



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

NEWS

Health Sciences Center News is published by the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center to inform students, employees, faculty and friends of the institution of programs, activities and events of interest to them.

Families, elderly turn to new clinic for health support

Nursing students from the Health Sciences Center are making an impact on the health of several hundred elderly residents and thirty families in northwest Portland.

At the request of the Housing Authority of

Portland (HAP), the School is staffing the new Tower Plaza Health Clinic, serving residents and neighbors of two adjacent HAP housing projects, the Northwest Tower and Williams Plaza. (The clinic is in the basement of the

Northwest Tower, 335 N.W. 19th Street.)

According to the students' supervisor Mary Ann Riffel, clinical instructor in community health nursing, "Our main goal in working with the elderly is to help them maintain their health and independence as long as possible in a home situation."

Services provided by the clinic include blood pressure screenings, referrals for vision, hearing, and dental problems, home visits for an assessment of a health problem or following hospitalization or surgery, and recommendations to clients who need help in sorting out and dealing with health care related matters.

In some situations, the students act as their clients' advocates facilitating their entrance into the health care delivery system.

Mrs. Riffel explained that much of the students' work involves providing health education to their elderly clients as well as to the 30 families living in the Northwest Tower Annex.

"In order to take an active part in their own health care, people need to understand their illness, medication regime, suggested diet, and related problems. The students are working on a one-to-one basis to provide this education," she said.

According to Darcy McFarland, senior nursing student, "We see a lot of clients who haven't seen a physician or dentist for many years. We impress on them the need to visit a doctor and to catch problems in the early stages rather than waiting until something is drastically wrong."

This summer, Ms. McFarland and Diane Tucker, also a senior, are working with families in the Annex. One special project they designed involves teaching first aid, safety, and poison control to mothers in the building.

Some of the families have complex problems requiring input from a number of profes-

sionals. In meetings with physicians, social workers, physical therapists, and others, the students are learning to assume a primary nurse's role in interdisciplinary health care.

The Tower Plaza Health Clinic opened in May and is currently staffed by Mrs. Riffel and eight senior students who are on their community health nursing rotation.

Medical students provide residents of the two buildings with on-call coverage for emergencies and hold clinic between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Dental alumni plan meeting

The HSC School of Dentistry will present its annual Alumni Day and Scientific Session September 22 and 23 at Portland's Hilton Hotel.

Dental and dental hygiene alumni will attend class reunions and an alumni reception Thursday, September 22. That evening, there will be a board of directors meeting and a reception for class leaders.

The Friday scientific session will feature Allen J. Enelow, M.D., whose topic is "Creative Listening—Patients are People: Reduction of Stress and Anxiety in Dental Practice."

Dr. Enelow is chairman of the department of psychological and social medicine at the Pacific Medical Center, San Francisco; professor of the School of Medical Sciences of the University of the Pacific; director of the division of behavioral science of the University's School of Dentistry; professor in the department of community dentistry; and director of the division of behavioral science of the West Coast Cancer Foundation.

In addition to the scientific session, Friday's events will include a luncheon and President's Banquet.

Alumni may use the Alumni Days flyer (mailed under separate cover in early July) to register for the two-day meeting.



After taking the blood pressure of this elderly visitor to the Tower Plaza Health Clinic, senior nursing student Loy Suss listens as her client describes his health problems.



Curiosity, eagerness, and a desire to learn characterized the participants in the 11th annual Junior Dentists Institute. For more on this year's JDI, turn to page four.

Remodeling of dental labs will begin next month

A face-lift is in store for the old pre-clinical technique laboratories on the third floor of the School of Dentistry.

In July, the state legislature approved \$780,000 for renovation of the 20-year-old labs in which first- and second-year dental students learn the basic techniques of dentistry. Renovation will begin in September.

According to Dr. Dean Johnson, associate professor of fixed prosthodontics and chairman of the remodeling committee, a few of the laboratory's current problems include archaic equipment, poor utilization of space, insufficient lighting and ventilation, and extreme heat build-up.

In designing the new laboratory, architects paid special attention to "the health and environment aspects of the area," explained Dr. Johnson.

When completed, the facility will have an

air filtration system, air conditioning, total color correction in the lighting system, and a two-stage lighting system sufficient for either counter-top work or intra-oral procedures. The lighting was designed to be shadow-free.

The new library was designed to minimize the traditional institutional appearance.

Dr. Johnson commented that air conditioning and filtration are of great importance because of the heat produced by the lab's porcelain ovens, burn-out ovens, and open flames from students' bunsen burners.

The new laboratory was designed to minimize the traditional institutional appearance. It will be colorful and will promote a feeling of openness. In the present third floor

facilities, about 35 per cent of floor space is wasted. The new lab will utilize almost all of this space, thus minimizing current congestion.

The renovated facility could accommodate as many as 168 students or could allow for as few as 20 persons to work together in smaller groups in enclosed areas. But for general use, the area will consist of two labs accommodating 84 students each.

In addition, there will be eight mobile teaching stations for instructors' use in the lab.

Consolidated in one area will be support facilities such as burn-out ovens, porcelain ovens, plaster supplies, casting machines and wells, and investors. The area will include a complete porcelain laboratory facility, including the technician.

Each student will have his or her own mobile dental cart which will be stored, when

not in use, under a fixed work top. This feature will make the new lab unique.

"We'll probably be the only school in the country with this kind of a system," said Dr. Johnson. "At most schools, students work from a fixed lab bench, and when they move to a clinical setting and have to use a mobile cart, they must unlearn the routines they learned in the lab because of the lab bench."

In addition, because carts are stored beneath the benches, counter space will always be available for other uses. "The area was designed as a multi-use laboratory, and other courses may be taught there," Dr. Johnson observed.

Other features of the lab will include new faculty and staff offices and a multi-purpose room available for lectures and demonstrations. A mobile television system will be available for teaching purposes.

Blachly fund created

A memorial fund in tribute to the late Dr. Paul Blachly has been established through the UOHSC Foundation.

Dr. Blachly, professor of psychiatry, drowned with his son Jeffry in a boating accident in July.

Those wishing to give to the Dr. Paul H. Blachly Memorial Fund should send their contributions to the UOHSC Foundation, UOHSC Development Office, University of Oregon Health Sciences Center, Portland, Oregon 97201.

Three serve AAMC

Three members of the HSC administrative staff have been elected to positions in the Western Region of the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC).

Dr. M. Roberts Grover, associate dean, School of Medicine, has been elected chairman of the group on student affairs.

M. Ronald Parelius, assistant vice president for business services, was elected secretary of the group on business affairs.

Elected chairman of the group on public relations was Mary Ann Lockwood, assistant to the president for university relations. The public relations group will have its 1978 annual meeting in Portland.

Zoo asks handicapped kids for advice

For most people, visiting the animals in Portland's Washington Park Zoo is an enjoyable experience.

But for some handicapped people, a trip to the zoo can be frustrating.

For example, a person in a wheelchair may have trouble seeing an animal that lives in an area behind a hedge. Or, braille markers may not be available so the blind can read signs.

In May, the zoo education department invited a class of children from the Crippled Children's Division to the zoo to identify ways to make the zoo more accessible to the handicapped.

The class, consisting of 12 handicapped children, age six and under, toured the zoo along with parents, non-handicapped brothers and sisters, and CCD staff members.

Nancy Gilliam, education department assistant, explained the zoo has already done many things to improve accessibility to the handicapped. It is possible, for instance, to visit all zoo exhibits without using stairs, she said.

The class visit was made, Ms. Gilliam commented, to continue the zoo's effort to make all of its exhibits as accessible to handicapped visitors as they are to the non-handicapped.

In May, a class from the Crippled Children's Division visited the zoo, identifying ways to make the zoo more accessible to the handicapped.

In a letter to George Hilpman, education department assistant, Judith Hylton, CCD child development specialist, noted problem areas the class encountered in its visit. These problems included:

—zoo ground pathways too steep for many persons in wheelchairs.

—no diaper changing tables in the men's restroom.

—the zoo train's inaccessibility to those in wheelchairs.

A special presentation by Peggy Manning of the zoo's traveling animal program, called

"Zoomobile," was given to the class. Ms. Hylton emphasized that such presentations have to be tailored to a handicapped audience.

"For example," she said, "some children are ready for verbal information about an animal. Others, like blind children, might get more out of touching an animal."

Praising the zoo education department, Ms. Hylton observed, "They really are making a concerted effort. The real point is that people who need these changes have participated in the planning process."

She wrote to Mr. Hilpman: "We support you in your efforts to make the zoo accessible to the many handicapped persons who must manage such trips independently or not at all."

Students double as painters

Both dentists and painters possess manual dexterity, an eye for detail, and a tendency toward meticulousness; so why shouldn't a dental student make a good painter?

To test this theory, the HSC School of Dentistry hired a paint crew of dental students for the summer of 1972. The students painted classrooms and offices and did odd jobs. Their work was so good that students have been hired every summer since.

This year, four sophomore dental students, Ron Frost, Cliff Brock, DeWin Harris, and Robert MacIveen, and one medical student, Jim Majusiak, comprise the paint crew.

"They're a conscientious, nice bunch of kids, and they get a lot of work done," according to Gene Clinton, custodial supervisor, who oversees the crew. "My crew and I take great pride in our building, and this feeling has rubbed off on the students."

The students have already painted several lecture halls, the registrar's office, bathrooms, and the child study offices.

In conjunction with their diligence, this year's paint crew has an added plus. They provide comic relief to employees in nearby offices. Although their work involves painting the walls and trim a solid pale yellow, they hint that they have hidden talents as painters.

"We demand that the secretaries bring us chocolate chip cookies and pound cake if they want us to do what we call 'custom work,'" said Cliff Brock. "Otherwise, they just get the basic yellow blah."

Explaining that he had just finished his morning pound cake, Mr. Brock added, "Nobody's been brave enough to try us yet."

Mr. Frost agreed. "We threatened 'em, and they came through with the goods."

If they survive a daily diet of cake, cookies, wry humor, and paint fumes, the four could well face culture shock upon their return to the realities of academic life this fall.



Cliff Brock adds an artistic touch to a ceiling in the School of Dentistry's child study offices.



Kaiser honored

One of the founders and coordinators of the program for humanistic medicine has been honored for her contributions to the community.

Peg Kaiser, School of Medicine sophomore, has been named recipient of the 1976 CIBA Award for Outstanding Community Service. She received the award in July.

The award is given annually to a sophomore medical student in recognition of contributions to the community in a health-related field.

Ms. Kaiser was selected by a vote of her sophomore classmates. She is one of the principal founders and coordinators of the program for humanistic medicine, which met weekly during the 1976-77 academic year.

The extra-curricular, lunch-time program was originated by medical students who believed that they needed more instruction in how to be compassionate and aware of the feelings of patients and their families. Topics included aspects of death and dying, interaction of members of the health care team, and de-mystifying the medical profession.

The CIBA award is given annually by the CIBA Pharmaceutical Company and includes a set of Netter Atlases—eight volumes of illustrated medical texts of physiology and anatomy.

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Top left photo, June Bluemmel checks on patient during an oral surgery procedure. Large photo, center, below, Dianna Taylor assists patient in oral radiology. Far left, above, Tyris Ogawa goes over schedule with pedodontic resident. Below, Elizabeth Liddle, of the emergency clinic. Other photos, left to right, Barbara Gueperoux; Sally Rogers; Ann Colvin, of oral diagnosis; Mary Davis, administrative assistant to the associate dean for clinic affairs; Deborah Shaeffer; Marina Rios; and Peggy Kappel. These School of Dentistry employees handle 10,000 patient visits each year.

Dental personnel show warmth, concern for patients

The warmth or distance with which clinic personnel greet their patients can leave a lasting impression in a patient's mind.

At the HSC School of Dentistry, patients visiting the School's clinics are greeted by individuals who demonstrate genuine care and concern.

In addition to handling admissions, scheduling patients, and responding to inquiries, these employees are involved in numerous other duties, depending on the individual clinic. These range from handling billing and typing student exams to maintaining records on student progress toward graduation requirements.

In recent interviews with HSC News, several of the many clinic employees who greet the public described their work.

Barbara Gueperoux is secretary for the undergraduate pedodontic clinic. She commented that in addition to her many office duties, one highlight of her job is seeing children's reactions to dental appointments.

"Sometimes I take the child in hand to his first dental visit, a screening exam. Then I escort him back to his parents. Some of the kids really break out into grins when they realize that it didn't hurt after all and that the dental student was nice to them."

Tyris Ogawa, clerk specialist in graduate pedodontics, enjoys the contact she has with parents and children.

"Our clinic sees a lot of retarded children, children with behavior problems, and children who need extensive dental work," explains Miss Ogawa. "They are seen by graduate students because they are usually more difficult cases."

"Being in this environment is a constant education for me. It's interesting to hear the students discussing different aspects of dentistry and their plans to set up private practice."

"One reason I enjoy communicating with patients is because I feel so strongly that the dental work they receive here is excellent."

Sally Rogers, who has worked in the main clinic admissions area for seven years, comments, "About 10,000 patient exams are done here each year, and as a result, I've met a lot of interesting people. Everyone who comes for an appointment stops here first."

She added, "One reason I enjoy communicating with patients is because I feel so strongly that the dental work they receive here is excellent."

Ann Colvin, dental assistant in the oral diagnosis clinic, greets patients, handles their paperwork and charting, assists dentists, and teaches dental assisting to students.

She describes the clinic's staff as "kind of

like a big family." She especially enjoys her work with students. "They're in a learning process, and anything you can contribute to their education is rewarding."

Peggy Kappel, dental assistant in oral surgery, fills a number of roles. She checks patients in, seats them, sets up the instrument tray, prepares the working area, assists sometimes, and cleans up afterward.

Her co-worker June Bluemmel, R.N., instructor in oral surgery, has equally close contact with clinic visitors. She coordinates undergraduate work in the clinic, schedules and assigns patients, and seats and helps them

before and during surgery. She is also involved in student instruction.

"The students are genuinely delightful people," she says. "The new ones come in here a little apprehensive and are grateful of the support they receive."

Deborah Shaeffer, administrative assistant and secretary to department faculty in orthodontics, comments, "The part of my job which I enjoy most is the patient contact. Everyday different kinds of people call. It's challenging to deal with patients who are confused, and satisfying when you've helped them get what they need."

Team collects paper for recycling

A paper recycling effort is in full swing at the Health Sciences Center.

Weekly pick-ups of recyclable paper are being made by the Portland Recycling Team which subcontracts the job from the Garten Foundation. (The Foundation provides work experience for mentally handicapped or developmentally disabled adults.)

In addition to pick-ups at designated depots in each building, the Team can pick up paper on request. Requests should be made to the surplus property service, extension 8923.

Departments may also request to keep spe-

cial recycling waste containers in their offices.

Paper acceptable for recycling includes bond paper, copy paper, typing paper, tab cards, computer printout paper, envelopes without windows, and newspaper.

Unacceptable paper includes carbon paper, paper towels, facial tissue, paper plates and cups, cigarettes, glossy magazines, food wrappers, and non-paper materials.

The surplus property office is also involved in recycling glassware, oil, X-ray film, lumber, ferrous and scrap metal, electrical wiring, and alcohol barrels.

Newsmakers

Dr. Robert Boyd, professor of Crippled Children's Division and medical psychology, is 1977-78 president of the Oregon Psychological Association. Dr. Boyd, who was elected to the post earlier this summer, helped found the Association more than 20 years ago. In 1952, he served as the organization's first secretary-treasurer.

Dr. H. Cline Fixott, professor and co-chairman of the department of oral radiology, was installed as president of the International Academy of Dento-Maxillo-Facial Radiology at the Academy's meeting in Sweden in June.

Dr. Emil J. Bardana, associate professor of medicine and head of the allergy section of the division of immunology, allergy, and rheumatology, has been elected president-elect of the Oregon Thoracic Society. He will become president in April, 1978.

Rudie Wilhelm, Jr., vice president and secretary of Rudie Wilhelm Warehouse Company and chairman of the UOHSC Advisory Council, received a Distinguished Service Award at Portland State University commencement exercises in June.

Dr. Gerald G. Kauffman, School of Medicine Class of 1969, has completed a three-year psychiatric residency training program at the Menninger School of Psychiatry in Topeka, Kansas. Dr. Kauffman will begin private practice in psychiatry in Grants Pass, Oregon, and will be a half-time psychiatric consultant to the Josephine County Mental Health Program.

Dr. James Cereghino, School of Medicine Class of 1964, is among six scientists who have won the first annual \$1,000 Geigy Award for the best published controlled trial of an antiepileptic drug. Dr. Cereghino and three of his co-authors are scientists at the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke's Epilepsy Branch.

Dr. John W. Ritchie, School of Medicine Class of 1942, has been appointed medical director of health services for California State Polytechnic University at Pomona. The health

service provides treatment to Cal Poly's 14,000 university students.

Michele Wiley, UOHSC media relations officer, and Mary Ann Lockwood, assistant to the president of university relations, are among winners in the 1977 Clarion Awards program of Women in Communications, Inc. In the public relations campaign category, Mrs. Wiley and Mrs. Lockwood received honorable mention for their campaign, "Nursing and the UOHSC: Leadership in Oregon," which concerned the School of Nursing as an educator of nursing professionals.

Dr. John Howieson, former associate professor of radiology at Cornell University and radiologist at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, has joined the UOHSC faculty as professor of diagnostic radiology.

Dr. Howieson, a 1955 graduate of the University of Kansas Medical School, is a former HSC radiology resident and served a residency in neurology at Yale University.

The HSC's new neuroradiologist has served on the faculties of the University of Kentucky and Yale University School of Medicine as well as on the faculties of the HSC School of Medicine and Cornell University.

Gordon Ranta, facilities analyst, has been appointed to the Area 1 advisory committee of the Portland school system.

Lester Anderson, president and owner of Random Lengths, a forestry-related service, and a former mayor of Eugene, has been appointed a member of the State Board of Higher Education. Describing the pressures which Oregon's universities will face in the near future, Mr. Anderson commented, "Those pressures will be centered on the problem of declining enrollments and the allocation of public resources."

Dr. Robert Chiapuzio, School of Medicine Class of 1956, has been named to the Bay Area Hospital Board in Coos Bay, Oregon. Dr. Chiapuzio lives in North Bend.

A portable unit that automatically diagnoses a stopped or fibrillating heart and then delivers an electrical shock to defibrillate or restart it, is the brainchild of two UOHSC volunteer faculty members.

They are Dr. Arch Diack, clinical instructor in surgery, and Dr. W. Stanley Welborn, clinical

professor of public health and preventive medicine and chief of emergency services at St. Vincent Hospital. Their 20-pound resuscitator, known as Heart-Aid, is being marketed by a Portland corporation.

Dr. Keith Fleshman, School of Medicine Class of 1957, has been honored as a distinguished alumnus of Eastern Oregon State College. Dr. Fleshman was recognized for his internationally-acclaimed work with African lepers.

Dr. David DeWeese, chairman of the department of otolaryngology and medical director of the Portland Center for Hearing and Speech, was honored in June for 30 years of volunteer work at the hearing and speech center. Dr. DeWeese received a gift from the center's board and was guest of honor at a surprise dinner.

Dr. Mark Olson, School of Medicine Class of 1972, has joined the Physicians Medical Center in McMinnville, Oregon, as a family practitioner.

Robert W. Larson, LPN on 3 Northwest in University Hospital North, has begun officer candidate training at the Oregon Military Academy, near Oregon City. Mr. Larson is a member of the 241st Medical Company of the Oregon Army National Guard.

Dr. William Connor, professor of medicine, has been elected president-elect of the American Society for Clinical Nutrition.

Dr. Charles T. Dotter, professor and chairman of radiologic diagnosis, has been appointed chairman of the Surgical Drugs Advisory Committee of the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Shahbudin Rahimtoola, professor of medicine, served as visiting professor May 18 and 19 at the Mayo Clinic and Mayo School of Medicine, Rochester, Minnesota. He was the featured lecturer May 20 at the Mayo Cardiovascular Alumni Meeting.

At the Royal Postgraduate Medical School of the University of London, Dr. Rahimtoola was visiting professor June 27 to July 2. The HSC professor lectured and led rounds.

Charlotte Funk, mailroom supervisor, has been elected to the executive board of the

Western Regional Postal Customer Council.

Dr. Donald Kassebaum has been re-elected to serve a three-year term on the board of directors of Northwest Oregon Health Systems.

Dr. John W. Wood, School of Medicine Class of 1963, has been elected president of the Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology.

Pam Hellings, assistant professor of pediatric nursing, has been appointed to the accreditation committee of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates/Practitioners.

Lloyd C. Peterson, former director of business and auxiliary services at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, has assumed the post of associate business manager of the Health Sciences Center. He will manage the business services office, payroll, purchasing, payables, and service departments.

Jill Neff, assistant to the dean for School of Medicine fiscal affairs, has been named to the planning committee for a national workshop/seminar to be held next September in Virginia. Mrs. Neff is a member of the Committee which is part of the Group on Business Affairs of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

The AAMC-sponsored workshop/seminar is entitled Medical School and Government Participation in Federal Grants Program.

Dr. Mason A. Smith, School of Medicine Class of 1971, has been appointed director of ambulatory and emergency services at St. Joseph Hospital, Stamford, Connecticut.

Ann Hoffstetter, assistant business manager of the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center, was recently elected vice president of the Western Association of College Auxiliary Services in a meeting in San Jose, Calif.

Donna Schantz, assistant dean of the School of Nursing, has been elected chairman of the newly formed special interest group of the Oregon Nurses Association, Deans and Directors.

Dr. Mark B. Adams, School of Medicine Class of 1972, has received a Master of Science degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Junior Dentists Institute attracts top talent to dentistry

A concentrated look at the world of dentistry was offered to nearly 100 young people in July at the dental school.

About 100 young people from the western U.S. and Canada were on campus July 17 to 22 for the 11th annual Junior Dentists Institute (JDI).

Sponsored by the HSC School of Dentistry and the Oregon Foundation for Dental Research and Development, the Institute was designed to introduce high school and college students to the field of dentistry.

The students heard lectures, got an introduction to sound techniques of oral hygiene, did laboratory work, and learned about how to apply to dental school (although attendance at JDI in no way facilitates acceptance at dental school).

Dr. Jack Clinton, director of the Institute and associate professor of operative dentistry, commented, "We think JDI helps us to attract some of the best talent in the Northwest to dentistry."

According to Dr. Louis Terkla, dean of the School of Dentistry, JDI has a dual role. After a week-long immersion in dentistry, students are better able to decide if they really want to go into dentistry.

In addition, even if they decide against a dental career, said Dr. Terkla, "we're creating friends of dentistry by letting people know what a dental career is all about. No matter what their eventual career is, they'll always have a better understanding of dentistry."

Students see firsthand evidence that brushing and flossing combat dental plaque.



Kingery Library of Dermatology dedicated in July

The Kingery Library of Dermatology, established in honor of the late Dr. Lyle B. Kingery, founder of the HSC department of dermatology, was dedicated July 15 at the School of Medicine.

The Lyle B. Kingery Library of Dermatology was dedicated in the HSC department of

dermatology July 15.

The late Dr. Kingery founded the department of dermatology at the HSC School of Medicine and was the department's first chairman and professor. He died in 1972.

On campus for the dedication ceremony was Mrs. Kingery, who presented a framed photograph of her late husband. Also present were her son, Dr. Frederick A. J. Kingery, pri-

vate practitioner and HSC clinical professor of dermatology, and her daughter, Mrs. Daniel P. (Susan) Wise, of Beverly Farms, Massachusetts.

Also present were HSC dermatology faculty including Dr. Frank Parker, new chairman of the department, and Dr. Walter Lobitz, former chairman, and Dr. Robert Stone, dean of the School of Medicine and HSC vice president.

The new library was established with an endowment from the late Dr. Kingery. It will be maintained with funds remaining in the endowment and with other donations.

According to Dr. Lobitz, "Dr. Kingery was a strong advocate for research as well as for

excellence in teaching and learning. Since research and learning always begin in the scientific literature, it is fitting that the Lyle B. Kingery Dermatology Library be established in the department of dermatology which he founded. The resources of this library will be available not only to the Health Sciences Center, but also to the entire Oregon dermatology community."

Dr. Parker added, "The department of dermatology is deeply appreciative of this important resource for its programs and takes this opportunity to again thank the Kingery family for its continuing interest in the department and in the Health Sciences Center."

Eastern Star helps combat cancer

Oregon's Order of the Eastern Star (OES) has presented \$32,000 for cancer research to Health Sciences Center.

Lucille Hagg, Cancer Research Chairman of OES, made the presentation June 21 to Dr. William Fletcher, head of the division of surgical oncology in the HSC's School of Medicine.

OES has contributed \$155,000 for cancer research to the Health Sciences Center over the past seven years.

The 1976-77 fund drive represents the single largest donation the group has raised, according to Mrs. Hagg, chairman of the drive.

In his acceptance remarks, Dr. Fletcher said such funds are extremely valuable in providing seed money for pilot projects. Several of these developed in recent years at the Health Sciences Center have proven effective and as a result have attracted over a million dollars in

additional support for cancer research at the Center.

He said HSC staff have developed and perfected a new test to determine whether or not a breast cancer patient can benefit from the addition or removal of female hormones. This test has proven useful and is now available to Oregonians at less cost than anywhere else in the country.

Another area the funds have supported, he said, include an immunogenetics program. This field "is where the secrets lie as to how a normal cell transforms into a cancer cell."

The HSC immunogenetics program staff will work to develop a "comprehensive human tumor immunology laboratory so we can study whether or not your natural defenses are working for or against you. With that knowledge, we can easily devise more effective treatment programs for the difficult cancer problems."

Patient sends note of appreciation to physician

Dr. S. Gorham Babson has a lot of fans throughout the Northwest, many of whom are alive thanks to his efforts and expertise.

When one former patient learned that Dr. Babson, director of the HSC's neonatal intensive care unit, was to retire June 30, she wrote him the following letter:

Dear Dr. Babson,

I noticed from today's *Oregonian* that you are going to retire. . . . I'm sorry to see a man of your skill retire, but I'm sure you're ready to relax after being in such a high pressure profession for so many years.

I'm just writing to thank you for your work in the field of preemies, as you were my doctor in

1949 when I was born (I weighed 1 pound, 14 ounces). Thank you again and enjoy your retirement!

Very truly yours,
Colleen A. Cowling

P.S. I turned out okay—I'm not blind and had no brain damage (unless you consult with my older brothers who have always held to the contrary).*

*Ms. Cowling was born in the years when premature blindness due to excessive use of oxygen was common. At that time excessive doses of oxygen were not known to be hazardous to the premature infant. Now this condition can be prevented for the most part by controlling this necessary form of therapy.

Ms. Cowling is now a legal secretary in a downtown Portland office.



Far left, top photo, Catherine Ralston looks over laboratory cat. Far left, below, Gordon Marshall works on experimental cavity preparation. Large photo in center, Patricia Leong rests her chin on a spectrophotometer while reading optical density of a sample. Photo directly below, Patty Conroy prepares microscope slides for study. The students' research projects are funded through a Biomedical Research Support Grant from the National Institutes of Health.



Student researchers aid School of Dentistry scientists

Seven dental and dental hygiene students are gaining exposure to scientific research this summer under the guidance of School of Dentistry investigators.

Horseradish, the condiment with a bite, is helping scientists learn more about something else with a bite—teeth.

This summer, HSC dental hygiene student Patty Conroy is assisting Dr. Patrick Reynolds, assistant professor of physiology, in a study involving horseradish peroxidase, an enzyme extracted from horseradish root.

Dr. Reynolds and Mrs. Conroy inject the enzyme into the teeth of laboratory animals and then trace it as it travels up nerves to the brain. They hope to learn which areas of the brain are involved in chewing and how the brain controls this activity.

Dr. Reynolds' study is one of seven research studies in which dental and dental hygiene students are participating this summer.

The student researchers are funded through a Biomedical Research Support Grant from

the National Institutes of Health administered by the Research Committee of the School of Dentistry.

Another project under the grant involves Patricia Leong, sophomore dental student, who is working under the supervision of Dr. Walter Gabler, professor of biochemistry. They are investigating the effect of burns on the functions of white blood cells.

"The principal cause of death of burn patients—if they survive the initial effect of the burn—is infection," explained Dr. Gabler. "The infection usually occurs several days after the patient is burned."

Dr. Gabler has hypothesized that when the burn occurs, the heat creates a substance in the blood serum that inhibits the victim's white blood cells from performing their usual job of killing bacteria.

To test his theory, Dr. Gabler and Ms. Leong are mixing blood serum from Emanuel Hospital's burn patients (only those patients with burns covering at least 30 per cent of the body) with white blood cells which are known to be functioning normally.

So far, their research indicates that something in the burn patients' serum does indeed inhibit the bactericidal function of normal white cells.

Although their investigations are still only in a preliminary stage, Dr. Gabler indicated that if final results corroborate his theory, he will attempt to isolate the inhibiting factor.

The next step would be to learn how to remove the factor or block it, thereby allowing the white blood cells of burn patients to function properly.

Junior dental student Gordon Marshall is assisting Dr. John B. Pappin, assistant professor in the department of endodontology.

The two are studying a little known, often ignored fourth root canal which occurs in as yet unknown number of teeth.

Mr. Marshall is working to find out the incidence of occurrence of the fourth canal. He is also experimenting with new cavity preparations which would increase the access opening on the tooth's exterior so that, when necessary, the dentist could locate and fill these canals more easily.

Catherine Ralston, second year dental hygiene student, is working under the supervision of Dr. Wayne Fields, assistant professor and director of the Biophysics Laboratory.

Miss Ralston is performing experiments and collecting data to verify preliminary findings suggesting that electro-stimulation in the proper waveform may block pain in the teeth of laboratory cats.

David Compton, sophomore dental student, is assisting Dr. Robert Quinton-Cox, associate professor of anatomy, in a study of the oxytalan fiber system in the periodontal ligament of primates.

Sophomore dental student John Roth is involved in a study of the behavior and efficacy of Proplast implants. He is working under the direction of Dr. Jay P. Malmquist, instructor in pathology.

Richard Knight, junior dental student, and Richard Tacke, director of the Comparative Clinical Pathology Laboratory, are studying the usefulness of low-level electrical current in stimulating the repair of hard tissue following collagen implants.

Patient chronicles experiences in University Hospital

Walking Through the Fire, Laurel Lee's sensitive account of her battle against Hodgkin's disease, is receiving national acclaim. The author is a patient in the HSC family practice clinic.

University Hospital, its house staff, faculty, and nurses play a major role in a new book written by Laurel Lee, a 31-year-old Portlander.

The book, "Walking Through The Fire, A Hospital Journal," concerns Mrs. Lee's triumph over illness, poverty, and abandonment while battling Hodgkin's disease.

The author, a patient in the HSC family practice clinic, was six-months pregnant when she learned she had Hodgkin's disease. Writing in old ledger books, Mrs. Lee kept an account of her experiences at University Hospital, her two-year fight against disease, and the break-up of her marriage.

Dr. Mack Lipkin, clinical professor of family practice and psychiatry, one of Mrs. Lee's physicians at the HSC, suggested that she try to have her journal published. He assisted her in locating a publisher.

Excerpts from Mrs. Lee's book are reprinted below with permission from E. P. Dutton, publisher.

Walking Through the Fire

The family practice clinic is located in a separate building within the multi-service cluster of the University of Oregon Medical School. One physician cares for the medical problems of the entire family. For my pre-natal care, I was assigned to Dr. Michael Mainer, who was in his third year of residency.

He chided me the month I splurged on peanut-butter cookies.

"Oh, it's only my hiking boots," I said, clicking my heels together.

"Well, maybe," he answered, smiling.

Every night I experienced a phenomenon that I regarded as a mystery of my pregnancy. After falling asleep, I would perspire until the discomfort of my wet nightclothes would wake me. My body could produce such an abundance of water in the night sweat that I thought I was turning into a mermaid, but could not complete the chemistry.

And there was my cough. The Cough always wanted to be heard: "I will not cough," I said, and counted as long as I could. The Cough won.

"I will hold my breath," I said. But the Cough won.

"I will suck green cough-killer drops," I said. But the Cough won again.

When the Cough coughed all night, I went up to the hospital on the hill again. Dr. Mainer pulled up on his bicycle just as I arrived at the door. "I'm sick," I said, and he told me to get a chest X ray.

"No: I'm pregnant, and X rays aren't good. Anyway, I don't smoke cigarettes and nothing is that serious."

He listened, but did not waver. He said, "I'm going that way," and walked me to the X-ray department. He told me to bring my X rays back to the clinic. We stepped into an elevator, and Dr. Mainer introduced me to Dr. Stu Levy, who operated the elevator buttons as if we were all in a department store, calling out the merchandise on each floor: "Photographic equipment—Number 3."

I walked out with my children, Matthew and Anna, following me like puppies. The technicians shielded me with a lead apron over a white gown. When I was dressed, they asked me to do another view.

In the waiting room, I was heavy inside, as if I were still wearing their shield. Even the air felt dense. On the wall was one of the bright posters that bright doctors' offices always seem to have.

"What does the sign say, Mother?"

"Today may good things happen to you," I said.

"Oh, that is true!" said Matthew, age 5.

The doctors' faces were a professional grim. A doctor asked me how many children I had, and indicated a real concern about my pregnancy, now starting its sixth month. As they examined me, the doctors exchanged, with their eyes, their verification of swollen lymph nodes in my neck. I would have to be hospitalized on Monday, they said. They talked

their serious talk in the hall. When my children's chattering permitted me, I could hear the word *tumor*.

1. Hospital, October 6

That afternoon, Dr. Hood, the surgeon, came to see me. He had just received the laboratory report. He held my hand while telling me I had nodular-sclerosing Hodgkin's disease. He suggested I begin aggressive radiation therapy as soon as possible. But before the therapy began, it would be best, he stated, to have an abortion. I couldn't even consider an abortion, even with all his persuasive logic.

2. Hospital, October 12

A transportation-service orderly came to take me to ultrasound. There I lay on a cot as they covered my abdomen with oil, and with a



Family practice resident Dr. Stu Levy, who is mentioned often in Laurel Lee's book, took this portrait of Mrs. Lee and her three children, Matthew, seven, Anna, five, and Mary Elizabeth, one and a half.

gliding tool, etched the infant within me on a screen. Their measurement estimated the gestational age at 32 weeks, in contrast to my own 27-week calculation.

Because of the acceleration of the due date, the therapeutic decision was now to postpone radiation until the baby was born. I was discharged with a pending follow-up appointment in the high-risk pregnancy clinic.

My symptoms got progressively worse. Night sweats drenched me. I was so short of breath that I could not read aloud, and I could hardly sing.

3. Hospital, October 31

Back in the hospital, ambassadors from all the specialized countries of medicine came to see me and to examine my culture with their varied proposals of aid. They had a United Nations meeting to decide my governing treatment policies. Delegates came from hematology, neonatal pediatrics, family practice and the obstetrics service. They were moving to the conference room. I felt it was my right to go as well.

From an access closet by the delivery corridor I removed a full doctor's outfit and dressed myself, disguising the bulk. Only my eyes showed through the headgear. I planned to grab a metal chartboard and hang around the door and listen to them talk.

Alas, Dr. Montoya, the obstetrician, found me touching up the last of my costume. He sent me soundly to bed. He said, "You can't go because we yell at these meetings." And I bet they take off their shoes and pound on the table with them, too.

After the meeting, the hematology staff chief gave me a bedside discourse. At the conclusion of his talk he asked his colleague, Dr. Bagby, to share his perceptions with the group: "Immediate radiation therapy is required as further encroachment on the

turned off the light and it was very black. He waited on his hands and knees behind the examination table. He wraped his animal stature in my fur.

"Well," said Dr. Mainer, "what's this?" upon finding such a dark room. With a ferocious growl, Matthew crawled out to attack the physician. Dr. Mainer understood.

I respected Mike Mainer immensely. I was always a person-patient with him first, not just another case. This was based on a feeling, not words. It was rare for our conversation to go beyond what was medically relevant. He kept disclosures of his inner self on a strict budget.

I was told once that the residents make \$12,000 a year. That sounded like Tarzan's ivory horde to me. When Mike Mainer told me he frequently moonlighted in the emergency room, I was surprised. I knew he worked an abundance of hours as a third-year resident. I apologized for being bold and rude, but suggested that free time for walking in mountains was sweeter than gold. He laughed but replied that school loans were due.

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We left his office and went to the cafeteria. He asked me to sit with him. He was wearing a genuine World War II leather flight jacket and a Thank you for not smoking pin.

He asked me about how I became a Christian. I told him that nine years ago I had a single experience that was a birth into a new way of life.

I spent an evening in self-examination. I found the inside of myself was like a very dirty house.

I lacked the power to undo my disorder: The way I wanted to be, I was not. The way I did not want to be, I was.

I was overwhelmed and prayed in earnest for the first time. The result became a relationship with Jesus Christ. He was no longer a rock of offense, but my cornerstone.

4. Hospital, January 2

My assigned labor bed was under a window, and Mount Hood was visible that day. An amniotic hook was used to break the membranes and also because this might stimulate natural labor. Then I was surrounded and attached, plugged into and connected to machines. *The first baby born in outer space.*

I had friends among the staff who came and sat with me through labor. The machines were at my front, and my sisters gathered around my back. The floor doctor asked if I had ever been induced before. For some reason I thought he asked if I had ever been seduced before. We all laughed, and the humanness overcame the machines. It felt like a home delivery.

At 2:35, Mary Elisabeth was born, instantly cried, and the roomful of adults seemed to move back a generation.

My sisters moved with me down the hall. They knocked at the nursery door, and the baby was held up. She weighed almost nine pounds. They all exclaimed in the talk of women. I felt I could run the length of the world.

5. Hospital, January 14

The radiation field was etched on my chest with red ink. Within the target area were outlines of my lungs. Lead blocks were built to protect those organs.

At home Anna took a red-flow pen to make lines on her own chest, to be like her mother. The children were exposed to more than I could bear myself. They played doctor an inordinate amount, making a doctor's office behind the couch. There they could take their stuffed animals to an invisible Dr. Mainer, who seemed to live back there for a while. The diagnosis was simple: Everything either had Hodgkin's disease or a cold. Matthew sometimes was the physician himself. He used a chain and a lot of wet Kleenex in his treatments.

I grew accustomed to the look of the radiation
(continued on next page)

HSC's junk problem turns into an endless bonanza

Marvin Stephens, Barbara Bradbury, and Kenneth Strawn have performed a sort of magic act during the last year and a half.

The three, who comprise the UOHSC's property control and surplus property service, have managed to turn a lot of miscellaneous "junk" into cold, hard cash.

They have saved the institution an estimated \$150,000 and have brought smiles to the faces of a lot of HSC department chairmen.

In January, 1976, Mr. Stephens, HSC property control officer, was asked to organize an assault on the Health Sciences Center's junk problem.

"There was equipment sitting out in halls; storerooms were jammed with junk; and some work areas were junky and disarrayed," explained Mr. Stephens. "The problem was getting out of hand."

So in 1976, the new surplus property service asked departments to relinquish their "junk."

"We told them we'd sell it and give them a portion of the proceeds," said Mr. Stephens. "The real story is that we were flooded with stuff. We couldn't stop it from coming. Most departments were more concerned about getting rid of things than getting paid for them. We started out with one wing of the old TB Hospital, and ended up with two floors filled floor to ceiling."

Before their first public sale in the spring of 1976, the surplus property service gave HSC departments first crack at the merchandise.

The result was proof that one man's junk is another's gold.

"The department chairmen were aghast at finding all these things they needed about to

be sold to the public," Mr. Stephens commented.

He explained that although a piece of scientific equipment may become obsolete for use in one department, it can serve another, perhaps less sophisticated purpose in another department. For example, surplus property which has found a new home in HSC departments includes a spectrophotometer, an intercom system, and chromatograph.

Since the first sale last year, there have been two more public sales (using a sealed bid system) as well as continuous sales to HSC departments.

About \$150,000 of equipment has been sold to HSC departments at "give-away" prices (five to ten cents on the dollar), said Mr. Stephens. Departments have paid only \$10-15,000 total for this equipment.

Another \$35,000 cash has resulted from sales to the public. The public—including many HSC employees—has found such diverse bargains as parachutes, a rock polisher, hula skirts, bunk beds, a marble slab, draperies, and the makings for a wine still.

In addition to being totally self-supporting, the HSC surplus property service has returned substantial amounts to departments who released the merchandise.

Of his staff members, Barbara Bradbury, Kenneth Strawn, and Tara Hedman, administrative assistant, Mr. Stephens said, "I'm fortunate in having alert employees who've learned quickly what items are of value to departments and who can relate to and communicate well with people at all levels within the institution."

"They can function as consultants, advising researchers and department heads about what equipment is available, its age, condition, et cetera. They've established good rapport throughout the campus."

Mr. Stephens continued, "We are not engineers or technicians ourselves, but can put potential buyers in contact with the previous owner, who knows more details about the equipment's condition and capabilities. In a way, we're helping the various components of the Health Sciences Center to get acquainted."

Ms. Bradbury added, "Now they're turning over equipment that's not just junk. It's useable and in good working order."

She explained one, little known way in which surplus property can make money for the department that buys it.

"If a department plans to purchase a brand new piece of equipment—transcribing equipment, for example—they can come here, buy an old piece for \$5, and use it for a trade-in value of maybe ten times what they paid for it."

Ms. Bradbury commented that in spite of a big sale last February, the surplus property storage areas in the Campus Services Building are already so full that her office won't be able to resume pick-ups of more merchandise until after another sale is held this fall.

Kenneth Strawn, right, and Barbara Bradbury extol virtues of an old autoclave to potential buyer.



Photo by Tim Marsh

Budke triumphs

Winning the Oregon Women's Amateur Golf Championship trophy has become such a habit for HSC medical student Mary Budke that the trophy has been named after her.

Prior to the start of the 1977 championship tournament, played in Portland in late June, the Oregon Golf Association announced that the award would be called the "Mary Budke Perpetual Trophy."

At the time of the announcement Miss Budke, who will be a second year medical student this fall, had won the trophy five of the last six times she had competed for it, over a seven year span.

The 1977 tournament allowed her to do something which only she was capable of—winning the silver platter "trophy" with her name already engraved on it.

Miss Budke commented after her 1977 victory, "I was really overwhelmed at the honor, and I wanted to be worthy of it."

Walking Through the Fire: A Hospital Journal

(continued from previous page)

tion department. The mothers with the sick little children were the hardest for me. They were always perfectly tender with their injured ones, who needed no tether; they didn't move.

I kept feeling a cosmic apology that mine had to emphasize the contrast of health. Anna loved to climb the coat rack to the top. The other mothers were at the other end of my tunnel. Their child was leaving them: I was leaving my children.

• • • • •

There had been some question among the radiation therapy doctors in regard to removing my spleen. This is a routine procedure for determining the stage of Hodgkin's disease. I tried to manage my own decision, wading through a series of medical-school generalizations. Everyone I asked had a concise laparotomy lecture. Some said yes, and some said no. Finally I called Mike Mainer and packed together this great gray ball of considerations and rolled it to him. He decided on the laparotomy, and I had peace. It was nice to just be able to think in four-line poems again.

• • • • •

I took the bus with the children for the first radiation on my abdomen. Returning home, I waited to transfer buses in the downtown city center. I felt altered but not sick.

An enormous red double-decker English bus, carrying advertisements for local stores, made its way down the street. The attached sign said FREE RIDE, with a map of the circle of stores it stops at.

Of course, we all scrambled up its spiral stairs to sit on the tweedy plaid seats on the top. As we turned the corners, I began to feel a low level of nausea. The bus pulled into Import Plaza and parked as the driver blithely

announced that this was the end of the line today.

I was beginning to feel very nauseated, and I was a long way from home. I pulled the children with me through the rundown Burnside district.

I grew accustomed to the look of the radiation department. The mothers with the sick little children were the hardest for me. They were always perfectly tender with their injured ones, who needed no tether; they didn't move.

We crossed by the casual labor office, and I knew I was going to need help. I began to vomit in a garbage can. A part of my mind could feel people driving by thinking: "Look at that . . . an alcoholic . . . at her age, and such little children . . ."

A social worker from the labor office came over to me. I said, "It's not what you suppose; it's radiation!" He was polite anyway, and directed the children and me to our bus stop. I sat and leaned against the building, instructing Matthew to watch for the Number 40.

The ride was a long-suffering journey. I became a bus-ride attention center. That was the journey from Hiroshima to my bed.

I was sick. I was weak. I had fevers and weight-loss. In the shower, one morning, I found swollen lymph nodes in my groin. I was again admitted to the hospital.

6. Hospital, February 24

A hematologist examined me. He had a closet of pet lions, and his recommendations unleashed several for my contemplation. Their mouths were open.

The hematology staff chief came into my

room with Dr. Bagby and Mike Mainer. He said he was not convinced that chemotherapy or any of the tests were at all necessary. The inguinal nodes were an untreated radiation port, thus their enlargement did not mean I had had a relapse. His recommendation was a discharge from the hospital, with a further course of radiation on an outpatient basis.

He took every lion with him. I roared for joy. I wanted to tear up the first hematologist. As Mike Mainer left the room, he told me to "Love thy neighbor as thyself," and closed the door.

• • • • •

I rented the upstairs of an old house. I turned each window into a greenhouse. . . . Anna played Maple Leaf, a child's interpretation of the words *make believe*. There was no more outbreak of Hodgkin's disease among the doll family. The dolls only had colds.

I had my last radiation treatment. I was young again. I had completed all the medical course possible unless the disease recurred.

• • • • •

I had written a journal in the hospital. The man with whom I had an appointment said he liked my book and asked to send it to an editor friend in New York. I jumped up and down in my chair.

My journal was like a piece of paper, a child floats out into a stream. It was soon out of sight. It will get caught in some weeds, I thought. There are holes in it. It will fill with water and sink.

But I lifted up and flew on.

From the book *Walking Through The Fire: A Hospital Journal* by Laurel Lee. Copyright © 1977 by Laurel Lee. Reprinted by permission of the publishers, E. P. Dutton.

Retirements

Joyce Beeman

Joyce Beeman, who has worked at the Health Sciences Center for 21 years, retired in June.

Ms. Beeman earned a medical technology degree in Dallas, Texas, before coming to Oregon in 1951.

She worked in the School of Medicine dermatology department for the last 10 years as a histologist, assisting in diagnosis and research, and served as a histologist at the School of Dentistry for 11 years before that.

At the medical school, she assisted in the study of diseases such as psoriasis and actinic dermatitis.

"I've enjoyed my job," she commented. "The work was varied and interesting, and the people in the dermatology department were a nice group."

Now that she has retired, she plans to do a lot of hiking and gardening. She is a member

of the Native Plant Society. "I've always been interested in growing things and have a large flower and vegetable garden."

Willie Warren

Willie Warren retired in July after 12 years with the HSC hospital housekeeping department. Mr. Warren worked the night shift and did waxing and buffing work in the department.

"We really regretted seeing him go," commented Harvey Horst, assistant director of hospital housekeeping. "He is such a good worker, and everyone liked him."

Mr. Horst continued, "He is an exceptional person. He is good natured and was always on the job. He always looked on the positive side of things, which is a rare quality in this day and age. He'll be sorely missed."

Mr. Warren's retirement will not consist of idle hours and relaxation. He plans to clean and lay carpeting on a private basis. He also hopes to visit his older brother in Louisiana for a month or so.

Committee studies space needs

A method and format for collecting and presenting data on existing and needed additional space for the Health Sciences Center has been developed by the HSC Physical Facility Development Committee.

In April the committee was charged by former HSC President Dr. Lewis W. Bluemle, Jr., with creating a plan for the development of physical facilities on campus.

Committee chairman John D'Aprix, executive assistant to the president said, "Development of a campus is haphazard without a well thought out plan."

He said the committee met every Friday from April through the middle of June. It is now awaiting a "statement of assumptions" from the HSC Executive Staff.

Mr. D'Aprix explained that in its statement the Executive Staff should try to foresee five to 10 years in the future about the directions of the HSC and its units (the Crippled Children's Division, University Hospital, and the Schools

of Dentistry, Nursing, and Medicine).

Assumptions, he said, should cover such things as radical departures from the present academic, patient care and research programs; enrollments; faculty numbers; and organizational changes.

After the data is gathered from a space committee for each HSC unit and combined with the statement of assumptions it will be developed by the committee into a report covering the HSC building plans for the possibility of slow, fast, or no growth.

The committee is staffed by Gordon Ranta, facilities analyst. Its members include Mr. D'Aprix; Dr. Robert Neerhout, chairman, pediatrics; Jerry Elder, assistant director, CCD; Sandra Stone, assistant professor, medical-surgical nursing; Eugene Bauer, associate dean for administrative affairs, School of Dentistry; Stanley Urban, administrator, University Hospital; and Ralph Tuomi, director, facilities management.

"Artist" makes new limbs for patients

Not every artist hopes to display his work in a gallery. For one artist at the Health Sciences Center, there is a much more rigorous proving ground for his creations.

When Edward Nielson, director of University Hospital's orthotics shop, uses plaster, plastic, metal, or leather to fashion an artificial limb or brace, the resulting fabrication must not only be aesthetically pleasing, but it must also function successfully as a component of the human body.

For example, if a patient's arm and hand have been amputated, Mr. Nielson can make an artificial arm and attach a realistic looking artificial hand with fingers that can grasp when triggered by appropriate shoulder movement.

If a patient suffering from a neurological disorder is unable to use one leg due to paralysis, Mr. Nielson fits the patient with a brace that holds the limb straight for walking and, when the patient sits, bends when a lever is tripped.

About half of Mr. Nielson's work involves making braces or limbs for youngsters at the Crippled Children's Division.

Mr. Nielson, who has been on the HSC staff for 31 years, is a certified orthotist and prosthetist. Orthotic devices help limbs do their normal function. Prosthetic devices are artificial body parts. The tools of Mr. Nielson's trade include a lathe for metals, a drill press, grinder, band saw, anvil, and shoe finisher.

Making a brace or artificial limb is a complicated process, Mr. Nielson explained. After the physician prescribes the device, Mr. Nielson examines the patient and takes measurements. He may ask that X rays be taken, and he may make a plaster cast or do tracings and drawings.

His measurements must be precise, so that muscles and tendons, not bones, bear weight. He must take into account the position of nerves and must take care that the brace does

not bite into hamstrings or other muscles.

According to Mr. Nielson, development of new synthetic materials, such as polyethylene and polyurethane, has been a boon to prosthetists and to patients. For example, using polyurethane foam, the prosthetist can create a full-length, apparently jointless leg which bends smoothly and easily at the knee; metal components are concealed inside.

University Hospital's orthotics shop—commonly called the brace shop—is one of only two such hospital-based shops in Portland. The shop recently took over additional space in the Outpatient Clinic basement after outgrowing its offices on the fourth floor of the OPC.



Edward Nielson, director of University Hospital's orthotics shop, files a plaster cast for an artificial leg.

HSC researcher featured on Italian national television series

A six-person crew from Italian national television in Rome was at the Health Sciences Center July 12 to interview and film Dr. Martin Pernoll, head of the HSC division of perinatology.

Filming a five-part series concerning "life before birth," the Italians have traveled to medical institutions throughout Europe and the United States.

They interviewed Dr. Pernoll about his studies of the increased oxygen requirements of pregnant women during exercise.

Director of the television series, Gianluigi Poli, commented that his talks with U.S. scientists have made him more aware of the roadblocks to fetal research in this country.

"Much research on fetuses can't be done in the U.S. because of restrictions on this kind of work. It is a very emotional issue," said Mr. Poli. "But the professors with whom I have spoken say they need much more knowledge of this period—knowledge that could be helpful to many normal babies. Research on fetuses could help provide this knowledge."



Director Poli interviews Dr. Pernoll, above, while cameraman, right, shoots footage for the series.



Citations presented

Two national citations from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) have been awarded to the Health Sciences Center as part of the CASE 1977 Recognition Program.

Both citations went to programs within the Center's office of university relations.

One of eight citations presented in the news and information writing category was to the Health Sciences Center media relations program. A citation in the photography category for superior photography by the editor went to Susan Pogany, editor of *Health Sciences Center News*.

The media relations staff includes Michele Wiley, media relations officer, and Tim Marsh, assistant media relations officer.

HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

NEWS

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