



A Publication of The Foundation of The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

Wakefern/ShopRite Honors Chairman At Annual Meeting



(l) George F. Heinrich, MD, vice chair and CEO of the Foundation of UMDNJ with (r) Tom Infusino, past chairman and CEO of Wakefern Food Corporation

In a tribute to his 34 years of service as the chairman and CEO of Wakefern Food Corporation, colleagues of Tom Infusino presented him with an endowed chair at their annual meeting that will be used to fund education, research or patient care programs at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School in Newark.

An endowed chair is one of the most highly prized gifts that can be acquired by any university. It is an academic appointment that carries with it a stable, guaranteed source of funding, according to Russell T. Joffe, MD, The Sharon and Joseph L. Muscarelle Endowed Dean of New Jersey Medical School.

“An endowment provides an enduring commitment to science and education,” said John Petillo, PhD, president of UMDNJ, as he presented the chair to Mr. Infusino. “It also serves as a wonderful tribute to the person whose name it bears.”

The endowment will receive a 20 percent match from the Foundation of UMDNJ as part of a new program recently initiated by the Foundation.

Mr. Infusino will be responsible for choosing the chair holder from those who apply with detailed proposals. This will give him the ability to select someone he believes best represents the area of excellence of most importance to him.

“Tom has done so much during his tenure as chairman to contribute to Wakefern’s success,” said Joseph Colalillo, newly appointed chairman and CEO of Wakefern. “The endowment at UMDNJ and the lasting benefit it will have to our community is a fitting way for us to say ‘thanks’ to the man who has

continued on page 4

Content

- 1** | Wakefern/ShopRite Honors Chairman
- 2** | Newark Cancer Center Receives Support
- 3** | Rohrer Foundation Funds Research
- 4** | Michael Katz Honored
- 5** | Fund Helps Memory Live On
- 5** | RWJMS Scholarship Reception
- 6** | Foundation News
- 7** | Planned Gift Will Benefit Cardiovascular Disease Research

Newark Cancer Center Receives Support



(l-r) Mary Hess, Komen Foundation affiliate grant coordinator; Chris Sickels, director of development, Foundation of UMDNJ; Jeanne Ferrante, MD; Deb Belfatto, executive director, Komen Foundation; Lisa Burke and John Oliva, Komen Foundation trustees

The new Cancer Center being built in Newark as a cooperative effort between New Jersey Medical School and The University Hospital recently received two generous gifts to support its growth.

The Susan G. Komen Foundation awarded \$50,000 in support of the Center's established Sister-to-Sister Navigator Program, which provides women who may have cultural, linguistic or economic barriers with assistance in navigating the health care system. The goal of the program is to increase the number of women in Newark receiving mammograms, decrease the length of time from abnormal screening to diagnosis and treatment, and ultimately, decrease mortality from breast cancer. Currently, the program helps women access existing services and learn about future resources at the new center, which is expected to open in the Summer, 2006.

The University Hospital Auxiliary has pledged \$1 million to support the University Hospital Auxiliary Cancer Center Healing Garden that will surround the Center. The Garden is designed to provide a place for patients and their families that is peaceful and therapeutic. The Healing Garden is considered a critical part of a patient's clinical treatment plan and will make a significant impact on reducing the stress and anxiety that typically affects cancer patients.

To find out how you can support these and other initiatives at the Cancer Center, contact Christopher Sickels, director of development, Foundation of UMDNJ, at (973) 972-4265 or via e-mail at sickelce@umdnj.edu.

The Foundation of UMDNJ

George F. Heinrich, MD
Vice Chairman and CEO

James M. Golubieski
President

Dale R. Heffler
Vice President, Communications

Debi Price
Writer

120 Albany Street
Tower II, Suite 850
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

65 Bergen Street
Suite 1551
Newark, NJ 07101-1709

One Medical Center Drive
Academic Center, Suite 146
Stratford, NJ 08084

Toll-free (866) 44-UMDNJ

www.umdnj.edu/foundation

Please send comments:
d.heffler@umdnj.edu

Rohrer Foundation Funds Medical Research at SOM

In its continuing efforts to support the needs of South Jersey residents, the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation has made a generous gift of \$500,000 to the UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine's Center for Aging in Stratford.

The donation will establish a permanent endowment to fund clinical and biomedical research as the center expands to become the New Jersey Institute of Successful Aging. As part of the expansion, Rachel Pruchno, PhD, one of the nation's leading authorities on aging, has recently joined the staff as the director of geriatric research.

"A gift to the Institute for Successful Aging seemed a perfect way to pay tribute to my father, who, in his lifetime, was interested in programs that would help seniors live more productive lives," explained Linda Rohrer, one of the trustees of the Foundation and daughter of Bill Rohrer. "This project would have been dear to his heart, so I am very happy our Foundation has a chance to support the Institute."

The Center for Aging is a nationally recognized leader in geriatric education and is a unique center of clinical care for the elderly in South Jersey. For the past six years, *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked it among the top 20 geriatric education programs in the nation.

"This endowment will significantly enhance the Center for Aging's ability to move aging research to the next level," explained Anita Chopra, MD, director of the Center for Aging.

Thomas Cavalieri, DO, the founding director of the Center for Aging, and professor and chairman of the department of medicine, is leading the initiative to create the statewide Institute for Successful Aging.

"This award will enhance the institute's statewide mission of improving the quality of life of New Jersey's elderly by promoting successful aging," said Dr. Cavalieri.



Linda Rohrer with photo of her late father, William G. Rohrer

Michael Katz Honored



Michael S. Katz

Throughout his 25-year tenure as the University Director of Student Financial Aid at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Michael S. Katz helped thousands of students finance their educations through scholarships, grants and loans.

He had been a tremendous advocate for students, working through multiple programs to keep default rates low, allowing future students to benefit from many financial aid programs. Mr. Katz is also highly regarded on a national level within the higher education community as an expert on financing degrees related to health professionals. He has been instrumental in lobbying for and against legislation regarding financial aid funding which impacted UMDNJ students.

“As Michael retired from our University and moved on to other sectors of higher education to

continue his good work, it seemed fitting to honor him by establishing the Michael S. Katz Endowed Scholarship which will be used to help students finance their educations here at UMDNJ,” explained Elaine Varas, university director of financial aid. “We were proud to have had such an esteemed and professional individual as part of our team.”

The scholarship was funded by a generous lead gift from The Sallie Mae Fund, followed by many more donations from outside organizations and individuals. The first scholarship is expected to be awarded in January 2006.

To support the Michael S. Katz Endowed Scholarship, contact Regina Beleckas Kelly at the Foundation of UMDNJ, (732) 235-3303 or via e-mail at kellyrb@umdnj.edu.

Wakefern/ShopRite Honors Chairman

continued from page 1

dedicated his life’s work to championing the cooperative spirit and giving back to the community.”

Although Mr. Infusino is stepping down as chairman and CEO, he will remain on the board and continue as president of the Nutley Park ShopRite.

Under Mr. Infusino’s leadership, ShopRite has become the largest retailer-owned cooperative in the United States and one of the largest employers in New Jersey.

Fund Helps Memory Live On

A fund established in 2002 to honor the memory of Albert P. Shih, MD, recently had significant impact on the educations of two anesthesiology residents who traveled to Ecuador as part of a humanitarian mission organized by the University. The residents were part of a team that provided operations for 25 children who had cleft lips and palates.

To date, the Albert P. Shih, MD, Education Fund, which was started by Emily Shih, her family and her friends, has received just over \$55,000 to advance the educations of residents, fellows and students in the Department of Anesthesiology at New Jersey Medical School. Dr. Shih was a member of the faculty from 1976 until his death in 2002.

“I am so grateful that this Fund was established in honor of my husband, as it has lessened the pain in his loss (if that is possible). Just knowing that his memory lives on to continue ‘good deeds’ is certainly a great source of comfort,” explained Mrs. Shih.



Albert P. Shih, MD

Donors and Students Meet at Reception

Donors and the students they support had a chance to meet recently at the first annual Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Scholarship Reception hosted by Dean Harold Paz, MD, and the Foundation of UMDNJ.

“As scholarship donors, your gifts mean far more than the dollar amount you donate to our school. In giving to us as students, you give the gift of possibility, belief, hope and confidence. For that we are all grateful,” scholarship recipient John Josephson, RWJMS '06, told the group of 40 who gathered for the event.

To find out more about how you can fund named or endowed scholarships at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, contact Erin Hardy, associate director of development, at (732) 235-5108 or via e-mail at hardyee@umdnj.edu.



Carol A. Terregino, MD, associate dean for admissions at RWJMS who initiated and supports the class of 1986 scholarship, with recipients Michael Murphy, '08 (l) and Richard Byrne, '07 (r)

Foundation News



James Golubieski



Dale R. Heffler



Mark H. Mazer



Kevin Ralph



Diane Underwood

The Foundation is pleased to announce the following new appointments and promotions:

James M. Golubieski, president of the Foundation of UMDNJ, has been elected Vice Chairman of the National Board of Directors of Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic® (RFB&D®), headquartered in Princeton. He will also serve as Chairman of the Audit and Strategic Planning committees and a member of the Executive and Finance committees.

RFB&D is the number one producer in the world of audio textbooks for people with disabilities that make reading standard print difficult or impossible.

Dale R. Heffler has been promoted to the position of Vice President, Communications. Mrs. Heffler joined the Foundation in 2000. She will continue to be responsible for all aspects of the Foundation's communications efforts including publications, media relations and web site development. She can be reached at (732) 235-3310 or at d.heffler@umdnj.edu.

Mark H. Mazer is a new Research Assistant responsible for helping to identify and match the interests of potential donors with worthy projects and programs in need of funding. Mr. Mazer was previously employed by BASF Corporation as Manager of Business Research and Corporate Philanthropy. He can be reached at (732) 235-5115 or via e-mail at mazerm@umdnj.edu.

Kevin Ralph has been appointed a Director of Development for the New Brunswick campus. Mr. Ralph is responsible for fundraising for the Stem Cell Institute of New Jersey, the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine, the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute and the Departments of Neurology and Neuroscience & Cell Biology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He has worked in higher education for 11 years in the areas of development and alumni affairs at Drew, Towson and Rider Universities and Thomas Edison State College. He can be reached at (732) 235-5188 or at ralphke@umdnj.edu.

Diane Underwood has joined the staff as an Accounting Assistant, responsible for Accounts Payable & Gift Processing. She was previously employed at Highgate LTC Management as the Accounts Payable Coordinator, assisting with the daily operations of five nursing home facilities. Mrs. Underwood can be reached at (732) 235-8091 or via e-mail at underwdi@umdnj.edu.

Planned Gift Earmarked For Cardiovascular Research

“When my husband developed heart disease back in 1984, his doctor told us that the best hospital to help him was in Texas, so we traveled there to be treated by Dr. Denton Cooley,” explained Corea S. Keener of Stockholm, NJ. “After my husband’s death in 2004, I decided that I would bequeath our estate to help an organization in New Jersey so that others with cardiac disease could stay close to home to get the high quality care they need.”



Knowing that her interests lie in advancing the treatment of heart disease, Mal Wernik, director of planned giving at the Foundation of UMDNJ, suggested to Mrs. Keener that her gift be donated to the Foundation for the benefit of the Cardiovascular Institute of New Jersey (CVINJ). She agreed.



“I researched the Foundation and the work that the Cardiovascular Institute is involved with and I knew it was a good match for me. I have confidence in how the Foundation of UMDNJ is run and I’m certain my gift will be used exactly as I have designated,” she said.

Corea Keener with John Kostis, MD

John Kostis, MD, founding director of the Cardiovascular Institute and a world-renowned cardiologist, is honored by her gift. The two met recently so that Dr. Kostis could talk with Mrs. Keener about the work of the CVINJ. Following their conversation, Mrs. Keener felt relieved to know there was a place close to home where people could receive the same high quality care and expertise that she and her husband received in Texas.

“When my husband became ill, I was forced to learn a lot about our health care system and heart disease,” Mrs. Keener said. “Dr. Kostis is a very dedicated, humble man who is involved in ground-breaking research that I know will someday change the way cardiovascular disease is treated. I am confident that my gift to the CVINJ will help others long after I am able to and that gives me great satisfaction.”

For more information about planned gifts to the University, contact the planned giving department at the Foundation of UMDNJ toll-free at (866) 44 UMDNJ.

Golf Outing Supports Scholarship

(l-r) Bernie Parent, Philadelphia Flyers Hall of Fame goalie; Gary Schlosser, vice president government banking, Commerce Bank; James Golubieski, president, Foundation of UMDNJ; Robert Curley, III, regional vice president, Commerce Bank; and Jack Tarditi, vice chairman, Commerce Insurance Services



Commerce Bank has donated \$7,500 each year for the past five years to sponsor the annual Southern New Jersey Scholarships Golf Outing that provides scholarships for students in South Jersey enrolled in the School of Osteopathic Medicine and the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School-Camden.



120 Albany Street
Tower II, Suite 850
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Foundation of UMDNJ