The College celebrates 200 years of education, research and clinical care.
FROM THE DEAN

THE ARRIVAL OF FALL in Vermont reminds us of the passage of time, and the way beginnings and endings often blend together. Even as the leaves start to turn, the arrival of another new class of 124 medical students, and dozens of new graduate students, reminds us that new careers of service in clinical care and biomedical science are just beginning.

This is a time also to welcome new partners in our work. Dr. Mary Cushman, Professor of Medicine, has taken the helm so ably held by Dr. Omar Kahn, M.D.’03, as President of the Larner College of Medicine Alumni Association; I’m looking forward to partnering with Dr. Cushman to serve and support our outstanding graduates. And at the UVM Health Network, Dr. Sunil Eappen will soon begin his position as CEO. I welcome Dr. Eappen to this important role, and thank his predecessor, Dr. John Brunsting, for the outstanding leadership, and partnership, he has shown over the last two decades.

We have another important passage in time to acknowledge: the start of our third century as a College of Medicine. Our commencement in May of 2023 will mark the 200th anniversary of our first class of medical graduates. The class of 1823 consisted of just four students! The world they practiced in, and the nature of their medical education, is so very different from present-day society and the complex, competency-based curriculum that is preparing our current students to serve their future patients. We’ve come a long way, but there is so much more ahead of us as we work together to provide outstanding, equitable health care for all.

This issue of Vermont Medicine looks back at many of the elements of the rich history of our College. In addition to looking back, we should take the opportunity to celebrate where we are today and what’s ahead in the future. For example, this issue features the research of our newest University Distinguished Professor, Dr. Yvonne Janssen-Heininger, as well as the projects that our Class of 2024 students accomplished this summer. Look for more bicentennial coverage in future issues, and on our website.

We also look forward to the opening this fall of the newest addition to our campus, the Firestone Medical Research Building. With our College celebrating a new record of over $117 million in research funding for the past year, this new facility will allow Vermont’s medical school to address the biomedical challenges of the future, as we embark on a third century of clinical service, education and research.

With warmest regards,

RICHARD L. PAGE, M.D.
Dean
Just inside the gates of Burlington’s Elmwood Cemetery lies the most prominent of its memorials, a carved granite block that marks the resting place of Dr. John Pomeroy and his family members. But in a way, a larger monument to the doctor lies a mile up the hill overlooking the city: the College of Medicine that his effort, more than any other, brought into being.

Pomeroy, a Revolutionary War veteran, moved from Connecticut to Cambridge in 1787, in what was then the Republic of Vermont. In 1792, having married his wife, Mary, he moved to Burlington, and his thriving practice enabled him to build the substantial brick house—said to be the first brick house in the town—that stands to this day on lower Battery Street.

The doctor was an early trustee of the fledgling University of Vermont. In 1804 Pomeroy was the first medical faculty appointee at UVM, as a lecturer in “anatomy and chirurgery.” Around then he began taking in apprentices at his home office, then the predominate pathway to becoming a physician. Pomeroy’s skills were legendary: according to one notable account, he performed a tracheotomy aboard a canal boat on Lake Champlain using the hollow tube of a goose quill as a cannula.

In the years after the War of 1812, Pomeroy began the first formal medical lectures at the university, and in 1814 he was one of the three founders of what is now the Vermont Medical Society. In 1822 Pomeroy was part of a group, along with the prominent medical educator, Nathan Smith, who organized the first official series of lectures at what would later be called the College of Medicine. But Pomeroy’s name, for reasons that are still unknown, would never formally appear on the “Medical Department” faculty rolls. He continued to practice medicine in Burlington until 1834, ten years before his death. His name is carried today by Pomeroy Hall, the cupola-topped building just south of the UVM Green, that in 1829 became the first dedicated home of the College of Medicine.
LARNER TODAY: THE FACTS

7TH OLDEST MEDICAL SCHOOL IN THE NATION

Founded by Burlington physician John Pomeroy, and early medical education advocate Nathan Smith, the College awarded its first M.D.s in August of 1823. In September 2016 the College was named after philanthropist and Class of 1942 alumnus Robert Larner, M.D., becoming the first medical school in the nation named for one of its graduates.

CLASS OF 2026

The College received more than nine thousand applications for 124 positions in the Class of 2026, who began their first year in August 2022.

- 3.70 Median undergraduate GPA
- 29% Vermonters
- 61% Identify as female
- 25% Underrepresented in Medicine
- 20% Identify as coming from a lower socio-economic background

DEPARTMENTS

Larner’s newest clinical department, the Department of Emergency Medicine, was established July 1, 2022.

- 4 Basic Science
- 12 Clinical

STUDENT BODY/FACULTY/STAFF

483 Medical students
300+ Graduate students
42 Postdoctoral students
910 Salaried Faculty
893 Residents
632 Fellows
480 Staff members

RESEARCH

$117.9 million in research funds awarded in Fiscal Year 2022

- 400 Research awards
- 509 Projects supported
- 50.4% of 2022 federally funded research grants at UVM were awarded to Larner faculty

CLASS OF 2022 MATCH RESULTS

Larner 2022 graduates went on to residencies across the nation, including Yale-New Haven Hospital, Stanford University Programs, University of Vermont Medical Center, Danbury Hospital, Brown University, the Cleveland Clinic, University of Chicago, Duke University Medical Center, and UCLA Medical Center.

- 114 Larner Class of 2022 graduates matched
- 63 Institutions were matched to
- 14 Matched to Vermont sites
- 53 Graduates matched in primary care areas

ALUMNI

5,600+ Living alumni of the College
50% Number of living alumni who have made gifts to the College
44.4% Approximate number practicing in New England
33% Approximate percentage of Vermont physicians educated or trained at the Larner College of Medicine and/or UVM Medical Center

FACILITIES/PHYSICAL PLANT

615,500 Total Gross Square Feet (GSF)
196,000 GSF Given Building
110,000 GSF Health Science Research Facility
31,000 GSF Courtyard at Given
44,000 GSF Medical Education Center
70,000 GSF Stafford Hall
72,000 GSF Colchester Research Facility
30,000 GSF DeGoesbriand
62,500 GSF Firestone Medical Research Building

33% of 2022 federally funded research grants at UVM were awarded to Larner faculty
Emergency Medicine Becomes Newest Department

July 1 was the beginning of a new fiscal year at the University, and with it came the official formation of a new department, the Department of Emergency Medicine—the first new department at the Larner College of Medicine in a decade—and the appointment of Ramsey Herrington, M.D., as the department’s inaugural chair.

Emergency Medicine had its tentative beginnings at UVM in the 1950 and 1960s and has functioned for more than 50 years as a division of the Department of Surgery. Until this summer the Larner College of Medicine was the only medical school in New England, and one of only eight allopathic medical schools in the country, without an academic Department of Emergency Medicine. This May, the University’s Board of Trustees considered Dean Page’s request to form a distinct department, which had the overwhelming support of Vermont Medicine residencies and careers, both here in Vermont and throughout the nation. Among the leaders in the American College of Emergency Physicians, the Larner College of Medicine welcomed the establishment of the new Department of Emergency Medicine, for the UVM Health Network. Under his leadership, the UVM Health Network successfully launched its first accredited residency program in emergency medicine, and he led the recruitment of numerous high-quality faculty members.

Dr. Herrington is involved in ongoing research in emergency medicine, and he led the recruitment of numerous high-quality faculty members.

Dr. Herrington was appointed chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine, Respiratory Care, and the Journal of the American College of Emergency Physicians Open. He has shown a strong commitment to teaching, having to date guided approximately 100 medical students into Emergency Medicine residencies and careers, both here in Vermont and throughout the nation. Among the awards he has received are the 2011 H. Gordon Page Clinician of the Year Award, the 2016 John H. Davis Service Award, and the 2017 University of Vermont Medical Center Living the Leadership Philosophy Award. Dr. Herrington’s longstanding commitment to advancing equity in his division was recognized with the College’s 2020 Gender Equity Champion Award.

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“UPP” Program Clarifies Journey for Pre-Med Students

With the goal of one day becoming a physician, Kiana Heredia started her undergraduate degree at Mount Holyoke College as a pre-med student. Faced with a course load of classes such as organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, and physics, Heredia says she began to second-guess the gut feeling of one day becoming a physician.

Heredia in a March 2022 post for the UVM Larner College of Medicine, spoke about what it meant to be a pre-med student and as she rediscovered her love of medicine and her academic relationship to medicine and with no family members or friends in the healthcare field, she belonged in the medical field.

When the grant was not accepted, Fa icy approached her chair, Lewis First, M.D., to see if the Department of Pediatrics would be interested in funding the program. Not only did First agree to fund the program, he also became an integral part of the event. In April, the inaugural cohort of 14 participants including undergraduate pre-med college students from UVM, SUNY-Plattsburgh, Community College of Vermont, Saint Michael's College, Middlebury College, and Castleton University, along with two students from Burlington High School, began the day-long event with hands-on group skills sessions, including a “Clinical Mystery Case” session led by First, and interactive simulation stations to practice colonoscopy and laparoscopic skills, care for a newborn just after delivery, learn point-of-care ultrasound techniques, treat a child in respiratory distress, understand vital signs, and treat a patient in the Clinical Simulation Laboratory.

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Read More About the UPP Experience at Med.UVM.edu/VTMedicine/WEB-EXTRAS
Silveira Honored for Teaching Excellence
Joy Silveira, Ph.D., assistant professor of biochemistry, was selected to receive a 2022 UVM Knespich Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award, which recognizes faculty for excellent undergraduate instruction, innovation in teaching methods and ability to motivate and challenge students. Silveira teaches undergraduate courses in biochemistry fundamentals, explaining the molecular mechanisms behind how bodies function in both healthy and disease states. In addition, he serves as faculty advisor to the UVM Biochemistry Society undergraduate club.

Parsons Leaves to Lead AAM: Dixon Becomes Interim Chair
Polly Parsons, M.D., who for 16 years chaired the Larner Department of Medicine, became president of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) on October 1. AAIM has more than 11,000 faculty and administrator members in departments of internal medicine in medical schools and teaching hospitals. Taking on the position of interim chair of the department is Professor of Medicine Anna Dixon, M.A., M.B., BCh. Dixon, who joined the UVM faculty in 2001, has served as director of the Vermont Lung Center since 2019. In addition, she is division director for the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and an attending physician at the UVM Medical Center. In April of this year the UVM Graduate Student Senate named her as one of four 2022-2023 University Scholars.

Koch Named Director of UVM Clinical Simulation Laboratory
Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine and Larner alum Nick Koch, M.D., 14 has been named chief medical director of the UVM Clinical Simulation Laboratory (CSL). Koch will be the laboratory’s fourth director, replacing former Associate Professor of Anesthesiology Vincent Miller, M.D., who served in the position for five years. The CSL is an important training ground for both burgeoning and current healthcare professionals. It serves as a hub for hands-on, interactive work with standardized patients, manikins, and simulated clinical cases for students studying at Larner and UVM professionals from UVMMC, the UVM Health Network, and beyond.

Carr Elected AAAS Fellow
The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)—the world’s largest general scientific society and publisher of the Science family of journals, has honored Frances Carr, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology and UVM Cancer Center member, with election as a AAAS Fellow, among the most distinctive honors within the scientific community. AAAS recognized Carr “for distinguished contributions to the field of thyroid hormone biology and pathology, and for exemplary leadership positions in two universities and major contributions to science policy for U.S. government agencies.”

Milestones
1983: pediatric Card Phillips, M.D., is named clinical department chair at the College.
1990: Health Science Research Facility opens.
2005: Medical Education Pavilion and new clinics opens.
2009: constructed Gross “building within a building” opens.
2010: the college’s Teaching Academy is founded.
2016: the college is renamed to honor the support of philanthropist and alumnus Robert larner, M.D. ’42.
2019: University distinguished professor Mark Nelson, Ph.D., is elected to National Academy of Sciences.
2020: Larner faculty, students, and staff pivot in myriad ways during the pandemic.
2021: formal launch of the greenough branch campus with navigator Health at Dartmouth and norwich hospitals.

Integrating Mental Health into Pediatric Primary Care
When she joined UVM Children’s Hospital Pediatric Primary care in the 1990s, Associate Professor Catherine Rude, M.D., struggled to support her patients with mental health concerns. The practice did not include psychologists, psychiatrists and social workers, and connecting children to off-site specialists took great effort, Rude said.

“It was challenging to get psychiatric care for children. Wait times were extremely long and the paperwork hurdles that patients had to go through to see a mental health clinic were insurmountable for many families,” said Rude.

UVM Pediatric Primary Care is removing barriers to mental health care with an evidence-based Primary Care Mental Health Integration program, piloted with support from the UVM Health Network. Stan Weinberger, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics and pediatric primary care division chief, Rude, Michelle Stretten-R., N., and Logan Hegg, Psy.D., clinical assistant professor of psychiatry and pediatrics, lead the effort in partnership with Maureen Leahy, M.Ed., director of psychiatry and neurology healthcare services, UVM Medical Group, Sara Pawlowski, M.D., primary care mental health integration division chief and assistant professor of psychiatry, Clara Keenan, M.D., associate professor of family medicine, and Kerry Stanley, LCSW, lead behavioral health care manager.

“This team-based approach amplifies UVM Children’s Hospital’s comprehensive mental health services by integrating profiling psychology, social work and psychiatry with primary care. Within this model, primary care clinicians and mental health specialists coordinate each patient’s care with in-person huddles, information-sharing and collaborative care that responds to individual patient preferences.

“The goal is to increase access in a timely and thoughtful process, providing seamless whole-person care as a team,” said Hegg. “By integrating mental and behavioral health providers with complementary skills, we are building support for kids, families and pediatric clinician colleagues.”

The primary care setting can make a large impact in detecting and managing mental health issues, especially among underserved populations, Hegg said. Opportunities for routine mental health screening, assessment and preventative intervention give entrée to people who traditionally lack access, including families with lower socio-economic means, New Americans, and gender expansive youth. Providing youth with a place to work on mental health concerns builds on their longitudinal relationship with a primary care clinician.

Integrating mental health and primary care meets patients and providers where they are, the same day a patient presents in clinic. Struggling patients and families receive care in the exam rooms along with wellness check-ups, profiling and communications, decreasing stigma and disparities. Providers appreciate the responsive support.

“It’s been so helpful to have a comprehensive mental health team integrated into primary care.

Now these specialists are on staff in the practice and patients make an appointment with them in the office,” said Rude.

Added Hegg, “If we can get ahead of the curve, we won’t be scrambling as much with emergency department visits and crisis evaluations. It’s been a real game-changer for the 7,500 kids and families who entrust us for our primary care.

“Now these specialists are on staff in the practice and patients make an appointment with them in the office.” - CATHARINE RUDE, M.D.
**ANTHROPOLOGY**

- David E. Sprunt
- University of Vermont

**BIOLGY**

- Jonathan G. Kaye
- Vanderbilt University

**CHEMISTRY**

- Jonathan A. Cooper
- University of Vermont

**DENTISTRY**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**ERGONOMICS**

- John P. McGowan
- University of Vermont

**ENVIRONMENTAL \& OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**

- Amber Lee
- University of Vermont

**FORENSIC MEDICINE**

- Richard L. Knoke
- University of Vermont

**HEMATOLOGY**

- Marc D. Eisenberg
- University of Vermont

**NEUROLOGY**

- R. Daniel Ewing
- University of Vermont

**OBSTETRICS \& GYNECOLOGY**

- Michael J. Weinberg
- University of Vermont

**ORAL MEDICINE**

- Michael J. Brinton
- University of Vermont

**PATHOLOGY**

- John P. McGowan
- University of Vermont

**PHYSIOLOGY**

- Jonathan A. Cooper
- University of Vermont

**PHARMACOLOGY**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**PHARMACOTHERAPY**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**PHARMACEUTICAL \& HEALTH OUTCOMES RESEARCH**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**PHARMACEUTICAL \& LIFE SCIENCES**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**PHYSICAL MEDICINE \& REHABILITATION**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**PSYCHIATRY**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**PSYCHOLOGICAL \& FUNCTIONAL ANATOMY**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**RHEUMATOLOGY**

- Jeffrey A. Ross
- University of Vermont

**SLEEP MEDICINE**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**SOMATOLOGICAL MEDICINE**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**STUDIES IN HEALTH \& DISEASE**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**STRUCTURAL \& FUNCTIONAL MEDICINE**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**URINARY MEDICINE, \& RENAL SYSTEMS**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**VETERINARY MEDICINE**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

**ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE**

- Michael J. Zinman
- University of Vermont

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**Back in Person, Back in Style**

**MATCH DAY 2022**

The Class of 2022’s medical school journey turned upside-down in March 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic forced a stay-at-home order, a pivot to remote learning, and put their clinical training on hold. Then, on Match Day 2022—celebrated on the same day at medical schools across the country—marks a critical moment in the lives of soon-to-be M.D. recipients—the moment when they learn where they’ll spend the next three to seven years for their clinical training.

In 2022, UVM’s traditional in-person event—set aside in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions—features a faculty physician bagpiper leading the Class of 2022’s medical school journey this year) selected by each graduating class.

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**CLASS OF 2022 MATCH RESULTS**

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<tr>
<th>MEDICINE</th>
<th>114</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INSTITUTIONS</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TO PRIMARY CARE</td>
<td>53</td>
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<td>IN VERMONT</td>
<td>14</td>
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On Sunday, May 22, 106 members of the medical Class of 2022 strode across the stage at Ira Allen Chapel to receive their hoods and M.D. diplomas—the first such fully in-person ceremony since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020.

Commencement speakers, including Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, acknowledged the hurdles these graduates had endured due to the pandemic and the important impact they were poised to make to ensure a better future for society.

In his welcome remarks, Dean Richard L. Page said, “Hard work and long hours come with medical education, but nobody predicted you would become a doctor amid the greatest worldwide health crisis in a century.” He added that, “You, the Class of 2022, are the clearest indicators... of better times ahead... You’ve gained incomparable experience in helping to fight a pandemic... you have shown commitment, compassion and professionalism.”

UVM Medical Center Chief Medical Officer Isabelle Desjardins, M.D., encouraged the new doctors to stay humble and keep their patients at the center of all of their decisions. “You are entering medicine at a time when the amount of new knowledge to acquire far exceeds anyone’s capacity to retain it,” she said. “You will have to remain curious, constantly challenging yourself to keep your mind open. There will be moments... when you don’t know what else to do or to say... these are the moments when integrity, and humanity, will matter most.”

While he opened by congratulating the medical Class of 2022 on their “incredible efforts to be where you are today,” Senator Sanders asked the graduates for something “above and beyond your skills as physicians,” in his capacity as chair of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security. He told them that, “The overall healthcare system in which you all will be practicing is a system which is dysfunctional, extraordinarily wasteful and expensive, and cruel,” and said, “I am asking you, as physicians, to lead the effort to fundamentally change that system.”

Graduating senior Francis Mtuke, M.D., delivered the Student Address. Born in Zimbabwe, Mtuke credits his mother with courageously journeying nearly 10,000 miles to take a chance on a new life in the United States, where her hard work led to a career as a nurse. Inspired by his mother, Mtuke has embraced opportunities, graduating from Texas A&M University, attending medical school in Vermont, and entering a specialty in which he says he will be “one of the mere 2.6 percent of anesthesiologists that are black males.” (Mtuke began his anesthesiology residency this summer at the Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle.)

Mtuke said his story is not unique, and that he and his classmates reached the goal of achieving their M.D. because they took a chance on the Larner College of Medicine and the College took a chance on each of them.

Mtuke told his classmates, “Because of the chance we took, thousands of war veterans, mothers, fitness instructors, authors, chefs, musicians, athletes, and so many more will have a chance taken on them. A chance taken by doctors who... were also given the opportunity to hone in on the intangibles of being a physician: namely compassion, empathy, and dedication to service.”

UVM’s Graduate College Ceremony, held May 21 in the Gutterson Fieldhouse, was presided over by Graduate College Dean Cindy Forehand, Ph.D., a professor of neurological sciences at the Larner College of Medicine. UVM Provost Patty Prelock, Ph.D., provided a reflection, telling graduates that, “Yes, this is truly a day of celebration, but it is also a day of commitment to the future and a commitment to the important role each of you will play in creating a safe, sustainable, just, equitable, inclusive and prosperous tomorrow, not just for some—but for all.”

Doctoral and master’s degree recipients from the Cellular, Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Neuroscience, Pharmacology, Medical Science, and Public Health graduate programs were hooded at the event.
WHERE IT HAPPENS

FROM A SINGLE BRICK STRUCTURE, THE LARNER PRESENCE HAS SPREAD ACROSS THE CAMPUS.

First Home

Initially, the new UVM “Medical Department” held its classes in the one substantial structure on the university’s campus—the original “College Edifice” erected in 1802 on the site of today’s “Old Mill.” This brick-and-wood structure housed all the activities of the university, including the “medical hall” where students heard lectures, and chemical and physiological experiments were demonstrated.

But in May of 1824, tragedy struck. Fire destroyed the university building—the probable work of an arsonist. Luckily, much of the Medical Department’s laboratory equipment was salvaged. By 1825, two wings of what would later become, in connected form, Old Mill, were completed, with General Lafayette laying a cornerstone during his 1825 tour of America.

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In 1827 Burlington resident E.T. Englesby donated land on the south side of what is now the UVM Green, for the use of the Medical Department, and by 1829 the College had its first dedicated home, the cupola-topped brick building today known as Pomeroy Hall. (Englesby’s descendant, William Englesby, M.D.1897, would later donate his South Williams Street mansion to be UVM’s official presidential residence.)

This stereoview photograph on the previous page shows the student body and faculty of the College as captured by early Burlington photographer L.G. Burnham, probably sometime in the 1870s. Most of the students are grouped in front of the building, with a few daredevils hanging out the windows, and even perched precariously on the roof of the building’s cupola. This structure, with additions, would house all the activities of the College from 1829 to 1884, with a break from 1837 to 1853, during which classes were suspended.

Howard’s Gift

The “Catalogue of the Medical Department” for 1885 noted that “to accommodate the constantly increasing number of students the old college buildings have been, from year to year, enlarged, until in 1884 it became evident that an entirely new structure would be required. At this juncture the Medical Faculty were agreeably surprised to receive from Mr. John P. Howard the munificent gift of a new and commodious College building.”

Local philanthropist John Purple Howard, who had made his fortune in the hotel business in New York City, agreed to refurbish and donate a mansion at the corner of Prospect and Pearl Streets to be the new home of the College. That same 1885 publication, from whose cover the building plan is shown, waxed poetic about the new facilities:

“The new structure is a substantial brick building situated on Pearl Street, on the north side and immediately overlooking the College Park (the present UVM Green). It is provided with an amphitheater capable of comfortably seating three hundred and fifty students. The Laboratories for Practical Chemistry, histology and pathology, bacteriology, and gross anatomy. It even featured the first student lounge complete with, in the custom of the day, cuspiders. This would remain the College’s home for more than 60 years.

New Century, New Home

The university took swift action after the fire of December 1903. The afternoon of the fire, as the embers still smouldered, the faculty and UVM president met and set an emergency plan. Classes resumed after a break of only one week after the fire, using borrowed space in other university buildings, and the operating amphitheater of the nearby Mary Fletcher Hospital.

Branching Out

Besides the Larner campus within UVM’s 450-acre campus, the College has, over the last 40 years, built relationships to accommodate clinical education of its students.

In the late 1970s, former dean Edward Andrews, M.D., who after serving also as UVM’s president, became CEO of Maine Medical Center in Portland, worked with Dean William Luginbuhl, M.D., to craft a formal clinical education program with UVM. That relationship endured for nearly 30 years.

In the last decade, the College built a new clinical education structure with Nuvance Health in Connecticut, that has resulted in a formal branch campus. Today, about 35 medical students from each class spend their clinical time at Danbury Hospital and Norwalk Hospital. Funded with a combination of insurance money and donations from alumni and the Burlington community and the medical faculty, the planned $80,000 new structure began to rise, with the cornerstone laid in the fall of 1904.

By June of 1905, the third “permanent home” of the College was completed—the building, which became known as Dewey Hall, that still stands north of the UVM Green. It was the first truly “modern” UVM structure designed specifically to be a teaching and research facility. With far more extensive facilities, including large and small lecture halls—named Hall A and Hall B—and separate laboratories for physiology, chemistry, histology and pathology, bacteriology, and gross anatomy. It even featured the first student lounge complete with, in the custom of the day, cuspiders. This would remain the College’s home for more than 60 years.

Final Move

By the late 1950s it was clear that, to remain a viable medical school, the College would have to grow both its student body and its research enterprise. Spurred on partly by the Soviet Union’s surprising launch of Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, U.S. government entities, including the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, raced to expand support for scientific research. In 1955, Dean George Wolf, M.D., commissioned a study to review the teaching and research needs of the College and suggest a plan for growth. The study identified three potential sites for a “new” College of Medicine, and a three-acre parcel of the old post-war “shoebox” dorms and adjoining the Mary Fletcher Hospital was finally chosen. After an extensive fundraising drive involving hundreds of alumni, the Medical Alumni Building, the first phase of Wolf’s extensive building plan, was dedicated in 1958. More fundraising followed, and a major grant from the Irene Heinz Gevin and John LaPorte Gevin Foundation, funding for the building was in place. Several different designs were considered for what would be named the Gevin Building, and the final square International Style structure, with an open-air center courtyard, was completed in 1966. It added new lecture halls—also called Hall A and B—and extensive laboratories in its 240,000 square feet of space. It was named in honor of the Gevins. A donation from auto-parts magnate Charles Dana funded the new Dana Medical Library in the lower level of the Medical Alumni Building. Medical Alumni would be demolished as a part of a 2003-2005 project, in cooperation with what is now the UVM Medical Center, that brought the College a new, vastly improved home for the Dana Library, and extensive new teaching spaces in the Medical Education Pavilion. In the center of Gevin, the open courtyard was enclosed and, under the direction of Dean John Evans, Ph.D., much needed administrative space opened in the Courtyard at Gevin, a building within a building that opened in 2009.

Over the years, in the laboratories of Gevin, and in the Health Science Research Facility that was completed in 2001 (also under Dean Evans’ direction), researchers would bring forth new knowledge in many areas. This fall, scientists moved into the latest addition to the medical campus, the 62,500-square-foot Firestone Medical Research Building, named for the family of its lead donor, Steve Firestone, M.D.95.  

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The College’s second home (below left), which opened in 1884. Its third home (below) opened in 1905 after fire destroyed the previous structure. Norwalk Hospital (top) and Danbury Hospital.
Research Beginnings
THE VERMONT CONNECTION TO EARLY CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

The Larner College of Medicine’s physical address—89 Beaumont Avenue—is a nod to Vermont’s connection to one of the pioneers of clinical medical research, Dr. William Beaumont. This box of 19th century surgical tools, which carries a brass nameplate inscribed with Beaumont’s signature, now resides in the collection of the Dana Medical Library. Born in Connecticut in 1785, Beaumont trained to be a doctor in St. Albans and the surrounding area, including visits with Dr. John Pomeroy at his home and office in Burlington. Later, as an army surgeon posted to Michigan, he encountered a patient, Alexis St. Martin, a fur trapper who had been accidentally shot in the stomach. Under Beaumont’s care, St. Martin recovered, but his stomach wound never fully closed, enabling Beaumont to observe the process of digestion in the human body as never before, resulting in his 1838 treatise, Experiments and Observations on the Gastric Juice, and the Physiology of Digestion, one of the first major clinical research works published in the U.S. Though his methods and treatment of his former patient diverged far from current standards, today’s research can trace a line back to this early student of medicine in Vermont.

19th century surgical tools of Dr. William Beaumont

Dr. William Beaumont’s engraved signature on the lid of his surgical tool box.
How does one become a practicing physician? The answer has changed significantly over the past two centuries, at UVM and every other medical school in the nation.

In the early 1800s there were, of course, far fewer medical schools than today, and the country itself was very different, with just 24 states, and a population of less than 10 million. And medical science was only just beginning the process of becoming an evidence-based discipline. Much about the human body and its ailments and their successful treatment was unknown and unexplored.

The faculty of the UVM “Medical Department” of 1824 first formally codified its requirements for granting of the M.D. degree, a curriculum that would not markedly change for decades thereafter. To earn an M.D., one had to demonstrate one was “of good moral character” (the exact method of doing this was unclear) and complete a three-year preceptorship with a practicing physician. During this preceptorship it was required that the student attend two full courses of lectures, only one of which needed to be completed at UVM. Students would, in practice, often attend two different schools for these lectures, often taking advantage of timing differences between two institutions’ academic calendars in order to finish the series in under a year: the UVM medical course of the 1820s was completed in just 12 to 14 weeks.

Lectures on anatomy would utilize cadavers for dissection before the assembled students, but unlike many other medical schools, UVM does not appear to have had the kind of publicized instances of grave robbing to supply the lectures, incidents which had taken place at the medical school at Castleton, Vt. (The late Dr. David Pilcher, in his history of the UVM Department of Surgery, does note a reported instance in the 1830s of UVM “importing” two “resurrected” bodies in barrels from Baltimore.)

There were no entrance requirements, and no grades. Attendance at lectures was certified by the issuance of a formal ticket for each subject, signed by the lecturer. After completing the second round of lectures, the candidate would complete a thesis paper and be examined in-person by at least two faculty members. For an individual who had apprenticed with a physician for five years, no lectures were required.

Fifty years later, the medical curriculum was almost unchanged. A rueful account of medical education of the 1870s was left by Dr. John Brooks Wheeler, who in 1900 would join the UVM Department of Surgery and lead it for 25 years. In 1935, long after his retirement, Dr. Wheeler published Memoirs of a Small-Town Surgeon, which extensively detailed his medical education. Wheeler had received his undergraduate degree from UVM in 1875, after which he enrolled in Harvard Medical School. As he recalled:

At that time and for many years thereafter, the law put no restrictions upon the practice of medicine. Anyone who could raise the money to pay for a room and a “shingle,” was at liberty to hire the first, hang out the second, call himself a doctor and practice upon anyone whom he could induce to employ him.

Wheeler further recounted the limited process awaiting those who did seek medical education:

First, the student must register his name with some doctor, who thereby became his so-called “preceptor” and was supposed to give him practical instruction. The registration was to take place three years before the student was to come up for graduation. During those three years he was required to attend two courses of lectures… Such a thing as a matriculation examination or any other evidence of educational qualification, was unknown. At the end of the second course he was given an oral examination, not unduly severe as to the questions that were asked, nor as to the manner in which the answers were marked. If he weathered this ordeal, he received his diploma and proceeded to practice upon his fellow-creatures with the sanction of his Alma Mater.

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All the lectures at UVM’s “Medical Department” at this time, as they had for decades, covered seven main areas: anatomy, physiology, chemistry, “materia medica” (essentially the pharmacology of its day), obstetrics, surgery, and techniques of practice.

Toward the “New Curriculum”

Through the latter 19th century it was still quite possible for someone to graduate with a medical degree simply having participated in lectures and readings, and never having actually seen a patient. But reform was in the air, even if events moved very slowly. By 1890 three full courses of lectures were required at UVM, and in 1891 that was then expanded to a three year course, with basic sciences covered during the first two years, and medicine, surgery and obstetrics in the third year, and graded courses in the final year. Around this time, in states across the nation, medical licensing boards started to become common. By 1896 the College moved to a four-year course of studies and came in line with the recommendations of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), an organization founded in 1876. Instructional hours increased at the College over the first half of the 20th century, especially after the recommendations of the national Flexner Report of 1910.

By 1962, it was clear that a major revamp in medical education was needed. A curriculum study committee was established, with Edward Andrews, M.D. as chair (Andrews would become dean of the College in 1967). The entire faculty of the College was brought into reimaging the curriculum. Andrews and Associate Dean William Lapinbuhl, M.D., presented the “New Curriculum” to the public in an article in the AAMC’s Journal of Medical Education in 1967, stating that “this new curriculum takes into account the new patterns of medical practice, the relevance of course content, the need for flexibility, and factors which affect learning.”

The 1967 changes divided the curriculum into three parts: an 18-month basic science level, a second level introduction to clinical science, and a third level focusing on exploring specialties. This curriculum, with occasional changes, would remain the standard at the College for the next 30 years.

The Development of the “VIC”

By 1996, it was evident that, with the expanding amount of medical knowledge, a new approach to medical education was warranted. Once again, faculty from across the institution were brought into the design process, with many task forces and larger retreats to share information. The guiding principles of the reform as stated in a AAMC publication in 2010 were:

1. Integration of teaching and learning across the disciplines,
2. Assessment of professional competency,
3. Patient and family centeredness,
4. Optimal use of information technology to enhance learning and information retrieval.

In 2003, the Vermont Integrated Curriculum was rolled out, with three levels: Foundations, Clinical Clerkship, and Advanced Integration. Still in operation today, the VIC is designed to be updated through a process of continuous quality improvement guided by its Medical Education Leadership Team, and indeed, the past decade has seen major changes in the adoption of active learning approaches in most of its pedagogy. Support and improvement of pedagogy itself has been the aim since 2015 of Larner’s Teaching Academy.

Under the VIC, today’s students, both on the Burlington campus and the Connecticut branch campus are supported by leading-edge educational technology systems. Also, a major support to the curriculum is the UVM Clinical Simulation Laboratory, one of the most advanced facilities of its kind, which is a cooperative collaborative effort of the Larner College of Medicine, the UVM College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and The University of Vermont Medical Center.
The Forerunners

BREAKING THE COLOR LINE FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS WAS A DECADES-LONG STORY. BY ED NEUERT

HEY CAME, FOR THE MOST PART, from points far away from the farmland and hills of the Green Mountain State. They came from other shores, and from cities and towns across the American South. They were the first few African American students to study medicine at the University of Vermont, and their stories have remained largely untold. In the halls of the College, old framed class photos show row upon row of white faces—so many that, for most people who walk by, the few graduates of color barely register. But they were here, for several decades of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and their stories deserve to stand out.

Though small in number as a group, African Americans had been part of the Vermont community from the 18th century. But it was not until the mid-19th century that any person of color gained admission to the University of Vermont. Underscoring the rarity of this occurrence is the record of confusion that surrounds it: for decades, the first African American graduate of the University was thought to be the Class of 1877’s George Washington Henderson. But in 2004, research revealed that Andrew Harris, who later went on to serve as a minister and noted abolitionist in New York City, had received a degree from UVM in 1838. It took four decades after Harris for UVM’s College of Medicine to cross the color line. Perhaps Henderson’s presence on campus affected the medical faculty: in 1878, shortly after he’d earned his degree, they voted to approve a motion to admit Black medical students.

Not a lot of detailed information exists for the first, Thomas James Davis, who graduated with the Class of 1885. What is known is that Davis was born in Jamaica in 1866. Within a few years of leaving Vermont he was living in Savannah, Ga., working with the Charity Hospital and Training School for Nurses, and through that institution is connected with a later African American graduate of the College, Cornelius McKane. Davis died in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1903, at age 39, and was buried in Savannah’s Laurel Grove South Cemetery, where his beautifully carved tombstone indicates his membership in the Freemasons.

Four years after Davis graduated, William Richard Randolph Granger received his degree with the Class of 1889. Granger led a storybook life. Born in Barbados, he served on a merchant ship, and at 16 deserted when in a U.S. port and found his way to Philadelphia. Refrained by Quakers, he eventually found his way to Bucknell College, then Howard University, the historically Black institution in Washington, D.C., and then gained entry to UVM as a medical student. After graduation, he married and settled briefly in Arkansas, then joined the Oklahoma Land Rush. The Grangers lived in Guthrie, Okla., until the territory passed Jim Crow laws in 1895, whereupon they moved to Newport News, Va. Ultimately, they settled for good in Newark, N.J., and raised six sons, five of whom would become either physicians or dentists. The sixth son, Lester, spent 20 years as the head of the National Urban League, one of the nation’s premier civil rights organizations. W.R.R. Granger died in Newark in 1925.

Cornelius McKane was the great-grandson of the ruler of two West African tribes who lived in the area that is now Liberia, the country organized in the early 19th century as a haven for former slaves and free-born people of color from the United States and points across the Caribbean. McKane’s grandmother had been sold into slavery and transported to the region that became British Guiana, where McKane was born in 1862. Around 1872 McKane moved with his parents to Liberia, but in 1880 found his way to New York City. Under the guidance of a prominent Baptist deacon in the city, he received a high school education, and briefly attended the City College of New York. But Liberia beckoned to him, and he returned there for several years, studying languages, teaching, and briefly serving as head of the Republic of Liberia’s education department.
Somewhere during this time, McKane developed the desire for a career in medicine. He returned to the United States, and in 1886 entered UVM’s College of Medicine. He graduated with his M.D. in 1889. McKane was the first African American graduate of the College. Williams grew up on Elmwood Avenue, the son of a barber, and was a standout student and athlete at Edmunds High School. He continued that record of achievement at UVM when he entered as a first-year medical student in 1895. Although we have some details of Williams’ life before medical school, there is scant information about his life afterward. It is known that he had a general medical practice for some time in Winooski. At some point Williams seems to have given up medicine, and he died sometime in the 1940s in Medford, Mass.

George Walter Williams stands out as the first Vermonter of color to attend the College. Williams graduated with his M.D. in 1891. McKane attended VSU, Richmond’s Virginia Union University, and Howard University before matriculating at UVM and moving into his temporary home on Cherry Street. He returned to Petersburg after graduation and went into practice. Later he served in France in World War I as a surgeon. Returning from the war to New York City on a troopship, he fell in love with the city, and settled there. He married his wife, Myrtle, in 1920 and became a prominent member of the Harlem medical community before his untimely death from appendicitis in 1925, leaving behind a young daughter and his wife, who was pregnant at the time. That baby, who would never know her father, would follow in his footsteps years later.

World War II, he led more than 30,000 physicals for the selective service. Carmichael also was a journalist and published hundreds of baseball columns in the Washington Tribune and Washington Afro-American. He died in 1971 at age 79, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

The third roommate on Cherry Street, Douglas Beverly Johnson, was born in 1888 in Petersburg, Va., where his father was a mathematics professor at what is now Virginia State University (VSU). Johnson attended VSU, Richmond’s Virginia Union University, and Howard University before matriculating at UVM and moving into his temporary home on Cherry Street. He returned to Petersburg after graduation and went into practice. Later he served in France in World War I as a surgeon. Returning from the war to New York City on a troopship, he fell in love with the city, and settled there. He married his wife, Myrtle, in 1920 and became a prominent member of the Harlem medical community before his untimely death from appendicitis in 1925, leaving behind a young daughter and his wife, who was pregnant at the time. That baby, who would never know her father, would follow in his footsteps years later.

Douglas Johnson’s second daughter, Beverly Johnson, matriculated to the College of Medicine in 1949, and received her M.D. degree in 1953, the first one awarded by UVM to an African American woman. She went on to practice anesthesiology for more than 40 years on Long Island in New York, and early in her career worked with fellow anesthesiologist Virginia Appar, developer of the scale used to this day to rate the health of newborns. Dr. Johnson’s son, Michael Newstein, also became a physician.

Special thanks to Tiffany Delaney, M.A. Ed., Director of the Lerner Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, for her help in researching this article, and to Prudence Dorthey of UVM’s Silver Collections Library.
Founded in the edge of the northern frontier of the nation, at a time when only about 2,000 people lived in Burlington, the survival of the College was by no means assured, and occasional economic upheavals and the challenges of recruiting faculty took their toll throughout the 19th century, and well into the 20th.

Early Struggles

After a first burst of enthusiasm, the early years of what was then commonly known as the UVM Medical Department were rocky ones. The first year of lectures seemed to assuage a great pent-up need for medical instruction in the north country. More than 50 students enrolled, “all good & true men,” wrote Dr. Nathan Smith, one of the first faculty, to an acquaintance, noting “the school flourishes well so far.” That stayed the case for several years, even as the College went through several significant changes in its small faculty.

But the good times were fleeting. In those days there were other sources for medical education in the state, most notably the Vermont Academy of Medicine at Castleton, a rival that existed until 1861—and Woodstock’s Clinical School of Medicine, which was in operation from 1827 to 1856. Dr. Benjamin Lincoln, who led the faculty in the late 1820s and early 1830s, was an early educational reformer who tried to promote strict academic standards throughout all medical schools of the Northeast. His efforts failed, students fled for easier institutions, and Lincoln himself fell prey to the scourge of his time, tuberculosis, and died at an early age, in 1835. When the economic depression called the Panic of 1837 hit the U.S., the school was forced to close for 17 years. Revived in 1854, it slowly built back its faculty and, as the other Vermont medical schools closed, expanded its student body.

New Home, New Problems

In the 1880s, local philanthropist John Purple Howard refurbished and donated a mansion at the corner of Prospect and Pearl Streets to be the new home of the College, complete with its first semi-circular lecture hall. It was in that hall that an errant cigar butt, dropped into the space under the seats, sparked a fire that consumed the building on the morning of December 3, 1903. The university swiftly rebuilt: by the summer of 1905 the third “permanent home” of the College was completed—the building, now known as Dewey Hall, that still stands north of the UVM Green.

Flexner’s Judgement

The fire of 1903 was hardly the last of the College’s troubles. In 1908, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, as part of an effort to reform medical education, appointed Dr. Abraham Flexner to examine all North American medical schools and suggest improvements. Flexner visited UVM in May of 1909, and his report was a body blow to UVM, and indeed, to several New England schools. “It is unnecessary to prolong the life of the clinical departments of Dartmouth, Bowdoin, and Vermont,” he wrote. He concluded that New England needed only two medical schools, and recommended closing all but Harvard’s and Yale’s. The Bowdoin medical school eventually closed, and Dartmouth ceased granting the M.D. for 60 years. Dean Henry Tinkham had no intention of closing UVM’s medical school, but did act on many of Flexner’s recommendations, revamping the curriculum and hiring new permanent faculty.

Accreditation Scare

The Flexner Report was not the last crisis the College would face. By 1935, faculty numbers had again slipped, and the American Medical Association informed Dean James Jenne that they had placed the school on probation and threatened to revoke the school’s accreditation if significant improvements were not in place by 1939. Shortly thereafter the Association of American Medical Colleges levied the same verdict. A faculty committee took over, led by radiologist A. Bradley Soule, M.D.’28, and conducted an extensive reorganization of the faculty and clinical education, and the crisis was averted. Future deans would prove more diligent in maintaining standards, and in ensuing decades the College would gain a national reputation for quality and innovation in medical education and research.
IN THE 1920S, A FEW PIONEERS OVERCAME OBSTACLES BUILT BY TRADITION, BUREAUCRACY, AND THEIR FELLOW STUDENTS. BY RACHAEL MOELLER GORMAN

THE EARLIEST FEMALE STUDENT at UVM first walked across a snowy University Green to class in the spring of 1872. At that time, UVM’s medical faculty vehemently opposed accepting women. In 1891, they had actually refused to sell lecture tickets to one woman. But in 1912 Dean Henry Tinkham, M.D., proposed practical reasons for admitting female students: the school needed tuition dollars and the state desperately needed more rural general practitioners. The idea was still too distasteful to the faculty and administration, however, and a decision on the matter was postponed.

By 1918, though, droves of men had been called to World War I. The shortage of students allowed Tinkham to resurrect the issue yet again, and in 1920 he commissioned a report on female admission to other medical schools all around the country. Pressure from Lieutenant Governor Abram Foote, whose daughter aspired to be a physician, legal advice from fellow board of trustees member Judge Edmund Mower, who shared his opinion that public colleges must accept all qualified citizens, and results showing that a majority of grade “A” medical schools around the country had female students, forced a vote by the medical school faculty. The vote in favor of admitting women came in March of 1920. Miss Estelle Foote of Middlebury, the Lieutenant Governor’s daughter, submitted the first application in May of that year.

With considerable administrative hurdles cleared, women then faced an even nastier challenge: their fellow students. An anonymous letter to the Vermont Cynic in the spring of 1920 insisted that women did not possess the “mental temperament or physical capabilities which are essential to the successful physician.” The student paper decided to print two letters in response, including one that reminded the protesters that Johns Hopkins University, one of the most revered medical schools in the country, had been admitting women since 1890 without ruining its reputation.

Five young women peer from the ragged, yellowed page of a dusty old 1926 yearbook. Some of them don flapper outfits and bobbed haircuts, while others wear more traditional Vermont country garb. It’s odd to see them there: men inhabit almost every other picture. But in the fraternity section of this UVM Ariel, a band of five female students staked a small, resolute claim. The group picture (at left) is of Alpha Gamma Sigma, a medical society for women founded in 1924—the same year the College of Medicine’s first female medical student completed her studies. The time was ripe for such an event; just four years before, the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution had given women the vote. The doors to academia had been slowly nudging open for what was then called the “gentler sex.” These women slid through and never looked back.

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(Left) UVM’s Alpha Gamma Sigma society of 1926. Back row (left to right): Bertha Chase, Estelle Foote. Front row (left to right): Eloise Bailey, Naomi Lanou, Dorothy Sitwell. (Right) Dorothy Lang.
And so it happened that in the fall of 1920, after two years at UVM, Dorothy Lang quietly matriculated in the College of Medicine. Estelle Foote and Naomi Lanou followed Lang in 1921; Bertha Chase entered in 1922; and Doris Sidwell and Eloise Bailey entered in 1923. All but Lang appeared in the 1926 Aerial photo, as she had already graduated cum laude. The other five stand sternly together, each seeming to silently assert her presence in a world that had yet not acknowledged her equality.

DOROTHY MARY LANG graduated from Peoples Academy High School in Morrisville in 1916, then packed her bags and headed to New York. She wanted to be an actress in the nascent film industry, and with her cherubic beauty and intrinsic cleverness she found her way to New York. She worked at various hospitals to make ends meet. Lang returned to New York after medical school, where she was the first woman doctor in the country.

In 1956 she traveled to the burgeoning city of Sao Paulo, Brazil, to open another clinic. In 1957, she journeyed to Rapid City, South Dakota for the same reason; this time she ministered to members of the Sioux Nation. Lanou finally returned to New York permanently in 1960, where she supervised the care of the elderly sisters and worked in the order’s school for deaf children. She died in 1973.

BERTHA ALICE CHASE’s family was poor, and she left school fairly early to help her mother at home. She later returned and finished high school. Stressed to action by World War I, Chase decided her contribution would be in the field of medicine. A grant that helped fund her UVM education had one key condition: after internship, she must devote her newfound skills to missionary work. Since she chose not in that direction anyway, she gladly accepted the grant and graduated in 1926. Chase journeyed to India in 1927 and didn’t return for good until 1939. Clara Swain Hospital, the first women’s hospital in India, became her home. “Last month we did about fifteen tonsillektomies, six or seven other minor operations, and two major abdominal operations,” Chase wrote in a letter to the Vermont Alumni Weekly in 1929. In India, Chase met a Salvation Army officer, Wilkie Wiseman. She and Wiseman married early the next year. Chase finally returned to the States in 1939, and she eventually took a placement as a county health officer in rural Kentucky. She later opened an ophthalmology practice near Lansing, Michigan. She died at age 98.

NAOMI DELIA LANOU was born in 1898 in Burlington. After graduating from the UVM College of Medicine in 1923, Lanou became the first woman intern at Mary Fletcher Hospital. For the next ten years she worked as a pediatrician at Children’s Hospital in Buffalo, New York, on staff at the Strong and Hospital, and in private practice in Rutland. In 1936, however, she was forced to close the practice. Her health had taken a turn for the worse, and she returned home. “Last month we did about fifteen tonsillektomies, six or seven other minor operations, and two major abdominal operations,” Chase wrote in a letter to the Vermont Alumni Weekly in 1929. After spending the next few years in Burlington, “she did an amazing thing,” says Janet Lanou, her niece. “At the age of 41 she entered a religious order, the Daughters of the Heart of Mary.”

The group was an international Catholic order founded in France, and Lanou worked for the next six years at a Native American missionary school in Santee, Nebraska. In 1929, in a Model A Ford she drove alone from Massachusetts to Nebraska over mostly dirt roads and became the only doctor at a very remote boarding school. While establishing the first on-site hospital, she met her future husband, Harry DeSmet Thompson. Thompson was Lower Brule Teton Sioux. They married in 1933. Sidwell later worked at Danvers State Hospital in Massachusetts, and as the assistant superintendent of the Pineland Hospital and Training Center in Maine, a building there is now named for her. She retired in 1960, and died in August 1994 at the age of 94.

ELOISE HELEN BAILEY’s genes. Daughter of a Tufts-educated doctor and a nurse from one of the first nursing classes at Mary Fletcher Hospital, she went on to UVM after graduating from high school. There, Bailey was the first woman in her class to tackle the quandary of the working mother. She married Axel Peterson (UVM Class of 1923) while a junior medical student in 1926. She gave birth to her first child, Thalia, in 1927. With help from her parents, Peterson graduated one year late, in 1928, continued to live on East Avenue in Burlington until 1940. She then worked as a psychiatrist at Westbrook State Hospital in Massachusetts and subsequently at Norwich Hospital in Connecticut. Bailey next spent seven years at Camarillo State Hospital in California, returning in 1974 to Connecticut to retire. She died in 1984 at the age of 82.

After the first six women graduated from the College of Medicine, not much changed for the next fifty years: Only one, two, or three female medical students typically completed medical studies in each class until the mid 1970s. Finally, by the mid-1970s the percentage of women increased to 12 percent. Today nearly 60 percent of the College’s med students identify as female.

The first six pioneers, however, flourished back when American medical education was more focused on a woman’s need to be a housewife first, then alone college and medical school. Their resolve was remarkable: three came from families with eight or more children, four endured cancer, and three reached age 90. Their trajectories were somewhat similar: three became missionaries, four became pediatricians, and three worked as psychiatrists. They all began in the same place, but crafted their own lives, each leading in its own distinct direction—from the Near East to the Midwest. On their unique paths through life, they touched and healed their patients while inspiring and motivating generations to come.
The Namesake

ROBERT LARNER, M.D.’42 NEVER FORGOT HIS ROOTS.

Today they reside in the collection of the Larner College of Medicine, but these staple items of a practicing physician spent their many years of actual daily service in the medical practice of the late Robert Larner, M.D.’42. Raised in the Old North End of Burlington in a family of very modest means, Larner knew early on that he wanted to do something with his life other than following his father into the roofing business. His success in statewide debating contests provided him with enough money to afford an undergraduate education at UVM before entering its medical school. After earning his M.D., he served as a doctor in battlefield units at Guadalcanal and Okinawa. Post-war, he settled in Los Angeles, and built a thriving internal medicine practice, while also making carefully researched and managed investments in California real estate with his wife and business partner, Helen. The Larners were longtime donors to his medical alma mater, and in 2016 they capped decades of “giving back” with a transformative gift to support medical education, for which the College was renamed in recognition. The Larners’ giving had its roots firmly in the medical practice embodied by these well-worn instruments. Dr. Larner had one major goal with philanthropy: “I wanted to help other medical students have the kind of stimulating, gratifying practice of medicine that I’d had,” he said.

“I wanted to help other medical students have the kind of stimulating, gratifying practice of medicine that I’d had.”

– ROBERT LARNER, M.D.’42
Unfolding a Home

FOR RETURNING VETERANS OF THE “GREATEST GENERATION,” BARRACKS LIFE SHIFTED TO “TRAILER CAMP” DURING MEDICAL SCHOOL. BY ED NEUERT

On cold, late afternoons in mid-January, the wind sweeps down the hillside east of the University of Vermont campus. At the bottom of the hill, on the road that leads to the Centennial Field ballpark, the air sifts through a line of old hemlocks before it drifts out over the lonely bleachers. It would be difficult to stand here for long in the below-zero wind chill, and still more difficult to conjure up a vision of the hardy souls who, more than seventy years ago, turned this windy field and a few dozen flimsy structures into their own little village. But do it they did. It’s a classic “lemonade from lemons” story: how a group of people who’d survived an economic depression and a world war endured one more tough time while finishing their medical education, and how they turned their meager surroundings into a place bound by camaraderie and good cheer—a place they fondly recall as Trailer Camp.

“People today would be surprised to know just how desperate things were,” remembered the late Emeritus Professor Stanley Burns, M.D.’55. He was not, as one might think, describing his childhood in southern Vermont during the long, severe economic slump of the thirties, or his Army Medical Corps experiences treating the wounded from the Battle of the Bulge or the survivors of Dachau. For returning vets of World War II such as Burns, the relief of being back home, out of uniform, in a revitalized economy, was tempered by the post-war housing shortage—the most serious, widespread squeeze on living space ever seen in the United States.

From the war’s end in August 1945 through the end of 1946, millions of servicemen and women were demobilized and sent back into civilian ranks. The U.S. Army was discharging about a million men a month by the end of 1945, and the Navy...
A and so it went at the University of Vermont. In the fall of 1945, the school enrolled a grand total of 1018 students. In October 1946, the student-run Cynic报刊 reported that returning veterans had swollen the total number of students to 2041. This near-doubling of the student body in the course of one year was only the beginning. UVM president John S. Milis announced that 400 more Vermont students would be admitted on January 1, 1947. The Vermont legislature appropriated money to pay for new student housing. “This will be welcome news to many Vermont veterans,” reported the Cynic, for “the housing situation is seriously impeding the educational opportunities of many to postpone their entrance. A few weeks later, the Cynic reported on a new development for married students—many of whom were enrolled at the College of Medicine—in an article titled “Community of Trailer for Veterans and Wives Farms City Within a City.” “Tucked away near a corner of Centennial Field, Burlington’s most interesting housing project is providing homes for forty-six veteran UVM students, their wives, and children,” the article read. “It’s a going community complete [with] everything except unit hot and cold running water and taxes. Both may come later.”

To the residents’ mixed relief and dismay, neither ever appeared. It’s almost impossible to imagine any campus resident today happily accepting a lack of running water in their housing, but in the midst of the housing crisis, it all somehow seemed livable. “How did we put up with it?” asked George Higgins, M.D. ’55. “We were young! We were all in our twenties and all starting out together, and we managed together.” The Cynic gave a raw description of Trailer Camp in its earliest days: “It’s comfortable down there. The little community consists of fifty expansible trailers... It’s exclusive too. Only married service men who have served in World War II are eligible to live there. Each home unit contains two double beds with spring and mattresses, one studio couch, two folding chairs, a folding table, two burner oil stove with detachable oven, oil space heater, a 2½ to 3 cubic feet ice chest, and a fifty gallon oil drum with stand. Nothing elaborate, but all the essentials are there, and it only needs, as Edgar Guest would say, “A Heroe of Living” to make a home. The paper went on to report the formation of a community government in Trailer Camp, one of whose officers that first year was the late Peter Czachor, M.D. ’50. Years later, retired University of Vermont faculty member Retired Paul Demmick, M.D. ’55. Each one unfolded into a square structure, approximately twenty feet long on each side, that could be divided inside into kitchen, sleeping, and living areas. The round-cornered entrance section on the front of each gave the units a vaguely Art Deco appearance. Some residents built their own extra storage sheds off the back wall. “UVM was building dorms up on campus,” recalled Czachor, “and they gave us some of the scrap lumber to build our sheds.” The trailers’ space heaters could only do so much when set against the harsh Vermont winter. “I remember some cold days when there would be ice around the basements, and we’d keep our two young daughters in bed as long as possible while things warmed up,” remembered Caroline Higgins, wife of George Higgins, M.D. ’55.

And the university also issued paint to the residents, which gave them lumber. “They gave us the building’s water line ran directly under their units, running water and taxes. Both may come later.”

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An old student at the University of Vermont described the camp residents at which most supported a highly controversial African American Civil Rights movement. The Burlington Free Press published a four-day, front-page series under the banner headline “UVM Trailer Town Is Called Worse Than Slums.” The final installment in the series (and a story in the rival Burlington Free Press The opportunity to receive a college education did its job, and then its former residents left to do theirs. They went off to practice medicine across the nation, and the little corner of Centennial Field they called home for a while was given back to the wind and the harnesses and the baseball fans.
Probing Oxygen’s Mysteries

UVM’s newest University Distinguished Professor, Yvonne Janssen-Heininger, Ph.D., studies adverse reactions that can take our breath away.

By Janet Essman Franz

Cellular, Molecular and Biological Sciences doctoral candidate Maurice Newton (left) works in the lab with Yvonne Janssen-Heininger, Ph.D.
Oxygen: No other element feels as vital to human existence. It’s the key ingredient in the air we breathe. Deprive us of it for just four minutes, and we’re dead. Oxygen is critical for the chemical reactions our cells need to survive. The conversion of oxygen to water via oxidation-reduction reactions, or redox—the transfer of electrons from one substance to another—in our cells, is central to basic functions, including metabolism and respiration. Specialized catalysts that function during metabolism and respiration turn oxygen into oxidants, chemical substances that react with other cellular molecules, including proteins.

But there’s an oxygen paradox: While it’s essential to living organisms, it also causes damage that leads to illness and death.

Oxidants change the structure of our proteins in very precise ways through oxidation reactions, allowing the proteins to function optimally. However, some protein oxidation events occur at the wrong locations or in the wrong proteins, which can lead to metabolic diseases, cancer, chronic inflammation, and permanent scarring of organ tissue, known as fibrosis. Fibrotic tissue is more susceptible to further damage and disease, leading ultimately to tumor metastasis, aggressive cancer, organ failure and death. Once fibrosis develops in an organ, such as the lungs, the organ tends to become therapy resistant and fail.

Yvonne Janssen-Heininger, Ph.D., an expert in the fields of pulmonary fibrosis and redox medicine. Growing up in the south of Holland, she witnessed abundant chronic lung diseases in her community, including her family. Coal mining was prevalent in the area, and made transformative contributions to knowledge including pneumoconiosis, silicosis, pulmonary fibrosis and lung cancer. The experience triggered Janssen-Heininger’s ambition to unravel the molecular mysteries of pulmonary diseases and discover potential treatments.

“The mission of my research is to find a way to stop a disease that is otherwise untreatable,” said Janssen-Heininger, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine. “In my lab, we focus on specific biochemical processes that we believe contribute to fibrosis, and we have discovered exciting new tools for looking at oxidation targets. We are designing precise small molecules to prevent incorrect protein oxidation from happening or reverse them, changing the course of disease.”

With colleague Albert van der Vliet, Ph.D., Janssen-Heininger co-founded the internationally recognized Redox Biology and Pathology Program at UVM. She is a fellow of the Society for Redox Biology and Medicine and a member of the UVM Cancer Center and the Vermont Lung Center. She recently received a Lung Cancer Discovery Award from the American Lung Association (ALA) to study protein oxidation in the development of lung cancer with the aim of creating a new drug target for chemotherapy-resistant tumors. In 2022, she was named a University Distinguished Professor, which recognizes faculty members who have achieved international reputations as top scholars within their respective fields of study and made transformative contributions to knowledge advancement. This title is a career appointment and is the highest academic honor that UVM can bestow upon a member of the faculty.

“Dr. Yvonne Janssen-Heininger is a remarkable scientist and leader. She was in the first group of scientists to receive an NIH R35 grant, reflecting her scientific accomplishments,” said Debra Leonard, M.D., Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. “She is an advocate for women scientists, having organized gender equity sessions at national meetings. She is also an outstanding mentor. She initiated our annual Research Day and other efforts to support our investigators. She’s a super star, and I am so proud she is a member of our department.”

From Holland to Burlington

Janssen-Heininger’s research career began early, as an undergraduate student at the University of Limburg in Maastricht, The Netherlands. She studied biological health sciences, investigating coal miners’ lung diseases while earning her bachelor’s and master’s degrees. She earned a Ph.D. at Maastricht University. The Netherlands, in alliance with Maastricht University Medical Center. At a conference in Canada in 1989, when Janssen-Heininger was a doctoral student, her Dutch mentor introduced her to Brooke Mosiman, Ph.D., now professor emeritus of pathology and laboratory medicine at UVM and a University Distinguished Professor. Mosiman invited Janssen to collaborate on a three-month research project at UVM.

“I had no idea what I was getting into. Three months turned into five months, one year into two years. I went back and forth to Maastricht working on my Ph.D. research. My intention was always to go back to Holland to support research at my alma mater,” Janssen-Heininger said.

And then life happened. She met her future husband, Peter Heininger, a Lake Champlain ferryboat captain, at the Old Dock House ferry stop in Essex, N.Y., when he crashed the graduation party she was attending. Janssen-Heininger completed her Ph.D. in 1993, and the couple married in 1996, the same year she was offered a faculty position at UVM. Janssen-Heininger completed her postdoctoral training in UVM’s pathology department under a Parker B. Francis Foundation fellowship in pulmonary research. She progressed through the faculty ranks, starting as a research assistant professor and becoming a full professor in 2008. From 2017 to 2021, she was vice-chair for research for the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. She received the inaugural National Heart Lung and Blood Institute R35 Outstanding Investigator award and was named the 2017 Larner College of Medicine Research Mentor and the College’s 2021 Research Laureate.

Janssen-Heininger settled into life in Vermont with her husband, raising a son, Skyler, and daughter, Meara, now 20 and 23 years old, respectively. Janssen-Heininger did return to her alma mater, in a way. In 1997 she initiated and helped build...
Collective Approach

Janssen-Heininger’s scientific discoveries have focused on the pathways that regulate fibrotic tissue, bridging the gap between basic biochemistry and the development of new therapeutics to combat pulmonary disease. She holds five U.S. patents for systems and methods to determine oxidized proteins and treating oxidative stress conditions, and the Janssen-Heininger Laboratory works to advance these as potential drugs to treat fibrotic lung diseases.

She is dedicated to training the next generation of scientists. To date, Janssen-Heininger has supervised nearly 30 graduate students, more than 10 postdoctoral fellows, and nine undergraduate students. She strives to provide an exciting research environment and extensive mentoring for laboratory members to enable each of them to be successful in the biomedical science arena. Dozens of her trainees have advanced to successful academic careers, including several faculty members at the Larner College of Medicine who are tenured and have secured independent funding, due in large part to her successful mentorship.

“My research is a really supportive mentor and a good example to follow, both scientifically and in terms of career development,” said postdoctoral fellow Elizabeth Corteselli, Ph.D. “It’s a very collaborative environment. Our projects are all different but related, and we all help each other out.”

The lab’s faculty scientist, Reem Aboushousha, Ph.D., began in the lab as a technician in 2015, becoming a doctoral student and now a postdoctoral fellow. Aboushousha now investigates treatments for cancer.

“I am working on a unique new pathway that underlies chemoresistance to chemotherapy. It’s relevant to many cancer types. I’ve had folks say to me, ‘upon my death, I will donate my lungs to your research.’ My clinical colleagues in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine have been able to do rapid autopsies, sometimes even on weekends. It’s an important opportunity to see what happens in the lung. It can also be a very difficult experience. This lung that somebody gave me, somebody whom I met a number of times and failures,” Janssen-Heininger said. “I’ve had folks say to me, ‘upon my death, I will donate my lungs to your research.’ My clinical colleagues in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine have been able to do rapid autopsies, sometimes even on weekends. It’s an important opportunity to see what happens in the lung. It can also be a very difficult experience. This lung that somebody gave me, somebody whom I met a number of times and failures,” Janssen-Heininger said.

The redox biology and pathology program Janssen-Heininger has produced numerous peer-reviewed publications, innovations, and drug candidates.

Janssen-Heininger envisions a University of Vermont Institute for Redox Medicine, incorporating multiple domains of expertise to advance technologies and drug development efforts. She believes there’s tremendous opportunity for us to develop new drugs to change the course of diseases and treat oxidative stress conditions. Janssen-Heininger said, “Our group has several patents ripe for further development, and we are ready to expand these endeavors. One compound, developed in our program by Dr. Cunniff and Nicholas Heintz, Ph.D., professor emeritus, is currently in Phase 1 clinical trial for patients with malignant mesothelioma, a lethal cancer of the lining of the lung.”

Divergent Thinking

Research related to counteracting cellular damage caused by oxygen has lately garnered acceptance as a basis for novel therapeutic approaches, and Janssen-Heininger’s work is in the forefront of this research. Her lab’s research is considered well-recognized in the 1990s, and Janssen-Heininger struggled to gain credibility.

“I have been working in a very niche area of oxidant biology for 30 years, and it’s only now becoming front and center. In the early 1990s, this oxidative process was considered irrelevant. At conferences, other scientists told me, ‘This can’t happen, Yvonne, it is not chemically possible,’” she recalls. “These same scientists are now asking me about this and backing up.” She went from being not taken seriously to being considered an expert in her field.

To gain recognition, getting published in high-impact journals became her mission. In 2009, when her paper on redox amplification of apoptosis was rejected by the Journal of Cell Biology, she made a phone call to the editor to protest and explain why the paper should be published. The editor sent Janssen-Heininger’s paper back out for review, leading not only to its publication but also an editorial highlight written by that same editor.

The redox biology and pathology program Janssen-Heininger built at UVM has increased understanding of redox-based mechanisms in the pathology of chronic disease and developed novel diagnostic tools. Program investigators are funded through National Institutes of Health research grants, private and public foundation grants, and through sponsored research contracts with biotech-pharma and small biotechs. The program strongly supports UVM’s efforts to improve undergraduate, graduate, and medical student education in the biomedical sciences, as well as postdoctoral training in basic and clinical research. Many junior investigators in the program have become distinguished scientists, serving in research and faculty positions at academic institutions across the nation and around the world.

From Bench to Bedside and Back

Jointly with Jos van der Velden, the lab has heavily invested in organoids, which are tiny, three-dimensional tissue cultures produced in vitro from stem cells. They disassemble pieces of diseased human lungs into individual cells and grow them in culture. The cells reassemble into “mini-lungs” that enable researchers to study mechanisms of lung fibrosis and explore therapeutic opportunities. Precision-cut lung slices, thin slivers made from live tissue with all of its components, allow for examining and exposing lung tissues to potential therapeutics in settings as close to reality as possible.

“We work with human lung samples from patients with pulmonary fibrosis. It emphasizes how the mechanisms we study in our research relate to the actual disease progression in these patients,” said Corteselli, the post-doctoral fellow.

Much of the tissue comes directly from patients at the UVM Medical Center, some of whom Janssen-Heininger and Corteselli have met. Lab members have attended support groups for patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis or interstitial lung disease who talk about their research and interact with people with lung diseases and their caregivers.

“We have been humbled to meet people with pulmonary diseases and learn about their experiences and questions they have about their condition. This connection is so important to me and the fellows in my lab. Knowing that patients are thankful for the research we do is what keeps us going forward through difficult times and failures,” Janssen-Heininger said.

“*I’ve had folks say to me, ‘upon my death, I will donate my lungs to your research.’ My clinical colleagues in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine have been able to do rapid autopsies, sometimes even on weekends. It’s an important opportunity to see what happens in the lung. It can also be a very difficult experience. This lung that somebody gave me, somebody whom I met a number of times and failures,” Janssen-Heininger said.*

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Pride of Place

A CULTURE OF ACCEPTANCE AND AFFIRMATION

Though small in size, the pride pins worn on the lapels of Larner white coats and other clothing over the last 20 years have signaled a long-overdue change in acceptance and celebration of LGBTQA diversity across society, including the medical professions. A generation ago, being open about one’s sexuality or gender, if it differed from heterosexual norms, was unthinkable for many medical professionals.

Today, nearly a fifth of Larner’s most recent entering class of medical students identify as LGBTQA. And the change goes beyond personal identification, to nurturing more inclusive practices throughout the patient care setting, like integrating LGBTQA scenarios in standardized patient instructional cases in UVM’s Clinical Simulation Laboratory, and funding curriculum improvement projects such as the 2022 Frymoyer Scholars effort by faculty members in the Department of Emergency Medicine to build an interdisciplinary gender affirming care model in the emergency department setting.

“Affirming who the person is and encouraging it is part of the delight in the work,” said Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry Michael Upton, M.D.’94, who has also worked closely with the College’s Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the Gender and Sexuality Alliance. “As physicians, we have the capacity to translate an appreciation and a caring for the richness of the individual person who has come to see us.”
I am so pleased to begin my term as president of the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine. As an emerging health crisis in a century. Throughout the pandemic, backed by our great alumni association staff, Omar worked hard to keep us connected to our medical alma mater, and I know I speak for the entire community of Larner grads when I thank him for his leadership.

Here on campus in Burlington, things are settling down to a "new normal"—with in-person and hybrid meetings and classes. COVID never stopped progress at our College of Medicine. There were many research achievements during the pandemic, including practice guidelines changing research about COVID. Extramural research funding is at an all-time high. I was thrilled that more medical students than ever completed alumni-funded research projects this summer; they are the hope for our future. And we are all extremely happy to see the final steps in the completion of the new Firestone Medical Research Building. Larner scientists and their research teams and students start to move into its labs this fall with great anticipation.

Research is challenging under the best of circumstances. We go to work each day trying to improve people’s health and lives. At UVM we have remarkable researchers from many disciplines who collaborate and innovate together across this University. To accomplish this new and in the future requires modern spaces to support our research and allow us to convene across disciplines. Those facilities are vital to continuing to attract outstanding new faculty and students from different backgrounds who are focused on discovering new treatments and cures. The positive impact of the new Firestone Medical Research Building can be understated. As a UVM scientist myself, we are all so thankful to the many alumni who have supported its fundraising, particularly our lead donor, Dr. Steve Firestone from the Class of 1969. I've personally lead donor, Dr. Steve Firestone from the Class of 1969. I've personally heard to hear from his UVM bubbles, as Med School was one fantastic experience.

The new Firestone Building is not the only milestone this year. Next May we will celebrate the 200th anniversary commencement at our College! You’ll see many important moments in our history detailed in this issue of Vermont Medicine, with more to come throughout our bicentennial year. In 1824, just four students were granted M.D.s. More than 120 new physicians will graduate in 2023. What changes we’ve seen in the art and science of medicine over two centuries— even over the course of our own careers—and what progress lies ahead!

One of my goals for my tenure is to enhance alumni participation and support of our students—whether it be writing a white coat note, mentoring a student, conducting an admissions interview, or supporting the College with a gift to the annual fund or other area of interest—there are so many ways to be involved. I hope you will join me in supporting medical students and researchers in whatever way suits you this year. Thank you for all you do for your patients, your profession, and your College of Medicine.

**SUBMIT CLASS NOTES ONLINE**

The UVM Alumni Association offers an easy-to-use online form to submit class notes. You can also browse class notes by year, school, or college, or note type.

Submit your class note and read more from classmates: go.uvm.edu/medclassnotes
The Quiet Leader

A. BRADLEY SOULE, M.D., ’28

TOUGH IN THE 1940s he turned down the first of several offers to become the UVM College of Medicine’s dean, in all other areas of his career A. Bradley Soule, M.D., ’28 demonstrated just how much one person can influence the course of an institution. Born in St. Albans, Vt., in 1903, he came to UVM as an undergraduate in the fall of 1921. After his graduation from the medical school and a residency in Massachusetts, he returned to Vermont, and served the University and its medical school for the next 54 years. They were turbulent times at first- the American Medical Association (AMA) had threatened revocation of the College’s accreditation. Dr. Soule was instrumental in the reorganization of the College to the AMA’s satisfaction, and he founded the Department of Radiology in 1937 and served as its first chair. Throughout the following decades, he was instrumental in the development of the College’s faculty, infrastructure, curriculum, and alumni association. In retirement he guided the association as Director of Alumni Affairs until shortly before his death in 1983. Today, the highest alumni award the association bestows is named in his honor.

book being ‘Hacking the American Mind’ by a pediatric endocrinologist. So I took it upon being a LUMS adult learn to swim instruction. It is not like some rosetta stone but still saving lives and gives a better sense of purpose.

JOE HEBERT: Parwlee and I are now married and spend our winters in Tucson. Our grandson Sean will be attending the UGM class of 2026 following in the footsteps of our son Chris who graduated in 2002. Three generations!

STEVE HAINES: Enjoying retired life in Blaine, Washington (North American home of the Giant Asian Murder Hornet, Vespa mandshurica). Planning to attend the October 14-16 reunion activities. Aside from our 50th being somewhat truncated by Covid, there will be a special Alumni Early Achievement Award posthumously to Molly Hubbard ’12. Molly came to the University of Minnesota Neurosurgery Residency program after graduating from Vermont and matured from a very special medical student into a very special neurosurgeon. She joined a small but remarkable group of neurosurgeons with strong UVM ties, and for a time the oldest living graduate of the Minnesota program, the newest member of the program and its chairman were all Larner UVM graduates. She had secured a faculty position at Oregon Health & Science University when she died in an avalanche while skiing in Idaho. Her class, her fellow residents and her future boss all joined in the effort to have her recognized with the Early Achievement Award. It will be a very special time.

JOHN ROWE: I lost my wife to cancer two years ago. When she got sick, I essentially stopped work to take care of her over her final six months. Since then, I have moved to Durham NC where my three children all live, along with four grandchildren. It has been an excellent move. I continue to do part-time work on a hour’s worth of remote work with the MAHEC Family Medicine Residency In Asheville, N.C. for which I have worked for 28 years. But otherwise I am retired. I plan to attend the 45th reunion in October. Hope to see some old friends there.

JOHN HESLEY: I am eternally grateful for how UVM nurtured my calling to the profession, helping me to enjoy a career exceeding my wildest expectations. I am stepping down as Orthopaedic Surgery Chair after 35 years, the longest tenure in any specialty in Sloan Kettering. I will miss my time between UVM, Texas and Austin and my current practice in NYC, completing my research grants, supporting the service transitions, and enjoying my four grand children in Texas and Illinois. My wife Patsy continues to define national policy in many areas including as a scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security (generating all the Covid data) and Chair of ERA Research Committee advising on water safety issues. I relish in her success. I took great satisfaction in publishing my 400th peer review article in the orthopedic literature. I am delighted she has achieved internationally, including only the second woman to Chair an Orthopaedic Department nationally, and many who have become Presidents of our specialty organizations and university service chiefs internationally. My professional legacy finally is my involvement in various philanthropic organizations, including Board membership in the UVM Foundation, the University of Notre Dame Graduate School Advisory Council, Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation, among others, in ways to give back for the many opportunities with which I have been blessed. It is with great affection that I recall my medical school classmates, teachers, and staff at UVM. Thank you. I welcome the chance to speak with and share time with any and all. Please contact me at heley@mskcc.org 347-380-2463.

EDWARD McCARTHY: My 70th year this fall finds me involved part-time with the practice of Ophthalmology, my wife and I always remembering our time at UVM with fondness and gratitude as it seems like only yesterday that we were there. Thanks UVM.

1980s

REUNION 2022: 1982 - 1987

DAVID ZELLER: Happily retired since 2017. Living in the NC triangle area.

LAWRENCE KAPLAN: Nora and I still maintain our home in Essex, Connecticut and reside in the UK where Nora is in the faculty of University College London and I am at Imperial Medical School, London, with an additional role in teaching and curriculum development at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, plus continuing as a Consultant in Neurosurgery for the NHS. Can’t seem to retire quite yet. There’s still so much time between UVM, Texas and Austin and my current practice in NYC, completing my research grants, supporting the service transitions, and enjoying my four grand children in Texas and Illinois. My wife Patsy continues to define national policy in many areas including as a scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security (generating all the Covid data) and Chair of ERA Research Committee advising on water safety issues. I relish in her success. I took great satisfaction in publishing my 400th peer review article in the orthopedic literature. I am delighted she has achieved internationally, including only the second woman to Chair an Orthopaedic Department nationally, and many who have become Presidents of our specialty organizations and university service chiefs internationally. My professional legacy finally is my involvement in various philanthropic organizations, including Board membership in the UVM Foundation, the University of Notre Dame Graduate School Advisory Council, Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation, among others, in ways to give back for the many opportunities with which I have been blessed. It is with great affection that I recall my medical school classmates, teachers, and staff at UVM. Thank you. I welcome the chance to speak with and share time with any and all. Please contact me at heley@mskcc.org 347-380-2463.

EMERGENCY MEDICINE 2023 CONFERENCE
January 29-31, 2023 • The Lodge at Spruce Peak • Stowe, VT

HOSPITAL MEDICINE 2023 CONFERENCE
January 22-25, 2023 • The Lodge at Spruce Peak • Stowe, VT

STEM CELLS, CELL THERAPIES, AND BIOENGINEERING IN LUNG BIOLOGY AND DISEASES
July 17-20, 2023 • UVM Davis Center • Burlington, VT

CONFERENCES ARE PLANNED FOR IN-PERSON, SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

For Information Contact: UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT CONTINUING MEDICAL AND INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
401 Water Tower Circle, Suite 102 • Chesterfield, VT 05446
802-865-2902 • UVMCMIE@med.uvm.edu • med.uvm.edu/cmie

52 VERMONT MEDICINE FALL 2022

UVM CONTINUING MEDICAL AND INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

UVM LARNER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

53
Karena Nguyen ’25 SCREENING DISPARITIES AMONG VERMONT’S BIPOC POPULATION

As a future physician, Karena Nguyen (at left) is eager to understand the environmental and social factors that affect health, including access to food and clean water supply, public transportation, and education.

This summer, Nguyen assessed health disparities in the undergraduate population at UVM.

“My hope is that this project can help pave the way to improve health equity among the underrepresented populations in Vermont, similar to the COVID-19 vaccination rate gap closed between BIPOC and white Vermonters after data elucidated the disparity,” said Nguyen.

The work she refers to—numerous outreach efforts to connect the Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) communities to the COVID-19 vaccine—were essential in mitigating the racial and ethnic disparities in Vermont’s vaccination rates.

A California native, Nguyen volunteered for Special Olympics, food banks, and cancer support centers in San Francisco. She currently works with the Vermont Health Equity Initiative to promote mental health and well-being among the BIPOC population. During the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Nguyen worked as a scribe for South- east Health Center, observing firsthand individuals in an exam room,” she said. \n
"I’ve been practice sports orthopaedics for 37 years as a family physician in southern California. I can’t believe it’s been 40 years since sitting in Hall A! My classmate Eduardo Anorga is one of our wonderful children, our Shan, is financing my PhD at Emory Law this upcoming year. Our daughter is a management consultant for Colliers International and is known around the country as the Charcuterie Chick."

"We don’t know everyone is doing great! I’m really looking forward to starting as a faculty member at the UVM Larner College of Medicine in the fall."

"I’m looking forward to spending more time in beautiful Vermont and getting back in touch with some of my classmates while visiting Kassie."

"I now look forward to spending more time in beautiful Vermont and getting back in touch with some of my classmates while visiting Kassie."

"My hope is that this project can help pave the way to improve health equity among the underrepresented populations in Vermont, similar to the COVID-19 vaccination rate gap closed between BIPOC and white Vermonters after data elucidated the disparity,” said Nguyen.
A Healing Heart

JACQUELINE NOONAN, M.D., ’54

not only became the first member of her family to get a bachelor’s degree, but the first to earn a medical degree as well—and the “firsts” kept on coming.

Nine years after graduating from the then UVM College of Medicine and practicing as a pediatric cardiologist, Dr. Noonan cemented her place in medical history by becoming the first of her family to get a bachelor's degree, the first to earn a medical degree, and the first to earn a medical degree of her family to get a bachelor's degree. Dr. Noonan died in 2020 at the age of 91.

characterized by heart malformations and unique physical characteristics, was later named “Noonan Syndrome” after her pioneering discoveries and papers about the disorder. Dr. Noonan’s additional accomplishments include becoming a founding faculty member at the University of Kentucky, where she served as chief of pediatric cardiology for 37 years, and her role as the chair of pediatrics for 18 of those years. Dr. Noonan died in 2020 at the age of 91.

Diego Adrianzen Herrera, M.D.

Diego Adrianzen Herrera, M.D., was invested in January as the inaugural holder of the Early Career Green and Gold Professor of Medicine. Dr. Herrera is an assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Hematology/Oncology, member of the UVM Cancer Center, and pipeline investigator of the Vermont Center for Cardiovascular and Brain Health. This Department of Medicine-funded professorship is designed to provide funds to strengthen the research program of the most promising assistant professors in their first five years of their faculty appointment and recognizes the excellence and potential of the recipient’s research program.

Melissa Davidson, M.D.

On February 7, 2022, Melissa Davidson, M.D., a faculty physician leader at the Larner College of Medicine, was invested as the inaugural holder of the Howard Schapiro, M.D.’80 and Janet Carroll, M.S.N., M.P.H., Green and Gold Professorship in Anesthesiology. This endowed professorship was made possible through the generosity of both its namesakes, married couple Howard Schapiro, M.D., and Janet Carroll, M.S.N., M.P.H., and the faculty of the Department of Anesthesiology in honor of their former chair, Dr. Schapiro.

William Brundage, M.D.

In June, Associate Professor of Surgery William Brundage, M.D., was invested as the inaugural Green and Gold Professor in the Division of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery. Brundage also serves as division chief of otolaryngology at the University of Vermont Medical Center. In 2013, the Department of Surgery’s faculty collectively established 14 Green and Gold Professorships—one in each of the department’s divisions—to demonstrate their high regard for resident and medical student training, research and innovation, as well as patient care.

Danielle Ehret, M.D., M.P.H.

Associate Professor of Pediatrics and neonatologist Danielle Ehret, M.D., M.P.H., was invested as the inaugural Asfaw Yemiru Green and Gold Professor in Global Health on July 28, 2022. This endowed professorship was established by the Vermont Oxford Network (VON) in honor of Asfaw Yemiru, the Ethiopian educator and humanitarian. VON is a nonprofit, collaborative association of over 1,200 neonatal intensive care units in 38 countries whose data-driven quality improvement work has led progress in the care for newborns and their families for more than 35 years.
呈报人: A. Bradley Soule Award

荣誉: 对于那些忠诚和奉献的校友,以及为Larner College of Medicine的使命做出贡献的人，颁发这项荣誉。

内容: 2022年UVM Larnner校友协会颁奖典礼上的庆祝活动。更多详情和获奖者名单可从med.uvm.edu/alumni中查找。

地区: UVM Larnner College of Medicine

2023年提名

你认识一个值得认可的校友吗？

请发送你的提名到med.uvm.edu/alumni

A. Bradley Soule Award

James R. Howe, M.D.’87

Jacqueline S. Jerus, M.D., Ph.D., FACS

Kenneth Sartorelli, M.D.’87

Sharon Savage, M.D.’97

EARLY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Presented to alumni who have graduated within the past 15 years in recognition of their outstanding community or college service and/or scientific or academic achievement.

Molly Hubbard, M.D.’12

Adam Polikta, M.D.’07

Mary Hamel, M.D.’92

Susan Long, M.D.’92

SERVICE TO MEDICINE AND COMMUNITY AWARD

Presented to alumni who have maintained a high standard of medical service and who have achieved an outstanding record of community service or assumed other significant responsibilities not directly related to medical practice.

Mary Hamel, M.D.’92

Senior Technical Officer and Team Lead for Malaria Vaccines, World Health Organization; Medical Epidemiologist, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Senior Maternal Advisor, President’s Malaria Initiative

Susan Long, M.D.’92

General Surgeon, St. Joseph’s Hospital, West Virginia University Medicine

Robert Larner, M.D.’22 Student Award

Presented to a current student(s) for their outstanding leadership and loyalty to the College and one who embodies Dr. Larner’s dedication to not only supporting his medical alma mater, but inspiring others to do so as well.

Vinh Le

UVM Larner College of Medicine, Class of 2023

DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Presented to alumni in recognition of outstanding scientific or academic achievement.

James R. Howe, M.D.’87

Professor of Surgery, Surgical Oncology and Endocrine Surgery; Co-Director, Neuroendocrine Cancer Clinic; Director, Division of Surgical Oncology and Endocrine Surgery, University of Iowa Health Care Carver College of Medicine

Jacqueline S. Jerus, M.D., Ph.D., FACS

Professor of Surgery, Pathology and Biomedical Engineering; Associate Dean for Regulatory Affairs; Director, Breast Care Center and Breast Surgical Oncology Fellowship; Michigan Medicine, University of Michigan Department of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE ALUMNI AWARD

Presented to alumni whose loyalty and dedication to the Larner College of Medicine most emulate those qualities as found in its first recipient, A. Bradley Soule, M.D. ’28.

H. David Reines, M.D.’72, FACS, FCCM

Professor of Surgery, George Washington University Medical School; Clinical Professor of Surgery and Master Educator, University of Virginia School of Medicine

Elizabeth J. Kovacs, Ph.D.’84

Professor of Surgery, and the Director of Burn Research and the Alcohol Research Program, University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus

2023 NOMINATIONS

Do you know a class member deserving of recognition?

Send your nominations for the 2023 awards to med.uvm.edu/alumni
Summer Reruns!

The Classes of 1971 and 1981 had to forego their 50th and 40th reunion during the “second Covid summer” of 2021. But not this year! They and their classmates made up for the lost one year later, with a special in-person reunion held on-campus and around Burlington the weekend of June 10-12. Class members caught up on new developments through a panel discussion with current students, and an campus tours, including an extensive look at the School-to-be-completed Firestone Medical Research Building. They also heard a special grand rounds presentation on cancer care and integrative therapies, and learned a thing or two from the golf links and at special class dinners.

33 Bertrand P. Bloss, M.D.
Bloss died on March 20, 2022, at the VITAS Hospice Unit at St. Mary’s Hospital in Waterbury, Conn. He was 94. After beginning his career at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, he joined the U.S. Air Force, and in 1959, after an honorable discharge, joined St. Mary’s Hospital, where he stayed until he retired in 1991, and continued working for many years after his retirement. In addition to his career, Dr. Bloss enjoyed cooking and tending to his garden.

34 Wayne S. Limber, M.D.
Dr. Limber died of Covid-related complications on December 31, 2021. He was in 1926 and spent his childhood on Long Island, where he developed his lifelong love of the ocean, and in Vermont, hiking and working in the summers as a solo five spotter. He attended Haverford College, where he was a M.D. at the UVM. He served in the U.S. Air Force, and practiced in California before settling in Hawaii, and Kaiser Hospital on Waiaki Beach. After 14 years, he moved to the V.A. Hospital in Boise, Idaho, and finished his career at the V.A. Hospital in Spokane, Wash.

35 Samuel Baram, M.D.
Baram died February 15, 2022, at his home in Canton, Mass. Born and raised in Middletown, Vt, he earned both his B.S. and medical degrees at UVM. He began his internship at Carney Hospital before being stationed at Royal Air Force Station Mildenhall in Fitchfield, Essex, England. There he served in the U.S. Air Force as a General Medical Officer. He returned to the United States in 1958 to complete a obstetrics and gynecology residency at St. Margaret’s Hospital in Dorchester, Mass. In 1961, he began his full-time staff affiliation at Carney and St. Margaret’s hospitals, delivering over 3,500 babies during his 25-year career. He was chief of gynecology at Carney until 1975, and then worked at the University of Maryland. From 1985 until 1992, he was an associate professor for 28 years at Tufts University. In 1988, he was appointed by Governor Michael Dukakis to serve on Medical Executive for Norfolk County for over 10 years.

36 John Burton Wilder, M.D.
Dr. Wilder died suddenly on Aug 11, 2021, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Bonita Springs, Fl. He was 60. Born in Kearve, N.H., he grew up in Ponce Island, Maze and graduated from the University of Maine in 1951 before coming to medical school. Dr. Wilder completed his internship and began a residency in surgery at the Sporadic Medical Center in Syracuse, N.Y. Called to active duty in the Army in 1959, he served in Korea and Washington State in the Army Medical Corp. He completed his residency in surgery in 1961 and began his career as a general surgeon in Ponce, Maine. He later moved to Batesville, N.Y., where he spent the remainder of his career.

37 Patricia Holiman Brown, M.D.
Dr. Brown died at the age of 89 February 22, 2022, at Memorial Regional Medical Center in Harver County, Va. She was the only female in her UVM medical class of 1957. She completed her residency at Mary Fletcher Hospital and worked in multiple hospital departments as a pediatric clinic physician while raising her son and daughter. Dr. Brown returned to medical training at the age of 50, completing a residency in psychiatry at the Medical College of Virginia and then a fellowship in child psychiatry at the Virginia Treatment Center for Children. She opened a private psychiatric practice where she treated adults, children and adolescents for almost 30 years. During that time, she served as term as president of the Richmond Psychiatric Society. She was on the medical staff of Hallmark Youthcare, a residential facility for children and adolescents, where she served as medical director.

38 Archie Golden, M.D., M.P.H.
Dr. Golden was given on August 16, 2022. He was 91 years old. Born in Dumbury, Conn., he grew up in New Milford. He was a graduate of New Milford High School, the University of Connecticut, the University of Vermont College of Medicine, and The Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. Dr. Golden received his pediatric training in New York City on Lenox Hill Hospital and Bellevue Hospital. He was captain in the U.S. Army from 1952 to 1964 and was a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. In 1966, he joined the staff at Denver, Conn., and established a private practice near Stanford Hospital. He was active in numerous professional organizations including as chairman for the National State Maternal Mortality Committee, and president of the Connecticut Society of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecologists as well as the Stanford Medical Society Dr. Golden also taught as a clinical professor for Columbia Presbyterian New York Medical College. He retired from his practice when he was 80.

39 Stephen O. Pappas, M.D.
Dr. Pappas died on August 5, 2021, at age 69. He graduated from the University of New Hampshire before entering UVM’s College of Medicine. Following his medical training at Mary Hitchcock (Dartmouth) Hospital, he served on active duty in Vietnam as a Captain in the Medical Corp of the U.S. Army. Dr. Pappas was a general surgeon at Travis Memorial Hospital in Richardson, N.H. for 30 years. He served as chief of surgery, as a member of the Board of Trustees, and as chairman of the board. He was awarded the New Hampshire Hospital Association’s Medical Staff Award in 1996.

40 George Hughes Hansen, M.D.
Dr. Hansen died in Naples, Fla. on February 2, 2022. Born in Rutland, Vt., he graduated from Rutland High School in 1952 and the University of Vermont in 1956 before winning his medical degree. He interned at the University of Vermont Hospital and served a pediatric residency at Letterman General Hospital in San Francisco, Calif. from 1956 to 1957. He was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Medical Corps serving posts in the U.S. and Germany until his retirement as a Colonel in 1992.

41 Peter I. Rabinovitch, M.D.
Dr. Rabinovitch died June 23, 2021 in Wilmington, Del., at age 83. Born in Norwich, Conn., he attended Norwich schools and graduated from Norwich Free Academy before attending UVM. He completed his medical internship at Rochester (N.Y.) Hospital in 1964. Dr. Rabinovitch joined the U.S. Public Health Service in 1964 before opening his private practice. He served on the Navajo reservation in Churk, Ariz., as well as in the U.S. Coast Guard Cutters in Cape May, N.J., and in Wilmington, N.C. He served again from 1983 to 1984, stationed at the Miami Indian Health Center in Miami, Okla., and then on the Standing Rock Indian reservation in Ft. Yates, North Dakota. He served multiple generations of Waterford/New Lon- don families as a family physician for more than 45 years.

42 Thomas Joseph Halligan, Jr., M.D.
Dr. Halligan died Dec. 31, 2021, at age 87. He grew up in Concord, N.H., and attended the University of Maine, graduating in 1959. After receiving his medical degree in 1963 he spent two years in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Stewart Air Force Base in Newburgh, N.Y. He was a general surgeon at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, Conn. for 40 years. He was beloved by his patients, the nurses and the many residents he trained.

43 Robert Dr. Robert H. Wheelock, M.D.
Dr. Wheelock died from complications of leukemia on August 8, 2022. He was 83. He was born in Newton, Mass., and graduated from Tufts Uni-
He established the first foot and ankle clinic at the V.A. Hospital in Seattle with distinction as chief of orthopaedics at the Karolinska Institute. He served 23 years, then resigned to go to medical school.

Captain referring to his Navy career, born in Charlotte, North Carolina. His family moved to California in 1942 and changed his name to him as “Captain, Doctor, Docto”.

From 1972 to 1984, he served in the U.S. Army, then was a senior resident and critical care fellow at the University of Vermont Medical Center. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Vermont before coming to University of Virginia Medical School. He completed his orthopedic residency in the 1950s, he later in life worked as a fish doctor. After medical school, he completed his residency in family medicine at the University of Maine Medical Center, and then served in the Merrill Mission in Newfoundland and Labrador, providing medical care to remote and Indigenous communities. He went on to specialize in orthopedic surgery and opened a practice in Waterville, Maine. Following 15 years in private practice, he “retired” in 1995 and immediately went back to work full time on the V.A. Hospice of Maine. He spent another 17 years, at the age of 81.

Robert George Sallay, M.D. Dr. Sallay died on July 20, 2022, from COVID-19 and pneumonia he had been treated for during the past year in Wester, Mass., and attended a nursing home before transferring to UVM. After medical school, he joined the Navy as a resident surgeon at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. In 1960, he graduated from the University of Virginia Medical School and completed his residency in surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1962, he was appointed as a consultant in surgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital and was then accepted as the first chief of the University of Pennsylvania’s program in pharmacology. In 1966, after graduating, he embarked on a 31-year career as an anesthesiologist. He practiced at both Karls Memoria and St. Alber’s General hospitals in Vermont, and then moved to Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton for 10 years. Then, he traveled to UVM and completed his orthopedic residency. He then traveled to UVM and completed his orthopedic residency.

Richard Louis Gamelli, M.D. Dr. Gamelli died on September 11, 2022, at the age of 79. He was born in Burlington, Vt., and grew up in nearby Underhill. He developed a love for soccer and the outdoors. He completed his undergraduate studies at Williams College in 1974, then went on to medical school at Harvard Medical School before earning his M.D. from UVM. He completed an internship in general surgery and a residency in plastic surgery at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx. He is a fellow in the American College of Surgeons.

Les Raymond Willett, M.D. Dr. Willett died on July 7, 2022, at the age of 75. He was born in Madison, Wis., on July 7, 1947, to the late Dr. William and Marjorie Willett. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1969 and then attended medical school at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1969 and then attended medical school at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1969 and then attended medical school at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He completed his pediatric residency in Washington, D.C. in 1974. He was stationed in Fort Polk, La., where he worked with the military and was a consultant in pediatrics. After leaving the military, he moved to Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton, Mass., and was then accepted as the first chief of the University of Pennsylvania’s program in pharmacology. In 1966, after graduating, he embarked on a 31-year career as an anesthesiologist. He practiced at both Karls Memoria and St. Alber’s General hospitals in Vermont, and then moved to Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton for 10 years. Then, he traveled to UVM and completed his orthopedic residency.

Charles William Straton, M.D. Dr. Straton died on March 21, 2022 in the heart of New York City. He was born in 1957 in Providence, R.I. He was a graduate of the University of Vermont and completed his medical school at the State University of New York Upstate Medical Center. He completed his internship at National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., then served two tours of duty as a Navy flight surgeon with the 1st Marine Battalion in Japan in 1968-69 and was a general surgery resident at UVM. He completed his geriatric fellowship at UVM in 1982 and became a general surgery resident and critical care fellow at Naval Hospital, San Diego, Calif. From 1972 to 1984, he served in multiple roles in the Navy. From 1984 to 1986, he was the Commanding Officer of Naval Hospital, Charleston, S.C. He served in Operation Desert Storm, where he became the Naval Academy’s first military medic. He then became the first foot and ankle surgeon at the V.A. Hospital in Seattle with distinction as chief of orthopaedics at the Karolinska Institute. He served 23 years, then resigned to go to medical school.

Taylor I. Cook, M.D. Dr. Cook died on March 7, 2022, at the age of 87. He grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina. His family moved to California in 1942 and changed his name to him as “Captain, Doctor, Docto”.

John Arthur, M.D. Dr. Arthur died on July 14, 2022, at 80. He was born in Longueuil, Que., Canada, and attended the University of Texas Southwestern before transferring to UVM. After medical school, he joined the Navy as a resident surgeon at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. In 1960, he graduated from the University of Virginia Medical School and completed his residency in surgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital and was then accepted as the first chief of the University of Pennsylvania’s program in pharmacology. In 1966, after graduating, he embarked on a 31-year career as an anesthesiologist. He practiced at both Karls Memoria and St. Alber’s General hospitals in Vermont, and then moved to Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton for 10 years. Then, he traveled to UVM and completed his orthopedic residency.

Richard L. Gamelli, M.D. ’74 Green and was then accepted as the first chief of the University of Pennsylvania’s program in pharmacology. In 1966, after graduating, he embarked on a 31-year career as an anesthesiologist. He practiced at both Karls Memoria and St. Alber’s General hospitals in Vermont, and then moved to Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton for 10 years. Then, he traveled to UVM and completed his orthopedic residency.

Bruce Shafiroff, M.D. Dr. Shafiroff died on September 13, 2022, in Rochester, N.Y., after complications related to a kidney transplant. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he was a resident of Syracuse, N.Y. As a medical officer on the nuclear attack submarine USS Seawolf, where he led in-theater military medicine. He was author or co-author on over 200 articles, research publications, reviews and book chapters, and abstracts. Dr. Straton was a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Drs. Gogagnon and Shafiroff were both trained at the University of Medicine. Dr. Gogagnon was a fellow in surgery at APA and the International Society for Burn Injury. He received his medical education in the 1950s, he later in life worked as a fish doctor. After medical school, he completed his residency in family medicine at the University of Maine Medical Center, and then served in the Merrill Mission in Newfoundland and Labrador, providing medical care to remote and Indigenous communities. He went on to specialize in orthopedic surgery and opened a practice in Waterville, Maine. Following 15 years in private practice, he “retired” in 1995 and immediately went back to work full time on the V.A. Hospice of Maine. He spent another 17 years, at the age of 81.

John H. Arthur, M.D. Dr. Arthur died on July 14, 2022, at 80. He was born in Longueuil, Que., Canada, and attended the University of Texas Southwestern before transferring to UVM. After medical school, he joined the Navy as a resident surgeon at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. In 1960, he graduated from the University of Virginia Medical School and completed his residency in surgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital and was then accepted as the first chief of the University of Pennsylvania’s program in pharmacology. In 1966, after graduating, he embarked on a 31-year career as an anesthesiologist. He practiced at both Karls Memoria and St. Alber’s General hospitals in Vermont, and then moved to Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton for 10 years. Then, he traveled to UVM and completed his orthopedic residency.

David A. Simundson, M.D. Dr. Simundson died on December 6, 2021, at 77. The son of a Lutheran pastor and nurse from Minot, N.D., he grew up in Vassalboro, Maine, and then did his internship and residency at Maine Medical Center in Portland, Me., while serving in the U.S. Navy. Captain Simundson was a Medical Officer on the nuclear attack submarine USS Seawolf, where he led in-theater military medicine. He was author or co-author on over 200 articles, research publications, reviews and book chapters, and abstracts. Dr. Straton was a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Ronald N. White, M.D. Dr. White died on November 12, 2021, at age 79, at Hospice House in Hampstead, N.H., where, with partners, he set up a not-for-profit hospice program in 1991. He was 80 years old. He was born in St. Johnsbury, Vt., and grew up in nearby Underhill. He developed a love for soccer and the outdoors. He completed his undergraduate studies at Williams College in 1974, then went on to medical school at Harvard Medical School before earning his M.D. from UVM. He completed an internship in general surgery and a residency in plastic surgery at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx. He is a fellow in the American College of Surgeons.

In Memoriam

Willis E. Ingalls, M.D. ’64 Catherine Maria Yalis, M.D. ’95
Six Decades of Stories

Of the many notable records associated with the UVM Larner College of Medicine, one relates to the publication you are now reading. Vermont Medicine is quite likely the U.S. medical college magazine with the longest record of continuous publication. Founded in 1964 by the late John Mazuzan, M.D. ’54, the magazine was known for its first 37 years as Hall A, after the name of the main medical lecture hall at the old College of Medicine building on Pearl Street, and its successor space in the Given Building that existed until the early 2000s. In 2001 the magazine was renamed to maintain its relevance to new generations of students, as well as other community members on and off campus.
A special look at two centuries of medical education in Vermont