

# giving matters

SPRING 2010

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



PHOTO: TIM RUMMELHOFF

Motivated by a vision of healthier American communities, Leslie and Lowell Kruse created a scholarship to support future leaders through the School of Public Health's Master of Healthcare Administration program.

**“Our country spends about 17.5 percent of our GDP on health care, and our population just keeps getting sicker.”**

– LOWELL KRUSE, FORMER CEO OF HEARTLAND HEALTH

## Building healthy communities

This public health scholarship just might turn our country around

Lowell Kruse was the youngest student in the Master of Healthcare Administration (M.H.A.) Program when he came to the School of Public Health (SPH) in 1965. He was 21 and had just graduated from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. His wife, Leslie, was 19. They drove to Minnesota in Lowell's father's

cattle truck with their furniture and 6-week-old baby. “We were absolutely clueless,” says Leslie. “We looked like the Clampetts.”

Today, the Kruses are older, wiser, and grateful to have accomplished so much. Though they stand out as individuals, they are on fire with a common goal — to raise Americans' economic, educational, and social well-being to create healthier citizens and healthier communities.

“Our country spends about 17.5 percent of our GDP on health care, and our population just keeps getting sicker,” says Lowell, recently retired CEO of Heartland Health, an integrated health system in St. Joseph, Missouri.

The Kruses believe health care administrators must provide the leadership to help reverse that trend, so they created the \$1 million Lowell and Leslie Kruse Scholarship to Build Healthy Communities, a gift to the M.H.A. Program in the SPH.

“We're talking about developing that leader, that group of leaders, that legion of leaders whose mission is to improve the health of citizens and build healthy communities throughout the country,” Lowell says.

The Kruses have given half of their gift, and the other half will come to the University after their deaths. The first installment alone, together with the University's President's Scholarship Match, will make \$50,000 available to M.H.A. students beginning in 2011.

“Lowell and Leslie Kruse want to shake up the status quo, and I'm glad they've chosen us to help them,” says SPH Dean John Finnegan, Ph.D. “They truly believe that our graduates have the responsibility of turning our country around, and their gift will jump-start a new focus on leadership in our M.H.A. program.”

continued on back page

giving matters



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*"I like big, hairy, audacious goals," Lowell Kruse tells us in this issue's cover story. In*

*fact, Lowell and his wife, Leslie Kruse, have set an audacious goal themselves: They plan to raise Americans' economic, educational, and social well-being to improve the health of our citizens and communities.*

*An alumnus of the Master of Healthcare Administration Program at the University's School of Public Health, Lowell recently retired as CEO of Heartland Health, an integrated health system in St. Joseph, Missouri. Over the years, he and Leslie became convinced that health care leaders have a moral obligation to promote the overall health and well-being of the people in their communities. So they've created a \$1 million scholarship in the M.H.A. Program to develop leaders who will shake up the status quo.*

*Bold, new ideas form a common thread connecting all of our stories. In the following pages, you'll read about longtime Medical School donors Richard and Jacalyn Lindstrom, who helped to launch an inventive new scholarship program and to foster innovation in ophthalmology.*

*Another couple, Tom and Meredith Olson, have put their support behind the University's Schulze Diabetes Institute, which has an audacious goal of its own: curing type 1 diabetes.*

*You'll also find an update on the new state-of-the-art University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital. As Minnesota's first "green" hospital, it breaks the mold by featuring environmentally sensitive architecture, green spaces, and child- and family-friendly designs that promote healing.*

*At the Minnesota Medical Foundation, we like big, hairy, audacious goals, too. With your generous support, we've set some of our own — because time and again, we've seen that bold ideas expand what's possible.*

#### Becky Malkerson

President and CEO  
Minnesota Medical Foundation

## From beneficiary to benefactor

Couple's gifts boost scholarships, ophthalmology, and personal satisfaction

Twin Cities ophthalmologist Richard L. Lindstrom, M.D., has many fond memories of campus life as a University of Minnesota medical student, including his fraternity involvement and season tickets to Gopher football games. But most memorable and inspiring, he says, was the support he received from others.

The Class of 1972 alumnus names as great mentors four former deans: N. L. "Neal" Gault Jr., M.D., Robert Howard, M.D., Ph.D., H. Mead Cavert, M.D., Ph.D., and W. Albert Sullivan Jr., M.D. "The deans provided personalized and compassionate guidance," says Lindstrom. "They served as wonderful role models. They took time for me."

Financial support from the Minnesota Medical Foundation (MMF) was critical to his medical school years as well. "It helped me get through," says Lindstrom, a professor emeritus in the University's Department of Ophthalmology.

In gratitude for that support, Lindstrom and his wife, Jacalyn, have been giving back to the Medical School for more than 20 years, establishing a research fellowship that's still in use today and funding two postdoctoral fellowships in ophthalmology.

This spring, they made MMF a beneficiary of their trust, which will result in a \$2 million gift to establish the Richard L. Lindstrom Research Chair in Ophthalmology. The couple also made a four-year, \$30,000 pledge to the Dean's Scholars Society, which provides scholarships aimed at keeping top medical student prospects in Minnesota. Their recent pledge renews an original commitment they made as founders of the Dean's Scholars Society in 2004.

"For me it is a little bit of a payback," Richard Lindstrom says of the couple's contributions. "I appreciate the gift that I had been given through the University of Minnesota."

Lindstrom says that he wants current students to have the best experience possible in medical school. "The only way we can retain the highest quality research and education is through philanthropy," he explains.

Lindstrom also believes that goal is crucial to everyone, because most health care professionals in the state are trained at the University. "You and your family's future health depends on it," he says, adding, "The University of Minnesota is the biggest engine for prosperity we have in the state. The University makes Minnesota a better place to live."



Ophthalmologist Richard L. Lindstrom, M.D., and his wife, Jacalyn, are giving back in gratitude for the support Richard received as a medical student.

Besides, Lindstrom says, giving back to the University simply makes him feel good.

"If you want to have a fuller and more joyous life, find something and someone else to give to," he advises.

— ROBYN WHITE

*For more information, contact Teri McIntyre at 612-625-5976 or t.mcintyre@mmf.umn.edu. Visit www.mmf.umn.edu/giving for ways to give.*

#### DEAN'S SCHOLARS SOCIETY AT A GLANCE

- The premise: Provide full-tuition medical school scholarships to top students from Minnesota. Donors may pool their gifts, make individual gifts, or endow a scholarship.
- First scholarships awarded: 2004
- Number of Dean's Scholar graduates: 7
- Currently enrolled Dean's Scholars: 15
- Donations received to date: \$540,000

## U's colorful new children's hospital building takes shape

While teams at the University already work together closely when it comes to pediatric and maternal health care, the new home for University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital will unite the two areas in one family-friendly physical space.

Construction crews have made significant progress on the new facility, which is scheduled to open in March 2011. Perhaps the most visible change is the placement of the hospital's distinctive anodized stainless steel exterior siding panels, which reflect blue, green, purple, maroon, or gold,



The new hospital's operating suites measure 650 square feet.

depending on how the sunlight hits them. These unique metal panels contain recycled material and are resistant to corrosion.

The new facility is designed with families in mind, with all private patient rooms that are 65 percent larger than the industry standard. It also will be Minnesota's first "green" hospital, featuring an environmentally sensitive design, eco-friendly materials, and green spaces.

Russ Williams, vice president of facilities and operations for the hospital, says the new building will be memorable in more ways than one. "We will be providing exceptional care in a state-of-the-art facility that may also quickly become an iconic piece of architecture in the Twin Cities," he says.

*To learn more about the construction progress or to take a virtual tour of the new facility, visit [www.uofmchildrens.org/newhospital](http://www.uofmchildrens.org/newhospital).*



University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital is one of three buildings in the country to use these distinctive metal panels that reflect blue, green, purple, maroon, or gold, depending on how the sunlight hits them.

## Community partners make the hospital a better place for kids

A hospital stay can be a tough time for children and their families. But for kids at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital, community partners are helping to make that time a little better.

#### Transportation Club of Minneapolis & St. Paul

For close to eight decades, members of this club have supported the hospital with gifts of time and money. This year the group made another commitment: it will equip all 96 patient rooms in the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital facility with a computer.

Transportation Club vice president Tom Krieger says kids in the hospital increasingly asked for electronics and digital devices, so the club responded.

"We figured that [computers] would give the kids unlimited access and fulfill a lot of needs for them," says Krieger.

#### Don Stevens, Inc.

This Eagan-based restaurant and HVAC equipment distribution company recently agreed to donate all the refrigerators, microwaves, and toasters for the new hospital building. Each of the 96 patient rooms — as well as doctors' lounges and other common spaces — will have those appliances.

With the new hospital's upcoming opening and the need for the type of equipment that Don Stevens sells, co-owners Jim Zechmann and Dave DeSutter saw a chance to make a big difference.

"We saw this as an opportunity to step up for a very big cause," Zechmann says.

#### The Valspar Corporation

Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company donated 3,600 gallons of its highest-quality low-VOC paint to coat the walls of the new facility and adjacent remodeled areas.

Mike Dougherty, Valspar vice president of communications and president of The Valspar Foundation, says the circumstances were just right for the company to be involved with its product in this meaningful way.

"How often is a new University children's hospital built?" asks Dougherty. "We're a Minnesota-based company, and we have a special place in our hearts for the U of M."

*To learn more about corporate partnerships and in-kind donations to University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital, contact Elizabeth Patty at 612-273-8638 or e.patty@mmf.umn.edu.*

## Changing the game

### Gifts in sister's memory propel type 1 diabetes research

When Tom Olson's younger sister, Carol, was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age 19, he wasn't sure what to expect. "I had heard of diabetes, but I just didn't know what that meant," he recalls.

But over the next two decades of Carol's life, the entire Olson family learned the hard way. At first, Carol had some of the more typical complications, but they became more serious by the time she reached her mid-30s.

She suffered extreme highs and lows in blood sugar, passing out frequently. She developed neuropathy, once burning her leg on a motorcycle ride without realizing it. Then Carol's kidneys failed, requiring her to undergo dialysis three times every week.

That is when Tom, a University of Minnesota alumnus, brought Carol to the University to see renowned transplant surgeon David Sutherland, M.D., Ph.D. Tom had hoped to donate a kidney to his sister, but he wasn't a suitable match.

Then in September of 1995, Carol Olson died in her sleep. She was 42 years old.

"Her life had become so difficult," Tom says. "She tried very hard to control her diabetes, but for the last six to eight months, it was almost uncontrollable."

### Taking action

Over the next several years, Tom considered how he could best honor his sister. In 2004 he and his wife, Meredith, returned to the University to learn more about the Diabetes

Institute for Immunology and Transplantation — now the Schulze Diabetes Institute (SDI) — to which Sutherland had introduced Tom in the 1990s.

After talking more with Sutherland and his SDI colleague Bernhard Hering, M.D., about their greatest research needs, the Olsons decided to establish the Carol Olson Memorial Diabetes Research Fund with a significant gift.

"We decided research for the cure was the way to go," Tom says.

Since then, the Olsons have continued their philanthropy with annual gifts to the fund for both research and to establish a key position in the SDI.

And in January, Tom's 30-year-old son, Chad Olson, made his first gift to the fund in his aunt's memory. He and his younger sister, Kendall, spent lots of time with Carol as they were growing up.

"We're a close-knit family," Chad says. "My thought is, going forward, that I want to help out any way I can. It's just getting us that much closer to a cure."



Meredith and Tom Olson created a diabetes research fund in memory of Tom's sister Carol in 2004 and have since watched as University investigators make significant strides toward a cure.

### 'It's going to happen'

Since the Olsons' first gift to the Carol Olson Memorial Diabetes Research Fund in 2004, SDI physician-scientists have refined the technique for isolating insulin-producing islet cells from a single donor pancreas to treat one patient (previously, more than one donor pancreas was needed per patient), reversed type 1 diabetes in monkeys using islet cells from pigs, and become one of only seven sites nationally to participate in a clinical trial to determine whether human islet transplantation should be an FDA-approved treatment for difficult-to-manage cases.

It's been exciting for the Olsons to see the University make such strides. And it got even more exciting, Tom says, when scientists here started talking about a cure for type 1 diabetes.

"Before that, it was almost like you didn't dare utter the word," says Tom, who currently serves on the Minnesota Medical Foundation's board of trustees and is slated to become its chair in the fall. "It all of a sudden changed the game."

Now he's looking forward to the day when University researchers announce that they've developed the cure for type 1 diabetes and that it's ready for patients.

"First of all, it is going to happen. And it is going to happen here," Tom says. "It's hard to imagine that any place else in the world has all the pieces in place like we do."

— NICOLE ENDRES

To support diabetes research at the University, contact Jean Gorell at 612-625-0497 or j.gorell@mmf.umn.edu, or visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/diabetes](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/diabetes).

## JUNE

### 14 MONDAY Champions for Children Golf Classic\*

Windsong Farm Golf Club Independence, Minnesota

Enjoy 18 holes of golf, lunch, on-course food and beverages, a deluxe player gift package, and dinner. Your foursome will be joined by a surprise celebrity golfer. This year's celebrities include Randall McDaniel, Bob Lurtsema, Stu Voigt, Peter Bercich, Chad Greenway, Randy Shaver, Dave Lee, and Dan "The Common Man" Cole. The event benefits University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

① Contact Sara Ferden at 612-273-8643 or s.ferden@mmf.umn.edu

### 14 MONDAY 18th Annual International Hearing Foundation Golf Classic

Crystal Lake Golf Club Lakeville, Minnesota

This International Hearing Foundation-sponsored event supports people who are coping with chronic ear diseases such as tinnitus and Meniere's disease, which affect more than 50 million people in the United States.

① Contact Treva Paparella at 612-339-2120

### 14 MONDAY Karen's Hope Ataxia Benefit

Oak Marsh Golf Course Oakdale, Minnesota

This charity golf tournament, silent auction, and dinner in honor of Karen Frigstad, who was diagnosed with Friedrich's ataxia 11 years ago, benefits the Bob Allison Ataxia Research Center at the University of Minnesota.

① Contact Amy Ault at 612-626-5720 or a.ault@mmf.umn.edu

### 21 MONDAY Golf Classic "fore" Diabetes\*

Town and Country Club St. Paul, Minnesota

The tournament, which benefits the Schulze Diabetes Institute at the University of Minnesota, includes morning and afternoon rounds, a live auction, and both lunch and dinner programs. Join in the fun and help support a tournament that has raised almost \$4 million for research to cure type 1 diabetes.

① Contact Valerie Petermann at 612-624-4444 or v.petermann@mmf.umn.edu

## JULY

### 26 MONDAY 10th Annual Rein in Sarcoma

Cafesjian's Carousel and Como Park Visitor Center St. Paul, Minnesota

Join us for a magical evening of great music, entertainment, and family fun. Rein in Sarcoma 2010 will feature carousel rides, entertainment, a silent auction, and children's activities. The event raises funds to benefit sarcoma research and physician education at the University of Minnesota and provides hope and support to individuals and families who are facing these rare and dangerous cancers.

① Visit [www.reininsarcoma.org](http://www.reininsarcoma.org)

## SEPTEMBER

### 23–24 THURSDAY AND FRIDAY Medical School Alumni Reunion\*

McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota

Celebrating reunions are the classes of 1950, 1955, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1985, 1990, and 2000. Reunite with friends, learn about the latest in medical education, tour the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital, and see what's new at the Medical School. Volunteers are needed to contact classmates. Visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/alumni/reunions](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/alumni/reunions).

① Contact Katrina Roth at 612-625-0336 or k.roth@mmf.umn.edu

## OCTOBER

### 7 THURSDAY Take Heart: Sharing the Secrets to Women's Heart Health\*

McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota

The Lillehei Heart Institute and the Minnesota Medical Foundation invite women to attend this special event to learn about the latest in women's heart health at the University of Minnesota.

① Contact Brittany LaMere at 612-625-7490 or b.lamere@mmf.umn.edu

### 15 FRIDAY Alumni Celebration Banquet\*

McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota

At this annual dinner, Medical School alumni and guests are invited to pay tribute to the recipients of this year's Diehl, Distinguished Alumni, and Early Distinguished Career Alumni awards, while also celebrating fellow alumni who give back to the Medical School.

① Contact Katrina Roth at 612-625-0336 or k.roth@mmf.umn.edu

\*Sponsored by the Minnesota Medical Foundation



PHOTO: ANGELIC WEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Eight local artists contributed their time and talents to create wine barrel art for WineFest No. 15, held May 7 and 8 at the Depot in Minneapolis. The two barrels and six barrel tops sold at the event's auction raised nearly \$5,000 for research, education, and care at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

go to : [www.mmf.umn.edu](http://www.mmf.umn.edu) For event descriptions, updates, links, and contact information.

### CLOSING IN ON A CURE

Schulze Diabetes Institute (SDI) researchers are advancing a cure for type 1 diabetes from these angles:

- **Human islet transplantation:** Though it's still considered experimental, human-to-human islet transplantation (the islets come from the pancreases of deceased organ donors) has helped dozens of people achieve insulin independence since 2000 through the University of Minnesota's program alone.
- **Pig islet transplantation:** Because there's a limited supply of available

human islet cells, SDI scientists are exploring the use of pig islets for transplantation in humans.

- **Stem cell-derived islet cells:** SDI scientists are turning adult skin cells into stem cells that can generate islet cells, and they're testing the use of stem cells to enable islet cells to regenerate — or avoid destruction.
- **Countering rejection:** They're also investigating alternative transplant sites and developing immunotherapies to avoid rejection and reduce side effects.

## Breast cancer: Raising funds and awareness



Regis Corporation CFO Randy Pearce (left) and chairman and CEO Paul Finkelstein (center) presented a big check to Masonic Cancer Center director Douglas Yee, M.D., on February 4 — with big intentions. The \$400,000 gift from the Regis Foundation for Breast Cancer Research establishes a permanently endowed fund to support University of Minnesota research focused on preventing, treating, and curing breast cancer. The Regis Foundation, sponsored by the global hair-care giant Regis Corporation, intends to contribute a total of \$2 million to the fund over the next several years. The foundation has been a longstanding supporter of breast cancer research at the Masonic Cancer Center, having given more than \$1.1 million to its efforts in the past.

"At Regis Corporation, we have an ongoing commitment to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research," Finkelstein says. "We are proud to partner with the Masonic Cancer Center and support its important work in finding a cure for breast cancer."

# A special thanks

We'd like to extend an extra thank-you to the following individuals and organizations that have made commitments totaling \$100,000 or more to the University's health-related work between October 1, 2009, and April 30, 2010.

**Adopt A Room**, a White Bear Lake, Minnesota, organization founded by Brian Schepperle and David Millington gave \$100,000 to sponsor an Adopt A Room in the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

**Amgen, Inc.**, Thousand Oaks, California, contributed \$100,000 to the Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship.

**G. Mary Bradley, M.D.**, Minneapolis, gave \$100,000 to the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology.

**The Children's Cancer Research Fund**, Minneapolis, made gifts totaling more than \$700,000 to the Childhood Cancer Research Program.

**Rodney L. and Janet L. Cooperman**, Minneapolis, made gifts totaling \$100,127 in support of lymphoma research.

**Douglas J. and Wendy L. Dayton**, Wayzata, Minnesota, gave \$250,000 in support of breast cancer research and type 2 diabetes research.

The estate of **Mary L. Dyar**, St. Paul, has given \$408,296 to the B. A. Dyar 1905 and Robert Dyar '34 Memorial Scholarship at the Medical School.

**EB Medical Research Foundation**, Beverly Hills, California, donated \$150,000 to establish the Epidermolysis Bullosa Medical Research Foundation Fund.

**Fairview Health Services**, Minneapolis, gave more than \$2 million to the Medical School.

**5th District Eagles Cancer Telethon of Southern Minnesota**, Rochester, Minnesota, contributed \$135,000 to the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

**Genentech, Inc.**, South San Francisco, California, gave \$100,000 to support the Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship.

The **Harold and Jean Grossman Foundation**, Scottsdale, Arizona, gave \$100,000 to the N. Bud Grossman Center for Memory Research and Care at the University of Minnesota.

**Gyrus ACMI, Inc.**, Maple Grove, Minnesota, gave \$150,000 to establish the Mesentery and Omentum Tissue Database Project Fund.

The estate of **Elizabeth M. Haaland, M.D.**, distributed \$308,108 to the Elizabeth M. Haaland Endowed Dermatology Research and Education Fund and \$308,108 to the Elizabeth M. Haaland, M.D., Endowed Scholarship.

**Patrick G. Hays**, Henderson, Nevada, pledged a future estate gift and made an additional gift of \$25,000 for the establishment of the Patrick G. Hays Leadership Scholarship in the School of Public Health.

**Healthier Minnesota Community Clinic Fund, Inc.**, St. Paul, gave \$150,000 to the Community-University Health Care Center.

**Doris I. Johnson, M.D.**, Corona Del Mar, California, committed a future estate gift in support of medical research.

**Dr. William R. and Marla C. Kennedy**, St. Paul, made gifts totaling more than \$100,000 for neurological research.

**Lowell C. and Leslie V. Kruse**, St. Joseph, Missouri, made gifts totaling \$607,000 and committed a significant future estate gift to the Lowell and Leslie Kruse Scholarship to Build Healthy Communities in the School of Public Health (see cover story).

**Rosemary Kubicek**, Minneapolis, pledged \$150,000 for the establishment of the Dr. William G. and Rosemary Kubicek Scholarship at the Medical School.

**Arnold S. Leonard, M.D., Ph.D.**, Golden Valley, Minnesota, directed \$200,000 from the Arnold S. Leonard Cancer Research Fund to support research in pediatric surgery.

**Dr. Richard L. and Jacalyn M. Lindstrom**, Wayzata, Minnesota, increased their future estate gift for the Richard L. Lindstrom Research Chair in Ophthalmology and pledged an additional \$30,000 in support of the Dean's Scholars Society (see story on page 2).

The **Lions Multiple District Hearing Foundation**, Green Isle, Minnesota, gave \$161,608 to the Lions Program Development Fund, which benefits the Department of Otolaryngology.

The estate of **Grace A. McCready**, Olivia, Minnesota, distributed \$133,714 to the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

**Medtronic Foundation**, Minneapolis, made gifts totaling \$185,500 to the Community-University Health Care Center, Consortium on Medical Education in the Global Village, and School of Public Health Alumni and Friends Scholarship Gala.

**Minnesota Vikings Children's Fund**, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, made gifts totaling \$206,000 in support of community programs and pediatric research at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

The estate of **Theodore G. Moen**, Alexandria, Minnesota, distributed \$102,740 to the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

The estate of **Douglas C. Mohl**, Parrish, Florida, distributed \$250,000 in support of the Alzheimer's Disease Nun Study Fund and the Alzheimer's Disease Research and Prevention Fund.

**Dr. Michael M. and Treva Paparella**, Minneapolis, pledged a future estate gift to the Department of Otolaryngology and made an additional gift to the George L. Adams, M.D., Professorship for Leadership in Otolaryngology.

**The Regis Foundation for Breast Cancer Research**, Minneapolis, has given gifts totaling \$450,000 in support of the Regis Endowed Breast Cancer Research Fund and has a goal to give a total of \$2 million over the next several years (see photo on page 5).

**Research to Prevent Blindness**, New York, gave \$100,000 to the Research to Prevent Blindness Fund.

**Darrel J. Rosen, M.D.**, East Grand Rapids, Michigan, pledged a future estate gift to benefit the Dr. Elliott B. Springer Endowed Scholarship at the Medical School.

The estate of **Ann G. Salovich**, Minneapolis, distributed \$223,339 to the Center for Bioethics.

**Edward A. and Judith A. Schuck, Ph.D.**, Wayzata, Minnesota, committed a future estate gift to the University of Minnesota's Center for Lung Science and Health.

**The Randy Shaver Cancer Research and Community Fund**, Wayzata, Minnesota, made gifts totaling \$165,396 in support of six researchers at the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

**Dr. Alan C. and Martha A. Stormo**, Boulder, Colorado, committed a future estate gift to provide unrestricted funding for health-related research, education, and care at the University of Minnesota.

**The Danny Thompson Memorial Golf Tournament**, Sun Valley, Idaho, contributed \$270,000 in support of leukemia research at the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

**3M Company and 3M Foundation**, Maplewood, Minnesota, made combined gifts totaling nearly \$250,000 in support of toxicology research and the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy. They also made numerous contributions through their matching gift program.

**The University Medical Auxiliary**, Minneapolis, pledged \$150,000 to support University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital and the hospital's creative arts therapy program. It also will fund a new patient art gallery at the hospital.

**Helen H. Wang, M.D.**, Minneapolis, gave \$100,000 to help establish the Dr. Yang Wang Memorial Fund in memory of her late husband. The fund supports cardiovascular research and education.

The estate of **Alice I. Weidenfeller**, Burnsville, Minnesota, distributed \$169,472 in support of University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital and the Hematology, Oncology, and Transplant Division Memorial Fund.

**The Karen Wyckoff Rein in Sarcoma Foundation**, Shoreview, Minnesota, gave \$153,820 to the Karen Wyckoff Sarcoma Research Fund at the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

# 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 October 1, 2009, and April 30, 2010. Their gifts have been designated (all or in part) to the Medical School, School of Public Health, Masonic Cancer Center, or other areas served by the Minnesota Medical Foundation.

### BUILDERS SOCIETY (\$1 million to \$10 million)

Dr. William R. and Marla C. Kennedy

### REGENTS SOCIETY (\$250,000 to \$1 million)

Cancer Benefit Fund  
Lowell C. and Leslie V. Kruse  
Dr. Richard L., '72, and Jacalyn M. Lindstrom  
Richard A. and Jeanne M. Norling  
• Jane B. Spence

### TRUSTEES SOCIETY (\$100,000 to \$250,000)

Adopt A Room  
Arthrex, Inc.  
Drs. G. Mary and + William E. Bradley, '57  
Children with Diabetes Foundation  
Grant Thornton, LLP  
Dr. Heidi Roy Hubbard  
Jeannine A. and + Dr. Alan R. Johnson  
Rosemary Kubicek  
Northland Foundation  
Pacific Northwest Friends of FSH Research  
The Scott Richards North Star Charitable Foundation  
Dr. Jerry M. Speckman, '75  
Dr. Bradley L. and Joan E. Videen  
Drs. Helen and + Yang Wang  
Dr. James G., '55, and Mary S. White

### CHANCELLORS SOCIETY (\$25,000 to \$100,000)

Cal Allen  
American Society of Nephrology  
Anonymous  
Rachel and Adam Aslakson  
Avanstar, Inc.  
Marie and David C. Berghult  
Randall C. and Marcia L. Betcher  
Dee A. and James G. Boulger, Ph.D.  
Dr. Florence J. Bouthilet, '47  
The Brain Candy Project  
Robert D. and Marjorie J. Brown  
Dr. Thomas C. and Anne D. Carrier  
Amanda and Trampus Craig  
Saloni N. and Kevin G. Desharnais

Dr. Jeffrey C., '87, and Dianne Z. Dick  
Estee Lauder, Inc.  
Dr. Richard J., '46, and + Evelyn L. Frey  
Steven R. Gordon  
• Dr. Juji Hanada, '58  
Patrick G. Hays  
Dr. Alan B. Hooper  
Dr. Bruce D., '62, and Rosanne A. Howard  
Dr. Chris Kraft  
John P. and Bonita S. LeRoy, M.S.  
Dr. G. Patrick, '70, and Marti Lilja  
Thomas P. and Lorene E. Magne  
Ed D. and Louise A. McNew  
Minnesota Flexible Corporation  
John M. and Catherine R. Muggee  
Dr. Mark S. and Marjorie J. Paller  
Shawn D. Monaghan and Dr. Gregory A. Plotnikoff, '89  
Kevin L. and Cindy S. Roberg  
Terrance K. and Kathleen F. Russell  
Robert and Patti Spinner  
Drs. C. Gail Summers, '79, and John T. MacDonald  
Dr. Kristin G. Sweeney, '79  
Trea Senior Citizens League Operation  
Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Yee

### HERITAGE SOCIETY (Future gifts)

Corrine C. Bergstrom  
George A. Dendias  
Patrick G. Hays  
Myron D. and + Arlene R. Hill  
Dr. Doris I. Johnson, '57  
Lowell C. and Leslie V. Kruse  
Dr. John E., '60, and Colles B. Larkin  
Dr. Seymour H. and Solveig Levitt  
Patricia L. Manning  
Barbara A. Mattill  
Mary M. Melbo, Ph.D., and Dr. John J. Witek Jr.  
Deborah L. Mueller  
Dr. Michael G., '93, and Donna M. Neste  
Dr. Darrel J. Rosen, '74  
Sheryl A. and Jon M. Sostarich  
Dr. Alan C., '56, and Martha A. Stormo

• Deceased

## MINNESOTA MEDICAL FOUNDATION

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

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## A radical change

Before Lowell came to Heartland Health in 1984, he had witnessed how generational poverty and a lack of education can influence health and long-term success. Then, while developing a first-rate hospital, he saw how little correlation there was between having an outstanding hospital and healthy people. Most of the community's babies were born at Heartland's hospital. Medicaid paid for 55 to 60 percent of those births.

"We had all these young people starting out poor," says Lowell. "They were the future of our community, and I realized running the hospital well wasn't enough. It just wasn't even close. We had to do something radically different."

So the Heartland Foundation changed its focus from raising money for the hospital to creating healthy communities. In 2009, Heartland Health received the coveted Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and was the single recipient of the American Hospital Association's Foster G. McGaw Prize recognizing excellence in community service.

"As health care leaders, we have a moral obligation to run the best organization we can, but we have an even *larger* moral obligation to use our leadership capacity to look after the overall health and well-being of the people in our community," Lowell says.

## The power of kinship

As Lowell neared retirement, he and Leslie considered funding a scholarship for the M.H.A. program because, as Leslie says, it gave them "the start of a very good life." Their friend and director of the M.H.A. Program, Sandy Potthoff, Ph.D., had worked with Lowell when he was president of the program's alumni association and shared their vision.

But what clinched their gift was learning about University President Robert Bruininks's pledge to make the University of Minnesota one of the top three public research universities in the world.

"I like big, hairy, audacious goals," says Lowell. "They imply bold, life-changing commitments. Leslie and I are not spending this money on a lark. We have a strong belief in this university and a deep kinship to the School of Public Health and M.H.A. program."

## M.H.A. PROGRAM: BY THE NUMBERS

**2** Program ranking in *U.S. News & World Report*

**2** Number of dual degree programs offered to full-time students (M.H.A./M.B.A. and J.D./M.H.A.)

**100** Percent of domestic graduates of the full-time program placed in jobs or fellowships over the past 15 years

**2,500** Number of graduates in the program's alumni association

**250,000** Scholarship dollars awarded to M.H.A. students each year

How the program will use the Kruse scholarship will be worked out in the coming year, but Potthoff sees a need for it already.

"Every year we get students whose hearts are more around keeping people healthy than leading a health care organization," she says. "But it can't be either/or. With this scholarship, we can help those students be successful CEOs and engage in the type of leadership that will help create communities strong in education, health, capacity building, and economic vitality."

A newly designated SPH Distinguished Fellow, Lowell will spend time with M.H.A. students to teach them how to forge partnerships with leaders in other sectors, like school systems, local governments, business communities, and nonprofits, to develop collective responsibility for building and sustaining a healthy community.

"Leslie and I are issuing nothing less than a call to action to figure out a new strategy for health and prosperity in our country," says Lowell. "It's going to be harder than putting a man on the moon, and it'll be a complicated son-of-a-gun, but I'm glad we're doing it here."

– MARTHA COVENTRY

To learn how you can support the School of Public Health or make a planned gift, contact Adam Buhr at 612-626-2391 or a.buhr@mmf.umn.edu.

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