

# TulaneMed

**16**

Dr. Ageless


**18**

In Sync

## HEART *of* Gold

Dr. Peter Gold, changing  
the landscape for kids



A photograph of a female graduate with blonde hair, wearing a black graduation cap and a green stole. She is holding a rolled-up green diploma tied with a pink ribbon. Above her, a green umbrella is open. The background is dark with many out-of-focus warm lights, suggesting an indoor night event. Other graduates in caps and gowns are visible in the background.

New graduates celebrate  
their MD degrees on May  
20, 2017, at the Ernest N.  
Morial Convention Center.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY **JASON WHITE**





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## In this issue

**Heart of Gold**  
Dr. Peter Gold is helping build a 'Strong City' to stop the violence.

**16 Dr. Ageless**

**18 In Sync**

**21 Rounds**

**22 Class Notes**

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## TulaneMed

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# Breakthrough Moment

\$25 million gift will name John W. Deming Department of Medicine

BY MIKE STRECKER



Dr. John W. Deming, Bertie Deming Smith

**“By making this gift, I wanted to pay tribute to John’s deep love for Tulane and his belief in the importance of education.”**

—Bertie Deming Smith

For seven decades, internal medicine physician Dr. John Winton Deming (M’44) and his family have been making a profound impact on Tulane University and Tulane University School of Medicine. Now, his family’s tremendous generosity is reaching new heights with a \$25 million gift that will transform and strengthen the Department of Medicine’s research enterprise.

The gift is the largest in the School of Medicine’s history.

Bertie Deming Smith, John Deming’s wife of 50 years chose to honor her husband in a way truly befitting the doctor and scholar that he was. “By making this gift, I wanted to pay tribute to John’s deep love for Tulane and his belief in the importance of education,” Deming Smith said. The gift, naming the John W. Deming Department of Medicine, honors an extraordinary physician and civic leader who believed strongly in education and in giving back to his community and to Tulane. John Deming passed away in 1996 at the age of 76.



PHOTO: PAULA BURCH-CELENTANO

“Tulane and the School of Medicine would not be where it is today without the exceptional commitment and remarkable foresight of the Deming family. No family has been as significant to the success of the school over the years,” said Tulane President Mike Fitts. “This is a gift that will build our research enterprise and encourage breakthroughs that we can only imagine today. This is a gift with an importance that will radiate well beyond our current boundaries.”

## NEXT GENERATION RESEARCH

The gift will support research within the Department of Medicine, the largest translational research department in the School of Medicine, said Dr. Lee Hamm, dean and senior vice president of the School of Medicine. The gift will provide critical support to launch the careers of junior investigators while also rewarding established faculty members, Hamm said.

“This gift will give us the crucial funding to support the next generation of physician-scientists, working on





PHOTO: SALLY ASHER

Weiwei Xu, PhD student in biomedical sciences, and Dr. Franck Mauvais-Jarvis, Price-Goldsmith professor in the Department of Medicine, are co-authors of a study that shows that testosterone is an anti-diabetic hormone in men.

tomorrow's healthcare breakthroughs," said Hamm. "As federal funding for research diminishes, the support of philanthropic visionaries like the Demings is of greater importance than ever before. Their help is crucial in supporting ongoing research, the most important enterprise of the future."

The Demings' generosity will fund both clinical and translational research, which allows scientists to transform discoveries made in the laboratory into effective treatments, ultimately improving the health of patients.

#### A DEEP HISTORY

John Deming enjoyed a deep connection to Tulane. An only child from the small town of Evergreen, Alabama, Deming attended Auburn University before he enrolled in Tulane School of Medicine. He was smart and driven, graduating first in his class from Tulane. "He always thought his time at Tulane was an important part of the person he became," said his son, Claiborne P. Deming (A&S '76, L '79).

After he graduated from medical school, John Deming completed an internship at Charity Hospital in New Orleans, then served as a captain in the Army Medical Corps. He practiced internal medicine in Alexandria, Louisiana, from 1950 to 1985 becoming known far and wide as a talented diagnostician with a gentle but effective bedside manner. "If you were sick and wanted to truly understand what was wrong, you wanted to go to John Deming," said his daughter Catherine Deming Pierson (G '78, SW '89), an emeritus member of the Board of Tulane.

"He practiced medicine in the days before advanced testing, which meant that he had to use his gift of listening to and connecting with his patients to make a diagnosis."

Almost immediately when John Deming graduated from Tulane, he joined the ranks of the university's top supporters, generous with his resources and time. He became a member of the Tulane board of administrators (one of

the first members from outside New Orleans), an associate professor of clinical medicine, a charter member of the medical center's board of governors and a recipient of the university's distinguished alumnus award.

The continued philanthropy of John and Bertie ties the Deming name with greatness at Tulane and at the School of Medicine. Among the highlights of their philanthropy are Bertie and her siblings' founding of the Murphy Institute for Political Economy, in honor of their father, Charles Murphy. Through their association with the Murphy Oil Corporation, the Murphy Building was donated to the School of Medicine. The Bertie and John Deming Pavilion at the Tulane University Medical Center, numerous excellence funds for research and three endowed chairs held by some of the most prominent faculty members in the School of Medicine were also part of their legacy of support to Tulane. ✨

# Advances: Innovation and outreach

PHOTO: SEAN AIRHART, COURTESY NBBJ



## Partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs

### New Orleans VA Hospital Opens

BY FAITH DAWSON

Opening in stages, beginning with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in November 2016, the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System Veterans Medical Center—a \$1 billion facility—welcomed its first in-patients this summer.

The 1.7 million-square-foot Veterans hospital at 2400 Canal St., adjacent to University Medical Center, is expected to serve 70,000 veterans yearly. It took 10 years to complete.

Tulane University School of Medicine has a long-standing

partnership with the New Orleans VA hospital. And Tulane faculty, physicians, residents and students continue to play an integral role at the new site.

Providing high-quality health care for veterans is the VA's main mission, said Dr. Ralph M. Schapira, chief of staff of the New Orleans VA Hospital since June 2015.

Veterans' healthcare needs, like health care in general, have changed since Katrina

destroyed the old New Orleans VA hospital in 2005.

There's more demand for geriatric care, palliative care and outpatient surgery.

Schapira is working with Tulane senior vice president and medical school dean Dr. Lee Hamm and Dr. Jeffrey G. Wiese, associate dean for graduate medical education, to create an environment where students and residents have excellent learning opportunities at the New Orleans VA.



## TWO FOR TULANE

BY KEITH BRANNON

It's rare to make the cover of one top medical journal, but virologist Robert Garry, PhD, scored a two-fer, with his research landing on the covers of the two most prominent—*Science* and *Nature*.

Garry, professor of microbiology and immunology, was a co-author of a *Nature* study that traced the genetic lineage of last year's Zika outbreak in Florida. Scientists sequenced the genome of the virus from blood samples and discovered four distinct introductions of the virus related to strains in the Caribbean.

Garry and Dr. James Robinson, professor of pediatrics, were part of a research team led by scientists at Scripps Research Institute whose discovery about the Lassa virus made the cover of *Science*. The team was the first to map the molecular structure of a surface protein on the virus that allows the pathogen to infect human cells. The research identified a key antibody target that could serve as a blueprint for developing a vaccine or antibody-based drug against deadly Lassa fever.

For those keeping track, this is Robinson's second *Science* cover. The last time? In 1998 when he was part of the team formed to solve the structure of a surface protein of the HIV virus.

PHOTO: TULANE HEALTH SYSTEM



Tulane School of Medicine dean Dr. Lee Hamm, Tulane President Mike Fitts, former Saints defensive back Jabari Greer and Tulane Institute of Sports Medicine director Dr. Greg Stewart cut the ceremonial ribbon at the opening of the Professional Athlete Care Team clinic.

## Sports medicine

# Health care fit for a (retired) pro

BY NICK ADAMS

There are two Jabari Greers.

There's the Saints cornerback and Super Bowl champion, a celebrity and football star. And there's the former athlete, a husband and father navigating his own health care—and his future after football.

"The person that people think they know—the football player—isn't around anymore. He's gone," Greer said.

The Tulane Institute of Sports Medicine has created the new Professional Athlete Care Team (PACT) within Tulane Medical Center designed to meet the needs of former professional athletes like Greer, where they can get the appropriate care for their needs.

The new 5,000-square-foot clinic opened in May.

PACT was developed through a partnership between Tulane University School of Medicine and Tulane Health System to support athletes' health and safety both on and off the field, said

Dr. Greg Stewart, Tulane's chief of physical medicine and rehabilitation and PACT medical director.

"Professional athletes have a different relationship with health care than most of us," said Stewart, who also provides direction for the medical aspects of the National Football League Player Care Foundation's Healthy Body and Mind screening program.

"Obviously, their bodies undergo stresses unique to their sports and positions, and we at Tulane have the experience and caregivers to ensure optimum care for those needs.

"But it's not just the high level of health care we provide. From high school to college to the pros, these athletes typically experience 'concierge' service—and it can be difficult when they retire and that goes away. So we've built a program that picks up where they left off and gives these athletes the level of care—and service—they're used to."

## Women's health

# 1.9 million dollars for hormone replacement therapy research

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health has awarded Sarah Lindsey, PhD, assistant professor of pharmacology, a research grant for \$1.9 million for her study of an estrogen receptor that could be a site for targeted hormone replacement therapy in postmenopausal women.

## Overheard

"We now have a demonstration that hormonal therapy added to radiation can help save lives for men who have recurrent prostate cancer after surgery."

—Dr. Oliver Sartor, co-author of a study published in *The New England Journal of Medicine* about a nearly two decades-long trial on treatment for prostate cancer. Sartor is the Laborde Professor of Cancer Research in the departments of Medicine and Urology at Tulane School of Medicine.





## No scars, no tears

### Robotic thymectomy: something to cheer about

BY CAROLYN SCOFIELD

Brandi Resendez's 14-year-old daughter, Alexis, started complaining of a sore neck a year ago. Resendez first thought it might be all the work Alexis was putting in preparing for high school cheerleading try-outs, but the pain continued getting worse. Alexis started losing weight because it hurt to eat, and she was exhausted all the time. A trip to the emergency room revealed a mass in Alexis' chest near her thyroid gland, and she was referred to Dr. Emad Kandil, chief of endocrine surgery at Tulane University School of Medicine.

Kandil performed the innovative robotic thymectomy using a single incision under the armpit.

Thymectomy is a surgical procedure to remove tumors that form on the thymus, a gland located at the base of the neck that produces T cells. Traditionally, surgeons had to split the breastbone to remove

the thymus, requiring a long incision in the chest and leading to more recovery time for the patient.

Kandil is a pioneer of performing thyroid surgeries through a small incision under the armpit. Kandil uses a robotic surgery system that provides a detailed 3-D magnified view of the anatomy around the thyroid, which enables him to perform precise surgery through a single incision. Using this minimally invasive approach, patients heal faster, and many are able to go home the same day.

In Alexis' case, Kandil was able to use the same technique to remove the tumor from her thymus gland, a robotic thymectomy. He removed the chest mass through a hidden incision under the arm, a technique that he always uses to remove the thyroid.

"When Dr. Kandil came in that waiting area and told me he was able to remove the

whole mass, I remember jumping up and hugging him," Resendez said. Alexis went home the following day, quickly showing signs of improvement. A month later, the teen was back to tumbling and, shortly after that, tried out for the cheerleading squad.

She made the team.

"Alexis is like a whole different kid," said Resendez. "She is doing so well, she does not complain about pain, she has so much energy. Her cut under her arm is getting lighter and lighter, and it healed very well."

"I hope that every hospital will be able to get a robotic machine, but I know that Dr. Kandil is the best using the machine," she said. "He can't be at 10 hospitals at the same time, but if you are lucky enough to have him teach people how to accomplish what he did on my daughter, people will recover so quickly from surgery."

## New program

## STOP THE BLEED

BY KEITH BRANNON

When a gunman in Alexandria, Virginia, attacked members of Congress at a baseball practice in June, a lawmaker who served in Iraq was able to deliver critical aid to victims before emergency responders arrived.

The veteran had learned bleeding control techniques designed to save lives of those critically wounded in battle.

Now all third-year students at Tulane University School of Medicine will get similar training thanks to a new program launched by trauma surgeons. Students will complete a "Stop the Bleed" course designed by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma during their surgery rotation.

"We were one of the early adopters among medical schools in this country to incorporate this course into the standard medical student curriculum," said Dr. Rebecca Schroll, assistant professor of trauma and critical care, who is leading the program.

The Stop the Bleed program was designed to help police and first responders in an active shooter or mass-casualty event.

Ultimately, Schroll hopes to create a network of bleeding control instructors who can "educate an exponentially expanding number of the lay public who will be able to stop life-threatening bleeding and save lives."



# VIEWPOINT:

## Are pain prescriptions really the problem?

BY CAROLYN SCOFIELD

**Dr. Mordecai Potash teaches fourth-year students during their ambulatory medicine rotation. The students watch how Potash approaches pain control while working with patients.**

### **Q. How can the opioid epidemic be addressed?**

The crux of the issue is what role do pain-management providers have in the opioid epidemic? Recently, I think pain-management providers are being seen as the problem; they're not being seen anymore as delivering a legitimate service to patients. My belief is the situation is much more difficult and nuanced than just pain doctors giving medicine.

There's only one good way to address the situation and that is through actual discussions with your patients. You can give handouts all you want, but unless it leads to a productive discussion between the patient and provider, it's just one more worthless piece of paperwork that people get when they check in to see their doctor.

### **Q. What can be done to improve the safety of opioid pain medicines?**

There are all sorts of different ways of improving safety, including patients talking to doctors about pain interactions and keeping medications

locked. Every prescription needs to be tailored to the patient, and the doctor should consider factors like, does the patient live with other people or in an area where there are a lot of burglaries?

### **Q. What is Tulane School of Medicine doing to teach future doctors about opioid pain medicines?**

We've been able to use our existing curriculum to introduce outpatient-based pain management treatment in a way that feels familiar and integrated to students. It looks like their experience in other clinics.

### **Q. Is there one solution to the opioid epidemic?**

The answers need to be gradual, and they need to be informed by the stakeholders,

not just addiction specialists, but also pain specialists, pain patients, people who've had abuse problems and family members, along with law enforcement, who can come together and find some gradual, common sense measures that will hopefully modestly curb abuse of medication and, from a multistep process, end up with a program that really helps.

I've spoken with pain-management specialists who are pretty worried right now, but the folks who are most worried are my patients who are living with pain every day. They remember what it was like prior to treatment and are truly scared of what their lives are going to be like if the tools for treatment are taken away.

# 4x

**Deaths from prescription opioids—drugs like oxycodone, hydrocodone and methadone—have more than quadrupled since 1999. (CDC)**



Dr. Mordecai Potash, associate professor of clinical psychiatry, addresses the opioid crisis and pain management issues in his medical classes.

PHOTO: PAULA BURCH-CELENTANO

# Research: Cool brains, hot tech

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## 1 ThermoSuit Cools Stroke Patients

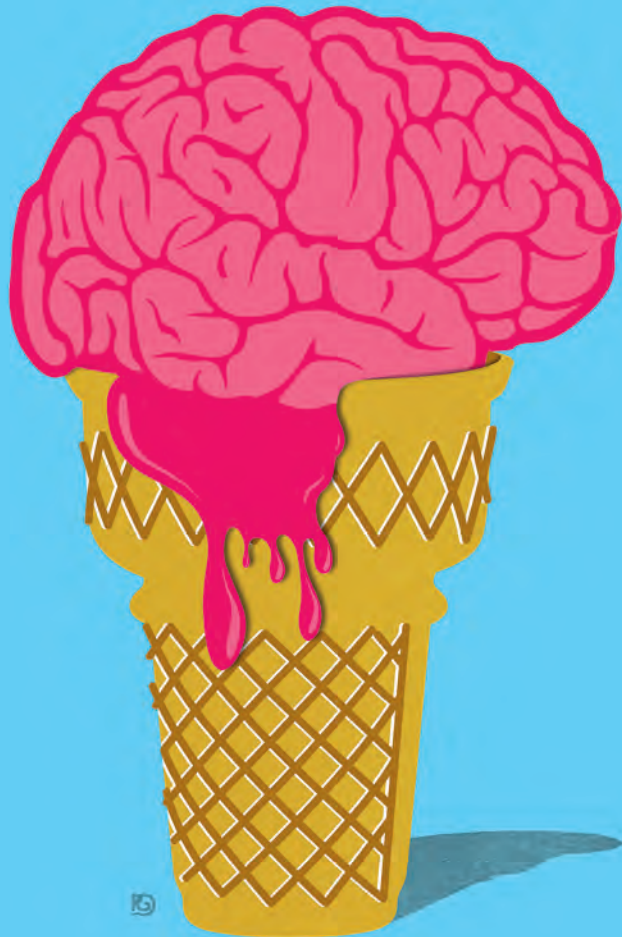
BY MARY CROSS

ThermoSuit, an apparatus that looks like a sleeping bag and lies flat on a hospital bed, lowers the brain's metabolic speed by cooling the body down to 32 to 34 degrees C (about 89.6 to 93.2 degrees F). It helps prolong the treatment window after a stroke, thereby attempting to save endangered brain tissue.

"This device is the first to use thin liquid convection to cool skin directly and inactivate the body's main thermo regulator," said Dr. Justin Salerian, director of the Tulane Comprehensive Stroke Center. He and his team are currently testing the Life Recovery Systems ThermoSuit in phase II trials.

The method, which Salerian likens to falling in an icy river, is capable of cooling patients down 5 to 10 times faster than previous cooling devices.

"We're the first center in the world testing this device on stroke patients," he said.







ILLUSTRATIONS: PAUL GARLAND

## 2 Got Sunscreen?

BY KEITH BRANNON

Second-year medical student Theodore Brown has put his biomedical engineering undergraduate training to work to fix sunscreen's visibility problem.

He has developed a small gadget that uses an LED light and sensor to detect whether there's enough sunscreen on your skin.

The prototype is called Sol-Nix, which Brown hopes to bring to market with a retail price under \$20.

It's about the size of the plug at the end of an iPhone charger and runs on a AAA battery.

When you apply sunscreen, you run the device over your skin. If you've missed a spot, it will beep, letting you know exactly where to reapply.

"What that does is essentially tell the device, this is what my skin looks like with this particular type of sunscreen when I'm covered," he said. "It automatically corrects to whatever type of sunscreen you're using."







# HEART *of* Gold

The good Samaritan medical student whose bravery inspired a nation isn't finished being a hero. Dr. Peter Gold and his closest friends from Tulane are building a 'Strong City' to stop the violence—and provide children with safe spaces.

BY KEITH BRANNON ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH RHODES



# It was still dark in the early morning hours of November 20, 2015, when fourth-year medical student Peter Gold was driving down Magazine Street and noticed something clearly wasn't right.

At 4 a.m., the street was desolate except for two figures stumbling in the distance. A woman struggled under the arms of a man whose face was cloaked by a hooded sweatshirt. Her legs flailed as he dragged her forward onto the sidewalk toward a nearby vehicle.

Gold slowly backed his car up to get a better look and made a split-second decision.

"You don't think," he said. "You're in that situation, and it's an immediate fight-or-flight response. Somebody had to do something, and I was there."

Gold sped toward the two, dashed out of his car and confronted the assailant, who released his grip on the woman. At that moment it became clear. The man had a gun.

What happened next would make headlines around the world. When Gold approached the man, he ended up getting shot in the stomach. It may have been luck, a miracle or the invisible hand of fate but when the gunman tried to fire

again, his weapon refused. It jammed at least three times before the man gave up and drove away, leaving both Gold and the woman on the sidewalk.

"I didn't black out or pass out," Gold said. "I remember everything."

A nearby surveillance camera did too, capturing high-definition footage of the whole incident. The good Samaritan medical student from Tulane became an international hero.

## CHANGING THE CONVERSATION

Now graduated from medical school and fully recovered, Gold isn't finished being a hero. Except he wants to save an unlikely target: men like Euric Cain, the 22-year-old who shot him.

Gold, 27, has launched a foundation with eight of his closest friends from Tulane to end cycles of violence within communities, starting with New Orleans. Their nonprofit, Strong City, will support community-based organizations that empower underserved youth so that none

will ever follow in Cain's footsteps. Their goal—through money, time and building a network of skilled professionals—is to provide these organizations the resources they need to help kids reach their full potential.

"I want to change the conversation from being about my recovering to about how we can all come together to look at the bigger picture," Gold said. "Let's solve this problem by focusing at the root and working with the youth in our communities."

Gold launched the Strong City foundation with a media blitz in early April. He sat down for an exclusive, high-profile live interview on the "TODAY" show with Matt Lauer. Segments on "NBC Nightly News," "Inside Edition," People.com and other media outlets quickly followed.

"The response has been phenomenal," Gold said.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The group raised \$20,000 in donations within two weeks. Strong City's first



Peter Gold (third from left) gets a boost from his Tulane friends (left to right): Adam Beal, Mark Jones (M '16), Gold, Alex Brands (B '12, '13), Josh Kogel (B '13) and Nick Curran (B '12, '13)







PHOTO: MARY MOUTON

Peter Gold joins Youth Empowerment Project participants on a New Orleans playground.

community partner is the New Orleans-based Youth Empowerment Project (YEP), which engages underserved young people through community-based education, mentoring and employment readiness programs to help them develop their skills and strengthen their ties to family and community.

“Through the creation of Strong City, Peter is showing us all that by coming together to support community-based organizations working with underserved youth that we can address underlying causes of violence in our communities and make our cities healthier, safer and stronger for everyone,” said Melissa Sawyer, YEP executive director and co-founder.

The idea for Strong City came about while Gold was recovering in the hospital, thinking about what happened the night he was shot and what events in life lead people

to violence. Yes, he was angry, but the question that haunted him the most was how could another human being do this? How can life wear down a person’s humanity to such degree that they can kill a stranger?

“I think as a society we have failed people,” Gold said. “I think that if (Cain) was given the opportunity to be successful when he was younger, that maybe this would never have happened. What he did was horrendous, and I’m not saying that it’s OK. But what I am saying is that I think there is a bigger picture here.”

Cain was arrested three days after Gold’s shooting and later pled guilty to that crime and others. He is serving a 54-year prison sentence.

Gold is convinced that tackling violence has to start at its roots. He believes that programs that provide children with safe spaces to feel supported and nurtured will help them learn healthy coping and

conflict resolution skills. YEP offers mentoring, tutoring, job-training programs, outreach for those within the juvenile justice system and recreational programs.

“If we could come up with our idea of what would be an awesome community-based program and what it would look like, the Youth Empowerment Project would be it,” Gold said. “They have after-school programs with young kids starting at ages 5 and 6. They give them a safe place to come after school and hang out with other kids. They get help with their homework, get their school uniforms washed and just the basic things that they need to be successful.”

#### “OUR SECOND HOME”

Gold now lives in New York and is completing his first year as a resident in orthopedic surgery at Hofstra/Northwell Health: North Shore University Hospital



and LIJ Medical Centers in New York. As for any lasting effects from his injuries, he's "110 percent."

"Except for the scar down my stomach, it has no effect on me day to day, which is an absolute miracle and attributable to University Medical Center, the Tulane trauma team and Dr. Meg Moore, who was my physician," he said. "I'm so fortunate that she was there that night to take care of me."

The crime also hasn't shaken his faith in New Orleans. Gold's connection to the city and Tulane are deep. His parents, **Gail Hahn Gold** (NC '80) and **Dr. Robert Gold** (A&S '78, M '82), met at the university as undergrads. His sister, **Lisa Gold Dresner** (B '08, '09), and her husband, **Jason Dresner** (B '08), also graduated from Tulane.

"New Orleans is a special, amazing place. This city made me who I am and how I think," Gold said. "Tulane and New Orleans are something we always think about. It will always be our second home."

While any physical wounds are healed, the incident has shaped Gold in other ways. His time in the hospital has changed how he interacts with his own patients. He has a much deeper empathy for what they are going through.

"I understand what it's like to be on the other side, sitting in that hospital bed, kind of hopeless, sick and scared—not knowing if I'm going to be OK," he said. "To have someone like Dr. Moore, who as

a surgeon has so much confidence and knowledge, come in to talk to me and help me and my family stay calm and stay on the right path to recovery. It made all of the difference. She is an amazing woman. I hope that as I become a surgeon that I can do the same thing for my patients."

Gold said the trauma of his experience still hits him at unexpected times.

"When it comes up the most is when I see other people helping somebody else out. I become a little bit more emotional than I was before. If I see a movie where someone is saving someone or someone is helping someone out, I'll get a little teary-eyed."

Gold said that when he goes for a run and gets a surge of energy and the euphoria that goes along with exercising, he's happy to be alive. "I can run. I can feel good. That's how it comes back to me. Just respecting life and thinking about important relationships that I have with my family or my friends. It is amazing how blessed I am. We all are—to have these relationships and be happy together and live on this earth. It should not be taken for granted."

That respect for life—all life—is a message he hopes Strong City drives home.

"I want people to know that we're not alone in this world. If we all come together as a group, as a strong collective, we can make the world around us a better place," he said. "If you feel the same way, let's do that together." \*

## Stronger With YEP

### 1,201 CHILDREN

Last year, YEP served 1,201 youth across 11 programs designed to address barriers resulting from poverty, violence and the lack of educational opportunities.

### SAFE SPACES

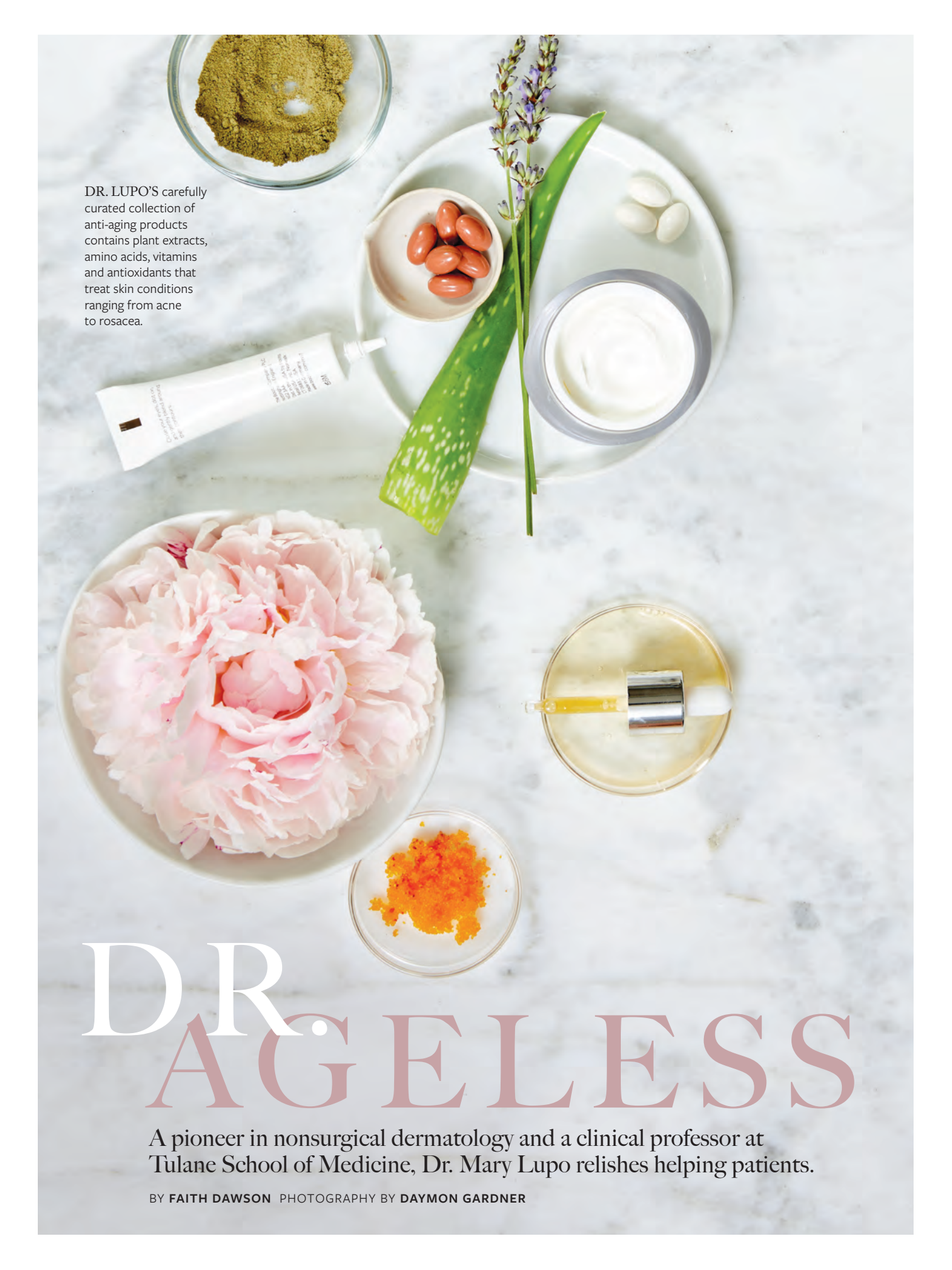
YEP established its headquarters on Oretha Castle Haley Boulevard in 2004 and now operates six program sites in Central City, Mid-City, Algiers and St. Charles Parish.

### LEARN MORE

To find out more about Strong City, go to [mystrongcity.org](http://mystrongcity.org). Also, visit [youthempowermentproject.org](http://youthempowermentproject.org), and follow YEP on social media: @YEPNOLA.

"I want people to know that we're not alone in this world. If we all come together as a group, as a strong collective, we can make the world around us a better place. If you feel the same way, let's do that together."

—Dr. Peter Gold, M '16



DR. LUPO'S carefully curated collection of anti-aging products contains plant extracts, amino acids, vitamins and antioxidants that treat skin conditions ranging from acne to rosacea.

# DR. AGELESS

A pioneer in nonsurgical dermatology and a clinical professor at Tulane School of Medicine, Dr. Mary Lupo relishes helping patients.

BY FAITH DAWSON PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAYMON GARDNER



# D

Dr. Mary Lupo says this with confidence. As a clinical professor at Tulane School of Medicine (from which she graduated in 1980), a board-certified and award-winning dermatologist in private practice and an often-quoted skin-care expert, principal investigator and author, Lupo knows that the science and practice of dermatology are not only skin deep.

“The skin is an amazing organ, and it is the mirror to your internal health,” Lupo said. Not only are melanomas visible on skin but also by examining skin, doctors can detect other cancers, liver disease and diabetes, too—as well as identify polycystic ovarian syndrome and other conditions.

“The skin is profoundly impacted by autoimmune diseases—with psoriasis and vitiligo and other conditions,” she adds.

Lupo is also a pioneer in the field of nonsurgical rejuvenations, which include procedures like neuromodulators—Botox—dermal fillers, sclerotherapy and chemical peels.

The Resident Cosmetic Clinic at Tulane School of Medicine, which she founded while still a resident herself, came about as a result of those procedures.

Dermatology has always been competitive, Lupo said, from the days when practicing physicians mainly treated rashes and acne, but even more so now, because of the exciting advances on the horizon. (Researchers are looking at gene regulation to rejuvenate aged skin cells, for example, and stem cell therapy to heal wounds and stimulate hair growth.)



“I have saved people’s lives as a dermatologist.”

#### VISIONARY, VOLUNTEER, VISAGISTE

Denver dermatologist Dr. Adrienne Stewart (NC ’81, M ’86, R ’90) first met Lupo when the former was a medical student. While she was a resident, Stewart also worked with Lupo.

Stewart said, “When I think of Mary Lupo, I think of three Vs: visionary, volunteer, visagiste,” Stewart said, citing her contributions to the future of cosmetic dermatology and to the careers of future doctors as proof of the first two Vs.

“Visagiste—now, if you look this up in one of those translation apps—you might find ‘makeup artist’ or ‘beautician.’ Visagiste is, to me, [an] artist of the face. Mary, although an expert in all areas of the skin, is in particular an artist of the face. Because of her in-depth knowledge of devices and injectables, she can transform patients to a more beautiful and youthful self.”

“It’s the ‘Filler,’ not the filler,” said Stewart, quoting one of Lupo’s more memorable lessons, meaning a skilled doctor and not the latest product delivers the best results.

Stewart described her former instructor as “tough but gentle, and of course, brilliant.”

#### PATIENTS FIRST

Lupo relishes helping her patients, especially when it results in a boost in self-esteem.

She finds moments of patient-satisfaction gratifying, such as “when I can make a person feel better about themselves because they look in the mirror, and they don’t feel like they look tired or angry or sad. When I can take care of a young teenager who was feeling bad about themselves because they had horrible acne, and the acne has cleared.”

Beth DePass, a New Orleans-area business owner and a long-time patient of Lupo, said, “I cannot imagine anyone going to see Mary and not feeling a 100 percent convinced that she wanted the best for them. She’s that genuine, and she’s that honest.”

The Dr. Mary Lupo that patients see in the office is a dedicated physician, but also part drill instructor, part detective, part system analyst and part maternal unit.

“I treat every patient like I’m related to them. I think I’m a little bossy,” Lupo said. “But I’m bossy like your mama is bossy. I’m bossy because I want what’s best for you.” \*

# IN SYNC

The Tulane MD/MPH dual-degree program, initiated in 1971, boasts more than a thousand graduates trained at the intersection of medicine and public health. They address issues worldwide of individual health and the wider community.

BY LESLIE CARDÉ

Tulane University has long been on the cutting edge when it comes to understanding the intersection of medicine and public health and its importance in the education of doctors in training. To that end, in 1971, School of Medicine chancellor Dr. John Walsh initiated a dual-degree program, consisting of an MD and a Master of Public Health to be completed concurrently using an integrated four-year curriculum.

“Our long-standing program, which began with two or three students in a class, now has over 160 students currently enrolled,” said Dr. Marie “Tonette” Krousel-Wood, associate dean of public health and medical education at Tulane. She presides over the MD/MPH program. There are over 1,000 graduates of the program to date, making Tulane a top producer of dual-degree MD/MPH physicians.

Krousel-Wood, a professor of medicine in the School of Medicine and a professor of epidemiology in the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, is also the associate provost for the health sciences. She realizes just how important public health training is for every physician, whose decisions can have a far-ranging impact—and far-ranging consequences.

“With formal public health training,” emphasized Krousel-Wood, “doctors are much more likely to make decisions which reflect an understanding of whole populations. Our dual-degree program prepares

physicians to address emerging infectious diseases, population management and precision medicine—getting the right treatment to the right patient at the right time.”

Krousel-Wood is also the elected chair/president of the American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM)—a board that has recently been approved to certify physicians in addiction medicine. ABPM is one of only 34 boards with the American Board of Medical Specialties that certifies physicians. It certifies doctors in preventive medicine, occupational medicine, aerospace medicine, clinical informatics, undersea and hyperbaric medicine, as well as addiction medicine.

“My training as an MD with a Master of Science in Public Health paved my way to serving as chair of this national organization,” Krousel-Wood said. “I have given several talks already regarding specialty certification in addiction medicine.”

## **GUIDELINES FOR PRESCRIBING OPIOIDS FOR PAIN**

If there’s any doubt that medicine and public health are inextricably linked, consider this: 91 Americans die every day from opioid overdoses, tied directly to a dramatic spike in the number of prescriptions written by physicians all across this country. That threefold increase over the last 20 years has now created a nation of addicts, spelling a public health disaster. Doctors with the best of intentions in reducing their patients’ pain have

unwittingly created what many believe is the worst drug crisis in American history, killing twice as many people per year as car crashes.

“Everything is interrelated,” said Dr. Debra Houry, a 1998 graduate of the Tulane MD/MPH program. She is the director of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

“When we looked at many of the Fentanyl and heroin overdoses, we found that these people either had an active opioid prescription at the time of the overdose or had abused one in the last year. It’s a matter of training physicians and emphasizing that addiction can stem from one initial prescription. The CDC now has new guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain. The White House, under Obama, asked medical schools to incorporate those guidelines into the preclinical years, and Tulane was one of the schools which pledged to do so.”

## **OVERPRESCRIBED ANTIBIOTICS**

Dr. Alex Schmalz, a May 2017 graduate of Tulane’s MD/MPH program, is the co-recipient of the John J. Walsh, MD, Award, presented to the student who best exhibits innovative leadership in a commitment to improving the health of individuals and communities.

Schmalz’s specific field of study while at Tulane was global health management



## TULANE AT THE INTERSECTION OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

### PROGRAM STATS

1,000+

TULANE MD/MPH  
GRADUATES TO DATE

Tulane is a leader in medicine and public health, establishing the dual-degree program 46 years ago.



Producer of physicians with dual-degrees MD/MPH



### Tulanians fighting global health issues

Drug addiction, Ebola, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C, hypertension, pediatric tuberculosis, obesity, STDs, Zika

160

CURRENT  
TULANE  
MD/MPH  
STUDENTS

### ALUMNI RESEARCH

#### Opioid crisis

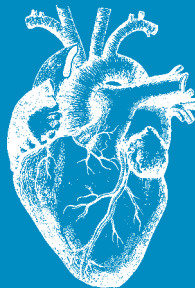
1  
“Addiction can stem from one initial prescription.”

DR. DEBRA HOURY, director of the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control and a Tulane MD/MPH graduate, on the opioid crisis.



The opioid crisis has killed twice as many people per year as car crashes.  
(CDC)

#### Bioethics and organ transplantation



“Shintoism believes once the body is dead, it becomes polluted. So donations from cadavers are near zero.”

U.S. Army Capt. DR. HUNTER SMITH, a Tulane MD/MPH graduate, on his latest ethics research through the lens of various religions.

#### Postprison health care

\$20 AND A BUS TICKET

To re-enter society from prison, it takes more than \$20 and a bus ticket. With a grant from the American Psychiatric Association, MD/MPH student ZACH LENANE helps former inmates navigate the healthcare system.

#### Preventing antibiotic resistance

“These interventions”—emailed alerts—“have been tracked ... and they work.”

DR. ALEX SCHMALZ, MD/MPH graduate and emergency medicine resident at UC Davis, on changing behavior of doctors who over-prescribe antibiotics.

and policy. He's now in a resident program in emergency medicine at the University of California–Davis.

His long-term goal is to change perceptions within private practices across the country. This is essential for good public health, he said. With resistant strains of bacteria popping up all over the world, Schmalz has become a proponent of changing the behavior of doctors who overprescribe antibiotics by utilizing something called the “Nudge Unit,” a theory utilized by British psychologist Dr. David Halpern.

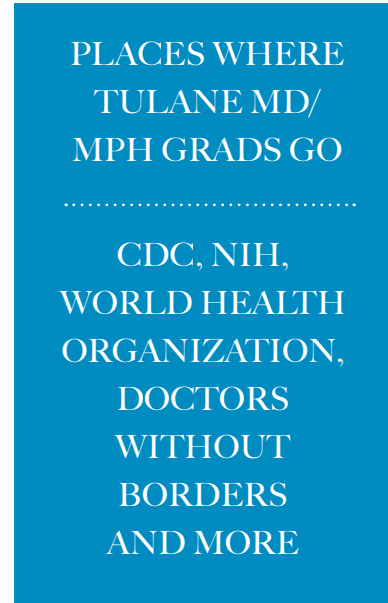
“It calls for alerting doctors, through mailed notifications, that they are in the top percentages of antibiotic prescribers. We tell them what most doctors are doing and ask that they consider tailoring their prescriptions. There are no consequences, but it's a matter of making doctors aware of what kinds of public health problems might be ameliorated by something as simple as watching how and when antibiotics are prescribed. These interventions have been tracked—and they work,” Schmalz said.

#### POSTPRISON CARE

As a fourth-year student in the MD/MPH program, with a concentration in global community health and behavioral sciences, Zach Lenane was a recent National Institutes of Health–funded translational research predoctoral scholar. He was also selected for a Top Ranked Poster for his research on post-traumatic stress disorder as a predictor for cardiovascular outcomes at the Association for Clinical and Translational Science in Washington, D.C., in April 2017.

With a grant from the American Psychiatric Association, Lenane also has worked as a case manager at the Formerly Incarcerated Transitions (FIT) Clinic in the Ruth U. Fertel/Tulane Community Health Clinic in New Orleans.

“FIT is free health care for those who've just gotten out of federal prison. Many are coming from Angola [the Louisiana State Penitentiary], and have been in prison for a long period of time, with chronic health issues that haven't been addressed well in



prison. The older people have terrible health issues, and this doesn't even take into consideration mental health issues,” Lenane said.

“These are people who are given \$20 and a bus ticket. However, to re-enter society it means getting training, getting housing and being in good health. Our doctors and residents address their medical needs, and as part of my public health training, I help them navigate the system. Along with folks like Thad Tatum, a formerly incarcerated man who spent 20 years in Angola and now has a degree in counseling, we coordinate their postprison care. The best thing about Tulane's program is that we partner with people in the community who give back.”

#### BIOETHICS OF ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION

For U.S. Army Capt. Dr. Hunter Smith, a May 2017 graduate of the MD/MPH program with a focus on epidemiology, a preventive medicine residency awaits at Johns Hopkins and Walter Reed hospitals, with a transitional year beginning at the Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. Already the recipient of the 2017 United States Public Health Service Award, Smith

has worked for the World Health Organization in Cairo, studying cardiovascular disease. Smith's focus, ultimately, is bioethics.

“I framed my latest ethics research through the lens of organ transplantation, using three different religions ... Catholicism, Islam and Shinto. Each has very different sociopolitical concepts,” Smith said.

“It was thought that remunerating people for donating organs would make the numbers soar. But we've concluded there's a social divide. Poorer people end up selling their organs, yet don't end up benefiting economically, long-term. Additionally, they suffer social isolation, have future health problems and are often depressed. Effective policies should produce optimal health outcomes, but often modifications must be made if certain cultures vehemently reject aspects of the policy. A major source of organs, for example, is cadaveric, but Shintoism, the main religion of Japan, believes once the body is dead, it becomes polluted. So donations from cadavers are near zero. So, organ tourism, or buying organs from other countries, is prevalent. In policy construction, you attempt to remove these cultural and political biases.”

#### PUBLIC GOOD OVER PRIVATE GAIN

There is no doubt this is a distinctive group of people who choose the public good over private gain. Armed with their dual degrees in medicine and public health, Tulane's MD/MPH students and graduates are working with some of the most prestigious health agencies in the world—the CDC, NIH and the World Health Organization. They're traveling the world with the international humanitarian nongovernmental organization Doctors Without Borders, heading up healthcare organizations and going into academics, where they've become leading researchers, contributing to the understanding of disease prevention.

“Our students have a toolkit for addressing some of the greatest public health challenges facing the world today,” Krousel-Wood said. “It's wonderful to be a part of this program which has such an impact globally.” \*





# ROUNDS

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## Tribute

### **Dr. Andrew A. Lackner**

Andrew A. Lackner, DVM, PhD, DACVP, director and chief academic officer of the Tulane National Primate Research Center, died on April 2, 2017.

Andrew was an outstanding scientist who had the capacity to address and solve research questions that positively impacted the lives of millions, especially those with HIV. Even when faced with a major scientific challenge, he maintained his composure and was able to take advantage of the situation to create important new knowledge.

He arrived at Tulane in 2001, and under his leadership, an extraordinarily talented group of scientists successfully competed for a broad array of peer-reviewed grants from the NIH, including about \$100 million for new construction and renovation projects at the center and the \$40 million state-of-the-art BSL3 Biosafety Laboratory, one of only a handful in the nation.

Grant support under Andrew's leadership grew from approximately \$10 million per year to a peak of about \$40 million per year, supporting research projects for more than 400 investigators and appropriately leading to a renaming of the center as the Tulane National Primate Research Center.

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BY PAUL WHELTON, MB, MD, MSC  
Show Chwan Professor of Global Public Health, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

## Letter from Dean Lee Hamm

IN WITH  
THE NEW

You've undoubtedly noticed our magazine has a new look and a new name—*Tulane Med*.

We've updated the graphics, shortened the stories and created new sections to address medical issues of our time. All this to bring you a lively publication, which many of you told us—in focus groups and surveys—that you are looking for from the Tulane School of Medicine.

This fall, I welcomed the Class of 2021, our newest first-year class. With over 10,000 applicants to the School of Medicine this past year, the 190 members of the Class of 2021 are the most diverse class to date with 49 identifying as being from groups underrepresented in medicine. This is an all-time high for us at the School of Medicine. As has been true of recent years, the class is half men and half women. From a geographical perspective, the incoming class continues to shine from a diversity perspective, representing 36 U.S. states and over 50 colleges and universities. Eleven students are from outside of the U.S. The Class of 2021 continues a commitment to service fostered at the school for many years. Three have served in the U.S. armed forces, and seven have volunteered with the Peace Corps, Teach For America or AmeriCorps.

The Class of 2021 continues the tradition of academic excellence with many *summa*, *magna* and *cum laude* graduates. The average GPA is 3.57 and the average MCAT is 512, both up from previous years. The new class attended its White Coat Ceremony on Aug. 6, 2017.



PHOTO: JENNIFER ZDON

CLASS  
NOTES

## 1960s

**Dr. Lida Dahm  
(NC '59, M '62)**

works part time as a designated doctor with the Texas Department of Insurance in the Division of Workers' Compensation.

**Dr. Chester Danehower Jr. (A&S '59, M '62)** is a clinical assistant professor of dermatology at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.

**Dr. Thomas Flynn (M '62, I '63, F '65, R '67)** is a retired

neurosurgeon and the founder of The NeuroMedical Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Dr. Robert Goldfarb (M '62)** retired from the practice of neurosurgery and is currently a neurosurgical consultant.

## 1970s

**Dr. Michael F. Murphy (M '70, R '71, G '80)**, chief medical and scientific officer at Worldwide Clinical Trials, was presented with the Clinical

Research and Excellence 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award in Boston. The award is presented annually to an extraordinary individual with exceptional contributions and a consistent history of service to the clinical research industry throughout their career.

**Dr. Stephen Abshire (M '72, I '73, R '74)** practices gastroenterology in Lafayette, Louisiana. **Dr. Mark Strauss (M '72)** left private practice in Little Rock,



Arkansas, in 2003 after 27 years and is working as a hospitalist at Florida Baptist Hospital in Pensacola, Florida.

**Dr. Steven Cavalier (A&S '73, M '77, R '78)** practiced neurology with a specialty in multiple sclerosis for 23 years in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He currently leads the MS Global Scientific Communications team for Sanofi Genzyme.

**Dr. George Ellis Jr. (M '77)** is the president-elect of the Orleans Parish Medical Society and the Louisiana Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons.

**Dr. Larry Kaiser (A&S '74, M '77)** is the Lewis Katz Dean at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University in Philadelphia, the senior executive vice president for health affairs for Temple University, and the president and CEO of the Temple University Health System. He is a cardiothoracic surgeon and still maintains a limited clinical practice.

**Dr. Cary Robertson (G '77, M '77)** is approaching 30 years of urologic oncology practice at Duke University Medical Center after a NIH/NCI fellowship. He is the associate director of urologic oncology, Duke Cancer Center, and section chief in urology, Durham VA Medical Center. For the past decade, his clinical research has been directed toward developing high-intensity focused ultrasound therapeutic

approaches for prostate cancer management.

**Dr. Joseph Ronaghan (M '77)** was welcomed to the International Association of HealthCare Professionals with his upcoming publication in *The Leading Physicians of the World*. Ronaghan is a surgeon with expertise in the treatment and management of benign and malignant diseases of the breast, minimally invasive surgical techniques, oncologic surgical incisions, and sentinel lymph node biopsies. He serves patients in the Plaza Medical Center in Fort Worth, Texas.

**Dr. Herbert Van Horn III (M '77, R '82)** works in the Department of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans.

**Dr. Thomas E. Weed (M '77)** has been training Ochsner surgery residents at Chabert Medical Center in Houma, Louisiana, for the past 12 years.

## 1980s

**Dr. Mark Clanton (M '82)** is the chief medical officer of Accenture Operations of the Texas Medicaid Project in Austin, Texas. His research and peer-reviewed publications focus on tobacco-related health disparities.

**Dr. Michael Fajgenbaum (A&S '78, M '82)** worked for 28 years at the Bone and Joint Surgery Clinic in Raleigh, North Carolina,

where he specialized in sports and adult reconstructive surgery. He was the team doctor for North Carolina State University Wolfpack football for 21 years, as well as at other area colleges and high schools.

**Dr. Royal Gerow (M '82)** is the chief of plastic surgery at Royal Gerow Regional Service, Colorado Permanente Medical Group, a member of the board at Colorado Permanente Medical Group, and chief of plastic surgery at St. Joseph Hospital in Denver.

**Dr. Robert Gold (A&S '78, M '82)** is the senior partner of Eye Physicians of Central Florida, a division of Florida Pediatric Associates, with offices in Maitland and Orlando, Florida. He

## TULANE MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS



**DR. L. MAXIMILIAN BUJA (M '67, G '68, I '68)** was presented with the TMAA Lifetime Achievement Award on May 18, 2017, at the awards brunch for the medical class of 1967. The award is given to a member of the 50th reunion class who has made many contributions to medicine, research, and his constituents, and has exemplified exemplary prowess as a physician.



**DR. KIRK BELLARD (M '74, R '77)** is back in general pediatric practice after being retired for 11 months. Bellard received the Tulane Medical Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award on June 2, 2017, for his unending service to Tulane University School of Medicine. He is past president of the TMAA board of directors and has served for years as the class agent for the Class of 1974.



**DR. GARY WILTZ (A&S '75, M '79, I '80, R '82)** received the Tulane Medical Alumni Association C.D. Taylor Award on June 2, 2017, for his outstanding leadership and service in his community and beyond. He is a past president of the TMAA board of directors.



**DR. MADELAINE FELDMAN (NC '77, M '82, F '88)** received the Tulane Medical Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award on June 2, 2017, for her continued work and service to Tulane University School of Medicine. Feldman is the first vice president of the TMAA board of directors. She was also the chairperson of the volunteer committee that planned her 35th medical school class reunion, which took place June 2-3.

### TULANE DESIGNATIONS

A&S: College of Arts & Sciences

B: A. B. Freeman School of Business

E: School of Engineering

F: Fellowship

G: Graduate School

I: Internship

M: School of Medicine

NC: Newcomb College

PHTM: School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

R: Residency

SLA: School of Liberal Arts

SSE: School of Science and Engineering

has practiced pediatric ophthalmology and has been treating adult strabismus since 1987. His son **Peter Gold (SLA '12, M '16)** is an orthopedic resident at Hofstra/Northwell Health: North Shore University Hospital and LIJ Medical Centers in New York.

**Dr. Bruce Hershatter (M '82)** is a radiation oncologist at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University in Atlanta.

**Dr. Robert Roth (M '82)** practices interventional cardiology in Milwaukee, serving as lead physician for the cardiovascular service line of a 25-hospital statewide organization.

**Dr. Hoke Shirley III (M '82)** has been a rheumatologist with Concord Orthopaedics in Concord, New Hampshire, for 27 years.

**Dr. Jacqueline Turner (M '83)** received the Stellar Performer Award at the Salute to Excellence in Health Care Awards Luncheon in St. Louis, an event whose net proceeds fund college scholarships through the St. Louis American Foundation. Aside from her gynecology practice, Turner is also on staff at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and participates in training residents and medical students.

**Dr. Carolyn Agresti (NC '83, M '87)** opened her solo ear-nose-throat practice in West Palm Beach, Florida, in January 2015.

**Dr. Tracy Young Biediger (M '87)** has joined the dermatology clinic at Audie Murphy Memorial VA Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, where she staffs residents and sees patients.

**Dr. Lawrence Breitkreutz (G '87, M '87)** practices cardiothoracic surgery at East Jefferson General Hospital in Metairie, Louisiana.

**Dr. Lora McGill Bridgewater (M '87)** is the lead principal

investigator for clinical trials at CNS Healthcare in Memphis, Tennessee.

**Dr. Craig Coenson (A&S '83, M '87)**

is a national medical executive for Cigna Health Family. He lives in New Orleans.

**Dr. William Daly Jr. (M '87, R '89)** is an anesthesiologist at Ochsner Medical Center in New Orleans.

**Dr. Cynthia Dolan (NC '82, M '87)** has been in private practice dermatology in the Atlanta area for 26 years.

**Dr. Darlene Ifill-Taylor (M '87)** is medical director and lead clinician in outpatient behavioral health at Novant Health

in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Dr. Julia Jones (M '87)** has joined Houston Methodist Neurologic Institute after 25 years in private practice.

**Dr. Lorraine Kaelin (M '87)** is practicing pediatric and adult anesthesia in Orange County, California.

**Dr. Jeffrey Kirsch (M '87, R '93)** is the president/partner of the ENT Center of Conway, Arkansas. He is also chief of otolaryngology at Baptist Health Medical Center.

**Dr. Johannes Koch (M '87)** has lived in Seattle since (cont.)



## GIVE TO THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR

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CALL 888-265-7576 TODAY





## Gifts matter

# Backing the next generation of Tulane physicians



Dr. Lee Hamm, right, dean of Tulane School of Medicine, celebrates a gift of a medical school scholarship from Dr. John Smith, center, and his wife, Linda.

**Dr. John L. Smith** (M '60) and his wife, Linda, are thrilled to be part of the education and training of future medical professionals. They are supporting a scholarship in their name for Tulane University School of Medicine, which, Dr. Smith said, "seemed like the right thing to do."

"Tulane gave me a great preparation for my career," he said.

This was after he received a zoology degree from the University of Oklahoma. On the advice of an Oklahoma pediatrician who was also a Tulane medical graduate, Smith moved to New Orleans in the 1950s and began working as an orderly at Charity Hospital. He was interested in pursuing a medical career but was unsure if it was the right direction.

"My first day on the job was to insert enemas in patients," Smith said. "If that's not starting from the bottom—I don't know what is!"

Smith's experience working at Charity Hospital and with Tulane physicians and students inspired him to apply to Tulane medical school, where he became interested in studying pathology. He has since had a long and successful career in private practice in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Since retiring, he has remained proud of his training and the people he worked with at Tulane.

"In recent years, I have been impressed and inspired by Tulane," Smith said. "We have been pleased and proud of the amazing recovery from Katrina and the focus on public service. They are doing great, and it shows in the application numbers."

The Smiths' generosity will now inspire the next generation of Tulane physicians, giving future doctors the gateway to a similar experience at Tulane and in New Orleans like the one that influenced their lives.

## Class of '82

**25%**  
amount the  
class exceeded  
its gift goal

The reunion committee of the School of Medicine Class of 1982 set an ambitious goal for its June 2017 reunion celebration: For their 35-year reunion, they wanted to raise \$200,000 in support of their named class scholarship and the medical annual fund. Well, the Class of 1982 not only broke this record, but alumni decided they wanted to reach a new goal of \$250,000, which they did by auctioning off reunion co-chair Hank Chambers at their class dinner at Antoine's during reunion weekend. Class members have raised \$251,906 through their combined efforts.

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"My first day on the job was to insert enemas in patients. If that's not starting from the bottom—I don't know what is!"

—Dr. John Smith, M '60



## ALUMNI EVENTS

### REUNION

Get ready—if your class year ends in a 3 or an 8, it's your reunion year. Classes of '58, '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, '13

Plan your trip to New Orleans to celebrate with your classmates.

**April 20–21, 2018**  
Spring Reunion Weekend

**May 17–19, 2018**  
Class of 1968  
50th Reunion

**March 24, 2018**  
Tulane Alumni  
Association  
Awards Gala

**April 20, 2018**  
1834 Society and  
Tulane Medical  
Alumni  
Association  
Awards Reception

Contact Cynthia Hayes, senior director of Medical School Alumni Relations, at [chayes@tulane.edu](mailto:chayes@tulane.edu) for information about all upcoming events.

2000, where he is a gastroenterologist at Virginia Mason Medical Center.

**Dr. Cathlin Harrold Milligan (M '87)** continues practicing internal medicine in San Francisco. In March 2014, she became co-medical director of a medically supervised weight-loss program.

**Dr. Morris Sandler (A&S '82, M '87, I '88)** is the medical director in Tulane Lakeside Hospital's Emergency Department in Metairie, Louisiana.

**Dr. David Santos (M '87)** has lived in Seattle since 1995, and is in private practice in otolaryngology and facial plastic surgery.

**Dr. Yvonne Satterwhite (M '87, R '88, R '92)** is an orthopedic surgeon with a certificate of added qualifications in sports medicine. She is in private practice at Resurgens Orthopaedics in Johns Creek, Georgia.

**Dr. Julia Temple (G '81, M '87)** is in private practice psychiatry in Princeton, New Jersey. A small but fun part of her practice is equine-assisted psychotherapy with patients.

**Dr. Barbara Weis (M '87, PHTM '87)** has been working as a pediatric outpatient attending physician at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore. She has many interests: resident education, pediatric HIV, advocacy, asthma and global health, among others. She has become involved in

an organization called Sante Total that started at Tulane, and has been on over 13 one-week medical trips to a rural community in Haiti. Several classmates have accompanied her on these trips. They are trying to “work their way out of a job” by strengthening disease prevention (water and sanitation systems, sustainable agriculture, and education) and are currently working on building a permanent health clinic.

### 1990s

**Dr. Asha Devereaux (M '91, PHTM '91)** has been named the 2017 Outstanding Clinician by the California Thoracic Society, the largest chapter of the American Thoracic Society.

**Dr. Treg Brown (M '92, R '93, R '97)** lives and practices in Carbondale, Illinois.

**Dr. Mark Cruz (E '91, M '97)** is practicing emergency medicine in the busiest emergency department in Georgia. He has been living in Atlanta for over 20 years.

**Dr. Jeffrey Fidel (M '97, R '98)** is living in South Florida. He has written a book: *I: unnameable*, which is sold on Amazon. He still works as a radiologist; however, his career is now focused on teaching people natural ways to increase their inner well-being. He has a website: [www.jeffreyfidelmd.com](http://www.jeffreyfidelmd.com).

**Dr. Spencer Guinn (A&S '93, M '97)** practices sports

medicine and orthopedic surgery in Jonesboro, Arkansas, where he is also the head team physician for Arkansas State University. He specializes in tactical medicine, having served in both forward surgical teams and combat support hospitals for the U.S. Army in Iraq. After military service, he became the medical director and a tactical medic for the Arkansas State Police SWAT team. He is also a special deputy U.S. Marshal, serving on a medical task force supporting FBI SWAT and other federal SWAT operations. He is the founder and president of the nonprofit Stop the Bleeding Foundation, which provides free training and medical equipment to law enforcement, fire/rescue and EMS personnel, as well as other professional first responders.

**Dr. A. David Lein (M '92, PHTM '92)** did a residency at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, followed by a fellowship in infectious disease, and remained on staff until 2000. He worked at the Kansas City Free Health Clinic from 2000–2005, Chase-Brexton in Baltimore from 2005–2008, and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene from 2008–2017. He is looking for something new now, potentially something in infectious disease/HIV.

**Dr. Carol Ingraham Lynn (M '92)** is in a solo gynecology practice in Germantown,

Tennessee, working with two wonderful nurse practitioners.

**Dr. Ricardo Rodriguez (A&S '87, M '92, R '97)** practices at the Baton Rouge Orthopaedic Clinic in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Dr. Jennifer Keyes Ronderos (M '92, R '93)** is practicing in Mobile, Alabama, where she has had a solo practice since 2006.

**Dr. Stephen Tsang (E '88, M '92, R '96)** has a successful solo OB/GYN practice with the motto “Exceptional Service. Innovative Care” in Tracy, California.

**Dr. Shelanda Hayes (M '97)** has her own family practice in a suburb of Chicago.

**Dr. Stephen Van Laborde (M '97, R '98)** lives in Houston, where he is in a solo dermatology private practice.

**Dr. Michelle Puzdrakiewicz (M '97, PHTM '97)** is the medical director of a Tennessee pediatric hospitalist program and spends most of her time working in-patient with a few days per month dedicated to a clinic that cares for children with special needs. She lives north of Memphis, Tennessee.

### 2000s

**Dr. Jennifer Baima (M '02)** is currently an assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, working and teaching as a physiatrist and doing cancer rehabilitation research.



**Dr. Chayan Chakraborti**

(M '02) is employed at Tulane University School of Medicine. He is vice chair for education and director of student programs in the Department of Medicine.

**Dr. Vanessa Ohmes (E '98, M '02, R '05)** is the Blake Section Head of Pediatric Hospital Medicine, Ochsner Health System in New Orleans.

**Dr. Lance Stuke (A&S '93, PHTM '96, M '02)** is the general/trauma surgery program director at LSU Department of Surgery. **Dr. Steven Levine (M '03)** was featured recently on *NBC Nightly News* discussing his use of ketamine to treat patients with severe depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.

**Dr. Chad Abbott (M '07, PHTM '07)** is a family medicine physician at Kaiser Permanente in Southern California. He works and lives in Orange County. He is mentoring first- and second-year University of California-Irvine medical students and precepting Kaiser Orange County family medicine residents.

**Dr. Jennifer Berumen (E '03, M '07)** is an abdominal transplant surgeon at University of California-San Diego.

**Dr. Mandy Weidenhaft (NC '03, M '07, R '11)** is a radiologist at Tulane Medical Center in New Orleans and program director of the radiology residency.

**Dr. Ashley Doucette (M '09, PHTM '09, R '13)**

was welcomed to the International Association of Health Care Professionals with her publication in *The Leading Physicians of the World*. Doucette is a psychiatrist with expertise in the treatment of mood disorders, psychosis and opiate dependency. Doucette serves patients within her own practice, Doucette Psychiatric Consultants in New Orleans. She is the director of psychiatry and mental health services at New Orleans East Hospital, the Southwest Louisiana Primary Clinic and the Positive Living Treatment Center, and is also a deputy psychiatric coroner at Orleans Parish Coroner's Office.

**2010s**

**Dr. Amber Fontenot Ferriss (M '12)** has joined a private practice outside Denver.

**Dr. Karthik Kura (SSE '08, M '12)**

is working as an anesthesiologist at Tejas Anesthesia in San Antonio, Texas.

**Dr. Robert Miller (M '12, R '14)** is an academic hospitalist at Tulane Medical Center and the New Orleans VA Hospital, working as associate residency program director.

**Dr. Alisa Wray (M '12)** is an attending emergency medicine physician at the University of California-Irvine.

**Dr. Norberto "Lalo" Schor**

**died on Jan 3, 2017.** Dr. Schor taught pathology in the School of Medicine for 27 years. "I had the great pleasure and luck to work for him in the Department of Pathology in 1975-1977," writes Dr. Erin Boh (G '78, '80,

M '85, R '86), who holds the Joseph B. Chastain MD Chair in Dermatology.

"He was a great mentor, an inquisitive scientist and simply a lovely person. He had many friends in the School of Medicine."

**In Memoriam**

'42 Dr. Harry Loomis Zengel Jr.

'43 Dr. Claude M. Pasquier Jr.

'44 Dr. Nadene Denison v  
Dr. Eugene M. Murphey III  
Dr. Herbert M. Perr  
Dr. Howard Quittner  
Dr. George T. Schneider  
Dr. Eugene C. St. Martin

'46 Dr. John R. Black  
Dr. Hinton J. Merritt

'47 Dr. Lucas A. Dileo  
Dr. Tom H. Mitchell  
Dr. John K. Schellack

'49 Dr. William C. McQuinn

'50 Dr. Val F. Borum  
Dr. Lawrence N. McCullough  
Dr. Donald T. Morrison

'51 Dr. Albert L. Gore  
Dr. Thomas B. Guyton  
Dr. William S. Harwell  
Dr. James B. Moss Jr.

'52 Dr. Henry W. Post

'53 Dr. Charles L. Brown Jr.  
Dr. Jack K. Clemons  
Dr. John B. Holland  
Dr. Warren H. Hunt III  
Dr. William A. Middleton

'54 Dr. Patty Scarborough Duarte  
Dr. Jerry M. Shaw  
Dr. Harlan W. Sindell  
Dr. Robert M. Wells

'55 Dr. Francis I. Tanaka  
Dr. Leonard Tunis

'56 Dr. H. Beauchamp Burch  
Dr. Gerald M. English  
Dr. Bill Epstein  
Dr. Hiram G. Haynie Jr.  
Dr. Marvin B. Rothenberg  
Dr. George F. Smith  
Dr. Henry L. Stoutz III  
Dr. Warren V. Wulfekuhler

'57 Dr. Nicholas A. D'Amato  
Dr. Frederick E. Lind Jr.  
Dr. Stanley Saperstein

'58 Dr. Peter G. Drake  
Dr. James A. Montgomery

'59 Dr. Adrian B. Cairns  
Dr. Milton H. Donaldson  
Dr. Charles H. Fohn  
Dr. Waite S. Kirkconnell  
Dr. Palmer J. Texada

'60 Dr. John M. McCuskey Jr.

'61 Dr. Charles K. Fischer  
Dr. Julian C. Henderson  
Dr. James E. Payne Jr.

'62 Dr. Victor P. Chisesi Jr.  
Dr. Guy E. Knolle Jr.  
Dr. Michael A. Russin  
Dr. Nelson P. Trujillo Sr.

'63 Dr. William R. Bridges  
Dr. Gary P. Cooper  
Dr. Raymond H. Hernandez Jr.

'64 Dr. Jack D. Clayton  
Dr. Benjamin F. Hatchett Jr.  
Dr. Hamilton E. Hunt

'65 Dr. Jerry O. Penix  
Dr. Gene D. Ratcliff

'66 Dr. J. Lee Leonard III

'67 Dr. David A. Depp

'68 Dr. Thomas L.R. Bower

'71 Dr. John E. Rea III

'73 Dr. Richard H. Kent

'74 Dr. John P. Hess III

'76 Dr. Leslie R. Hightower

'77 Dr. Charles S. Hatchette  
Dr. Pamela O'Neal  
Dr. William L. Wells

'79 Dr. John L. Dupre  
Dr. Stephen R. Meyer

'81 Dr. Calvin G. Durel Jr.

'86 Dr. Lisa L. Dyer

'87 Dr. Ross A. Gallo

'01 Dr. Stephen L. Hendry II

'04 Dr. Jason D. Smith

'14 Dr. Dustin C. Draughon

# STANDOUTS:

## Spirit of the Heart Award

**Dr. Ferdinand has served as chairman and chief science officer for ABC, which was founded in 1974 and boasts a widely diverse membership that is not limited to race, profession or education level. Before he received the ABC award, *TulaneMed* asked him about the organization and the most pressing topic in American heart health.**

**Q. What is the most pressing topic in preserving Americans' heart health?**

Disparities not only in cardiovascular disease but also in diabetes, certain cancers and even infant mortality are a reality. These disparities are prevalent, persistent, significant and unacceptable.

**Q. How is the Association of Black Cardiologists helping with outreach?**

Through ABC programs, unacceptable disparities in cardiovascular disease are addressed. These include outreach programs using community health workers, which we have trained, throughout the United States, community events for the early identification and referral for patients who have uncontrolled hypertension, high lipids and diabetes, and the use of social media and medical publications to identify problems related to access.

**Q. What do your own research projects address?**

I've been a member of the working group for the National

Heart, Lung and Blood Institute that has attempted to identify areas of ongoing research that are important for health disparities. I recently was the lead author in a publication that addressed the lack of adherence to medications as a barrier for blood pressure control in African-Americans. Adherence to evidence-based medicine is disparate in minority populations but is a real problem in all populations in the United States.

**Q. How does the training of care providers and other healthcare workers fit into this picture?**

Similar to the lack of awareness in the general population, many clinicians including physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and even clinical medical assistants read blood pressures that are elevated, see patients with end-stage renal disease, admit patients with uncontrolled diabetes and somehow subconsciously think that this is normal or acceptable. It is not. So in the ABC, we have ongoing education programs which address these disparities in CVD and give helpful hints on how clinicians can identify and control risk factors that eventually lead to premature cardiac death.

**Q. Keeping in mind that we live in the Stroke Belt, are we nonetheless turning a blind eye to these disparities?**

The disparities clearly are related to geography. Some of it's driven by food and culture;

it also might be reflective of a disproportionately high number of African-Americans, who have the highest risk for hypertension, diabetes, premature heart attacks, stroke, chronic kidney disease and dialysis, and heart failure. In fact, the rates of hypertension are the highest among the major racial/ethnic groups in the United States and clearly drive a lot of the adverse outcomes we see in heart disease and stroke.

**Q. Is the co-morbidity for these diseases significant as well?**

Diabetes and hypertension are conditions that travel together and cause early heart attacks and stroke. In fact, the rates of chronic kidney disease and dialysis are very high in African-Americans, and although diabetes is the primary driver of end-stage renal disease in the general population, it is accompanied by hypertension as the potent risk factor that leads to dialysis in blacks. There's some discussion of genetic factors such as apolipoprotein L1, which, if you have alleles for that particular protein, it's protective against African sleeping sickness, but also may be deleterious for kidney disease. Nevertheless, these genetic factors, I don't think, explain the overwhelming disparate rates of chronic kidney disease and end-stage renal disease, which are primarily due to poorly controlled high blood pressure and diabetes.



**DR. KEITH C. FERDINAND**

A cardiologist and professor of medicine at the Tulane University School of Medicine and the Tulane Heart and Vascular Institute, Ferdinand is also a member of the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC), which honored him with the Spirit of the Heart Distinguished Leadership Award at a gala in New York City on Oct. 7, 2017.



# Plan your Legacy

## With Tulane School of Medicine

The late Dr. Dean B. Ellithorpe (M '62, I '63, R'68, F'71) had the foresight to include Tulane School of Medicine in his estate plans. His gift is currently funding the work of Dr. Ross Klingsberg, an associate professor at the School of Medicine. Ross is continuing Dr. Ellithorpe's passion for the care of patients with cystic fibrosis. The funds he provided allow Ross to dedicate a large portion of his time to the everyday care of these complex patients. Ross is confident that Dr. Ellithorpe would be proud of the ongoing work that Tulane is doing to aid patients with cystic fibrosis.

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### LEARN MORE

Contact the Office of Gift Planning at 1-800-999-0181 or [giftplanning@tulane.edu](mailto:giftplanning@tulane.edu) to learn more about how you can support Tulane School of Medicine through estate planning.



**ROSS KLINGSBERG, MD**  
(A&S '88, M'02, F '08)  
Dean Ellithorpe Professorship  
in Cystic Fibrosis



**Tulane  
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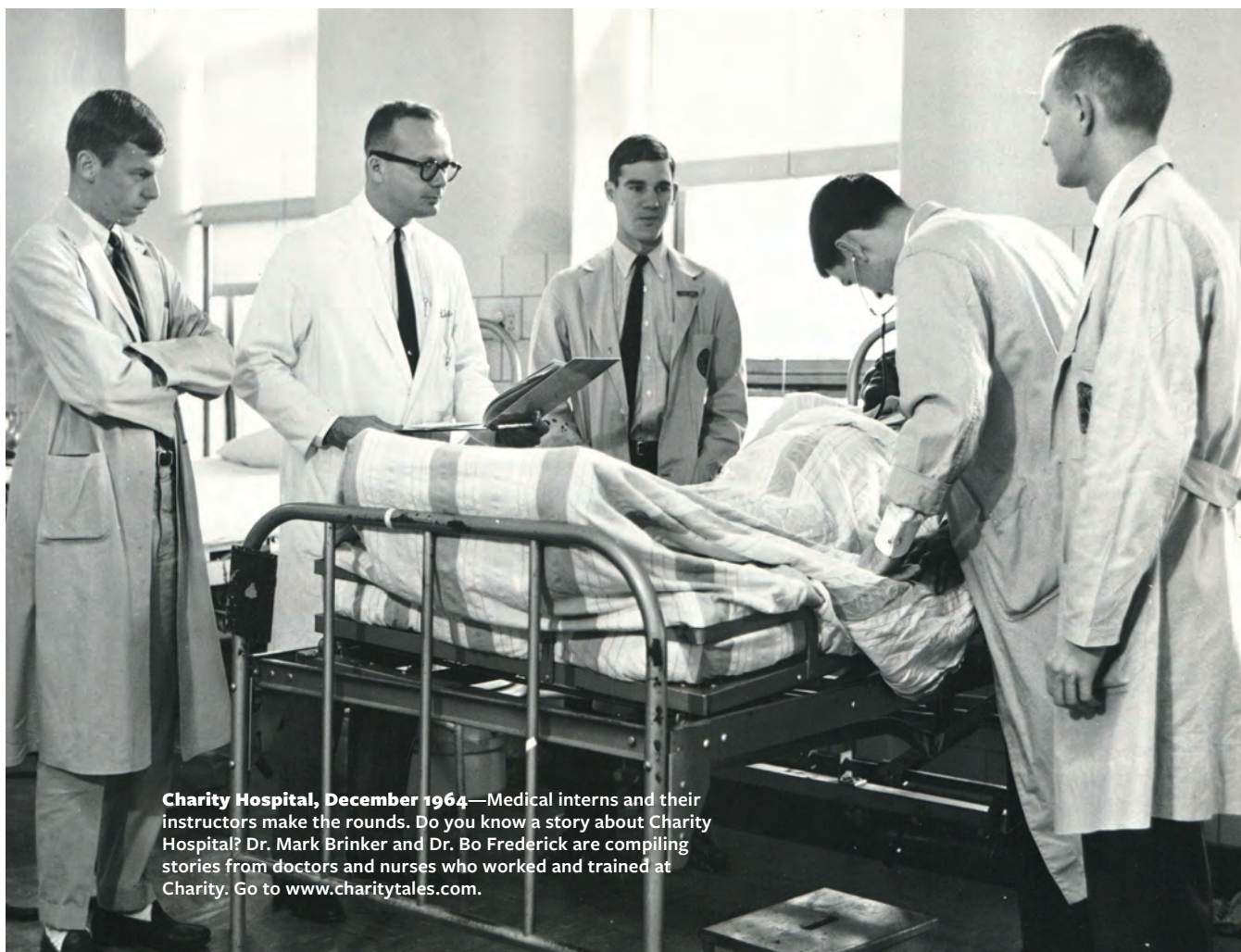


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