The 2nd Annual Rural Health Conference, "Alabama’s Rural Health Dilemma: Getting Focus," was held in April at UA’s Bryant Conference Center. More than 300 health and community leaders including elected officials, clergy, and local health care providers attended again this year. Hosted by The University of Alabama/UA School of Medicine, College of Human Environmental Sciences, Capstone College of Nursing, Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration, School of Social Work, and the College of Continuing Studies, the conference was co-sponsored by a wide range of professional organizations and leading public and private agencies. Claude Earl Fox, MD, MPH, former State Health Officer for Alabama, who just completed his appointed term as Administrator, Health Resource Services Administration, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, delivered the keynote address.

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- Individual health choices and decision-making
- Effectiveness of the health care system
- Building stronger communities

This year’s conference continued the dialog on issues in Rural Alabama and Health. CCHS Dean William Curry, MD, and Social Work Dean Ike Adams, PhD, who co-chaired the conference planning, stressed the importance of participation from community leaders and elected officials as well as health professionals, social workers, hospital administrators, educators, and others concerned about rural health, social welfare, and related economic development.

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CCHS Dean William Curry, MD, opened the conference with an overview of key rural health problems in Alabama that relate to economic distress: unemployment, closing industries and lack of value added economies; higher rates of illegal drug use; higher rates of adverse health outcomes including auto accidents and deaths due to high blood pressure. He reported GOOD NEWS as well: lower infant mortality in some rural areas, the HERO program, All Kids, Cooperative Extension Service, Strategic Planning, and Child Caring initiatives being replicated by local groups in several counties.

Dr. Higginbotham pointed out that disparities we see in health statistics are not just differences but a DISGRACE. He followed up with data on the discrepancies between urban and rural outcomes in regard to cancer, poverty, immunizations, infant health, education, diabetes, and transportation.

(Continued on page 4.)

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Alabama’s Rural Health Dilemma: Getting Focus

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(Continued on page 4.)
**REFLECTIONS**
by William A. Curry, MD, Dean

**Graduation 2001**

In the television commercial, a group of schoolchildren tour a palatial institution that apparently is a hospital or clinic. In the background is the voice of one of the children, saying that he told his father he wanted to be a teacher. His father suggested instead that he become a doctor, explaining, "It’s a noble profession, and you can become wealthy." The wise child replied to his father, "Without teachers, where would doctors come from?"

I have been that father. Our daughter Laura is strongly committed to urban underprivileged children, and she is building a career as a teacher. I am intensely proud of her, not so much for what she is doing, but for who she is and for how she is making her own choices.

So it was that I found myself at the festivities of the UA School of Medicine graduation, considering the little boy from television, my own Laura, and the crowd of excited graduates with their beaming families. There is nothing quite like medical school graduation for bringing long and complex journeys into focus.

The obvious features are those of accomplishment. It has been a long and arduous academic journey, requiring intelligence and perseverance. It has been demanding physically and emotionally. Learning to work with sick and dying patients of all ages brings young, bright, healthy students face to face with mortality - their patients’ and their own.

But it is the families that dominate my enjoyment of medical school graduations. Parents and grandparents, sisters and brothers, spouses and spouses-to-be, so many people representing so many strands through generations, stories and struggles that gave opportunity and vision to each of these new doctors. For some, medicine is the family tradition. For most, it is not.

And that is part of what makes this so amazing to me. It is exactly what is great about America. Whatever its failings, here is a country where today a child growing up in a rural town with a poorly equipped school can aspire to be a doctor of medicine, regardless of her parents’ education, wealth, or social station. Here is a place where families can offer such hope to their children. My own daughter Laura is strongly committed to urban underprivileged children, and she is building a career as a teacher.

**Honors Convocation (Continued from page 1)**

**Skelton Named Preceptor of the Year**

Larry Skelton, MD, was named Community and Rural Medicine Preceptor of the Year. Dr. Jim Leeper, Chair of the Department Community and Rural Medicine, observed that it was more of a "lifetime award" since he has been a preceptor to CHHS students almost every year since 1980 when he completed the family medicine residency and entered practice in Moundville. Dr. Skelton was one of the first medical students to come to Tuscaloosa for clinical training after the program for junior and senior UASOM students was established.

Amith Shah, MD, won The Merck Manual Award. Merck and Co. offers this award annually to outstanding students in medical education. The Larry Mayes Memorial Award, given to a rising junior student for assistance in work in an underserved area of this country or any country, was presented by Dr. Cathy Gresham to Amy M. Bearden, a Huntsville-based medical student.

### DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Name</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Medicine Award</td>
<td>Stephanie Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William W. Wintenrutz Award (Internal Medicine)</td>
<td>Carrie Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics Award</td>
<td>Kevin Ellis &amp; Elizabeth Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Bryce Award (Psychiatry)</td>
<td>Elizabeth Smith &amp; Paul Tabereaux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert F. Gloor Award (Community Medicine)</td>
<td>Angela Clifton &amp; Paul Tabereaux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgery Award</td>
<td>Carrie Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finney-Akers Memorial Award (Obstetrics-Gynecology)</td>
<td>Carrie Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Awards</td>
<td>Rusly Bedsole, Stephanie Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amit Shah, Paul Tabereaux</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paul Tabereaux, MD, receives the Dean William R. Willard Award from Dr. Curry. Dr. Tabereaux was also chosen by his classmates for the James H. Akers Memorial Award, the top honor selected by the Tuscaloosa medical student senior class, and he won top honors in Community Medicine, Psychiatry, and Student Research.

Dr. Tabereaux and other members of the original class of UA Rural Medical Scholars are the first of 50 Rural Medical Scholars to graduate from UASOM. They were recognized by Dr. John Wheat, and presented with certificates of achievement by Dean Curry and Dr. John Breadon at Honors Convocation. Several Rural Medical Scholars earned top departmental awards as well: Stephanie Morgan in Family Medicine, Angela Clifton and Tabereaux shared the Gloor Award in Community and Rural Medicine, Pediatrics was shared by Rural Medical Scholars Kevin Ellis and Elizabeth Smith, co-winners of the Bryce Award in psychology were Drs. Smith and Tabereaux, and student research Drs. Morgan and Tabereaux received research awards.

2 • OnRounds • Spring 2001
Research awards were presented by Dr. John Higginbotham (second from left) to Stephanie Morgan, MD, Amit Shah, MD, and Paul Tabereaux, MD. Rusty Bedsole, a December graduate who was not present, also received a research award.

RESIDENCY TRAINING - CLASS of 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CCHS Senior</th>
<th>Residency Program</th>
<th>Specialty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russell L. Bedsole</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati Hospital, Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela L. Clifton</td>
<td>East Jefferson General Hospital, Metairie, LA</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Greg Daniel</td>
<td>Pitt County Memorial Hospital, ECUSOM, Greenville, NC</td>
<td>Med-Peds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne B. Davis</td>
<td>University of Alabama Medical Center, Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelli J. Felzman</td>
<td>Carraway Methodist Medical Center, Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Lanier Hargood</td>
<td>Earl K. Long Memorial Hospital, Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas D. Holt</td>
<td>Huntsville Family Medicine, Huntsville, AL</td>
<td>Pathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John B. Jeus</td>
<td>Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN</td>
<td>Transitional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrie S. Knight</td>
<td>St. Vincent Hospital &amp; Health Care Center, Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>Radiation Oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Drake Lavender, Jr.</td>
<td>University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, KY</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie M. Morgan</td>
<td>Tuscaloosa Family Practice, Tuscaloosa, AL</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amit K. Shah</td>
<td>Mayo Graduate School of Medicine-Florida, Jacksonville, FL</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth R. Smith</td>
<td>University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, KY</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul B. Tabereaux</td>
<td>Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darlene H. Traffanstedt</td>
<td>Baptist Health System, Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Angela Clifton, MD, (left) and Paul Tabereaux, MD, (right) received the Community and Rural Medicine Award at the CCHS Honors Convocation. Dr. James Leeper, CRM Chair, presented the awards.

Dr. Shulman poses for the camera prior to speaking to the graduates. Dr. Mary Starke Harper (center), an Alabama native and pioneer for mental health causes nationally, was a special guest at the Honors Convocation awards dinner at the Four Points.

More photos on page 8.
The Second Annual Rural Health Conference, held at UA in April, continued the dialogue about health needs and solutions in rural Alabama. Participating in discussion groups (like the one pictured), rural residents, community leaders, county extension agents, clergy, doctors, nurses, hospital administrators, researchers, educators, and representatives of state agencies, professional associations, and health organizations shared their perspectives on health priorities. The problems and related issues were listed by each group in the process to jointly "name and frame" the issues. The combination of all groups ideas will form the basis for next year's conference agenda.

Rural Conference...  
(Continued from p.1)
Dr. Higginbotham reminded listeners of the nursery rhyme "Humpty Dumpty," emphasizing that nobody asked Humpty himself how to put him back together. The analogy to rural health, he said, was that rural constituencies must be involved in research to solve problems. He then announced establishment of the Institute for Rural Health Research at The University of Alabama, formed as a new collaborative approach to rural health research.

Warren McCord, PhD, State Extension Service Leader, described the elaborate and complex interrelationship of economic development, health care, and community development. Dr. McCord emphasized the economic value of health care to a community, especially in recruiting industry and in the multiplier effect of health care dollars. Health care is essential infrastructure for economic development.

Earl Fox, MD, the keynote speaker, outlined a number of ways in which we do not fully utilize the current infrastructure (i.e., federal programs and grants) and gave examples of how Alabama does not take full advantage of the opportunities for local flexibility in federal programs and how health providers do not always exploit the power of information.

Free choice topic tables at lunch and breakout discussion sessions provided opportunity for networking and recording the varying perceptions and factors which should be considered as communities make decisions about addressing rural health issues. The results of these sessions are listed under the heading "Achievements."

In closing remarks Dr. Curry said the "take home" message was "There is more to health care than doctors and more to healthy communities than health care." Dean Curry hopes that involving local leaders as well as health providers will lead to more productive discussions and begin to have an impact on public policy and private sector contributions.

This year's Rural Health Conference is the second in an annual series of collaborative interdisciplinary discussions of rural health. "The conferences are an example of democracy at work," says Robert McKenzie, PhD, of the Kettering Foundation.

Kettering helped to sponsor the annual conferences and related community roundtables; and Dr. McKenzie helped to design the discussion group format to allow issues to be "named and framed."

"An effort of this sort needs a multi-year strategy, not a one-event emphasis," said McKenzie. "The nature of the annual conference emphasizes learning together, building from one year to the next, not simply sharing current best practices." He also commended the interdisciplinary efforts at UA which seek to "develop health-related projects in local communities with citizens, not for them or to them."
Students Hold "Brown Bag" Event in Greensboro

Two Auburn University PharmD students, Jaime Anderson and Amber Meadors, spent a portion of their training rotation in Primary Care in Hale County, Alabama, with their preceptor, Miranda Andrus, PharmD in the CCHS Department of Community and Rural Medicine. (Dr. Andrus has a joint faculty appointment at Auburn and CCHS.) As part of an interdisciplinary activity, the students addressed hypertension and diabetes health concerns in the county through a community project. Hyperlipidemia and poor nutrition were also problems, said Dr. Andrus, who serves as Interdisciplinary Education Coordinator for the Rural Alabama Area Health Education Center (AHEC), which is housed in Community and Rural Medicine.

Many patients treated at a mobile health clinic set up by HERO (Hale Empowerment and Revitalization Organization) did not know what medications they were taking or why they were taking them. The students decided to address these major issues in a Medication Brown Bag Day involving students from different disciplines.

Greensboro Baptist Church hosted the Medication Brown Bag Day on February 26, 2001, attended by approximately 25 members of the senior YES Group (Young Energetic Seniors). Pharmacy, medical, and nutrition students and two pharmacists set up booths in the fellowship hall for to check blood pressure, blood glucose, and medications and offer nutrition counseling. Auburn pharmacy students Jamie Anderson, Cynthia Bean, Patrick Markum, Amber Meadors, and Jamie Reid; UA graduate nutrition students Stephanie Gayle and Jessica Mack; UASOM Tuscaloosa medical student Joseph Tubbs; along with pharmacists Amy Donaldson and Dr. Andrus staffed the health promotion event.

Patients were asked to bring their medicines so that a pharmacy student could look over them and answer any questions. The students also documented the medications using the “Vials of Life” form for easier access by other health care professionals. Nutrition graduate students talked with patients about managing hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and maintaining a healthy diet.

Seniors attending also had their blood pressure levels and glucose readings recorded for their future reference when they see their doctors. Most participants screened had no immediate blood pressure readings that required immediate medical attention. Several participants had questions concerning their medications.

Pfizer Pharmaceuticals provided lunch for the event—a baked chicken marinated in fat free Italian dressing, green beans flavored with onion and bouillon, salad, a roll, and fresh fruit—and a nutrition student talked about why the meal was healthy and how to make healthy choices without sacrificing taste. Attendees received pamphlets on hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, and diet and a “goody bag” with a cup, pen, pencil, 911 magnet, and candy.

"The patients enjoyed the event and appreciated the information," said AHEC Program Coordinator, Melissa Cox. "The students enjoyed interacting with the patients and with students from other disciplines."

Dr. Andrus said the students "did a wonderful job coordinating the event and the collaborative efforts of several disciplines."

"The Rural Alabama AHEC will continue to coordinate and expand similar activities to promote interdisciplinary education," said Cox. "The community benefits from the expertise of healthcare professional student volunteers and students get interdisciplinary experience in the community setting."
Blum Speaks at Tulane
Dr. Alan Blum, who holds the Gerald Wallace Endowed Chair in Community Medicine at CCHS, gave the commencement address at Tulane University School of Medicine on May 19. He was invited to speak in recognition of his work in establishing the health promotion organization DOC (Doctors Caring for Our Communities), and many other medical schools and family medicine residency programs. Through DOC, thousands of students, residents, and practicing physicians have become advocates of health educators in the clinic, classroom, and community. He is also graduation speaker for UAB family medicine residency program.

Dr. Blum was guest lecturer in the course entitled "The Patient, Physician, and Society" for the first-year students at Baylor College of Medicine, where he served on the faculty in the Department of Family Medicine for 12 years before coming to CCHS. He helped design a new ambulatory care星期 at CCHS in May with the theme, "Every physician as a health promotion specialist." As part of that series, he presented a workshop entitled "Smoking: Fighting Smoke with Fire," in May in San Antonio at the 131st Annual Session of the Texas Dental Association, the largest scientific meeting in the state. He was invited to speak on national summit on "Tobacco Use Among College and University Students" in April at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Dr. Blum is scheduled to speak in several cities in Alaska in June on tobacco and health promotion issues and new medical schools in Kenai and Anchorage and the national meeting of the American Academy of Family Physicians in Seward. He will present "When Editorial Cartoonists Took up Smoking..." at the American Association of Editorial Cartoons annual convention in Toronto, Canada, June 29.

Leeper Chairs Teaching Section
James D. Leeper, PhD, Chair and Professor, Community and Rural Medicine Department, was recently elected as section chair of the American Statistical Association. His term as chair-elect, Section on Teaching Statistics in the Health Sciences will begin January 1, 2002.

Higinbotham Presents Research
Dr. John Higinbotham, Associate Professor of Community & Rural Medicine, presented his research on prostate cancer disparities in the South at the International Congress of Epidemiology in Toronto in June. The conference was attended by more than 1700 epidemiologists from 80 countries. He is also issue editor for the July 2001 edition of Family & Community Medicine, a health promotion professional journal. The publication was devoted to "Issues in Rural Health" and included articles by Leeper on the Rural Alabama Health Professional Training Consortium and by Dr. Higinbotham on Rural v. Urban Aspects of Cancer.

Byrd Promoted
Dr. Debbie Byrd has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with tenure at Auburn University. She is based in Tuscaloosa and is also a member of the CCHS Family Medicine faculty. Her location and responsibilities won’t change. She is on maternity leave until October.

Tulane Named Pediatrics Chair
Michael A. Taylor, MD, FAAP, Associate Professor, has been named Chair of Pediatrics at CCHS. In addition, he is the Assistant to the Dean for Information Technology and Medical Director of The University of Alabama’s AIDC Clinic (multispecialty clinic for evaluation and management of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder). He is an adjunct associate professor psychology. Dr. Taylor is Medical Director of the West Alabama Child Mailing Evaluation Clinic (WACME) for child abuse evaluation. He has performed medical-legal evaluations of potentially abused children since 1982, the first several years in North Carolina and Kentucky before joining the CCHS pediatric faculty in 1991. He was appointed by the Alabama Health Department in 1997 to the Alabama State Death Review Team, as the health professional with expertise in child abuse & neglect, and he serves on the Tuscaloosa County Death Review Team.

The Department of Pediatrics won the Argus Award for Excellence in Pediatrics from UASOM medical students for Best Tuscaloosa Clinical Rotation for MS3 students. Ashley Evans, MD, won the Argus Society Award from UASOM medical students for Best Clinical Instructor, Tuscaloosa Campus (for the third year in a row). Michael A. Taylor, MD, won the 2001 Golden Stethoscope Award for Excellence in Teaching from CCHS residents.

Karen Burgess, a former CCHS medical student, receives the 1998 Pediatrics Award from Dr. David Redding at Honors Convocation. She is returning to CCHS this summer to join the faculty.

Karen Burgess, MD, will join the faculty in July as Assistant Professor, Pediatrics. She earned her BS in Chemistry at UA and her MD from the University of Alabama School of Medicine. She spent her clinical years on the Tuscaloosa campus, where she received the Willard Award and won top honors in two departments (peds and psychiatry). She will complete her Pediatric residency in June at UAB’s Children’s Hospital.

Elizabeth M.“Beth” Smith, CRNP, joined the Department of Pediatrics in January. She has 17 years experience as a family nurse practitioner. She has an academic appointment as a Clinical Instructor of Nursing. She is seeing patients of all ages, with emphasis on EPSTD screens, asthma patients, and later our diabetic patients.

Jones Shares Rheumatology Info
Richard Jones, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, is going to China as part of a rheumatology informational exchange program. He is also working with Psychiatry faculty member, Dr. John Higginbotham, on the Child Psychology program on campus, and the Biologic Therapy Service to start a pain clinic.

He continues his work with arthritis patients and their doctors. Both clinics have been held in Eutaw, Demopolis, and PineApple. Plans for a Friday clinic are ongoing. Lisa Ryan and Bernadette Byrd have joined Dr. Jones’ staff at Capstone Medical Center. Ryan is a nurse practitioner and Ross is Outreach Coordinator helping to manage the arthritis clinics, local community health center, and the American Rheumatism Foundation. "Ms. Ross will also train as a study coordinator for work in our clinical trials," said Dr. Jones. For information, referrals, or consultation on arthritis or rheumatology-related illness, call: (205) 348-1755 or (toll-free) 1-877-635-2762.

Pieroni Heads Medical Care Unit
Dr. Robert Pieroni, Professor of Internal Medicine, is a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. As Chief of Medicine for the 75th Combat Support Hospital, Dr. Pieroni set up facilities and gave medical care to soldiers and marines during Operation Roving Sands at Oro Grande, New Mexico, in June as an active-duty lieutenant colonel. He made presentations to medical personnel on “Heat Injuries,” “Emergency IV Medication Use,” and “Evaluation of Abnormal Lab Results.”

Dwight E. Hooper, MD, a clinical assistant professor at Morehouse Medical College in Atlanta since 1993, has become assistant professor of OB/GYN. Dr. Hooper, a Maryland native, has been in practice of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Columbia Regional Healthcare in Columbia, Georgia, and Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany, Georgia, since 1994 and worked in private practice in Atlanta in 1993. Prior to his move to Georgia, he was an officer in the US Air Force (major) and chief of OB/GYN, 5th Medical Group, at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota. He was also clinical instructor for the University of North Dakota School of Medicine in Minot.

Dr. Hooper graduated from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County and the University of Maryland-College Park. He earned his MD in 1985 and completed internships in general surgery and internal medicine before entering an OB/GYN residency at Harbor Hospital Center in Baltimore. He is a Diplomate, American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and a Fellow, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Dr. Hooper and wife, Connie, have a son and daughter, 15-year-old twins, and sons age 18 and 23.

Adcock Article in FP Journal
Dr. Bobbi Adcock, Associate Professor of Family Medicine, is author of an article published in Journal of the American Board of Family Practice, Vol. 14, No. 2, pages 148-151. The title is "Dermographism: An Adverse Effect of Atorvastatin."
Kuhajda Joins Faculty

Melissa Carter Kuhajda, PhD, has joined the Psychiatry faculty at Capstone Medical Center. Dr. Kuhajda (pronounced Koo-hi-da) directs the psychosocial rounds for CCHS family medicine residents and supervises first year residents during family medicine clinics. She divides her time between Capstone and UAB where she is Special Projects Manager and Staff Psychologist at the Center for Health Promotion in the School of Public Health, with additional responsibilities in the Behavioral Medicine Unit, Division of Preventive Medicine, School of Medicine. She coordinates aspects of three active research projects focusing on health promotion and disease prevention: “Peer Support Intervention for CVD Risk Among African-American Women,” “Adaptation and Evaluation of a Community Health Advisor Program to Prevent Racial Disparities through Secondary Prevention,” and “Heart Support Intervention to Reduce Risk for Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease in African American Families.” She provides psychotherapy to patients with heart disease and depression. A licensed psychologist in the State of Alabama, Dr. Kuhajda earned her M.A. and PhD in clinical psychology from The University of Alabama. The focus of her graduate research has been the relationship between pain and memory, and she earned the 2000 Most Outstanding Dissertation Award from the UA Psychology Department. In 1997, Dr. Kuhajda received the Distinguished Clinical Service Award from The University of Alabama Psychology Department and the Dr. C. J. Rosecrans, Jr. Research Award from the Alabama Psychological Association as well as the Most Outstanding Poster Presentation at the Alabama Psychological Association annual meeting.

The National Endowment for the Humanities provided a Consultant Grant to The University of Alabama Center for the Study of Tobacco and Society; Steven MacCall, PhD, School of Information Sciences at UAB; and Eugene Umberger (upper right, with his hand on the rail), Interim Director of the Neville Public Museum, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Initial planning meetings were successful, and Center officials are in the next step of the NEH grant process—submitting a planning grant to NEH.

Notes from Alums

David Parrish, MS, MD, FAAP, member of the University of Alabama School of Medicine Class of 1981 at CCHS, was recently promoted to Clinical Associate Professor, University of South Florida College of Medicine. Dr. Parrish is Associate Director of the Bayfront Family Practice Residency and Chief of Medical Staff at Bayfront Medical Center. He completed his Residency in 1984 at Naval Hospital Pensacola and is the US Navy Surgeon General’s Specialty Leader for Family Practice. He holds the rank of Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserves and is presently Commanding Officer of Naval Reserve Hospital Jacksonville. He was awarded a Meritorious Service Medal in September, 1999 for work as Director of Health Services Readiness Command Region Eight, Jacksonville, Florida. He is also Board Certified in Sports Medicine.

Dr. Parrish has been elected to the Board of Directors of Florida Academy of Family Physicians and serves on the Board of Governors of the Pinellas County Medical Society. He will speak on Osteoporosis in Jacksonville this year at the Annual AAPF Convention. He is lead author of “Exercise Testing in Special Situations” in Primary Care 28:199-208, 2001.

Dr. Parrish can be reached by e-mail at: David.Parrish@bayfront.org

Include your graduation date (med school & residency) and e-mail or phone number so we can contact you with questions.

CCHS Receives NEH Funds

Expert Panel Gives Advice for Initiating New UA Center for the Study of Tobacco and Society

The National Endowment for the Humanities provided a Consultant Grant to The University of Alabama Center for the Study of Tobacco and Society. Consulting experts have met twice to advise Dr. Alan Blum and his assistant Bethany Galbraith as they plan for setting up the Center, which includes the largest collection of tobacco-related materials in the world. Shown here in November of last year, the planning group included: (L-R) Eric Solberg, Special Consultant to the Tobacco Archive; Judy Hamilton, Museum Collection Registrar, Alabama Museum of Natural History, UA; Alan Blum, M.D. (front) Director, The University of Alabama Center for the Study of Tobacco and Society at CCHS; Suzanne Wolfe, (on the top step), Editor-in-Chief Alabama Heritage Magazine, UA; Toby Graham, (above Dr. Blum in white shirt and tie), Head of Special Collections, McCain Library & Archive, University of Southern Mississippi; Steven Turner, Gunn Educational Resources Center, University of South Florida; Beth Dinkin, M.S., Special Projects Coordinator, UA Center for the Study of Tobacco and Society; Steven MacCall, PhD, School of Library & Information Sciences at UA and web-based information expert; Keith Jacoby, (tail man in back) Curator of Human Osteology, Alabama Museum of Natural History; Benjamin Rapport (very front, right), Owner, Antiquarian Tobacciana; and Eugene Umberger (upper right, with his hand on the rail), Interim Director of the Neville Public Museum, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

The focus of their graduate research has been the relationship between pain and memory, and she earned the 2000 Most Outstanding Dissertation Award from the UA Psychology Department. In 1997, Dr. Kuhajda received the Distinguished Clinical Service Award from The University of Alabama Psychology Department and the Dr. C. J. Rosecrans, Jr. Research Award from the Alabama Psychological Association as well as the Most Outstanding Poster Presentation at the Alabama Psychological Association annual meeting.

She graduated magna cum laude from Illinois State University in 1983 with a degree in Special Education and earned a master’s degree in Religious Studies at Loyola University in Chicago. She has ten years of experience teaching deaf and hard-of-hearing children and adults in public and private school systems. She worked with state-wide parent-infant-preschool special education programs, taught hearing impaired high school students, and was a sign language instructor for classes in adult education programs at Illinois State University and at The University of Alabama.

Last year, as Postdoctoral Fellow at the U.A School of Medicine in Birmingham, she was psychotherapist for a multi-site research study, ENRICHED, Enhancing Recovery in patients with Coronary Heart Disease, and received specialized training and supervision from Beck Institute in Philadelphia. She was involved in training community health advisors in Alabama, Black Belt counties and revised Women’s Wellness Sourcebook.

Her psychology internship at Memphis V.A. Medical Center included training in Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder group therapy, individual PTSD psychotherapy, and chronic pain management (biofeedback, hypnosis, group therapy). She also trained with CCHS Associate Professor Nancy Rubin, PsyD. Dr. Kuhajda has specialized clinical training in cognitive therapy; EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing); hypnosis therapy; cultural diversity, family therapy, domestic violence and the battered woman syndrome, and disaster MH interventions.

She has taught Psychology of Gender and Introduction to Psychology and done research on coping strategies of women experiencing infertility, pregnancy, and medical gynecological problems requiring repeated treatments. She was a co-presenter at the 2000 Community Prevention Research in Women’s Health Conference, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD., on Peer Support for Cardiovascular Risk Among African-American Women, Aged 40 and Older.

Dr. Kuhajda
Doc Hollywood Author is Convocation Speaker

Neil Shulman, MD, author of Doc Hollywood, which was made into a movie starring Michael J. Fox, imparted his own brand of wisdom and humor to a full house at Honors Convocation.

Below: He called former Dean Wilmer Coggins, Lister Hill Society Board President Tommy Hester, and UASOM Admissions Director George Hand to the podium for an impromptu funny face contest and awarded each a book he had written as a consolation prize. Then he called on Dean Curry to help him with a skit on Otis the Otoscope.

Below right: Dean Curry greets Dr. Shulman as Senior Class President Kelli Folgman looks on. Dr. Folgman, who arranged Dr. Shulman’s visit, introduced him. Dr. Shulman spent the afternoon before the Honors Convocation dinner entertaining children in the hospital at DCH.

Dr. George Hand, who won a copy of Dr. Shulman’s What’s in a Doctor’s Bag for his performance in the make-a-face competition (above), waits to get it autographed.

Far right: Dr. Shulman autographs his semi-autobiographical book, Finally...I’m a Doctor, for new MD, Angela Clifton.