



THE  
OREGON HEALTH  
SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

# NEWS

The Oregon Health Sciences University News is published to inform students, employees, faculty, and friends of the institution's programs, activities and events.

## Commencement ushers out 436 OHSU graduates



Dr. Emily Mumford, professor of psychiatry and preventive medicine at the University of Colorado Medical Center, is the featured speaker at the OHSU commencement ceremony scheduled June 10 at 8 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium.

Dr. Mumford's topic will be "The Healing Arts and the Art of Living."

In addition to the 436 OHSU graduates and their friends and families, five delegates from Hokkaido University School of Dentistry will attend commencement ceremonies. The university in Sapporo, Japan, and the OHSU are recognizing a 10-year "sister school" affiliation. Hokkaido University students will join commencement events for one week here and celebrate similar graduation ceremonies in Sapporo in July.

**Dr. Emily Mumford**  
commencement speaker

Celebration and presentation of awards actually begin before graduation for many OHSU students. Graduates of the School of Medicine and the Dental Hygiene Program have both scheduled graduation events at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 9. At that time, the School of Medicine Hooding Ceremony will be held at the Agnes Flanagan Chapel at Lewis and Clark College. Dental Hygiene graduates will meet to receive awards and celebrate the occasion at a banquet at Salty's Restaurant.

Students in the schools of Dentistry and Nursing have set recognition ceremonies Friday, June 10, in the Library Auditorium. Graduates from the School of Nursing will attend an Honors Convocation at 2 p.m. School of Dentistry students will receive hoods and awards at 4 p.m.

The OHSU nursing students enrolled in the Eastern Oregon State College outreach program celebrated their graduation with an awards banquet June 2 at the Hoke Col-

lege Center in La Grande.

Of the various professional groups represented by spring graduates, nurses comprise the largest graduating class. In the School of Nursing, 140 students are earning baccalaureate degrees, including 14 students enrolled at the program's La Grande campus at Eastern Oregon State College. Master's degrees will be awarded to 38 nursing students.

The School of Medicine is graduating 115 students with medical degrees, 19 students with medical technology certificates, seven students with doctorates of philosophy and two students with master of science degrees.

In the School of Dentistry, 77 seniors will graduate with doctorates in dental medicine. One student will earn a master's degree in endodontology; 14 students will earn postgraduate specialty certificates. The Dental Hygiene Program will graduate 23 with bachelor of science degrees.

## Edwards Chair announced during Convocation

His lifelong dream was to contribute something useful to medicine; its realization has for thousands made the difference between life and death.

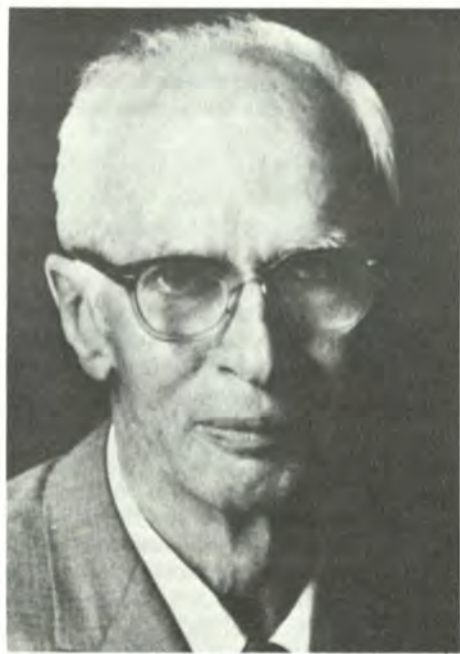
M. Lowell Edwards was "always working on an invention of some kind," according to his son Miles Edwards, M.D., professor of chest diseases at the OHSU. His work began before college when he pieced together the first radio transmitter Tillamook County had ever seen, and it ended when he died last year at 84 with 60 U.S. patents in his name.

But it wasn't until after he had "retired" that he teamed with Albert Starr, M.D., professor and chief of cardiopulmonary surgery at the OHSU, to collaborate on the invention that turned around the treatment of heart valve disease.

Edwards' contributions to medicine will be remembered not only by the thousands of patients who have benefited from them, but through the M. Lowell Edwards Chair for Research in Clinical Cardiology in the OHSU School of Medicine. OHSU President Leonard Laster, M.D., announced the establishment of the chair May 14 during the Clinical Care Convocation. It was made possible by a gift in 1980 of \$750,000 to the OHSU Foundation from the Edwards family: his wife, Margaret; son, Miles; and daughter, Prudence, the wife of Dr. Duane Denny, professor of psychiatry at the OHSU. Dr. George Porter, chairman of the Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, worked closely with the family to help crystallize their ideas and objectives.

The chair was activated when the fund reached \$1 million through interest applied to the principal.

"The generosity of the Edwards family



**M. Lowell Edwards**

will achieve many important goals for the university's School of Medicine," Dr. Laster said. "It sets a precedent for memorializing individuals by the endowment of chairs devoted exclusively to research; it invites additional benefactors to strengthen research in areas such as cancer, arthritis, pulmonary, intestinal, pediatric, obstetrical, psychiatric and other diseases; and, above all, it reflects confidence by the benefactors in the ongoing commitment of the Health Sciences University to excellence in the pursuit of its missions in education, patient care and health-related inquiry in all three of its schools.

"I feel confident," Dr. Starr said, "that

(continued on page 4)



John Barry, M.D., professor and chairman of urology at the OHSU, delivers a primer to a young listener during the Clinical Care Convocation May 14 in the Library. The first-time event drew an estimated 400 persons to campus to learn about excellence and advancements in health care being offered in the OHSU clinical units, the University Hospital and its clinics, the Crippled Children's Division and the dental clinics. A formal session during the convocation featured four members of the OHSU faculty — Drs. Grover Bagby, Mary Ann Curry, Alfred Lewy and Patrick Reynolds — who spoke about how their research work could affect health care in the future. Also featured was Dr. Harold Sandler, chief of biomedical research at NASA, who addressed the topic "How Space Flight has Benefited Medicine."



# OHSU psychiatrists awarded Searle, Milbank grants

Two OHSU faculty members have recently become the first psychiatrists to be named winners of the nationally-known Searle Scholars and Milbank Memorial Fund awards.

Alfred J. Lewy, M.D., Ph.D., director of the Sleep and Mood Disorders Laboratory, is one of 19 Searle Scholars for 1983. He holds appointments in the departments of Psychiatry, Pharmacology and Ophthalmology at the OHSU.

Dr. Lewy and his colleagues have shown for the first time that light affects the human pineal gland's production of the hormone melatonin. Scientists have called

the pineal gland, hidden deep within the brain, the "timekeeper" of circadian (24-hour) rhythms. According to Dr. Lewy's research, light affects humans' mood and sense of time. (See related story below.)

Manic depressive patients are more sensitive than others to the effects of light on melatonin production, and some of these patients respond favorably to exposure to light, says Dr. Lewy.

The Searle Scholar Program will award Dr. Lewy \$157,500 to support his research during the next three years. The program is funded by a trust established in the will of Mr. and Mrs. John Searle. Mr. Searle was

president of the research-based pharmaceutical company, G.D. Searle & Co.

Bentson McFarland, M.D., Ph.D., is a senior resident in psychiatry and the recipient of a scholarship by the Milbank Memorial Fund of New York.

The \$142,000 award was granted to Dr. McFarland to lead the OHSU Department of Psychiatry's development of epidemiology (the study of the spread of disease in a community) in teaching and research. The purpose of the Milbank Scholar Program is to bring the discipline of epidemiology into closer union with clinical medicine.

The scholarship will support Dr. McFar-

land for five years, including two years of study and investigative work in England at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Institute of Psychiatry.

After completing his work in England, Dr. McFarland will resume his OHSU faculty position and continue the expansion of educational programs in psychiatric epidemiology.

He will also work with the Kaiser Health Services Research Center to examine how psychological and social factors relate to the frequency of patients' requests for professional health care.

## Germany honors Mason research

Howard Mason, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry in the School of Medicine, has been given the Senior U.S. Scientist Award by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The award is intended to promote the exchange of ideas in specific fields between German and American researchers and research institutions by honoring American scientists who have gained an international reputation.

The award includes a financial stipend of approximately \$16,000 and provides Dr. Mason with the opportunity to perform research with his German colleagues at the University of Konstanz. He will spend three months at the university this summer and another three months in the spring of 1984.

Dr. Mason's research focuses on the role that respiration plays in sustaining life.

## OHSU News cited

"The Oregon Health Sciences University News" has been honored with two awards for excellence.

"The News" earned an Exceptional Achievement Award, the highest honor given, in the 1982-83 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Recognition Program. Nine publications from institutes of higher education across the country were so honored out of 70 entries in the Tabloid Publishing Program category.

"The News" also won first place in the Newsletters, Larger Hospitals category of the 1983 "Hospital Forum" Best of the West Publications Contest. The award was presented at the 1983 Association of Western Hospitals (AWH) Annual Convention April 24-27 in Anaheim.

"Hospital Forum" is the journal of the AWH.

"The News" is produced by Dick Baltus, managing editor/photographer.

### THE OREGON HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY NEWS

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Edward Neuwelt, M.D., (left) and Alfred Lewy, M.D., Ph.D., (below) have collaborated on a project that has uncovered previously unknown information about the brain's pineal gland and about an important plasma hormone it secretes. Their report recently appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

## Collaborative study unveils pineal findings

The collaborative effort of two OHSU scientists has led not only to an effective gauge of success in the treatment of certain brain tumors but also to conclusive evidence of the sole source of the hormone related to certain sleep and mood disorders in humans.

Edward Neuwelt, M.D., associate professor of neurosurgery and assistant professor of biochemistry, and Alfred Lewy, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry, pharmacology and ophthalmology, reported in the May 12 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* the results of a brain tumor surgery performed by Dr. Neuwelt that indicate for the first time the pineal gland is the sole source of the plasma hormone melatonin.

The pineal gland in humans is located in the center of the brain, a logistics problem that has kept this endocrine gland somewhat a stranger to science. Dr. Neuwelt admits: "Unlike other endocrine glands, there is very little we know about the function of the pineal gland."

Dr. Lewy, director of the Sleep and Mood Disorders Laboratory at the OHSU, was the first to show that light affects the pineal gland's production of melatonin in humans and that melatonin is related to certain sleep and mood disorders such as manic-depressive illness.

Dr. Lewy subsequently has treated some manic depressive patients by exposing them to bright artificial light. His work will be enhanced significantly by the recent findings of Dr. Neuwelt.

Tumors of the pineal gland are rare and very difficult to treat. "There aren't very many people out there running around without their pineal gland," said Dr. Neuwelt, who has surgically removed about 20 to 25 glands. Some pineal gland tumors are very sensitive to radiation therapy and/or chemotherapy, but others are not. "And the only way you can treat those is to take them out surgically," said Dr. Neuwelt, who was the first to develop a method to treat certain types of pineal tumors by chemotherapy.

Until very recently, the mortality rate of patients undergoing such operations ran as high as 70 percent. But improved microsurgical techniques have reduced that rate to below 5 percent.

In late 1981, after removing the pineal gland from a 22-year-old Roseburg man, measurements by Drs. Neuwelt and Lewy showed the man no longer had any melatonin present in his body. Prior to the operation, secretion of the hormone had been normal.

"This is the first indication that the pineal gland is the sole source of melatonin," Dr. Neuwelt said.

Not only will that discovery be of significance to the work of Dr. Lewy, it will also give surgeons a tool in determining when procedures to remove the pineal glands of patients with tumors have been successful. "If there is no melatonin present after the surgery, that suggests complete removal of the gland," Dr. Neuwelt said.

That Drs. Neuwelt and Lewy were able

to collaborate on this project "was complete serendipity," Dr. Neuwelt said. "We both came to the health sciences university at about the same time, and we both have very unique areas of expertise. Our work together created something much greater than the sum of its parts."



## University Hospital nurse wins honor for public service

A nurse at University Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Center is a recipient of the Oregon 1983 Jefferson Award for Public Service, and is under consideration for the award on a national level.

Mary Erlandson, pediatric discharge coordinator at Doernbecher Children's Hospital, has been arranging medical care for

critically ill newborns and their families since 1966. She coordinates medical services at patients' home communities and eases the transition from critical care hospital treatment to home care.

Judges selected Erlandson and four other individuals from among 150 Oregon nominees. Awards are designed to honor

"unsung heroes" who perform an especially valuable service for others in their community.

Oregon judges commended Erlandson for her work to coordinate health care for infants after their hospital stay and for her "compassionate, supportive work with infants and their families."



# Nursing program keeps students close to home

"It is extremely gratifying to note the recognition by the chancellor, legislators and lay citizens of the statewide nature of the contributions of the Health Sciences University to the welfare of Oregonians. The School of Nursing program in eastern Oregon is an excellent example of what the faculty of this institution can accomplish, and it is but one of many. The dividends to be derived from the primary missions of this advanced health center are essential and invaluable to Oregonians throughout the state and deserve the appreciation reflected in this story." — Dr. Leonard Laster, OHSU President

Eastern Oregon conjures up images of abundant sun, snow and expanses of timber or farm land. But that same uncrowded atmosphere fosters at least one difficulty

for Eastern Oregon residents: a shortage of nurses and of educational facilities to train them.

To remedy that situation, the OHSU School of Nursing and Eastern Oregon State College agreed in 1977 to offer the Portland-based School of Nursing curriculum at the La Grande college campus.

Until the two educational facilities joined forces, eastern Oregon residents moved to the Willamette Valley or farther to pursue baccalaureate nursing studies. That freedom wasn't an option for many aspiring nurses tied to homes and families in rural Oregon. And those who moved away to study usually did not come home again to practice what they had learned.

The EOSC program is graduating its second class of baccalaureate nurses in June. In two years the program has gradu-

ated 25 nurses who are ready or posted for work in Oregon's rural communities.

The 11 students who graduated in 1982 found jobs in small communities including Baker, Bend, La Grande and Pendleton.

Marcia Shoup, coordinator of the program, says nursing students who graduate this June are looking at opportunities in rural areas at home and abroad.

The primary reason for beginning the program was to "provide an opportunity for people on this side of the state to be educated in the baccalaureate program, as well as give the community the chance to retain nurses," says Shoup.

"Before there was a baccalaureate program here, nursing students had to go to the Willamette Valley, and many of them didn't return."

Carol Lindeman, Ph.D., dean of the OHSU School of Nursing, recently explained the program to the Ways and Means Committee of the Oregon State Legislature.

After meeting with community groups, Dr. Lindeman found that "the problem was clear.

"Eastern Oregon was suffering from a maldistribution of nurses, particularly nurses with baccalaureate degrees," she told legislators. "The history of health education programs elsewhere led us to conclude that a venture by a small school, independent of a major nursing campus, would have difficulty attracting and retaining faculty with the needed expertise. A cooperative program seemed the ideal solution."

The program allows students to transfer easily from the Portland program to the La Grande program.

William Davis, chancellor of the Oregon State System of Higher Education, commends the project as an "example of

cooperation among the institutions of the state system to serve unselected populations with minimum duplication.

"The baccalaureate program in nursing at La Grande has been an unqualified success," he says. "It is serving as a model for the state system in development of cooperative programs in other specialized fields, for example, counseling and the newly proposed Oregon Institute of Technology/Portland State University program for the engineering technologies."

Shoup believes the program's success is tied to community support, the feeling of need in eastern Oregon for the educational service and faculty who enjoy the small town atmosphere but don't become professionally isolated.

Students are turning their efforts to the community to learn practical rural health care. They recently organized a senior citizens' health fair that taught local seniors about nutrition, drugs, foot care and stress management and provided blood pressure screenings.

Students' clinical sessions bring them in contact with a variety of rural situations ranging from education projects in local schools to work at the Umatilla Indian Reservation's Yellow Hawk Clinic. One student interested in itinerant communities arranged the clinical course segment in Alaska.

Shoup is searching for a way to provide outreach programs to students who live too far away to come to class four days each week. Some students now commute 100 miles each way to their classrooms.

The program has helped add nurses to rural Oregon and it has opened up new career possibilities for eastern Oregon residents. "They now have the opportunity to realize a life dream that otherwise wouldn't have happened," says Shoup.



The University Hospital gift shop is running full bore now thanks in part to the School of Medicine Faculty Wives, who under the guidance of the University Hospital Volunteer Services helped establish the shop with a gift of nearly \$8,000. The Faculty Wives began operating a service cart in the hospital in 1977. That service was expanded to a Gift Cupboard in 1978. The gift shop, which is managed by Volunteer Services, is now located on the ninth floor of University Hospital and is staffed by, among others, (from left to right) shop coordinator Gaynor Riker and Faculty Wives Jane Baird and Brenda Meechan, who have both been with the gift shop program since its inception.

## Targeting for excellence happening right at home

By LARRY HILDERBRAND  
Associate Editor, The Oregonian

WHY SPEND \$20 million in federal taxes to build an Advanced Biomedical Research Institute at a health sciences university where last year faculty and staff were cut, the size of the entering classes was reduced and many existing buildings and programs operate at a barely survivable level?

If Oregonians haven't asked that question of themselves regarding the Oregon Health Sciences University, they should.

However, Dr. Leonard Laster, president of the university, and Sen. Mark Hatfield, who guided the federal grant

for the new institute through Congress, can answer it, and so can a growing number of knowledgeable Oregonians.

Dr. Harold Sandler, chief of biomedical research for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, also provided an indirect answer Saturday when he described how America's leap into space produced the effort, knowledge and technology that since has saved or improved the lives of thousands of people. Much of the development in monitoring heart function, patient rehabilitation, artificial organs, ultrasound equipment and increasingly mobile medical equipment, for example, can be traced to the space program.

America's shot for the moon carried

with it enormous benefits in medicine and many other fields. The new Advanced Biomedical Research Institute on Marquam Hill is one of the Oregon Health Sciences University's moon shots, expected to carry with it increased public and private support for all three schools at the university.

Anonymous donors of \$5 million to the university to help fund operation of the institute put it another way in a letter to Laster:

"We made this decision thoroughly aware of the many diverse, profound, long-standing and even unconscionable needs on Marquam Hill for additional resources from the state of Oregon. However, we firmly believe that if we could achieve a quantum jump in the research capability of the (university), such a result would serve as a major stimulus and inducement to the state and federal governments to meet their long deferred obligations to Oregon's only academic health center."

The donors did not overlook the boost their research rocket also might give to others "who would join with us to encourage government leaders to enter into a vigorous partnership with private individuals, corporations and foundations to ensure that the Health Sciences University will continue to serve this state and the country at large as an outpost of excellence for decades to come."

Excellence. It is the goal forgotten by this nation in recent decades, according to the recent report to the American people by the National Commission on Excellence in Education. Excellence as a goal has not been forgotten by Laster and others of the university's faculty and staff, however. And they are working to persuade still more public and

private leaders to strive with them toward that goal.

"I know that 'excellence' is becoming trite," Laster said in a speech to Downtown Rotary last winter, "but I believe the basic problem in this country today, in our businesses, in our governments and in our every societal activity is a falling away from standards of excellence.

"If we would just stop accepting second rate as good enough, I think all our other problems would fall into place very quickly, including the task of getting ahead of Japan and the other competitive industrial countries."

Obviously Hatfield agrees. The \$20 million federal grant to build the new Advanced Biomedical Research Institute came despite efforts to trim domestic federal spending.

Dr. Edward Herbert also agrees. A pioneer in neurobiology — a frontier field of medical research — the professor of chemistry at the University of Oregon, much recruited by other major universities to set up his own research program, nevertheless agreed to head the new institute at the Oregon Health Sciences University.

Herbert foresees recruiting 15 to 20 outstanding scientists who would work at the cellular level in neurobiology and immunology and on the basic mechanisms of cell transformation involved in cancer. The work of this team at the institute could provide the rocket national biomedical research needs.

Many such potential rockets exist in programs throughout the university on Marquam Hill.

Prior to the talk by NASA's Sandler, four young scientists at the university discussed where their work is expected to take health care five years from now:

Grover Bagby, M.D., on cancer treatment; Mary Ann Curry, D.N.Sc., on treating high-risk pregnancies; Alfred Lewy, M.D., Ph.D., on treating depression; and Patrick Reynolds, Ph.D., on preventing dental pain.

While Laster and others represent the spark or ignition for soaring toward that goal of excellence, these young scientists are among the pilots who will fly the course. However, the fuel, as with NASA's efforts, remains down-to-Earth dollars.

They aren't the dollars that keep the Health Sciences University operating on a barely sustainable day-to-day basis. These funds come partly from Oregon taxpayers, about 27 percent of the university's budget. Fifty percent comes from hospital fees, 16 percent from grants and contracts, primarily federal, and the rest mostly from tuition and professional fees.

The fuel for the rockets that probe the outer galaxy of biomedical research comes from contributions such as one from the family of the late M. Lowell Edwards, co-inventor with the university's Dr. Albert Starr of the first successful artificial heart valve.

A \$1 million M. Lowell Edwards Chair for Research in Clinical Cardiology at the university's School of Medicine was announced at the conclusion of Sandler's speech Saturday. It was an appropriate surprise ending of the program, a convocation in clinical care. But it was less an ending than another part of the beginning by the Oregon Health Sciences University and its supporters in their quest for that "quantum jump" toward excellence.

It is a target the Health Sciences University's recent successes have shown is not out of reach.

Reprinted from The Oregonian May 19, 1983



HILDERBRAND



# Humane care considered key to medical success

"Brilliance by no means rules out humanity," according to Emily Mumford, Ph.D., the featured speaker at the 1983 OHSU Commencement June 10 at 8 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium.

Dr. Mumford believes both intellectual brilliance and the performance of humane care require constant attention if they are to maintain their luster. "Neglected, either one or both may become tarnished," she says.

Dr. Mumford, professor of psychiatry and preventive medicine at the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver, worked previously at Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn to develop an advisory system of colleague groups and a new academic guide to encourage students to become active participants in lifetime development as professionals.

It is Dr. Mumford's contention that academic health centers must keep alive the basic values and traditions of the ethical practice of health care. "But they must do more," she says. "Their most obvious goal is to convey the latest knowledge of medicine, a task that American institutions perform with laudable results. These institutions must also contribute to scientific advances, and they do so admirably. Recruits from all over the world compete to come to this country to study and to participate in research.

"But, in addition, the ultimate mission of a health sciences institution is the most complex, and its accomplishments are the most difficult to measure. This task is to enhance the development of the best qualities and strengths of the individuals who will be tomorrow's physicians, dentists, nurses and other health care providers so they will be able to realize their own ideals of humane care."

The faculty of health sciences centers sometimes assume that in the course of teaching the basic sciences on which clinical abilities rest, the concerned attention

to the emotional needs of the patient as a human being will necessarily follow, according to Dr. Mumford. But the unhappy experiences that are reported following some hospital stays or visits to physicians' or dentists' offices, and the public criticism about the apparent "uncaring" behavior on the part of the health care professionals suggest "we may not be doing as well in fostering humane care as we do in fostering the accumulation of the latest scientific knowledge," Dr. Mumford says.

Studies are showing that the manner in which the health care professionals relate to patients, and the attention paid to the humanity of the patient may make significant differences in both the rate of recovery and even the chances of recovery. "There is mounting evidence that attending to the humanity of the patient not only is more appealing," Dr. Mumford says, "but it may make the difference in our success or failure in situations of high risk."

In a study Dr. Mumford and her colleagues at the University of Colorado are undertaking, they are finding that when attention is paid to the psychological distress of patients suffering from chronic illnesses, there is much less a need for hospitalization. In another study, Dr. Mumford reported that patients suffering heart attacks or undergoing major medical procedures who have psychological services available to them require less pain medication and are discharged from the hospital as many as two days before patients who are only provided the usual hospital services.

In the course of one study of four medical schools, Dr. Mumford spent several weeks in 1981 on Marquam Hill developing a program of evaluation and teaching techniques that would enable OHSU students to learn to monitor their own skills in providing humane care.

"I was tremendously impressed with

what I saw there," she remembers. "The staff and students were very intelligent, sympathetic and quick to respond to the needs of their patients. The interaction was emphatic at all levels. The residents and faculty got along well with each other and with the nurses and secretaries. Consequently, patients and families who came into that situation were treated well. It was one of the most rewarding groups I worked with."

"We like people and we like to take care of them," says David Nardone, M.D., associate professor of medicine and associate chief of ambulatory care at the VAMC,

who worked closely with Dr. Mumford during her stay.

"I think she was pleased with the attitude and compassion of our medical students and faculty."

Dr. Mumford, who recently completed a four-year term as a member of the 12-person advisory council to the National Institutes of Mental Health, is currently serving as a member of the Behavioral Science Test Committee of the National Board of Examiners and the Advisory Editorial Committee of the American Association of Medical Colleges, and she is one of 32 honorary fellows of the American Psychiatric Association.

## Burnstein named Student Nurse of Year

George Burnstein, a senior nursing student at the Oregon Health Sciences University, has been named Student Nurse of the Year for 1983 by the Oregon Nurses Association. This is the first year the ONA has given such an award.

Candidates for the award were judged in several categories including scholastic achievement, involvement in the Student Nurses Association of Oregon (SNAO) and activity in nursing research.

Burnstein has maintained a 3.5 grade point average during his three years of nursing studies at OHSU. He served as president of the local chapter of the SNAO, worked on the planning committee for SNAO convention activities and initiated seminars on professional and legal issues in nursing.

While studying for his nursing degree, Burnstein worked at the Oregon Lion's Eye Bank and the Oregon Skin Bank. He is actively involved with the Oregon Donor Program.

Burnstein attended high school in Philadelphia and spent two years at Northwestern University in Illinois.



George Burnstein  
Student Nurse of the Year

## Chair established in honor of co-developer of heart valve

(continued from page 1)

the recipient of this chair will seize the opportunity, will surround himself with an excellent team of other researchers that will provide a multiplier effect to obtain more support for the university through specific research grants, and that their work will benefit us all."

Added Dr. George Porter, chairman of the Department of Medicine: "I view this as a remarkable investment in the future of both the Division of Cardiology and the School of Medicine. In times like these, when we need creative and unique kinds of funding to expand our faculty and our capacities, this kind of support from a family and community is both encouraging and very important to sustain this particular division and school. This is another example of a long-standing commitment by the Edwards family toward this institution, both financially and personally."

M. Lowell Edwards was born in Newberg in 1898. As an adolescent, he contracted acute rheumatic fever, and it was feared he might have developed heart valve problems. He had not, but apparently the illness aroused his interest in the heart.

Edwards attended Oregon State College and turned a mechanical bent into an expertise in hydraulic engineering. He invented a widely-used hydraulic debarker that strips logs by using powerful jets of water. During World War II, he invented a booster pump that made it possible for jet airplanes to fly at high altitudes by taking the lines of vapor out of the gasoline supply. By the end of the war, 90 percent of the U.S. Air Force craft was equipped with Edwards' pump.

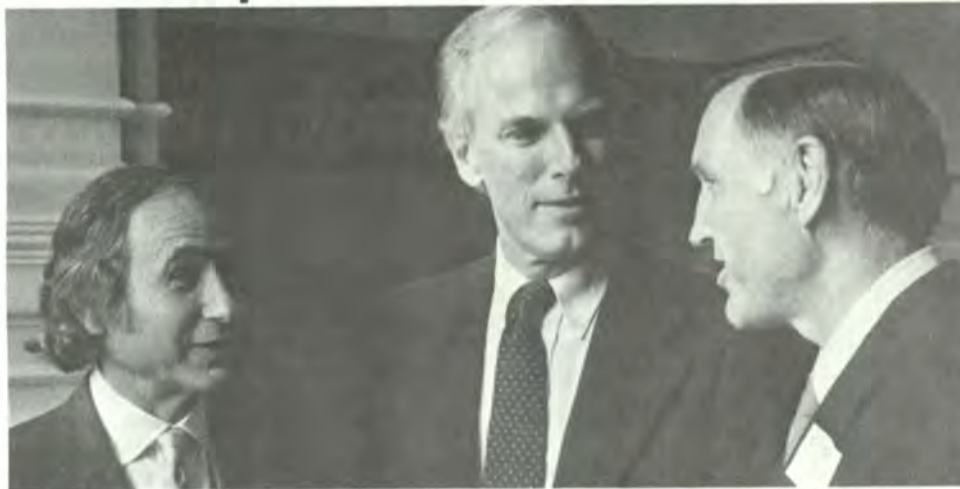
After he retired, Edwards became acquainted with Herbert Griswold, M.D., professor of cardiology at the OHSU. "Out of that acquaintance," his son remembered, "he learned there was a need to develop something to help people with valve problems. The heart was obviously a

natural for him, considering the lifelong interest he had in pumps."

When Edwards was introduced to Dr. Starr, his original intent was to build an artificial heart. "I convinced him the project was a bit much," Dr. Starr said. "After all, there were no artificial valves yet."

There soon would be. A national effort to eliminate rheumatic fever was meeting success in the late 1950s, but the scars of rheumatic heart disease were permanent. Rheumatic mitral valve disease often required replacement of this key passageway between the upper and lower chambers in the left side of the heart. However, no one who had undergone the procedure had survived longer than three months.

But by 1958, Edwards and Dr. Starr had designed and constructed an artificial mitral valve suitable for dog implantation. In September 1960, Dr. Starr performed the first long-term successful mitral valve replacement in a human. In 1961, six of eight patients implanted with artificial valves survived. Since then more than 150,000 of the operations have been performed worldwide; Dr. Starr, alone, has implanted more than 2,500 of the heart valves.



On hand at the Clinical Care Convocation for the announcement of the M. Lowell Edwards Research Chair in Clinical Cardiology were (left to right) Drs. Albert Starr, Miles Edwards and Frank Kloster, head of cardiology and chairman of the Clinical Care Convocation committee.

Edwards later formed Edwards Laboratories (now the American Edwards Laboratories) in California to supply the devices, which later grew to include an artificial aortic valve designed by the Starr-Edwards team. Under Edwards' sponsorship, two lines of instruments widely used by cardiologists were produced: the Fogarty em-

bolectomy catheter, which was designed by Dr. Tom Fogarty, a one-time resident in the OHSU Cardiology Division, and the Swan-Ganz catheter and cardiac output computer.

American Edwards Laboratories now predominantly manufactures cardiovascular medical devices.

THE OREGON  
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NEWS

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