

Still News

October 2006

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY | ATSU

Arizona medical school to challenge status quo

ATSU awarded provisional accreditation for new college of osteopathic medicine

The AOA's Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation recently awarded provisional accreditation to A.T. Still University's new college of osteopathic medicine in Mesa, Arizona. Provisional accreditation is the highest accreditation possible at this phase of development.

The new medical school will meet a growing need for physicians. Studies estimate a national shortage of as many as 200,000 physicians by 2020, due to an aging population, population growth, and the increasing number of physicians, taking early retirement.

A national recruitment campaign began as soon as provisional accreditation was awarded. There has been tremendous interest shown by prospective students, and applications are being reviewed. The inaugural class of 100 students begins in July 2007. The new medical school will operate in a 100,000-square-foot building on the 50-acre campus of ATSU-Mesa, the anchor of a 132-acre, half-billion dollar education, healthcare, and technology park owned by the University and Vanguard Health Systems.

The school's unique curriculum emphasizes delivering whole-person, compassionate care and cutting-edge science and technology. Students will spend three of their four years in community health centers located in underserved communities.

"In the U.S., our current medical system is perceived as expensive, impersonal, and inefficient," said James J. McGovern, Ph.D., president of A.T. Still University. "To solve these problems, we need to challenge the status quo, beginning with the way doctors are trained. We need to educate our new doctors to treat the whole person in body, mind, and spirit and to practice cost-effectively with integrity, compassion, and the latest

technology. We also need to encourage them to be lifelong learners because the basis of knowledge is increasing every year."

"By starting a school without old presumptions, we have an opportunity to use new medical research findings and technologies, as well as the latest cognitive principles," Dr. McGovern said.

Newly named dean of the medical school, Douglas L. Wood, D.O., Ph.D., former president of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, said the learning environment at the yet unnamed medical school highlights a humanistic approach to education and healthcare.

"By starting a school without old presumptions, we have an opportunity to use new medical research findings and technologies, as well as the latest cognitive principles."

ATSU President James J. McGovern, Ph.D.

"Small study groups and problem solving will receive greater emphasis than lectures," he said. "Students will be educated in community health centers with wonderfully high ratios of physicians to students."

Meeting a Growing Need

The new school's geographic location is also significant. Arizona has one of the fastest growing populations in the country but ranks near bottom in terms of medical school slots per capita. No one knows this better than Craig Phelps, D.O., FAOASM, '84, who serves as provost of A.T. Still University's Arizona School of Health Sciences and the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health. According to Dr. Phelps, the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) helped provide the impetus for this new college.

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D.H.Ed. program stresses leadership and problem-solving

ATSU's School of Health Management (ATSU-SHM) recently received approval from the Higher Learning Commission's North Central Association of Colleges and Schools to offer a doctor of health education (D.H.Ed.) program.

The program is specifically designed to develop and train healthcare professionals highly skilled at academic operations, problem identification, and resolution for both leadership and teaching roles.

ATSU-SHM Dean Jon Persavich, Ph.D., said, "this program was developed to provide students with a great deal of flexibility in identifying problem areas within their work environments and design effective solutions to resolve them.

Students who obtain a doctor of health education (D.H.Ed.) degree will be better prepared for both leadership and teaching roles in the healthcare industry.



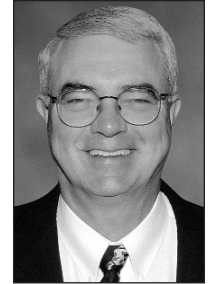
"Each student is required to complete an integrated applied dissertation as a final project that uses the material covered during their program of study to help resolve a work-related issue."

The first group of students began their program of study on August 28, and the next session begins during the winter term. The application deadline for winter term is October, 27, 2006.

To inquire about any of the programs at ATSU-SHM, contact a graduate enrollment counselor at 877.469.2878, by email at onlineinquiry@atsu.edu, or visit www.atstu.edu/shm.

George Windsor receives KOAA Distinguished Service Award

Each year, the Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association (KOAA) selects an alumnus or friend of A.T. Still University's Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM) to receive the KOAA's Distinguished Service Award.



WINDSOR

This year, the KOAA selected George Windsor, D.O., '69, to receive this award in recognition of his years of outstanding service to ATSU. Dr. Windsor entered ATSU-KCOM after receiving a bachelor's degree in Chemistry & Math from Missouri Valley College.

Windsor is a past chairman and current member of the ATSU Board of Trustees. He is a member and past president of the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, a member of the American Osteopathic Association, a past president of the Lion's Club, a deacon of the First Christian Church, and a member of Shriners and the Masonic Lodge.

His dedication to the University and the College has extended to subsequent generations. His son, Brice P. Windsor, D.O., graduated from ATSU-KCOM in 1998.

Windsor and his wife, Caroline, live in Windsor, Mo.

New medical school, continued from page 1

"Working with the centers, we realized the critical shortage of doctors in underserved urban and rural areas. This will become even more critical as the physician shortage increases. The new medical school will partner with NACHC by utilizing Community Health Center sites across the nation as rotation destinations for medical students."

Dr. Phelps believes many A.T. Still University students will return to communities of need and play a leading role in helping underserved individuals and neighborhoods.

"Medicine needs to reintroduce the concept of compassion," Phelps said. "We have new knowledge and new technology, but unless today's medical students understand the importance of compassion and the physician-patient relationship, America's healthcare system will never meet patients' real needs."

Starting next month:

StillNews will be delivered to your email inbox.

Look for us there!

Founding College of Osteopathic Medicine welcomes Class of 2010

A.T. Still University's Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM) welcomed 172 new medical students on August 19 at its annual White Coat Ceremony.

The White Coat Ceremony, initiated in 1996, impresses upon first-year students the significance and symbolism of wearing a white coat. First-year students received their doctor's white coats, Body-Mind-Spirit lapel pins, and the book "On Doctoring" provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

ATSU holds the White Coat Ceremony in conjunction with new student orientation and the class induction.

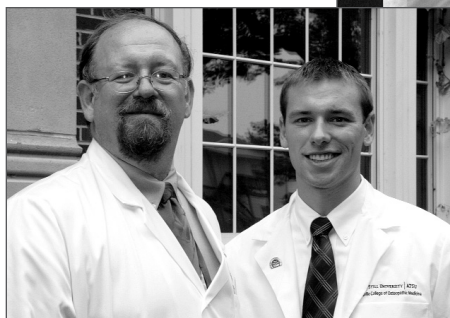
This year, more than 2,800 applicants vied for 172 positions in the Class of 2010 at ATSU-KCOM. The new class includes 103 men and 69 women from 37 states, as well as Iceland, Japan, Canada, and the United Kingdom. The incoming class posted average GPAs of 3.3 for science and 3.5 overall.



Left: ATSU-KCOM Dean Phil Slocum, D.O., addresses the KCOM Class of 2010 at the White Coat Ceremony in Truman State University's Baldwin Auditorium.



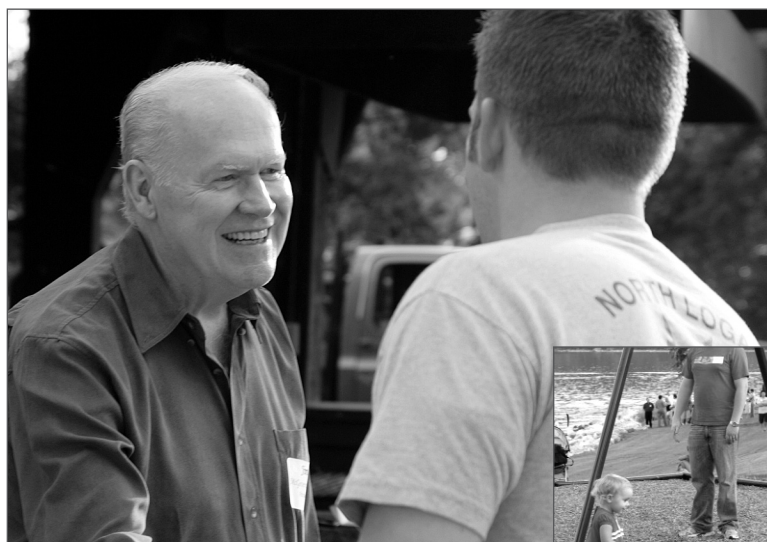
Below: Aubre McClendon, MS I, receives her white student doctor's coat from KCOM Dean Phil Slocum, D.O.



ATSU-KCOM Assistant Dean Lloyd Cleaver, D.O., with his son, Nathan, a first-year medical student in KCOM's Class of 2010.

New students join President McGovern at annual picnic

ATSU President James McGovern, Ph.D., along with his wife, ATSU-KCOM Associate Professor Rene McGovern, Ph.D., hosted the KCOM Class of 2010 and their families at the president's annual picnic at Thousand Hills State Park in Kirksville. The event provided a chance for KCOM's new students to meet the President, as well as faculty and other class members.



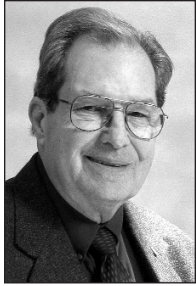
ATSU President James McGovern, Ph.D., welcomes KCOM's newest class of medical students at his annual picnic during student orientation week.



LeMaster chosen as KOAA Alumnus of the Year

For Fred LeMaster, D.O., '57, there is one consistent theme that has dominated his life as a general practice physician: he enjoyed it.

Whether operating his private practice on the north end of Tulsa, Oklahoma, serving as director of medical education for the Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital, or working as president of the Kirksville



LEMASTER

Osteopathic Alumni Association's Board of Trustees, Dr. LeMaster always made sure he had fun.

The decision to become a physician was more of a for-gone conclusion for Dr. LeMaster,

whose father graduated from the American School of Osteopathy in 1917, the last year Andrew

Taylor Still, M.D., D.O., signed the diplomas.

"He didn't really give me a choice," he said of his father. "I think he already had me enrolled."

After completing an internship at the Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital in 1958, Dr. LeMaster went into private practice in Tulsa. Working in what was becoming a booming town in a growing field, Dr. LeMaster left his practice to serve as director of medical education for Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital.

"When I started there in 1958 there were probably 70 D.O.s on staff," he said. "When I took the job as director, I had more than 120 residents and interns. It just grew like crazy."

Dr. LeMaster returned to private practice in 1988, and nearly all of his patients came back with him. One patient was particularly dedicated.

"This one guy was the thirty-ninth patient I had ever treated, and he came back when I did in '88," he said. "I continued to see him until the day he died."

In an age where word-of-mouth and a small yellow page listing were the key means by which doctors built a practice, Dr. LeMaster relied on relationships to make his way.

"I just liked people," he said. "We drank beer together, went bowling together, went to church together, everything. I just really enjoyed what I was doing."

He was so good at it that at one point he was seeing 85 people in the same family, and he has delivered several third-generation babies.

When asked about the secret to his success, Dr. LeMaster said the answer was simple.

"I built a practice that I liked and I made sure I always enjoyed what I was doing."

Cenedella named KOAA's Living Tribute Award recipient

For Richard Cenedella, Ph.D., building a lasting legacy at A.T. Still University's Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM) began on day one. Tasked with rebuilding the biochemistry department from scratch, Cenedella spent his time from then until now constructing a legacy of teaching and research.

When he first came to ATSU-KCOM, Cenedella brought with him a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). That specific grant focused on cancer research and support from NIH continued as Cenedella moved into research on the ocular lens.

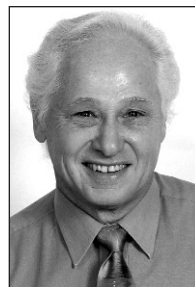
"We have enjoyed 35 years of NIH grant support, and we have published more than 100 research papers," Cenedella said.

The hard work has also resulted in some deserved acknowledgement, including the American Osteopathic

Association's Gutensohn/Denslow Award for Research and Teaching in 1990, Honorary Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association (KOAA) membership in 1994, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society "Researcher of the Year" in 2001, the KOAA Distinguished Service Award in 2003, and many others.

Though Cenedella is an accomplished and decorated researcher, his priority was and always has been teaching. His most cherished award is the "Golden P" Professor of the Year Award, which he received in 1988.

"Teaching is more challenging than research because of the interac-



CENEDELLA

tion with other people," he said. "It forces you to change yourself, whereas with research you can just do another experiment."

After recently stepping down as the biochemistry chair, Cenedella reflected on his 30-year legacy as the department's leader.

"The biggest lesson I've learned is humility," he said. "The knowledge base in biochemistry today is a world apart from 1976. Ninety percent of the knowledge has arisen in the last 30 years."

That factor has influenced Cenedella to focus more on teaching concepts and making education more of a person-to-person experience for each of his students.

"I try to be a mentor, both in the classroom and in the department. I try to lead by example."

Regarding the past recipients of the Living Tribute Award, Cenedella said he was humbled.

ATSU launches online master's degree in human movement

ATSU's Arizona School of Health Sciences (ATSU-ASHS) recently launched the newly created Master of Science in Human Movement online degree program. The Human Movement program is a partnership between ATSU-ASHS and the National Academy of Sports Medicine® (NASM®). The program assists students in the development of comprehensive knowledge of human movement science, functional anatomy, physiology and kinesiology, as well as functional assessment and program design and prepares individuals to obtain certification as a Performance Enhancement Specialist (PES) or Corrective Exercise Specialist (CES) through NASM®.

Students in the new program will receive the highest quality education in human movement, performance enhancement, and corrective exercise through a flexible distance education format enabling healthcare providers and those practicing human movement, fitness, and wellness to gain the knowledge, skills,

and attitudes necessary to provide leadership in advanced human movement services.

Completion of the degree program will be a valuable source of credibility to sports professionals, club owners, coaches, and fitness department managers. It will also enhance knowledge, skills, and abilities relating to the design and maintenance of exercise programs for various populations.

When done properly, exercise training has valuable benefits ranging from general health to elite sports performance. ATSU's new program



serves as a means of assisting professionals in the appropriate design and implementation of exercise programs for various outcomes.

For more information, visit ATSU-ASHS on the web at www.atsu.edu/ashs.

ATSU-Kirksville celebrates annual Founder's Day

The ATSU Kirksville Campus commemorated Founder's Day 2006 with many staple activities, including children's games, tug-o-war, and a talent show at Still-A-Bration.



ATSU recognizes Hollister with Lifetime Giving Award

ATSU recognized Hollister Incorporated with the Kirksville Diplomat Lifetime Giving Award. Hollister most recently donated \$12,500 to ATSU-KCOM's Flight 5966 Fund, established by KCOM's faculty senate to honor those who perished in the October 2004 crash of Flight 5966.

The gift was prompted in part by Hollister executive Philip Shelley, vice president of research and development, quality management, and information technology.

"Dr. Shelley is a pilot, and when he visited our campus a few weeks after the crash, he took the same flight path as that of Flight 5966," said Bill Sexton, Ph.D., chair of the Graduate Program Committee. "He and his colleagues at Hollister were touched by the tragic loss of life and wanted to honor those who perished."

Over the years, Hollister has donated more than \$50,000 to

ATSU. However, Hollister's support extends far beyond donations.

The Hollister-KCOM Clinical Research Fellowship provides an opportunity for KCOM students to focus on the process of medical product development and testing from the standpoint of the manufacturer. Involved in every aspect from product development to testing, students earn a master of science degree in biomedical sciences from KCOM in addition to gaining invaluable experience in the field of research. So far, three students have successfully taken advantage of the fellowship.

"We're hoping to foster the beginnings of a new generation of D.O.s who see research as an important component of their medical practice," Sexton said. "This fellowship is a career defining opportunity that will change the way they think about medicine, practice, and research."

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Bill Sexton, Ph.D.

The partnership, he said, benefits all involved. "It's good for the profession, it's good for the student, and it's good for KCOM."

"For us, it was building a close relationship with KCOM and thereby gaining access to clinical investigators and patient populations, a lot of whom are customers," said Richard Murahata, Ph.D., director of clinical research for Hollister Incorporated.

Hollister's contributions to the fellowship involve not only education, which includes an intensive six-week training course at the Hollister Incorporated headquarters in Libertyville, Ill., but also financial support and an office at Hollister. Hollister also pays for all expenses related to travel and research, including such things as materials, testing and honoraria, as well as a 12-month stipend.

"The partnership between ATSU and Hollister represents a positive way to utilize resources both locally and on a broader scale," said Bill Ciehanski, Hollister's Kirksville plant manager.

"I think the local connection is key to our partnership," Sexton said. "We truly hope that if we can be part of bringing a viable product to market, it's always been in the back of our minds that it may directly benefit Kirksville by creating an opportunity to produce a product here. That might be a lofty goal, but wouldn't it be great?"



Pictured, left to right, Richard Murahata, Ph.D., director of clinical research for Hollister Incorporated; Bill Ciehanski, Hollister's Kirksville plant manager; Phil Shelley, Hollister vice president of research and development, quality management, and information technology; ATSU President James McGovern, Ph.D.; and Phil Slocum, D.O., KCOM vice president of medical affairs and dean.

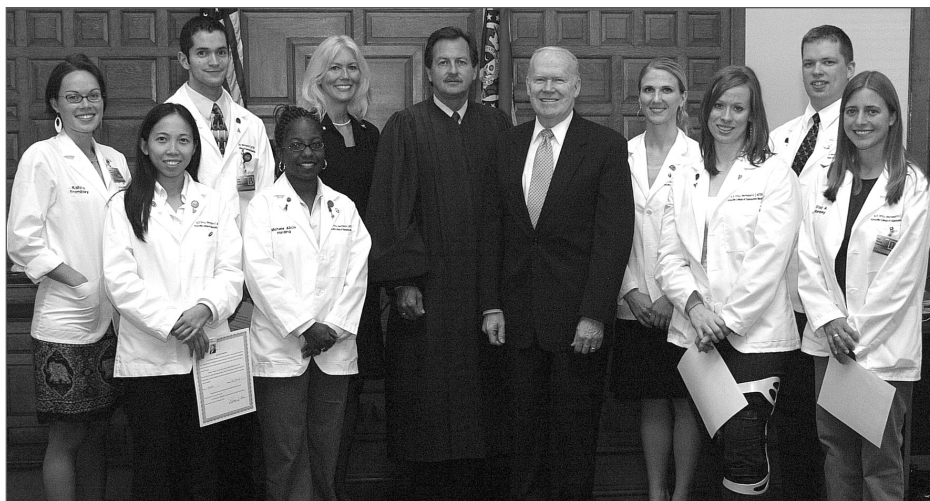
ATSU-KCOM students become Court Appointed Special Advocates for abused, neglected children

In September, Circuit Judge Russell Steele of Adair County, Mo., swore in eight medical students from A.T. Still University's Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM) as Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

The Adair County CASA program advocates for the best interests of abused and neglected children within the juvenile court system. Based on the belief that every child is entitled to a safe and permanent home, the students will work within the Adair County court system to serve as a child's advocate and to represent the child's best interests in juvenile court.

To prepare themselves for this important service opportunity, the students completed a service-learning elective course offered at ATSU-KCOM, which developed their written and oral communication skills and provided an understanding of difficult family dynamics, the court system, child behavior, and cultural issues.

The idea for the course was formulated by ATSU-KCOM Dean Phil Slocum, D.O., after hearing a



Adair County Circuit Judge Russell Steele (center left), ATSU President James McGovern (center right), and the newest CASA representatives from ATSU-KCOM.

presentation at a local Rotary International meeting. The presenter described how CASA volunteers gain extensive training in such areas as family dynamics, communication skills, court system interactions, and cultural competency. Advocates also conduct many family interviews and submit written and oral reports.

Patricia Sexton, assistant professor of biochemistry at ATSU-KCOM,

said those qualities are exactly what medical students need as well.

"For our students, we believe that the experience reinforces important aspects of the study of medicine, allows them to interact with their community, and encourages them to remain civic minded," she said. "It also provides another opportunity for ATSU to support the community that supports us."

ATSU-Mesa dons denim to fight cancer

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the students, staff, and faculty at ATSU's Mesa Campus participated in a variety of events to promote awareness and raise funds for breast cancer education and research. The campus participated in Lee National Denim Day on October 6, where participants donated \$5 for the opportunity to



wear jeans and purchase pink ribbon pins. The event raised \$1,182 for The Women's Cancer Programs of EIF, which will use the net proceeds to fund groundbreaking early detection research, as well as local community breast cancer education and service programs. A banner was set up in the lobby with cards

noting those close to ATSU family who have lost their

battles with breast cancer and to honor survivors.

ATSU also had a team entry of 23 students and faculty in the Komen Phoenix Race for the Cure. The race featured more than 40,000 participants and raised more than \$1.5 million for breast cancer programs and research.

Up to 75 percent of the money will remain in central and northern Arizona to help the medically uninsured and underserved. The remaining 25 percent will go directly to breast cancer research through the Komen Foundation Award and Research Grant Program.

Martin achieves Wellness Program Coordinator certification

The National Wellness Institute Inc. (NWI) recently announced it had approved Wellness Program Coordinator certification for ATSU's Dan Martin. Martin is well known on the ATSU-Kirksville campus as long-time director of the Thompson Campus Center and an active and vocal advocate for student wellness and the Still-Well Program.

Martin is well-qualified for the certification, which requires a "Coordinator" to demonstrate skills necessary to allow someone to plan, develop, and implement a basic worksite wellness program for



Dan Martin has been a vocal advocate for wellness at ATSU for more than 20 years.

employees, which involves identifying key elements of program and administrative infrastructure and describing the major steps for planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating the program.

"We hope that your health and wellness promotion efforts will enrich those whose lives you touch in your work and advocacy," said NWI in a letter to Martin. "The value of NWI professional development is greatly enhanced by professionals like you who eagerly participate and share what they have learned."

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