

Family & Community MEDICINE

Fall 2003

DR. ANNE FITZSIMMONS IS FIRMLY FOCUSED ON HER PATIENTS

Helping them stay healthy makes her feel good — That's why she 'FITZ' so well in family medicine

ANNE FITZSIMMONS began medical school at MU with a "feeling of wow." She was enthusiastic about learning and eager to work hard. But, like many first-year students, she sometimes worried whether she had what it takes to be a doctor. By her third year, however, when she was able to interact directly with patients, she was confident that a career in medicine was the right fit for her.

"My performance as a basic sciences student was average," Dr. Fitzsimmons says. "But once I got involved in patient care, my strengths became obvious to me and the faculty. I loved patients and had strong people skills, so being a caring and conscientious health care provider came easy for me."

Dr. Fitzsimmons completed her medical degree in 1986 and MU's Family Practice Residency in 1989. Then she worked three years for an HMO in Kansas City, a job that expanded her medical knowledge and experiences. "There's a steep

learning curve for doctors during their first year after residency," she says. "As an HMO physician, I didn't have to concern myself with issues relating to billing or the economics of health care,

and that allowed me to learn more about medicine and patient care."

In 1992, Dr. Fitzsimmons returned to Columbia to join the faculty at MU Family Medicine. Today she serves as an assistant professor in the department.

Dr. Fitzsimmons practices at Green Meadows Family Practice Center, which — with a staff of 60 health care professionals and nearly 50,000 patient visits annually — is the department's largest clinic. Located just two miles from the University, Green Meadows serves as an important training site for MU medical students and family practice residents.

Providing patients the best care possible has always been a priority for Dr. Fitzsimmons. That's one reason she was appointed Green Meadows Medical Director in 1993 — just a year after returning to MU. Around this same time, the University created an HMO, which caused a significant increase in the Green Meadows patient population. As clinic director, Dr. Fitzsimmons had to respond to this growth and implement changes designed to keep the clinic a patient-centered facility. Organizing the staff into teams was part of a major effort to make the clinic seem smaller and more service-oriented. Patients benefited from the continuity of care that the smaller practices provided. Soon after the reorganization was complete, the clinic initiated evening hours, another change made with patients' needs in mind.

Throughout her ten years at Green Meadows, Dr. Fitzsimmons has worked diligently to create the ideal patient-focused family practice clinic. Achieving this goal would be impossible, she says, without help and cooperation from everyone at the clinic. She praises her staff for their strong and obvious commit-

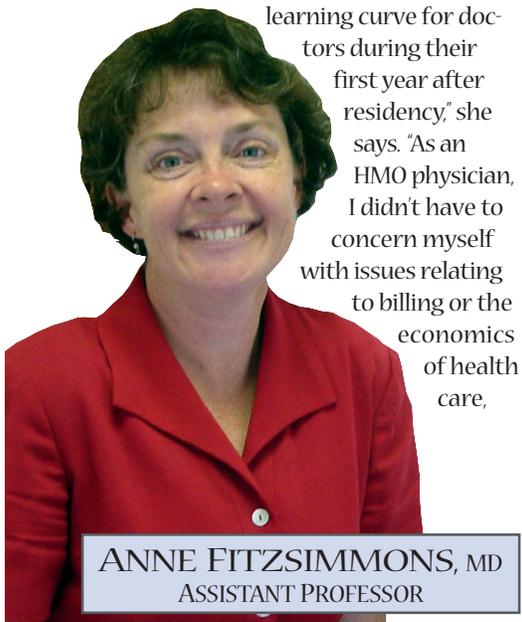
ment to patients.

She also praises the department's Quality Improvement (QI) committee for its ongoing efforts to keep patients happy and healthy. "The mission of our QI Committee is to address issues that will improve the care and health of the patients we serve," explains Dr. Fitzsimmons, who chairs the committee.

Treating upper respiratory infections (URI) is one of these issues and the focus of a recent QI project. Not long ago, a national campaign to decrease the use of inappropriate antibiotics for URIs was launched by the medical community. Understanding how relevant this topic is to family medicine, the department's QI committee decided to participate in the effort. Their work included conducting a thorough literature search on URIs and the medications used to treat them. Then, with leadership from Dr. Fitzsimmons, they developed educational strategies to share what they learned with MU faculty, staff, and patients.

Another QI project has been especially valuable because of the positive impact it's had on family practice clinics, physicians, and patients. "As a department, our faculty established principles and standards of care," Dr. Fitzsimmons explains. "And since incorporating these into the way we practice, there's been a noticeable improvement in health care quality, service, and patient satisfaction."

Dr. Fitzsimmons is satisfied with her career and happy she chose to work in academic medicine. Although she enjoys teaching, it's clear that caring for patients provides her the greatest rewards. "Patients are the most important part of what I do," says Dr. Fitzsimmons. "I feel privileged to be part of their lives and help them in any way I can."



ANNE FITZSIMMONS, MD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Chair's Message

We are proud to present another newsletter, featuring people who have impacted our department in special ways. It's a pleasure to tell their stories.

Dr. Anne Fitzsimmons is a valued physician, always focused on her patients' health. As medical director of Green Meadows Clinic, she has made patient care and satisfaction her #1 priority.

Family Medicine Professor Emeritus **Margaret Flynn** moved to N. Carolina this summer to be closer to family. For 35 years, her energy and love for work inspired many throughout the University.

Improving quality of life for elders is a goal at MU, and the Reynolds Foundation is helping us in this effort. We received a \$1.9 million grant to enhance geriatric education for students, residents, and physicians. **Drs. Steve Zweig** and **Mike Hosokawa** lead this program.

The future of family medicine education at Mizzou looks strong, thanks in part to family physician **Dr. Paul Revare**, a 1952 MU Medical School graduate. Dr. Revare, who retired in 1983 after practicing 30 years in Missouri, is making a \$550,000 donation through his estate.

Medicine was not his first career choice, but it's the right one for **Dr. Larry Dybedock**. Ask patients, teachers, or anyone who's worked with him. Family medicine fits well with his personality.

Students are in good hands, with **Dr. Susan Even** directing MU Student Health. An FP residency graduate, Dr. Even is a special friend to students and strong advocate for their health care needs.

We are honored to tell the story of **Dr. Georgia Nolph**, the first female physician at MU Family Medicine. Dr. Nolph played a leading role in the birth and early development of our department.

We'd like to recognize **seven chairs** who are successfully promoting the philosophy and interests of family medicine in schools across the country. As MU-trained faculty, these chairs share our commitment to the good health and future of academic family medicine.

As another year comes to an end, on behalf of everyone at MU Family Medicine, I hope the holiday season brings peace and joy to you and those you love.



HAROLD A. WILLIAMSON JR.
Professor and Chair

FAMILY MEDICINE

FACULTY FOCUS

FAREWELL TO SPECIAL FRIENDS OF FAMILY MEDICINE

MARGARET FLYNN, PhD, a well known and widely respected medical nutritionist, retired this summer, after nearly 35 years in the Department of Family and Community Medicine.

Born in Wisconsin, Dr. Flynn received a bachelor's degree from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, MN, and her master's degree from the University of Iowa. Since earning her doctoral degree from MU's Department of Nutrition and Dietetics in 1969, she has dedicated her career to research and teaching here at the University.

As a researcher, Dr. Flynn studied topics related to nutrition, health, and human behavior. Her work in two areas - the effect of eggs on cholesterol and the aging process - was ongoing and generated widespread interest for many years. She was awarded her first grant in 1967 and maintained a continuous flow of support for the research projects she conducted since that year.

Dr. Flynn is an accomplished author whose publication list is long and impressive. The dates of her work span nearly six decades, with the most recent paper published in 2001. She was invited to speak about her research at numerous events, not only in our country, but also in South America and Europe.

You Are What You Eat, the course Dr. Flynn taught for years in MU's Honor College, was popular among undergraduate students. In addition, Dr. Flynn mentored more than 30 graduate students; many have since pursued successful careers as nutritionists, dietitians, researchers, professors, and physicians. Her dedication to teaching, learning, and research was recognized with awards from students, faculty and colleagues.

"We will miss Dr. Flynn and the special ways she made a difference in our department," says Hal Williamson, MD, Chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine. "Her constant energy and love for work had a substantial, positive effect on the entire University. We thank her for everything she did to make us strong."

Dr. Flynn moved to Cary, NC, to be closer to her son, Timothy, and his family.

LEIGH HUESGEN, an administrator whose responsibilities included staff development, grant work, faculty recruitment, and other program activities, resigned after nearly 30 years with the department. Ms. Huesgen accepted a position in the Medical School Dean's office, a job that offers her opportunities for learning and advancement.

"My decision to leave Family Medicine was a difficult one," she says. "It's been a wonderful place to grow personally and professionally."

At a farewell reception held in Leigh's honor, Chair Hal Williamson spoke, "I feel very fortunate to know Leigh and have worked with her for so long. Her efforts over the years have produced far-reaching and important outcomes for our department."



MARGARET FLYNN, PhD
PROFESSOR EMERITUS

SHARON CORNELISON, RN-C, a clinical instructor and obstetric nurse coordinator in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, was chosen for the 2003 Karna K. Kruckenberg Award. This award is presented to an MU advanced practice nurse who demonstrates excellence as a patient educator. Mothers during child-bearing years (and their babies) are the focus of Ms. Cornelison's practice. She sponsors a weekly "Mother-to-Mother" group for new moms and their babies less than six months old. "This group is the epitome of patient education - Ms. Cornelison lets patients educate each other," says Chair Hal Williamson. "Ms. Cornelison excels as a nurse and a teacher."



MU PRINCIPLES OF GERIATRIC CARE

MU'S SCHOOL OF MEDICINE was one of 10 schools in the country selected this summer by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation for a four-year, \$1.9 million grant to strengthen training in geriatric medicine. This funding will enable MU to expand and enhance geriatrics education for medical students, residents, fellows, and practicing physicians in Missouri.

"We are thrilled and honored that our program was chosen for a Reynolds Foundation grant," says Steven Zweig, MD, MSPH, professor and associate chair of MU Family Medicine and a co-principal investigator of the grant. "This award will enable us to create a multidisciplinary and comprehensive program that will infuse geriatric medicine principles throughout MU's patient care and educational environment."

Physicians need to learn how to care for people in all settings — homes, offices,

hospitals, nursing homes, and hospices, explains Dr. Zweig. "Our program emphasizes this, and it also emphasizes the fact that good education programs must be based on strong clinical programs," he says. "We have skilled leaders, enthusiastic faculty, sound strategies, and innovative ideas — everything we need to create a successful geriatrics training program."

"I'm excited to be associated with this program and proud of the commitment it brings from MU to improve quality of life and quality of care for older people," says Michael Hosokawa, EdD, associate dean for curriculum and professor of Family and Community Medicine, who also serves as a co-principal investigator of the Reynolds grant.

Other Reynolds Foundation grant team members include Family Medicine faculty David Cravens, MD, MSPH, Erik Lindbloom, MD, MSPH, and David Mehr,

MD, MS; Internal Medicine faculty David Fleming, MD and Caroline Kerber, MD; Kimberly Hoffman, PhD, from the Office of Medical Education; and Karen Marek, PhD, from the Sinclair School of Nursing.

Headquartered in Las Vegas, NV, the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation is a national philanthropic organization founded in 1954 by the late media entrepreneur for whom it is named.

"The future will be better when we have created a patient-oriented, coordinated, and cost-effective system of care for our elders that emphasizes quality of life, provides safe and supportive health care and living environments, and employs physicians and other health care workers who are sensitive to their patients' needs."

— STEVEN C. ZWEIF, MD MSPH

MU ALUM AND RETIRED FAMILY PHYSICIAN ESTABLISHES THE PAUL REVARE FAMILY PROFESSORSHIP IN FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE

FAMILY MEDICINE was fun for Dr. Paul Revare. He is a people-person — witty and always charming — who was trusted and well liked by his patients.

Paul Revare, MD is a family physician who practiced nearly 20 years in north Kansas City. He also worked in emergency medicine 10 years before retiring in 1983, at the age of 55.

"I enjoyed my life as a doctor, especially when I was practicing family medicine," Dr. Revare says. "The relationships I formed with patients and their families were very rewarding to me."

As a family physician, he did everything except surgery — using specialists only when it was necessary. "I had total responsibility of my patients' health care," he says. "Of course health care was less complicated back then than it is today."

Dr. Revare credits the education he received at MU for providing a strong foundation for his medical career. MU's Medical School was a two-year program back in the early '50s when Dr. Revare was a stu-

dent. After graduating in 1952, he completed two more years at the St. Louis University School of Medicine.

In the mid-'70s, soon after family practice was recognized as a specialty, Dr. Revare was one of 10 doctors in Kansas City to take the certification exam the first year it was offered. This distinction earned him the designation of charter diplomate in the American Board of Family Practice.

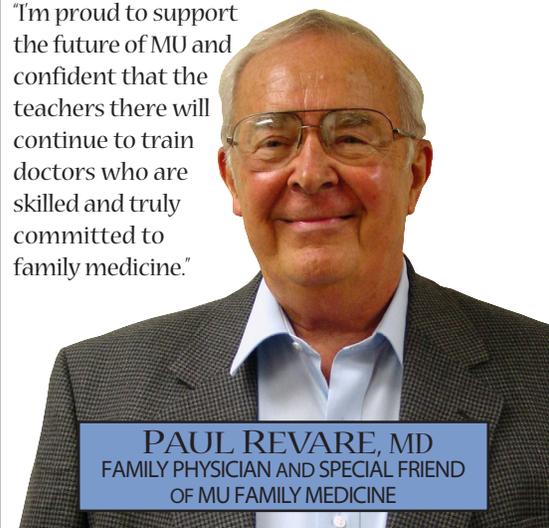
An active member in the American Academy of Family Physicians, Dr. Revare had many opportunities to network with family doctors across the state. He has fond memories of his colleagues, especially those at MU.

"I value my experiences at MU," he says. "Not only the training I received as a student, but also the friendships I developed with faculty later on as a physician."

Grateful to MU for the positive ways it has impacted his life and career, Dr. Revare has decided to make a \$550,000 donation to the University through his estate.

This very generous gift will be used to establish the *Paul Revare Family Professorship in Family and Community Medicine*, an endowed fund designated to support the education mission of the department.

"To succeed in family practice, physicians need to be well prepared and enthusiastic about their jobs," Dr. Revare says. "I'm proud to support the future of MU and confident that the teachers there will continue to train doctors who are skilled and truly committed to family medicine."



PAUL REVARE, MD
FAMILY PHYSICIAN AND SPECIAL FRIEND
OF MU FAMILY MEDICINE

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2003 RESIDENCY GRADUATES

BRENT ALLMON, MD is enrolled in MU's geriatrics fellowship program. His clinical practice is in Fayette, a small town 30 miles northwest of Columbia.

CHRIS FARMER, MD is enrolled in MU's sports medicine fellowship program. His practice is at the Green Meadows Family Practice Center in Columbia.

KIETH GROH, MD is working in MU's Urgent Care Clinic at University Hospital and in Boone Hospital Center's ER.

KELLY HAYDAY, MD has joined MU's Family Medicine faculty. She teaches and sees patients at Green Meadows Family Practice Center.

MICHAEL KINKADE, MD is working at the Urgent Care Clinic in Moberly, a small town in north-central Missouri.

DALE KORN, MD is working in the ER at Breech Medical Center in Lebanon, MO.

HEATHER PIERCE, MD has joined MU's Family Medicine faculty. She teaches and sees patients in Fulton, a small town 25 miles east of Columbia.

AARON SAPP, MD is working in the ER at Cooper County Memorial Hospital in Boonville, a small mid-Missouri town.

JENNIFER SETTERDAHL, MD has opened her own family practice in Rushville, a small town located in rural Illinois.

HEATHER SHARP, MD is practicing family medicine with her husband, Greg, in Alamosa, a rural community in Colorado.

KENDALL WALKER, MD is practicing medicine with a group of family physicians in Liberty, MO.



THIRD YEAR RESIDENT LARRY DYBEDOCK

hasn't always wanted to be a doctor. In fact,

as an undergraduate at Purdue University, he majored in industrial management, thinking a job that involved people, management, and manufacturing would make him happy.

After graduation, Dr. Dybedock was recruited by the Raytheon Corporation in Johnson City, TN, to manage the production line of the Patriot missile. "I was in charge of production control, which meant I supervised the project from the time the parts hit the floor until the missile was assembled," he says. "My job was to make sure everyone else did their job."

For nearly four years, work was fun for him, Dr. Dybedock says. But once the Gulf War began, his attitude changed. The demand for Patriot missiles increased overnight, and that meant new pressures, constant deadlines, and overwhelming stress for him and the people who worked for him.

Feeling unhappy about his job and unfulfilled by the kind of work he was doing, Dr. Dybedock decided it was time for a career change.

"I knew that building missiles wasn't something I wanted to do for the rest of my life," he says. "A job that let me help people would be more satisfying and definitely fit better with my personality."

As he thought about careers that offered opportunities to make a positive difference in peoples' lives, medicine was high on his list.

"When the idea of becoming a doctor initially occurred to me, I thought it seemed far-fetched," Dr. Dybedock says. "But the more I looked into it, the more I wished I had pursued it sooner."

Dr. Dybedock didn't waste any time preparing for his new career. He moved back to Evansville, IN, and for two years, he worked as a surgical assistant at a local hospital while completing his required coursework at the University of Southern Indiana. Then, after taking the MCATS, he enrolled at the University of Saint Eustatious School of Medicine, a medical school located in the Caribbean.

As a Saint Eustatious student, Dr. Dybedock was able to spend his last two years in the United States doing clinicals in Chicago. The training he received while working alongside one of the doctors there helped him understand and appreciate life as a family physician.

"I worked closely with a family doctor who served the poorer areas of Chicago

and was able to see firsthand the impact he had on so many people," he explains.

"The connection I felt with him and the work he was doing made my decision to specialize in family medicine an easy one."

Once Dr. Dybedock knew he wanted to be a family physician, the decision to train at MU's Family Practice Residency was an easy one for him, too.

"I was looking for a program that offered training in rural health and OB; MU was strong in both areas," explains Dr. Dybedock. "Plus, it's located in a beautiful Midwestern community not far from Indiana, which is home to me and where many of my family and friends still live."

As he nears the end of residency, Dr. Dybedock has nothing but good things to say about his experience and training at MU's Fayette Medical Clinic.

"I enjoy working in Fayette; my patients always make me feel special," he says. "And Drs. Beckmann and Schoepfherster are outstanding role models who have done an excellent job of preparing me for family practice."

Dr. Dybedock looks forward to his new career and the opportunities he'll have to get to know patients, build meaningful relationships with them, and do every thing he can to make them feel good. "Family medicine," he says. "I can't imagine a better or more rewarding job."

AS DIRECTOR OF STUDENT HEALTH, DR. SUSAN EVEN IS COMMITTED TO PROMOTING HEALTH AND SUCCESS FOR MU STUDENTS

SUSAN EVEN, MD cares about MU students and wants them to succeed. She realizes, however, that to do well, they must feel well. That's why as director of the Student Health Center (SHC), she works hard to provide quality services and programs that promote good health and lifestyle decisions to students.

Ever since Dr. Even joined the clinic in 1985, she's known that student health was where she belonged. "From the start, I fell in love with caring for college students," she says. "It's exciting to work with patients who are at a time in their lives when everything is possible. Their eagerness to live and learn is strong, and this makes my job fun and rewarding."

Patient visits at the clinic currently average 45,000 annually, which is substantially higher than it was 20 years ago when Dr. Even began her job. Student Health reported to the vice chancellor of student affairs back then. And the clinic was "fee for service" only, so it had financial problems and was not well utilized. This situation changed, however, during the late '80s, after administrative responsibility shifted to the Medical School, and a student health fee was approved.

"Once the mandatory health fee was enacted, our patient volume doubled," says Dr. Even, who served as

interim director at the time. "We had to step up services and expand our staff to meet the demands of a much larger patient population."

Dr. Even has always been a special friend to students and strong advocate for their health care needs. Since she assumed leadership of the clinic in 1989, the SHC has become a more visible and widely used resource on campus. It also serves as a valuable training site for MU medical students and residents.

The clinic staff totals 60 and includes physicians, family nurse practitioners, psychiatrists, counselors, nurses, and health educators, as well as staff members who provide lab, computer, office, and business support. While its focus is providing primary care, the SHC also does immunizations, prepares students for travel abroad, and offers mental health services. Dr. Even feels well prepared for the broad range of health problems students bring to the clinic because of her family practice training.

Her family practice training also helped her gain an understanding and respect for community health, which is important on every college campus. "In many ways, the community health function for a campus goes beyond individual one-on-one patient care," Dr. Even says.

Two years ago, Dr. Even worked on a project with the Missouri Department of Health to identify and prevent incidences of tuberculosis (TB). Their efforts facilitated a mandatory TB screening requirement for high risk students who might come from – or have visited – TB infected areas. "This is a huge community issue and one positive way that I, as a doctor and as director of student health, could make a difference," Dr. Even says. "Projects like this are possible because the Student Health Center is well connected. We are able to work with key offices, on and off campus, to implement policies and administer programs that benefit the entire MU community."

Policies such as smoke-free dorm rooms promote good health, which is why the SHC helped establish this policy on the MU campus a couple years ago. It also sponsors health promotion activi-

ties on other issues including nutrition, alcohol, drugs, and sexual health.

"Our goal is to educate students so they can make healthier and more informed lifestyle choices," Dr. Even says. "We're proud when we achieve this goal."

"We're also proud of earning accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC)," she adds. The SHC underwent an extensive on-site survey of its facilities and services to become AAAHC-accredited. Earning this recognition has strengthened the image and reputation of Student Health.

Moving Student Health out of Noyes Hall — the building it had occupied since 1930 — has also strengthened the clinic's presence on campus and was a major success for Dr. Even and her staff last year.

"I knew from my first day at student health that it needed to be in a better place. Noyes Hall was in a poor location. The building was old, so maintenance was a constant problem. Our staff and services were spread over four floors, which was confusing to students," Dr. Even says. "Everyone agreed we had to move, but the process of deciding where and when was a lengthy one and involved a team of campus administrators."

After nearly five years, the process ended last fall when the Student Health Center opened its new facilities in University Physicians' Medical Building. Located next to the hospital and close to residence halls, SHC now occupies one floor in a building that was designed to be a medical facility. "Our location says 'health care,'" says Dr. Even. "And credibility starts even before students walk in the door." The staff find it easier to work together, and students appreciate the more modern and spacious clinic environment.

Finding a new and more appropriate home for Student Health was exciting for Dr. Even — like many of her other responsibilities as SHC director. And while she feels fortunate to participate in any effort that improves the clinic and the services it provides, she makes it clear that patient care is the most satisfying part of her job. "Taking care of students — that keeps me grounded and connected to the reason why I became a doctor," she says.



SUSAN EVEN, MD
1983 Family Practice Residency Graduate

SUSAN EVEN, MD, an MU Medical School alum, is a family physician who completed her residency at MU Family and Community Medicine.

THE GEORGIA NOLPH STORY

RECRUITED IN 1969 — RETIRED IN 1999

Dr. Nolph played an important role in the strong and steady growth of Family Medicine at MU

BACK IN 1969, WHEN ONE OF HER PATIENTS, “a big, burly highway patrol officer,” called his wife to see if it was okay for a female doctor to give him his physical, Dr. Nolph was surprised and a little amused. Although she was the first, and for many years the only, female doctor in MU Family Medicine, she always felt like “one of the gang.” “I was accepted and valued because of my contributions,” she says. “My gender was never an issue.”

Georgia Nolph, MD, a graduate of Women’s Medical College of Pennsylvania, did her internship at Bryn Mawr Hospital, PA. After practicing five years, she moved to Columbia in 1969, when her husband, Dr. Karl Nolph, a nephrologist, was invited to join MU’s Internal Medicine Department.

During this same year, Dr. Sherwood Baker initiated the campaign to establish a family practice residency at MU, and the first person he recruited to help with this effort was Dr. Georgia Nolph. He recruited Dr. Roger Hofmeister a few months later. Together, the three doctors opened the Model Family Practice Clinic, a clinic that was to eventually serve as a training base for residents.

Initially, Drs. Nolph, Baker, and Hofmeister worked out of a small room on the ground floor of University Hospital, doing physicals, blood pressures, and

sick visits for hospital workers who had no other doctor. Once they moved to a larger space on the third floor, they were able to expand their services and offer primary care to all MU employees.

As a physician and a teacher, Dr. Nolph was always eager to expand her knowledge of family medicine. That’s why when Dr. Baker asked her to serve on the national committee that wrote the second family practice board exam, she agreed. (The first exam was just a modification of national boards.) Dr. Vernon Wilson, who was then MU’s Vice Provost of Health Affairs, chaired the committee of twelve.

“Our committee met every few weeks in Philadelphia for a year. We’d ask consultants from all the specialties to send in questions, which we would check for validity and clarity. Part of my job was to rewrite the questions,” Dr. Nolph says. “I learned a tremendous amount by participating in this project, medically and editorially. I also gained a greater appreciation for the value of team work.”

Building the residency required team work, too, and a carefully organized plan. The first step was opening the clinic; the second was recruiting family medicine faculty.

“All of our first faculty members came to MU with prior practice experience, and from the start, we agreed that no one was allowed to say, ‘When I was in practice, this was how we did it,’” Dr. Nolph says. “Teaching should be focused on the present and how we do things now. We didn’t want to label family practice as living in the past.”

Family practice had a strong and visible presence at MU by the mid-’70s. The residency was established, and the department was recognized and respected throughout the institution, thanks to the vigorous commitment of its early leaders.

When the family practice clinic had outgrown its third floor space, half the staff moved to a new clinic on the fourth floor of the hospital. Dr. Nolph served as

medical director of both clinics from 1977 until the department moved out of the hospital and opened the Green Meadows Family Practice Center in 1985.

Giving up the role of medical director was like starting a new career, says Dr. Nolph, and she welcomed the change. With fewer meetings to attend, she was able to spend more time on patient care.

“One of my greatest joys was caring for multigenerational families,” Dr. Nolph says. “My practice included children, their parents, and their grandparents.”

As her patient population aged, and many of them began to retire, Dr. Nolph developed a strong interest and love for geriatric medicine. In 1987, she was appointed medical director at NBA Lenoir, a retirement community in Columbia.

“As a geriatrician, I worked hard to make sure that quality of care was never compromised for older people,” she says. “I did not want patients or their health care needs to be dismissed once they turned 65.”

Dr. Nolph was a compassionate physician whose humor and integrity made it easy for her to bond with patients. The Lenoir community valued her, personally and professionally, so it didn’t take long for her to build a practice there. After she had enough patients, Dr. Nolph set up a rotation that allowed her to train family practice residents in geriatric care.

Dr. Nolph enjoyed teaching at all levels — residents, medical students, even her patients. In fact, she says, teaching was the most rewarding part of her role as an MU Family Medicine faculty.

When she retired in 1999, Dr. Nolph left with fond memories of her 30 years at MU. “I feel fortunate for the opportunity I had to help build the family practice residency and to work in a department that was always accepting, supportive, and firmly committed to family medicine,” she says. “My patients, students, and colleagues made life as a family physician fun for me and full of special rewards.”



GEORGIA NOLPH, MD

GEORGIA NOLPH, MD was the first female physician to join MU Family Medicine. She had a young daughter and a second child on the way when she began her job back in 1969, so working part-time was important to her. Dr. Nolph always valued her roles at home and at work, and today, she can take pride in the many ways she’s made a difference in both worlds. Her children are grown with families and successful careers of their own. Her son, Kris, is a dentist in Jefferson City, and her daughter, Erika Ringdahl, is an MU family physician and directs the Family Practice Residency. MU Family Medicine is also a story of growth and continuing success. In fact, it’s one of the top departments in the country today, thanks in part to the dedicated efforts and early leadership of Georgia Nolph.

**ALAN DAVID - AL BERG - HAL WILLIAMSON - JIM HERMAN
BERNARD EWIGMAN - JERRY KRUSE - CARLOS MORENO and BRAD PITT**
WHAT DO THESE MEN HAVE IN COMMON?

(Other than good looks, of course.)

IF YOU ANSWERED THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, YOU'RE RIGHT!

We don't need to tell the story of Brad Pitt and the fame he's earned since leaving MU. Instead, we want to focus on the other seven men and the pride they're bringing the University — and especially our department — as chairs of family medicine departments across the country.

During the early '70s, the founding faculty of MU Family Medicine identified two goals. The first was to expand primary care services in our communities - emphasizing rural areas, and the second was to increase the number of teachers to train family physicians. In the past 28 years, our residency program has trained 296 physicians who currently practice in 38 states, with 62 percent of these graduates serving rural and underserved populations. In addition, 19 percent of our former residents have pursued careers in education and now teach in residency programs nationwide.

Since creating our fellowship in 1979, we have trained nearly 65 physicians and researchers who share MU's commitment and innovative approach to building the specialty of family medicine. Many have joined faculties at academic health centers where they hold key leadership roles in family practice residencies, clerkships, and research networks. And a select group serve as department chairs.

Medical schools are benefiting from the vision and leadership of MU Family Medicine-trained department chairs. These chairs value their MU experience and credit it for providing a solid foundation on which to build their careers. When asked what aspects of their MU training have helped them be better chairs, they answered: "Learning from great mentors like Jack Colwill, Jerry Perkoff, Mike Hosokawa, and Robin Blake," "Seeing good leaders in action," "Chair Workshops," and "Fellowship training - for teaching the importance of balancing all three missions of academic medicine."

We applaud these MU Family Medicine graduates and their efforts to promote the health of academic family medicine. Their commitment to students, to patients, and to the future of our specialty makes us proud.



ALAN DAVID, MD
CHAIR, Medical College of Wisconsin
Dept of Family/Community Medicine
1975 MU RESIDENCY GRADUATE



ALFRED BERG, MD, MPH
CHAIR, University of Washington
Dept of Family Medicine
1977 MU RESIDENCY GRADUATE



HAROLD WILLIAMSON JR, MD, MSPH
CHAIR, University of Missouri-Columbia
Dept of Family/Community Medicine
1982 MU FELLOWSHIP GRADUATE



JAMES HERMAN, MD, MSPH
CHAIR, Pennsylvania State University
Dept of Family and
Community Medicine
1983 MU FELLOWSHIP GRADUATE



BERNARD EWIGMAN, MD, MSPH
CHAIR, University of Chicago
Dept of Family Medicine
1982 MU RESIDENCY GRADUATE
1984 MU FELLOWSHIP GRADUATE



JERRY KRUSE, MD, MSPH
CHAIR, Southern Illinois University
Dept of Family/Community Medicine
1982 MU RESIDENCY GRADUATE
1984 MU FELLOWSHIP GRADUATE

WE ASKED:

**WHAT ABOUT YOUR JOB
AS FAMILY MEDICINE CHAIR
MAKES YOU WANT TO COME
TO WORK EVERY DAY?**

THEY ANSWERED:

*I value the daily opportunities I have
to make a difference for my
colleagues, students, and patients.*

— **ALAN DAVID, MD**

*The generalist in me likes the variety of
challenges I face. I feel fortunate to be at
an institution that's committed to its
mission of providing primary care.*

— **AL BERG, MD**

*I am inspired to work alongside a large
group of professionals who are
passionate about their jobs.*

— **HAL WILLIAMSON, MD**

*Representing our specialty in a large
academic health center is challenging
and exhilarating, even today.*

— **JIM HERMAN, MD**

*I enjoy working with colleagues, staff,
medical students, and FPIN members.
And a Starbucks grand latte, of course!*

— **BERNARD EWIGMAN, MD**

*Patient care, teaching, and
administrative responsibilities
make every day interesting ...
with new problems to solve.*

— **JERRY KRUSE, MD**

*There's never a dull moment here.
The ability to combine administrative
problem solving, clinical practice, and
teaching keeps every day exciting.*

— **CARLOS MORENO, MD**



CARLOS MORENO, MD, MSPH
CHAIR, University of Texas-Houston
Dept of Family Practice
and Community Medicine
1985 MU FELLOWSHIP GRADUATE



University of Missouri-Columbia

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA
ANNUAL
**FAMILY PRACTICE
UPDATE**

MAY 7 — 8, 2004

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*Questions and comments about this
newsletter should be directed to:*

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For ten consecutive years,
a *U.S. News and World Report*
survey of medical faculty has ranked the
**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE**
among the top three departments in the nation.

OUR VISION is to be leaders in creating and imparting
knowledge and providing service that will improve
human health and well-being.

OUR VALUES include collaboration, scholarship, integrity,
compassion, humor, and respect for self and others.
We are committed to providing excellent care and
service to our patients and community and
fostering professional and personal growth.

OUR MISSION is to enhance health and primary care
for our communities, emphasizing rural and underserved areas,
through leadership in education, scholarship, and service.