basel, Switzerland; and the University of Buenos Aires School of Medicine in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She completed her internship at Rivadavia Teaching Hospital in Buenos Aires, a research fellowship at the Instituto de Biología y Medicina Experimental in Buenos Aires, and a fellowship in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital and Cox Institute. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine.

A member of the MUSC faculty for fifty-one years, Dr. Buse serves in the Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Medical Genetics Division of the Department of Medicine. In 2003, she received the Distinguished University Professor award, MUSC’s highest academic designation. She was the first woman in MUSC’s history to receive the honor. Throughout her career, she has mentored and inspired hundreds of young people to achieve their goals of becoming physicians and researchers, and is much loved and respected.

Among her many other academic honors are the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Science and the Albert Renold Award for Distinguished Research, given by the American Diabetes Association (ADA). This award constitutes the top research honor given by the ADA. Dr. Buse remarked, “The entire research community is built on trust. You have to trust yourself and the people who work with you. Research shouldn’t be about incentives and how much people get paid, but should be done because it is the researcher’s love.”

Dr. Buse is the author of more than one hundred and fifty publications and recipient of almost fifty years of continuous National Institutes of Health funding. When asked the secret to her remarkably high level of sustained productivity, Dr. Buse replied, “I believe in delivering the goods. It’s that simple.” Dr. Maria Buse and her husband, the late John Buse, MD, have two sons and one daughter: Drs. Paul and John Buse and Mrs. Charles (Elizabeth) King.

“Dr. Buse is truly an outstanding individual whose career has enriched MUSC for many decades.”

Jerry Reves, MD
Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean

“Dr. Buse has affected so many lives and careers in profound and positive ways. We are truly privileged to have someone like Maria, who contributes so much to society, as a member of our faculty.”

John Raymond, MD
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

“We are deeply grateful for the contributions made by Dr. Buse during her extraordinary career. Over the past five decades, Maria has made a tremendous impact upon the lives of countless individuals across our campus, and we are honored to count her among our own.”

Ray Greenberg, MD, PhD
President
February 11 ............................................. Dean's State of the College Address
5 PM, Basic Science Building Auditorium, MUSC

March 20-21 ......................................... College of Medicine Reunion Weekend
This special annual event is for all medical alumni, including residents.
NEW! Young Alumni Party for Classes of 2000 - 2008! Register at 843.792.7979 or 888.202.9306.

Friday, March 20
Society of 1824 Reception (for reunion members)
Home of Dean and Mrs. Jerry Reves
167 Rutledge Avenue

Alumni Oyster Roast
Charleston Visitors’ Center
375 Meeting Street
7 PM

Saturday, March 21
Continuing Medical Education Conference
9 AM, Country Club of Charleston
Conference Speakers:
  James Betts, MD, Director, Trauma Services,
  Children’s Hospital Oakland
  David Cole, MD, Chair, Department of Surgery,
  MUSC
  Andrew Kraft, MD, Director, Hollings Cancer
  Center, MUSC

Alumni Awards Luncheon
Noon, Country Club of Charleston
2009 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients:
  H. Biemann Othersen, MD, Class of 1953
  Grady H. Hendrix, MD, Class of 1958
2009 Honorary Alumnus Award Recipient:
  Fred A. Crawford, Jr., MD

Young Alumni Party: Classes 2000-2008
7 PM

For more information on alumni affairs, contact:
Jeannie Grooms
Director, Medical Alumni Affairs
843.792.3433
groomsj@musc.edu

April 11 .................................................. College of Medicine Charity Ball
www.musc.edu/charityball

April 23-25 ......................................... South Carolina Medical Association Meeting
Hilton Head Marriott

May 14 .................................................. Golden Grads Induction and Fifty-Year Reunion

May 15 .................................................. MUSC Commencement Exercises

Up-to-date information regarding Continuing Medical Education can be obtained online at http://cme.musc.edu or by calling 843.876.1925 or 866.637.6835.
THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE BY THE NUMBERS

583 Medical Students
59 MD/PhD Students
218 Graduate Students
408 Residents
173 Fellows
164 Basic Science Faculty
925 Clinical Science Faculty
242 Tenured Faculty

971 Grants
412 Principal Investigators
300,800 Square Feet of Research Lab
Space for College Investigators

$88,601,950 NIH Grant Dollars
$109,918,677 NIH and Federal Grant Dollars
$66,172,615 Non-Federal Grant Dollars
$176,091,292 Total College Research Grant Dollars

846,757 Ambulatory Visits
33,728 MUHA Admissions
696,000 VA Medical Center Ambulatory Visits
4,200 VA Medical Admissions

$242,483,969 Consolidated Annual Revenue for University Medical Associates
$429,750,751 College of Medicine Expenditures
$38,606,351 State Dollars for These Expenditures
9% Expenditures Derived from State Dollars

$60,093,022 Philanthropic Gifts
6,200 Current Alumni
21% Alumni Making Philanthropic Gifts

Percent of Expenditures Funded by the State

Total Research Funding

Total MUSC Ambulatory Visits
This year’s annual report is entitled *A Partnership of Promise*, and as we draw our review to a close, it is important to reflect once more on the meaning of this phrase, or at least the meaning to this writer. The dictionary defines partnership as the state or condition of being a partner: a person who shares or is associated with another in some action or endeavor.

The Medical College is certainly a partnership. Our students work with each other and our faculty and residents to become physicians and scientists. Our faculty and residents work with each other in teaching, learning and caring for the sick. Although we develop our students and residents to be self-sufficient, independent-thinking professionals, if we do our work properly we also instill in them the deepest sense of awareness for the many partners who will help them be outstanding physicians and scientists.

We have many other partners as well—our patients with whom we work to help them achieve better health, our colleagues with whom we develop and share our scientific knowledge, and the countless employees and volunteers who assist us in reaching our many critical goals. We also have our alumni and friends, for whom we are profoundly grateful in their ongoing support of our missions—these are our essential partners, as well.

What then of promise? It is defined as both an express assurance on which expectation is based and also as an indication of future excellence or achievement. Everything that we do holds promise for a better tomorrow. Whether it is the education of our students, the scientific work in our laboratories and at the bedside, the care of our patients, or the philanthropic support generously given to assist us in all these endeavors, in all there is the fervent belief that our work will make for a better world, one success at a time.

This has been a most remarkable year for the Medical College. We have all relied on our many partnerships in these troubling financial times, keeping our eyes focused on the promise of our work: creating a better tomorrow for our students, staff, faculty, patients, alumni, friends, and society. The very meaning of the word college invokes our inviolate, collective sense of self: an organized association of persons having certain powers and rights, performing essential duties or engaged in a particular pursuit. Despite considerable adversity, our pursuit remains excellence.

Until next year,

Jerry Reves, MD
Dean, College of Medicine