

thebulletin

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI NEWS



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points of **Pride**

- For the first time in our history, two clinical departments, pediatrics at #3 and neurosurgery at #9, reached the top ten nationally in NIH funding.
- The Carnegie Foundation asked us to be part of the new Flexner report, a study that will analyze the current state of medical education and innovative approaches to teaching medicine.
- We were one of twenty schools chosen by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement to join their consortium to change rates of medical error through new curricula.
- USF Health built a Center for Advanced Clinical Learning, where students across disciplines can learn communication and clinical skills for their futures in team-based care.
- Construction started on new outpatient centers (\$100 million plus) to use state-of-the-art technology for patient safety, service, and superior education.
- Endorsement by our community through multi-million dollar gifts, including recent gifts worth over \$30 million for wide ranging initiatives from outpatient care to neonatal intensive care.



from the **Dean**

Welcome to the first issue of *The Bulletin*, an alumni publication with a focus on YOU. As valued alumni from the USF College of Medicine, it is important that you are updated on the latest accomplishments of your alma mater. I hope that we cover stories that instill pride in your degree and make you excited to reconnect with classmates and faculty.

Stephen K. Klasko, MD, MBA
VICE PRESIDENT, USF HEALTH, DEAN, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



Every day we continue to set the bar higher due to USF's outstanding achievements. Currently, Pediatrics is ranked third in the nation and Neurosurgery is ninth for NIH research funding, the college was asked to be part of the new "Flexner" report for its creative approach to teaching medicine, and we were one of 20 schools chosen by the Institutes for Healthcare Improvement to join their collaboration of healthcare professional schools. We are garnering attention across the nation and are poised to be one of the most innovative medical schools in the country and truly one of the best places to learn.

We continue to attract the best and the brightest students, especially as the college acquires national prominence. In an effort to attract and retain competitive medical students, we have placed a strong emphasis on scholarship due to the increasing cost of medical school. Because our scholarship endowment is low, we suffer in our ability to recruit or attract the very best students, especially those from diverse backgrounds. USF has been successful in admitting superlative students, but due to the addition of new medical schools in the state, we must focus on scholarship as a way to stay competitive.

We will continue to strive to keep you informed about USF's accomplishments, updated on the condition of our current students and, most importantly, connected to one another. I hope that you will join us as we embark on our journey to become the national model for health care.

At the College of Medicine we are making a concerted effort to reconnect our alumni to the college. We have established an alumni website that can be used as a tool to reconnect with your classmates, sign up for events and keep up with the college. Please visit us at www.usfhealthalumni.net for new developments.

Alumni spotlight



Wow! Has it really been 18 years since I left USF to pursue residency and fellowship? What an amazing time it has been – for me and for USF!

Valerie Riddle, Class of 1989

I have watched in awe as USF has grown exponentially to become the 9th largest university in the country. Research dollars are flowing in, the football team is defeating heavy-weight competitors in the Big East, and the university is garnering attention throughout the entire nation. Our alma mater is officially on the map and something to be proud of.

I am now Medical Director of a small biotechnology company in Annapolis, Maryland focused on developing medical

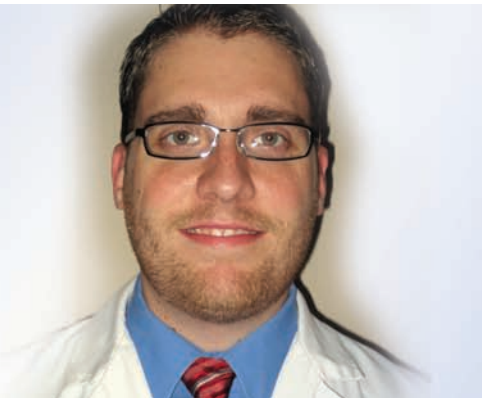
countermeasures for biological and chemical threats. Even though I have not lived in Tampa since 1991, my enthusiasm for staying in touch with USF remains as strong as ever. I still make it back to campus twice a year to catch a game and have recently started to give back by way of financial donations to the College of Medicine. I feel it is important to stay connected because, after all, as an alum, my degree is only as good as the reputation of the university and I feel responsible for playing my part in its success.

Whether I am close by or a world away, I will always find a way to stay connected to my alma mater. I am grateful for the training I received and the friends and faculty who made me feel like I was part of a family. I hope my fellow alumni feel the same sentiments for the college as I do, because together we can help that ensure the University of South Florida continues to make us proud!

focus on **Students**

My Family at USF:

Medical students are taught how to deal with tragedies, but learning about tragedy and dealing with personal instances of it are quite different.



Scott Perrin, Class of 2007

During my third year clerkships, my own personal tragedy struck when a cousin died from carbon monoxide poisoning. I was very close to my cousin and his death sent me into an emotional tailspin in the midst of an incredibly challenging curriculum. I remember having difficulty focusing on clinical duties, feeling emotionally numb and isolated from my patients, and considered withdrawing from the program in order to seek help.

At this point in my fledgling medical career I was confronted with a wealth of familial-like support at the college; support which was unexpected, and entirely welcomed. I began to reach out to people for guidance, and receiving it in abundance from faculty and friends. My various faculty mentors and Dr. Specter, the Dean of Student Affairs, offered encouraging words of advice and motivation. The open ears of my fellow classmates helped me gain perspective into my situation and I slowly regained my emotional bearings.

Through this terrible circumstance in my life, I have learned one of the most valuable lessons: that, in the words of John Donne, "No man is an island." I will forever recognize my dependence on the friends, faculty mentors and administrators. My experiences at the USF College of Medicine will prove beneficial beyond the education I have received, for I have been imprinted by the compassion and empathy expressed in my own tragic time.

Class notes

For more class notes, visit <http://collegeofmedicine.ushealthalumni.net>

- **Alan Kuban, '78**, lives in Agoura Hills, CA with his wife of 20 years, Linda and their 15 year old son, Drew. He is the Director of an Emergency Department and Chief of Staff at the hospital where he works.
- **Glenn Singer, '78**, lives with his wife, Caren, and three daughters in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He practices pulmonary, critical care and sleep at Broward General in Fort Lauderdale
- **Risë Ross, '80**, is a Radiologist in San Antonio, TX and has three children and three step children.
- **Caren Bechuck Singer, '80**, lives with her husband Glenn (married 27 years!) and three daughters in Fort Lauderdale, FL. She is doing Internal Medicine as part of MDVIP concierge medicine.
- **Eddie Sassoon, '84**, lives in Ft Lauderdale, FL with his wife Susa and two children Andrew and Mara. He works in Physical Medicine.
- **Kenneth A Clark, '86**, and his wife, Lori, have two sons. His career has taken him from Norfolk, VA to Dunedin, FL then Glasgow MT and back to Virginia.
- **Valerie Riddle, '89**, lives in Crofton, MD with her husband David Reader and her dog Kyle. She has a stepson, Stephen. She is Vice President/Medical Director at a small biotechnology company, PharmAthene.
- **Scott Crowder, '92**, now practices psychiatry in Wilmington, NC. He is married with two spoiled golden retrievers.
- **Christina Delgado, '94**, lives in Tampa, FL. She is engaged to Alex McKnight and has been a partner at Brandon Anesthesia Associates since 1998.
- **Sandra Stock, '94**, lives in Temple Terrace, FL and is currently an Associate Professor and the Training Director for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at USF in the department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine. She has been married for 14 years.
- **Alvin F. Wells, '96**, lives in North Chicago with his wife Gina and 14-year-old twins, Nicholas and Louisa. He is the owner and Director of the Rheumatology and Immunotherapy Center. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the N. Chicago Medical School and Adjunct Assistant Professor at Duke University Medical Center.
- **George M Northrup, MD '97**, has a practice in South Tampa in general and forensic psychiatry. He recently opened Thee Weight Loss Clinic.
- **Kira Zwygart, '98**, lives in Brandon, FL with her husband Todd Amaden and 3 year old son, Caleb. She works at the USF College of Medicine in the Department of Family Medicine.
- **Anthony L. Cabreira, '98**, lives in Winter Park, FL with his wife Jill Ancion-Cabreira and their three year old son. Anthony had a solo practice.
- **Edward Duckworth, '99**, is finishing a Cerebrovascular/Cranial Base Fellowship at Northeastern University in June 2007. In July of 2007 he will begin as Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery at Loyola University (Chicago).
- **Vasil Parousis, '99**, lives in Cumberland, Maryland with his wife Fiona Gallacher. He is employed at Psychologist Urology Associates in his third year of General Urology.
- **Richard Castellano, '99**, currently lives in North Tampa, FL and has a practice in Facial Plastic Surgery.
- **Angela Diane Alfaro, '00**, graduated from the Florida Hospital Family Practice Program in Orlando, FL. She is married to Rafael (Max) Alfaro and has four children. She currently lives in Haines City and works at St. Anthony's Primary Care in St. Petersburg.
- **Adrian Hamburger, '01**, lives in Westerly, RI and has an 18 month old son with his wife Nikki. He is currently the Medical Director of the Westerly Spine and Pain Center.
- **David Eichenbaum, '01**, is finishing a Vitreoretinal Surgery fellowship at Tufts New England Eye Center and Ophthalmic Consultants of Boston. He plans on returning to Florida for practice in the summer of 2007.
- **Abhi Bharne, '01**, currently lives in Los Angeles, CA and is in his 2nd year of pulmonary/critical care fellowship at Cedars-Sinai.
- **Julia (Heekin) Cogburn, '01**, lives in Tampa with her husband Matthew Cogburn and one year old daughter, Samantha. She is completing a fellowship in medical oncology at Moffitt Cancer Center.
- **Seth Kanowitz, '01**, is married to Julia Kanowitz and is about to start at Lachman & Sorvino LLC, Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery in Morristown, NJ.
- **Danny Rosenthal, '01**, received a master's degree in Biomedical Informatics and an MPH, then moved to DC where he now lives and is finishing up an Internal Medicine residency.
- **Jesse Jacob, '01**, is an Infectious Diseases Fellow at Emory University. He lives in Atlanta, GA with is wife Natasha.
- **Alex N. Anton, '02**, is currently working for the Pediatric Health Care Alliance in Citrus Park.
- **Vipul Shah, '03**, is married to Kindra and is finishing his Ophthalmology residency at USF in June, 2007. This will be followed by a fellowship in Cornea and External Diseases at the University of Colorado, Denver.
- **Leena (Selvaraj) Hancock, '03**, lives in Tampa with her husband Dion. She will be joining the faculty at the USF/Morton Plant Mease Family Medicine Program in Clearwater, FL. She is currently completing her residency in Ob/Gyn at USF.
- **David E. Winchester, '05**, lives in Virginia with his wife Erin and is currently serving as President of the Housestaff at the University of Virginia Health System.

calendar of Events

save the date

October 13, 2007

**College of Medicine Reunion
Classes of 1977, 1987 and 1997**

We welcome you back to reconnect with fellow classmates and faculty!
Please join us for a fun-filled weekend and find out what's happening at your alma mater.

If you would like to volunteer for this year's Reunion Planning Committee, please contact Andrea Sasser at asasser@health.usf.edu or 813-974-6850

Classes of 1978, 1988 and 1998: If you are interested in setting the date early for your reunions, please contact Andrea Sasser by phone or email and we can start planning!

Faculty perspective



Greg and Carolyn Nicolosi to retire.

On June 1, 2007, after more than 30 years at the USF College of Medicine, Dr. Gregory Nicolosi and Mrs. Carolyn Nicolosi will retire.

BY DR. STEVEN SPECTER

Greg and Carolyn are among the most beloved faculty and staff members to have ever served the college. Greg was the founding Student Affairs Dean, who later became Executive Vice President and at one time acting Dean of the college. He has spent the last few years focusing on one of his first loves, teaching and improving the curriculum at the college. Carolyn continues to be “mom” to more than 2000 medical students and has nurtured many of those students to success.

The Nicolosis have been active and vital components of the fabric of the USF College of Medicine for the majority of the college’s existence. The Charter Class at USF’s College of Medicine began its journey on September 8, 1971 and Greg joined the team on June 1, 1972. Carolyn soon followed, becoming a part of the College of Medicine family on May 2, 1975. Their presence and participation has been critically important to the learning environment at the USF College of

Medicine and has contributed largely to the welcoming, hospitable atmosphere. These two individuals have given their hearts and talents to the USF College of Medicine, and for years to come, students will look back and reflect on the moments they shared with these incredibly dedicated mentors.

For information on the Retirement Reception in honor of Greg and Carolyn, please visit: <http://medicine.usfhealthalumni.net/>

USF Health is a partnership of the University of South Florida’s colleges of medicine, nursing, and public health; the schools of basic biomedical sciences and physical therapy & rehabilitation sciences; and the USF Physicians Group. It is a partnership dedicated to the promise of creating a new model of health and health care. One of the nation’s top 63 public research universities as designated by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, USF received more than \$310 million in research contracts and grants last year. It is ranked by the National Science Foundation as one of the nation’s fastest growing universities for federal research and development expenditures.

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EDITORS:
Andrea Sasser and
Rachael Van Loveren

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For more information,
comments, or suggestions
about this publication,
please call the Office
of Alumni Affairs at
(813) 974-6850

USF Health Development & Alumni Relations
12901 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, MDC 70
Tampa, Florida 33612

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