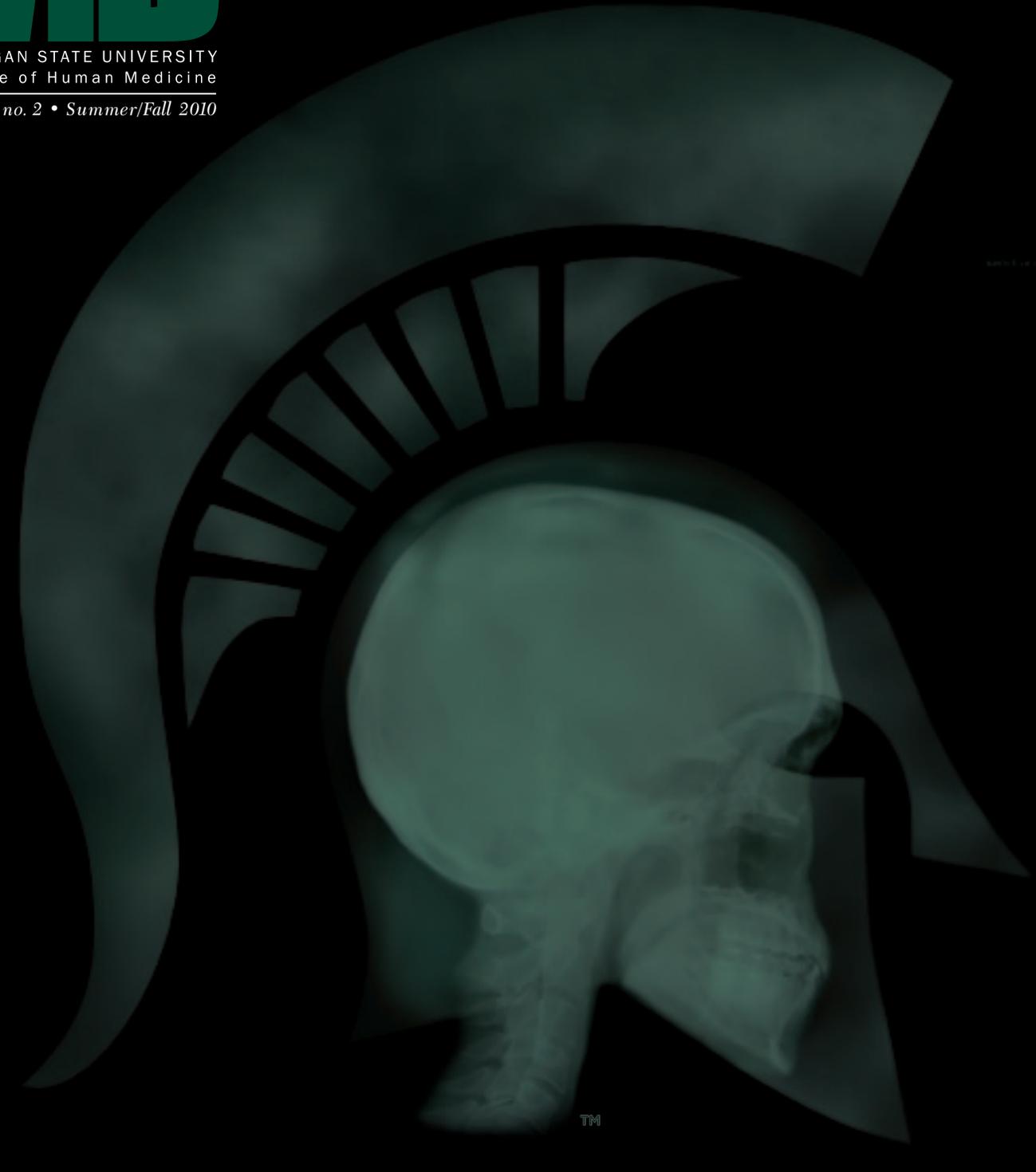
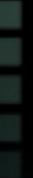


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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
College of Human Medicine

Vol. 30, no. 2 • Summer/Fall 2010

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Our new medical school is turning heads.

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*Look who is  
turning heads!*

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#### ON THE COVER:

MSU College of Human Medicine debuts “MD Sparty” with the opening of the Secchia Center.



## College of Human Medicine: An Anchor in the Sea of Changing Health Care Attitudes

*“The young people who are learning to be doctors right now come in with a set of ideas and a very strong determination to make the world a better place and it’s our responsibility to give them the tools to do that.”*

—Dean Marsha D. Rappley, M.D.

Dean Marsha D. Rappley, M.D., (CHM '84) is leading the College of Human Medicine team in preparation for the grand opening of the \$90 million Secchia Center. This will mark the nation’s largest medical school expansion and enhance the College of Human Medicine’s presence as a leader in medical education.

“The Secchia Center symbolizes the partnerships that made this possible,” said Dean Rappley. “Spectrum Health will contribute \$55 million over the next 20 years and the Van Andel Institute and Saint Mary’s Health Care have contributed funding for a \$30 million research portfolio.

When the College of Human Medicine was founded in 1964, it was recognized for its unique teaching model and emphasis on patient care. Now, as national attitudes toward health care continue to change, the public, physicians and researchers are once again watching the College of Human Medicine.

In the coming weeks, the Grand Rapids-based Secchia Center will become the college headquarters, hosting 250 medical students and nearly 100 staff, faculty and researchers. The growing research enterprise includes a \$6.8 million center of excel-

lence for women’s reproductive health and a \$6.2 million Morris K. Udall Center of Excellence for Parkinson’s disease research.

“I think the values and the mission of the College of Human Medicine are more relevant today than ever,” said Dean Rappley. “As we have expanded our class size we continue to graduate a group of physicians who are choosing careers in primary care and the majority are living and working in Michigan after they graduate.”

While Dean Rappley has worked tremendously hard to address primary care physician shortages on a statewide level by heading up a large medical school expansion and developing programs that encourage graduates to remain in-state, she is also working with other health care professionals to educate the federal government about the importance of lifting funding caps on medical training after medical school.

Hospital systems sponsoring residency programs receive a limited amount of federal funding. If a hospital wants to increase the number of residents training to be family medicine physicians, it then has to reduce the number of residencies available for other specialties.

“It’s a trade-off and we’d like to be in a position where we don’t have to make reductions particularly in areas that have great state and national need,” Dean Rappley said. “If there’s a need for a certain specialty, we’d like to say we’re going to increase that without decreasing another program.”

Dean Rappley, a practicing pediatrician, is also working with the federal government to ensure the well-being of children and teenagers is at the forefront of changing federal policy.

“One of the big changes that has happened in the last few years is what has happened with pediatrics,” said Dr. Rappley, who recently completed a four-year term as chair of the Pediatric Advisory Committee for the FDA. “A few years ago Congress passed legislation that made it possible for the FDA to require that the pharmaceutical industry do more focused testing of its products on children.”

In the past, the FDA used data from adult studies to theoretically determine how medication would impact children and teenagers.

“Now we have much more information coming in about how children react to medications differently than adults. This is



Dean Marsha D. Rappley, M.D., (CHM '84), continues to build the College of Human Medicine’s reputation for emphasizing exemplary patient care. Dean Rappley is also overseeing the construction of the \$90 million Secchia Center, which is the largest medical expansion in the country.

because Congress set this as a priority. That is a huge change and I’m really excited about it.”

Though pediatricians and parents have more access to information regarding medication for children, Dr. Rappley is concerned with the way in which pharmaceutical information is disseminated.

“There are many troubling issues when medications are promoted in the same way in which beer is promoted,” Dr. Rappley said about the direct marketing of pharmaceuticals. “I don’t see any changes in that occurring soon.”

Dean Rappley will continue working with the FDA to improve medical access to children and young adults while also increasing the College of Human Medicine’s research portfolio, expanding its training facilities and its international presence.

As a leader of a task force in the Association of American Medical Colleges’ (AAMC) Council of Deans, Dean Rappley is examining how medical schools can best meet expectations of the public.

“The young people who are learning to be doctors right now come in with a set of ideas and a very strong determination to

make the world a better place and it’s our responsibility to give them the tools to do that,” Dr. Rappley said.

And what better way to do that than by giving them access to another four-year campus and a growing list of some of the country’s best researchers?

# Serving the People: 35 Years of Family Medicine



By APRIL ALLISON

In retrospect, it seems a given that a Department of Family Medicine would be core to the College of Human Medicine since the college was founded in 1964 in response to Michigan's need for primary care physicians. The College of Human Medicine was the nation's first community-integrated medical school with a curriculum emphasizing a patient-centered philosophy and a biopsychosocial approach to patient care.

But when the college was established in 1964, family medicine did not exist as a specialty. It took another five years before the American Medical Association Council on Medical Education and the American Board of Medical Specialties granted approval for a certifying board in family medicine.

Even then our founding dean, Andrew D. Hunt, Jr., M.D., was cautious about the idea of a separate department of family medicine. It wasn't that he felt primary care was unimportant. He was determined the values and concepts of primary care would permeate all departments and would be integral to all medical training.

At this time, a groundswell of support for family medicine had begun. The first three family medicine residency programs in Michigan became affiliated with the College of Human Medicine and were directed by Harold "Pat" Crow, M.D., of Sparrow Hospital in Lansing; Lewis Simoni, M.D., of

St. Joseph Hospital in Flint; and Roy Gerard, M.D., of Saginaw Cooperative Hospitals. In 1969, then medical student James Weatherhead, M.D., (CHM '72), was a prime mover in establishing a campus family medicine club to generate interest among students in the new specialty.

When Hunt established a committee to explore the idea of a department of family medicine in February 1971, the country only had nine departments of family medicine. In August 1974, Gerard was selected as chair.

During the next year, Gerard created the state's first department of family medicine. Start-up funding was facilitated by a substantial four-year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. After secretary Suzy Barber, a graduate assistant named Blake W.H. Smith became the second employee in the newly formed department in 1975.

During its first years, the department created or supported clerkship opportunities in family and rural medicine and developed its own family medicine residency at St. Lawrence Hospital. What may have been the nation's first Family Medicine Research Day was initiated in 1977 and continues to be an annual celebration.

Gerard emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary teams in health care.



Roy Gerard, M.D.

Douglas McKeag, M.D., (CHM '73) and David Hough, M.D., developed a strong sports medicine program and O'Brien encouraged geriatric care within family medicine. Blake W.H. Smith, Ph.D., added a strong interest in international health care.

In 1992, William C. Wadland, M.D., M.S., was selected chairperson of the department, a position he still holds. Much of his research has focused on smoking cessation, and the department has developed leadership in this area.

In 1999, through collaboration with the University of Michigan and Wayne State University, the Michigan Consortium for Family Practice Research was established and staffed on campus. This has evolved into the Great Lakes Research

Much may have changed in the practice of family medicine, but the ability to perform a basic suture is still vital for the family physician. During a Family Medicine Interest Group meeting, medical students practice knot tying and suture techniques with the assistance of Instructor Brian Rayala, M.D.

Into Practice Network (GRIN), a statewide primary care research network of office practices.

New department initiatives include building models of the patient-centered medical home within our teaching practices; providing leadership for discovery, service and training in geriatrics through a network of fellowship programs across Michigan; and developing a statewide administrative and academic home for the medical directors in public health across supported by the leadership of the Michigan Department of Community Health.

The recent expansion of the College of Human Medicine into Grand Rapids prompted the faculty to explore the concept of remaining a unified, active and visible department under a single chairperson. This new departmental structure includes creation of an associate chairperson position for Grand Rapids now filled by John E. VanSchagen, M.D., (CHM '88).

The Department of Family Medicine recently added two new divisions. The Preventive Medicine and Public Health Division (PMPHD) creates new linkages among local public health department medical directors, MSU and the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to improve the delivery of public health services.

The new Geriatrics and Gerontology Division encourages the development of

geriatric fellowships on the college's community campuses. In 2009 the division opened a comprehensive memory disorders program developed in partnership with the MSU Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology.

*History was abridged from Roy J. Gerard and April L. Allison, The Conscience of Medicine: A History of Family Practice in Michigan, 1998.*



## Mark Your Calendar

Friday, Oct. 15, 2010

The Department of Family

Medicine will host

"Shaping the Future of Family

Medicine," a luncheon

celebrating the

Department of Family

Medicine's 35th anniversary.

## College of Human Medicine and Zhejiang University Sign Education Agreement

*“China is undergoing massive health care reform and it will be an invaluable opportunity for our students and faculty...”*

By **JASON CODY**

The College of Human Medicine has signed an agreement with Zhejiang University that will increase research and medical training in China and Michigan.

The agreement, signed during a ceremony at MSU, encourages faculty from both universities to visit each other, collaborate on research projects and jointly apply for international grants. The pact also calls for up to six students from each school to study for up to one year at the other site.

“This is an exciting opportunity for our students in expanding their medical education and experiences,” said College of Human Medicine Dean Marsha D. Rappley, M.D. “China is undergoing massive health care reform and it will be an invaluable opportunity for our students and faculty to be able to share in that experience and learn from their model.”

A four-person Chinese delegation spent a day in East Lansing, learning about the College of Human Medicine’s academic programs, touring the Learning Assessment Center and Biomedical and Physical Sciences building and meeting with MSU researchers about potential collaborations.

“It’s very important for our school of medicine to expand internationally and this is a historic opportunity for us,” said He Haung, associate dean at Zhejiang University. “I think the student exchange and faculty partnerships are just the beginning.”



A Chinese delegation spends the day in East Lansing learning about MSU and the College of Human Medicine’s academic programs. Left to right: Dean Marsha D. Rappley, M.D., MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon, Dr. Hai Yu, Office of International Relations, Zhejiang University and MSU Provost Kim Wilcox.

### Highlights of the partnership:

- MSU faculty will provide training to Zhejiang faculty at both sites to promote curriculum development and use of a common curriculum for those Chinese faculty delivering courses in English.
- The two schools will create opportunities for collaboration, promoting the faculty of each school to visit the other school for a variety of teaching and/or research activities and professional development.
- MSU and Zhejiang may send and accept up to six students each year for education and learning opportunities. The agreement expands upon a general partnership MSU signed with Zhejiang University in 2006 concerning educational training and academic projects.

## MSU Leader Among U.S. Medical Schools for “Social Mission”

When it comes to “social mission,” the College of Human Medicine ranks among the top medical schools in the country for producing doctors who are minorities, practice primary care or work in underserved areas,

Of the 141 medical schools in the Annals of Internal Medicine study, the MSU College of Human Medicine ranked 6th overall on social mission and 7th for underrepresented minorities in its student population.

“Our community-focused college is based on a social mission,” said Dr. Marsha D. Rappley, dean for the College of Human Medicine. “We respond to the needs of the medically underserved, whether it is training primary care doctors, providing students clinical experience with underserved populations or offering medical school admission opportunities to students who wish to practice in underserved areas of medicine.”

The study’s researchers, from George Washington University, the Children’s National Medical Center and Robert Graham Center, all in Washington, D.C., concluded that medical

Traditional assessments of medical schools often value research funding, student entrance test scores and subjective assessments over actual educational output of each school, particularly regarding the number of graduates who enter primary care, practice in underserved areas and are underrepresented minorities.

“This is the first published journal study that measures the contributions made by community-focused medical schools like MSU,” added Dean Rappley. “It is an honor and a privilege to be a social mission leader among U.S. medical schools.”

*“This is the first published journal study that measures the contributions made by community-focused medical schools like MSU”*

schools vary substantially in their contribution to the social mission of medical education.

### Dr. Vernon J. Ehlers receives MSU College of Human Medicine’s David Van Andel Life Sciences Achievement Award

United States Representative Vernon J. Ehlers was honored as recipient of the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine David Van Andel Life Sciences Achievement Award at the May 10 Economic Club luncheon in downtown Grand Rapids. Dr. Ehlers was honored by MSU for his advocacy in Congress for the advancement of science education and basic research. Dean Marsha D. Rappley presented the award to Ehlers and announced a scholarship in his name that will be presented to an exceptional MSU College of Human Medicine student.

“Congressman Ehlers has been an advocate for the life sciences and his support for research funding has become increasingly important to MSU as we have expanded the College of Human Medicine and the developed research partnerships with the Van Andel Institute, Spectrum Health and Saint Mary’s Health Care,” said Dr. Rappley.



## Geriatric Center of Michigan Increases Statewide Medical Training

The Geriatric Education Center of Michigan (GECM) is on a mission to train as many health care providers as possible in geriatric health.

The GECM, located within the College of Human of Medicine, is finishing a \$1.2 million Health Services Research Administration (HRSA) grant designed to train health care providers, including doctors, dentists, social workers, nurses and physical therapists, about the basic tenants of geriatric care.

Eight teams of multidisciplinary health care providers from Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Detroit, Lansing, Flint, Saginaw, Traverse City and Marquette were selected to receive an intensive 40 hours of geriatric training in East Lansing. The teams were trained in preventative care. They also learned about immunizations important to the geriatric community, how to prevent falls, how to handle assisted living issues and how to recognize early signs of dementia.

“What we’re trying to do is simultaneously provide the teams with excellent training so they can turn around and provide similar trainings in their communities,” said Jeffrey Dwyer, Ph.D., director of the GECM and associate dean for research and community engagement at the College of Human Medicine.

After the eight teams received training, they trained other health care providers in their regions about geriatric care.

“We believe there is certain core information that everyone needs to have, but the teams also need to determine what additional training will be beneficial to their region,” Dwyer said.



Jeffrey Dwyer, Ph.D.

*“What we’re trying to do is simultaneously provide the teams with excellent training so they can turn around and provide similar trainings in their communities.”*

For example, the Grand Rapids team is focusing on oral health. Other groups are focusing on dementia and depression.

“In rural areas, many of the professionals have never had any specific training in geriatrics and in some cases, more than half of the people in those areas are over 65,” Dwyer said.

The multidisciplinary approach is important as it allows health care providers, who may not be in contact with one another, to communicate about geriatric care.

“A dentist who has received this training might recognize mild cognitive impairment of dementia while the person is sitting in the chair, which could be particularly important if the person hasn’t seen a physician for some time,” Dwyer said.

“Our overall goal is to improve care for the elderly in the region,” he said.

The Geriatric Education Center of Michigan is working with the College of Human Medicine to train physicians who are interested in specializing in geriatric care.

“Right now we have a number of residency programs that are willing to develop

fellowships in geriatric care,” said William Wadland, M.D., professor and chair of the Department of Family Medicine. “We have a \$1 million (HSRA) grant over three years for the establishment of an administrative division on geriatrics and gerontology in CHM Family Medicine that supports the development of new fellowship programs in geriatrics as a network model.”

All of the GECM educational efforts build on the Geriatric Education Center’s historical efforts to improve patient care.

“We wouldn’t be doing this if all of the excellent people before us hadn’t been working on geriatric care,” Dwyer said.

## Flint Student Joins Haiti Relief Effort



When the cataclysmic earthquake hit Haiti Jan. 12, fourth-year Flint student David Chao interrupted his work with underserved populations in the United States and headed straight into the melee.

“I wanted to take something practical that I knew how to do and help others,” Chao said.

Chao went to Haiti with a group of 10 medical volunteers with the Enoch Choi Foundation in February. Landing in the Dominican Republic, the group traveled by bus to the Haitian border and then continued to Port-Au-Prince.

“Landing in Santo Domingo sort of buffered the situation,” he said. “But when we got to the Haitian border, two international relief aid workers pointed us to sacks of rice imprinted with the U.S. flag displayed on the street and told us some donated foreign items were being sold and obviously not reaching the intended targets.”

Once the group of 10 arrived in Haiti, they set up makeshift clinics and got to work.

“It wasn’t until we got to Port-au-Prince that we started seeing consecutive piles of rubble, house after house, building after building,” he said. “The devastation was just catastrophic, yet in the middle of



all this, the people were generally doing their best to get on with their lives.”

Chao’s group set up a clinic next to a tent city serving approximately 200 Haitians. They distributed medication, set up a triage area, wound station, general care areas and a women’s health station. During their stay, the team moved locations and also assisted a medical team in one of the only standing hospitals.

“We probably saw 700 patients while we were there, about 150 a day,” Chao said.

Though wounds resulting from the earthquake were ample, Chao was dually surprised by the overall lack of health care as he assisted many patients suffering from dehydration, malnutrition, anemia and high blood pressure.

Left: Fourth-year student David Chao assists a man who was paralyzed by the Haiti earthquake. Above: One of hundreds of buildings destroyed by the earthquake.

“Even though there’s a great career ahead of me, there’s still a lot of people in this world who need help and I made a promise to myself not to let that be a one time experience,” he said.

## Grand Rapids Students Devote Time to Refugees Health Care Education

*“We have so much and this [the Engaged Partners Project] is one way we can help people who are in need.”*

Explaining pre-natal care to a 22-year-old Burmese refugee who doesn't speak English is a challenge, but students participating in the Engaged Partners Project at the College of Human Medicine Grand Rapids campus refuse to let language be a barrier to access to health care for refugees.



“This program makes you take a step back and be thankful for what you have,” said third-year student Kristen Dazy, who has participated in the program for two consecutive semesters. “We have so much and this is one way we can help people who are in need.”

The Engaged Partners Project is an interdisciplinary partnership with Grand Rapids-based Bethany Christian Services, the College of Human Medicine Grand Rapids campus and several governmental agencies, and is designed to provide health care education to refugees. Participating students prepare several educational presentations and then break into groups where they focus on individual families.

Dazy and her partner Dan Walters work with a 22-year-old Burmese woman and her family, which includes her husband, two small children and her half brother.

“We went to their apartment and it was nearly empty,” Dazy said. “They had a single couch and a mattress on the floor

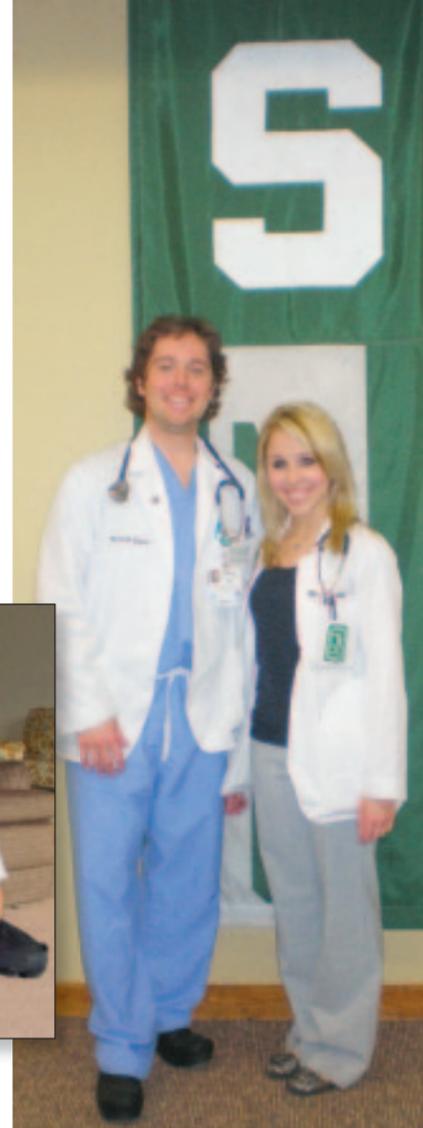
where I assume the kids sleep and no other furniture. They also had a mini fridge with some food on top of it. You don't see that everyday.”

With the help of a translator, Dazy and Walters explained the importance of pre-natal care, explained what the mother should do if she experienced contractions or other problems with her pregnancy.

“But they have no way of getting to the hospital or calling 911 so it's very difficult,” Dazy said.

Dazy and Walters took it upon themselves to bring the woman to her pre-natal visits and made sure she had access to basic necessities such as diapers and car seats. They also helped the family enroll in the WIC Program, made sure the children were treated for anemia and educated the mother about contraception.

“Some day I want to go overseas, but finding the time right now is a problem,” Dazy said. “The Engaged Partners Program is the perfect situation because I can help people from other countries who



Third-year students Dan Walters and Kristen Dazy divide their time between in-hospital education and assisting Burmese refugees as part of the Engaged Partners Project.

need medical care in an area where I know the medical system and feel comfortable.”

Dazy's older brother, Kevin Dazy, is also a third-year student at the Grand Rapids campus.

“It was nice to come to school with someone I knew,” said Kristen Dazy. “We're both embarking on the same journey.”

## Third-Year Student Follows Research From California to Korea to Kalamazoo

Wilson Chang, a third-year College of Human Medicine Kalamazoo campus student, technically started medical research before being accepted to medical school.

During his undergraduate studies at the University California Irvine, Chang conducted clinical research regarding obesity in children. Surprised by the prominence of obesity in children, Chang enrolled in Dartmouth's public health program.

After getting his master's degree, he started a corporate job in Boston, where he observed public health models and hospital system efficiencies.

Chang and his colleagues spent months monitoring U.S. hospitals, but then turned to international models, which landed Chang in his home country of Korea. While in Korea, he received a message from the College of Human Medicine welcoming him to medical school.

“I had several mentors who were Michigan State alumni and they had very good things to say about their experience,” he said about his decision to pursue the College of Human Medicine above other medical schools.

The College of Human Medicine complements Chang's interest in patient care as well as his interest in public health research.

“I was a little hesitant at first to continue research during medical school,” Chang said. “During my undergraduate years I did clinical research, but I got to interact with children and it was great to have contact with people. I realized that it's just as intriguing to continue research at this level.”

Since the fall of 2009, Chang has been researching varying aspects of liver injury during periods of reduced blood flow with Luis Toledo, M.D., Ph.D., director of research at the College of Human Medicine's Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies. The research team has submitted four



Third-year student Wilson Chang visits the Junju Museum in Korea.

*“I had several mentors who were Michigan State alumni and they had very good things to say about their experience.”*

papers, one of which addresses the impact intracellular calcium has on the liver during varying phases of ischemic injury.

“Calcium is present inside the liver cell in its natural state, but something happens to it when there's trauma,” Chang said. “You would think the restoration of blood flow would help restore the liver function, but that's not the case.”

Instead, the restoration of blood flow further damages the liver, which may be attributed, in part, to the drastic change in intracellular calcium levels throughout the injury.

The team has also researched the impact molecular mediators/mechanisms such as TLR receptors, HMGB1, EPCK-1 have on disrupting the integrity of liver cells.

“Research is very important and it is my goal to be involved in research in one form or another throughout my career,” he said. “The great thing about medical school is that it gives you a great deal of autonomy to be a good researcher on the path to becoming a qualified physician.”



Always teaching, always learning. Dr. John Armstrong, M.D., (CHM '76) works with third-year students Meg Park and Tim LaBonte at Sparrow Hospital.

## Lansing Alumnus Thrives on Give and Take Relationship with Students

On a typical afternoon at Sparrow Hospital, College of Human Medicine Lansing campus alumnus, John Armstrong, M.D., (CHM '76) didn't deviate from his duties for a moment, despite the beginning of an interview.

Armstrong followed a man into an elevator who was having difficulty and directed him to his appropriate location.

*"I've always thought that by teaching, I learn more from the residents than what I actually teach them."*

"I got into medicine because I liked science and biology," Armstrong said. "I thought medicine would be a good way to combine those interests with a humanistic profession."

A father of four and avid sailor, Armstrong is the director of critical care services, director of internal medicine residency training and chairman of internal medicine teaching staff at the Sparrow Regional Medical Center.

After graduating from the College of

Human Medicine in 1976 and completing a pulmonary fellowship, Armstrong returned to the college as an assistant clinical professor of medicine in 1982.

"I've always thought that by teaching, I learn more from the students than I actually teach them," said Armstrong, who works with third and fourth-year College of Human Medicine students, critical care

services residents and students engaged in pulmonary rotations. "They have different perspectives and expose you to insights you might not have had. It's a growing experience."

Armstrong shared one of his recent student-initiated learning experiences. His student, who was on the critical care service rotation, discovered a complication in a patient suffering from respiratory failure that other doctors and residents had missed.

The student showed Armstrong a spot he had identified underneath the skin of the patient's abdomen, a malignancy that explained the persistent pneumonia.

"A student noticed that," Armstrong said. "The attending, the residents and the interns — all of us missed it. What that taught me was that in a culture where everybody feels they have a role to play, even if they're a student, they can make significant contributions. Medicine is a team process and sometimes answers come to the team from the most unexpected places."

Armstrong comes from a family of lawyers, but the Armstrong trend toward law may be changing. One of Armstrong's four children, Matthew, 26, just graduated from the College of Human Medicine in May.

"It's fun watching him grow," Armstrong said. "It's fun watching all of them grow, but it's a little unique to have your child go to medical school like you."

## MidMichigan Health and the College of Human Medicine Announce Midland Regional Campus



Dean Marsha D. Rappley, M.D., (CHM '84) and MidMichigan Health President Richard Reynolds sign an agreement to create the College of Human Medicine's Midland Regional Campus. Standing is MidMichigan Health Board Chair William Henderson.

The College of Human Medicine and MidMichigan Health are establishing a new regional medical campus in Midland. The partnership is the result of shared goals to educate medical students within a health care system that values quality and provides care to a widely dispersed city and rural community.

The agreement was signed in May by Richard M. Reynolds, president of MidMichigan Health, and College of Human Medicine Dean Rappley. The partnership expands the College of Human Medicine's capacity for third- and fourth-year medical students in the middle of Michigan by adding more student placements at four new hospitals from MidMichigan Health in addition to current student rotations at Saginaw-based hospitals Covenant

Healthcare and St. Mary's of Michigan. The Midland campus has educational sites in MidMichigan Medical Center-Midland, MidMichigan Medical Center-Clare, MidMichigan Medical Center-Gladwin, Gratiot Medical Center in Alma and the Saginaw hospitals.

The College of Human Medicine is looking to increase its number of medical students in mid Michigan from an average of 18 per year currently in Saginaw to more than 30 at the Midland Regional Campus.

"We are pleased that MidMichigan Health joins MSU in providing an amazing experience for our medical students that is rooted in quality primary care," said Dr. Rappley. "We can now increase the number of students exposed to the wonderful physician role models in Midland, Saginaw,



*"We are pleased that MidMichigan Health joins MSU in providing an amazing experience for our medical students that is rooted in quality primary care."*

— Dean Rappley

Alma, Clare and Gladwin. This is extremely important in helping students see careers and family opportunities for themselves in Michigan communities where they are valued and needed."

The College of Human Medicine consistently ranks above the 95th percentile among medical schools whose graduates choose to practice primary care.

Currently 15 third-year and eight fourth-year medical students study in Saginaw. Plans call for the students to rotate, starting in July 2011, through various medical disciplines and specialty areas at the six hospitals.

As part of the transition, Paula Klose, M.D., (CHM '86) a family medicine physician in Midland, will take the role of acting community assistant dean. Rae Schnuth, Ph.D., who served as community assistant dean for the Saginaw campus, will continue to oversee the college's Leadership in Medicine for the Underserved program.

*“Interaction with the students and staff at TC West High School gives our students an opportunity to display the significant attributes of being a College of Human Medicine student.”*



Caption



## Traverse City Reaches Out to High School Students

BY MEAGAN POLAKOWSKI

“Is being a med student like the TV show ‘Scrubs?’” asked a Traverse City West High School student after third-year student Colleen Lane gave a presentation about life as a medical student.

“Actually, the humor in ‘Scrubs’ is similar to reality,” Lane said. Lane, who attends the College of Human Medicine’s Traverse City campus, likened the back-and-forth banter between attendings and medical students to some of the dialogue in the medical series.

Lane was visiting the school as part of a new partnership between the college’s Traverse City campus, Traverse City West High School and Munson Medical Center. The program is designed to reach out to the community and engage with high school students interested in attending medical school.

“Interaction with the students and staff at TC West High School gives our students an opportunity to display the significant attributes of being a College of Human Medicine student,” said Community Assistant Dean Daniel Webster, M.D.

Lane has visited three of Kathy DiPisa’s physiology classes, which are full of juniors and seniors who are interested in medical careers, sharing her path to medicine with them.

Lane decided to go to medical school when she was a high school freshman after working at a pediatric AIDS hospice for children in Nuevo Paraiso, Honduras. Lane traveled to Honduras after Hurricane Mitch hit the region to volunteer and translate between residents and aid workers.

“Children born with HIV in Honduras lived to be only seven or eight,” Lane said, adding that medical efforts are gradually changing this number. In fact, while Lane

Third-year student Colleen Lane discusses her experiences as a medical student with Traverse City West High School students. Lane’s presentation is part of a new partnership between the Traverse City campus, Traverse City West High School and Munson Medical Center.

was in Honduras, the team transformed the pediatric hospice morgue into a computer lab. Lane has returned to Honduras several times and plans to complete her fourth-year electives there and practice in the area after medical school.

DiPisa’s juniors and seniors also asked about the classes they would need to take to get into medical school. Lane gave them a rather nontraditional answer based on her own experience: Diversify.

Lane majored in Spanish and literature at Loyola University, with minors in chemistry and ethics.

## Upper Peninsula Student Brings History and a Little Antipasto to Medicine

Deeply immersed in history research at the University of Michigan, Tom Massie, now a fourth-year student at the College of Human Medicine’s Upper Peninsula campus, looked up from his project and put his pencil down.

He simply couldn’t shake the feeling that he was too focused on himself and not focused enough on helping others. After a bit of soul searching, he realized his passion for history could help others— especially if applied to medicine.

“In medicine we are able to study overarching trends over time and often, based upon small events, we can put together a social history,” Massie explained. “The social history, family history and history of the present illness are all part of the puzzle when working with people. I found that my skill sets when studying world history could be applied to studies in medicine.”

Massie’s foray into medicine sent him back to his Upper Peninsula roots.

“You can be at a small clinic in the

outskirts and in five minutes be back at the hospital working with three brilliant neurosurgeons,” he said of the Upper Peninsula campus. “That’s just incredible and an experience I can’t imagine finding anywhere else.”

Not only did the Upper Peninsula campus help Massie discover a way to intertwine his love of history with medicine, it also introduced him to a distant relative, UPEC Communications Specialist Mary Tavernini.

The two met at orientation and discovered their family ties while Massie was telling a story about finding a coveted jar of antipasto among his Dad’s personal belongings.

“All good Italians make a large batch of antipasto at Christmas and give them out as gifts to close friends and other Italians who are less skilled and can’t produce their own,” Tavernini said. “When Tom found the jar his dad had stashed, and it was nearly Easter, there were words. Bogarting antipasto is akin to a mortal sin,

Third-year student Tom Massie and Mary Tavernini, find family ties through an Italian tradition of home made antipasto, which lead to a friendly and delicious cooking “throw-down” between the two.

if not an actual venial sin in most Upper Peninsula Italian households.”

The meeting led to a Christmas antipasto “throw-down” between the two.

“In the end, I determined that Tom’s extra, extra virgin olive oil’s smooth and silky flavor had a slight edge to mine, and declared him the winner,” Tavernini said. “He, on the other hand, marveled at our family’s use of the vinegar and thought perhaps we might be on to something... and plans to add more to his next batch at Christmas.”

## Secchia Center Snapshot: Friday June 4, 2010

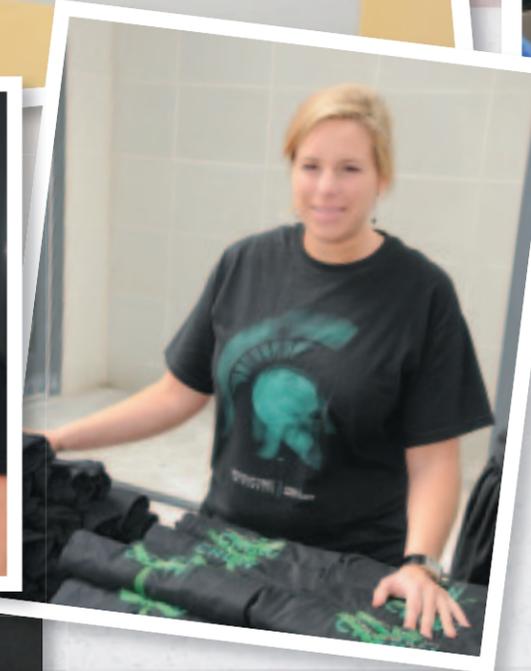
Just before the College of Human Medicine faculty and staff began moving from their temporary office into the Secchia Center, Dean Rappley hosted a thank you luncheon for the nearly 500 men and women in the building trades who helped bring the Secchia Center to life.

At press time, the faculty and staff move in was nearly complete with third- and fourth-year students beginning to use study space in the building in July and the arrival of the first- and second-year students in late August.

Inaugural Secchia Center activities include a special alumni weekend, Aug. 27-28; White Coat Ceremony Aug. 29; Ribbon Cutting Dedication event Sept. 10; Public Open House Sept. 11; and the College of Human Medicine Gala Sept. 14.



SECCHIA CENTER

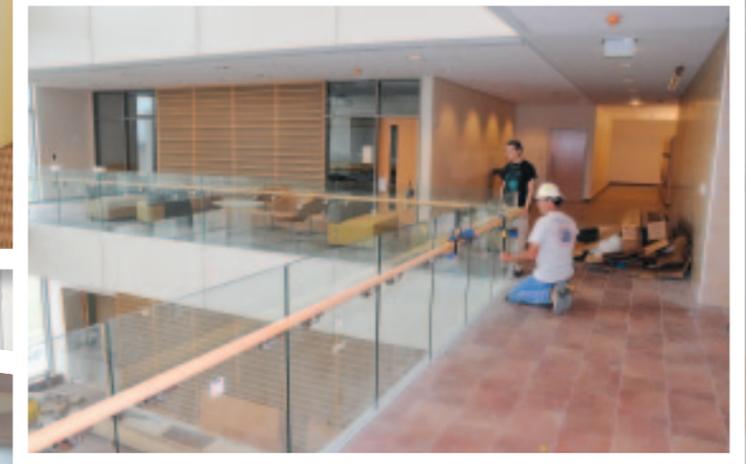


Chris Burns, MSU project representative for the Secchia

Center, Richard Temple, principal in charge, Michigan Higher Education Practice, URS Corporation, and Elizabeth Lawrence, assistant dean for capital and strategic planning and College of Human Medicine project lead take a break at the construction luncheon.

SECCHIA CENTER | 2010  
**CREW**

Dean's office administrative assistant Christina Swick displays the new "MD Spartan" t-shirts that each crew member received at the luncheon.



## Secchia Center Timeline for Opening Summer 2010

Academic and administrative staff move in and third- and fourth-year students find spacious new study areas.

First class of 100 first-year and 50 second-year students.

Building dedication September 10th.

**2010**

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

## Med Students Rally Against Childhood Obesity

*“The purpose of the rally is to bring together medical students, faculty, legislators and community leaders to address awareness of health issues that impact the community.”*



Every year College of Human Medicine pre-clinical students take on a health issue at the state level. Until the legislature agreed to pass the smoking ban, which took effect May 1, the students tackled smoking.

With one issue successfully checked off their list, they chose a new one for 2010: negating the incidences of childhood obesity.

“Our group got together and threw around some different ideas about things

we’re passionate about and this stuck in everyone’s mind as the most important thing to do,” said first-year student, Vidhi Doshi, co-chair of the 2010 health care rally.

In April, the American Medical Student Association sponsored its Annual Health Care Rally at the Capitol with the support of the medical students. They set up nearly two dozen health screening booths, but perhaps more importantly to their cause, they talked to legislators

about developing a minimum physical education requirement in schools.

The students are hopeful the legislature will make progress on a series of bills that would obligate schools to provide at least 30 minutes of exercise twice a week for students in kindergarten through fifth grade, and 45 minutes of exercise every day for at least one semester for sixth through eighth grade students.

Currently state law says physical education should be part of a student’s

educational experience, but minimums are not written into law.

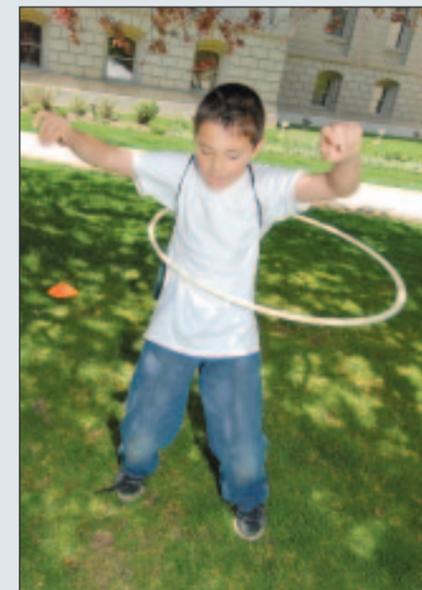
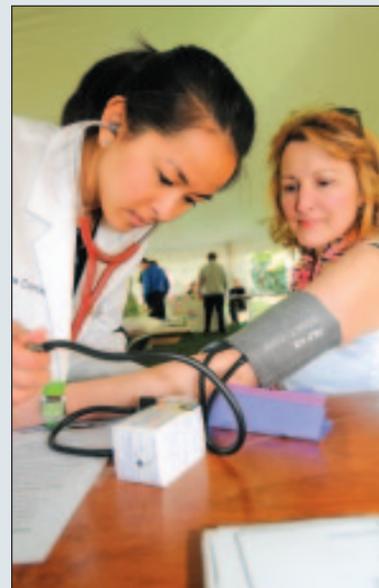
The students are also rallying against childhood obesity at a local level, educating various classrooms about healthful habits. They also brought approximately 100 elementary students to the rally to teach them about healthy living.

“The purpose of the rally is to bring together medical students, faculty, legislators and community leaders to address awareness of health issues that impact the

community,” said Wanda Lipscomb, Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs, outreach and diversity. “The goal is to educate the community and elected officials about the overall impact of childhood obesity and to encourage them to participate in a big public education initiative.”

College of Human Medicine students have participated in these rallies since the 1980s as part of a national effort of the American Medical Student Association.

Clockwise: Dean Marsha Rappley, M.D., speaks at the annual Health Care Rally at the Capitol. Dr. Tom Patterson explains benefits of healthy living, while medical students show elementary children fun ways to be active and offer free health screenings. Lower left page: Michigan Surgeon General Kimberly Dawn Wisdom, M.D. (center) on the Capitol steps with AMSA Health Care Rally organizers.



## CHM Student Researching Link Between NTDs and Corn Toxins

Corn tortillas. Delicious when warm and packed with fresh meat and cilantro, but potentially harmful for a Guatemalan population that has a higher than average incidence of neural tube birth defects (NTDs).

Since the beginning of the year, third-year College of Human Medicine student Cathryn Byrne-Dugan has been working with Guatemalan researchers and health care providers to fully understand the link between corn consumption and NTDs.

"Research has shown that countries that have high corn consumption also have elevated NTD incidence," Byrne-Dugan said. "Fumonisin, the fungus toxin, has been implicated as the most probable mechanisms for this correlation. The toxin in the corn inhibits the uptake of folate so even if the people are eating an adequate amount of folate, they may not be absorbing it."

Before Guatemalans make tortillas, they allow the corn to sit for several months, creating a hotbed for fungus, which in turn creates toxins that may encourage NTDs.

Third-year student Cathryn Byrne-Dugan and doctor Luis Hernandez at the Hospital General de San Juan de Dios in Guatemala.



Byrne-Dugan said research shows that in some regions, up to 80 percent of Guatemalan corn contains these toxins.

"If these toxins do put people at a higher risk for NTDs we need to target the communities that have the highest exposure and make sure they receive adequate supplementation," she said. "There's no way people will stop eating corn in Guatemala so that's not something you can change."

When Byrne-Dugan and her colleagues first started their research, they only worked with medical missions who visited Guatemala City for a week to do corrective surgeries for NTDs patients. However, there were vast differences between incidences of NTDs in various communities and in order to have a true understanding of the problem, they needed a larger and more diverse sample population that included both cases and controls.

In order to be most effective in their research, Byrne-Dugan and her colleagues are working with the Universidad Mariano Galvez de Guatemala.

Like the College of Human Medicine, the Universidad Mariano Galvez de Guatemala has several satellite sites located throughout the country giving the researchers access to a broader sample of potential participants.

Byrne-Dugan and her research team are applying for National Institute of Health Funding (NIH) to further their research.

Byrne-Dugan has a master's degree in public health from the University of Michigan and won the ACR REF/Abbott Medical/Graduate Student Achievement Award from the American College of Rheumatology in 2009.

## College of Human Medicine Class of 2010!



Joy, tears and excitement filled Wharton Center as family and friends cheered for the achievements of 115 new doctors at the 2010 Michigan State University College of Human Medicine Commencement Ceremony, Sunday, May 10.

## Researcher Brings \$6.8m Funding to MSU College of Human Medicine



New MSU researcher: Asgi T. Fazleabas, Ph.D., is a leading authority on endometriosis and recently received the prestigious 2010 Distinguished Research award by the Society for the Study of Reproduction.

*Dr. Asgi T. Fazleabas and his Specialized Cooperative Centers Program in Reproduction and Infertility Research moves to West Michigan—joining MSU College of Human Medicine.*

West Michigan has become the new home for a \$6.8 million center for women's health and reproduction research, thanks to the collaborative efforts by the Spectrum Health – Michigan State University Alliance and Van Andel Institute in the recruitment of leading infertility researcher Asgi T. Fazleabas, Ph.D., who is a College of Human Medicine professor and associate chair in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology.

Fazleabas has been director of a Specialized Cooperative Centers Program in Reproduction and Infertility Research (SCCPIR) at the University of Illinois, now in its eighth year of funding and supported by a \$6.8 million award by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). The center and its funding moved to Michigan State University in April.

"Spectrum Health looks forward to the expertise and depth of knowledge that

Dr. Fazleabas brings to the women's health area," said Matt Van Vranken, executive vice president, Spectrum Health and president, Spectrum Health Hospital Group. "A researcher and professor of his caliber is an asset to MSU College of Human Medicine as well as to Spectrum Health and the patients we serve. The combination of clinical care, research and academics being established here are significant for our physicians and patients of today and tomorrow."

MSU's Center for Women's Health and Reproduction Research/SCCPIR is one of 15 nationwide. Richard Leach, M.D., professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology is also a Principal Investigator on a Center project. Other Center project Principal Investigators include Serdar Bulun of Northwestern University and Romana Nowak at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

## Grant Awards

**Tom Tomlinson Ph.D.**, director of the Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences, and Stan Kaplowitz Ph.D., professor in the Department of Sociology, have been awarded a \$250,000 R21 grant from the National Human Genome Research Institute. The project is entitled "Ethics and Public Attitudes Toward the Research Uses of Archived Biological Samples."

**Shelagh Ferguson-Miller, Ph.D.**, University Distinguished Professor with the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology received a \$85,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to extend studies of an enzyme that plays a crucial role in the conversion of food molecules to energy.

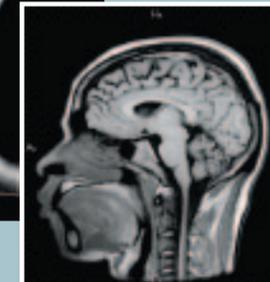
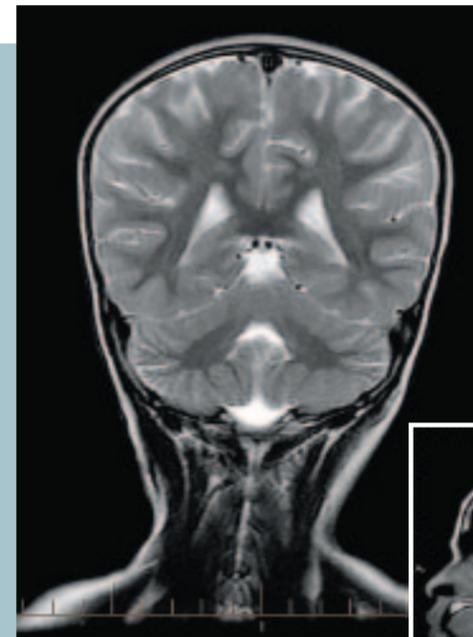
**David Arnosti, Ph.D.**, professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecu-

lar Biology, received a \$211,028 grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to investigate the DNA sequence elements that determine how a gene is activated and turned on, "Molecular Analysis of Transcriptional Repression."

**Laurie Kaguni, Ph.D.**, University Distinguished Professor and director of the MSU Center for Mitochondrial Science and Medicine, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, received a \$259,165 grant from the National Institute of General Medical Science to examine how mitochondrial DNA is replicated.

**Rebecca Malouin, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, assistant professor in the departments of Family Medicine and Pediatrics and Human Development, has received a \$640,734 K01 Mentored Research Scientist Award from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

**Traverse City Campus** (Munson Medical Center) has been awarded a \$10,000 Performance Improvement CME grant to conduct research on prescription errors by The Association for Hospital Medical Education (AHME). This will be The Traverse City Class of 2011's project and is titled: "Prescription Error Reduction after Instituting the 'Ten Critical Elements of Prescription Writing.'" It will address inadequacies in prescription writing detected by pharmacists. The students will survey pharmacies and gather data on erroneous prescriptions and will then develop educational interventions to share with faculty, residents, and medical students across the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine Family Practice Residency Network.



## Malawi-MSU MRI Project

**Michael Potchen, M.D., (CHM '88)**, associate professor, Department of Radiology has received several recent grants centered around his studies of the radiographic appearance of diseases utilizing the recently added MRI to the Blantyre Malaria Project at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Malawi,

Africa. These include an award of \$238,461 for "Malawi-MSU MRI Project: Acquiring normative data to elucidate the epidemiology of structural CNS abnormalities in the Malawian population," and a \$59,531 award for "Brain MRI: Can it elucidate the pathogenesis of delayed neurologic deficits caused by cerebral malaria?"

Using the new MRI at the Blantyre Malaria Project in Africa, Dr. Michael Potchen identifies neurologic abnormalities in the Malawian population.

## Arrivals & Promotions

### The College of Human Medicine welcomes the following new faculty:

**Walid Abuhammour, M.D.**, professor, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development.

**Deborah E. Blue, M.D.**, associate professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology.

**Asgi Fazleabas, Ph.D.**, professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology.

**Marie M. Gregoire-Bottex, M.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development and Pediatric Pulmonology division director, director of Cystic Fibrosis Care Center.

**Borys W. Hrinchenko, M.D.**, associate professor, Department of Medicine.

**Syed I. Hussain, M.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Neurology & Ophthalmology, program director, Interventional Neurology.

**Caryl E. Sortwell, Ph.D.**, professor, Division of Translational Molecular Medicine.

**Clare Luz, Ph.D.**, assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine. She was most recently lead evaluator and regional team liaison for the Geriatric Education Center of Michigan, College of Human Medicine.

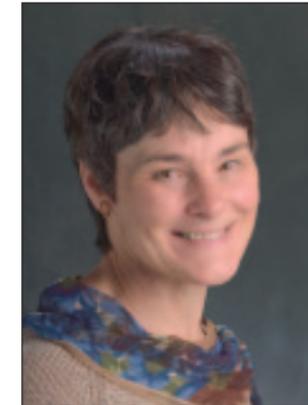


Asgi Fazleabas, Ph.D.

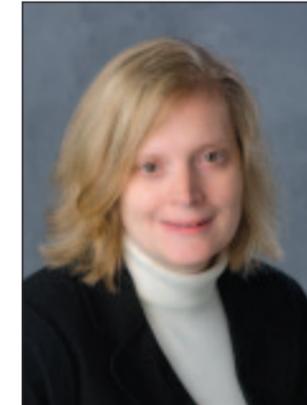


John E. VanSchagen, M.D.

**John E. VanSchagen, M.D., (CHM '88)** has been appointed associate chair of the College of Family Medicine's Grand Rapids campus. He joined the Grand Rapids campus in 1994 and became residency program director for the Grand Rapids Family Medicine Residency Program in 2006.



Shelagh Ferguson-Miller, Ph.D.



Rebecca Malouin, Ph.D., M.P.H.



Brad Upham, Ph.D.



David Luoma, M.D.

**Shelagh Ferguson-Miller, Ph.D.**, University Distinguished Professor, with the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was elected as a fellow of the Biophysical Society and honored during the Biophysical Society's 54th annual meeting in San Francisco.

**Judith Andre, Ph.D.**, professor emeritus, published "The Virtue of Honoring Oneself in Maternal Thinking: Philosophy, Politics and Practice."

**Professor Roshni Kulkarni, M.D.**, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development, was elected to the Board of Trustees for the American Society of Pediatric Hematology Oncology (ASPHO).

**Rebecca Malouin, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, assistant professor in the departments of Family Medicine and Pediatrics and

Human Development, and second-year Lansing campus student **Sarah L. Merten, M.P.H.**, co-wrote a monograph/book, "Measuring Medical Homes," recently published by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**Ann Mongoven, Ph.D.**, assistant professor, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences, published "Just Love: Transforming Civic Virtue."

**Gerald S. Schatz, J.D.**, assistant professor, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences, is the namesake of a ridge in Antarctica's Ellsworth Mountains south of the Antarctic Peninsula. Schatz Ridge was named for Schatz's work in the region. The nomination was made by the U.S. Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names and accepted by the international community

via the international Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

**Janice Werbinski, M.D.**, clinical associate professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology, played an instrumental role in producing Advancing Women's Health, a free online source for educational resources and teaching tools focused on women's health.

**Brad Upham Ph.D.**, associate professor, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development, was elected to a two-year term as co-chair of the In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Section (IVACS) Program committee.

**David Luoma, M.D., M.M.M., C.P.E.**, Community Assistant Dean and C.E.O. of the Upper Peninsula Health Education Corporation was reappointed as a member of the Michigan Advisory Committee on Immunizations and the Flu Advisory Board. Luoma will also represent the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians to this group.

**Margaret Semrud-Clikeman, Ph.D.**, professor, Department of Psychology and psychiatry director, Center for Neurodevelopmental Study, published the second edition of "Child Neuropsychology," assessment and interventions for neurodevelopmental disorders.

# RETIREMENT

## College of Human Medicine Retirement



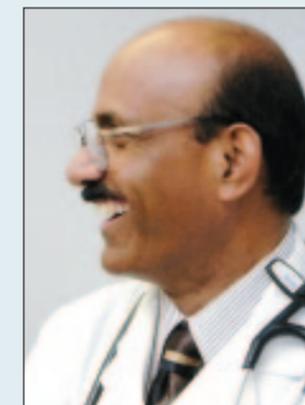
Karen Ogle, M.D.

After 28 years of service, Karen Ogle, M.D., retired from her position as full professor with the College of Human Medicine's Department of Family Medicine. Among her many accomplishments and contributions to MSU, she helped the College of Human Medicine become one of the first medical schools in the country to develop an end-of-life curriculum, which was nationally recognized by an award from the American Medical Student Association. Ogle served on the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, helping the field gain official ABMS sub-specialty status in 2007. Partnering with the Communication Technology Lab at MSU, she pioneered the use of interactive and web-based media as an educational tool with terminally ill patients and their families.

Other College of Human Medicine faculty attaining professor emeritus status include: Kusum Kumor, Department of Physiology and Human Pathology; Lana Kaiser, Department of Medicine; and Rachel A. Fisher Ph.D., professor, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development.

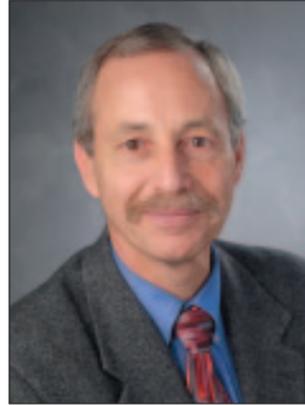
## Obituary

**Mohan Reddy, M.D., Ph.D.**, passed away January 24, 2010, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He served as assistant professor of geriatrics and as a geriatric fellow in the Department of Family Medicine after completing the Sparrow/MSU Family Medicine Residency Program in 2004. He is survived by his wife, Mrudula Kalpalathika, M.D.



Mohan Reddy, M.D., Ph.D.

## Awards & Achievements



Kenneth D. Rosenman M.D.



David S. Greenbaum, M.D.



Luis Toledo, M.D.

**Kenneth D. Rosenman M.D.**, professor and chief of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine in the Department of Medicine, received the Michigan State University (MSU) Distinguished Faculty Award at the 2010 awards convocation. With the Distinguished Faculty Award, MSU recognizes Rosenman for both his research and his service to the people of Michigan in the field of occupational and environmental medicine.

**David S. Greenbaum, M.D.**, College of Human Medicine professor emeritus, received the Lifetime Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Human Medicine.

**Alexander Gottschalk, M.D.**, professor of diagnostic radiology, was presented with the Steven M. Pinsky M.D. Distinguished Service Award, or Gold Medal, by the Central Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. The award

recognized Gottschalk for his outstanding service to nuclear medicine, particularly his contributions to the Central Chapter.

**Luis Toledo, M.D.**, professor, Department of Surgery and director of research, MSU/KCMS, was presented with the 2009 Andreas von Recum Award for outstanding contributions to the Academy of Surgical Research and to the field of investigative surgery.

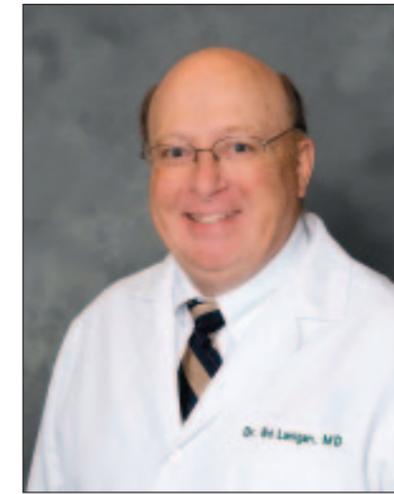
**Donald E. Greydanus, M.D.**, professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Human Development and pediatrics program director for the MSU/Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies, received the award of Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Athens, Greece. He was honored "as a distinguished scientist who through the significance and impact of his work in the community of scientists has bestowed praise and credit on the field of adolescent medicine."

Dr. Greydanus and his wife of 37 years, Kathy before the Poseidon Temple (440 B.C.) in Sounion, Greece.



# MSU Surgeon Helps Burned Iraqi Teen

*"Talk about brave. When his dad was an interpreter for our military a lot of times Mohammed would go on missions with him..."*



Edward Lanigan, M.D.

MSU plastic surgeon Edward Lanigan, M.D., provides free care for many patients both in the U.S. and internationally, but was most recently recognized for the care he provided for Mohammed, a severely burned 13-year-old Iraqi teenager who spent a year in Michigan and underwent five surgeries administered by Lanigan.

When Mohammed was very young, he was severely burned by an exploding oil lamp, but his injuries were never properly treated. In 2008, Army National Guard Maj. David Howell met Mohammed while in Iraq. Mohammed's father had recently been slain by insurgents due to his work as an interpreter for American forces. After discussing Mohammed's condition with his mother, Howell brought Mohammad back to the states for medical care.

When Howell contacted Lanigan at Sparrow Hospital about performing the surgeries and arranging a medical team to help Mohammad, Lanigan immediately jumped on board.

"He sent pictures and half of the boy's scalp was burned and the scars didn't

allow for hair growth," said Lanigan who is an associate professor of surgery for the College of Human Medicine's Department of Surgery. "He had other scars on his face, his left arm and forearm. The left index finger had some bone exposed at the middle joint, so we had to do something about that so he wouldn't have a bone infection."

From April 2009 through April 2010, Mohammed underwent five surgeries and weekly medical appointments to treat burns along the left side of his head, face and body. Lanigan and his team inserted tissue expanders into Mohammed's scalp, repaired his left hand and performed plastic surgery along the left side of the boy's face and head.

"Mohammed has such a wonderful

personality," said Lanigan. "He's such a nice boy. I loved working with this kid. Talk about brave. When his dad was an interpreter for our military a lot of times Mohammed would go on missions with him and that's how he learned English."

While in the states, Mohammed also had eight cavities filled, a tooth capped, was fitted with eyeglasses, gained 26 pounds and grew three inches. He lived with an Iraqi family in East Lansing, went to school and learned a bit about American culture.

Lanigan has offered his services to other international children through the Healing the Children program, which brings international kids with severe medical issues to the U.S. for treatment. Though Lanigan does plenty of work with international children, a medical condition has prevented him from traveling overseas.

"Loads of people in my family are in the Army and I have never able to go into the Army," Lanigan said. "Our family owes a lot to the Army and anything the soldiers want us to do I'd be happy to do. Particularly with this kid. His dad died a war hero as far as I'm concerned."

Lanigan offered his services for free to help Mohammed and Howell set up a nonprofit organization called Martyr Medical Fund for Children ([www.martyrmedicalfund.com](http://www.martyrmedicalfund.com)), which provides humanitarian medical assistance and treatment to the children of Iraqi interpreters killed in the line of duty.



Mohammed before, during and after multiple surgeries performed by plastic surgeon Edward Lanigan, M.D.

# After 14 Years of Training, '91 Alumnus Makes it to the Olympics

One of the only times Jim Moeller's, M.D. (CHM '91), kids think he's "cool" is when he's ushering them through an Olympic village. Most of the time, the father of three, who just served as the U.S. Olympic Team's chief medical officer, is just dad.

"There's a short window of time where kids think their dad is a pretty cool guy and the night Sean White was awarded the gold medal for snowboarding and they got their picture taken with him, they thought that was pretty cool," Moeller said.

Moeller headed up a 50-60 person medical team at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Fortunately, he didn't treat any career-ending injuries, but he did spend an entire month with the athletes ensuring they had access to medical supplies, medical facilities and a highly trained medical team. He was also the media spokesman for any health-related issues and made decisions concerning injuries or testing beyond the normal scope of treatment.



*"The experience I had at the College of Human Medicine and my fellowship in sports medicine clearly prepared me for this position."*

"A lot of the injuries are similar to the ones we see in the office, but at the Olympics the big difference is that no one is watching so closely," he said. "If you can't get that person doing what they need to do extremely quickly, that's going to potentially be headline news."

Moeller started his trek toward chief medical officer in 1996 when he volunteered to help the U.S. Olympic Committee.

First, Moeller served as an in-house physician at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, Calif. In 2004, he worked with athletes at Titan Games in Atlanta before they headed to the games

in Athens; in 2005 he worked with collegiate athletes at the Summer World University Games in Turkey; in the winter 2006 he was invited to work with skaters at the Torino Olympics; in 2007 he was named the Winter World Games chief medical officer, and in 2010, he was asked to serve as the chief medical officer for the 2010 winter Olympics.

"The experience I had at the College of Human Medicine and my fellowship in sports medicine clearly prepared me for this position," he said. "I would not have been able to achieve this level of involvement with the U.S. Olympic team had I not been building off my experience from the past."

Moeller also developed lasting relationships with the athletes, one of whom shares his passion for Spartan sports.

"Obviously the big person people here would know is Ryan Miller from the MSU hockey team," he said. "It was nice to have a fellow Spartan there. He was clearly the best player on the ice."

The Olympic Committee has never asked a

Left to Right: Jim Moeller, M.D., (CHM '91), at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics; Moeller steps on center stage where the gold medalists receive their awards; Moeller and members of the U.S. Women's Hockey team celebrate together.

physician to serve as chief medical officer for more than one year, but Moeller will continue volunteering in any capacity he can.

"This is part of me and I wouldn't change it for anything," he said.



## Alumni Lend Services to Haiti Relief Effort



In January, Douglas McKeag, M.D., (CHM '73) was taking down the Christmas decorations covering his Indiana home when a neighbor mentioned that he was heading to Haiti the following day to assist with relief efforts.

"He proceeded to say that the group really needed some physicians, so basically I was able to extricate myself from my personal responsibilities and, after about 24 hours, we were in Haiti," said McKeag, who arrived in Haiti January 16.

McKeag and Elie Schochet, M.D., (CHM '03), captured their experiences working with Haitians traumatized by the early 2010 earthquake on blogs they contributed to the College of Human Medicine website. Schochet traveled to Haiti with the Holy Cross Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, where he is a surgeon, and arrived Jan. 29.

Both alumni worked tirelessly to help the displaced Haitians, forgoing rest for more than 30 hours to treat severe wounds and fractures, dehydration and spinal injuries.

McKeag, professor of family medicine and preventative medicine at Indiana University's School of Medicine, worked with other medical professionals and volunteers using a school outside of Port-au-Prince as a hospital and clinic. The 300 beds available filled during McKeag's first day at the site and approximately 1,000 injuries were evaluated out of tractor-trailers.

"It was very, very intense," McKeag said. "Patients were flown in by helicopters almost every 15 minutes. When one was on the ground, others were hovering, waiting to land."

While McKeag was giving a woman morphine to ease the pain of three fractures, the first of several aftershocks hit the two-story school building. Terrified that the

building would collapse, many Haitians jumped out of the building.

"Panic erupted," McKeag said. "People jumped from the second floor so we lost four people and another three or so had permanent back injuries."

The experience forced many physicians out of their comfort zones. In his blog, Schochet discussed the rotating hats all medical professionals were forced to wear.

"If you think it's strange that a surgeon is running an urgent care clinic, keep in mind that the station on my left had a PA student, and the stations on my right had a dentist and a foot surgeon. Lack of training or experience did not stop us from seeing more than 600 patients."

Understandably, the stress of the situation, one that included amputations, extreme pain, destruction and death, caused many physicians to breakdown, but McKeag suggested his experience at the College of Human Medicine prepared him to absorb the stress of his duties.

"There were quite a few doctors who were breaking down because there was a lot going on, but the College of Human Medicine had a curriculum that really stressed humanism," McKeag said. "We were also trained to work within a team and not to do everything ourselves. All of that came to bear in this type of situation."



Emily Tompkins-Durkin, M.D.

**Emily Tompkins-Durkin, M.D.**, (CHM '04) recently participated in the fellowship match for pediatric surgery and earned a position at the prestigious Children's Hospital of Boston. After graduation, she completed her general surgery residency program at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where she also pursued basic science research and completed a post-doctoral fellowship through the University of Wisconsin Stem Cell Training Program. Durkin then returned to the University of Wisconsin Hospital where she is the administrative surgical chief resident. Tompkins-Durkin will relocate to Boston where she will complete the last two years of her surgical training.

**Cathy O. Blight, M.D.**, (CHM '77), clinical professor and medical director of laboratories at Hurley Medical Center, was re-elected as a Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) delegate to the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates for a two-year term in May.

**Pino D. Colone, M.D.**, (CHM '92), was elected vice speaker of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) House of Delegates. He will serve a one-year term (until 2011) as vice speaker and preside over meetings of the MSMS House of

## Alumni Updates and News

Delegates at the will of Speaker **Rose M. Ramirez, M.D.**, (CHM '88). Colone is a staff emergency physician at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital.

**James A. Surrell, M.D.**, (CHM '78), a practicing colorectal surgeon and director of the Digestive Health Institute in Marquette, recently published "The SOS Diet (SOS - Stop Only Sugar.)"

**Gilbert D.A. Padula, M.D.**, (CHM '97) MSU College of Human Medicine Alumni Board president, was named associate principal investigator of the Grand Rapids Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP). Padula will become the principal investigator after one year.

**Connie Mitchell, M.D.**, (CHM '83), recently published the book "Intimate Partner Violence: A Health-Based Perspective." This volume compiles the current knowledge and health science to provides a foundation for students, educators, clinicians, and researchers on prevention, assessment and intervention.

**Kelly L. Morgan, M.D.**, (CHM '96), was named a fellow in hospital medicine at a ceremony in Chicago, Ill., 2009. She was part of the first class of fellows to be inducted.

MSU College of Human Medicine  
**2010 ALUMNI WEEKEND**

## 2010 Alumni Weekend

Friday, Aug. 27 and  
Saturday, Aug. 28  
Grand Rapids

Attend a **Friday evening reception** to kick off the weekend, **tour the new College of Human Medicine Secchia Center** and enjoy community campus showcases.

Attend the **distinguished alumni lecture**, "Olympic Sports Medicine: Living the Dream." This year's lecturer and College of Human Medicine alumnus is James Moeller, M.D., (CHM '91). Moeller recently had the honor of acting as chief medical officer for the US Olympic Team in Vancouver.

Enjoy a **nine-hole golf scramble** and other afternoon activities.

Wrap the weekend up with an early **evening reception** on Saturday.

You are also invited to attend the **White Coat Ceremony** at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 29 at the DeVos Performance Hall in Grand Rapids. The ceremony will include the college expansion class of 200 students.

**Sponsorship opportunities are available.**

**To register or for more information contact** Marci Muller, alumni coordinator, at (616) 234-2611 or via email at [marci.muller@hc.msu.edu](mailto:marci.muller@hc.msu.edu)

**Visit [humanmedicine.msu.edu](http://humanmedicine.msu.edu)**

Join our Facebook group at MSU College of Human  
Medicine Alumni & Friends.

Join MSU College of Human Medicine

## Alumni, Faculty, Staff, Students & Friends Kick Off...

# #2010 #TAILGATE!

**Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010**

Two hours prior to kick-off

Look for the College of Human Medicine tent by the Red Cedar River across from Spartan Stadium.

To purchase football game tickets and to register to attend the tailgate call Marci Muller at (616) 234-2611 or email at: [marci.muller@hc.msu.edu](mailto:marci.muller@hc.msu.edu).



Gilbert Padula, M.D., (CHM '97), his wife Kristin, and their son with Dean Rappley, M.D., (CHM '84), at the 2009 tailgate party.



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# Lunch on the 7th floor.

