

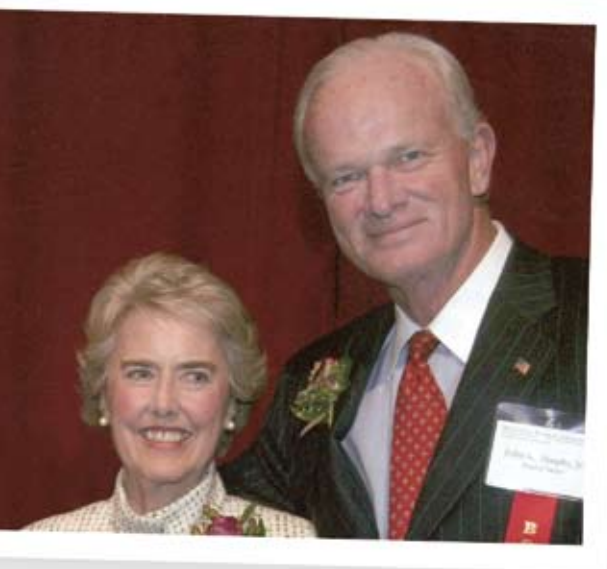
# giving matters

WINTER 2007

A publication for supporters of  
health-related research and education  
at the University of Minnesota



Anne and Dave Amato at their benefit for  
lung disease research



Judy and John Murphy Jr. at an MMF annual dinner

## Breathing easier

Donations to lung research help propel U's program to the top

When Dave Amato was diagnosed with usual interstitial pneumonitis in 2002, the life-threatening lung disease was already at an advanced stage. Soon his wife, Anne, was on the phone with lung transplant centers all over the country, including the transplant center at the University of Minnesota.

Less than two years later — thanks to two unrelated lung donors and the medical team's expertise — Amato had a successful living-donor lung transplant at the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview.

"Life is great," Amato says. "It's a wonderful gift. And because of the people at the University of Minnesota, we're enjoying that gift every day."

Out of gratitude for the care Dave received, the Amatos decided to give back. In the summer of 2005 the suburban Chicago couple threw a huge benefit that drew more than 600 people. They gave \$36,000 in net proceeds to Timothy Whelan, M.D., one of Amato's doctors and assistant professor in the Department of Medicine, for lung disease research. And they're planning a similar benefit event for the near future.

"We believe in the research," Amato says. "We believe that what they're doing at the University of Minnesota is the best. And we know where the money we're generating

is going — it's going to save other lives."

The Amato family is not alone in supporting University lung experts who have made a difference in their lives.

John and Judy Murphy pledged \$1 million in 2002 to establish an endowed professorship in gratitude for care provided by Marshall Hertz, M.D., professor in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care in the Department of Medicine, to Judy during her fight with pulmonary fibrosis. When Judy passed away in October 2005, 127 gifts totaling \$18,000 were made in her memory to support lung research.

Through the leadership of Thomond and Alvina O'Brien, the Alice M. O'Brien Foundation pledged \$250,000 just over a year ago to establish the O'Brien Biobank for Lung Research. Thomond O'Brien has pulmonary fibrosis and is also a patient of Whelan's.

Another local family has given more than \$350,000 in a loved one's memory to

continued on back page

# giving matters





During my first six months as CEO of the Minnesota Medical Foundation, I've been busy forging important personal connections with our benefactors and faculty leaders. Though I am continuing to meet key people, I'd like to share some of my initial observations.

First, I am gratified to find that MMF is widely respected both within and outside the University of Minnesota.

Second, we are supporting truly significant work. In such areas as the neurosciences, cancer, diabetes, heart and lung disease, and infectious diseases, University researchers are at the very forefront of science and medicine, finding new ways to treat devastating illnesses — and translating those discoveries into patient care faster than ever before.

Third, our prospects are bright. By the end of January, MMF had received \$38.5 million in contributions and commitments — well on our way toward this year's ambitious goal of \$60 million.

Personal connections are key to my learning about the University, the foundation, and our many benefactors. They are also key to our success, as this edition of Giving Matters shows. Our cover story, for example, describes how generous gifts from grateful patients have helped the University establish a nationally renowned lung center. Another connection — the friendship that blossomed between George Mairs and his physician, Dr. Edward Cheng — led to the creation of the endowed chair Cheng now holds in orthopaedic surgery. Those connected to Dr. John Najarian are honoring the legendary transplant surgeon by funding an endowed chair in his name. Still others mentioned in these pages have celebrated their connections to the University by supporting student scholarships.

Every day, those of us connected to MMF are building the relationships that support health-related research, education, and service at the University of Minnesota. Thank you for doing your part.

Becky Malkerson

President and CEO  
Minnesota Medical Foundation

## Mutual admiration

Patient-physician bond leads to major gift

When George Mairs, at age 72, went into surgery at the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview, to remove a soft-tissue sarcoma, his hopes were fixed firmly on recovery. He wasn't banking on emerging with a life-changing friendship as well.

But six years later, a healthy and energetic Mairs counts his surgeon, Edward Cheng, M.D., as a valued friend. "Dr. Cheng is not only a fine surgeon but also a fine human being," Mairs says.

That admiration is clearly mutual. "George and his wife, Dusty, are a delightful couple," Cheng says. "Beginning with George's initial clinic appointment, I've enjoyed my visits with them. I admire George's humble character as well as his clear and visionary thinking."

Now, that goodwill is tangibly benefiting the University and medical science as a whole. Their fondness for Cheng inspired George and Dusty Mairs to establish the Mairs Family Chair in support of the Musculoskeletal Bone and Soft Tissue Tumor Center in the University's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Cheng was named the first Mairs Family Chairholder in 2004. "It's a privilege I hold dear to my heart," he says.

But the Mairses' generosity didn't stop there. As the cost of financing an endowed chair has increased, they have continued to support the fund with several additional major gifts.

The endowment allows Cheng — admired by patients and colleagues as an outstanding clinician — to devote more time to research and administrative work. That includes organizing and coordinating clinical trials, modifying existing therapies, and adapting advances in other fields to the treatment of bone and soft-tissue cancers.

The Mairs Family Chair supports both training for fellows and Cheng's research on positron emission tomography (PET) scans as a more accurate means of assessing whether a patient's treatment is working. Currently, physicians measure how much a tumor is shrinking, but that's not always a reliable indicator of treatment efficacy.

Some tumors don't shrink. Bone, for example, doesn't actually shrink; it hardens, explains Cheng, who believes PET may offer a better way to determine a tumor's response to therapy.

At 78, George Mairs shows no signs of slowing down. He sparkles when the subject

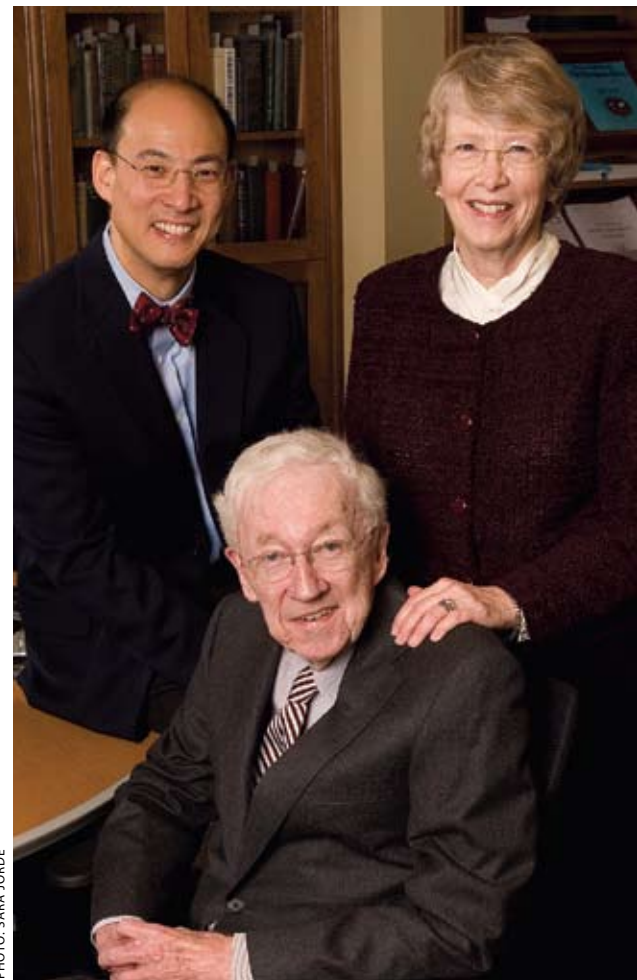


PHOTO: SARA JORDE

George Mairs (foreground) and his doctor, Edward Cheng, M.D., share a professional and personal relationship. Their friendship inspired Mairs and his wife, Dusty, to endow a chair in orthopaedic surgery, naming Cheng as the first chairholder.

turns to Dusty and his large, close family — their 14 grandchildren all live nearby — and George still enjoys playing an active leadership role at Mairs and Power, Inc., a successful St. Paul-based investment firm.

"I've had a very rewarding career, and I appreciate my ability to continue it," says Mairs. "I've been able to remain active in a firm my father started 75 years ago."

In making the gift, "Our aim was to support the University and the Medical School," Mairs says. "Historically, it's been a premier institution." That eminence didn't develop by accident, he adds, and it shouldn't be taken for granted.

# Working for safety

Scholarship supports public health student's focus on injury prevention

Quintin Williams is an expert on work. At 20-something, Williams has held more jobs than he can remember. But there's one job he'll never forget: the industrial battery factory in Chicago where he suffered serious burns in an explosion of molten lead.

Now, with support from a William Randolph Hearst Foundation scholarship, Williams is pursuing a doctoral degree in occupational injury prevention in the School of Public Health (SPH) that will make him an expert on safe working conditions.

"My youth has been work, work, work, and pay the bills," says Williams, who holds a B.S. in mechanical and industrial engineering. The first in his family to attend college, Williams has been on his own since he was a

and health insurance, Williams can finally concentrate on his studies without having to work.

"The scholarship takes a huge burden off; I can focus entirely on school," says Williams, who aspires to work for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and teach at a university.

Williams is one of two SPH students currently receiving a Hearst scholarship from a \$200,000 endowed fund established

ment to our school and our students," says SPH Dean John R. Finnegan Jr., Ph.D. "With this support, we can help launch the careers of students like Quintin who have tremendous potential to improve public health in our country."

Though happily unemployed, Williams is still hard at work. In addition to taking classes, he's developing his Ph.D. proposal—a study of farm-related injuries to children. As an intern for the past two summers, he created an emergency response plan for the



PHOTO: SCOTT STREBLE

As a graduate student in occupational injury prevention, Quintin Williams is finally getting a break from work to focus on his studies, thanks to a scholarship from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.

teenager in Chicago, sometimes working as many as four jobs to pay for school and make ends meet.

"I worked two jobs, four jobs, whatever it took," says Williams. "I had a full-time job during the day, a part-time job in the evening, and two janitorial accounts on the weekend."

Thanks to the Hearst scholarship, which covers his tuition, living expenses,

by the foundation in 2002. The scholarship supports students from underrepresented populations who plan to do public health work in the United States.

By 2008, the fund will provide larger scholarships for three SPH students every year, thanks to another \$200,000 gift from the foundation in December.

"I couldn't be more gratified that the Hearst Foundation has made this commit-

"The scholarship takes a huge burden off; I can focus entirely on school," says Williams, who aspires to work for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and teach at a university.

deaf and hard of hearing, and worked on a study assessing the adequacy of safeguards in Minnesota machine shops.

For a break, he volunteers with a fellow graduate student as a mentor to 14 students from St. Paul's Johnson High School.

"We have to come up with the subject matter that will help them develop their career focus," explains Williams. "It's a wonderful feeling to see these young minds maturing. A lot of people helped me along the way, and I want to give back."

# Legendary leader

Endowed chair honors a pioneer in transplantation

By age 79, most people have retired. Not John S. Najarian, M.D. After 40 years as a pioneering surgeon in the University of Minnesota's Department of Surgery, he remains devoted to his passion — transplantation.

"Solid organ transplantation, the University of Minnesota, and the name John S. Najarian are virtually synonymous in the surgical world," says David A. Rothenberger, M.D., deputy chair of the Department of Surgery and holder of the John P. Delaney, M.D., Chair in Clinical Surgical Oncology. "The program Dr. Najarian developed here has trained more leaders in clinical transplantation than any other, and his successors continue to lead the world in this ever-evolving field."

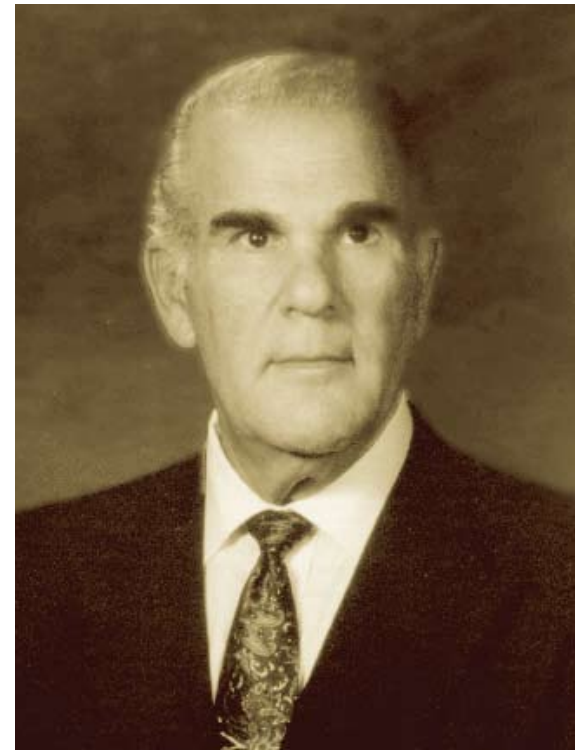
That's why the Department of Surgery is establishing the John S. Najarian, M.D., Surgical Chair in Clinical Transplantation in his honor. So far, Najarian's colleagues, friends, and patients have committed about \$1.6 million toward the \$2 million goal. The department plans to use the chair to recruit or retain a transplantation leader of Najarian's caliber.

Najarian's friend and neighbor Stanley S.

Hubbard, chairman and CEO of Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc., is among those leading the charge. Hubbard has contributed \$150,000 to the chair through his company and the Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation. He has supported the fund personally and encourages others to contribute as well.

"The fact that John Najarian has done so much for the University of Minnesota, the state of Minnesota, and humanity in general — that's all the motivation our family needed," Hubbard says. "He's a great doctor and a wonderful person."

Najarian came to the University in 1967 to lead the Department of Surgery. At that time, he was already a well-known tissue transplant surgeon and had founded one of the nation's first kidney transplant services. At age 39, he took the department's reins from longtime chair Owen H. Wangensteen, M.D., Ph.D., who



ABOVE John S. Najarian, M.D., served as chair of the Department of Surgery from 1967 to 1993.

RIGHT Najarian walks with one of his most famous patients, Jamie Fiske. Now a healthy woman in her twenties, Fiske is the world's longest-living pediatric liver recipient.

was known for fostering a creative environment and for making the department into a research powerhouse.

Colleagues say Najarian continued that tradition. "The strongest part of Dr. Najarian's remarkable leadership was the freedom he gave to the faculty to be innovative," says David E. R. Sutherland, M.D., Ph.D., a world-renowned leader in pancreas transplantation, chief of the Division of Transplantation, director of the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation, and holder of the Golf Classic "fore" Diabetes Research Chair. "You could try anything, and if you failed, that was okay. You would just get up and try again."

Najarian spent more than a quarter-century as chair of the Department of Surgery, building one of the world's largest transplant centers. Under his leadership, the transplant program pioneered innovative and complex transplants. His team performed transplants for high-risk recipients — such as diabetics, children, and older adults — who had been turned down elsewhere. Last summer the University performed its 10,000th organ transplant.

But Najarian didn't let his leadership role get in the way of patient care, says his longtime friend Eric Aanenson, who knows that firsthand. "John has saved my life a few times," he says.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

John S. Najarian, M.D., is an internationally known leader in transplantation.



Aanenson once called Najarian from Maui, Hawaii, complaining of a high fever and terrible cramps. Najarian, who seemed to diagnose the problem immediately, prescribed a strong dose of antibiotics and urged Aanenson to fly home to Minnesota. "As soon as I got in, John stuck me in the hospital and scheduled me for surgery to have my gallbladder removed," Aanenson says.

In the spirit of giving back, he and his wife, Tracy Aanenson, Ph.D., have given \$75,000 to the Najarian chair. Aanenson's brother and sister-in-law, Steven and Beverly Aanenson, have pledged \$60,000 to the fund.

Many former colleagues and surgical residents and fellows who trained under Najarian have contributed to the chair as well. Fifteen of them — including Rothenberger, Sutherland, and Department of Surgery Chair and Jay Phillips Professor Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D. — have pledged at least \$10,000 to the fund.

In addition, the department is holding its first annual Najarian Lectureship in Transplantation in May.

"Dr. Najarian is one of those rare individuals who is truly 'larger than life,'" Rothenberger says. "His contributions to the field of organ transplantation are legendary."

To contribute to the John S. Najarian, M.D., Surgical Chair in Clinical Transplantation, please contact Erik Thurman at 612-626-4848 or e.thurman@mmf.umn.edu.

## Stopping Alport syndrome

Gift for clinical trials network may help find effective treatments for children

A member of Al Schuman's family — "a young man I absolutely adore," he says — has Alport syndrome, a genetic kidney disease characterized by the progressive loss of kidney function and hearing. Most males who develop Alport experience renal failure in their late teens or twenties. Currently, there's no proven treatment.

That's all Schuman, recently retired chairman and CEO of Ecolab, Inc., needed to hear before he started searching the country for Alport syndrome experts.

The search led him to Clifford Kashtan, M.D., at the University of Minnesota. Schuman was impressed with Kashtan's work involving both humans and animals with the disease. He was equally impressed by Division of Nephrology director Michael Mauer, M.D., an expert in clinical research, and by pediatrics department chair John Schreiber, M.D., M.P.H.

Schuman, a Floridian who lived in Minnesota for 20 years, was surprised to find this world-class team on his old stomping ground. "What were the chances that the University of Minnesota is one of the few places in the world doing research on Alport?" he asks. "I don't think even Minnesotans realize how good this institution is."

Schuman was so impressed that he directed \$550,000 through Ecolab to Kashtan's work. "He's a very talented guy," Schuman says. "I found out that his group could do even more if they had a little more funding."

The money will be used to search for treatments for children through a new, multinational Alport Syndrome Clinical Trials Network.

"Alport syndrome is a relatively unusual disease, so no single center can carry out a treatment trial on its own," Kashtan says. "Our goal is to organize pediatric nephrology centers in North America into a network that would provide interested families with access to clinical trials. We are fortunate that Mr. Schuman has confidence in our ability to create this network and initiate these clinical trials."

Schuman is glad to be a part of it, especially if it will make new treatments available to his young family member and other



PHOTO: GEORGE BYRON GRIFFITHS

Alport syndrome researcher Clifford Kashtan, M.D.

### WHAT IS ALPORT SYNDROME?

Alport syndrome is a hereditary disease primarily affecting the kidneys, although it sometimes affects the ears and eyes as well.

In people with Alport syndrome, a faulty gene causes the kidneys' intricate filtering system to deteriorate over time, leading to ineffective filtering and, eventually, renal failure.

The disease occurs in both males and females but tends to be more severe in boys. Half of all boys with Alport syndrome will experience kidney failure by age 25. Currently, there are no proven treatments for the disease.

children with Alport syndrome. "If I can help, that's what I want to do," he says.

Well-organized clinical trials are critical in developing therapies for Alport syndrome and proving their effectiveness, Kashtan says.

"Although there is satisfaction in conducting research that sheds light on the causes of Alport syndrome," he adds, "nothing would be more gratifying than the discovery of an effective treatment for the disease."

## APRIL

**19 THURSDAY 5:30 p.m.**  
Minnesota Medical Foundation Honors and Awards Ceremony and Reception\*  
Mayo Auditorium, University of Minnesota  
This ceremony honors Medical School faculty and students who are 2006–2007 recipients of MMF awards recognizing outstanding teaching, research, leadership, community service, and scholastic achievement.  
① Contact Sue Clark at 612-626-0619 or [s.clark@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:s.clark@mmf.umn.edu).

## MAY

**4 FRIDAY 2:30 p.m.**  
Medical School Commencement  
Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota  
① Contact Linda Reilly at 612-624-9608 or [reill002@umn.edu](mailto:reill002@umn.edu).

**11 – 12 FRIDAY & SATURDAY**  
WineFest No. 12: A Toast to Children's Health\*  
ZAP Zinposium: Friday 5:30–7 p.m.  
Grand Tasting: Friday 6:30–9:30 p.m.  
Fine Wine Dinner: Saturday 6 p.m.–midnight  
The Depot, Minneapolis  
WineFest is a two-day celebration of the best in wine and food, benefiting the University Pediatrics Foundation at the University of Minnesota. This year's event features wines from the Zinfandel Advocates and Producers.  
① Contact Christina Newcombe at 612-626-5720 or [c.newcombe@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:c.newcombe@mmf.umn.edu), or visit [www.thewinefest.com](http://www.thewinefest.com).

**14 MONDAY 5 p.m.**  
School of Public Health Commencement  
Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota  
① Contact Jennifer Arntzen at 612-626-8908 or [arntz007@umn.edu](mailto:arntz007@umn.edu).

**19 SATURDAY 8 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**  
Macular Degeneration Symposium  
Earle Brown Heritage Center, Brooklyn Center  
Learn about the latest advances in research and the newest treatment options at this free educational event coordinated by the Minnesota Lions Macular Degeneration Center at the University of Minnesota Department of Ophthalmology.  
① Contact Julie Densmore at 612-625-8992 or [j.densmore@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:j.densmore@mmf.umn.edu).

## JUNE

**13 WEDNESDAY 5:30 p.m.**  
Heritage Society Banquet\*  
McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota  
This annual banquet recognizes donors who have included the University in their estate or financial plans and their extraordinary support of education and research. This year MMF is partnering with the University of Minnesota Foundation for this event.  
By invitation only.  
① Contact Sue Clark at 612-626-0619 or [s.clark@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:s.clark@mmf.umn.edu).

**18 MONDAY**  
Golf Classic "fore" Diabetes Research\*  
Town & Country Club, St. Paul  
Support breakthrough diabetes research at this annual golf outing hosted by the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation.  
① Contact Katrina Roth at 612-625-0336 or [k.roth@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:k.roth@mmf.umn.edu).

**18 MONDAY**  
Karen's Hope Ataxia Benefit  
Oak Marsh Golf Course, Oakdale  
This charity golf tournament, silent auction, and dinner benefit the Bob Allison Ataxia Research Center at the University of Minnesota.  
① Contact Heather Shetka at 612-624-4444 or [h.shetka@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:h.shetka@mmf.umn.edu), or visit [www.karens-hope.org](http://www.karens-hope.org).

\* Sponsored by the Minnesota Medical Foundation

go to:  
[www.mmf.umn.edu](http://www.mmf.umn.edu)

For event descriptions, updates, links, and contact information.

## Sample wine from Zinfandel Advocates and Producers at WineFest No. 12

Tickets now available for the May 11–12 events

Enjoy fabulous wine and food while raising money for childhood disease research at WineFest No. 12, the Midwest's premier wine charity event.

This year the two-day event will feature wine from Zinfandel Advocates and Producers. Hosted by the University Pediatrics Foundation, an affiliate of the Minnesota Medical Foundation, the events take place May 11 and 12 at the Depot in downtown Minneapolis.

Friday evening's Grand Tasting will feature more than 400 wines for sampling and signature menu items from some of the Twin Cities' top restaurants. There's also a chance to learn more about wine and mingle with winemakers at the ZAP Zinposium.

Saturday's elegant Fine Wine Dinner includes a champagne reception, a multi-course gourmet meal, dancing, unique

live- and silent-auction items, and — of course — a selection of world-class wines.

Proceeds from WineFest No. 12 directly support the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota. In the past 11 years, the event has raised more than \$6 million for breakthrough research to prevent and cure childhood diseases. This year WineFest is aiming to raise \$1 million in support of children's health.

"WineFest is a fun and very public way of supporting the Department of Pediatrics and offering hope to children everywhere," says event chair Peggy Schneeman Reagan.

Tickets are on sale now, and space is limited. Reserve your spot at these popular events by visiting [www.thewinefest.com](http://www.thewinefest.com) or by calling 612-624-6900.



Harvest Path by Marci Bedwell-Roesler

## From the heart

An interventional cardiologist shows his appreciation for Duluth's family medicine focus by giving back.

Three years ago, Gregory Schuchard, M.D., took stock of his career and achievements and concluded it was time to act. The 1979 University of Minnesota Medical School graduate made a \$100,000 commitment to fund a scholarship for a student who starts medical school in Duluth.

"I decided that it was time to give back, right now, while I had the opportunity to influence how my contribution was used, to see the results, and even challenge my classmates to consider doing something similar," says Schuchard, who completed his first two years of medical school on the Duluth campus.

Now an interventional cardiologist at the Prevea Health Clinic in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Schuchard specified that the scholarship be awarded based on financial need to candidates who have successfully overcome the greatest personal, professional, or financial challenge in becoming a family physician.

"I could have given the scholarship to a straight-A student, but I believe that they get plenty of opportunities," he explains.

"Instead, I wanted to support a student who has to overcome challenges to become a doctor, because when you have to work hard for your education, you value it more."

The son of a teacher and a department store clerk, Schuchard paid for his own education at Mankato State University, Gustavus Adolphus College, and the University of Minnesota Medical School.

Although he initially intended to become a family physician, Schuchard felt the pull of interventional cardiology. "I had every intention of becoming a family physician," he reflects, "but over time I just related more to people with heart problems and found the technical and procedural aspects of my specialty especially challenging and rewarding."

Despite his own career choice, Schuchard appreciates family physicians' role. "Even though I did not choose that path, I value the family docs whom I work with every day. They work so hard for their patients, make important diagnoses, and by referring their patients to me for specialty care, can help save a lot of lives."

Elizabeth Wheatley, from Wyoming, Minnesota, was awarded a Schuchard scholarship this year and last. A third-year medical student, Wheatley last fall entered

the University's Rural Physician Associate Program. Students in the program live and train in rural communities for nine months under the supervision of family physicians and preceptors.

"Becoming a family physician is important to me because I like the idea of providing continuity of care to patients," Wheatley says. "Dr. Schuchard's scholarship has come at just the right moment in my life. During the last two years, many of my family members have been seriously ill. Concentrating on school while dealing with that stress has been challenging."

Establishing the scholarship fund now, rather than at the end of his career, made sense to Schuchard. "Some people give at retirement or even in their wills, but I wasn't interested in that," he says. "I wanted to tell the school that educated me that I appreciated my education. I wanted to do it while I'm young enough to see what it accomplishes and to be personally involved."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF PREVEA HEALTH

Gregory Schuchard, M.D., Class of 1979, created a scholarship fund for students who start their medical training on the Duluth campus.

"If there's one thing I believe strongly," Schuchard concludes, "it's that we physicians are all part of a continuum, and we need to help the generation that follows us. When I can put my good fortune and my imprint on the school that helped me—that's rewarding."



PHOTO: TIM RUMMELHOFF

Third-year medical student Beth Wheatley was awarded the Schuchard scholarship this year and last. "Dr. Schuchard's scholarship has come at just the right moment in my life," she says.

# MMF makes online giving easy—and secure

Supporting world-class research and education in medicine and public health at the University is easier than ever. The Minnesota Medical Foundation's user-friendly Web site clearly presents your giving options, providing tips, worksheets, forms — even a calculator.

The Web site's simple gift form allows you to make a gift immediately by credit card or to download forms explaining how to donate by check, cash, or credit card. To protect donor privacy and security, the site uses VeriSign software — widely recognized for its security features — for online credit-card processing.

The site also tells you how to make a recurring or planned gift. You'll find all the essentials plus a glossary of terms.

If you've already established a charitable remainder trust with MMF, you can set up an account to view your information safely and securely online. The site also will walk you through the steps for transferring securities to MMF. And it provides samples that you and your attorney can use as models for preparing a bequest or trust designation.

## Areas of greatest need

Visit MMF's Web site to make an unrestricted gift that will be used immediately where it's needed most. Your gift may be used to help attract world-renowned faculty, buy state-of-the-art equipment, or fund breakthrough

research to prevent and better treat cancer, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, heart disease, lupus, and other illnesses.

## Designated gifts

Or, you may choose to direct your gift to any of these areas:

- Scholarships for medical and public health students
- Priority areas, such as brain and nerve disorders, stroke, heart and lung disease, and infectious diseases and immune system disorders
- Academic units, centers, or programs
- MMF affiliates:
  - Bob Allison Ataxia Research Center
  - International Hearing Foundation
  - University Pediatrics Foundation
- Medical Alumni Society to support such programs as Medical School reunions and the physician-student mentoring program

Visit [www.mmf.umn.edu](http://www.mmf.umn.edu) to find out how you can make a difference.



To process credit cards online, MMF uses VeriSign software, the most widely used online payment software from one of the most reputable companies performing online financial transactions today.

# Where innovation happens

U seeks legislative support for state-of-the-art facilities to draw top researchers

Biomedical innovation—which enhances lives and strengthens the economy—happens where scientists collaborate. That's why the University has asked the state legislature to support a bold new initiative that will bring leading scientists together in corridors of shared, state-of-the-art research space.

The University has asked the legislature to support the creation of a Minnesota Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority — a separate bonding authority for specially designed buildings that foster biomedical discovery. Under the plan, the state would commit \$279 million in general obligation debt, and the University would

contribute \$31 million to build flexible, innovative facilities that would help the University attract and retain top researchers.

Over the next 10 years, this authority would provide a predictable source of funding for the University to construct or remodel at least 600,000 square feet of biomedical research space. Each building would house 40 faculty researchers and 120 research assistants who are expected to attract \$20 million in new research dollars each year.

Biomedical research discoveries not only help improve Minnesotans' health, they also contribute significantly to the state's economy. Minnesota has been a world leader in

the medical-device industry since the 1950s — in large part because of the University and its faculty.

The continuing success of this state-university partnership will require an investment in first-rate facilities that will help the University attract and keep renowned scientists who secure research dollars, draw top students, and generate research-based business.

How can you help? Let your legislators know that you support the proposed Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority. To learn more — or to find your representative — go to the University's Legislative Network Web page at [www.umn.edu/groots](http://www.umn.edu/groots).



# Welcome new members!

Because of their generous support, the following donors became members or rose to a higher giving society of the University of Minnesota Presidents Club between September 15, 2006, and January 15, 2007. Their gifts have been designated (all or in part) to the Medical School, School of Public Health, Cancer Center, or other areas served by the Minnesota Medical Foundation.

## BUILDERS SOCIETY

(\$1 million or more)

Donald L. and Patricia A. Garofalo

+James G. Schindler

## REGENTS SOCIETY

(\$500,000 to \$1 million)

Community Health Charities Minnesota

Dr. William R. and Marla C. Kennedy

## TRUSTEES SOCIETY

(\$100,000 to \$500,000)

Audio-Digest Foundation

Dr. John B., '69, and Sara Carter

+Harriet N. and +Bernt O. Goulson

+Hyman Horwitz

Dr. C. Sherman, '53, and Helen K. Hoyt

+Harriet M. Johnson

Dr. Richard A. and Lois A. King

Will Rogers Institute

## CHANCELLORS SOCIETY

(\$50,000 to \$100,000)

Drs. Paul R. and Kimberly A. Bohjanen

Eniva Corporation

Dr. Luke K. T., and +Sylvia H. Lam

Dr. John S. and Mignette Najarian

The Ryan Foundation for MPS Children

+Beverly Ann and +Don C. Smith

## FOUNDERS SOCIETY

(\$25,000 to \$50,000)

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At the University of Minnesota, we are working to secure a better quality of life — from training the next generation of health care leaders to investigating ways to prevent disease, find cures, and respond effectively to such global problems as bioterrorism and addiction. But we can't do it without your help.

Support a healthier tomorrow by including the Minnesota Medical Foundation in your estate or financial planning. For more information, call 800-922-1663 or 612-625-1440 and ask for Gift Planning. You can also e-mail us at [legacy@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:legacy@mmf.umn.edu).

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# A special thanks

We'd like to extend an extra thank-you to the following individuals and organizations who have made commitments totaling \$100,000 or more between September 15, 2006, and January 15, 2007, to health-related research, education, and service at the University of Minnesota.

Dennis W. and Audrey L. Anderson, Alexandria, Minnesota, gave an additional \$250,000 to the Experimental Therapeutics Fund for lung cancer research under the direction of Dr. Arek Dudek. The Andersons' ongoing support of this fund combines personal gratitude for a return to good health with the hope that others will benefit from research findings that are translated into beneficial treatments.

An anonymous family has contributed an additional \$100,000 to advance research on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in the Center for Lung Science and Health under the leadership of Dr. David Ingbar. Their gift pays tribute to their late relative and to the physician team at the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview, who cared for him. (See article, page 1.)

The Audio-Digest Foundation, Glendale, California, pledged \$100,000 to establish a permanent continuing medical education fund. The Audio-Digest Foundation is a nonprofit affiliate of the California Medical Association that supports continuing education programs for physicians and other health-care professionals and teaching forums for medical educators.

Dr. John B. and Sara Carter, West Columbia, South Carolina, pledged \$100,000 in support of scholarships, adding to a commitment that has spanned nearly two decades. Dr. Carter is a member of the Medical School Class of 1969 and director of pathology services for Lexington Medical Center.

Children's Cancer Research Fund (CCRF), Minneapolis, directed an additional \$988,000 to the Cancer Center's pediatric cancer research efforts. CCRF combines broad-based community support and highly successful fund-raising events to help advance innovative and progressive childhood cancer research and document long-term survivorship outcomes. The CCRF board directs contributions to endowed chairs and professorships as well as specific research protocols.

Martin V. and Janet L. Chorzempa, Bloomington, Minnesota, pledged \$250,000 to help establish the John H. Kersey Chair in Cancer Research in the Cancer Center. The Chorzempas are strong advocates for the Cancer Center, having established the Jan and Marty Chorzempa Fund for the Cancer Therapeutics Initiative in 2002. Their new gift celebrates Dr. Kersey's successful leadership as head of the Cancer Center and his return to the laboratory to lead innovative research projects.

Dr. Robert D. and Nancy E. Christensen, Minneapolis, committed \$100,000 from their estate in support of medical student scholarships. Dr. Christensen, a member of the Medical School Class of 1966, was a surgeon for the Park Nicollet Clinic in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, until his retirement in 2006. Mrs. Christensen recently retired as executive director of the Minnesota Grocers Association.

Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Incorporated, New Brunswick, New Jersey, continues to support the Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship Fund through gifts totaling \$129,200. Ethicon Endo-Surgery develops and markets advanced medical devices for minimally invasive and open surgical procedures. The company focuses on devices for the interventional diagnosis and treatment of conditions in general and bariatric surgery, as well as gastrointestinal health, gynecology, and surgical oncology.

The Forster Family, Minneapolis, contributed \$250,000 to help establish the John H. Kersey Chair in Cancer Research in the Cancer Center. Barbara L. Forster and her family have strongly advocated for research programs at the Cancer Center and, in 2000, established the Forster Family Professorship in Cancer Prevention as well as a research fund focused on preventing cancer. In addition, Barbara serves as chair of the Cancer Center's Advisory Board. She has also chaired the Minnesota Medical Foundation board of trustees and the foundation's Campaign Minnesota initiatives.

Donald L. and Patricia A. Garofalo, Oakdale, Minnesota, committed \$2 million to fund the new Donald and Patricia Garofalo Chair in Preventive Cardiology. A \$500,000 match from the University will fund fellowships in cardiology, including the Anthony Garofalo Fellowship in Preventive Cardiology. The Garofalos have contributed to the Medical School's cardiology programs for several years and support Dr. Daniel Weisdorf's work in cancer immunotherapy with an annual grant of \$25,000. Mr. Garofalo is chairman of the Andersen Corporation and the company's former president and chief executive officer.

The General Mills Foundation, Minneapolis, has contributed \$150,000 to a School of Public Health project that encourages Minnesota schoolchildren to be physically active. The foundation has also pledged matching gifts totaling \$1,825 for several other health-related programs.

The estate of Olga B. Hart, Edina, Minnesota, has distributed an additional \$304,062 to the Cancer Center through the Olga Hart Fund for Cancer Research, Education, and Treatment. Ms. Hart's estate has given more than \$4.6 million to the innovative and interdisciplinary research programs that are hallmarks of the Cancer Center.

The Margaret Harvey Schering Trust for Cancer Research, Edina, Minnesota, committed an additional \$500,000 to the Schering Research Fund in Cancer Genetics at the Cancer Center. The Margaret Harvey Schering Land-Grant Chair in Cancer Genetics is also supported by the Schering Trust.

Helen B. Hauser, Wayzata, Minnesota, took her advocacy for medical students to the next level by directing \$500,000 from the Minnesota Community Foundation for the establishment of the Drennen Bros Hauser Family Endowed Scholarship. Mrs. Hauser's support of medical student scholarships spans nearly two decades. The new fund will support medical students active in community service who have exhibited a passion for healing patients.

The Healthier Minnesota Community Clinic Fund, St. Paul, has made an additional gift of \$100,000 to the Community-University Health Care Center, a south Minneapolis clinic that serves individuals and families in the Phillips neighborhood. The Healthier Minnesota Community Clinic Fund is an independent foundation that is dedicated to improving the quality of care for low-income people, communities of color, and the medically underserved.

The William Randolph Hearst Foundation, San Francisco, California, gave an additional \$200,000 in support of the William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship Fund. The William Randolph Hearst Foundation established the Hearst Endowed Scholarship in 2002 to support underrepresented students who are pursuing a graduate degree in public health. (See article, page 5.)

Patricia S. Kane, Minneapolis, has committed \$1,013,000 in legacy and outright gifts to the Dennis J. and Patricia S. Kane Endowed Scholarship, the Powell Center of Excellence in Women's Health, and the Mature Women's Health Education Fund. Mrs. Kane is an alumna of the University and a longtime proponent of its health-related programs. She established the Kane scholarship in 1999 in gratitude for the education that she and her late husband, Dr. Dennis Kane — a member of the Medical School Class of 1955 — received.

Dr. William R. and Marla C. Kennedy, St. Paul, made additional gifts totaling \$185,500 that benefit the Dr. Kennedy Nerve, Muscle, and Skin Research Fund and the Kennedy Tissue Fund. Dr. Kennedy is a member of the Department of Neurology faculty and University of Minnesota Physicians. His research focus is the morphology and function of unmyelinated nerves in the skin and gastrointestinal tract, with an emphasis on the diabetic patient.

Dr. Richard A. King and Lois A. King, Minnetonka, Minnesota, pledged \$1 million through a combination of contributions, pledges, and estate gifts to establish the Lois and Richard King Distinguished Assistant Professorship. Dr. King completed his internship and residency in internal medicine and graduate work in genetics at the University of Minnesota. He holds faculty appointments in the Departments of Medicine, Pediatrics, Ophthalmology, and Dermatology. The King Distinguished Assistant Professorship will one day be awarded to a promising assistant professor performing basic research, translational clinical research, and/or scholarly activity in education.

Jim and Paula McDonald and Ashley and Jeff Taylor, Atlanta, Georgia, directed \$100,000 to the Islet Research and Transplantation Fund in the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation. This is their first gift in support of the University of Minnesota's health-related programs.

The Regis Foundation for Breast Cancer Research, Minneapolis, pledged an additional \$150,000 to help advance clinical research on breast cancer. The Regis Foundation for Breast Cancer Research has been making significant gifts to the Cancer Center since 2001.

Research to Prevent Blindness, New York, New York, made an annual gift of \$110,000 to the Research to Prevent Blindness Fund in the Department of Ophthalmology. Through its ongoing support of this fund, this largely voluntary organization has helped advance research on treatments and prevention strategies for blinding diseases.

The estate of Roger E. Smith, Princeton, Minnesota, has funded a trust that will provide income to loved ones and eventually benefit both spina bifida research in the Department of Pediatrics and macular degeneration research and education in the Department of Ophthalmology. Mr. Smith was a farmer who also worked as a nurse's aide for 33 years at the Cambridge State Hospital in Cambridge, Minnesota.

3M Company and 3M Foundation, Maplewood, Minnesota, have together pledged \$1.2 million to advance the work of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP). These stalwart Minnesota organizations were among the first three years ago to support CIDRAP's mission to prevent illness and death caused by infectious disease. Additional support from these organizations includes matching gift pledges totaling \$39,022 for several other health-related programs.

The estate of Syvilla M. Turbis, Faribault, Minnesota, continues to support the Cancer Center and the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation through gifts totaling \$740,264. Mrs. Turbis worked for the Northern States Power Company and was an active volunteer in her community.

The Viking Children's Fund, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, has built on its long-standing support of pediatric research, education, and service through a gift of \$160,000. Since 1978, the Viking Children's Fund has provided Vikings players, coaches, staff, and their families with an outlet to meet the many needs of children in the Upper Midwest. Currently, it awards 50 percent of all funds raised to the Department of Pediatrics. It also helps facilitate visits between Vikings players and children at the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, Fairview.

Winston R. and Maxine H. Wallin, Edina, Minnesota, made commitments totaling \$250,100, including a pledge of \$250,000 to help establish the John H. Kersey Chair in Cancer Research. The Wallins have been tremendous proponents of the University of Minnesota for more than 20 years. Their past support of its health-related programs includes significant gifts to the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation and to the Cancer Center for the establishment of the Win and Maxine Wallin Land-Grant Chair in Cancer Prevention.

Drs. Warren J. and Henrietta H. Warwick, Minneapolis, contributed \$100,000 to create the Warren and Henrietta Warwick Fellowship in the History of Medicine. Dr. Warren Warwick is an alumnus and member of the Medical School faculty, as well as founder of the Minnesota Cystic Fibrosis Center. He is known for his expertise in creating new and better approaches to the care of patients with cystic fibrosis. He and Dr. Henrietta Warwick established the Warwick Fellowship to provide funding to students pursuing a Ph.D. in the history of medicine.

## MINNESOTA MEDICAL FOUNDATION

at the University of Minnesota

The Minnesota Medical Foundation is a nonprofit organization that raises funds for health-related research, education, and service at the University of Minnesota.

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support the research of David Ingbar, M.D., professor and director of the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care.

These gifts are helping the University's leaders in lung health build a bigger, better, nationally renowned lung center in Minnesota.

"We see the need for an interdisciplinary lung center," says Ingbar, executive director of the new Center for Lung Science and Health (CLSH). "Nationally there are cancer centers galore, lots of neuroscience centers, but virtually no lung centers. There's a huge disease burden out there that needs attention."

The University launched the new center in late 2006 as an expansion of its Center for Advanced Lung Disease. "The new center and its new name encompass a broader mission," says Hertz, the center's director, that includes chronic lung diseases, allergy and asthma, critical care medicine, sleep medicine, and environmental and occupational lung issues.

"They've got everything from soup to nuts," says John Murphy, who now chairs the Minnesota Medical Foundation's board of trustees and is actively fund-raising for the CLSH, among other causes. "Anything to do with breathing, the lung center's got it."

The center brings together lung researchers from many disciplines to collaborate on their common goals: developing new treatments and getting them to patients as quickly as possible.

With that broadened mission comes a greater need for philanthropy, according to Hertz and Ingbar.

"Research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is getting harder to come by. That's why start-up research funding from donors is so crucial," Ingbar says. When a person or organization makes a relatively small donation to start-up research, the results of that work can leverage millions of research dollars from the NIH.

Hertz and Ingbar — or the "dynamic duo," as Murphy calls them — hope the O'Brien Biobank for Lung Research will be an example of this process.

In the Biobank, researchers are storing tissue samples from diseased lungs. When they later apply for NIH funding to analyze genetic and molecular differences between

tissue samples, the tissue they've already banked will help provide answers — giving them an advantage over the "competition."

And as competition between universities grows, recruiting and retaining top-tier faculty members becomes more difficult, Ingbar says. "Donations for endowed chairs or professorships that help the University to attract renowned faculty members are vital. Otherwise, it's like competing against the New York Yankees in the free-agent market."



PHOTO: SCOTT STREBLE

David Ingbar, M.D., and Marshall Hertz, M.D., are leading the University's new Center for Lung Science and Health.

Donations for a lung science laboratory, clinical research activities, and community outreach also will be needed to propel the University's lung center to the top, Hertz says.

Murphy, for one, is thrilled about Ingbar's and Hertz's enthusiasm and drive. And he knows personally many of the people a leading lung center will benefit.

"When Judy was sick, we went to a support group every Monday, sometimes dragging an oxygen tank," he says. "We got to know all of these people from all walks of life, who all had lung disease. I want to help them. We can put up a beacon and show them how to get here by becoming a center of excellence."

To make a gift or for more information, please contact Jennifer Soderholm at 612-624-2684 or j.soderholm@mmf.umn.edu.

## giving matters WINTER 2007

Published three times a year  
by the Minnesota Medical Foundation

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Reader comments and suggestions  
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Printed on recycled paper using at  
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