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# Pathways

THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AT PEORIA

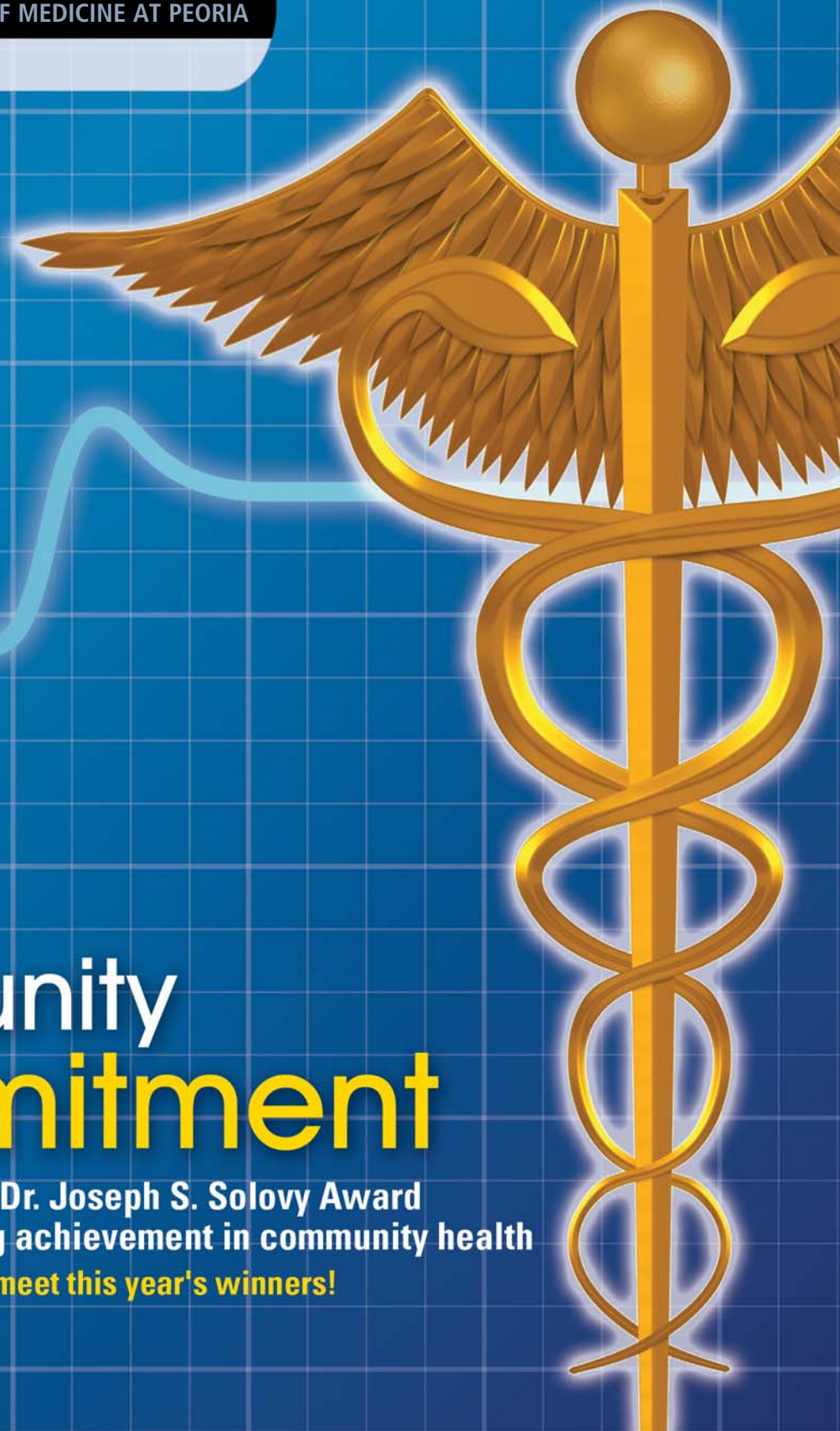
A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu WINTER 2008-2009

## Community Commitment

UICOMP's prestigious Dr. Joseph S. Solovy Award  
celebrates outstanding achievement in community health

► Turn to page 10 and meet this year's winners!





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PEDIATRIC  
RESOURCE  
CENTER



# Pathways

Winter 2008-2009

*Pathways* is published quarterly by the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria to provide alumni, faculty, staff, and friends with an overview of our academic, financial, and scientific endeavors.

**Regional Dean**  
Dr. Sara Rusch

**Editor & Advancement Coordinator**  
Jim Burwitz

**Art Director**  
Paige Harrmann

**Development Director**  
Susan Dunnan

**Circulation Manager**  
Cindy Adams

**Advisors & Contributors**  
Shellee Abraham, Debbie Bigger, Peg Burnette, Kristy Bushart, Cindy Butenhoff, Lisa Collins, John Crowley, Shannon Doerr, Jo Dorsch, Mary Durdel, Mary Jean Dzurisin, Gracita Edwards, Roberta Egan, Amanda Erwin, Chris Finson, Deb Granger, Linnet Graze, Penny Halverson, Wally Hammond, Judy Heffernan, Lois Hill, Bob Hunt, Chris Johnson, Lorene King, Cindy Kirwan, Larry Kloc, Bobbi Lyons, Peggy Mankin, Kevin May, Mary Beth McAvoy, Sandy McGee, Diana Meister, Michelle Michael, Lauren Perkins, Mindy Reeter, Randy Robbins, Tom Ryan, Kathy Sciortino, Linda Simkins, Kathy Tate, Heidi Vermillion, Pat Vietti, Sue Weiss, Bonnie Willis, Suzy Witt



One Illini Drive • Box 1649  
Peoria, IL • 61656-1649  
Phone: 309-671-8404  
Fax: 309-680-8645  
www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu

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By Jim Burwitz



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By Jim Burwitz



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# from the dean



**D**o you remember being a student? In many ways, today's medical students are just like prior generations of physicians. They share the same commitment to medicine. This commitment is founded on the desire to take care of people, a fascination with the science of the human body, and a willingness to make a contribution.

Today's medical students are still willing to spend the countless hours of study, suffer the test anxiety, and stretch their financial aid check so it covers the rent. Today's students share with previous generations the necessary idealism and commitment to patients.

Although our commitment to medicine is the same, today's students have different learning styles and educational needs. Remember the Index Medicus, the slide rule "calculator," and the slide carousel? I do, and the "dark ages" were over when I started teaching! How we teach and learn has changed radically since then. Our students are used to online learning and will be taking their Boards on computers. They use iPods and podcasts as learning tools. As teachers, our goal is to help our students learn, which means we must be able to meet changing educational needs.

One of my objectives as Regional Dean is to revise UICOMP's current learning space so that it better meets our students' needs. This is the mission of our current Student Learning Enhancement Project. The goal is to redevelop existing space into multipurpose teaching areas that are designed for small-group, interactive learning and equipped to adapt to evolving educational technology. Some of this space will be set aside to assist faculty with learning and implementing the skills that new technology requires. We hope to move to computerized testing so our students are prepared when they take their national computerized USMLE exams.

The cost estimates for this project are approximately \$450,000. Endeavors like this program and our Cancer Research Expansion Project are dependent on philanthropy. Because we believe that the Student Learning Enhancement Project is urgent and important for our students, we have made it the focal point of our direct mail and telemarketing campaigns this year.

It is uplifting to realize that medical student enthusiasm and commitment has remained constant over the decades. We need to support our students by adapting the College of Medicine's learning space so we can teach more effectively. You can learn more about this initiative by reading the feature story on page 14.

Please consider using the envelope in this copy of *Pathways* to donate to the Student Learning Enhancement Project or one of the many worthy programs at UICOMP. As always, I thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sara L. Rusch  
Regional Dean

"One of my objectives as Regional Dean is to revise UICOMP's current learning space so that it better meets our students' needs."



## Celebrating 25 Years

UICOMP's Emergency Medicine Residency Program, based at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, recently celebrated 25 years of service, patient care, and education.

Thirty-one resident alumni attended the reunion that took place the weekend of August 1, 2008, at Embassy Suites Hotel and Riverfront Conference Center in East Peoria, Illinois.

The College of Medicine's Emergency Medicine Residency Program was established in 1980 and became an accredited program in 1983. Since that time, 164 physicians have completed their emergency medicine training, with 38 remaining in Central Illinois.

The Emergency Medicine Residency Program is part of UICOMP's Department of Graduate Medical Education (GME). Led by Dr. Thomas Santoro, GME oversees 10 residency and six fellowship programs in partnership with Methodist Medical Center, OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, and Children's Hospital of Illinois.

## Building Relationships

The College of Medicine's Peoria Medical Alumni Council (PMAC) has been an important support and mentoring organization for more than 15 years. Under the leadership of Dr. Robert Sparrow (pictured right), PMAC bridges the gap between medical students, residents, and alumni by planning and managing social events and educational programs, as well as providing generous support for endeavors such as UICOMP's annual White Coat Ceremony for incoming second-year medical students.

On behalf of the College of Medicine's students, residents, alumni, faculty, and staff, thank you to the members of this essential organization. Your ongoing contributions are an important part of UICOMP's past, present, and future.



### 2009 PMAC Members

Dr. Joseph Baumgart	Dr. Jody Kelly	Dr. Linda Rowe	Dr. Ralph Velazquez
Dr. Steven Below	Dr. Larry Lindahl	Dr. Sara Rusch	Dr. Lorin Whittaker Jr.
Dr. Andrew Bland	Dr. Albert Maurer	Dr. Robert Sparrow	
Dr. Robert Flinn	Dr. Rhett Miller	Dr. Carl Strauch	
Dr. Jeff Hoschek	Dr. John Mueller	Dr. Richard Trumpe	

### Student Members

Sara Bohac	Sharon Hartmans	Amardeep Johar
------------	-----------------	----------------

To learn how you can help the Peoria Medical Alumni Council, please call 309-671-8404.

## We Want To Hear From YOU

UICOMP is committed to celebrating the accomplishments of our valued alumni, but we can't do it without your help. Please share your success stories, class notes, and career updates by e-mail (jburwitz@uic.edu) or phone (309-671-8404). Be sure to include your class year and any corrections to contact information. Your classmates are waiting to hear from you!

## CPR-Music Study Receives Worldwide Attention

A recent UICOMP study showing the connection between popular music and retaining CPR techniques resonated with national and international media outlets. The Associated Press, BBC, CNN, Fox News Channel, and MSNBC are a few of the many news organizations that featured special segments on the work done by Drs. Lisa Barker, Elizabeth Bockewitz, John Hafner, and David Matlock.

The study showed that medical students and physicians who were trained to perform chest compressions as part of CPR while listening to the Bee Gees' hit "Stayin' Alive" maintained the ideal rhythm of 100 compressions per minute, even five weeks after their initial training sessions.

"We've got a problem with CPR, in that people aren't doing it fast and strong enough," says Dr. Hafner. "The recommendation is that we do CPR at 100 compressions per minute. Popular songs with catchy beats stay in your head and help you remember the proper cadence and tempo."

The results of the study, entitled "Stayin' Alive: A Pilot Study to Test the Effectiveness of a Novel Mental Metronome in Maintaining Appropriate Compression Rates in Simulated Cardiac Arrest Scenarios," were presented during the annual meeting of the American College of Emergency Physicians in Chicago, Illinois.

"This was a small study, but the results are encouraging," says Dr. Matlock. "If we can develop an easy way for people to remember the proper rhythm, that's a great step toward encouraging bystanders to perform CPR."



## UICOMP Offers Staff Enrichment Series

A new program designed to educate and entertain faculty and staff members debuted at the College of Medicine in the fall of 2008.

Led by the Regional Dean's Office, UICOMP's Staff Enrichment Series features monthly onsite and offsite sessions. Recent classes included "Fast and Easy Gourmet Cooking," by Dr. Brian McIntyre (pictured right), and offered prize drawings, certificates of participation, and program-evaluation opportunities.

To learn more about the ongoing Staff Enrichment Series, call 309-671-8402.



educate · entertain

## Dr. Geiss Presents To Course Directors' Workshops

Dr. Roger Geiss, Professor and Chair of UICOMP's Department of Pathology, recently gave presentations for two national course directors' workshops.

The first presentation was part of a forum on the "Role of Pathology in Integrated Curricula" at the annual meeting of the Association of Pathology Chairs in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

His second presentation, entitled "Being an Effective Course Director: Wearing Many Hats," was given as part of a workshop for the International Academy of Medical Science Educators' annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.



## On The Move

The following is a summary of recent faculty additions and promotions:

**Dr. Muhammad J. Javed** has accepted the position of Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics.

**Dr. Roy P. McRae** has accepted the position of Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine.

**Dr. Benjamin K. Rhee** has accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery.

**Dr. Jayaraj Salimath** has accepted the position of Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery.

**Dr. Fenglin Shi** has accepted the position of Visiting Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics.

## UICOMP Welcomes Associate Dean Of Academic Affairs

UICOMP is pleased to announce Carol Packard, Ph.D., as its new Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.

Dr. Packard comes to UICOMP from Florida International University's College of Medicine, where she served as the founding Director of Medical Education. Prior to that experience, she worked for nine years as Associate Director of Clinical Affairs for the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign.

Dr. Packard has been recognized repeatedly throughout her 35-year career in public education, including the University of Illinois College of Medicine's Employee of the Year Award in 2006. She is a member of the Academy of Human Resource Development, the American Society for Training and Development, and the Society of Directors of Research in Medical Education.

Dr. Packard specializes in program and performance evaluation. She received her Ph.D. in International Human Resource and Organization Development from the University of Illinois, her M.S.Ed. in Organizational Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania, and her B.A. in Multicultural Education from the University of Massachusetts.



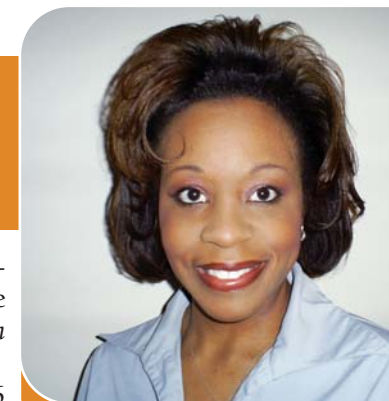
## Role Models Book Features UICOMP Faculty

Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine Dr. Thembi Conner-Garcia and Academic Skills Specialist Lorene King are profiled in the new book *Role Models: Profiles of Successful African American Professionals in Peoria, Illinois*.

A publication of Illinois Central College, *Role Models* features 126 area professionals whose accomplishments may serve as inspiration and guidance for African American students and young adults.

"The best advice I can give to someone who desires to enter my profession is to work hard, believe in yourself, and try to be a good mentor," says UICOMP's Dr. Conner-Garcia.

*Role Models* may be purchased from Illinois Central College for \$20, with all proceeds to benefit local mentoring programs. For more information call 309-694-5515.



Dr. Thembi Conner-Garcia



Lorene King

# The Value Of Education



Susan Dunnan is the newest member of UICOMP's Office of Advancement and Community Relations. She can be reached at 309-671-8481 or [sdunnan@uic.edu](mailto:sdunnan@uic.edu).

Often I am asked, "Why would you take a fundraising position during these difficult economic times?" My response is simple. Now, more than ever, UICOMP's many giving opportunities provide an excellent return on any investment.

We value education. We value students and residents. We value faculty and staff who offer a challenging and rewarding educational experience. We value alumni, donors, and community partners who continue to support our mission by investing in the future of Peoria's medical education.

Recently, two students shared their thoughts on the value of UICOMP:

"This is just a great place! Our instructors are doing something special, and it is an honor to be associated with them. They freely give of their time and talent to passionately teach us the technical 'stuff,' but more importantly, they are always checking on us to see if we need anything. They want us to succeed in striking a balance between the classroom and our own health and well-being."

"The education here is so much greater than just the classroom setting. We have the opportunity to grow in other ways, too. We have an indoor soccer league, a singing group, and opportunities to give back to the community through volunteering and learning the importance of stewardship."

How does education enhance the quality of healthcare? As life-long learners, physicians use the very latest medical information to achieve better patient outcomes and manageable healthcare costs. When patients feel confident in their healthcare services, everybody wins.

Consider the possibilities of giving in support of UICOMP's current and future students and residents. The benefits of an enhanced educational experience stretch far beyond the College of Medicine. They are the direct result of your dedication and generosity.

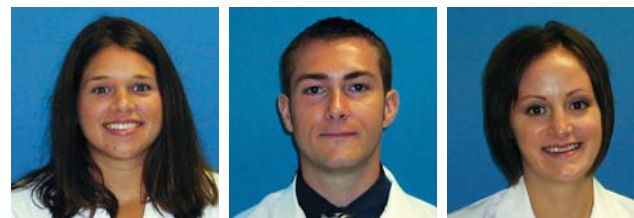
Sincerely,

Susan Dunnan  
Director of Development

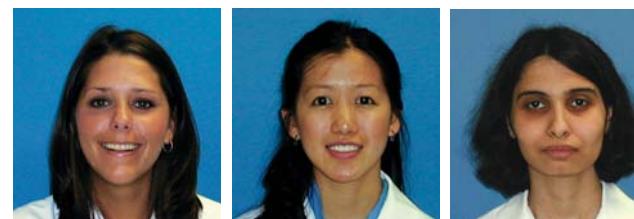


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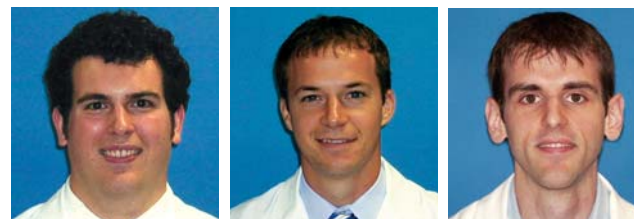
## Nine Students Named To Medical Honor Society



Kristen Chambers-Damm Luke Falesch Melissa Grunloh



Ellen Haas Alina Huang Elham Karamooz



Alexander Orem Brent Rocke Scott Sheehan

Nine fourth-year medical students from UICOMP have been named to the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society, Alpha Chapter of Illinois:

- Kristen Chambers-Damm
- Luke Falesch
- Melissa Grunloh
- Ellen Haas
- Alina Huang
- Elham Karamooz
- Alexander Orem
- Brent Rocke
- Scott Sheehan



Founded in 1902, Alpha Omega Alpha is the only national medical honor society in the world. The organization is dedicated to the promotion of scholarship and research in medical schools, the encouragement of a high standard of character among medical students, and the recognition of high attainment in medical science, practice, and related fields.

The Illinois Chapter includes members from the College of Medicine's four regional sites in Peoria, Chicago, Rockford, and Urbana. For more information log on to [www2.uic.edu/stud\\_orgs/hon/aoa](http://www2.uic.edu/stud_orgs/hon/aoa).

## UICOMP Students Form APAMSA Chapter

UICOMP medical students have established a local chapter of the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA).

Founded in 1995, APAMSA is a non-profit organization that exists to promote the health and well-being of Asian and Asian-American communities. Association activities include organizing health fairs and educational events, screening and immunizing patients against Hepatitis B, registering bone marrow donors through a national campaign, and serving as a support system for student discussion and activism.

To learn more about APAMSA, log on to [www.apamsa.org](http://www.apamsa.org).

### Student Affairs

To learn more about UICOMP's student programs and services, please contact:

Dr. Linda P. Rowe  
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs  
Phone: 309-671-8411 • E-mail: [lpr@uic.edu](mailto:lpr@uic.edu)



# Community Commitment

UICOMP's prestigious Dr. Joseph S. Solovy Award celebrates outstanding achievement in community health.

Photography by Bob Hunt.



Dr. Kay Saving, Pediatric Resource Center

Steve Thompson, Easter Seals

By Jim Burwitz

In 1996, the College of Medicine established a special award to honor a man who dedicated his career to improving education, patient care, and community health.

"Dr. Joseph Solovy was integrally embedded into the community," UICOMP's Dr. John Halvorsen says of the faculty member who was recognized at the first Community Health Award Luncheon. "He typified the physician who brought his clinical knowledge and skill to Central Illinois, and served it for his entire professional lifetime."

More than 12 years after the College of Medicine's first celebration, Dr. Solovy continued that spirit of service by presenting the annual award now named in his honor.

Representatives from the Pediatric Resource Center celebrate the organizational award selection (right).



Dr. Joseph S. Solovy and his wife Ellen attend UICOMP's Community Health Award Luncheon.



Dr. John Halvorsen announces the 2008 Solovy Award winners.

### And The Winners Are...

On October 22, 2008, faculty, staff, students, and community partners assembled at Embassy Suites Riverfront Conference Center in East Peoria, Illinois, to pay tribute to Solovy Award winners Steve Thompson, Easter Seals president and CEO, and the Pediatric Resource Center (PRC).

Dr. Halvorsen served as emcee at the annual luncheon and shared the following remarks from each nomination packet:

"It is difficult to capture the personal and professional attributes of someone as committed as Steve Thompson. His compassion to provide help to those with disabilities is monumental.

"He is totally dedicated to the Easter Seals mission and is tireless in his efforts to provide exceptional services to children and families with disabilities. In 2007, his nearly single-handed effort led to the development of the Lorraine and George Shadid Autism Resource Center. Currently, he is leading the way for the Ray and Kathy LaHood Center for Cerebral Palsy, which will be a key resource for children with cerebral palsy and their families.

"Steve and his wife Morene set a precedent for all of us to follow. They exemplify the ideas of family, community, and service. Once you visit with their 18 children, you instantly learn how the family views life."

For the organizational award, Dr. Halvorsen again referred to the 2008 nomination materials:

"Founded in 1993, the Pediatric Resource Center serves the healthcare needs of abused and neglected children throughout Central Illinois.

"Affiliated with OSF Saint Francis Medical Center and Children's Hospital of Illinois, PRC offers child-friendly medical evaluations and consults with social services for its child victims. Additional services include forensic evaluations, case coordination, training, safety assessments, referral services and issue-awareness campaigns. To date, PRC has served more than 4,000 children from 40 Illinois counties.

## Past Recipients

The following is a list of previous Dr. Joseph S. Solovy Award winners:

### Individuals

- Joseph S. Solovy, M.D., 1996
- David L. Gorenz, M.D., 1997
- Sister M. Canisia Gerlach, OSF, 1998
- Fred Z. White, M.D., 1998
- Patti Bash, 1999
- Barbara Walvoord, 2000
- Susan Bishop, D.M.D., 2001
- David Z. Wang, D.O., 2002
- Andrew Rand, 2003
- Ken Hinton, 2004
- David Springer, M.D., 2005
- Joan Krupa, 2006
- Representative David R. Leitch (R-Peoria), 2007

### Organizations/Programs

- OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, 1997
- Healthy Balance Program of Caterpillar Inc., 1998
- In-School HealthCare Program, 1999
- Hult Health Education Center, 2000
- Senior World, 2001
- Central IL Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2002
- Center for Prevention of Abuse, 2003
- Peoria Area Labor Management Council, 2004
- Alzheimer's Association, Central IL Chapter, 2005
- Joining Forces for Children, 2006
- Mental Health Association of Illinois Valley, Inc., 2007

"As a society, protecting our children from physical, emotional, and sexual abuse must take the highest priority. PRC is leading the fight against abuse and making a measurable difference in the lives of Central Illinois children and their families. I cannot think of a more deserving organization for the Dr. Joseph S. Solovy Award for community health."

### Leadership Through Service

The Community Health Award Luncheon took on added significance thanks to this year's partnership with Quality Quest for Health. Led by President and CEO Dr. Gail Admundson, Quality Quest's important mission of increasing the value of local healthcare parallels the original intent of UICOMP's annual award.

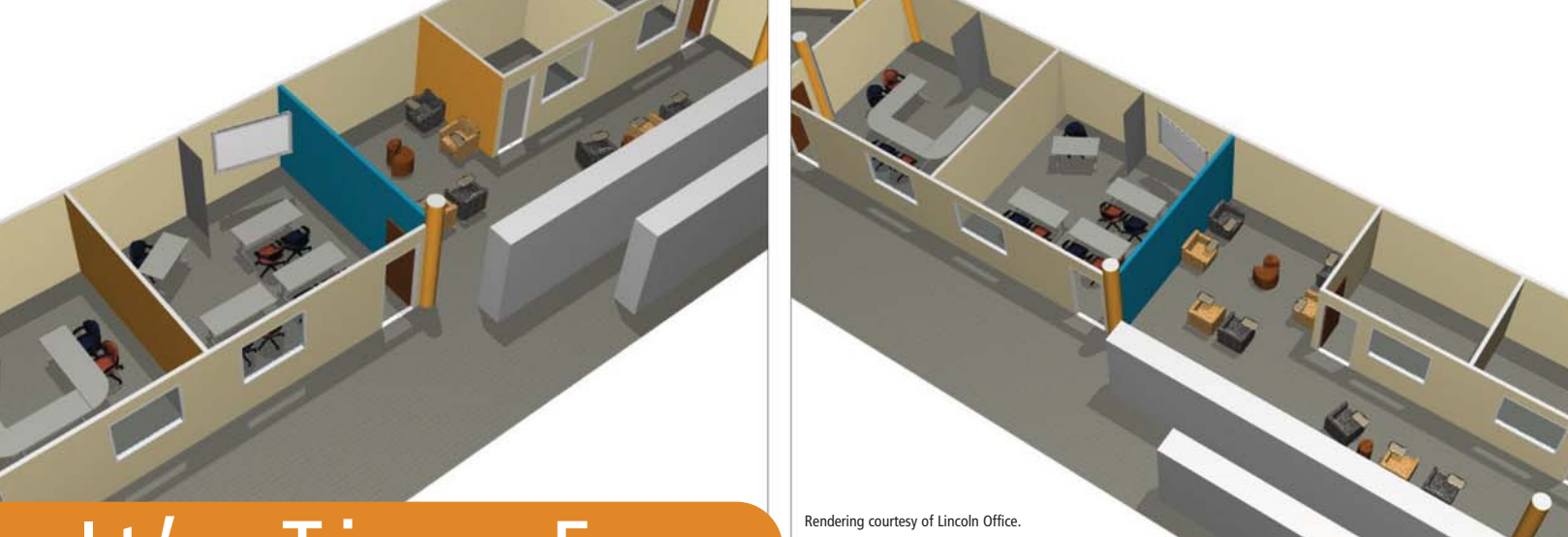
"The goals of Quality Quest mirror ours at the College of Medicine in terms of improving the health of our community," Dr. Halvorsen explains. "As partners committed to the same outcomes and working together, we will be able to achieve more than either of us could achieve on our own."

Achievement was certainly the word of the day at the 2008 Community Health Award Luncheon. In addition to recognizing the many accomplishments of Steve Thompson and the Pediatric Resource Center, 140 community partners celebrated the contributions of past award winners, fellow nominees, and dedicated event sponsors.

"It was wonderful to see an entire room full of people gathered together to celebrate their peers," says Dr. Halvorsen. "The context of leadership through service is memorable when the focus is not on isolated accomplishments, but on the integrated, collaborative effort to build a better and healthier community." ■

*"The context of leadership through service is memorable when the focus is not on isolated accomplishments, but on the integrated, collaborative effort to build a better and healthier community."*

— Dr. John Halvorsen



Rendering courtesy of Lincoln Office.

# It's Time For Transformation

The College of Medicine's Student Learning Enhancement Project is redesigning the model of medical education.



Photography by Kevin May.



By Jim Burwitz

Take a moment and think back to 1976. Do you remember the car you drove, the clothes you wore, or the music you liked? If you're a UICOMP graduate from the days of disco, how and where did you study for an important exam?

While styles and tastes have changed dramatically over the last three decades, it might surprise you to learn that the College of Medicine's primary study spaces are essentially the same.

"Our campus has not seen a major update of its student learning space since the 1970s," says Dr. Sara Rusch, UICOMP's Regional Dean. "We need to transform our existing second-floor space into a technology-rich, service-oriented study center."

Thanks to the efforts of dedicated community partners, faculty, staff, and alumni, the College of Medicine's Student Learning Enhancement Project is bringing that vision to life.

## An Immediate Need

With 150 medical students and 200 residents, UICOMP's need for a state-of-the-art learning environment is immediate.

"Medical education is emphasizing small-group instruction, problem-solving techniques, and case-based activities," explains Professor and Health Sciences Librarian Jo Dorsch. "Our plan includes multipurpose rooms suitable for individual study and student collaboration. In addition, the plan calls for a digital-learning lab that includes cutting-edge workstations, specialized software, and rich online collections."

A key component of the project involves moving the current Caterpillar Center for Academic Technology to UICOMP's second-floor study area within the Library of the Health Sciences. Officially dedicated in March of 1997, the Caterpillar Center for Academic Technology has been essential to Peoria's student and resident programs. The relocation will allow Caterpillar's generous gift to help shape a new, interactive approach to medical education.

"We're focusing on what students need today and 10 to 20 years from now," Dorsch explains. "We want to target the overall educational experience to a specific need."

When it comes to student needs, comfort and convenience top the list.

"Medical students, especially second-year students, spend most of their day at the College of Medicine for lecture and then have very large amounts of information to study afterwards," says Ingrid Kraus, a fourth-year-medical student at UICOMP. "Sometimes it's hard to find a place in the school to study. Modern study areas would definitely make the medical school a more inviting and enjoyable place to study. I think it would also encourage students to better utilize available resources."

## The Big Picture

UICOMP's Student Learning Enhancement Project will have long-term benefits for Central Illinois, as future physicians will receive the highest levels of instruction and training.

Generous donations from alumni and community partners have been vital to the project's initial success. The next phase will include finalizing design plans, identifying specific equipment and software needs, and selecting furniture. However, dwindling state support throughout the College of Medicine has led to an increased dependence on philanthropy.

"This is an opportunity to make a real difference, because an investment in the Student Learning Enhancement Project is an investment in the future of medical education and healthcare," says Susan Dunnan, UICOMP's Director of Development. "In addition, this important project fits very nicely with the ongoing Brilliant Futures Campaign, which is raising needed funds for students, faculty, research, and the overall campus environment."

Through the contributions of key stakeholders, UICOMP will continue to change the model of medical education and enhance the quality of care throughout the region. ■

*"Modern study areas would definitely make the medical school a more inviting and enjoyable place to study."*

— Ingrid Kraus  
Class of 2009

*"Our plan includes multipurpose rooms suitable for individual study and student collaboration."*

— Jo Dorsch  
Professor & Health Sciences Librarian

## UICOMP Holds First Annual Breast Cancer Symposium

The College of Medicine's Department of Surgery and Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Peoria Affiliate, conducted a symposium to educate physicians and healthcare providers regarding breast cancer diagnosis and management.

More than 230 healthcare professionals and community advocates attended the two-day symposium October 3-4, 2008, at Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria, Illinois. The event featured a special meet-and-greet social to celebrate the lives of those afflicted with breast cancer.

"The symposium proved to be an excellent accredited educational event by offering a very broad-based and multidisciplinary format," says UICOMP's Dr. John Murray (pictured right), who served as symposium chair. "The success of the symposium attests to the great talents and skills that we are blessed with in our medical community here in Central Illinois. Clearly, this event could not have been possible without our joint sponsor, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, and our gracious donors."



## UICOMP Employee Wins Award Of Merit

Library Operations Associate Peg Burnette was recently honored with the 2008 UIC Award of Merit.

The Award of Merit is presented to employees who exemplify excellence in all aspects of work performance and position responsibilities, including a commitment to leadership, teamwork, service, and problem solving.

Burnette was recognized on November 4, 2008, during a special awards ceremony at the UIC Forum in Chicago, Illinois. She has worked for Peoria's Library of the Health Sciences since 1981 and is actively involved in the ongoing community health education series, "Living Healthy."



## upcoming UICOMP events

### January 8, 2009

Living Healthy—Can I Prevent Diabetes?

Register today for part five of this can't-miss series of important healthcare topics affecting you and your family. Only \$5 per session. Please visit [www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu](http://www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu) for more information.

UICOMP, Main Lecture Hall • 6 p.m.

309-671-8490

### February 5, 2009

Living Healthy—Everyone CAN Exercise!

Register today for part six of this can't-miss series of important healthcare topics affecting you and your family. Only \$5 per session. Please visit [www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu](http://www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu) for more information.

UICOMP, Main Lecture Hall • 6 p.m.

309-671-8490

### March 5, 2009

Living Healthy—Looking for the Fountain of Youth?

Register today for part seven of this can't-miss series of important healthcare topics affecting you and your family. Only \$5 per session. Please visit [www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu](http://www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu) for more information.

UICOMP, Main Lecture Hall • 6 p.m.

309-671-8490

### March 7, 2009

Snow Ball

All students, residents, faculty, and staff are invited to an evening of dinner, dancing, auction items, and more. The annual event is held as a fundraiser for UICOMP's Student Graduation and Awards Banquet and various student programs.

Radisson Hotel Peoria • Cocktails: 5:30 p.m. • Dinner: 7 p.m.

309-671-8411

### March 19, 2009

Match Day

UICOMP's fourth-year medical students will find out where they have matched for residency training, as simultaneous celebrations are held for medical schools throughout the United States.

WeaverRidge Golf Club • 11 a.m.

309-671-8404



## Annual PRC Event Raises \$65,000

UICOMP's Pediatric Resource Center (PRC) raised more than \$65,000 at its fall fundraiser, "An Evening in Blue," held on October 10, 2008, at the Peoria Country Club.

Approximately 100 guests helped honor the generous members of PRC's Blue Ribbon Society. Membership in the Blue Ribbon Society is achieved through a gift or pledge of \$10,000 or more. The evening featured 83 auction items that raised a combined \$5,000.

Affiliated with Children's Hospital of Illinois and OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, PRC has been protecting Central Illinois children from abuse and neglect since 1993. To learn more about PRC, please call 309-624-9595.

## Welcome To New Employees

UICOMP is pleased to announce the following staff additions:

**Joan Harer,**  
Division of Educational Services

**Rhonda Larsen,**  
Department of Medicine

**Kelli Rude,**  
Student Affairs

## What Did We Miss?

To list an announcement or upcoming event, please send your UICOMP information to:

Jim Burwitz • Editor, *Pathways*  
One Illini Drive • Box 1649 • Peoria, IL 61656-1649 • [jburwitz@uic.edu](mailto:jburwitz@uic.edu)





# A True Local Resource

## Memory Lane

Do you have a story of days gone by at UICOMP? How about a forgotten photo or tantalizing trivia question?

Please send your submissions to [jburwitz@uic.edu](mailto:jburwitz@uic.edu) and help us explore the College of Medicine's rich history.

On August 15, 2006, physician groups, government officials, community partners, and University of Illinois representatives participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for downtown Peoria's Illinois Medical Center.

The special event included comments from Mayor Jim Ardis, Representative David R. Leitch (R-Peoria), University of Illinois President Dr. B. Joseph White, and former Interim Regional Dean Dr. Rodney Lorenz.

Officially dedicated on October 23, 2008, the 110,000-square-foot Illinois Medical Center is housed on UICOMP's campus. The facility represents an ongoing collaboration between Illinois Gastroenterology Institute, Illinois Lung Institute, Peoria Surgical Group, the City of Peoria, and the University of Illinois.



Promoting wellness, safety, and preventive healthcare in the Heart of Illinois

# Isn't It Time To Start "Living Healthy?"

Register today for this can't-miss series of important healthcare topics affecting YOU & YOUR FAMILY.

University of Illinois  
College of Medicine at Peoria  
One Illini Drive  
First Thursday of Each Month  
6:30 p.m.

To register, simply log on to [www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu](http://www.peoria.medicine.uic.edu), or call 309-671-8490.

Only \$5 per session!

Includes health screenings, information consults, and more!  
Starting at 6 p.m.

"Living Healthy" is presented as part of the Swain Endowed Lectureship by the University of Illinois Regional Health Sciences Site in Peoria:

- ◆ University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria
- ◆ UIC College of Nursing, Central Illinois Regional Program
- ◆ UIC Library of the Health Sciences
- ◆ UIC School of Public Health

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