

Tackling Dyslexia in the Arab World

Communications Sciences and Disorders Associate Professor **Charles Haynes, EdD, CCC-SLP**, traveled to Kuwait this past spring at the invitation of the Kuwait Dyslexia Association (KDA). Dr. Haynes, who is outgoing vice president and a current board member of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA), delivered a lecture and participated in an assessment visit to measure the progress of the implementation of the KDA's Dyslexia Friendly Schools project.

Haynes has helped to set up IDA global partnerships in Kuwait, as well as in Brazil, Czech Republic, Germany, Japan, and the Philippines. "These regional organizations share the IDA's commitment to increasing public awareness of the diagnosis, nature and remediation of dyslexia." While there, Haynes delivered a public lecture to the Kuwaiti Writers Association entitled, "What is Dyslexia? An Update on Biological, Cognitive and Behavioral Features."

The Kuwait Assistant Minister of Education, as well as representatives from UNESCO, UNICEF, and Islamic Charities, were among those collaborating to bring Dr. Haynes' evaluation team to Kuwait.



Dr. Charley Haynes and Mohammed Al Qatami (President of the Kuwait Dyslexia Association); Kuwait City in the distance

British Dyslexia Association CEO, Dr. Susan Tresman, accompanied Dr. Haynes in assessing how Kuwaiti schools were progressing with implementing BDA's quality mark as a Dyslexia Friendly School. They visited two participating

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Global Health Advocate Inspires Soggy Commencement

DR. PAUL FARMER URGES GRADUATES TO STRIVE FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE



Nursing grads (l-r), Meghan Allen, Catherine Duffy, Brandy Emery, and Kara Jensen, stay smiling in the rain.

On Saturday, May 13, 2006, the MGH Institute celebrated the graduation of more than 280 students – the largest in the Institute's history – during the twenty-sixth Annual Commencement Ceremony held at the Harvard Medical School Quadrangle. The conferring of degrees included eleven radiologic technologists from the Graduate Program in Medical Imaging's first class.

Although torrential downpours threatened to dampen spirits, the

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From the President's Desk

The start of the new academic year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the MGH Institute of Health Professions, as well as the beginning of my tenth year as Institute President.

The Institute surely has come a long way, from a radical notion that inspired its founders, to the present day. I am enormously proud of all that we have accomplished together in the last decade. Much as I love being a part of such a collaborative and innovative academic community, I have decided to make this academic year the last year of my presidency.

I believe there is a time for renewal, both institutionally and personally. The Institute is poised for a new era of leadership and I am ready for new pursuits and challenges. And I am looking forward to sleeping past 5am in the morning!

With robust enrollments, a strong dedicated faculty, and a committed highly professional staff, the Institute is well positioned for the future. A year-long search process has begun, led by Dr. George Thibault, chair of the Institute's Board of Trustees. Dr. Thibault is confident that the opportunity to serve as the next president of the Institute will be an attractive one and the trustees, with the support of the extended Institute community, are intent on securing a highly qualified leader.

During my tenure as President I have learned a great deal about health care and the health professions, including the remarkable caring and competence of health professionals, and about the complex, often difficult environments in which they practice.

With the Institute's new five-year strategic plan well underway, I look forward to the coming year being as exciting and productive as the previous nine have been. A number of strategic goals are gaining traction, along with several significant new programs and initiatives that are in the works.

One thing that never changes about the Institute is that the Institute is *always changing*.



Ann W. Caldwell, President

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If you are interested in learning more about the Alumni Association, please email alumni@mgbihp.edu or contact Kate Krupanski at (617) 724-2742.

GRADUATE INFORMATION SESSIONS

The MGH Institute offers Graduate Information Sessions where prospective students can meet with faculty and current students to learn more about the Institute's graduate entry-level, post-professional and certificate programs, including the new **Teaching and Learning Certificate for Health Care Educators**, and the **Certificate of Advanced Study in Reading**. Staff is available to answer questions about the application deadlines, prerequisites and financial aid. Sessions during the coming academic year will be held:

- Saturday, November 11, 2006, 10am – noon
- Thursday, December 14, 2006, 6pm – 8pm
- Saturday, February 24, 2007, 10am – noon
- Thursday, May 17, 2007, 6pm – 8pm

To register for an information session, visit info.mgbihp.edu.

President Caldwell to Step Aside After Ten Years

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNOUNCES NATIONAL SEARCH

At the conclusion of a successful week kicking off a new academic year and welcoming a record 285 incoming students, President Ann W. Caldwell informed the MGH Institute community that she would step down next summer, at the conclusion of her tenth year as president.

“I am enormously proud of all that we have accomplished together over the past decade and believe that the Institute is strongly positioned for the future,” wrote President Caldwell. “I have been blessed throughout my career by the quality of the institutions where I have worked and I am especially fortunate to have been given the opportunity to lead the Institute and participate in its unique mission.”

Board of Trustees chair Dr. George Thibault, announced that a national search for a successor would begin immediately. He described the search process and formation of a Search Committee, which he will chair, at a Town Meeting for faculty and staff.

“While we’re sad to see Ann go, this is a golden moment in the history of the Institute. We are nested within one of the most important health care delivery systems in the country, which positions the Institute to make a very important contribution to the national discussion about preparing the next generation of skilled professionals that will be needed for the twenty-first century,” said Thibault, Vice President of Clinical Affairs for Partners HealthCare System.

Over the past ten years, President Caldwell has presided over a steadily improving financial picture, rising enrollment, increased fundraising and diversification of programmatic offerings. During her tenure the Institute purchased and renovated the Catherine Filene Shouse Building in the Charlestown Navy Yard, accompanied by a successful \$4.4 million capital fundraising effort. Dr. Thibault remarked “With so much accomplished under Ann’s leadership, we are poised to take the Institute to an even higher level.”

In her remarks to the Institute community, President Caldwell stated, “The Institute is ready to enter a new era and offers an attractive opportunity for my successor. I am ready to pursue other interests and rekindle my own enthusiasms.

“It is a privilege to be a part of this wonderful collaborative and innovative academic community. I have learned so much, especially from the faculty who, as good teachers, have generously taught me about their disciplines and professions, and shared with me their insights and aspirations.”

“The Institute is ready to enter a new era and offers an attractive opportunity for my successor. ”

She went on to say, “I take enormous pride in the resiliency of the Institute staff and faculty, who, through tough times and good ones, never waver in their commitment to our students. I have made many good friends here who will always be with me.”

Caldwell came to the Institute from Brown University, where, as vice president for development, she was the first female chief development officer at an Ivy League institution. Asked what the first thing she would do after leaving the Institute, Caldwell, who commutes from Rhode Island, replied, “well, I look forward to not getting up at 5:00am every morning!”

She stressed that she’s not ‘retiring’ and intends to pursue several projects, including researching and writing a biography of Catherine Filene Shouse, who died in 1994 at the age of 98, after a lifetime of commitment to education, civic duty, the arts and philanthropy.

ANNUAL FUND STRIVES FOR \$50,000 FROM ALUMNI

Heading into the MGH Institute’s thirtieth anniversary year in 2007, the board of trustees External Relations Committee has set an Annual Fund goal of \$50,000 to be raised from alumni and other individuals this year.

“A gift to the Annual Fund is an investment in the future, by providing flexible resources that enable us to respond to new opportunities or unexpected challenges throughout the year,” notes Katherine Krupanski, Annual Fund & Alumni Relations Manager.

Commencement *continued from page 1*

smiles of new graduates, friends, and family members outshone the dreary weather. Guests shared umbrellas, huddled under blankets, and did their best to avoid mud puddles.

In welcoming the record-size audience of more than 1,800 guests, President Ann Caldwell remarked on several transitions that occurred over the past year, starting with the election of George Thibault, MD, as the new chair of the board of trustees – succeeding Dr. Matina Horner, who served as chair for ten years. Dr. Thibault, Vice President of Clinical Affairs and Senior Academic Officer for Education for Partners HealthCare System, “brings to his new role a



“equitable access to care is something all health care professionals should be advocating and striving for.” – Paul Farmer

Keynote speaker Paul Farmer, MD, PhD, Founding Director of Partners In Health.

passion for education and enthusiasm for the contributions the Institute now makes, and can make, in the future to Partners HealthCare,” noted President Caldwell.

President Caldwell also thanked longtime trustee Nicholas Grace for his two decades of service on the board, and Hannah Potter, retiring after eighteen years as Executive Assistant to the President. “Early in her tenure, Hannah *was* the central administration of the Institute, and for many years, was the chief impresario of these commencement ceremonies. Her loyalty, character, and high aspirations for this institution have had an impact no one of us can fully appreciate.”

Paul Farmer, MD, PhD, Associate Chief of the Division of Social Medicine and Health Inequalities at Brigham & Women’s Hospital, and founder of the nonprofit Partners in Health, delivered the keynote address, “Making Medicine Matter.” Dr. Farmer was also the subject of Pulitzer Prize winning author Tracy Kidder’s best selling book, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*.

Dr. Thibault introduced Farmer, calling him the “Pied Piper of medicine, acting as a magnet for many of our most talented young professionals...who are persuaded by his message, attracted by his passion, and excited to participate directly in his work at the front lines of social inequalities.”

Dr. Farmer emphasized the importance of making medicine matter “in the grand sense, not just for doctors, but for all of us.” He stressed that equitable access to care is something all health care professionals should be advocating and striving for.

“Our system for delivering care needs serious renovation,” he said. “We spend more on health care than any other developing nation, yet Americans between the ages of 55 and 64 are twice as likely to suffer from diabetes and hypertension than people in Great Britain.” The infant mortality rate in the United States is among the highest of all industrialized nations, hovering near the rates seen in Hungary, Malta and Poland.

To answer the question, “How do we make medicine matter?” Farmer recalled a cross-country drive with his sister in her new Cadillac. Accidentally triggering the vehicle’s OnStar system, they were suddenly greeted by the soothing voice of an OnStar representative. Having assured him that there was no problem, the representative asked if there was anything else he could help them with as, “we offer a complete range of services.” Farmer exclaimed “There are 40 million uninsured people in this country, does OnStar offer universal health care, because that’s what we need!”

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No one, including Institute trustees, was immune from the heavy rains that drenched this year’s commencement celebration.

RECIPIENTS OF 2006 COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

Honors Convocation was held the afternoon prior to commencement. In recognition of it being the twenty-sixth annual commencement celebration, Cynthia Casson Morton, PhD, was invited to deliver the convocation's keynote address, where she discussed the Family History Project. Dr. Morton is the William Lambertson Richardson Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology and Professor of Pathology at Harvard Medical School, and Associate Director of the Harvard-Partners Center for Genetics and Genomics. She is also Co-Director of the Bio-Medical Research Institute and Director of Cytogenetics at Brigham and Women's Hospital, where she oversees one of the largest full-service academic cytogenetics laboratories in the country. The following academic awards were presented by each of the programs:

Clinical Investigation

Award for Academic Excellence in Clinical Investigation

Eduardo Jose Leon
Kelly Elizabeth Hartman

Communication Sciences and Disorders

Julie Atwood Award for Excellence

Meghan Elizabeth O'Brien

Award for Excellence in Clinical Supervision

Ann M. Waters

Faculty Award for Excellence

John Costello

Kenneth N. Stevens Student Research Award

Heather Lynn Kubert

Medical Imaging

Clinical Excellence Award

Kimberly Ann Russell

Academic Excellence Award

Erin Elizabeth Cronin

Excellence in Clinical Instruction Award

Deborah Ricciardelli



Anne McCarthy Jacobson '99 accepting the Nancy T. Watts Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Nursing

*Harriet Towle
Excellence in Clinical
Nursing Practice Award*
Courtney Strand

Rebecca Colvin Prize
Courtney Strand

*Josephine Mangio
Keaveney Memorial
Nursing Prize*
Janet Wilson Zani



Nidhi V. Chudasama, Lesley Portney, and Michael W. Deegan

Physical Therapy

Marjorie K. Ionta Awards for Clinical Excellence

Hiroyasu Sugihara (Professional Program)
Catherine B. Theriault (Post-Professional Program)
Mary Mankin Prize
Reginald B. Wilcox III

Adams Fellow Awards

Michael W. Deegan, (Professional Program)
Nidhi V. Chudasama, (Post-Professional Program)

National Health Service Corps Scholarship Recipient

Rachel Eva Cohen

Albert Scheitzer Fellow

Eileen Yaling Yu

Nancy T. Watts Award for Excellence in Teaching

Anne McCarthy Jacobson '99
Clinical Instructor,
Graduate Program in Physical Therapy

Commencement *continued from page 4*

On a more serious note, Farmer cited examples of treating very sick patients in some of the poorest countries in the world, such as Haiti and Rwanda. “We know that access to health care is the chief determinant of health outcomes. Just think,” asked Farmer, “what would it be like to be a poor citizen in a poor country with a catastrophic illness?”

Farmer emphasized that we cannot offer our services as commodities as we do here in the US, we must make it available universally to those who need it. “This is the way to make medicine matter,” he said.

“Would that we could simply press the OnStar button and make it better.”



Nursing alumna Donna Barry '01, with President Caldwell, Dr. George Thibault, and Dr. Paul Farmer at the Commencement Brunch.

GERIATRICS EXPERT NAMED DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

Jennifer M. Bottomley, PhD, MS, PT '86, a physical therapist and an internationally recognized consultant in geriatrics, was presented with the second annual Distinguished Alumni Award at the twenty-sixth annual commencement ceremonies in May. This year the award was officially renamed the Bette Ann Harris Distinguished Alumni Award, in honor of Dr. Harris, who received the first degree awarded by the Institute in 1983.



Alumni Association President Michelle Ferretti '00 '02 (center), with Distinguished Alumna Jennifer Bottomley '86 and her partner, Jennifer Buchwald (far left), and alumni board member Ray Siegelman '03, at the Commencement brunch.

Over the years Dr. Bottomley has served with distinction on a variety of federal panels and task forces for the US Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of the Surgeon General, and the White House Conference on Aging during the Clinton Administration.

Within the physical therapy profession, she has worked on the National Blueprint Initiative, a broad-based effort to increase physical activity among people 50 and older. Dr. Bottomley recently completed her

second term as president of the American Physical Therapy Association's Section on Geriatrics.

Dr. Bottomley has long advocated on behalf of elder homeless and has been active with the Boston Committee to End Elder Homeless (now called, Hearth-Home for Good), for over a decade. She also spearheaded various programs with AARP and the Gray Panthers.

In accepting her award Bottomley told the audience, “Although listening to, being concerned with, and responding to the needs of others are evidence of our highest human motivations, volunteering is not simply something we do for others. It brings significant benefits to individuals and communities and helps to nurture and sustain a richer social texture and a stronger sense of mutual trust and cohesion.”

Bottomley pointed out that her “inspiration to give back to society comes from life-long role models and mentors,” including her parents, grandmother, and life partner, Jennifer, “who not only supports my efforts but volunteers as well, working side-by-side towards improving the lives of elders who don't have a roof over their heads or shoes on their feet.”

Dr. Bottomley has lectured and published extensively – more than 75 articles to date – on a wide variety of research interests that include nutrition and exercise, foot care in the elderly, wound care, diabetes and peripheral vascular disease, balance and falls in the Alzheimer's population, T'ai Chi as an alternative form of exercise to prevent falls, as well as social policy development for the elderly.

Fighting For Universal Health Coverage

Inside Ann Eldridge Malone, MS, RN, '93, beats a passionate, activist heart. At age sixteen she walked into Children's Hospital Boston to ask if they had any jobs that might be appropriate for her. She was hired to work in the hospital's gait analysis laboratory, processing data and helping apply surface electrodes to patients who came in for testing.



Ann Eldridge Malone '93 with son Ryan.

Reflecting back Malone says she knew she “had a calling to help people facing serious challenges.” Then, as first one family member was diagnosed with epilepsy, then another with schizophrenia, she experienced many of our modern health care system's shortcomings firsthand. The care delivery she witnessed was “fragmented and short on compassion,” Malone recalls. “My sister's schizophrenia diagnosis was something the whole family needed to understand and cope with, but many health care providers viewed the family as either an afterthought or an obstacle. Bureaucracy seemed to dictate her care more than her clinical needs.”

Malone's first taste of activism came when her sister's private insurance ran out. Denied access to a clinical trial for an atypical anti-psychotic medication, Malone championed a letter writing campaign which succeeded in getting her sister access to the drug Clozapine.

More recently, as Executive Director of the Alliance to Defend Health Care, Malone has been at the forefront of a public education campaign to promote a constitutional amendment requiring the Commonwealth to enact laws guaranteeing “that no Massachusetts resident lacks comprehensive, affordable and equitably financed health insurance coverage for all medically necessary preventive, acute and chronic health care and mental health care services, prescription drugs and devices.”

She is quick to point out that despite the highest health care spending in the nation, more than 700,000 Massachusetts residents lack health insurance. Malone credits her MGH Institute education and her subsequent work as a community health nurse and clinical instructor with paving her way to becoming “an unswerving advocate for health care justice and health system reform.” She spent ten years with the Boston Visiting Nurses Association, providing home care to inner-city populations.

In 1997 she joined the Alliance to Defend Health Care as a volunteer, becoming a staff member in 2003 – the same year the historic citizen-initiative Massachusetts Health Care Constitutional Amendment Campaign was launched.

Today Malone also serves as Outreach Coordinator for the allied Health Care for Massachusetts Campaign.

In April 2006, the Massachusetts Legislature passed, and the governor signed, the **Massachusetts Health Care Reform Law of 2006**, which expands access to health coverage, establishes employer responsibility, and preserves federal Medicaid funding. The law expands MassHealth coverage for low-income children and restores coverage for dental services and eyeglasses. Backers of this landmark legislation – which included a coalition led by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Massachusetts and Partners HealthCare – insist it will improve access to health care for an estimated 500,000 uninsured residents of the Commonwealth.

Malone and the Alliance to Defend Health Care prefer to see these guarantees enshrined in the state's constitution. She notes that an employer mandate that was passed in 1988 was repealed before it was ever implemented. To date, the proposed Health Care Constitutional Amendment has gained broad support from more than 130 organizations. In July 2006, the Legislature met in Constitutional Convention, where the amendment was widely expected to pass. After some last minute parliamentary maneuvering, the legislators voted 118 to 76 to send the amendment to a special committee for further study. The committee will present its findings when the Constitutional Convention reconvenes in November 2006. If it receives at least fifty “yes” votes at that time it will be placed on the November 2008 statewide ballot.

To find out more about efforts to pass a health care constitutional amendment, visit www.HealthCareForMass.org and www.defendhealth.org.

HIGHLIGHTS

THE MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH CARE REFORM LAW OF 2006

It establishes the Commonwealth Care Health Insurance Program, which provides sliding scale, subsidized coverage for low-income, uninsured individuals and families below 300% of the federal poverty line.

Employers with 11+ employees who fail to offer “fair and reasonable” coverage will now pay \$295 per worker annually. It provides for plans designed for small businesses (50 or fewer employees) and individuals; eligible workers and their families can buy coverage with pre-tax dollars.

The new law also provides for the creation of new, lower-premium insurance products for 19–26 year olds, and requires health plans to offer family coverage to young adults for two years after they lose their dependent status (or up to age 25, which ever comes first).

Upwardly Mobile

RESEARCH-ORIENTED FACULTY MOVE INTO RENOVATED FOURTH FLOOR

When the MGH Institute purchased the Catherine Filene Shouse Building in 2000, initially only the first three floors were renovated and occupied. The fourth floor was leased out to other tenants for rental income.

As the Institute's enrollment has grown, so has its faculty, who have been increasingly squeezed into the available offices on the second floor – including the conversion of more than one conference room into office space. The plan was to grow into utilizing the 140 year-old building's upper floor.

Over the summer contractors gutted the space and readied it for new occupants. The project got off to an inauspicious start when workmen accidentally breached a fire sprinkler system pipe, sending a stream of water gushing into the air, and setting off fire alarms throughout the building. But the real work actually began months before, as a building committee of staff and faculty began to think through the best use of the available space.

Additional classrooms were not practical, due to the sharp pitch of the roof and a large number of support beams breaking up the open space. But planners didn't want to simply build more offices. With increased research and scholarship having been laid out as a central tenet of the Institute's new five-year plan, the group began to work through how the space could facilitate faculty research and act as an 'incubator' for interdisciplinary collaboration.

On a visit hosted by trustee John Gutttag to MIT's new Frank Gehry-designed Stata Center, President Caldwell was struck by the openness of the facility, with lots of informal "social space" for people to gather. The final fourth floor plan in the Shouse Building includes 17 offices, 4 break-out meeting spaces, a technical resource center, as well as 8 small workstations for research assistant students who are collaborating with faculty on research projects.



The fourth floor of the Catherine Filene Shouse Building, near the end of renovation project to add faculty offices and academic research space.

In addition, there is the Francis Burr Multi-Purpose Room, which will be dedicated this fall.

The Graduate Program in Clinical Investigation, as well as faculty with research projects from Communication Sciences and Disorders, Nursing and Physical Therapy have moved into the new space alongside the Office of Information Technology and the grant-funded Hanson Initiative for Language and Literacy (HILL).

The independent **Institute for Nursing Healthcare Leadership**, led by Executive Director Joyce C. Clifford, PhD, RN, will also relocate to the fourth floor from its current location in the Longwood Medical Area. The nursing institute was formed in 1999 to increase the participation of nurses in health services leadership and promote excellence in policy, practice and education.

ALUMNI CAN NOW JOIN HARVARD CREDIT UNION

Through the MGH Institute's affiliation with Massachusetts General Hospital, which is an academic teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School, current students, staff, faculty, and all alumni are now eligible to join Harvard University Employees Credit Union (HUECU). Immediate family members of anyone eligible to join HUECU may apply for membership as well.

HUECU offers a full range of banking and financial services, with branch offices on the MGH hospital campus and in the Longwood Medical Area.



To learn more visit www.mghihp.edu/huecu.

Tackling Dyslexia in the Arab World *continued from page 1*

schools in the project, Arwa Bint Al-Hareth primary school for girls and Abdul Mohsin Al-Bahr primary school for boys. “It was fascinating to compare notes with Dr. Tresman on how we saw the schools adapting the Dyslexia Friendly Schools model to Arab culture and educational practices,” explains Haynes.

During his week-long visit, Haynes worked closely with Kuwaiti colleagues Dr. Gad Elbeheri, Coordinator of Education Services for the Kuwait Dyslexia Association; and Mohammed Al Qatami, a retired entrepreneur and father of a dyslexic son, as well as founder of the Kuwait Dyslexia Association. Haynes’ group also met with the Secretary for United Nations Development Program in Kuwait.

“We met with the officials who had supported my visit, and we strategized on how research and public information about dyslexia could be disseminated more broadly, not just in Kuwait but across the larger Arab world.”

Since Dr. Haynes is schooled in multi-sensory structured language (MSL), he was invited to help Kuwaitis develop an approach tailored to the Arabic language and population. “Research indicates that almost 7% of Arabic speaking people in Kuwait struggle to read because they have dyslexia,” notes Haynes. “Given what we have found in other countries, it is likely that similar prevalence levels exist across the Arab world.”

“It would be exciting to contribute at least in a small way, to helping increase literacy in the Arab world.”

Currently, there are no MSL programs tailored to Arabic language and culture. Haynes points out that MSL methods can also be used to help people who have trouble reading due to poor or inadequate instruction. For Haynes, “It would be exciting to contribute at least in a small way, to helping increase literacy in the Arab world.”

Dr. Elbeheri and Dr. Haynes are completing a proposal for a four-year plan that includes development of diagnostic tools, creation of an Arabic-specific MSL instructional program, teacher training, and large-scale dissemination. Their proposal will be submitted to the UN Development Program and Islamic Charities this fall.

Visit the Kuwait Dyslexia Association’s website at www.kuwaitdyslexia.com.



Student from Kuwait City Grade School for Girls with Mohammed Al Qatami, Dr. Susan Tresman (CEO of the British Dyslexia Association), and Dr. Charley Haynes.



Mohammed Al Qatami and Dr. Gad Elbeheri; seaside near Kuwait City

Understanding the Global Dimensions Health Care

DISCOVER CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

In 2005, professor Inge Corless led a group of two nursing students and three new graduates on a two-and-a-half week trip to Durban, South Africa. This trip marked the debut of a new **International Health Experience** course.

Earlier this year an internal task force began addressing ways to expand study abroad opportunities for students and develop policies that would allow – and encourage – more students and alumni to participate in future offerings.

Recognizing that understanding global aspects of health care delivery extends beyond nursing, the task force's first recommendation was to reclassify International Health Experience as an interdisciplinary course, open to all Institute students.

Although formal study abroad experiences are relatively new for the Institute, other universities have been offering such programs for years. The task force wanted to build upon an existing knowledge base and quickly sought to identify a travel provider partner to coordinate and package the trip logistics – leaving the faculty member free to focus on developing the curricular content.

The Institute is now developing an interdisciplinary offering of the **International Health Experience** course. Up to 15 students and alumni will join an Institute faculty member on a 16-day trip to Cape Town, South Africa. Participants will meet with local nursing and other health professionals at a variety of health care facilities and nonprofit organizations, as well as visit cultural and political landmarks.

Tentatively scheduled for the summer of 2007, side trips include visiting a game reserve and a full-day excursion through the Stellenbosch Winelands. Cost is estimated at \$3,500* per person, including airfare.



Children and mother from a rural village outside of Tegula Ferry, South Africa. Courtney Strand '06 (center) and Meghan Noonan '06 (right).

Alumni of both the MGH School of Nursing and the MGH Institute are invited to participate in this (and future) overseas educational offerings. Interested alumni should email alumni@mghihp.edu for more information.

*Tuition and fees additional, if registering in the International Health Experience course for credit (or auditing). Nursing contact hours may be available.

Hanson Initiative Celebrates 5 Years

The Hanson Initiative for Language & Literacy, founded in 2001 to help schools develop sustainable literacy programs, celebrated its fifth anniversary in March 2006.

HILL supporters and donors marked the occasion with a reception at the University of Massachusetts Club in downtown Boston. Glenn and Krista Hanson, who helped launch HILL with a philanthropic seed grant of \$400,000, were honored at the event. Since its inception, the HILL has generated \$1.8 million in grants, contracts and donations, the largest of which are the contracts for *Reading First* and Boston Public Schools' *Early Reading First*.



Krista and Glenn Hanson

Sandra Jones, HILL executive director, presented an update on

the HILL's progress since its founding, which has grown from working with two to more than 130 schools nationwide. HILL has successfully demonstrated that by using a school-change model utilizing intensive professional development, team building and leadership training, schools can give teachers the skills they need to teach children to read and write.

Working with the Massachusetts Department of Education, the HILL has helped shape professional development for Massachusetts' *Reading First* and Boston Public Schools *Early Reading First* initiatives. The Massachusetts *Reading First* initiative has demonstrated substantial improvement in student outcomes for the past three years.

Massachusetts was also recently honored by the U.S. Department of Education for its outstanding achievements in *Reading First*, and received close to \$3.5 million in additional *Reading First* incentive funds in November of 2005 – the only state in the nation to be so recognized.

"WICKED" EVENTS FOR BOSTON ALUMNI

In April the Alumni Association hosted an afternoon of theater for local Boston area alumni to see the Tony Award winning hit musical *Wicked*.

Forty alumni saw a sold-out weekend matinee about the "true story of Oz" and the perhaps not-so-wicked witch of the west, at the restored Boston Opera House. After the performance, alumni moved across the street to a hosted reception at the restaurant Blu.

SPRING EDUCATIONAL DINNER: ROBOTS

The alumni association hosted its annual Spring Educational Dinner in March 2006, with a program entitled, "The Human Touch of Robots: How Technology is Changing the Face of Health Care."

MGH Institute Jacques Mohr Professor in Geriatric Nursing, **Diane Feeney Mahoney, PhD, ARNP, BC**, spoke on "Linking Employed Family Caregivers to Home Through Remote Sensor Technology." Dr. Mahoney's primary research focus is on integrating technology to support the well-being of senior housing residents. **Jonathan Klein, MS**, Director of Robotic Research & Development for Vecna Technologies, spoke about the role of robotics in promoting greater independence in daily living.

STOMP COMING IN DECEMBER 2006

For the holiday season, mix and mingle with fellow alumni at the next alumni association-sponsored theater event – *Stomp*. The eight-member troupe "uses matchboxes, wooden poles, brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters, and hubcaps as improvised percussion instruments. See what all the noise is about."

A limited block of tickets for alumni is available for the 3pm matinee on **Saturday, December 10, 2006**, at the Colonial Theatre, with a reception to follow. For more information, email alumni@mghihp.edu or call (617)726-3141.



Diane Bauer, NS '93, and friends, at the *Wicked* reception



Speakers Diane Mahoney and Jonathan Klein with program co-chairs, Michelle Ferretti and Sasha Yampolsky at the Spring Educational Dinner.

WHITE COAT CEREMONY



The Graduate Program in Physical Therapy held its second annual White Coat ceremony on July 5, 2006. Members of the incoming Doctor of Physical Therapy Class of 2009 received their white coats and school pins from members of the Class of 2007 — who in turn were pinned by faculty members.

The ceremony included remarks by alumnus **David Barlow, PT '97, DPT '05, OCS**, as well as recent graduate **Christine O'Donnell, DPT '06**. As part of the ceremony, students recited the Pledge of Professionalism.

Clinical Assistant Professor Aimee Klein pins second-year DPT student Aedan Ford.

A SEASON OF CHANGE

INSTITUTE HONORS ITS OWN

The MGH Institute was founded in 1977, and formally incorporated as an independent subsidiary of Massachusetts General Hospital in 1985, forming an independent board of trustees. Last fall **Dr. Matina Horner** stepped down as only the second chair of the board. Like her predecessor, **Lorraine Baugh**, Dr. Horner served as board chair for ten years.

At the June 2006 board of trustees meeting, President Caldwell and the current board chair, **Dr. George Thibault**, Vice President for Clinical Affairs at Partners HealthCare, honored Dr. Horner for her decade of service. During a brief ceremony, Dr. Horner's official portrait was unveiled to hang with Lorraine Baugh's portrait in the Trustee Room in the Catherine Filene Shouse Building.

At that same meeting, the trustees unanimously adopted two resolutions. The first recognized retiring board member **Nicholas Grace, Esq.**, for nineteen years of service as an MGH Institute trustee. He was subsequently elected as an Honorary Trustee. The second resolution honored **Hannah Potter**, who spent eighteen years as the Executive Assistant to the President, working for three of the Institute's five presidents. She will continue to serve in a part-time capacity as the Institute archivist, which includes a project to



Matina Horner, Ann Caldwell and George Thibault at the unveiling of Dr. Horner's portrait in the trustee room.



Matina Horner with retiring trustee Nicholas Grace.



President Caldwell adjusts Hannah Potter's regalia at Commencement. After years of working Commencement behind the scenes, Ms. Potter marked her final Commencement by processing in with the faculty and administration.

apply modern preservation methods to the MGH School of Nursing archives, which are located at the Institute.

FEDERAL RESERVE PRESIDENT JOINS TRUSTEES

Cathy E. Minehan, President of the First District Federal Reserve Bank, has been elected to the MGH Institute's board of trustees.

Minehan began her career with the Federal Reserve System in 1968, holding various staff positions at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. She was named first vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston in 1991, and held that position until being named president of the Bank in July 1994.

Ms. Minehan is active in civic and community affairs. In addition to her role on the MGH Institute's board, she serves as a trustee of the Massachusetts

General Hospital and as a Director of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay. She is also a trustee of the University of Rochester and serves on the board of the Massachusetts Business Roundtable and Jobs for Massachusetts. Minehan graduated with a BA in political science from the University of Rochester, and earned her MBA from New York University.



Cathy E. Minehan

FACULTY IN THE NEWS



Elissa Ladd

Massachusetts Attorney General Tom Reilly announced April 13, 2006, that Clinical Assistant Professor **Elissa Ladd, PhD, RN, FNP**, was one of four health care experts in Massachusetts chosen to receive a grant from the nationwide Attorney General Consumer and Prescriber Grant Program.

Dr. Ladd was awarded \$388,400 to conduct a study entitled: *There's No Such Thing as a Free Lunch...or*

Dinner: A Web-Based Pharmaceutical Practice Program for Advanced Practice Nurses. According to Ladd, "nurse practitioners may not realize the effect of drug company marketing on their prescribing practices. My goal with this grant is to encourage the prescription of drugs based on scientific evidence rather than pharmaceutical marketing practices."



Karen Wolf

Clinical Associate Professor **Karen Anne Wolf, PhD, APRN-BC, ANP**, has been named Associate Director, Program Administration and Development, in the Graduate Program in Nursing. Since coming to the MGH Institute in 1990, Dr. Wolf has taught and coordinated various courses at both the generalist and advanced levels of the nursing program; has served as Chair of the Generalist Level faculty;

Coordinator of Continuing Education; and most recently, served on the fast-track baccalaureate and Doctor of Nursing Practice task groups.

Her writings include articles and books on various health and community issues, and the history of nursing, as well as the history of the Institute and former MGH School of Nursing. Along with Dr. Patrice Nicholas and Dr. Linda Andrist, she co-authored the book, *A History of Nursing Ideas*.



Mary Carey

Mary Carey, PhD, will retire from her position as Academic Dean in June 2007. Dr. Carey is the Institute's first Academic Dean. She joined the faculty in 1980 as Professor and Director of the Graduate Program in Dietetics (since closed). "Her contributions over the past twenty-six years have been integral to the growth and development of the Institute, culminating in her academic leadership these past ten years as Dean," notes President Caldwell.



Aimee Klein

Aimee B. Klein, DPT, MS, OCS, Clinical Assistant Professor, has been elected to the American Physical Therapy Association's (APTA) Board of Directors. Dr. Klein has served in offices in the APTA at the local and national levels. She is currently Chair of the APTA's Reference Committee, as well as the Item Writer Coordinator for the Orthopaedic Specialty Council. She received the Mary MacDonald Distinguished Service Award from the Massachusetts Chapter in 2003 and the Lucy Blair Service Award from the APTA in 2004. She serves as an abstract and manuscript reviewer for several journals and publishers including *Physical Therapy* and *Journal of Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy*.

On September 29, 2006, the Massachusetts Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (MABIDA) presented Associate Professor **Charles Haynes, EdD, CCC-SLP**, with the Alice H. Garside Award, in recognition of his extensive teaching, research and service in the field of dyslexia. Dr. Haynes is a past Vice President and current board member of the International Dyslexia Association.



Charles Haynes

MABIDA presents the award annually, honoring an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the field. Alumna **Sarah Ward, MS, CCC-SLP '95**, delivered the event's keynote address, "Learning Challenges/Hidden Disabilities: the Social/Emotional Impact."

Clinical Professor **Bette Ann Harris, DPT, MS '83**, who is also a graduate of Simmons College in Boston, has been named the recipient of Simmons College's 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Professor and Associate Director of the Graduate Programs in Physical Therapy, **Maura Iversen, DPT, SD, MPH**, has been appointed an editor (promoted from Editorial Board member) of *Physical Therapy*, the journal of the American Physical Therapy Association.

ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE: CONNECTIONS

We use **connections every day** to make things go a little smoother: for relationship advice from a trusted friend, to scout out tickets to a sold-out concert, or to find a good auto mechanic. By staying connected with people in our lives, we build essential relationships, based on a natural give and take.

One place where connections can be particularly helpful is in the workplace. I have used connections to get job interviews, for insider advice about a potential workplace, or to schedule a meeting with someone who is “too busy.” I think we all have. I’ve even gotten to the point in my career when sometimes I *am* the connection – offering advice or helping a colleague with a complicated patient situation.

Often we have the fewest connections just when we need them the most: early in our careers. But that’s where the MGH Institute can help. With more than 2,600 alumni around the globe, there is bound to be someone who knows the answer to your clinical question, or who knows of a great rehabilitation hospital in the Cleveland area. One of the primary goals of the Alumni Association is to keep these connections strong.

We want you to have access to your fellow graduates and future alumni, as well as colleagues who have graduated from other academic programs. In the near future, we will introduce an online alumni job and resume posting service through the MGH Institute website. It will also feature an alumni directory, providing basic contact information and career updates.

Use it to find long-lost classmates, or expand your professional networking resources.

Even if you’re not looking for a job, I encourage all alumni to visit and log into the career portal when it goes live later this fall. Registering will also ensure that you receive announcements about upcoming alumni and Institute events.

Next spring the first-ever Institute-sponsored Reunion event will be held for the five and ten-year graduating classes of 2002 and 1997 (details soon). New offerings like these are part of our strategy to foster an ongoing, two-way relationship with alumni.

By providing alumni with the tools to be more successful, we extend the reputation of the Institute as a premier graduate school. That helps everyone, and that’s what makes connections so great.

So, stay connected. There are only good things to come!

Michelle Ferretti, MS ’00, DPT ’02
President



Michelle Ferretti, MS ’00,
DPT ’02, President

Alumni Association president Michelle Ferretti is a staff physical therapist at Children’s Hospital Boston. She can be reached at michelle.ferretti@childrens.harvard.edu.

CLASS NOTES

COMMUNICATIONS SCIENCES
AND DISORDERS

Candice Gopin ’03 and her husband Ian welcomed a baby girl, Zoe, in March 2006. The family recently returned from a three-week vacation in South Africa. Gopin plans to return to her job as a speech-language pathologist at the Westwood Public schools this fall.

Tovah Segelman ’03 and Timothy Ferges were engaged in June 2005 and will be married in May 2007 in New Brunswick, NJ, where they met in 2000.

Naomi Silberg ’03 got engaged in August 2006 to Adam Gerstenblith, a fourth year medical student at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. They are planning a wedding for early summer 2007.

Barbara M. Wilson Arboleda’s ’01 first paper was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Voice*. It is a multi-disciplinary paper she wrote with a physical therapist, applying the principles of exercise to postural alignment for optimal voice production. Arboleda is a voice disorders specialist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

Karla M. Maddalena ’94 is engaged to be married in October 2006. Maddalena is currently a pediatric SLP at Melmark New England in Woburn, MA.

Stacey Pappas Albren ’93 recently built a home in Georgetown, MA. She has two boys, ages 3 and 4, and works part-time as an SLP for the Melrose Public Schools.

NURSING

Kristin Cahill ’04 has moved to the Mississippi gulf coast to assist with the need for quality nurses at Coastal Family Health Centers in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. She is a volunteer nurse with Project Hope.

Alex Gleason ’00 and Nancy Webster were engaged in March 2006 in Hyde Park, London. A June 2007 wedding in Maine is planned.

Tracee (Cook) Salowski ’00 was married in September 2005 to David Salowski, PhD, with many MGH Institute classmates in attendance.

April Brumson ’98 is working at Sojourns Community Clinic in Westminster, VT, as a nurse practitioner and acupuncturist.

Connie Dahlin '91 '98 is an RN at MGH and received the 2006 "Leading the Way" award from the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association.

Catherine (Cathy) P. Licata '97 and her husband Bill have moved to Santa Fe, NM, where she hopes to work at St. Vincent's Hospital.

Kathleen Savage '96 has been a nurse practitioner with the Elder Service Plan of the North Shore since 1998. She is currently the volunteer Medical Director for the Special Olympics of Massachusetts, and accompanied the chapter's delegation to the first National Games in Iowa this summer. Savage is also active with the MS Society.

Mary Lou Moore '96 has accepted the position of director of Cardiovascular Nursing and Clinical Services at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Susan Stevens '01 has been hired by the Institute to assist Dr. Jeanne Cartier in the Biobehavioral course this fall and to teach in the advanced level courses in the spring.

Deborah Rosenbloom-Brunton '03 has joined the faculty in a full-time position. She will work with Dr. Meisenhelder this fall in the year-long medical-surgical course and will assume responsibility for the lectures and course coordination in the spring term.

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Reginald Wilcox '05 and his co-authors were awarded the 2005 George J. Davies - James A. Gould Excellence in Clinical Inquiry Award by the APTA for a paper titled "Rehabilitation Following Total Shoulder Arthroplasty."



Ashwaq Al-Hassani '95

Ashwaq Hassani '95 was appointed chief physiotherapist at Salmania Medical Center in Bahrain.

Chuck Williams '02 is working at Dayton General Hospital as a rehabilitation director primarily with the outpatient population. This year he earned a

Sports Certified Specialist credential and is volunteering services and providing coverage to the high school football program.

IN MEMORIAM

Ronald G. Letowski, NS '03 of Martha's Vineyard, MA passed away in August 2006, at age 53.

FIRST REUNION EVENT

2002, 1997, 1992, 1987 CLASS YEARS INVITED
TO GATHER JUNE 1, 2007

To help mark the MGH Institute's thirtieth anniversary year, the alumni association will host a reunion event June 1, 2007, for the five, ten, fifteen and twenty year classes.

"Although individual class groups have organized their own informal reunions in the past, the Institute has finally grown to a size where it makes sense for us to start organizing something annually," says Katherine Krupanski, Annual Fund and Alumni Relations Manager.

A newly formed Reunion 2007 Committee recently met to begin planning next year's event. Alumni – and spouses – from the 2002, 1997, 1992, 1987 class years will be invited to an evening reception on Friday, June 1, 2007. The reception will be hosted at the Institute's Catherine Filene Shouse Building in the historic Charlestown Navy Yard.

Each program class group will be organizing their own class-specific activity to be held over that same weekend of June 2 - 3. Event details, and updates, including cost to attend, will be mailed out to alumni for the designated class years as more information becomes available.

Questions? Email alumni@mghihp.edu.

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Kate Krupanski, *Annual Fund & Alumni
Relations Manager*

Letters to the editor, class notes,
news and story ideas can be submitted
via alumni@mghihp.edu.



Dr. Charley Haynes visits the Grade School
for Girls in Kuwait City



Cape Town, South Africa for alumni

the Graduate

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Fall 2006

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The MGH Institute of Health Professions is a member of

