



KCU

THE MAGAZINE OF KANSAS CITY UNIVERSITY

A Bold Way Forward

EXPANDING ORAL HEALTH CARE ACCESS
FOR UNDERSERVED PATIENTS | p16

Winter/Spring 2020

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KCU recently expanded its *Score 1* program to the KCU Joplin campus. Read more about how this is positively impacting the Joplin community on page 14.

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Questions? KCU is here to help.

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“KCU focuses on identifying ways to educate greater numbers of diverse health professionals to meet the needs of the communities we serve.”

—MARC B. HAHN, DO

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Few things stand to have as profound an impact on the well-being of our communities than patients' continued ability to access health care. Future access depends in large part on having adequate supplies of well-educated, compassionate professionals trained to deliver health care in a new and rapidly changing environment.

Whether through new campuses, innovative programs or valuable partnerships, KCU focuses on identifying ways to educate greater numbers of diverse health professionals to meet the needs of patients -- particularly those in underserved urban and rural populations, where the challenges of access are even greater. We are pleased to present several stories in this issue of KCU Magazine, which highlight our efforts toward this overarching goal for the University.

Our cover story on page 16 highlights KCU's progress toward opening a College of Dental Medicine (CDM) on our Joplin, Missouri, campus. Our first new college in nearly 15 years, the CDM will offer an innovative clinical-centric curriculum with the goal of improving much-needed access to oral health care in the surrounding four-state region.

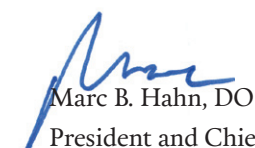
We also take a look at the difference that access to vision care has made in the lives of hundreds of

children in Kansas City through KCU's partnership with OneSight. This past year, nearly 700 children who needed glasses received them through this amazing program. One boy's heart-warming story is highlighted on page 8.

These and other articles show how our students, faculty, staff and alumni are all positively impacting the health of patients across the country — and in the far corners of the world — by helping to provide health care to those who might not otherwise receive it.

KCU is proud to continue our growth as a comprehensive health sciences university, helping to make a positive difference in the health of critical populations and *improving the well-being of the communities we serve.*

Yours truly,


Marc B. Hahn, DO
President and Chief Executive Officer

 Follow Dr. Hahn on Twitter: @KCUMBpresident



5 THINGS

Check out the latest news from KCU—our programs are expanding, and we are working tirelessly to ensure our students are receiving a top-notch education, while improving the well-being of the communities we serve. If you haven't been back in a while, we invite you to visit campus and get a personal update.

1 KCU Serves Communities at Home and Around the World With Compassion

KCU is committed to serving our communities with compassion. This year KCU students and their professors will bring health care to isolated communities in Guatemala, the Dominican Republic and Kenya.

In our own backyard, students have worked tirelessly during WE CARE Community Service Day, *Score 1 for Health* and One Sight. In addition, students are involved in more than fifty campus clubs focused on service.

Faculty and staff are equally as involved. In 2019, KCU employees completed more than 1,600 hours of community service.

2 KCU Leads the Way to Success with an Innovative New Teaching Facility

In 2017, KCU launched our Leading the Way centennial campaign to help chart the future of educating the next generation of osteopathic physicians, scientists and health professionals.

The successful campaign exceeded our original goal with more than \$21.4M raised. These funds support capital needs, research, scholarship and outreach. The culmination of the campaign will be the opening of our new Center for Medical Education Innovation (CMEI) in June 2020.

This one-of-a-kind teaching facility will feature some of the most cutting-edge technology of any medical school in the country.

By integrating our renowned learning theory and application into these new virtual and augmented reality technologies, KCU has developed a revolutionary new curriculum. KCU students will now learn in an immersive environment, helping them train and perfect their skills and knowledge in a entirely new way.

As they begin residencies, they will be the most clinically prepared new physicians in the country. Join us in June for "Experience: CMEI" to encounter medicine through virtual reality,

augmented reality and haptic technology as the CMEI officially opens.

To learn more or request an invitation, visit our website: kcumb.edu/cmei



3 Upcoming Documentary Puts KCU Students in the Spotlight

This spring, acclaimed documentary filmmaker Ken Burns will debut his two-part, four-hour PBS series on the history of genetics, “The Gene: An Intimate History.”

KCU is excited to announce we will be part of the discussion. Public television station KCPT, in partnership with the Center for Practical Bioethics, will produce a Town Hall event on our campus to air during Burns’ documentary series.

Our dual-degree COM/COB students will be part of the audience and participate in thought-provoking discussions surrounding the far-reaching impact of genetic research. Look for more information on kcumb.edu.

4 Dr. Kenneth Durgans Joins KCU to Focus on Diversity and Inclusion

Kenneth Durgans, EdD, has joined KCU as associate provost of Diversity and Inclusion. He comes from the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine, where he served as a key member of the Dean’s senior administrative team. Prior to his role with the University of Colorado, Durgans held similar positions at several institutions including Indiana University-Purdue University; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Xavier University; and University of Notre Dame.



Above: KCU welcomes Kenneth Durgans, EdD, Associate Provost for Diversity and Inclusion. **Below:** Siddhartha Mukherjee, MD, and Ken Burns, Executive Producers, “The Gene: An Intimate History.” Credit: ©Stephanie Berger, PBS



5 Inaugural Match Day Celebration Happening March 2020

Match Day is the culmination of four years of very hard work by our osteopathic medical students. For the first time, KCU will host a celebration of Match Day on March 20, 2020.

KCU students from around the country will celebrate both from afar and on campus to learn where they will be placed for their residencies. Friends, family, faculty and staff will be at their side during this momentous occasion.

Students unable to join us on campus will have an opportunity to join the festivities through video conferencing and live streaming.

We are so proud of our Class of 2020! ▲

Did you know?

100% OF KCU'S CLASS OF 2019 PLACED INTO RESIDENCIES— COMPARED WITH 98.7 PERCENT FOR OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOLS OVERALL.



a future so
bright

BY ELIZABETH ALEX

When 5-year-old Mason transferred to his new school in Kansas City, his teachers immediately noticed something was wrong. At an age when most kindergarteners are curious and energetic, Mason was essentially non-verbal. Even more concerning, his teachers realized his vision was seriously impaired.

Then, thanks to a critical partnership with KCU, Mason's life changed forever.

Although they suspected serious impairment, Mason's new teachers first learned the extent of his vision problems at the annual OneSight clinic held on the campus of Kansas City University (KCU). "Once they tested him, they realized he couldn't see his hand in front of his face," said Sue Hoffman, a teacher at Our Lady of Hope grade school.

Mason received two pairs of glasses, made on the spot. "It was amazing," Hoffman remembers. "When they put a mirror in front of his face, his eyes got big and he just kept looking at his face. He was amazed at the water bubbling in the fountain. He touched the bricks he could see on the building and knelt down and saw blades of grass for the first time."

“
When they put a mirror in front
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grass for the first time.”

—SUE HOFFMAN, MASON'S TEACHER

Across the United States, tens of thousands of school children aren't as fortunate as young Mason. Their vision problems go unaddressed, impacting their ability to learn, their childhoods and ultimately their futures.

According to an Education Week Research Center analysis of a National Survey of Children's Health Data, one-third of school children have not had a vision screening in at least two years, if at all.

Annette Campbell, executive director of KCU's outreach program *Score 1 for Health*, has worked with underserved populations in the Kansas City region for decades and

knows the problem well. Through *Score 1*, KCU medical students screen more than 14,000 Kansas City and Joplin-area school children per year in several areas of health, including vision. Campbell explains there are a multitude of reasons these children are not getting the exams they need.

"Parents often don't have transportation, time off work or money to pay for a vision exam and glasses. Language barriers also are a challenge," she said.

A partnership of smiles and impact

OneSight is the global charitable arm of Luxottica, a company that sells glasses around the world. KCU partners with OneSight and Fidelity Security Life (FSL) Insurance Company, which underwrites part of the cost and coordinates a team of volunteers, including FSL employees, KCU medical students and local optometrists.



Once a year the team arrives on campus with eye charts, refracting machines, frames and the equipment needed to make glasses. The annual OneSight week is full of smiles at the direct impact of the university mission to "improve the well-being of the communities we serve."

"The energy of the OneSight program here on our campus is palpable," said Marc B. Hahn, DO, president and CEO of KCU. "We all enjoy seeing the kids' excitement at getting glasses and being able to see. Sight is important for all of us, but especially for kids. If you can't see, you can't read. And if you can't read, you can't learn."

In order for the week-long clinic to be successful, children with vision problems must be identified before the OneSight team arrives. That is where *Score 1 for Health* is crucial. Most of the kids who come to the clinic are screened by *Score 1* medical students and nursing students from partner colleges and universities in preplanned screening days in elementary schools. The children walk in the door ready for an examination.

"When opportunities like this arise, we have the data and information to get kids into a clinic like this," said Campbell. "They come in quickly and efficiently. We provide a comprehensive report and fine tune it to the children who have the most severe vision loss. That gets the kids in who need glasses the most."

Melinda Everley, of FSL started the OneSight program in Kansas City 10 years ago. She says during that first year, they were able to provide glasses to roughly 60-70 children. This year that number rose to 662.

"There are a lot of children in the world who can't see. We want to catch them as early as we can," Everley emphasized. "That first year we had glasses to give, but we didn't have children who were pre-screened. This partnership has made a huge difference."

Due to the partnership with *Score 1* and KCU, OneSight considers the week they spend in Kansas City a great success.

"The clinic at KCU far exceeds our other regional clinics in terms of the percentage of children who receive glasses," said Steve Stockton, clinic manager.



The KCU difference

According to OneSight, KCU far exceeds other regional clinics with 90 percent of children receiving glasses, compared with 70 percent at other clinics.



Score 1 program medical students conduct health screenings on school children throughout the year.



Score 1 medical students and nurses identify children who should return for the annual OneSight clinic.



OneSight schedules a week-long annual clinic at KCU, where 90% of children receive glasses.

“

The energy of the OneSight program here on campus is palpable ... Sight is important for all of us, but especially for kids.”

—MARC B. HAHN, DO

“Other clinics average about 70 percent of kids needing glasses. Since *Score 1* has been involved, KCU’s average has been over 90 percent. It is because of the excellent pre-screening that the *Score 1* program does,” said Stockton.

The OneSight clinic also offers KCU medical students experience in ophthalmology and working with pediatric patients.

Full circle

For first-year medical student Neha Singh, it’s personal. She worked for Luxottica in sales at Sunglass Hut stores as she earned her undergraduate degree, and she continues to work there through medical school. Singh often asks customers to give to OneSight and she donates as well. Singh eagerly agreed to volunteer at the OneSight clinic despite the fact she had two challenging tests the next day and could have used her time to study.

“This brings my experience with the company full circle,” she said. “I got to see kids who were almost blind and couldn’t read the largest letters on the screen and afterwards be able to read them. There were kids who said they had glasses five years ago, but their prescriptions had changed and they couldn’t afford to get new ones. And there were kids who had broken glasses tied with tape. I recommend med students take time out of busy schedules to help others. That is what will make us truly empathetic physicians.”

For kids like Mason, the OneSight clinic offers a critical continuum of care. He returned for a new prescription this year, clutching a stuffed animal named Cat-Cat, who sported his own new pair of glasses at the end of the day.

“Oh my gosh this is a Godsend for our kids,” Hoffman said. “Thank you for all your help. You and all of the people who put this clinic together are the ones who give us hope.” ▲



Top: A few older schoolchildren enjoy their new eyewear during OneSight week at KCU. **Below:** Mason brought along his favorite stuffed animal, Cat-Cat, who wore his own pair of glasses.



reaching out

Helping more kids, creating greater impact—
KCU grows *Score 1 for Health* to serve more
elementary schools in Joplin, MO.

In addition to the 39 participating elementary schools in the Kansas City area, *Score 1 for Health* now serves all 11 elementary schools in the Joplin School District, thanks to support from a \$275,000 grant awarded by the Claire Giannini Fund and a \$50,000 grant from the Joplin Regional Community Foundation's Philanthropic Society.

Early last year, KCU launched the program at its Joplin, Mo. campus, where second-year medical students conducted comprehensive health screenings for nearly 700 children from four elementary schools.

"*Score 1* helps identify unmet health needs for these young students and connects them and their families with health care providers and resources," said Laura Rosch, DO, KCU-Joplin campus dean. "We were pleased to begin offering this program earlier this year at the Joplin campus, and we're thrilled to already have expanded it to serve so many more children. We are truly grateful for these grants, which have made this expansion possible."

Charlotte Dyer, OMS II, said she had been looking forward to taking part in *Score 1* since she applied to medical school. "For me, this has come full-circle. In my secondary application to KCU, I mentioned that I really wanted to participate in the *Score 1* program," said Dyer. "When I started attending school, the program was still in the works. It's been great to see it come to fruition, and participating has been even better."

Already, *Score 1* has provided screenings to approximately 1,500 children from six elementary schools in the Joplin School District during the 2019-20 academic year. ▲

Right: John Paulson, DO, chair of Primary Care-Joplin, Laura Rosch, DO, campus dean of KCU-Joplin, and student doctors Felix Yew-Kai-Yuan and Wesley Kuo.



KCU's *Score 1 for Health*

What is Score 1? A preventive health program that provides free, in-school health screenings for elementary-aged children in the greatest need, including urban core and low-income families from under-resourced neighborhoods.

**25
YEARS
IN KANSAS CITY**



Now helps
>14,000 KIDS
every year

EXPANDING TO
11
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
IN JOPLIN, MO



PROVIDES health care for
underserved children
AND gives medical students
valuable experience

A BOLD WAY *Forward*

BY KRISTA ROGERS

After successfully opening a second medical school location in Joplin, Missouri, in 2017 to meet the primary care and rural health needs of the region, KCU is now on a fast track to help meet the critical oral health needs of Joplin area patients. In June 2019, the University announced plans to establish a College of Dental Medicine (CDM) on its campus there.



The new KCU College of Dental Medicine will help improve access to dentistry for underserved patients in the four-corners region of southwest Missouri, northwest Arkansas, northeast Oklahoma and southeast Kansas.

According to the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the majority of counties within a 125-mile radius of Joplin are Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (DHPSAs). At the same time, there are currently only three dental schools in the region: two in Missouri, one in Oklahoma and none in Kansas or Arkansas.

“As a growing health sciences university, KCU looks to expand access to health care by educating workforces where they are needed most, building on synergies to improve as many lives as possible,” said Marc B. Hahn, DO, KCU president and CEO. “We know that oral health profoundly impacts overall health. Having a dental school physically located next to our medical school provides a tremendous opportunity to integrate oral health into overall health to make the broadest impact.”

The CDM will represent a significant expansion to KCU’s Joplin campus, with an anticipated cost of more

than \$80 million. However, in just four months following its announcement, KCU had secured three-quarters of its \$40 million philanthropic goal; the KCU Board of Trustees has committed another \$40 million towards the project.

The new CDM aligns perfectly with KCU’s presence in Joplin; its commitment to whole-person, patient-centered health care; and the University’s overarching mission of “improving the well-being of the communities we serve.” The programmatic design of the new school also supports KCU’s strategic goals to advance educational innovation and community partnerships.

“The KCU College of Dental Medicine curriculum will include integrated biomedical and clinical science, a focus on public and community health, and early clinical experiences,” explained James Koelbl, DDS, KCU’s consultant on oral health initiatives. By their second year of the program, students will be assigned to comprehensive general dental group practices in the campus-based Oral Health Center, in which they will provide care in a team-based setting under the direct supervision of CDM clinical faculty members. According to Koelbl, by their fourth year, students will be prepared to

“

In the College of Dental Medicine, we can blend clinical dental and medical care to treat the whole patient.”

—JAMES KOELBL, DDS

provide comprehensive oral care to patients in 12-to-15-week rotations in clinical partner sites throughout the region.

True to its commitment to build partnerships within the community, KCU will invite Joplin-area dentists to become clinical partners and to serve as adjunct faculty engaged in supervising CDM students in their practices. At the same time, students will help expand the capacity of these sites to provide care to greater numbers of patients in underserved populations. The CDM hopes to recruit community dentists to serve as faculty in the KCU Oral Health Center as well, Koelbl noted.

KCU has designed a dental college curriculum that is also much more highly integrated with physician education. “There are systemic illnesses and treatments that can impact a patient’s all-around health,” Koelbl notes. “In the CDM, we can blend clinical dental and medical care to treat the whole patient. And, our College of Osteopathic Medicine will be right next door.” Not only is the curriculum more integrated, the medical and dental college buildings in Joplin will be connected by a skyway, providing a visible structural link between the two.

KCU has been at the leading edge of using simulation technology for medical students, and this commitment will carry over to dental students as well. The CDM will have the most modern technology available, using realistic simulated patients with electronic medical records and health histories, which will allow dental and medical students to collaborate on the simulated patient’s symptoms, diagnosis and treatment.

Indeed, KCU’s momentum in further serving the health-care needs of patients in the Joplin area shows no signs of slowing. Even before the first dentist graduates, KCU will be playing a critical role in improving access to dental care and enhancing the health and well-being in this underserved area through care provided by students in the Oral Health Center and in fourth-year community rotations. The University anticipates breaking ground on the CDM in late 2020, with plans to welcome the first class of 80 students in 2022. ▲



Measuring impact

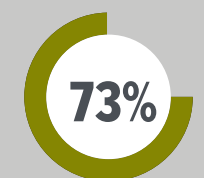
KCU’s College of Dental Medicine will expand access to health care where it’s needed most.



Improving access to oral health in the four-corners region of SW Missouri, NW Arkansas, NE Oklahoma and SE Kansas



Only 3 dental schools currently exist in the region, two in Missouri, one in Oklahoma and none in Kansas or Arkansas



Reached 73% of \$40 million philanthropic goal in just four months

A person in a red coat stands in a dark, starry night landscape, holding a glowing lantern. To the left, a large, bright, glowing orb emits a shower of golden sparks or light particles. The scene is atmospheric and evocative, symbolizing the search for light and knowledge.

shining a light on holistic health care

BY KIMBERLY WINTER STERN

On her deeply personal path to medical school, Zafina Ahsan discovered a gap in the way mental and physical health disciplines work together. Following her graduation from the University of Texas at Arlington, Ahsan searched for medical schools with a holistic approach to mental and physical health.

“From my experience, I knew you couldn’t have one without the other,” she says. “I didn’t know that what I was looking for had a name—integrated health care. I immediately applied to KCU after discovering their approach. KCU’s program represents the future of health care.”

Third-year KCU clinical psychology student Zafina Ahsan knew as a child that a component of care was absent from her treatment for maturity-onset diabetes (MODY), a rare type of diabetes. It wasn't until years later, when she became part of KCU's Clinical Psychology (PsyD) program, that Ahsan fully realized the missing piece of the puzzle: integrated health care.

Diagnosed with MODY at age 13 following a routine physical, Ahsan, faced the disease head-on and dealt with its many challenges. Ahsan learned to manage the disease by developing healthy eating habits, planning ahead for sleep-overs with friends, learning her medication routine, visiting the school nurse to check blood sugar levels—a list of issues that would be formidable for any teenager.

But there was one issue Ahsan felt wasn't addressed in her treatment plan: her emotional health.

“As a kid, when you're diagnosed with something like diabetes, you're overwhelmed,” Ahsan says. “You feel like you're not normal, like you don't fit in and can't do things as spontaneously as your friends. Combine that with the social stigma and discrimination of mental health, and it's a lot for a young person to handle.”

Ahsan wanted to go to medical school but had to consider her health when making a career decision. She knew the pressure and stress of studies and late nights could adversely affect her overall well-being. It was during high school that Ahsan decided to

pursue an advanced education in the mental health field. Following graduation from the University of Texas at Arlington, Ahsan took a break to focus on her health and began searching for schools with a combined focus on mental and physical health.

“From my experience, I knew you couldn't have one without the other,” she says. “I didn't know that what I was looking for had a name—integrated health care. I immediately applied to KCU after discovering their approach. KCU's program represents the future of health care.”

As president of the Primary Care Progress student club at KCU, Ahsan plans programs featuring presenters who speak to the importance of transforming the primary care system through physical and mental health. Currently, through her practicum training at University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) Counseling Services, Ahsan has the opportunity to gain professional development—learning about topics like mindfulness and trauma-informed care—and participate in group and individual therapy. Ahsan's first practicum was in 2018 at Compass Health Network, where she

“
For me, the experience of combining primary care with behavioral health has been nothing short of life-changing.”

—ZAFINA AHSAN, THIRD-YEAR PSYD STUDENT



was inspired by seeing firsthand how different health disciplines worked together.

KCU's regionally accredited PsyD program was launched during the University's 100th anniversary in 2016, and has become a powerful catalyst for driving interprofessional education and integrated health care, according to Sarah Getch, PhD, program director, Health Services Psychology. Getch credits KCU's visionary doctoral degree program—the only of its kind in Kansas and Missouri—for not only offering broad experience in all areas of psychology, but also concentrating on specific training to answer the emotional health needs of patients.

In addition to the UMKC practicum, KCU PsyD students have training and rotation opportunities at Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center, Health Partnership Clinic in Johnson County, Kansas, Compass Health Network and

“
I'm learning to advocate for behavioral health in a supportive and dynamic environment.”

—ZAFINA AHSAN, THIRD-YEAR PSYD STUDENT

KCU's *Score 1 for Health* initiative. Notes Getch, “When students like Zafina are out in the field, working with our partners in practicum sites, we're aligned in patient goals and understand how PsyD contributes. We all speak the same language.”

For Ahsan, it's the language she was seeking to learn early in her academic career. Through KCU's PsyD program, she is becoming increasingly fluent — for her own health and well-being, and that of the patients she serves.

“KCU's PsyD program is helping make a difference in many individuals'

lives to ensure the whole person is addressed,” she says. “For me, the experience of combining primary care with behavioral health has been nothing short of life-changing. Not only am I learning to advocate for behavioral health in a supportive and dynamic environment, I'm learning how to advocate for that in my community and the scientific field.” ▲



comfort & compassion

BY HEATHER BROWNE

Comfort Orebayo, KCU-Joplin second-year medical student, has had quite the journey to medical school – literally and metaphorically. Orebayo was born and raised in Nigeria, a country that struggles with access to health care as well as a severe shortage of health-care providers. “I had friends who had never been to the doctor, because either their family couldn’t afford it or they didn’t know anyone who was a doctor,” said Orebayo. “Fortunately, my family friend was a doctor, so we could just go over to her place to get health care. Her bedroom became a hospital for all of her neighbors; this was the quickest way for people who urgently needed health care.”

Emergency care access is a particular challenge for many people in the country. Orebayo says patients face long waits at hospitals and even longer delays if they don’t have an established relationship with a doctor. “Growing up, I learned very quickly that unless a person has a primary care physician with an emergency line, the chance of getting emergency care

is very small,” said Orebayo. “For the lucky few who have access to physicians, the chances they will have access to acute care is limited.”

Tragic circumstances propelled Orebayo toward her pursuit of a medical education: She lost both her grandfather and cousin because of a lack of available emergency medical care.

These heartbreaking losses profoundly affected Orebayo, and she decided the best way to help make a difference for future patients in her home country was to become a physician herself. “... I want to be on the front lines, helping local physicians and health authorities in Nigeria to establish, upgrade, and update its emergency health care response,” she said.

She and her family moved to the United States so she could pursue her dream of becoming a doctor. However, during her sophomore year at her undergraduate university, she faced a potential obstacle along her path. During a biannual meeting with her faculty advisor, she was told she would never make it into medical school, and her advisor discouraged her from applying.

However, Orebayo didn’t lose hope. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree, she took a gap



year, working in an emergency department as a technician while reapplying to medical school. Much to her dismay, she was not accepted and instead took another detour in her continuing journey.

“When I didn’t get in the next year, I decided to pursue a master’s degree. I knew ultimately I wanted to become an osteopathic physician, so I chose to complete my master’s program at Midwestern University.”

Orebayo says she was drawn to osteopathic medicine because of one of her role models, Dr. Barbara Ross-Lee. Ross-Lee was the first African-American woman to become a medical school dean. “I read a quote from her about how she wanted to be a change agent; she wasn’t waiting for change, she wanted to be the change. That inspired me to pursue osteopathic medicine and seek ways I can help.”

Thanks to her hard work and determination, Orebayo was accepted into the class of 2022 at KCU’s campus in Joplin, Missouri. Now in her second year of medical school, Orebayo also serves as a student leader, representing her fellow students on- and off-campus. She is the executive president of KCU-Joplin’s Student Government Association (SGA), and she also serves on the board of directors for two national organizations, the



“I saw that not a lot of African-Americans get a seat at the table, and that added to my motivation.”

—COMFORT OREBAYO, OMS III

Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents and the American Osteopathic Foundation.

Comfort says a desire to make a contribution on campus and serve others spurred her to run for a class office position. “I realized ever since I moved from being in the majority of the population, and coming into the U.S. and becoming part of the minority, I saw that not a lot of African-Americans get a seat at the table, and that added to my motivation,” she said.

As SGA president, Orebayo has helped lead the way in sharing the students’ perspectives with KCU administrators, faculty, and staff, improving communication and transparency. “One of the reasons I love KCU so much is seeing how receptive administrators are to listening to us speak and doing more for us. I love being there to get that 30,000-foot view, to see how much students can drive change on campus,” she said.

“Comfort balances her personal perspective with those of her peers, and regularly seeks input from classmates across both campuses,” said Nicole Brown, EdD,

assistant vice provost of student services. “She consistently represents her campus and cohort in a fair and equitable manner.”

One of the initiatives Orebayo says she is most proud of is the introduction of Compassion Rounds to KCU-Joplin. This program invites medical students to attend confidential meetings facilitated by campus counselors where they can discuss stressors related to their training and in their personal lives, as well as identify coping mechanisms.

“I wanted them to see that it wasn’t just them, it was the whole class feeling that way,” said Orebayo. “I wanted the students to feel that they’re not alone. I know how much of an impact learning that has made on me.” ▲

Left: Orebayo was born and raised in Nigeria, a country that has experienced a severe shortage of health-care providers . **Center:** Orebayo studying alongside fellow medical students . **Right:** Orebayo in her White Coat.

coming home '19

More than 350 alumni and guests gathered on the Kansas City campus September 12-14 to reacquaint and reminisce as well as attend CME sessions.

Activities throughout the three-day Homecoming celebration included the annual meeting of the Alumni Association, Alumni Awards and Recognition Dinner, campus BBQ and picnic, and Class Reunion Dinners attended by 13 classes.



Below: Marc B. Hahn, DO, KCU President and CEO, visited with Herman J. Barthel, DO (COM '84), Star Spangled Banner Medallion award recipient.



Top: Kip Van Camp, DO (COM '90), Miriam McKinney, Phillip Vitte (left to right) **Upper Right:** Marc B. Hahn, DO, KCU President and CEO greets guests at the Alumni Awards Recognition Dinner. **Lower Right:** Student doctors Katherine Haakana, Somi Singh, Vinuth Koduru and Madison Steilen





Top: KCU's students join returning alumni at the Homecoming picnic.
Second from top: Adam Whaley-Connell, DO (COM '01), Jason Knackstedt, Cameron D. Knackstedt, DO (COM '75), Nathan C. Knackstedt, DO (COM '01), Thomas R. Randall, DO (COM '05), John M. Satchell, DO (COM '83), Daryl J. Callahan, DO (COM '88) (left to right) **Below:** Marc B. Hahn, DO, and Darwin J. Strickland, DO (COM '65)
Lower right: Stephen H. Radinsky, DO (COM '69) and his wife Myra Radinsky and Stephen J. Bazzano, DO (COM '69).

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP 2019

Officers:

- President* Ross Sciara, DO (COM '71)
- President-Elect* Mary Franz, DO (COM '90)
- Vice-President* Thomas Randall, DO (COM '05)
- Immediate Past President* Cameron Knackstedt, DO (COM '75)
- Treasurer* Nathan Hall, DO (COM '10)
- Secretary* Sarah Mingucci, DO (COM '09)
- Trustee* Darwin Strickland, DO (COM '65)

Directors:

- Karen Evans, DO (COM '00)
- Edward Glinski, DO (COM '75)
- Carl Inzerillo, DO (COM '74)
- Elaine Joslyn, DO (COM '84)
- Richard Ogden, DO (COM '80)
- Mark Schwartz, DO (COM '10)
- Frank Totta, DO (COM '95)

SAVE THE DATE
SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2020

Join us for KCU's Homecoming 2020!



2019 Alumni Awards

During the Homecoming Awards Recognition Dinner, the following recipients were awarded these prestigious honors by their fellow alumni and KCU:

Adam Whaley-Connell, DO (COM '01)
 Alumni Achievement Award

Kenneth Shaw, DO (COM '13) and Errin Weisman, DO (COM '11)
 Young Alumni Achievement Award

Leonard Mennen, DO (COM '63)
 Alumni Service Award

Herman Barthel, DO (COM '84)
 Star-Spangled Banner Medallion

Cameron Knackstedt, DO (COM '75)
 Alumnus of the Year Award

Larry McIntire, DO
 Distinguished Service Award



hello, KCU

Above: Alex Hopkins connects with Joseph Dorsten, DO (COM '69), and Sally Dorsten at the recent KCU Alumni Dinner during AOA.

ALEX HOPKINS, DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI DEVELOPMENT AND ANNUAL GIVING

As KCU's new director of Alumni Development and Annual Giving, Alex Hopkins has connected with alumni across the country. He started in June 2019 and has already traveled to Baltimore, Phoenix, Wichita and Dallas.

Hopkins is embracing his new position, "It's so important for me to meet face-to-face with alumni. I feel very lucky that the biggest focus of my job is building relationships. I have already made some great friends, and I'm excited about meeting more of KCU's amazing alumni."

As director of Alumni Development and Annual Giving at KCU, Alex is responsible for the planning and implementation of programs, projects and events to strengthen alumni and student engagement. Additionally, he is responsible for the management and execution of KCU's comprehensive annual giving program.

Alex comes to KCU from the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, where he was the executive director of Alumni Affairs. Prior to his work at Baylor, Alex was at the University of Missouri from 2007 to 2014 as manager of Alumni Affairs at the School of Medicine and as Director of the Medical School Foundation. ▲

ALEX HOPKINS
AHOPKINS@KCUMB.EDU
816-654-7288

2020 CALENDAR

SPRING

April 10-11
Kansas Association of Osteopathic
Medicine (KAOM)
Overland Park, KS

April 16-17
Midwest Bioinformatics Conference
KCU Campus- *Kansas City, MO*

April 30-May 2
Missouri Association of Osteopathic
Physicians & Surgeons (MAOPS)
Lake of the Ozarks, MO

May 9
Commencement Ceremony- *Kansas City, MO*

SUMMER

July 23
White Coating Ceremony
Kansas City Campus- *Kansas City, MO*

July 25
White Coating Ceremony
Joplin Campus- *Joplin, MO*

FALL

Sept 10-12
KCU Homecoming
Kansas City Campus- *Kansas City, MO*

MIDWEST Bioinformatics CONFERENCE



April 16-17, 2020—Kansas City University, Kansas City Campus

This conference will bring together bioinformatics-minded researchers from academia and industry to discover capabilities, share tactical approaches to problem-solving, explore synergies, and launch potential collaborations. This event will include a poster session and mock interviews for student attendees.

CLASS NOTES

1980

Thomas Ely, DO, FACOFP, FAAFP (COM '80) has been named president-elect of the American Osteopathic Association. He will lead the national organization as

2020-21 president. Ely has been on the AOA Board of Trustees for the past 13 years and is a past president of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association and also served on Tennessee's osteopathic medical licensing board for nine years.

A commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Medical Corps., he completed a family medicine internship and residency at

DeWitt Army Community Hospital in Fort Belvoir, Va. After retiring from the Army in 1988 as a lieutenant colonel, Ely went into private practice in Clarksville, TN and spent 13-years as chief medical officer for Gateway Medical Center.



1998

Dan McCarty, DO (COM '98) will become the Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine (KAOM) president in 2020. He completed his Internship at Tulsa Regional Medical Center and his residency at Oklahoma State University Health Care Center.

2002

Col. Patrick T. Birchfield, DO (COM '02) assumed command of Blanchfield Army Community Hospital and the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity Fort Campbell during a change of command ceremony in June.

Birchfield graduated with a bachelor of science degree in Biology from The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 1995. He served as an airborne treatment platoon leader and company executive officer with the 261st Area Support Medical Battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After graduating from KCU, he completed a transitional internship at Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center in 2003, and in 2004 earned a master of public health degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.



Birchfield completed his aerospace medicine residency at the Naval Operational Medicine Institute in 2006 and in that same year became board certified in aerospace medicine from the American Osteopathic Board of Occupational and Preventive Medicine. From there, he served as the battalion flight surgeon for the 6-101st Aviation Regiment. During that time, he served a year in Afghanistan as the Task Force Shadow flight surgeon stationed at Bagram Air Base. From 2009 until 2011, he served as the Brigade flight surgeon for the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade during which time he served as the Task Force Destiny flight surgeon for a year at Kandahar Air Base in Southern Afghanistan.

2003

Colonel Andrew B. Hyatt, DO (COM '03) was appointed the State Air Surgeon, Missouri Air National Guard, Jefferson City, MO. As the Missouri State Air Surgeon Colonel Hyatt serves as the Chief Medical Officer of the Missouri Air National Guard and as primary liaison for the individual medical/aeromedical units/homeland response force/critical care air transport units, the Center for Sustainment of Trauma and Readiness Skills (CSTARS), the Adjutant General, the Air Surgeon of the Air National Guard, and the Missouri Army National Guard Chief Surgeon on force protection medical issues, aspects of homeland security, and other medical matters.



2009

Paul Perry, DO (COM '09) has joined St. Luke's Internal Medicine Associates in Minnesota as a hospitalist. Dr. Perry completed his residency in internal medicine at Beaumont Hospital in Trenton, Mich.



2010

Ian Cassaday, DO (COM '10) joined SSM Health St. Anthony Health Medical Group in Oklahoma City, Okla. Dr. Cassaday is board certified in general surgery. He obtained his undergraduate degree from Iowa State University. After graduating from KCU, he completed his general surgery categorical internship and general surgery residency at William Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso, TX.

Brent Knudson, DO (COM '10) recently joined Trinity Health, in North Dakota, with expertise in joint replacement of the knee, hip, and shoulder. He also has a passion for taking care of sport-related injuries and routine fractures. He completed residency training through Michigan State University at McLaren Oakland and served for five years as a flight surgeon with the Air Force and Air Force National Guard.

2012

Courtney Cockerell, DO (COM '12) recently joined the staff at SSM Health St. Clare Hospital in Fenton, Mo. Dr. Cockerell completed her residency at St. Louis University School of Medicine. She is a board-certified gastroenterologist and is a member of the American College of Gastroenterology and American



Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

2014

Joshua Weir, DO, (COM '14) joined West Virginia University of Medicine from the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center Stephenson Cancer Center, where he completed a residency in radiation oncology. While at KCU he was a Research Fellow/Cancer/Biology/Cancer Immunology followed by a position as a



Research Scientist at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

2016

John Miller, DO (COM '16) has joined Clinton Memorial Hospital, in Wilmington, Ohio as an emergency medicine physician. Dr. Miller completed his residency at St. Vincent's Mercy Medical Center in Toledo, OH.

Austin Dalrymple, DO (COM '90), was named the Arthritis Foundation's medical champion for 2019. Dalrymple is a pediatric rheumatologist and an assistant professor of pediatrics at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. Dalrymple practices at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. Dalrymple graduated from Pittsburg State University, Kansas City University



and completed his residency, chief residency, and fellowship at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.

1993

Dr. Ron Holt, DO (COM '93) was among four individuals honored as Outstanding Alumni at Wayne State College on Oct. 4. In December 2016, Holt released his first book on

Amazon entitled "PRIDE: You Can't Heal if You're Hiding From Yourself." In 2017, he and his husband, Dr. William Huggett, released their first LGBTQ-themed coloring book. Since then they have published several coloring books both supporting LGBTQ people and helping physicians with stress reduction through meditation and coloring. In

March 2017, Holt left his corporate medicine job to further his community service and devote more time to writing. In May 2019, he was elected to Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, which is the highest honor the APA can bestow upon a member.



Have news to share? Please contact email@email.com with your latest professional updates.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: ELAINE JOSLYN, DO

Elaine Joslyn, DO, FACP (COM '84) has answered several life-changing calls in her celebrated career as a doctor of osteopathic medicine and noted community activist and philanthropist.

Her dream began in 1963—an exciting time in young Joslyn's life. She had developed an interest in medicine in high school, and as an undergraduate student at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Missouri, she set her academic aspirations on becoming a physician. She married her sweetheart, David, they started a family, and the would-be physician made the difficult choice to abandon her dream.

“At that time, motherhood and medicine just weren't compatible,” Joslyn says. “I didn't know what the future held beyond raising a family. But believe me, turning my back on medicine was tough.”

Fast forward to the late 1970s when Joslyn—living in the Kansas City area, the mother of three sons and devoted wife to David, an AT&T employee—attended a for-women-only church seminar. The focus was “Women Moving into the 1980s” and during a values clarification exercise, Joslyn felt the reawakening of her dream.

“
At that time, motherhood
and medicine just weren't
compatible. I didn't know
what the future held beyond
raising a family.”

—DR. JOSLYN

“The workshop leader asked us to reflect on our lives and if we could do anything, what would that look like,” Joslyn says. “Instantly the idea of becoming a doctor popped into my mind, but I really thought it was a dream I had moved far, far beyond.”

With the encouragement and support of her husband, she courageously applied to medical school at age 36.

Joslyn was accepted to Kansas City University (KCU) College of Osteopathic Medicine and graduated with a strong sense of honor and deep personal calling to fulfill a mission every day to care for people. After completing her internship, Joslyn worked full time at KCU for nine years, serving in three positions: Director of Clinic, Program Director for Residents and Chair of General Practice Department.

Offered an academic role in 1994, she was compelled instead to care for the people in her Northeast Kansas City neighborhood and opened a small private practice, Neighborhood Family Care, Inc., on Independence Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri. Joslyn crafted a personal mission statement and posted it in her office as a daily reminder, “Competent, compassionate osteopathic care.”

That personal mission also included serving as medical director of Kansas City's Don Bosco Refugee Health Screenings, where Joslyn provided physicals to countless immigrants. She recalls the ongoing source of inspiration that came from listening to each individual's distinctive story of hope, disappointment and dreams.

Strengthening her advocacy for the medically underserved, in 2005 Joslyn formed Northeast Neighbor to Neighbor, a nonprofit that continues today to provide effective support and access to basic and specialty health care for the underinsured.

Joslyn sold Neighborhood Family Care in 2017 to KC Free Health Clinic, now KC CARE Health Center, a community health partner to KCU. In a seamless transition, her employees were hired to work in the new practice and all of the patients transferred to the new clinic.

Now retired from private practice, Joslyn remains passionate about the solemn responsibility of the doctor-patient relationship, regarding it as the beating heart of health care. She continues to answer the call of helping people, serving on the board of her neighborhood nonprofit, as well as myriad professional and community organizations, including the KCU Alumni Board, the DiRenna Foundation for the Advancement of Osteopathic Family Medicine, Northeast KC CID Board, and a church board. ▲



IN MEMORIAM

Join us in honoring the alumni and friends we have recently lost.

Donald Arlinsky, DO (COM '64)

Paul E. Armstrong, DO (COM '57)

Oscar J. Bailes, DO (COM '52)

Robert G. Bebout, DO (COM '77)

Ray E. Bishop, DO (COM '46)

Richard D. Chandler, DO (COM '65)

Richard J. Filippi, DO (COM '63)

A. John Geiger, DO (COM '77)

Paul J. Gerardi, DO (COM '79)

Bernard Greenspan, DO (COM '66)

Emerson W. Ireland, DO (COM '77)

Ben S. Johnson, DO (COM '81)

James J. Jungels, DO (COM '79)

Robert W. Moore, DO (COM '78)

Robert M. Osborn, DO (COM '69)

Jalil Parsa, DO (COM '57)

Daniel M. Pontius, DO (COM '72)

Margaret A. Porcelli, DO (COM '77)

Anthony E. Scardino, Jr., DO (COM '64)

Kathleen K. Schultz, DO (COM '74)

James G. Swad, DO (COM '67)





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