



**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Barbara B. Calkins, MD '96 – President  
Bruce H. Campbell, MD, GME '85  
Ronald J. Gerrits, PhD '99  
Matthew I. Goldblatt, MD '97, GME '04  
Neil R. Guenther, MD '83, GME '88  
George M. Lange, MD '75  
Jessica M. Olson, PhD '15, MPH '17

**Executive Director of Alumni Relations**

Angela K. Nelson  
alumni@mcw.edu / (414) 955-4780

**MCW MAGAZINE STAFF**

Sara L. Wilkins, MA, MPA – Executive Editor  
Greg Calhoun – Senior Editor  
Kristin Pelisek – Art Director  
Lyniece Rzepka – Web Production Consultant

**Contributing Writers:**

Holly Botsford, Anthony Braza, John Burlingham,



4 / NEWS FOR ALUMNI

8



# Expanding Alumni Connections

In my previous letter, I shared the various initiatives and priorities of the MCW/ Marquette Medical Alumni Association that were created as part of our Comprehensive Strategic Plan. One of the goals included to expand opportunities for alumni to engage with students in our Pharmacy, Graduate and Medical Schools, as well as our medical residents and fellows, through advocacy, mentoring, recruitment and volunteerism.

I am especially passionate about this goal and believe that alumni can have a positive impact on the educationaie ahrn4.9 1n

# STATREPORT



# National Grading Changes for USMLE Step 1 Exam

The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) announced that the US Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) program will change Step 1 exam grading from a three-digit numeric score to reporting only a pass/fail outcome. Numeric scores will continue to be shared for Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) and Step 3, while Step 2 Clinical Skills (CS) will continue to be conveyed as pass/fail. The new grading policy will be imple-

mented no earlier than January 1, 2022, and further details are anticipated to be announced later in 2020.

As the USMLE co-sponsors, the FSMB and NBME solicited significant input through the Invitational Conference on USMLE Scoring (InCUS), the follow-up InCUS report and suggestions, as well as the many local, regional and national discussions that related to the conference. After taking into account the wide-ranging views of all interested parties, the FSMB and NBME considered how to

best support the educational engagement and overall experience of medical students, especially in terms of advancing the dialogue about integrating multiple assessments of competency during the transition from medical school to residency programs.

The FSMB and NBME have stated that they see this change as a substantive first step toward more systemic changes that enhance student well-being and improve the progression of students into the graduate medical education system. [Q](#)

## MCW Offers New Master of Science in Global Health Equity

MCW has launched a new, highly interactive Master of Science in Global Health Equity program. Through this program, MCW teachers will prepare students to be global health leaders who learn by engaging with diverse communities throughout the world.

The program includes in-person and online courses with a common theme of health equity and an emphasis on community-engaged approaches to health improvement. Students will have the chance to learn from faculty members with extensive and diverse global health experiences.

Full-time students will be able to complete the program in three semesters and one summer. There is a part-time option available for working professionals. The priority deadline for fall admission was March 1, 2020, followed by rolling admissions until a final deadline of July 1. [Q](#)

See more at [mcw.edu/msghe](http://mcw.edu/msghe)

## MCW Earns Record Funding for Clinical Trials

MCW garnered a record amount of financial support for clinical trials in fiscal year 2019. MCW earned more than \$18 million for clinical trials based on data submitted to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) survey.

Since 2014, MCW's total clinical trial expenditures have trended upward. During fiscal year 2018, MCW achieved the distinction of having the most clinical trial funding of any academic institution in Wisconsin.

The HERD survey is the primary source of information regarding research and development expenditures at US colleges and universities. The survey is an annual census of institutions that expended at least \$150,000 in separately accounted for research and development.

MCW conducts more than 500 clinical trials each year to test tomorrow's treatments. Of these, more than 200 are cancer clinical trials that focus on reducing the burden of this disease in Wisconsin and beyond. [Q](#)

**G**eorge Frederick Kasten, Jr. (affectionately known as “Fred” or “Freddie”), was passionate about the idea of education, especially when it came to educating doctors in his beloved Milwaukee community. He particularly loved the education mission of MCW – and backed up that support with 12 years of service on MCW’s board of trustees, from 1996-2008.

“Freddie loved the idea of a medical college, of educating young men and women to become physicians, of having a teaching hospital right here in Milwaukee,” shares Kasten’s wife, Susie.



---

Kasten's belief in the value of educating physicians in Milwaukee was well served when in late December 2011, while on a family ski vacation in Park City, Utah, he experienced chest pains at 3:00 am and rushed to an emergency clinic there. To his great surprise – and delight – the young physician who treated him was an alumnus of MCW, which put Kasten at ease. “They were able to chat about people they knew in common in Milwaukee, and the doctor decided to do one

---

# MCW Welcomes New Leaders

## Gustavo W. Leone, PhD

Director, MCW Cancer Center

Senior Associate Dean of Cancer Research

Professor with Tenure, Department of Biochemistry

**G**ustavo W. Leone, PhD, was named director of the MCW Cancer Center (MCWCC), senior associate dean of cancer research, and professor with tenure in the department of biochemistry, effective April 15, 2020. Dr. Leone currently serves as director of the Hollings Cancer Center, a National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, S.C., professor in the department of biochemistry and molecular biology, and senior associate dean for oncology in the College of Medicine at MUSC. Additionally, Dr. Leone holds the Grace E. DeWol Endowed Chair in Medical Oncology at MUSC.

The MCWCC is the only academic cancer research center in the state that is accessible to large, unique and chronically underserved minority populations. It comprises almost 350 cancer researchers and physicians from more than 35 departments at MCW and its partner organizations. Dr. Leone will be a strategic leader who will work with faculty and staff to develop a vision and collaborative strategy that will capitalize on the upward trajectory of the MCWCC and the Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Network in growing strong and nationally recognized interdisciplinary programs in cancer-related research, education, clinical care and community engagement.

In addition to his extensive leadership experience, Dr. Leone is an esteemed scien-

## Joseph W. Gravel, Jr., MD

Chair, Department of Family and Community  
Medicine

Joseph W. Gravel, Jr., MD, was named chair of MCW's department of family and community medicine, effective September 30, 2019. He previously served as professor of family medicine & community health at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, Mass., and chief medical officer and chair of family medicine & community health at the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center in Lawrence, Mass.

Dr. Gravel currently serves as chair of the Academic Family Medicine Advocacy Committee, on the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's board of directors and on the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education's Review Committee for Family



---

physicians and other healthcare professionals to respond to the needs of families throughout the state.

“We are fortunate to have partners such as Sentry and the Sentry Insurance Foundation who value student scholarship, are invested in advancing research and patient care, and are committed to fueling medical education innovation,” says John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, president and CEO of MCW. “Their investment advances our shared goals of transforming medical education to create a healthier region and state – now and into the future.”

The Sentry Deanship is held by Lisa Grill Dodson, MD, founding dean of MCW-Central Wisconsin. Dr. Dodson’s leadership – with the support of the Sentry gift – will ensure that the necessary resources are available to support the highest strategic goals of the campus. An endowed deanship is one of the highest forms of recognition that an institution can bestow, as it recognizes distinctive accomplishments in education, research and patient care. Holders of these endowments are leaders in their fields. Dr. Dodson is nationally regarded for her leadership, commitment to an innovative medical curriculum and firm dedication to community engagement. As founding campus dean, she serves as the primary liaison for MCW’s healthcare, academic and community partnerships in the central Wisconsin region. This deanship also is the first deanship received by a faculty member of MCW.

“As our community ages over the next 10 to 15 years, and as more physicians retire, our state will face a critical shortage of primary care physicians, surgeons and psychiatrists,” explains Dr. Dodson. “These shortages will be felt most acutely in rural areas and underserved urban communities. We are honored that Sentry supports MCW in its efforts to address our physician shortage and provider maldistribution by training and graduating physicians every year at MCW-Central Wisconsin to help ensure that our region has the very best care.”

A 2017 study by the Association of American Medical Colleges stated that 70% of all physicians who both attended medical school in Wisconsin and then completed residency in Wisconsin remained in the state to practice, taking care of people they know and understand. This support is vital to improving the quality of care for communities in central Wisconsin.

The campus’s first Sentry-funded projects include working to increase the pipeline of rural and underrepresented students, increasing the opportunity for talented regional students to attend medical school close to home, and developing projects to promote and invest in the health and wellness of its students and faculty.

“We are making this gift to build healthier communities and to secure access to quality healthcare for families in central Wisconsin,” says Pete McPartland, chair of the board, president and CEO of Sentry, which is headquartered in Stevens Point, Wis. “The innovative programs provided by the Medical College of Wisconsin enrich us all, and we’re honored to stand with the institution in committing to improve the health of people here and across our state.”

Q

– MAUREEN REMMEL

The new space at MCW-Central Wisconsin offers a cohesive campus feel and features an open concept using glass and natural elements to inspire collaboration, clarity

# Spanning the Breadth of Pharmacy Practice

## Third-year Students Complete Advanced Pharmacy Practice Rotations

The increasing demand for more healthcare providers of primary and preventative care services means that the role of the pharmacist is changing. To that end, the MCW School of Pharmacy, through its innovative curriculum, is preparing students to fulfill this evolving role.

When students reach their full-time clinical rotations in the final year of the doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) program, they do so with certificates in hand for immunizations, diabetes management, medication therapy management and more. The inaugural class, which will graduate in May 2020, is finishing these rotations – known as Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs). By graduation, these third-year students will have completed seven unique APPEs that span the breadth of pharmacy practice.

One student, Christopher Tran, MBA, provided direct care to patients during his recent ambulatory care APPE at Cass Lake Indian Health Service (IHS) Unit in Cass Lake, Minn. Tran's daily activities included Medication Therapy Management, physical assessments, tobacco cessation counseling and disease state management. "Every day I would counsel at least 20 patients and administered nearly 150 influenza and shingles vaccinations in the six-week span of my rotation. I also was able to travel to neighboring tribal clinics and participate in community outreach presentations," Tran says.

While on this ambulatory care rotation, Tran received specialized training to work with the Native American populations that the IHS serves. "The experience really

"I value that pharmacy is growing and there are so many disciplines you can do with your PharmD degree."

– Christopher Tran,  
MCW PharmD student

opened my eyes to a different side of care and provided me with some cultural insights," he added.

Tran's Patient Care Laboratory courses at the MCW School of Pharmacy prepared him with the expanded skillset he needed to succeed while on rotation.

Tran's experiences motivated him to apply to a postgraduate residency with the IHS. He is currently in Washington, DC, for a rotation with the FDA Pharmacy Student Experiential Program at the Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology. "I value that pharmacy is growing and there are so many disciplines you can do with your

PharmD degree," he says. "Allowing me to have that exposure now, as a student, is so much more beneficial than to do it later."

Becka Anton didn't know that the field of pharmacogenomics existed before attending the MCW School of Pharmacy. Now, she's sure that it's the right choice for her. She learned about pharmacogenomics when it was the topic of the School of Pharmacy's Annual Symposium in 2017. Ulrich Broeckel, MD, founder and CEO at Right Patient Right Drug (RPRD) Diagnostics, was a speaker at the symposium; he also is an MCW professor of pediatrics, chief of genomic pediatrics and associate director of pharmacogenomics for MCW's Genomic Sciences and Precision Medicine Center.

Anton approached Dr. Broeckel and the School of Pharmacy's Office of Experiential Education (OEE) about completing a pharmacogenomics rotation at RPRD Diagnostics. "It's nice that the MCW environment is open and inviting to new ideas. We're innovators," says Anton.

Her rotation at RPRD Diagnostics was the first time the precision medicine company had a student pharmacist work with its staff. "It was great to have Becka at our company. We look forward to having more pharmacy students join us in the future," Dr. Broeckel shares.

"The most important thing I learned from this rotation is how broadly the pharmacist can be utilized," Anton adds. "We're trained to look at the scientific side of things and then translate that to patient care. We can really be that linking piece."







Evelyn's early diagnosis and timely treatment were her best chances at a long, healthy life.

"If you can identify SCID in a baby early on in life, before they get an infection, the results of treatment are much better – consistently over 90 percent long-term survival," says Dr. Routes. "However, if you make the diagnosis late, when the baby has an infection, the long-term survival goes down considerably."

Shortly after Dr. Routes joined MCW in 2006, he began to pursue the idea of screening babies for SCID. Throughout 2007, Drs. Verbsky and Routes, in partnership with Children's Wisconsin and the Jeffrey Modell Foundation, began to adjust and prepare a test for SCID after local and national advocacy efforts convinced Wisconsin to become the first state in the country to include it on the newborn screening panel. In January 2008, the first baby in Wisconsin was screened for SCID. In June, an infant in Wausau was the first to test positive.

Word of Wisconsin's successful implementation of SCID screening quickly spread throughout the pediatric and immunology communities, particularly through the dedication of the Modell family, which had lost a child to SCID and provided half the initial trial cost for the screening pilot program in Wisconsin.

The Modells advocated directly to other states around the country for the addition of the SCID test to their newborn screen, pointing to the lives saved in Wisconsin. Progress was slow – but since 2018, when Nevada, Alabama, Indiana and Louisiana added the screening to their newborn panel, infants in all 50 states are now tested for SCID. The screening test also is used in more than 20 other countries.

ccldst state 024urvival,\*36r-2j 1.125 -1 aft, Drs. Routel donsconthth nk lscnts dbeate -3.7Tj 1.125 -1anyth scrn m a(at a.5 y e an agaiearlym quickly )cstaj T\*

Heart Transplant Surgeon Duo Helps  
World-Champion Cowboy Get


# Back in the Saddle Again

By Alex Krouse

**T**o become a world-champion cowboy, it takes heart. For Chuck Newman, it required a second heart...and then a third.

In 1987, Chuck Newman, a rodeo cowboy in his 40s, placed third in the Rodeo World Championships. It is a feat that required immeasurable strength and vigor – two traits that he was missing less than a year later. This physical deterioration eventually led him to Lyle Joyce, MD, PhD, at that time a surgeon at the Mayo Clinic and currently a professor of surgery at MCW.

Continued on page 20



(top to bottom) Chuck Newman and Dr. Lyle Joyce in 1988, at the time of Newman's first heart transplant.







(l-r) Dr. David Joyce and then third-year medical student Devashish Joshi discuss the organ procurement procedure while on the flight to retrieve Newman's new liver.



### The father-son relationship

between Dr. Lyle Joyce and Dr. David Joyce makes them a unique pair because there is a certain innate empathy and

– Devashish Joshi, current fourth-year  
MCW medical student

From page 21

“I will never forget that day. It is something that I will carry with me for the rest of my medical career,” says Joshi. “I can’t articulate how grateful I am that Dr. Joyce gave me this opportunity to learn.”

Apart from gaining invaluable surgical skills, Joshi also received insight into why the Drs. Joyce are held in such high regard as surgeons. He believes that the relationship the two have, inherent with being father and son, makes them dynamic and effective in the operating room.

“The father-son relationship between Dr. Lyle Joyce and Dr. David Joyce makes them a unique pair because there is a certain innate empathy and teaching aspect that goes into their relationship,” Joshi notes. “The amount of experience that they have together really made them the perfect team to do this second transplant for Chuck.”

### Time is of the Essence

As Joshi observed that day, organ transplantation is a process that takes precise timing. The goal is to have the heart outside the body for as short a time as possible. Thus, while Dr. David Joyce, Joshi and a team of organ procurement professionals were jetting out of state to retrieve the organ, Dr. Lyle Joyce remained at the hospital to prepare Newman for his transplantation.

The Drs. Joyce would be in contact throughout the trip to ensure communication included continual texts on how the procurement was progressing and estimated time of takeoff and arrival.

“Right when we landed the airplane, I let my dad know we were 20 minutes away. That’s when he started removing Chuck’s

implantation,” says Dr. David Joyce. “We were able to get it sown up pretty quickly. Things went very smoothly during the surgery. We brought Chuck back to the ICU, and the rest is history.”

The surgeons credit the procedures and efficiencies in place at Froedtert Hospital, which allowed the transplant to run so smoothly.

“It’s a really well-oiled machine that they have at Froedtert and the Medical College of Wisconsin. The infrastructure enables us to pull together all the people who might have an opinion or any ability to think through the procedure rationally, and to recommend a course of action,” says Dr. David Joyce. “We’re pushing the edge time-wise, and it gets to the point where even a few minutes can make a big difference.”

Altogether, Newman’s new heart was outside a human body for fewer than three hours.

Joshi, fresh on his first participation in an organ transplant, was in awe – not only of the skill of the surgery team but also the passion the team exhibited in helping get Newman back on his feet.

“It was incredible to witness pioneers in the field of cardiothoracic surgery working together to help this man continue living his life,” Joshi shares. “They were not doing a heart transplant... they were treating Chuck and working to give him his life back.”

## Riding off into the Sunset Again

**A**lmost immediately after the surgery, Newman was feeling back to his old self. “I felt great the next day. I couldn’t believe how much better I felt already,” he recalls.

When jokingly asked if he likes his new heart better than his old one, he says that he can’t pick one over the other. He’s just so grateful for the gift of life.

Despite feeling almost immediately better post-transplant, his physicians didn’t think he’d be able to get back on a horse for at least 12 weeks. Instead, the cowboy was saddled up and able to partake in teaching at a youth rodeo bible camp – one that is near and dear to his heart – only nine weeks after surgery.

“To be able to support Chuck again at this stage of his life, and to see his progress, is extremely rewarding,” reflects Dr. Lyle Joyce. “It is a testament both to his resilience and the hard work and dedication to patients that our team at Froedtert & MCW embodies.”

Ruminating on what the future holds with his new heart, Newman is not ready to hang up his lasso just yet. He still has major aspirations as both a cowboy and a mentor to youth. He sees himself continuing his work at his summer camp and coaching the next generation of cowboys.

“I am so grateful for this next chapter in my life. I want to use the rest of my time helping others. And really, I foresee myself working with a younger generation and, hopefully, winning a few more roping championships.”

Cowboy Chuck has his third heart...and he is putting it into everything he does. **Q**

Dr. Lyle Joyce visits Chuck Newman at Froedtert Hospital several days after his successful second heart transplant surgery.

## World-class Cardiovascular and Cardiothoracic Surgical Specialists

In the past several years, MCW has recruited a number of pioneering and world-class cardiovascular and cardiothoracic

---

Hammes Gift Drives Innovation

E



---

**J**on Hammes is founder and managing partner of Milwaukee-based Hammes Company, a healthcare project management firm that provides strategic planning, implementation and development services for capital construction projects.

This gift signifies an investment in the institutional partnership's transformational leadership in biomedical engineering, as well as in each entity's role as a driver of economic vitality, innovation and workforce development in the region, state and beyond.

The Hammeses gifted \$2 million in philanthropic support to MCW, Marquette and the BME department as a catalyst for additional industry and individual support. The gift funds an endowed faculty chair in the BME department to a scientist who specializes in a priority area of biomedical research such as imaging, medical device innovation or neuro-systems and neurore

# Brain Invaders

MCW Team  
Improves  
Treatment of  
Cancer that  
Spreads to  
the Brain

Joseph Bovi, MD, GME '07, MCW professor of radiation oncology, always knew he wanted to be a doctor. His grandmother's battle against pancreatic cancer during his high school years further strengthened his resolve to enter medicine and specialize in cancer care. While in medical school, he was setting up a medical oncology rotation when a clinical faculty member's vacation plans presented a fork in the road.

"I was initially planning to pursue a residency in medical oncology. The medical oncologist I was going to rotate with was headed out of town and instead I was presented with the opportunity to rotate in radiation oncology for a week," Dr. Bovi says. "Within that week I was awestruck by this specialty. I knew it was the field I needed to enter."

After completing his residency training

in radiation oncology through Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals, Dr. Bovi began to narrow his clinical focus to radiation therapy for tumors of the central nervous system. Under the mentorship of Christopher J. Schultz, MD '85, Bernard & Miriam Peck Family Professor of Radiation Oncology, Dr. Bovi trained in Gamma Knife® radiosurgery – an alternative to traditional brain surgery and whole brain radiation therapy that uses precisely delivered radiation beams to treat complex brain conditions.

Dr. Bovi uses radiosurgery and other radiation therapy techniques to treat brain tumors and brain metastases, which are tumors that have spread to the brain from elsewhere in the body. Over time, he became increasingly concerned about the state of treatment for patients suffering from brain metastases, which is the most



The 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), its impact and potential solutions, has occupied the consciousness of nations around the globe. Medical schools, including the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW), and their associated academic health systems stand at the front lines in the United States in developing plans, providing systems of care and investigating potential solutions.

The benefits of a medical school and academic medicine are often felt locally – such as cutting-edge cancer clinical trials or Level 1 Trauma care for seriously injured patients. Here at MCW, however, our local efforts are making a global impact in the fight against COVID-19. Most direct is work related to the Midwest Respiratory Virus Program (MRVP) in MCW's department of pediatrics. This group has focused on developing a rapid molecular diagnostic approach for COVID-19 that is being used in clinical laboratories, allowing a reduction in turnaround time for diagnosis of the disease from the current 1-2 weeks to less than 24 hours.

MCW's impact through expertise in creating new diagnostic techniques to assist diagnosis and limit disease spread was highlighted during the H1N1 (Swine Flu) outbreak in 2009, when the MRVP developed a specific type of molecular testing

that allowed for rapid and highly specific diagnosis of this dangerous infectious disease. Our partnership with health systems throughout the state enabled Wisconsin to rank as one of the only states in the country to provide a large volume of testing throughout the outbreak. A similar approach would be implemented should the spread of COVID-19 accelerate throughout the U.S.

Additionally, MCW's Clinical Microbiology Research group in the department of pathology has spent the last decade working to develop and partner with commercial entities to commercialize rapid respiratory diagnostics. In a patient suspected of being infected with COVID-19, it is critical to rule out other respiratory viruses (including flu) in a timely manner. Through our advancements, the turnaround for both a flu test and comprehensive respiratory profile is less than one hour from the



**A**lumni from the MCW Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences advance science through their work in many settings and sectors, including laboratories, classrooms, clinics, industry and government. Dominique Carter, PhD '16, began her career in industry before entering government service through a competitive fellowship program.

"I became very serious about science policy and emerging technologies in my final year of graduate school at MCW," says Dr. Carter. "To compete for the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology Policy Fellowship after graduation, however, I needed to be able to prove the depth of my interests beyond the laboratory."

Dr. Carter garnered the inaugural Friends of MCW Scholarship for Underrepresented Scholars in Biomedical Research in 2015 and used it to broaden her experience and complement her bench science training. This included attending the annual Public Policy Institute for Rising Leaders workshop hosted by the American Institute for Medical and Biomedical Engineering (AIMBE).

"The Friends of MCW Scholarship was really pivotal and helped me build the necessary expertise and network in the science policy community," says Dr. Carter. "It was







---

# UPCOMING



# 1970s

Carlyle Chan\*, MD '75,  
was invited to join the  
Association of American  
Medical Colleges' (AAMC)  
Humanities and Arts  
Integration Committee.

The Committee is charged with assisting  
the AAMC in advancing the role of the  
humanities and arts in medical educa-  
tion and physician development.

# 1980s

Jeffrey Hunt, MD '84,  
received the American  
Academy of Child and Ad-  
olescent Psychiatry's 2019  
Cancro Academic Leadership  
Award. This distinguished

award recognizes master educators who

have made significant contributions to the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. The committee is charged with assisting the AACAP in advancing the role of the humanities and arts in medical education and physician development.



IN MEMORIAM

---

and the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee. Dr. Coon authored or co-authored nearly 70 peer-reviewed scientific articles that have been cited more than 700 times in scientific publications. He enjoyed fishing, water skiing, boating and rooting for the Green Bay Packers and Milwaukee Brewers. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn, three children and 10 grandchildren.

James D. Furnary, MD, GME '72, of Fremont, Calif., died on September 27, 2019, at the age of 87. He practiced ophthalmology in Fremont for nearly 25 years. He enjoyed playing piano, cooking and gardening. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie, four children and seven grandchildren.

Jose S. Agpoon, MD, FEL '73, of Wauwatosa, Wis., died on October 5, 2019, at the age of 79. He immigrated to the US from the Philippines and ran a private internal medicine practice in Waukesha, Wis., for more than 40 years with his wife, Dr. Perla Agpoon. He enjoyed cooking, learning, art and exploring the outdoors. Survivors

# “My Life, My Story” Beneficial to Veterans

# A

# Cecilia J. Hillard, PhD '83



## What Drives You?

I am driven by discovery of new knowledge, particularly as it relates to how the brain works. I love the entire process of research: learning about previous discoveries, designing studies, analyzing data and placing our findings in the context of what is known. It is hard to imagine a better job than being a research scientist at this time in history.

## What Has Been the Highlight of Your Career?

I was recently awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Cannabinoid Research Society. The best part was that two of my former trainees, who are both leaders in the cannabinoid field, presented me with the award.

## What Do You Still Hope to Accomplish Over Your Career?

There is still so much that we do not understand about the cannabinoid receptors and the systems with which they interact. I would love to contribute directly to the development of a cannabinoid-based drug that benefits human health.

## What Would You Like Your MCW Legacy to Be?

As educators, our longest legacy is in the influence we have on those we teach. I hope that my mentees gain a life-long love for learning and discovery.

## What One Piece of Advice Would You Like to Share With Your Colleagues?

I recently heard this piece of advice from a man who has lived to be over 100 years old: "Don't be afraid to ask for help." (Wh7 (e t)W /T1\_70.9 (n)3.6 1.7 (y (d d)5.1

8701 Watertown Plank Road  
P.O. Box 26509  
Milwaukee, WI 53226-0509  
414-955-4725  
MCWmagazine@mcw.edu

---

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Permit No. 3431

---