MISSION + VISION

The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences is dedicated to improving the health of our local, national, and global communities by:

• Educating a diverse workforce of tomorrow’s leaders in medicine, science, and health sciences
• Healing through innovative and compassionate care
• Advancing biomedical, translational, and health services delivery research with an emphasis on multidisciplinary collaboration
• Promoting a culture of excellence through inclusion, service, and advocacy

As a globally recognized academic medical center, GW embraces the challenge of eliminating health disparities and transforming health care to enrich and improve the lives of those we serve.
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I am very proud of the accomplishments within the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) over the past year. There has been significant growth in many important areas with the goal of building upon our stature as a preeminent medical and health sciences school. To accomplish this mission, we expanded our leadership team to advance our areas of strength and take us to new, untapped areas. These areas include: Leadership, Education, Discovery, Community, and Clinical Excellence — which are outlined in a newly created strategic plan that will serve as a guide over the next several years.

In addition to the new hires and recent appointments, we have carefully revised the M.D. program curriculum based on innovative learning strategies that emphasize team-based approaches. We have expanded our health sciences programming and have forged valuable partnerships with local and national higher education institutions with an eye toward meeting the needs of the health care field of the future. We have also opened the doors to new facilities that are providing our constituents with access to cutting-edge technology and ample space for candid exchange to help promote high-impact discoveries and deliver better patient care.

The new Clinical Learning And Simulation Skills Center (CLASS Center), an example of one of those new facilities, now offers our students, residents, and faculty more than 17,000 sq. ft. of enhanced simulation, standardized patient, and learning/convening spaces. The versatility of the space makes it an ideal place for teaching almost all disciplines of medicine and health sciences.

In the spring of 2014, we also opened the Research Center for Neglected Diseases of Poverty, which features nearly 35,000 sq. ft. of LEED Gold certified lab space on the fifth and sixth floors of Ross Hall. Under the leadership of Douglas Nixon, M.D., Ph.D., chair of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Tropical Medicine and Ross Professor of Basic Science Research, investigators are focusing on neglected diseases that plague the world’s most vulnerable populations.

This year, GW launched an historic university-wide $1 billion fundraising campaign. At SMHS, that translates into supporting our bold vision to educate the medical and health care leaders of tomorrow, assemble a world-class faculty, put discoveries into practice to improve patient care, and build capacity to advance our mission. We are dedicated to excellence as we continue to grow. This report will give you a snapshot of the significant progress we have made in the last year and will serve as a foundation for additional successes in the years to come.

JEFFREY S. AKMAN, M.D. ’81, RESD ’85
WALTER A. BLOEDORN PROFESSOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE MEDICINE, VICE PRESIDENT FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS, AND DEAN, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES
A FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE

NEW STRATEGIC PLAN SETS A THREE-YEAR STRATEGY TO BUILD ON THE SMHS FOUNDATION OF EXCELLENCE

Members of the faculty, students, staff, community partners, and others spent the better part of the spring and summer working toward the creation of a strategic plan that will guide the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) over the next three years. The strategic planning process, which involved surveys, interviews, and discussions with key stakeholders, identified priorities that leverage the strengths of the SMHS to achieve maximum success in each of its missions — education, research, and healing. SMHS, one of the oldest medical schools in the country, is regarded as an institution that trains outstanding clinicians, and the stakeholders identified that the SMHS community is collectively and uniquely interested in service, advocacy, and health equity.

“When combined with curricular changes that emphasize population health management, and the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences’ renewed interest and investment in translational, interdisciplinary, and health services delivery research, the overarching vision for SMHS becomes clear: GW SMHS’s future is about transforming health care education and expanding research to improve lives,” said Jeffrey S. Akman, M.D. ’81, RESD ’85, Walter A. Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine, vice president for health affairs, and dean of SMHS. “That vision is built upon educating a diverse workforce; healing through innovative and compassionate care; advancing biomedical, translational, and health services delivery research with an emphasis on multidisciplinary collaboration; and promoting a culture of excellence through inclusion, service, and advocacy.”

The planning process, led by Lourdes Winberry, M.P.H., associate dean for health affairs, resulted in a plan that reflects these values. The following goals provide the framework for the strategies of the plan.

### LEADERSHIP

PROMOTE A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE THROUGH LEADERSHIP, PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT, PROFESSIONALISM, AND DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF

### EDUCATION

LEAD THE NATION IN INNOVATIVE MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### DISCOVERY

AUGMENT THE RESEARCH PORTFOLIO AT SMHS AND ELEVATE OUR PROMINENCE THROUGH ITS QUALITY AND IMPACT

### COMMUNITY

BECOME NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FOR OUR COMMITMENT TO HEALTH EQUITY IN LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH RESEARCH, SERVICE, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY

### CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

GAIN NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AT SMHS AND ITS CLINICAL PARTNERS

To read the strategic plan in its entirety, please visit: smhs.gwu.edu/strategicplan
COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY
Each August, students spend a day working in partnership with local, national, and global nonprofit organizations to act on their commitment to the community.

COOKIES
Each fall semester, students mingle with the deans and faculty of the medical school over cookies. The only rule is that there can be no discussion of school or exams. This is a great opportunity for students to relax and get to know their deans, professors, mentors, and peers.

WHITE COAT CEREMONIES
Each year during orientation, first-year M.D., PA, and PT students attend White Coat ceremonies. At the events, students receive their first white medical coats, signifying the beginning of their journey and career in the medical profession. They recite an Honor Code in recognition of their shared commitment to the profession and the community. Friends and family are invited to attend the ceremonies.

LOBBY DAY
Each fall, third-year M.D. students visit Capitol Hill for a firsthand introduction to the health policy side of medicine. Students learn lobbying tactics and then break into small groups to meet with legislative aides to discuss the health care topics of the day.

PROJECT MEDED
In collaboration with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), SMHS offered congressional staff members a firsthand glimpse at a day in the life of an SMHS medical student through the AAMC’s Project Medical Education program on April 14. Congressional staffers heard from SMHS leadership, toured the Clinical Learning And Simulation Skills (CLASS) Center, and visited the school’s newest laboratories — the Research Center for Neglected Diseases of Poverty and the Research Center for the Cure.

FIRST ANNUAL HEALTH CARE QUALITY LECTURE — KEYNOTE SPEAKER CAROLYN CLANCY
The GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences hosted the First Annual Health Care Quality Lecture, Oct. 17, 2013. Carolyn Clancy, M.D., director (retired), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, served as the inaugural keynote speaker for this important event. Based on her experiences as the director of AHRQ, Clancy shared her perspective on the future of health care.
and Eradication of HIV — run by Douglas Nixon, M.D., Ph.D., Ross Professor of Basic Science Research and chair of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine at SMHS.

**FOLLIES**
This Broadway-like show features student talent as each class presents skits and choreographed dance numbers.

**DESIGN FOR GOOD**
Douglas F. Nixon, M.D., Ph.D., Ross Professor of Basic Science Research and chair of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine at SMHS, and Scott Jones, adjunct professor in GW’s Interior Architecture and Design program in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, conceptualized “Design for Good,” an elective course devoted to exploring design thinking and communication in the context of supporting HIV/AIDS research. Students in the four-month course designed and built timepieces to be permanently displayed in Ross Hall’s Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine lab space. Through proportion, color, and texture, the digital and analog timepieces communicate various components of HIV/AIDS.

**RESEARCH DAY**
This event features keynote addresses and panel discussions on leading-edge research topics. Students and residents have the opportunity to submit research abstracts and present oral and poster reports on their research initiatives.

**A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MEDICAL STUDENT**
Families are invited to campus every other year for a daylong event at which they get an insider’s view of life as a GW medical student. The day features classroom and clinical experiences, including a sample lecture, hands-on activities, small group discussions, and a mini-commencement ceremony.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**
This event commemorates the selfless sacrifice of the individuals who donate their bodies for study by medical students during Gross Anatomy. Students commemorate each donor through musical performances and literary works about their experiences with death and the importance of the donors’ sacrifice.

**GW HEALING CLINIC 5K AND AUCTION**
Each year students host a pair of fundraisers, a 5K run/walk called “Heel to HEAL” in the fall and a charity auction in the spring, to support the student-run GW Healing Clinic.

**MATCH DAY**
Match Day is one of the most important and anticipated moments for doctors in training. Each March, fourth-year medical students receive their residency appointments as part of the National Resident Matching Program and learn where they will begin the next phase of their medical careers. SMHS maintains a national reputation for placing graduates into prestigious medical programs throughout the country.
This year, the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) community celebrated the formal installation of several key academic and administrative appointments. The endowed professorships highlight leaders among an accomplished faculty, instrumental in the school’s pursuit of excellence by providing exceptional education and training, delivering high-quality clinical care, performing innovative research, and serving communities both local and global.

**WALTER A. BLOEDORN PROFESSOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE MEDICINE**

Jeffrey S. Akman, M.D. ’81, RESD ’85, vice president for health affairs and dean of SMHS, joined a distinguished group of leaders who have held the title, including Ronald P. Kaufman, M.D.; Roger Meyer, M.D.; Allan B. Weingold, M.D., Hon. ’98; and John F. Williams, M.D. ’79, Ed.D. ’96, M.P.H., RESD ’83, as the Walter A. Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine, Oct. 23, 2013. The endowed chair, named in honor of the former director of GW Hospital and dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Walter Andrew Bloedorn, was established in 1983 by the Walter A. Bloedorn Foundation to support the dean for academic affairs at SMHS.

“It is particularly meaningful to have this very profound connection to Dean Walter Bloedorn, whose distinguished history includes opening the doors to the first African-American physician to get hospital privileges at GW,” said Akman. “Those of you who know me know that I am incredibly proud of this university and its School of Medicine and Health Sciences. As they say, I am a person who bleeds buff and blue.”

**LEON M. YOCHELSON PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

James L. Griffith, M.D., chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at SMHS, as he reflected on his role as a psychiatrist.

Griffith’s remarks came as part of his formal installation as the Leon M. Yochelson Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences on Aug. 11. Established in 1982 by Joseph E. Rankin, M.D. ’46, former clinical professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at SMHS, and his late wife Eunice C. Rankin, this endowed professorship honors the career of Leon M. Yochelson, M.D., who created and served as the first chair of GW’s Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

**WALTER G. ROSS PROFESSOR OF BASIC SCIENCE RESEARCH**

In his first six months as a clinical virologist at the University of Oxford in 1988, Douglas F. Nixon, M.D., Ph.D., identified part of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that could stimulate a white blood cell. It was a substantial finding at the time, and the first of many for the renowned HIV/AIDS researcher and educator who was installed as the Walter G. Ross Professor of Basic Science Research at SMHS in spring 2014.

Nixon, who became chair of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine in October 2013, leads the school’s Research Center for Neglected Diseases of Poverty and its Research Center for the Cure and Eradication of HIV.

As his professorship was officially conferred, Nixon remarked that “it’s actually about all of us, because we’re here to work toward eliminating diseases that are causing suffering in many places around the world.

“No one individual is going to make this breakthrough,” Nixon said. “We all come up with ideas. Ideas are frequent. But actually putting things into practice requires groups to work together and to set common goals. We want to cure AIDS. It’s time to end HIV.”
Following a nationwide search, GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) leadership ultimately found the ideal successor to John Larsen, M.D., close to home. Nancy Gaba, M.D. ’93, RESD ’97, FACOG, a longtime leader at GW, was selected to serve as chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) and installed as the Oscar I. and Mildred S. Dodek and Joan B. and Oscar I. Dodek Jr. Professor of OB/GYN. In this role, Gaba will provide strategic leadership and management of the department’s programmatic growth, educational oversight, and research development.

“Dr. Gaba is a nationally recognized academic obstetrician–gynecologist and an outstanding physician, which makes her the right person to chair OB/GYN,” said Jeffrey S. Akman, M.D. ’81, RESD ’85, Walter A. Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine, vice president for health affairs at GW, and dean of SMHS. “She has a proven track record of successful leadership at SMHS, and her vast experience will help her lead the department as it continues to grow.”

Gaba graduated from GW’s M.D. program in 1993 and completed her internship and residency at GW in 1997, where she held the position of administrative chief resident. Prior to her selection as chair, Gaba served as professor and vice-chair of OB/GYN, and associate dean for graduate medical education (GME). Jeffrey Berger, M.D., M.B.A., associate professor of anesthesiology and critical care medicine, has been named the interim associate dean for GME (see p. 14).
**HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAMS**

**742 INCOMING STUDENTS**

- .4% American Indian or Alaskan Native
- 9% Asian
- 19% African American
- 12% Hispanic
- .6% Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- 4% Multi-Racial
- 3% Unreported
- 51% White

**HEALTH SCIENCES DEPARTMENTS**

- Clinical Research and Leadership
- Physician Assistant Studies
- Physical Therapy and Health Care Sciences

**HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAMS**

- Clinical & Translational Research
- Clinical Health Sciences
- Clinical Management & Leadership
- Clinical Research Administration
- Emergency Medical Services
- Health Care Quality
- Health Intervention & Disaster Response
- Health Sciences
- Integrative Medicine
- Medical Laboratory Sciences
- Military Contract Programs
- Occupational Therapy
- PA/MPH Joint Programs
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Physical Therapy
- Physician Assistant Studies
- Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medicine
- Regulatory Affairs

**M.D. PROGRAM CLASS OF 2018**

**178 STUDENTS**

- Female 61%
- Male 39%

Students hail from 25 states, D.C., Canada, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates.
States with highest representation: Maryland, Virginia, and California.

Number of applications: 10,981
Age range: 20 – 34, with an average age of 23
Students come from 85 different undergraduate institutions.

- 1.12% American Indian
- 21.91% Asian
- 7.86% African American
- 8.42% Hispanic
- 0.56% Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- 11.23% Unreported
- 3.37% Other
- 45.50% White

MCAT Avg.: 30.5 total
GPA Avg.: 3.68
Areas of study varied – 53% science majors.
In the interest of further advancing its research mission, the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) leadership selected renowned neuroscientist and research administrator Robert H. Miller, Ph.D., to serve as the senior associate dean for research.

Miller, who most recently served as vice president for research at Case Western Reserve University, will draw upon more than 30 years of experience in research and leadership as he provides support for SMHS scientists. He is leading efforts to identify research funding, assess and identify areas for research expansion, and create plans to secure the infrastructure and technology required to aid SMHS research priorities.

“GW is expanding its research activities dramatically. It’s clear that we have within our existing faculty and within our existing structure the ability to grow,” said Miller. “When I came here, one of the attractions was to have people with whom I could interact, who think about things that are related to what I do, but are different.

“I think the connection between the neurological sciences and human immunology is one example where we’ve already made that investment,” he continued. “Those two areas obviously interact. If one thinks about HIV/AIDS, there’s a neurological component and there’s an immunological component to thinking about making vaccines. Can you make a vaccine for MS, or one that would be effective against Alzheimer’s disease? A lot of the technologies and expertise interact. We need to build research groups that relate to each other, but have different expertise.”
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<td>Assistant Professors</td>
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*Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor, and other ranks

Douglas Nixon, M.D., Ph.D., Ross Professor of Basic Science Research and chair of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine
Joyce Maring, DPT, Ed.D., was named the chair of the Department of Physical Therapy (PT) and Health Care Sciences at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), a role in which she served in an interim capacity for more than two years. She also serves as the program director for the PT program and as an associate professor of PT and health care sciences. Maring joined the SMHS faculty in 2005.

“I am thrilled that Dr. Maring accepted this role,” said Joe Bocchino, Ed.D., senior associate dean for health sciences at SMHS. “Because of her commitment to the school, she has helped make GW a highly sought after destination for aspiring physical therapists.”

As chair of the department, Maring oversees the programmatic activities that have led GW’s DPT program to a position of national prominence. Under her strategic leadership, the department will become the new home for innovative academic programs, providing the school with additional sources of student recruitment and program expansion.
GLOBAL LEADER

Huda M. Ayas, Ed.D. ’06, M.B.A. ’98, M.H.S.A. ’93, founder and executive director of the Office of International Medicine Programs (IMP), was recently named associate dean for international medicine. Ayas, who has served in a leadership capacity at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences for 20 years, has established and managed upward of 90 global partnerships and affiliations in more than 50 countries and has developed and implemented many international medical education and training programs.

Within IMP, Ayas and her team have established a vast array of medical education and training programs, training more than 12,000 international and GW faculty members, students, and staff since 1994. Ayas also serves as the director of the global health track for M.D. students, which is designed to increase intercultural sensitivity and awareness about international health systems, as well as regional diseases, while teaching students to assess the specific health needs of residents of countries at various stages of development.

THE PULSE OF CLINICAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Lawrence “Bopper” Deyton, M.D. ’85, has been named senior associate dean for clinical public health for SMHS. In this new position, Deyton will provide guidance on curricular efforts; mentor students, trainees, and faculty; foster the development of funded research programs; and elevate the profile of SMHS in issues of clinical public health.

Deyton will work in collaboration with other GW schools, such as the Milken Institute School of Public Health at GW, as well as with outside organizations, to promote education and training for clinicians on public health, population health, and the clinical applications of these principles to their professional responsibilities.

“We at GW can and should be seen as the foremost educator of health care providers who are clinical public health leaders in their professional lives and in the communities where they live,” said Deyton. “GW is a place that not only produces great clinicians, but is in close proximity to where major health decisions are made.”
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES LEADERSHIP

DEAN’S COUNCIL

STUART S. KASSAN, M.D., ’72, FACP, FACR, MACR, CO-CHAIR
Rheumatology
Distinguished Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado-Denver School of Medicine; Chief Medical Officer, Multispecialty Physician Partners; GW Board of Trustees

LARA S. OBOLER, M.D. ’95, CO-CHAIR
Cardiology
Lenox Hill Heart & Vascular Institute

GARY M. ABRAMSON
Partner, The Tower Companies

CHRISTOPHER L. BARLEY, M.D. ’93
Internal Medicine
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cornell/Weill School of Medicine

LUTHER W. BRADY JR., M.D. ’48, HON. ’04, B.A. ’46
Radiation Oncology
Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, Drexel University College of Medicine; GW Emeritus Trustee

CARLOS R. DIAZ, M.D. ’72, RESD ’75
Internal Medicine
Head, Internal Medicine Department, Naval Aerospace Medical Institute

DANIEL EIN, M.D., FACP, FAAAAI, FACAAI
Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
Clinical Professor of Medicine, The George Washington University; Director, Allergy & Sinus Center, GW Medical Faculty Associates

JEANNE G. HOLZGREFE, M.D. ’96, PH.D.
Psychiatry, Private Practice

FLOYD ALEXANDER KATSKE, M.D. ’76, RESD ’77
Urology
Clinical Assistant Professor of Urology, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California-Los Angeles

JAY E. KATZEN, M.D. ’72, B.A. ’67
Ophthalmology
The Eye Center; GW Board of Trustees

KERRY L. KUHN, M.D. ’73, RESD ’77, B.A. ’70, FACOG
OB/GYN
Private Practice
Senior Vice President of VitalMD

GERALD S. LAZARUS, M.D. ’63
Dermatology
Professor of Dermatology, Johns Hopkins University; Former Member, GW Board of Trustees

MANUCHER MOHTASHEMI, M.D.
Internal Medicine, Cardiothoracic Surgery

JOHN C. PAN, M.D. ’70, RESD ’74
OB/GYN
Founder, Center for Integrative Medicine, The George Washington University

RICHARD G. POPIEL, M.D. ’81, RESD ’83, M.B.A., B.S. ’75
Internal Medicine
Executive Vice President, Healthcare Services & Chief Medical Officer, Cambia Health Solutions & Regence Health Insurance Company

RAKESH C. SAHNI, M.D.
Cardiology
Maryland Cardiology Associates

MARK W. SURREY, M.D. ’72, FACOG, FACS
Obstetrics and Gynecology/Fertility
Professor & Clinical Director, Reproductive Surgery, University of California-Los Angeles; Co-Founder and Medical Director, Southern California Reproductive Center

ALLAN B. WEINGOLD, M.D., HON. ’98
OB/GYN
Professor Emeritus, Former Chair of OB/GYN, Former Vice President for Medical Affairs and Executive Dean, The George Washington University

ART B. WONG, M.D. ’67
Emergency Medicine
Founder, Emergency Physicians Medical Group, PC
STEPHEN J. TEACH, M.D., M.P.H., was selected to serve as the chair of the Department of Pediatrics at SMHS and pediatric clinical partner Children’s National Health System (Children’s National). In this role, Teach oversees the education and academic activities of faculty in the department. He is responsible for working in collaboration with the faculty, administration, and other support units at Children’s National and SMHS to facilitate an environment that encourages creativity and excellence in clinical practice, medical research, and education and training. Teach is also responsible for planning, implementing, and managing all medical educational and training activities, including those for medical student, graduate medical education, and continuing medical education programs; and he will develop a program to assess trainee achievement across the full range of competencies.

MATTHEW L. MINTZ, M.D. ’94, RESD ’97, FACP, associate professor of medicine, was named the interim assistant dean for M.D. program curriculum. Mintz holds primary responsibility for the development and implementation of the revised, integrated M.D. program curriculum. Staying abreast of current trends in medical education, he advises the dean and faculty on directions for curricular change and improvement. Mintz also provides support for the ongoing development, implementation, and evaluation of the school’s undergraduate medical education curriculum.

JEFFREY BERGER, M.D., M.B.A., associate professor of anesthesiology and critical care medicine, has been named the interim associate dean for graduate medical education (GME). In this position, Berger monitors and enhances the education provided to all residents and fellows at SMHS and participating institutions, such as the GW Hospital, GW Medical Faculty Associates, and Children’s National. He serves as the chair of the GME Committee and is the designated institutional official for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

RAY LUCAS, M.D., associate professor of emergency medicine at SMHS, has been tapped to serve as the interim associate dean for faculty affairs and professional development for SMHS. Lucas oversees all faculty affairs and faculty development activities in this position, and contributed in the school’s curriculum revision.

OZGUR EKMEKCI, Ed.D., associate professor of clinical research and leadership at SMHS, has been tapped to serve as the new interim chair of the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership (CRL). Ekmekci develops collaborative relationships with national partners within the scope of the educational programs offered in CRL. He also provides leadership for the CRL faculty and staff, providing oversight and guidance as they promote research and enhance innovative distance education teaching strategies.
LORENZO NORRIS, M.D., provides leadership in the development and implementation of effective academic counseling for students in their third and fourth years of study as the school’s interim assistant dean for student affairs. Norris, assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, works in concert with other GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences deans to develop and implement effective career counseling programs and serves as a resource for the M.D. program’s diverse student body.
STAR STRUCK
Two members of the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences faculty, Jacqueline S. Barnett, M.S., assistant professor of physician assistant studies, and Ellen F. Goldman, Ed.D., M.B.A., assistant dean for faculty and curricular development, associate professor of clinical research and leadership, and director of the Master Teacher Leadership Development Program, were among the 2014 Bender Teaching Award recipients. The annual award is part of GW’s efforts to honor teaching stars for their academic standards and transformative practices.

Barnett and Goldman, along with other faculty award winners, were honored at the Fourth Annual Faculty Honors Ceremony for their dedication, research, and service to GW. The awards, endowed by Morton Bender and the university, recognize undergraduate, graduate, and professional instruction.

AΩA HONORS
Victoria Mui, M.D., received a 2013 Alpha Omega Alpha (AΩA) Postgraduate Award. It was a major accomplishment for the PGY3 resident in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program at SMHS. Mui’s project is titled “Implementation of a Teaching Program for Midwives in Rural Guatemala and Its Impact on Postgraduate Global Health Education,” and focuses on identifying parturias (Spanish for untrained birth attendants or midwives) in Santiago Atitlan, a small town in south-central Guatemala wedged between two volcanoes along the bay of Lago Atitlan. Mui is creating a formal training program that addresses three specific obstetric emergencies: preeclampsia, infection, and postpartum hemorrhage.

HIGH HONORS FOR PSYCHIATRIC CARE
In recognition of her 25 years working in pediatric psychiatry caring for children suffering from trauma, crisis, and violence, the American Psychiatric Association (APA) selected Paramjit T. Joshi, M.D., professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and chair of the division of behavioral medicine and director of the psychiatry and psychology programs at Children’s National Health System, for a special presidential commendation.

“The award recognizes Dr. Joshi’s long-standing contributions to psychiatric medicine, education, and research, and her international leadership on the mental health of children and adolescents,” said APA President Dilip V. Jeste, M.D., director of the Sam and Rose Stein Institute for Research on Aging at the University of California, San Diego.

FEELING PRESIDENTIAL
Donald Karcher, M.D., chair of the Department of Pathology at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences, has been named president of the Association of Pathology Chairs (APC), the preeminent organization of academic departments of pathology in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

As president of the APC, Karcher will work closely with the leaders of the other major pathology organizations, such as the American Board of Pathology, the College of American Pathologists, and the American Society for Clinical Pathology, as well as the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, and the Association of American Medical Colleges. Karcher has served as president-elect since July 2012; he also serves as councilor-at-large.

GW’S ACADEMIC EXECUTIVE LEADER
Marie Borum, M.D., Ed.D. ’03, RESD ’88, M.P.H. ’95, professor of medicine at GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), and director of the Division of Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases, was chosen as a member of the 2014–15 class of fellows in the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program. The appointment places Borum among the nation’s leading women in academic medicine.

The intensive one-year fellowship supports executive education, personal leadership assessments and coaching, and networking and mentoring activities. Fellows develop a broader vision of their role within their academic health centers; enhance their leadership effectiveness, understanding of strategic finance, and ability to lead organizational change; and join an active resource network of women leaders.

HONORS
NEW REGULATORY AUTISM GENE IDENTIFIED

A new study by Valerie Hu, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry and molecular medicine at GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), reports that RORA, a novel candidate gene for autism discovered by her group in a 2010 study, regulates a large number of other genes associated with autism.

“We are focusing on this gene, in part, because this gene can act as a master regulator of other genes,” said Hu, whose study was published in the journal Molecular Autism. “Called nuclear hormone receptors, the genes are capable of activating or suppressing other genes in the genome. The question was which specific genes are regulated by RORA.”

Hu and co-author Tewarit Sarachana, Ph.D., a former student in the molecular medicine doctoral program at SMHS, found that RORA encodes a protein that can regulate the expression of more than 2,500 other genes. Of these 2,500 genes, many are known to be involved in neuronal development and functions, and 426 of RORA’s gene targets are already listed in AutismKB, a database of known autism candidate genes.
The new 17,000-square-foot CLASS Center offers medical students, residents, and faculty as well as physician assistant, physical therapy, and nursing students opportunities to practice in the performance of clinical skills, procedures, teamwork, and communication.

A sophisticated data system allows for curricular content to be pushed from a control room to any of the 32 screens mounted throughout the CLASS Center. X-ray images, footage of real patients, and technique demonstration are just a few types of content that can be displayed to students working in the center.

Students can learn the basics of a procedure such as IV placement or resuscitation of a critically ill patient using simple anatomic models. More advanced trainees can transition to high-fidelity simulators, where students can practice diagnostic skills, integrate previously learned procedures into patient care, and improve teamwork and communication skills.

The CLASS Center has 12 outpatient and two inpatient examination rooms for standardized patient encounters, as well as a labor and delivery suite; a mock operating theater; two high-fidelity rooms; cutting-edge medical simulators, including full-body computerized manikins and haptic surgical trainers; and laboratory space for procedural skills training.

CLINICAL LEARNING AND SIMULATION SKILLS

CLASS CENTER
GW students can now rely on simulation stethoscopes that wirelessly transmit preprogrammed sounds to a stethoscope receiver when held over a particular part of the body. When these stethoscopes are held over one side of the lungs, students might hear the telltale sounds of pneumonia if that is part of the day’s lesson plan.

The use of advanced medical simulators, including full-body computerized manikins and haptic surgical trainers, is built into each stage of SMHS' clinical skills training, which spans all four years of medical education.

Like the practice of medicine itself, simulation has both a human side and a technological side. The human side is embodied by standardized patients (SPs), who play the part of patients suffering from any number of medical maladies. Through face-to-face interaction with SPs, students can perfect their skills at history taking, physical exams, and communication.

Simulation exercises permit faculty members to measure how large numbers of learners perform in clinical-type situations and assess the effectiveness of new education methods.

The 99 well-concealed cameras dispersed throughout the center—many of which are mounted low to record facial expression and body position—allow faculty to play back individual and team patient care exercises for students, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the performances.

Smart Board-equipped conference and debriefing rooms enhance opportunities for performance review, a crucial component of the hands-on training space.
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Located adjacent to the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), the George Washington University Hospital features 385 beds, 23 operating rooms, and a Level 1 Trauma Center. The hospital offers some of the most technologically advanced care in the region, and high-tech medical equipment and patient accommodations. The more than 875 physicians and 800 nurses serving the hospital are renowned for their clinical expertise in a wide array of specialties, including cancer care, cardiovascular care and cardiac surgery, emergency medicine, minimally invasive surgery, and robotic surgery.

The GW Hospital’s mission is to provide high-quality health care, advanced technology, and world-class service to its patients in an academic medical center dedicated to education and research. The hospital sees this vision to fruition through a commitment to service excellence, quality improvement, employee development, ethical and fair treatment, and teamwork, compassion, and innovation.

GW MEDICAL FACULTY ASSOCIATES

The GW Medical Faculty Associates (MFA) is a nonprofit physician group practice composed of academic clinical faculty at SMHS. It’s the largest multi-specialty practice in Washington, D.C. MFA physicians are an invaluable resource for SMHS students, often mentoring them throughout their clinical rotations and education. As SMHS faculty members, the GW MFA physicians also serve as teachers and mentors for medical students, residents, and researchers. Additionally, the Dr. Cyrus and Myrtle Katzen Cancer Research Center, the GW Heart & Vascular Institute, and the GW Breast Care Center are headquartered at the GW MFA. The GW MFA is a separate 501(c)(3) corporation.

CHILDREN’S NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Children’s National Health System (Children’s National) and SMHS have a long-standing partnership that seeks to ensure that future generations of health care professionals are learning from and training with the best pediatric clinical and research experts. By providing a hands-on learning experience and exposure to pioneering research, this partnership fosters an environment where the highest-quality health care is made available to children everywhere.

The SMHS Department of Pediatrics is housed at Children’s National, and features cutting-edge technology, innovative practices, and renowned physicians and researchers who provide students with an unmatched, specialized environment in which to learn and grow.

SMHS and Children’s National also collaborate through a five-year, $20 million National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award. The partnership established the Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Children’s National (CTSI-CN), which funds unique resources in translating discovery into improved health. CTSI-CN provides highly integrated, cost-effective, investigator-focused resources designed to overcome research barriers, promote collaborative research, and provide research training across the life span of patients.
GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) has a tradition of dedication to health equity in our local, national, and global communities through research, service, education, and advocacy. SMHS believes that education, training, and research opportunities are enriched by partnering with community groups to create service-learning opportunities that also help to improve the health of individuals and populations, particularly the underserved and vulnerable. To meet these goals in our surrounding neighborhood, SMHS collaborates with partners throughout the city.
HEALING CLINIC

Founded in 2006, the GW Healing Clinic, a School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) student-run community health service, offers primary and preventive care, health education, and counseling for members of the local community, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay. The site opened its doors in 2007. It’s located in Northwest Washington, D.C., at Bread for the City, a nonprofit organization that provides food, clothing, medical care, and legal and social services for underserved populations. The Healing Clinic hosts an annual charity auction in the spring. The event, which is open to the public, raises money by auctioning off items such as clothing, jewelry, and electronics. Donated items come from students, faculty, local businesses, and members of the GW community. Each fall, the clinic organizes a 5K walk/run called “Heel-to-Heal.”
HEALING HEALTH INEQUALITY

Named in honor of the late Dorothy E. Rodham and housed within GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), the Rodham Institute promises to build on the school’s long-standing commitment to promoting health equity in the District of Columbia through community-focused education and training of health care providers.

“This institution serves as a catalyst for GW and our community partners to unite and commit to a common goal of improving the health of all District residents, regardless of their neighborhood, their skin color, their gender, or their bank accounts,” said Jehan El-Bayoumi, M.D., RESD ’88, director of the Rodham Institute and associate professor of medicine at SMHS.

The institute’s core functions focus on strengthening medical education programs for residents and students, evaluating efforts to address health disparities in Washington, D.C., and providing leadership and fostering collaboration in order to address the community’s critical health care needs. Students and residents gain firsthand experience working with new models of community health care delivery through new GW training programs.

UPWARD BOUND

For six weeks each summer, nearly 40 students from more than a dozen Washington, D.C., public high schools participate in the Upward Bound (UB) summer residential program, which has been hosted at SMHS since 1999. As one of eight federal TRIO Programs designed by the U.S. Department of Education to serve students from low-income families, UB provides support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. Students get a glimpse of college life at GW by attending classes — math, laboratory science, English literature and composition, and Spanish language and culture — in SMHS buildings, dining in the GW Hospital cafeteria, and living in a dormitory.

In addition to readying the students for the upcoming school year, UB aims to equip them for life beyond high school. The program includes SAT preparation, career workshops, and college tours around the region. Participating students are tracked for six years after high school graduation, at which point they are expected to have graduated from college.

ISCOPES

The Interdisciplinary Student Community-Oriented Prevention Enhancement Service (ISCOPES) is a year-long service-learning experience geared toward providing a wide range of health-related services to the medically underserved in Washington, D.C. The multi-school initiative is designed to better prepare students for team-based health care. ISCOPES partners first-year medical students, physician assistant students, physical therapy students, and public health students to engage in intensive health promotion experiences.

The initiative connects GW students with employees from across the allied health fields, as well as community health organizations and residents of medically underserved neighborhoods throughout the Washington, D.C., region to form interprofessional learning communities that address the bigger health issues. For eight hours each month, from September through April, the students serve on project teams and tackle significant health issues in the community through culturally competent projects.

By pairing teaching methodology with meaningful community service within the course curriculum, ISCOPES gives students tangible examples of health care issues. Service projects completed through these learning communities provide students with applied knowledge and skills in real-world environments while helping community partners provide greater service to the local community.

GO GIRL

Genomic Opportunities for Girls In Research Labs (GO GIRL) is an annual weeklong educational outreach program. Created in 2009, the program is hosted by SMHS, the Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy, and Loudoun County Public Schools, and supported through a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. GO GIRL, which is held at the GW Science and Technology Campus in Loudoun County, Va., is designed to boost high school girls’ interest in genomics and help them better define what type of science they might like to pursue.
OPENING NEW DOORWAYS
WITH THE RESEARCH CENTER FOR
NEGLECTED DISEASES OF POVERTY

The labs are equipped with six InFocus Mondopads - wall-sized tablet PCs with 55-inch LCD touch screens, digital interactive whiteboards, and video-conferencing capabilities. The screens will support the lab's international work, as well as enhance the meetings by streamlining the preparation of background materials.

$15 million grant from the National Institutes of Health through the Recovery Act Limited Competition: Extramural Research Facilities Improvement Program helped fund construction on the new labs.

Hands-on Equipment:

Room for discovery:
The new facility features nearly 35,000 square feet of lab space on the fifth and sixth floors of Walter G. Ross Hall, featuring 104 individual work stations, a microscope room, and a tropical life-cycle room — where parasites are cultured — as well as two meeting or “interaction” areas to promote research collaboration.

Sustainable spaces:
The renovation earned LEED GOLD certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Participating projects are required to meet a series of construction criteria such as high levels of water efficiency and energy efficiency and use of sustainable building materials, with point values assigned to each to determine the certification level.

Clark Construction began the project in May 2012, and the facility officially opened two years later.
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE PROGRAMS, 2013-2014

In 2013, GW celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Office of International Medicine Programs (IMP). Over those two decades, more than 12,000 GW and international faculty, residents, fellows, and students have benefited from its 90 partnerships in more than 50 countries.

“We’re changing lives for the better by providing opportunities to students and professionals that they otherwise would never have,” said Huda Ayas, Ed.D. ’06, M.B.A. ’98, M.H.S.A. ’93, associate dean of international medicine and executive director of IMP.

With the mission of improving the health and well-being of GW’s global communities, IMP offers a wealth of education and training programs. Students have the opportunity during the summer between their first and second years to pursue international internship projects through IMP. International clinical rotations are available to fourth-year students and residents.

Argentina: 5 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 Visiting Scholar
Australia: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Austria: 6 International Students (ICEP), 5 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 Visiting Scholar
Bhutan: 2 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Botswana: 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
Brazil: 5 Visiting Scholars, 1 GW Faculty/Staff
Cameroon: 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
China: 11 Visiting Scholars, 2 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Costa Rica: 4 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
Czech Republic: 1 Visiting Scholar

Ecuador: 6 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 3 International Students (ICEP)
Egypt: 5 International Students (ICEP), 1 International Observer
Ethiopia: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
France: 3 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 International Student (ICEP), 1 Visiting Scholar
Gabon: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Germany: 1 Visiting Scholar
Ghana: 5 International Students (ICEP), 2 GW Faculty/Staff, 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Guatemala: 5 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Guyana: 1 GW Faculty/Staff
Haiti: 29 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 16 GW Faculty/Staff, 3 Residents Abroad (Medical Missions & Clinical Electives)
India: 5 Visiting Scholars, 3 International Students (ICEP), 2 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 2 Residents Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives), 1 MD International Student, 1 International Observer, 1 Visiting Delegation
Indonesia: 1 Visiting Delegation
Iran: 2 Visiting Scholars
Israel: 3 International Students (ICEP), 2 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Italy: 1 GW Faculty/Staff, 1 Visiting Delegation, 1 Visiting Scholar
Jamaica: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Japan: 5 Visiting Scholars, 4 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 3 Visiting Delegations
Jordan: 8 International Students (ICEP), 4 GW Faculty/Staff, 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
Kenya: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions & Clinical Electives)
Korea: 5 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 2 International Students (ICEP), 2 Visiting Scholars
Kuwait: 1 International Resident/ Fellow
Lebanon: 12 International Students (ICEP), 2 GW Faculty/Staff, 1 International Observer, 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
Malawi: 3 GW Faculty/Staff, 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Mexico: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 Visiting Delegation, 1 Visiting Scholar
Nigeria: 1 International Observer
Pakistan: 1 International Observer
Peru: 2 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 Visiting Delegation
Philippines: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Portugal: 1 Visiting Scholar
Qatar: 1 GW Faculty/Staff
Russia: 4 Visiting Scholars
Saudi Arabia: 26 International Residents & Fellows, 18 Medical Research Fellows, 16 International Students (ICEP), 7 GW Faculty/Staff, 3 International Observers, 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
Sierra Leone: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Singapore: 1 GW Faculty/Staff
South Africa: 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
Spain: 14 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 6 International Students (ICEP), 3 Visiting Scholars, 1 International Observer, 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives), 1 Visiting Delegation
Switzerland: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Taiwan: 1 GW Student Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships)
Thailand: 1 Resident Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives)
Turkey: 1 GW Faculty/Staff, 1 Visiting Scholar
Uganda: 3 GW Students Abroad (Medical Missions, Clinical Electives, Summer Internships), 1 GW Faculty/Staff
United Arab Emirates: 2 GW Faculty/Staff, 1 International Observer
United Kingdom: 1 Visiting Scholar, 1 Visiting Delegation
Uruguay: 1 GW Faculty/Staff
Vietnam: 1 International Observer
(ICEP-International Clinical Electives Program)
GW MEDICAL FACULTY ASSOCIATES

- Costs for providing uncompensated care: $17.5 million
- Costs for providing undercompensated care: $29.7 million
- Total revenues: $342.7 million
- Total providers: 750+
- Total specialties: 51
- Total office visits: 486,656

GW HOSPITAL

- The George Washington University Hospital features 385 beds, 23 operating rooms, a Level III NICU, and a Level I Center for Trauma and Critical Care.
- Total surgeries: 22,570
  - Outpatient: 14,942
  - Inpatient: 7,628
- Outpatient visits: 180,121
- Patient admissions: 18,721
- Births: 2,961
- Physicians on staff: 875
- Employees: 2,100
- ED visits: 75,482

CHILDREN’S NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

- Sheikh Zayed Campus for Advanced Children’s Medicine features 313 beds, 54 of which are Level IV NICU bassinets; a Level I pediatric trauma center.
- 25% Patients from Washington, D.C.
- 55% Patients from Maryland
- 16% Patients from Virginia
- 4% Other patients
- Annual admissions to the hospital: 14,547
  - Number of outpatients: 432,808
  - Number of inpatients: 14,547
  - Total outpatient visits: 452,712
  - Surgical cases performed: 7,449
IN 2013-14 GW HOSPITAL WAS RECOGNIZED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- GW Hospital ranked number seven in 'Best Hospitals' for 2014 in the Washington, D.C. area by *U.S. News & World Report*.

- GW Hospital ranked as 'High-Performing' in 2014 in the areas of cancer, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, and urology by *U.S. News & World Report*.

- GW Hospital achieved Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers by the Joint Commission, American Heart Association and American Stroke Association.

- GW Comprehensive Breast Center designated Center of Excellence for stereotactic breast biopsy, breast ultrasound, and ultrasound-guided breast biopsy by the American College of Radiology.

- GW Rehabilitation Services received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

- GW Hospital was nationally certified as a Level I Trauma Center by the American College of Surgeons.

- GW Hospital earned re-accreditation under the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program.

- GW Hospital was recognized as a Level 4 Epilepsy Center (the highest distinction) by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers.

- GW Transplant Institute received the United Network for Organ Sharing membership for kidney transplants.

- The GW Cancer Program earned the 2013 Outstanding Achievement Award, as well as another three-year Accreditation with Commendation from the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons.

- GW Hospital achieved CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Blue Distinction Center for Complex and Rare Cancers®.

- GW Hospital received the Environmental Excellence Award from the D.C. Hospital Association.

- GW Hospital received the Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award with Target Stroke Honor Roll from American Heart Association and American Stroke Association.
On June 20, 2014, the George Washington University (GW) officially launched a campaign to raise $1 billion by June 2018. As the university prepares to celebrate its bicentennial in 2021, the campaign, *Making History: The Campaign for GW*, will have a transformational effect, and seeks to greatly increase GW’s ability to address society’s most pressing concerns. Of the 10 schools within GW, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) will be responsible for attaining $225 million. “The funds we raise in the next four years will dramatically increase our level of excellence and improve our capacity to teach, heal, discover, and serve,” explains Dennis Narango, associate vice president for medicine and associate dean for development and alumni relations at SMHS. “The campaign will benefit key strategic priorities for us, such as scholarships, professorships, research, and facility improvements.”

Scholarships are among the highest priorities for this campaign. “We’re doing everything we can to ensure that students who have the talent and ability to enter our medical or health sciences programs can do so, regardless of their financial situation,” says Jeffrey S. Akman, M.D. ’81, RESD ’85, Walter A. Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine, vice president for health affairs, and dean of SMHS. “The primary way we accomplish this is through building our scholarship funds. One of my top goals for this campaign is to expand the scholarship opportunities we make available to students.”

In addition to scholarships, the *Making History* campaign seeks to attract top-tier faculty by creating new professorships while continuing to invest in the school’s expanding research portfolio. Improving the school’s facilities and infrastructure is also an important objective.

The school’s main facility, Walter G. Ross Hall, has undergone renovations that created new laboratory space and upgraded the Clinical Learning and Simulation Skills Center. In Akman’s vision for SMHS, these improvements are just the beginning.

“We hope the funds we raise during this campaign will drive even more facility projects,” says Akman. “Our plan is to expand the school’s laboratory spaces to accommodate our burgeoning research enterprise.” The school will be adding new laboratories at the GW Virginia Science & Technology Campus for health sciences programs, and it will also have the top floor in the new GW Science and Engineering Hall. SMHS intends to raise in excess of $10 million to finance the floor, which presents prestigious naming opportunities for generous donors, corporations, and foundations.

“Our future as an institution will be very different as a result of this capital campaign,” says Akman. “By empowering our strengths and investing in strategic areas, we stand to see exponential growth. I am very excited about this campaign because it will benefit the people we care about most: our students and faculty, our physicians and health care professionals, our patients, and the community at large.”

**THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**
**2014 SMHS DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS BY THE NUMBERS**

**ATTAINMENT GOAL**
- $18 MILLION

**AMOUNT RECEIVED**
- $21 MILLION

More than 4,000 discrete donors to SMHS in FY14

More than 6,000 gift transactions

**TOTAL ENDOWMENT**

$252 million spread across 273 discrete endowment funds support students, faculty, programs, lectures, and even gardening around the sundial in the Ross Hall courtyard. It produces $11.5 million each year in income for the various programs.

**UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT**

- 62.4% University
- 16.0% SMHS
- 21.6% All other schools

**Alumni contributed $3.9 MILLION**

**Friends (including grateful patients) $5.9 MILLION**

**Corporations and foundations gave nearly $9.5 MILLION**

**Other $1.7 MILLION**

**27,800 TOTAL ALUMNI**

**5,700 RESD ALUMNI**

**14,300 HEALTH SCIENCES ALUMNI**

**7,800 M.D. ALUMNI**

**900 BOTH M.D. AND RESD ALUMNI**
THE GIFT OF HUMANISM

As a pathologist, Yolanda C. Oertel, M.D., RESD ’72, always tried to practice medicine using both her head and her heart. Over a career spanning more than three decades, her two-pronged approach bore the stamp of medical humanities, the interdisciplinary field that applies humanities, the arts, and social sciences to medicine — a fact Oertel has always believed made her a better pathologist. “As physicians we have the brainpower, but we have to remember that we also have a heart, and it needs to be nourished by the arts and humanities,” she said.

Yolanda and her husband James E. Oertel, M.D., who passed away on Dec. 5, 2013, donated $2.5 million to the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) to establish the Yolanda and James Oertel Professorship for the Medical Humanities. The couple hoped that an endowed professorship would help incorporate the study of medical humanities into medical education and give students and physicians the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the human condition as they improved their clinical skills.

“Endowed professorships are among the highest form of honor and recognition in academic medicine,” said Jeffrey S. Akman, M.D. ’81, RESD ’85, Walter A. Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine, vice president for health affairs, and dean of SMHS. “Dr. Oertel is a renowned physician who exemplifies ‘whole person’ care. Her gift will support the recruitment and retention of the best and brightest physicians and professors.”

GIFT SUPPORTS GENETIC COUNSELING AND PATIENT ASSISTANCE

Those who know Ruth Uppercu Paul best recall a warm smile and a twinkle in her eye. “She had a wonderful sense of humor and a quick wit,” said Christine Clemens, a close friend of Paul’s for more than two decades. “She was a great conversationalist who would regale us with tales of her youth and her travels.” The vibrant individual whom Clemens remembers hasn’t been present since a debilitating stroke in 2012, but she is far from forgotten by those whose lives she touched — a list that will now include countless women at high risk for breast and ovarian cancer, as well as persons with hearing impairment.

Paul’s generous $1 million gift to the High-Risk Breast and Ovarian Cancer Clinic at the GW Medical Faculty Associates will enable the clinic to fund two genetic counselors and provide patient assistance support for genetic screening and counseling. The Ruth Uppercu Paul Cancer Prevention Fund, which is administered by the Dr. Cyrus & Myrtle Katzen Cancer Research Center at GW, may also be used to outfit new multidisciplinary space for the program.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

In fall 2014, SMHS established an advanced practice occupational therapy doctorate (OTD) degree program for practicing occupational therapists who are interested in interdisciplinary care of post-acute conditions.

“It is our mission to provide clinicians with opportunities that enable them to enhance their ability to serve their patients,” says Joseph Bocchino, Ed.D., M.B.A., senior associate dean for health sciences at SMHS. “We are excited to offer this new degree for occupational therapists who wish to advance their skill set and advance their career.”

The OTD program trains occupational therapy clinician-scholars to collaborate across the translational spectrum to integrate information from bench to bedside, and then on to influence policy. The curriculum focuses on transdisciplinary practice and research, scholarship in occupational therapy, and advanced concepts in function and learning, with an emphasis on post-acute and chronic care settings, one of the fastest growing segments of health care. The program is offered in an online learning format, using dynamic media for self-disciplined and self-directed students pursuing a clinical doctorate while preparing for professional advancement.
GETTING A BOOST FROM A MINI HEART

A novel idea from GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) researcher Narine Sarvazyan, Ph.D., could send relief to countless patients around the world suffering from chronic venous insufficiency, a disease in which patients experience sluggish venous blood flow from the legs back to the heart.

Sarvazyan, a professor of pharmacology and physiology at SMHS, has invented a new organ to help return blood flow from veins lacking functional valves. A rhythmically contracting cuff made of cardiac muscle cells surrounds the vein, acting as a “mini heart” to aid blood flow through venous segments. The cuff can be made of a patient’s own adult stem cells, eliminating the chance of implant rejection.

“We are suggesting, for the first time, to use stem cells to create rather than just repair damaged organs,” said Sarvazyan. “We can make a new heart outside of one’s own heart, and by placing it in the lower extremities, significantly improve venous blood flow.”

The potential new treatment option, outlined in a paper titled “Thinking Outside the Heart: Use of Engineered Cardiac Tissue for the Treatment of Chronic Deep Venous Insufficiency,” published in the Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Therapeutics, represents a leap forward for the tissue engineering field, advancing from organ repair to organ creation.
## RESEARCH NUMBERS

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES: $27,615,913**

- **92** Principal Investigators
- **225** Active Awards
- **71** New Awards for 2014
- **255** Grant Proposals Submitted and Pending for FY2014

**RESEARCH EXPENDITURES PER PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:**

$303,497

### RESEARCH BY AREA AND TOPIC

- **$4,407,487** Cancer
  - Basic Science: 2,166,082
  - Clinical: 33,565
  - Tissue Repository: 1,132,632
  - Training/Community: 1,075,208

- **$3,533,956** Neurological Sciences
  - Basic Science: 3,210,030
  - Clinical: 305,372
  - Comparative effectiveness: 18,554

- **$4,061,750** Administration – Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS

- **$4,723,882** NIH CO6

- **$2,451,807** Immunology and Tropical Medicine
  - Basic Science: 2,148,886
  - Clinical: 77,568
  - Training/Community: 225,353

- **$1,801,208** HIV/AIDS
  - Basic Science: 1,525,248
  - Clinical: 275,960

- **$495,150** Cardiovascular
  - Basic Science: 432,326
  - Clinical: 56,597
  - Comparative Effectiveness: 6,226

- **$529,381** Training/Community

- **$765,307** Ophthalmology/Basic Science

- **$672,720** Alcohol/Liver Basic Science

- **$564,966** Clinical Translational Science/Training/Community

- **$694,686** Telemedicine/Mobile Device Comparative Effectiveness

- **$529,150** Renal
  - Basic Science: 272,639
  - Clinical: 247,011
  - Other: 9,500

- **$571,788** Genetics
  - Basic Science: 245,536
  - Clinical: 326,252

- **$586,005** Emergency Medicine
  - Clinical: 289,157
  - Comparative Effectiveness: 296,848

- **$224,908** Mind/Body Spiritual Training/Community

- **$237,143** Disabilities Training/Community

- **$159,599** Legal/Medical Ethics Comparative Effectiveness

- **$29,954** Septic Shock Clinical

- **$224,691** Graduate Medical Education Training/Community

- **$35,398** Fellowship
  - Clinical: 18,545
  - Training/Community: 16,852

- **$15,871** Diabetes
  - Basic Science: 432,326

- **$22,347** Infectious Disease Comparative Effectiveness
TAKING THE LEAD IN THORACIC SURGERY

Keith Mortman, M.D., joined GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) as an associate professor of surgery in October 2013 with the single-minded goal of making GW the “go-to regional thoracic surgery program.”

Under Anton Sidawy, M.D., M.P.H., Lewis B. Saltz Professor and chair of surgery at SMHS, the organization’s leadership plans to build upon the successes of Gregory Trachiotis, M.D., professor of surgery at SMHS and chief of cardiothoracic surgery at the GW Medical Faculty Associates (MFA), to draw patients from across the D.C. metropolitan area for specialized care. “When somebody thinks thoracic surgery, I want them to think GW’s the place to be. That’s the challenge I accepted,” Mortman said.

Sidawy said that Mortman embodies the full package necessary to advance the thoracic surgery program at GW. “He has the experience, the know-how, and the skills — whether open surgical skills, video-assisted thoracoscopic skills, or robotic surgical skills — to be a well-rounded addition to the team,” Sidawy added.

Mortman, who serves as director of thoracic surgery at the MFA, performs nearly 90 percent of his surgeries using minimally invasive procedures. “Almost every patient who walks into my clinic starts out as a minimally invasive candidate,” Mortman said. A number of advantages to the approach have been recognized since the mid-1990s, and recent studies show that there could be survival benefits as well. “A lung cancer patient who has a minimally invasive lobectomy is able to tolerate more of the prescribed chemotherapy after surgery than a patient who undergoes an open lobectomy,” Mortman said. “It’s the holy grail — the patient is going to live longer.”
**VISUAL ALERTNESS IN CORTICAL NETWORKS**

Matthew Colonnese, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacology and physiology at SMHS, received a grant from the National Eye Institute to study developmental origins of wakefulness in the cerebral cortex. His project will investigate how circuit properties and computational structures change in the cerebral cortex — the region of the brain responsible for cognition and perception — between the fetal and postnatal periods.

“The fetal brain appears to be incapable of processing sensory information until just before birth. We are studying the mechanism of this critical shift,” said Colonnese.

This work can help researchers better understand the critical developmental checkpoints that determine whether an infant will develop a healthy, functional brain.

**PUTTING UP SEVEN FOR PA**

The streak continues. SMHS Department of Physician Assistant (PA) Studies, one of the earliest established PA programs, recently received reaccreditation by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant. The SMHS program earned a seven-year accreditation period, the maximum term granted by the commission.

The SMHS PA program has been named among the nation’s leading programs by *U.S. News & World Report*. The program is consistently recognized for its pioneering curriculum and unique focus on community outreach, patient advocacy, and leadership.

Over the 40-year history of the program, more than 2,000 PAs have graduated from the university, and GW graduates continue to play an important role in extending the services of physicians to deliver quality care in clinics, hospitals, and private practices.

**INNOVATION THROUGH CLINICAL PRACTICE**

As the health care debate rages on, policy-makers and physicians are trying to mend a system that many Americans think is overpriced and underperforming. “There is an urgency to create a health care system of quality care that is both innovative and efficient,” said Jesse Pines, M.D., M.B.A. As director of the newly established Office for Clinical Practice Innovation (OCPI) at GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS), Pines brings this discussion to GW, as he and his team use their expertise in health policy and medicine to face these challenges head-on.

The new office, according to Pines, who holds a dual appointment as a professor of emergency medicine at SMHS and a professor of health policy at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at GW, focuses on two key areas: how medical care is delivered; and how specific products impact clinical care by improving quality, enhancing value, and reducing costs. Pines’ primary goal is to prepare SMHS to “innovate clinical practice in the context of all the changes that will be rolled out with the Affordable Care Act, and also to help the school become a leader in this field by creating scholarships.”
UNDOING DNA DAMAGE

New research may lead scientists to identify a pathway to regulate DNA damage repair in cancer cells, providing a new way to help cancer patients who are drug resistant. Chemotherapy and radiation therapy are used to kill cancer cells by causing irreparable DNA damage. However, some cancer patients fail to respond to the treatments due to their highly active DNA damage repair systems. Their bodies are able to repair the damage caused by chemotherapy and radiation, allowing their cancer cells to live on.

Wenge Zhu, Ph.D., assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular medicine at GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, received a $720,000 Research Scholar Grant from the American Cancer Society to study the mechanism by which multiple genes regulate DNA damage repair in cancer cells.

“If we understand the DNA damage repair pathway, we can find ways to inhibit repair activity and work on finding a solution to this type of drug resistance problem,” said Zhu.

Zhu hopes his five-year study, titled “The Role of And-1 in DNA Damage Repair,” not only expands our understanding of cancer formation, but also opens new avenues for the development of therapeutic strategies for cancer treatment.

ENDING EPILEPSY, LEAVING ONLY A MEMORY

Mesial temporal lobe epilepsy (MTLE) is the most common form of epilepsy. The recurring seizures can be both severe and resistant to many antiepileptic medications, leaving patients no option other than brain surgery in the temporal lobe, in their effort to escape the debilitating symptoms. Now, an innovative clinical trial led by Mohamad Koubeissi, M.D., director of the Epilepsy Center and associate professor of neurology at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences, promises a solution for MTLE patients, without the risk to memory functions.

The research, first published in the Annals of Neurology in August 2013, uses low-frequency deep brain stimulation to help reduce epileptic seizures in MTLE patients. Koubeissi found that low-frequency stimulation reduced seizures in patients by 92 percent without impairing memory.

“This is an innovative clinical trial that aims to identify novel modalities to reduce seizures in individuals with medically intractable temporal lobe epilepsy, who are at risk of sustaining memory decline with the surgical removal of the temporal lobe,” said Koubeissi. “Over the next few years, we hope that the results will be similar to previous research, leading to better treatment options for these patients.”
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GW Cancer Institute
GW Center for Integrative Medicine
GW Heart and Vascular Institute
GW Institute for Neuroscience
GW Institute for Spirituality and Health (GWish)
Institute for Biomedical Sciences
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Research Center for Neglected Diseases of Poverty
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Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Children's National Health System (CTSI-CN)
District of Columbia Developmental Center for AIDS Research
Human Hookworm Vaccine Initiative
Top 5 most-cited articles for SMHS faculty, retrieved via Scopus

GW SMHS author(s) in bold


Manson, J.E., Chlebowski, R.T., Stefanick, M.L., Aragaki, A.K., Rossouw, J.E., Martin, L.W., et al. (2013). Menopausal hormone therapy and health outcomes during the intervention and extended post-stopping phases of the women’s health initiative randomized trials. *JAMA*, 310(13), 1353-1368. # of citations: 30


Top 5 most downloaded articles for SMHS faculty for 2013, retrieved from Health Sciences Research Commons

GW SMHS author(s) in bold


Top 10 journals containing publications by SMHS faculty for 2013, retrieved from Scopus

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