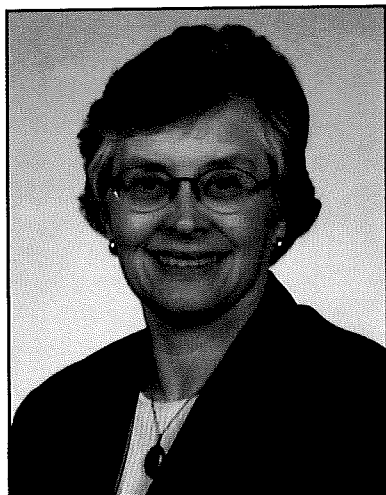


# TECH'S TALK

DIVISION OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## Pat Solberg Wins John Tate Award for Academic Advising

Patricia Solberg, administrative associate in the Division of Medical Technology, was presented the John Tate Award for Excellence in Academic Advising on May 11, 1999. This award, sponsored by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, is named in honor of John Tate, professor of physics and the first dean of University College (1931-40). The Tate Award recognizes outstanding advisors and promotes the role that advising plays in the University's educational mission. All advisors within the state-wide University system



are eligible for this award. Pat and the other awardees received a framed certificate and \$1500 at the May ceremony. She was also honored at a second recognition reception in June, hosted by the Board of Regents and President Yudof.

Pat joined the Division of Medical Technology in 1984 to serve primarily as an advisor. In actuality, she has many other roles: in student recruitment, coordination of clinical rotations, overseeing student policy manuals, laboratory instruction in clinical chemistry, job placement, co-writer of the accreditation self-study, representative of the Academic Health Center at national recruitment fairs, and liaison between students and faculty. In all efforts, Pat represents Medical Technology and the University with competence, equanimity, and a gracious and friendly demeanor.

Students, staff and faculty in Medical Technology nominated Pat, and among the statements they used to describe her were the following:

- Pat genuinely cares for students—as individuals and as future professionals.
- She is calm under pressure; despite a tight schedule, she never loses her patience.
- She is efficient and organized, a self-starter who completes projects in a timely way.
- A team worker—one who has a positive effect on the entire group.
- Pat thinks the *best* of individuals, including colleagues and students.
- She is a problem-solver who has excellent rapport with colleagues through the University and is able to use their expertise effectively.

More than 35 advisors have been given the Tate Award over its 12-year history, and in 1999 only four were presented in the entire University system. We are delighted that Pat Solberg was chosen to receive this prestigious award.

### Inside:

Director's Farewell .....	2
Graduation .....	5
Contributors .....	6
Alumni News .....	9
Anniversary Classes .....	11
Faculty and Staff News .....	13
Laboratory Personnel Shortage .....	15
Banquet Registration .....	19

# Director's Farewell

Dear Friends,

I write this column with sadness, for it marks not only my own retirement following 30 years of service at the University, but it also marks the end of the academic career of two other U of M medical technology graduates who have been longstanding faculty members in the program. Karen Lofsness, Helen Hallgren and I have chosen early retirement to enjoy our "better years." Our ties to the Division of Medical Technology date back to the late 1950s, and in total, we have served the University for more than 100 years.

Each of us has our own memories, and the following are mine. When I was a senior entering clinical rotations, I met with Grace Mary Ederer, then the laboratory's chief administrative technologist. She provided an official orientation for all new students with the following admonition, "I hope your white shoes and uniform will be as white and bright at the time of graduation as they are today." Grace Mary certainly introduced us to professional deportment. I also recall Ruth Hovde sending faculty members off to present education sessions with, "Make us proud." (We certainly could not let her down!) Esther Freier mentored many medical technologists and clinical chemists, who dared not disappoint her either. Lorraine Gonyea Stewart's exacting standards demanded excellence from undergraduates and graduate students alike. Mary Damron and Dolores Harvey excited us about urine sediments—possibly to the detriment of our "small talk" at social events. Verna Rausch graciously shared with us all of her education expertise and materials, including her collection of *Peanuts* cartoons.

These individuals represent our best leaders, upon whose shoulders we now stand. Their commitment, dedication and perseverance have built the reputation for which Medical Technology at the University of Minnesota is known internationally. Indeed, sometimes we are referred to as "Mecca" by fellow educators. Among the more noteworthy accomplishments of the Division are:

- First baccalaureate-degree program in medical technology in the U.S. (1923).
- Largest number of graduates from a single institution (2700).
- First institution to initiate a program for supportive-level laboratory personnel (medical laboratory assistant program, 1953).
- U of M medical technology faculty (Freier and Rausch) author the first article dealing with quality control in the clinical laboratory (1958).
- First and only program to have an endowed professorship in medical technology, the Rohwer Professorship (1989).
- Average pass rate on national certification exams: greater than 95%, with class averages at 115% of the national mean.

- First institution to implement a master's-level program, now called clinical laboratory science (1960).
- Greater than 98% entry-level employment, primarily in Minnesota.
- Approximately one in five graduates complete an advanced degree.
- Ten Minnesotans (seven U of M graduates) have served as president of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, founded in 1933.

While these accomplishments reflect some of our achievements, they do not fully recognize the excellence of all of our graduates, whether staff technologists in rural Minnesota, administrators within the Fairview University Medical Center laboratories, or educators and researchers at universities throughout the world. Our motto says it all: "Medical Technology at the University of Minnesota—where quality is a tradition."

Thus, while the three of us are leaving the University within 12 months of one another, we remain confident that the quality established decades ago will continue. When Verna Rausch wrote her last column for *Tech's Talk* in 1984, she stated:

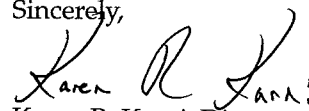
I have enjoyed writing these annual newsletters to you and hope that they have provided you with some information about the program and the University. We have appreciated your support in the past and trust that you will continue to believe in the University and in Medical Technology.


From *Peanuts*:

Charlie Brown: Well, so long, ol' pal. I'll be back in two weeks. These good-byes just kill me. I can't take it. My throat feels like I've swallowed a hockey stick!

I now understand what Verna meant.

Sincerely,

  
Karen R. Karni, Director

		<b>Editors:</b> Helen Hallgren Karen Lofsness
<b>Contributors:</b>		Lynn King
Claire Bjorklund		Karin Libby
Nancy Brunzel		Jan Lorenz
Salli Clysdale		Lillian Sarkinen
Stella Cook		Pat Solberg
Joanna George		Barb Streifel
Bill Gleason		Cheryl Swinehart
Naomi Hanson		Mike Tsai
Bob Jechorek		Carol Wells
Karen Karni		Mary Jane Yue
<b>Division of Medical Technology</b> <b>Department of Laboratory Medicine &amp; Pathology</b> <b>Medical School</b> <b>University of Minnesota</b> <b>Box 609 Mayo Building</b> <b>420 Delaware Street S.E.</b> <b>Minneapolis, MN 55455</b>		
		<b>Phone: 612/625-9490</b> <b>Fax: 612/625-5901</b> <b>E-mail: medtech@tc.umn.edu</b>

## Building Boom at the University of Minnesota

When you visit the University of Minnesota, you will notice cranes, bulldozers, construction crews with hard hats, and closed sidewalks, as the Twin Cities campuses are currently undergoing unprecedented construction and renovation. In 1998 the University allocated \$400 million for construction activities, and many ongoing projects are revitalizing the campus.

The new, long-awaited **University of Minnesota Gateway**, recently named the **McNamara Alumni Center**, celebrated its grand opening this February. Located at the corner of University Avenue and Oak, the Gateway center now serves as the formal entry point to the University for alumni, students, and visitors.

The building consists of two parts: a large, faceted rock-like structure likened to a geode, and a six-story structure covered with copper. The geode contains the building's public space, including the 85-foot-tall Memorial Hall and the Heritage Gallery. Between Memorial Hall and the Heritage Gallery is the Memorial Stadium Arch. When Memorial Stadium was demolished in 1992, the arch was preserved and now serves to bring back many memories. The office building houses a visitors' center as well as offices for the University Alumni Association, University Foundation, Minnesota Medical Foundation, and Board of Regents.

The **Lyon Labs**, **Owre Hall**, and **Millard Hall** along Washington Avenue fell to the wrecking ball last fall to make way for the new **Institute for Molecular and Cellular Biology**. It will be the University's center for functional genomics research aimed at learning how genes work, what happens when they don't, and how to repair them to prevent or cure diseases. This facility will house modern labs, office space for researchers, and seven classrooms occupied by three new departments formed to support molecular and cellular biology.

**Coffman Memorial Union** closed late last fall for a renovation to be completed in fall 2001. The project includes redesigning the building so its main doors open in the rear onto Delaware Street, a winter garden, and complete remodeling of the inside intended to return it to a center for student life.

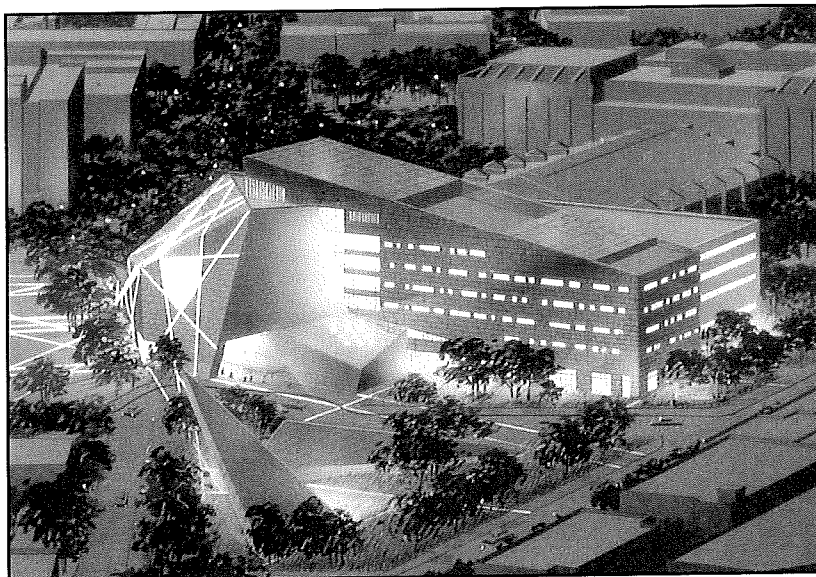
The **East River Road Ramp** between Coffman Union and the Mississippi River was demolished last summer to make way for a revitalization project named **Riverbend Commons**. This project will include a 500-bed student housing complex, an underground parking garage, improvements to Washington Avenue, and renovation of Coffman plaza for better access to the Mississippi River.

**Ford, Murphy, and Amundson Halls** are undergoing renovation and modernization of existing space. The **Architecture and Mechanical Engineering Buildings** are being remodeled to house more classrooms, labs, and office space. **Walter Library** is being renovated to accommodate the new Digital Technology Center and the Minnesota Supercomputer Institute as well as electronic labs, distance-learning classrooms, and electronic study carrels.

The new **Elmer L. Andersen Library** consists of two climate-controlled river bluff caverns, each larger than two football fields, carved along the river on the edge of the West Bank. The caverns will house books and documents from special collections, rare books, University archives, as well as materials from libraries around the state.

Last summer, the University Dance Program obtained a new 12,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility with the completion of the **Barbara Barker Center for Dance**.

The **Elizabeth Lyle Robbie Stadium**, a new 1000-seat women's soccer facility across from the St. Paul campus, opened in September 1999.



McNamara Alumni Center

## Recruitment Volunteers Needed—You Can Help!

As you may know, there is a critical shortage of laboratory professionals in the workforce today. Therefore, I encourage each of you to take any opportunity that may present itself to educate the public and especially potential students about a career in the laboratory. Please consider participating in health fairs in your community or at church, at career fairs in local high schools or middle schools, in career courses within the community, in assisting with tours for Boy or Girl Scout Troops, and the like. By volunteering to participate in an event at a school or local community center, you will bring out an increased awareness of the profession and perhaps assist an enthusiastic person to discover a wonderful health science career.



I ask for your support. You may call me for the use of a videotape, Kodachrome slide case histories, literature, and handouts. With time, we will be developing more specific recruitment presentations for students of various ages. Nonetheless, we have some packages ready to use.

This is an opportunity for individuals—retired or employed—to assist in exciting individuals about the profession. We also have a special need for young professionals who represent diverse populations. If you would be willing to volunteer for a community or school activity, please give me your name, address, and phone number, so that I can notify you of an event in your area. Or, if you have knowledge about a career fair or community event in your area, call me as well.

I also encourage you to speak to a laboratory manager about the possibility of offering a short “shadowing” experience for the student who wishes to observe the laboratory “in action.”

Feel welcome to call with questions, or your willingness to explain the profession to a group of young learners, who could very well be the individuals performing our lab work in the future.

Pat Solberg  
Division of Medical Technology  
612-625-9490; solbe002@tc.umn.edu

## 1932 Alumna Visits Medical Technology Program

In June 1999, **Janet Smith Hoeft**, class of 1932, and her daughter, Nancy Eales, visited the medical technology offices and program director, Karen Karni.

transfusion included the donor being present in the surgical unit, with ABO typing and cross-matching occurring prior to the transfusion. Rh testing was still unknown.

Mrs. Hoeft recalled her education at the University and her first employment experiences during the depression. She noted that Gleva Blaine Erskine was a tough but friendly and kind instructor. Dr. William A. O'Brien, first medical director of the program, was called “OB” by staff and students and had a reputation as a gifted lecturer and humorist. The University Hospital laboratory was located on the fourth floor of the hospital and overlooked a lovely garden area. The sixth floor housed laboratory animals—including sheep, guinea pigs and mice. She recalled cleaning microscope slides and sharpening needles with pumice for their re-use. She was a member of Alpha Delta Tau, the sorority that preceded Alpha Delta Theta. All 18 members of her class were women. Todd and Sanford was the standard reference text at that time, and the hematology text was authored by Maximov. Medical Technology students took hematology with the medical students with Dr. Hal Downey as the instructor.

Mrs. Hoeft married in 1934 and raised her family of four children in New York State. For many years she has been an annual contributor to our Medical Technology Fund. At age 92 she is alert, focused, and full of delightful stories of her education at the University and her life thereafter.

## Can You Help Us?

Last year the following individuals' *Tech's Talks* were returned. If you can help us with their addresses, please call or write to Lillian Sarkinen (see page 2).

Marcia Shellenbarger, 1935  
Ruth Tessman, 1935  
Esther Bjorneson, 1945  
Zona Swanson Rohs, 1947  
Margaret Andreen Hansen, 1950  
Florence Miller, 1951  
Patricia Worhol McCormick, 1966  
Beverly Nelson Montag, 1972  
Claire Bruskevitz, 1977  
Barbara Carlson, 1979

In 1933 Mrs. Hoeft was employed in Chicago at the Women's and Children's Hospital on Madison Street, a private institution run entirely by women, including its physicians. Mrs. Hoeft earned \$75 per month and also received room and board and laundry services. Surgical

If you have changed your address, please let us know so that we can continue to keep in touch.

# 1999 Graduation Ceremony

The 77th graduating class of the Division of Medical Technology held its commencement exercise at the Student Union on the St. Paul campus on September 25, 1999. **Katherine Gronfield** and **Enrique Iturbe**, co-presidents of the Medical Technology Student Council, presided at the ceremony. The graduation speaker, chosen by the senior class, was associate professor **Karen Lofsness**. Karen gave a historical perspective of the University as our alma mater.

Seniors **Katherine Gronfield** and **Jennie Wiegner** presented a slide show of the highlights of class activities, both academic and extracurricular. **Andrea Jensen** and **Shauna Robeson**, presented a musical reminiscence of

their senior year. **Robert Jechorek**, scientist, announced the scholastic awards earned by class members. **Paul Armstrong** and **Katherine Gronfield** were recognized for achieving the highest grade point averages in the professional program.

**Cheryl Swinehart**, assistant professor, led the graduates in reciting the Medical Technology Oath and introduced each class member as they signed the oath. Following the oath ceremony, degrees were conferred by **Karen Karni**, professor and director of the Medical Technology program. **Salli Clysdale**, representing the Alumni Society, welcomed the new graduates as alumni of the University of Minnesota. A reception followed in the Student Union terrace.



Medical Technology Class of 1999

Front row (left to right):

**Susan Wiessner**, Brooklyn NY  
*with distinction*  
**Tammy Porthan**, New Brighton, MN  
**Dana Lam**, Eagan, MN  
*with distinction*  
**Linhsa Le**, Bloomington, MN  
*with distinction*  
**Van Bui**, Apple Valley, MN  
**Cuc Nguyen**, Burnsville, MN  
*with distinction*  
**Carol Zhang**, Minneapolis, MN  
*with high distinction*

Second row:

**Katherine Gronfield**, Plymouth, MN  
*with high distinction*  
**Ricky Chan**, Plymouth, MN  
**Yanli Liu**, Chengdu, Sechuan China  
**Andrea Jensen**, Oconomowoc, WI  
**Sara Barnes**, Waseca, MN  
*with distinction*

Third row:

**Darin Sumstad**, Elbow Lake, MN  
**Jill Peternell**, Hanover, MN  
*with high distinction*  
**Iris Ng**, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia  
*with distinction*  
**Sara Mensing**, Lester Prairie, MN  
*with distinction*  
**Jennifer Wozniak**, Lake Geneva, WI  
*with distinction*  
**Cari Dimaculangan**, Maple Grove, MN

Back row:

**Enrique Iturbe**, Carrizo Springs, TX  
**Shauna Robeson**, Lakeside, CA  
*with distinction*  
**Robert Bergsbaken**, Bonduel, WI  
**Melissa Fossum**, Lennox, SD  
**Polly Olson**, Grantsburg, WI  
**Jennie Wiegner**, Mendota Heights, MN  
**Schauntell Green**, Minneapolis, MN  
**Ian Gamble**, St. Paul, MN  
*with high distinction*  
**Paul Armstrong**, Helena, MT  
*with high distinction*

Photograph by:  
**Anita Sime Jader** (Class of 1977)

# 1999 Major Contributors

The following contributed \$100 or more to the Division of Medical Technology in 1999:

## \$100,000

Constance Olson Bakken

## \$10,000

Anonymous Donor

## \$1,000 - \$1,999

Verna Rausch  
Ethel Koster Rodriguez

## \$500 - \$999

Lorna Henderson Canfield  
Ruth A. Cardinal  
James G. Ruggles  
Ella M. Spanjers

## \$300 - \$499

AETNA Life & Casualty Fdn  
CIGNA Foundation  
Mary Jane Eaves-Raich

General Mills Foundation  
Todd and Mary Lunzer Jacobson  
Karen Soderberg Karni

Karen and Wayne Lofsness  
Verne and Phyllis Hanson Weiss

## \$100 - \$299

Abbott Laboratories Fund  
AMOCO Foundation Inc.  
Carol Hallgren Arnason  
Helen E. Ashenbrucker  
Ellis and Ann Benson  
Elizabeth Kirker Bixby  
Ruth Bienhoff Brauer  
Marilyn Tucker Budge  
Kathleen Quast Carlsen  
Ann Deis Claesgens  
Gerry Olafson Cochran  
Irma Koskella Coleman  
Robert A. Dahl  
E. Mary Skerik Damron  
Phyllis McCoy Davis  
Kay Draves  
Dorothy Carlson Duffell  
Sally Scherven Economon  
Grace Mary Ederer  
Beverly J. Fiorella  
Firestone Family Foundation, Inc.  
Catherine Leiendecker Foster  
Linda L. Fredrickson  
Muriel Johnson French  
Mardie G. Geiser  
Marjorie Gigeay Giesen  
Marilyn Postier Haglund  
Ben E. Hallaway  
Helen Nordine Hallgren

Jean Hansen Halvorson  
Joanne M. Hilden  
Carol Fischer Hill  
Janet Smith Hoefft  
Karen Kloss Huff  
Idelle Hanson Hultgren  
Phyllis Dolden Jacobs  
Carol Kelly Johnson  
Billie Anne Herranen Juni  
Dorothy K. Karlen  
Marilyn M. Klein  
Barbara Waldkirch Koblinski  
Patricia Maser Koors  
Mary Hollenhorst Lazarus  
Karin Rittgers Libby  
Jeanne Jorgenson Linne  
Catherine Gladson Manlove  
Audrey Sutherland Martinson  
Betty McMartin  
Donna Messerli Meyer  
Shirley Lindquist Michel  
Gerald Mulcahy  
Carol Hughes Mulder  
Ross H. Mulder  
David E. Nevalainen  
Raymond Newman  
NSP Company  
Toni D. Okada  
Jeanne C. Olsen

Clarice J. Olson  
Lou Ann Trunkey Page  
Mary Beth Piscator  
Elberta Seavey Prestegard  
Stephani Busian Price  
Kathryn Rantala  
Debra C. Rodahl  
John L. Roesler  
Eileen Leipus Rogers  
Vincent J. Rogalski  
Ruth Rosendahl  
Shelly Lepisto Russ  
Marlys J. St. Cyr  
Melicent Hane Schmidt  
Paul Schreckenberger  
Cheryl L. Scott  
3M Foundation  
Thomas M. Vesley  
Aija Kancitis Vikmanis  
Grace Haagenon Wagnild  
Bethany Young Walters  
Nettie Conser Warwood  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Lila Wicklund Wengler  
Mary K. Weimer  
Joyce Clarke Wian  
Lori Wischnack

## Medical Technology Scholarships

Seven different scholarship funds are administered through the Division of Medical Technology. Only students in the professional program are eligible to apply; criteria used for selection include scholastic standing, financial need, and professional potential.

In September of 1999, 35 medical technology students received scholarships that totaled \$33,000. This was an increase of \$5,000 over the 1998 awards. The scholarships ranged from \$800 to \$1,000 per recipient. Students who received the awards were enrolled in the junior and senior years as well as in clinical assignments. More than half of our students received some scholarship support. This is a remarkable achievement, attesting to the dedication of alumni and friends who have given generously over the past several decades.

Recipients have expressed sincere appreciation for their scholarships. Tuition for the senior year alone is \$3,862.50 for a resident and almost three times as much for a non-resident. This situation forces students to work, on average, 20 hours per week. The awards have enabled many deserving students to complete their education.

The scholarships available are the:

- Hovde-O'Brien Scholarship Fund
- Yvonne C. Cooke Scholarship Fund
- Gonyea-Stewart Scholarship Fund and Gonyea-Stewart Emergency Loan Fund
- Betty Rae Kramer McConnell Scholarship Fund
- Medical Technology Alumni Scholarship Fund
- Constance Olson Bakken Scholarship Fund
- HEMATOGRAPHY® Scholarship Fund

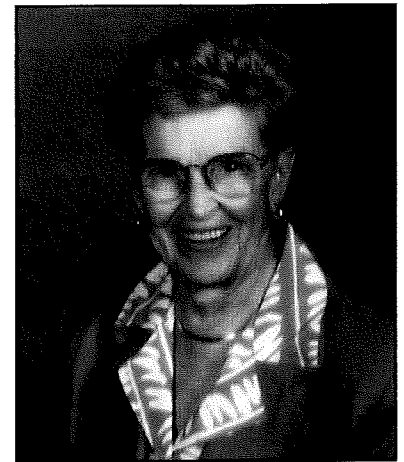
With your help, the scholarship funds will continue to grow. Contributions may be sent to the Division of Medical Technology, University of Minnesota, Box 609 Mayo Building, 420 Delaware Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0374.

## Anonymous Alumna Contributes to Scholarship Programs

For the past three years, a University of Minnesota medical technology graduate from the class of 1936 has contributed a total of \$20,000 to our scholarship programs. She has chosen not to be named; however her gifts have been significant and have contributed substantially to the financial support of medical technology. We wish to thank this anonymous donor publicly for her generosity over the last several years.

## Constance Olson Bakken Scholarship Established

Constance Olson Bakken of Columbia Heights, MN, recently contributed \$100,000 to the Division of Medical Technology to establish a scholarship fund for students in our program. As with other scholarship funds, interest on the principal of the Bakken Fund will be used for scholarships for deserving students.



Following graduation from this program in 1946, Connie Bakken worked as a medical technologist in the laboratories of Northwestern

Hospital for six years. Then she married and raised four children (two daughters and two sons), all of whom are graduates of the University of Minnesota.

In 1980 Connie Bakken began a new career when she purchased the Citizens Independent Bank in St. Louis Park. In 1982 she purchased a second bank in Robbinsdale. As chief executive officer of these banks, she is proud of the service and personal attention extended to all clients. She has completed course work in community bank management at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and the Minnesota School of Banking at St. Olaf College.

Connie Bakken is a respected member of the Twin Cities, and has won numerous awards, including the following:

- One of the Top 25 Women-Owned Businesses in the Twin Cities (City Business, 1999)
- Career Achievement Award (Women in Business, 1995)
- Community Service Award (Minnesota Suburban NAACP, 1995)
- Lifetime Achievement Award (MN Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners, 1994)
- WCCO Good Neighbor Award (WCCO Radio, 1993)
- 1990 Karen Gibbs Woman of Achievement (Twin West Chamber of Commerce)
- Distinguished Women in Banking (named one of 11 in Northwestern Financial Review, 1990)

While Connie Bakken has left the laboratory world, her ties to the Division and the University have remained strong. We are grateful for her contribution to her graduating unit. This generous gift will make a difference in the lives of many medical technology students.



# Clinical Laboratory Science Master's Program

The Clinical Laboratory Science master's degree program continues to successfully prepare students for positions in research, teaching or industry. The program is multidisciplinary, designed to offer medical technologists or basic science students advanced education in one of five major areas of laboratory medicine. Clinical chemistry, hematology, immunology, molecular genetics and microbiology are current areas of specialization. Fifteen students are enrolled in the program, and seven students received their M. S. degrees this year.

**Nancy Brunzel**, advised by Dr. Ron McGlennen, completed her research on "Quantitation of bcr-abl transcripts by non-competitive RT-PCR: An approach to model ongoing expression in chronic myelogenous leukemia patients."

**Lana Lamb's** research project, "Antigen capture assay for the detection of the etiological agent of human granulocytic ehrlichiosis," completed the requirements for the master's degree. Her adviser was Dr. Russell Johnson.

**Peter Reichert** successfully defended his thesis, "Green fluorescent protein as a marker of T cell activation in vivo." His adviser was Dr. Marc Jenkins.

**Cheow Meng Tee** presented her research, "Evaluation of bcr-abl fusion in lymphoblastic lymphoma by paraffin-section fluorescence in situ hybridization" at her final oral examination. Meng's adviser was Dr. Phuong Nguyen.

Our students also continue to publish and present their work at professional meetings. Presentations and published articles during the past year include:

**Tee CM, Niehans G, and Nguyen P:** Evaluation of bcr-abl fusion in lymphoblastic lymphoma by paraffin-section fluorescence in situ hybridization. *Am J Clin Path* 112: 564-565, 1999.

**Melby A, Cue D, Mousa S, and Cleary P:** An alpha5-beta1/alphaV-beta3 integrin antagonist inhibits *Staphylococcus aureus* invasion of epithelial cells. American Society for Microbiology General Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, May 2000.

**Natarajan AD, Boxrud D, Dunny G and Srienc F:** Flow cytometric analysis of growth of two *Streptococcus gordonii* derivatives. *J Micr Meth* 34:223-233, 1999.

**Feng Yang's** research project was "Polygenic influence and gene/vitamin interaction as determinants of plasma homocysteine level." Dr. Michael Tsai was Feng's adviser.

**Ming Ye**, working with Dr. Steven Hecht, completed her thesis entitled "Analysis of the enantiomeric composition of 4-(methylnitrosamino)-1-(3-pyridyl)-1-butanone (NNK) metabolites in smokers' urine."

**Nigar Zaidi** completed her research project, "The relationship of hormonal receptors to human papillomavirus associated cervical lesions." Her adviser was Dr. Ron McGlennen.



**Bender JB, Leano FT, Boxrud D, Lindeman C, Smith KE, Besser J and Hedberg CW:** Molecular characterization and antimicrobial susceptibility of animal *Salmonella typhimurium* isolates from the Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. American Society for Microbiology General Meeting, Chicago, IL, 1999.

**Kinneberg K, Bendel C, Jechorek R, Cebelinski E, Gale C, Berman J, Erlandsen S, Hostetter M, and Wells C:** Effect of INT1 gene on *Candida albicans* murine intestinal colonization. *J Surg Res* 87: 245-251, 1999.

## Susan Wiessner Awarded Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity Scholarship



**S**usan Wiessner, a 1999 graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical Technology Program, was awarded the Ruth French Undergraduate Scholarship from the Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity. Susan was presented with a \$1500 scholarship when she attended the annual meeting of the ASCLS/AACC in New Orleans in July 1999.

Alpha Mu Tau is a national laboratory fraternity which promotes the advancement of professionals in the clinical laboratory sciences. One of the projects of the society is granting scholarships to graduate and undergraduate students in the profession.

Susan, a native of New York, has consistently been on the Dean's list and graduated with distinction. We congratulate her on receiving this prestigious scholarship.



## Alumni News

Last year, **Helen Marie Johnson Osborne** (1938), Edmonds, WA, wrote: "A graduate in Medical Technology from Minnesota can get a job anywhere. My first job in 1938 was as a lab and x-ray technician at St. Luke's Hospital in Boise, ID, at \$80 a month with room and board. Later I worked in Salt Lake City, and in 1958, I took a 'refresher' course in microbiology and got a job at Children's Orthopedic Hospital in Seattle. After moving to Washington, DC, in 1959, I worked at Georgetown Hospital. Finally, for 16 years I was a histologist at the National Institutes of Health."

**Carol Carlson** (1943), Decatur, GA, started her career in charge of the chemistry laboratory at the University of Minnesota Hospital. Later she worked in physiology with Dr. Harlan Wood, and moved with his staff to the Cleveland Clinic to conduct research. She returned to the University of Minnesota and worked with Dr. Wallace Armstrong in the Biochemistry Department. Their studies helped establish the role of fluoride in preventing dental caries.

**Eleanore Anderson Bredvold** (1945), St. Paul, had a 25-year career as a microbiologist for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. She was the first woman in the Upper Midwest to be certified as a "Milk Laboratory Evaluation Officer." She also worked at several hospitals and clinics in the metro area. Now she enjoys Elderhostel and traveling.

**Arlene Edwall Marcotte** (1946), Lindstrom, MN, worked from 1967 to 1987 at St. Paul Ramsey Medical Center. Arlene is a long-time attendee of our annual spring banquets.

**Mary Lou Enger Carlson** (1949), Minneapolis, worked in the laboratories of the VA Hospital until 1956. Currently she works at Melpone Institute for Women's Health Research in St. Paul. Since 1980, she has run in 32 marathons including all Twin Cities marathons and the Boston Marathon (twice), completing the 100<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon with her daughter, Nancy.

**Joan Owen Novak** (1953), Tarpon Springs, FL, worked as a technologist for three years and as a realtor for five years. She is married to Joseph Novak, professor emeritus of science education and biology at Cornell University, for whom she has edited several books.

**Sharon Malmstrom Bastian** (1959) retired last year to Northfield, MN, after completing 25 years of teaching in the Life Sciences Department (clinical laboratory science) of Indiana State University.

**Clareyse Nelson** (1961), Minneapolis, MN, had an important birthday and chose to have her "presents" be monetary contributions to her favorite programs. One of them was the University of Minnesota Medical Technology Alumni Scholarship Program. Friends responded with extraordinary contributions including over \$500 for student scholarships.

**Billie Anne Herranen Juni** (1970 B.S., 1978 M.S.), White Bear Lake, MN, was one of seven members of the Selection Committee to choose the winners of the Morse Alumni Award for

excellence in undergraduate education, 2000. The Morse Award has a rich tradition in medical technology with three previous faculty winners, including Karen Viskochil (1977), Verna Rausch (1984), and Karen Lofsness (1992).

**Annie Chow** (1971), Daly City, CA, spent the first seven years of her career in the laboratories of the University of Washington. From 1978 to 1992, she worked at the University of San Francisco microbiology laboratory, where she witnessed the beginning of the AIDS epidemic. She earned an MBA in 1995 and an MA in gerontology in 1998 from San Francisco State University. Currently she is a placement coordinator for the In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority of San Francisco, supervising home health care workers.

**Cathie Leiendecker Foster** (1971 B.S., 1981 M.S.), Wayzata, MN, is the current secretary/treasurer of the Association for Molecular Pathology, based in Bethesda, MD. She is also chair of the Molecular Biology Exam Committee for the National Credentialing Agency. Cathie is a senior scientist in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology of the University of Minnesota, dealing with grants, contracts, and scientific development.

**Linda Guenther Tostrude** (1971), Rochester, MN, is working in the protein immunology laboratory of the Mayo Clinic and enjoying the challenges of that environment.

**Bernice (Bee) Eldred Simmons** (1972), Boston, MA, completed a master's degree in International Studies in 1990 at Lesley College in Cambridge. She currently is a technical support specialist with Bayer Diagnostics.

**Mary Amerslav** (1974), Sonoma, CA, is in private practice in psychotherapy in San Francisco and is an adjunct faculty member at the John F. Kennedy University in the Holistic Studies Department.

**Shelly Lepisto Russ** (1976) of Duluth, MN, completed her master's degree in Health Care Administration at the University of Minnesota in 1999. Currently, she is a physician recruitment specialist with St. Mary's/Duluth Clinic.

**John Roesler** (1977), White Bear Lake, MN, is the vice-president of sales and marketing for Meretek Corporation. The company, based in Nashville, manufactures a test to detect *H. pylori*, the causative agent of peptic ulcers.

For the past three years, **Brenda Baker Jarmoluki** (1983) has been a perfusionist at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Brenda enjoys gardening and is currently working on a 200-foot perennial garden at her home in Edina.

**Ian (Lillian) Blomer** (1984), Highlands Ranch, CO, is a quality specialist at Bonfis Blood Center in Denver. She first worked in Colorado as a generalist, and then earned her SBB while at the National Institutes of Health. Ian worked for the FDA as a consumer safety officer in the Division of Blood Applications, and was associate director of Technical and Regulatory Affairs for America's Blood Centers.

**Jason Boonstra** (1998) recently accepted a position as laboratory director at the Municipal Hospital, Appleton, MN.

## Lauren Genis Kelner Wins!



**L**auren Genis Kelner (1982) was a contestant on the program, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" televised November 23 and 24, 1999. Lauren is a clinical laboratory scientist at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis. She was enticed to enter the contest by her 11-year-old son, Harrison, who for a number of days called the show's contest-

ant line. When Harrison got through to the question line, he gave the phone to his mother, and she answered the three first-round questions correctly. After answering an additional five phone questions on Friday in competition with over 100 other candidates, Lauren was chosen as a finalist.

Lauren and her husband, Michael, were flown to New York on Saturday, November 20, in preparation for the Sunday taping of the show. She earned the right to sit in the "hot seat" when she was the fastest to correctly place four cities in the order they would first celebrate January 1, 2000.

Lauren correctly answered 12 questions in a row, including what beer "Spuds McKenzie" spoke for (Bud Light), when Kwanza is celebrated (one week after Christmas), the president of the United States' current salary (\$200,000), and what is the "fourth estate" (the press). Regis Philbin then asked Question 13, for \$250,000: "In which city did Rosa Parks refuse to ride in the back of the bus?" After the choices were narrowed to two, Selma and Montgomery, Alabama, Lauren stated, "I know this occurred in Alabama, but I cannot remember which city." She had to choose between answering the question or taking home \$125,000 in winnings. She chose the money and left, to the cheers of the audience.

Medical technologists are often viewed as being smart, articulate, and having great memories. Lauren was all of these, as well as upbeat and funny. We are proud of Lauren—a University of Minnesota honors graduate, a competent practicing laboratory professional, and a TV participant who represented us well.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## Items from Previous Issues of *Tech's Talk*

**1950** – The clinical rotation schedule has been changed again. The students spend the following number of weeks in each laboratory: Dispensary (4), Nights (5), Floats (5), Hematology (6), Urines (2), Bacteriology (5), Blood Bank (2), Serology (2), Parasitology (2), Chemistry (10), Tissues (4) and BMR-ECG (4).

**1960** – The laboratory activities of the University Hospital have been consolidated into the Department of Laboratory Medicine with Dr. Gerald T. Evans as Head. The Department consists of three Divisions: Medical Technology, Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Service.

**1970** – ASMT is in litigation with ASCP, asking for greater autonomy in matters concerning education, accreditation and certification of medical technologists.

**1980** – In an attempt to improve the registration process, the University plans to instigate computerized registration within the next two years. The details have not been finalized, but it is planned that students will register via remotely situated terminals.

**1990** – Esther Freier was named the first Mildred King Rohwer Professor of Medical Technology. This endowed chair in Medical Technology was the first in the nation. Funding was provided by Carl Rohwer in honor of his wife, Mildred King Rohwer, a 1933 graduate of the program.

## U of M Sesquicentennial

**T**he University was founded in 1851 and will begin celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. All annual University events during the 2000-01 school year will have an added historic flavor. Several additional events are planned that will be unique to the sesquicentennial celebration including:

- U of M Opera on the Farm (June 2000)
- State Fair (August 24–September 4, 2000)
- New Student Convocation (September 5, 2000)
- Homecoming (October 28, 2000)
- Founders Week (February 19–15, 2001)

Other preparations include a plan for University performers and exhibitors to travel around the state with presentations depicting the University's history and accomplishments. On February 25, 2001, the University will have a special celebration to commemorate the signing of its charter. The sesquicentennial year will be capped off by a grand finale event to be held May 2001. All celebratory events are targeted at renewing the University's partnership with the state.

## Gold and Silver Classes Honored

Each year we continue our tradition of honoring the 75<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary classes. This year they include the following:

### Class of 1925 (75th Anniversary)

Dickerson, Geraldine

\*Ellis, Dorothy Madge

\*Engel, Louise Hortvet

### Class of 1950 (50th Anniversary)

\*Anderson, Claire Peterson  
Bell, MajelAnn Risser

\*\*Boyce, Lois

Brown, Harriet Hillerman  
Burgwald, Anne Hauge

\*Demopulos, Eleanor Bougas

\*Doekson, Jae C.

Edling, Virginia  
Figen, Janie Fredrickson

Goodsell, Gay Eggers

Gorham, Ramona Hoyme

\*Hansen, Margaret Andreen

\*\*Hanson, Janice Roche

\*\*Harmon, Roberta

\*\*Holberg, Jacquelyn

Hughes, Rita Pottner  
Jorgensen, Genevieve Swanson

\*\*Mikolich, Virginia Pluth

McMillen, Audrey Granberg

McMaster, Elaine Duerr

Malmo, Lucille Cottington

Miller, Esther Schwartzfield

Nelson, Jacquelyn Curtis

Nelson, Marilyn

Ness, Dorothy NedreLOW

\*\*Noble, Delores Foreberg

Nordin, Joyce Swanberg

Overby, Ruth Ann Kuhlman

\*Overshiner, Verdis Webster

Plummer, Marilyn Risdal

Rushay, Jean Sampson

Shallcross, Ruth Engst

Ulseth, Marilyn Johnson

Van Heel, Maryann Donovan

Werner, Shirley Westvig

\*\*Wolden, Muriel Bell

### Class of 1975 (25th Anniversary)

Adebiyi, Raymond

Ashby, Lynn Carlberg

Bohn, Sandra Mikutowski

Bohnert, Therese Holl

Brandt, Ann E.

Carlson, Jacqueline A.

Debelak, Joan E.

DiCarlo, Nancy Latvala

Duffy, Merry Severson

Dykoski, Karen Lindahl

Engfer, Elizabeth Lehman

Engstrand, Joan Roth

\*Erler, Cherie Dunphey

Franceschetti, Donna M.

Frokjer, Diane Goblisch

Geier, Nancy A.

Germann, Connie M.

Gierke, Kathryn Greiman

Graham, Kathleen Hart

Hanson, Elizabeth A.

Heideman, Barbara J.

Helstrom, Elaine Graham

Henrickson, Nancy Shaw

Ho Yui Wah, Amy

Hoff, Bruce J.

Joecks, Patricia A.

Gomsi, Mary Ann

Keenan, Rebecca Oetjen

Lampman, Margaret Eichenlaub

Lien, Patricia Rowland

Lindquist, Patricia Mellas

Loewen, Judith Sherman

Lohstreter, Thomas A.

Lynch, Maureen A.

McCamy, Mary Benson

Montgomery, Roberta

Moore, Barbara B.

Moser, Barbara Anderson

Nelson, Linda Grotz

\*Ngan, Chui Wah Frances

Page, Lou Ann Trunkey

Pozanc, Linda K.

Preese, Lynne M.

Prokott, Joan Manley

Reardon, Jeanne Stimac

Rogers, Judith Pearson

Rosvold, Mary Einhorn

Sanvick, Kathy Swenson

Schafer, William F.

Schmunk, Sandra Kaitschuck

Staffanson, Dale B.

\*Tang, Peggy Siu-Kuen

Thompson, Joela Lanstrom

\*Tornquist, Joan

Tyler, Beverly Youngblom

Wilkening, Sherry Aylsworth

Woker, Sandra Phillips

Zaspel, Patricia Ashby

\*Address unknown

\*\*Deceased

If you are a member of either class, please make a special effort to attend the annual alumni banquet. The reservation form is on page 19. Classmates from the anniversary classes will be seated together, so you will have the opportunity to renew friendships.

We appreciate having the correct addresses of alumni. You can help by sending us any addresses of those graduates with whom we have lost contact. Thanks!

## Karen Lofsness Retires

Karen Lofsness, associate professor of hematology in the Division, retired last fall after 40 years of service to the University. A reception was held in her honor on



August 26, 1999, at the Weisman Art Museum on the Minneapolis campus. Members of Karen's family and many friends, colleagues, and students came to recognize her and acknowledge her achievements. As several of the distinguished guests pointed out, Karen will not only be missed for her good works and commitment to teaching, but also for her friendship.

Karen graduated in medical technology in 1959, and began teaching in the medical laboratory assistant program that was then offered by the University. As her family grew, she continued working at the University Hospitals, both as a staff technologist in the clinical laboratories and as a research scientist. Following completion of her master's degree in 1975, she joined the medical technology faculty to teach hematology. During her tenure at the University, she taught more than 900 undergraduate students, and presented more than 60 educational workshops.

Among the honors Karen has received from the University are the Morse-Alumni Award for excellence in undergraduate education (1992), the Medical Technology Distinguished Alumni Award (1997), and the Technology Enhanced Learning Innovation Award (1998). Karen has expressed gratitude for the opportunity to have learned from and worked with several outstanding hematologists, including Dr. R. Dorothy Sundberg and Dr. Richard Brunning.

Over the past six years, Karen has expanded her interest in hematology to include the computer imaging of blood cells and software development. She is the author of Hematology® I and II (interactive CD-ROM tutorials for blood cell identification) currently being used at more than 400 institutions. Her Hematology Web site ([www.umn.edu/hema](http://www.umn.edu/hema)) features illustrative case studies and is receiving over 5000 visits each month (from more than 70 countries).

For now, Karen is devoting her retirement to the development of Hematology Plus, a comprehensive CD-ROM atlas of blood and bone marrow morphology, due to be released this fall. Later on, she hopes to do volunteer work and more traveling. We will remember Karen for her love of hematology and her enthusiasm for teaching it, and we wish her the best in the future.

## Innovations in Teaching

Recently, several of our faculty members have developed innovative strategies to teach our students capabilities to help them cope with the "real world" of clinical laboratories, in addition to the scientific content they must master.

### Chemistry:

- Call that STAT!!
- Can this patient REALLY have a potassium of 20??
- I wish that phone would stop ringing so I can get some work done!!

These were just a few of the comments heard during a new "mock laboratory" exercise written for the senior students in clinical chemistry.

The lab session simulated "real" laboratory situations. The students were randomly assigned to work groups. Their job was to organize their work flow, appoint a charge tech, run electrolytes and blood gases, call STAT results and troubleshoot. There were also administrative duties such as calculating control ranges and reviewing control charts, and acting as liaisons between the laboratory and the patient care unit (actually our secretaries). The students were very enthusiastic about the experience. There are plans to do another mock lab at the end of spring semester incorporating hematology, urinalysis and coagulation. This exercise was not only a team-building experience for the students, but was also fun for the instructors to develop.

### Hematology:

Students participate in a "buying an instrument" exercise which is a cooperative learning laboratory performed in the hematology section of the students' training. A group of three to four students is given the actual data comparing two large hematology analyzers. Students are also given a scenario of a particular hospital buying an instrument, and profile sheets describing the instruments. During the lab session, they compare the data by making linear regression graphs and analyzing truth tables and false positive and negative charts. Each group must then decide which instrument is the best buy for their hospital, and defend their choice.

### Management:

The education and management course for senior students has been extended to two semesters and includes such topics as: procedure writing using NCCLS standards, financial management, coding, compliance, and point-of-care testing. To enhance their employment opportunities, the students are required to write a cover letter and resume. They also work in groups to present actual case studies. These case studies incorporate various aspects of laboratory analyses and data, and encourage and strengthen oral and written communication skills.

## Faculty and Staff News

Faculty and staff members in the Division of Medical Technology continue to be recognized for their outstanding contributions to the combined missions of teaching, research and service.

In July 1999, **Karen Karni** won the Joseph J. Kleiner Award from ASCLS for her publication, "Key Elements and Processes Needed in Curriculum Design." The award is given to authors of each of the two "best" publications in *Clinical Laboratory Science*.

Karen will also be the chief delegate for the United States delegation, representing the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science at the 24<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Medical Technology sponsored by the International Association of Medical Laboratory Technologists in Vancouver, Canada, June 18-23, 2000. Having attended three previous IAMLT Congresses (Dublin, Hong Kong and Oslo) as a delegate, Karen is well prepared to represent and lead our country's laboratory professionals at this meeting. Usually the conference attracts 2000 attendees from over 50 nations.

Karen will also co-present a poster session in Vancouver, titled "Characteristics of faculty from United States baccalaureate programs in clinical laboratory science."

**Michael Tsai** has received funding from the National Heart and Lung Blood Institute as the principal investigator for a 10-year study on subclinical cardiovascular diseases in multiple ethnic groups. He is also co-investigator for a longitudinal study of the epidemiology of venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism, a study involving the genetics of hypertension associated treatment and a NIH funded study involving homocysteine as a risk factor for cardiovascular disease in renal transplant recipients. **Naomi Hanson** is working with Dr. Tsai to investigate and develop new testing to be used in these studies and in the clinical laboratory.

**Carol Wells** received a four-year grant from the National Institutes of Health. The funding is to study the pathogenesis of *Candida albicans* in the setting of surgery and trauma.

### Selected recent publications of our faculty are listed below:

**George J, Hallgren H:** Evaluating critical thinking and psychomotor skills of CLS students in immunohematology. Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference, Salt Lake City, UT, March 2000.

**Karni K** and **Waller K:** Comparing CLS faculty and allied health deans and directors: time spent in academic activities and perceptions of the research environment. Clin Lab Sci, 12:332-334, 1999.

**Karni K:** Book review of *Principles of Clinical Laboratory Utilization and Consultation*. Am J Clin Pathol 2000; 113:453-454.

**Tsai MY, Yang F, Bignell M, Aras O, Hanson NQ:** Relation between plasma homocysteine concentration, the 844ins68 variant of the cystathionine  $\beta$ -synthase gene, and pyridoxal-5'-phosphate concentration. Molecular Genetics and Metabolism, 67:352-356, 1999.

**Tsai MY, Bignell M, Yang F, Welge BG, Graham KJ, Hanson NQ:** Polygenic influence on plasma homocysteine: Association of two prevalent mutations, the 844ins68 of cystathionine- $\beta$ -synthase and A2756G of methionine synthase, with lowered plasma homocysteine levels. Atherosclerosis 149:131-137, 2000.

**Tsai MY:** Moderate hyperhomocysteinemia and cardiovascular disease. J Lab Clin Med, 135:16, 2000.

**Wells CL, Jechorek RP, Kinneberg KM, Debol SM, Erlandsen, SL:** The isoflavone genistein inhibits internalization of enteric bacteria by cultured Caco-2 and HT-29 enterocytes. J Nutr, 634-640, 1999.

**Wells CL, Jechorek RP, Erlandsen SL:** Effect of oral genistein and isoflavone-free diet on cecal flora and bacterial translocation in antibiotic-treated mice. J Parent Enteral Nutr, 24: Mar-Apr 2000.

**Feltis BA, Kim AS, Kinneberg KM, Lyerly DL, Wilkins TD, Erlandsen SL, Wells CL:** *Clostridium difficile* toxins may augment bacterial penetration of intestinal epithelium. Arch Surg. 134:1235-1242, 1999.

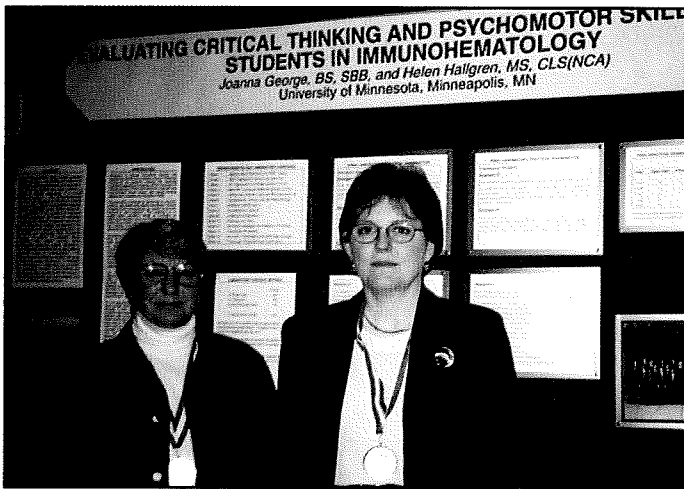


MEDICAL SCHOOL  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## U of M Faculty and Staff Participate in CLEC 2000

The 16th Annual Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference was held March 2-4 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The meeting was well attended, with 281 registrants. The theme of CLEC 2000 was "Go for the Gold in the New Millennium," alluding to the upcoming 2002 Winter Olympics to be held in Salt Lake City. Participants' name tags were a gold medal on a red, white and blue ribbon. Four attendees from the Division of Medical Technology represented the University of Minnesota:

- **Karen Karni** (with Kathy Doig of Michigan State University) presented a session titled, "Writing Great Objectives and Exam Questions."
- **Patricia Solberg** provided recruitment materials designed by U of M faculty and staff and attended a NAACLS workshop on accreditation.



- **Joanna George and Helen Hallgren** presented a poster on "Evaluating Critical Thinking and Psychomotor Skills of CLS Students in Immunohematology."

Meeting topics focused on issues that will impact laboratories and teaching programs in the future. Ideas for Web-based curriculums and virtual laboratories were shared. Much of the meeting was devoted to reviewing and revising the "Body of Knowledge" in an effort to identify entry-level competencies to aid in curriculum development. Discussions focused on what to teach the CLS versus the CLT student, and entry level versus career level competencies.

The meeting was held at the Wyndham Hotel, just a short walk from Temple Square and other downtown attractions. Warm weather enticed many people to visit the Family History Library, which provided ample opportunity for genealogy research. A few participants extended their stay in order to ski at nearby slopes.

Faculty and staff are entertaining ideas for CLEC 2001 which will be held at the Hyatt Regency in St. Louis, Missouri, February 22-24 as well as CLEC 2002 to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii. Aloha!

## Medical Technology Alumni Society News

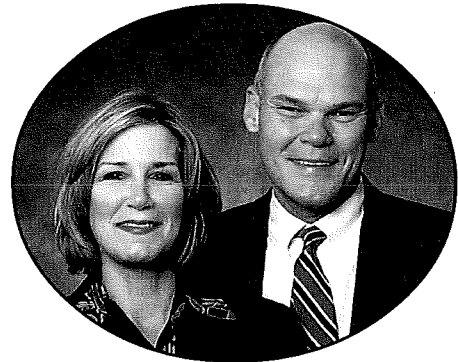
The Medical Technology Alumni Society Board of Directors for 1999-2000 are: Clareyse Nelson, president; Marba Pogue, secretary; Nancy Coley, Salli Clysdale, Melissa Fossum, Helen Hallgren, Billie Anne Juni, Karen Karni, Karin Libby, Diane Rappe, Mary Skupa and Barb Streifel. Billie Anne Juni is president-elect.

The board is primarily responsible for organizing the spring banquet and raising money for student scholarships through the annual bake sale. The society also promotes professional interests of allied health fields and develops liaisons among undergraduates, prospective students and alumni.

Membership in the Medical Technology Alumni Society is through the Minnesota Alumni Association. We currently have 353 members. As part of events marking the celebration of the University's 150<sup>th</sup> year, the association is sponsoring a special membership drive. As one of the more active alumni groups, we will be working to increase our membership. For more information, please contact the UMAA at 612/626-4707 or 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867).

## UMAA 2000 Annual Meeting

On Wednesday, June 7, hundreds of U of M alumni will gather for the UMAA Annual Meeting at the Gateway (McNamara) Center, 200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis, MN. Featured speakers will be wife and husband, Republican Mary Matalin and Democrat James Carville, presenting, "All's Fair: Love, War and Running for President." Each supported a different presidential candidate in 1992—Carville was chief strategist for the Clinton/Gore ticket while Matalin was deputy campaign manager for the Bush/Quayle campaign. Both are on the Sunday morning television program, "Crossfire." Their politics and persuasions should make for lively discourse.



Tickets for the evening are \$40 for UMAA members. The meeting begins with a social hour at 5:00 and a buffet dinner at the Gateway Center. The program follows at Williams Arena (across University Avenue) at 7:30. Call 612-624-2345 for tickets or e-mail [umalumni@tc.umn.edu](mailto:umalumni@tc.umn.edu) for more information. Join us for an entertaining alumni meeting!

# Division Responds to Laboratory Personnel Shortage

The shortage of laboratory personnel in Minnesota has become exacerbated, perhaps to crisis status. Administrators of laboratories are competing with one another, not only to hire new graduates, but also to acquire employees from other institutions.

The table below lists Medical Technology/Medical Laboratory Technician (MnSCU) programs in Minnesota, together with numbers of graduates over a two-decade-long period. These figures reflect national trends, in which numbers of U.S. medical technology programs declined from 638 to 288 (55%) between 1983-1998 and graduates went from 5318 to 2667 (50%).

Numbers of Graduates by Year

	1977	1989	1999
<b>Medical Technology Programs (4 years)</b>			
University of MN	50	26	28
College of St. Scholastica	6	5	6
Hennepin County Medical Center	12	7	5
St. Paul Ramsey/Regions Med Ctr	12	6	0
St. Cloud Hospital	8	3	0
United Hospital	7	5	0
Abbott-Northwestern Hospital	6	5	0
St. Joseph's Hospital	9	0	0
Metropolitan Medical Center	11	0	0
Bethesda Hospital	8	0	0
Midway Hospital	5	0	0
St. Lukes Duluth Hospital	12	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>MnSCU MLT Programs (2 years)</b>			
St. Paul Tech College	36	12	10
Alexandria Tech College	30	12	12
Lake Superior College	18	9	3
Hibbing Community College	16	7	2
Northwest Tech College-EGF	-	8	5
Fergus Falls Community College	7	7	8
North Hennepin Community Coll	-	-	3
MN West Tech & Community Coll	-	-	9
MN Riverland Tech Coll-Faribault	20	13	0
Mayo Clinic/Rochester CTC (St. Mary's/St. Catherine's)	-	13	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>52</b>

It is unlikely that any hospital will initiate a medical technology program again. Changes in health care preclude the start-up of educational programs within most health settings. However, the Division of Medical Technology is intent on fulfilling the land-grant mission of our University—to provide competent and caring practitioners for the state.

In April 2000, we will present a proposal to the Regents of the University concerning an articulated MLT to MT program (the Bachelor of Applied Science in Clinical Laboratory Technology), offered through the College of Continuing Education. Here graduates from MnSCU two-year laboratory technician programs may transfer approximately 50 semester credits to the University of Minnesota, complete added prerequisites and our professional course work. Thus they will attain a baccalaureate degree from the University in this profession.

Our collaborations with St. Cloud State University and Minnesota State University at Mankato continue. This year five students from these universities are completing their senior year in our Medical Technology program. These students have been fine additions to the program.

We continue in negotiations with the Mayo Clinic and other institutions in Southeastern Minnesota to provide our senior year professional program at the University of Minnesota Rochester campus. In this arrangement, individuals may finish the first three years of our curriculum in the Rochester area, and then complete medical technology course work, via distance learning and laboratory sessions in that area. Clinical rotations (22 weeks) will be completed in surrounding hospital and clinic sites.

For the first time we have also accepted two international students, Gro Helene Osnes and Petter Woll, from Norway. They had completed three years in a "polytechnic" program at Trondelag College, Trondheim, and wished to complete a U.S. undergraduate degree. They enrolled in our senior year curriculum (modified). Helene and Petter have done very well and most likely will enter our M.S. program in clinical laboratory science next year.

We believe we are being responsive and proactive in educating laboratory professionals for the state. In the past two years, we have made remarkable strides that we anticipate will continue into the future. In all of our efforts for the University of Minnesota's medical technology program, we endeavor to maintain the high standards of quality that were established decades ago!

## Salli Clysdale Wins Distinguished Alumni Award

The sixth annual Medical Technology Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Salli Clysdale at the Annual Spring Banquet held at Jax Café in May 1999.



Sally is a 1968 graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical Technology Program. She began her career at the University in the clinical chemistry laboratory. In 1973 she started teaching clinical chemistry in the Division of Medical Technology, and in 1987 her role changed again, to include both teaching and clinical responsibilities.

Throughout her professional career, Salli has been very active in alumni activities. She has been the president of the Medical Technology Alumni Association and served three years as the president of the Allied Health Society. We congratulate her on this richly deserved award.



## Karni and Hallgren to Retire

Karen Karni, director of the Division of Medical Technology, and Helen Hallgren, associate professor in the Division, will retire July 1, 2000.

Karen has been director since 1984, following Ruth Hovde's retirement. She completed the undergraduate



program in medical technology at the University of Minnesota in 1963, and received her master's degree in Science Instruction from the State University of New York at Buffalo, NY. In 1983 Karen completed a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Minnesota.

Karen's legacy to the Division is substantial. Her interests in education and curricu-

lum design have led to several innovations in the program. She is also well known for her studies of faculty scholarship and productivity and laboratory employment patterns. Karen's influence extends far beyond the local level; she is the author of 2 books and over 50 articles and chapters. She has also been a consultant to 16 clinical laboratory science programs, including those at the University of Panama and Kuwait University.

In 1991 and 1998, Karen was awarded the Mendelson Award from the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science for "significant and sustaining contributions to the profession," and in 1992 she won the ASMT "Member of the Year" award. From 1997-1998, Karen served as the national president of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science.

One of Karen's great contributions to the Division has resided in her ability to generate funds for scholarships and loans for students. She was instrumental in obtaining funding for the Mildred King Rohwer Endowed Professorship, the first of its kind in the nation, and has developed relationships with alumni that have led to the contribution of over \$250,000 in funds for scholarships.

Karen's retirement will leave a great space to be filled in the profession of medical technology. However, she would be the first to say that the profession is greater than the individual, and that the Division will continue to thrive in future years.

Helen Hallgren (class of 1965) joined the faculty of the Division in 1975, following completion of her master's degree in Laboratory Medicine at the University of Minnesota. She first worked in the blood bank laboratory and then was instrumental in setting up the first immunology laboratory at the University Hospitals.

Helen's primary interest has been in the field of immunology. Her research interests were specifically in studying the effect of advancing age on immune system function. Over



her career, she has published 40 articles and lists 45 abstracts and meeting presentations dealing with this subject.

She was active in MSMT, the state professional society, serving in various capacities as Scientific Assembly chair, State Meeting program chair, Awards chair, Area III director, and as MSMT state president. She also assumed many positions in ASCLS, including Region V Immunology /

Immunoematology director, member of the Government Affairs Committee, the Committee on Graduate Education, and the Membership Committee for Alpha Mu Tau (the honorary fraternity of medical technologists).

For the past 10 years, one of Helen's greatest rewards has been serving as the director of graduate studies for the Clinical Laboratory Science master's degree program. Over the course of this tenure, excellent students have matriculated into the program, and under her direction, 44 students have earned their degrees. These students have gone on to impressive positions in industry and clinical laboratories, or have continued their education by entering Ph.D. programs or medical school.

In 1991 Helen was named to the Mildred King Rohwer Endowed Professorship in Medical Technology in recognition of her scientific and academic accomplishments. As she retires, her greatest question is: "What do I want to be when I grow up?"

A reception for Karen and Helen will be held at the new Gateway Center, 200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis, on June 15, 2000, from 4 to 6 p.m. If you wish to attend, please RSVP by June 12 to the Medical Technology office at 612-625-9490

## University Milestones

As the University prepares to celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we present a few anecdotes from its earlier years.

- Old Main, originally built in 1858, was the first and only building on campus for many years. It housed all classrooms, dorm rooms, the library, and administrative offices. It contained 43 wood-burning stoves and was destroyed by fire in 1904. Two years later, Shevlin Hall was built on the Old Main site.
- In 1903, after a football game between the University of Minnesota and the University of Michigan, a janitor found a brown jug left in the vacated Michigan locker room. The athletic director, "Doc" Cooke, painted the names of the two schools on it, and so began the tradition of the Little Brown Jug rivalry.
- In 1917, World War I brought on strong feelings of nationalism at the University. Professor William Schaper was a faculty member in political science. Because he had a pacifist tendency and family ties to Germany, he was dismissed by the Board of Regents, who marked him as a "Kaiser's man." Twenty-one years later, regents rescinded that action by naming him a professor emeritus and offering him monetary restitution. Schaper graciously accepted the offer and even bequeathed money to the University at his death in 1955.
- The first edition of the *Minnesota Daily* made its debut on May 1, 1900, succeeding the *Ariel*, a University publication since 1877. From a single room in the Old Main, seven editors and eight reporters laid out the first issue of the *Daily*, beginning nearly 100 years of University coverage.



## Books Donated to Estonia

Members of our Medical Technology faculty recently sent several boxes of textbooks and reference books to the medical laboratory technology program of the Tartu Medical School in Estonia. The program is being updated as part of an extensive national rebuilding campaign in Estonia, and books are in short supply.

A letter of thanks from Viia Parv of the Tartu Medical Technology faculty concluded:

"Our school library is much richer now and our students and teachers can use these books every day. Many thanks and greetings from the teachers and students of the laboratory technologist department of Tartu Medical School."

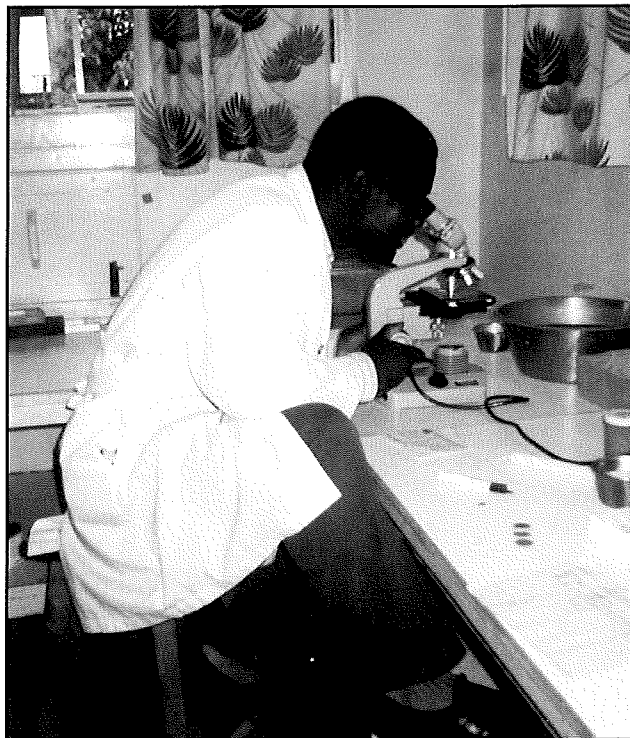
## Sharing our Resources

In our high-tech, fast-paced life style, we often forget that much of the world is not as fortunate as we are. Occasionally our faculty and staff are asked to donate equipment to laboratories in developing countries. Microscopes purchased by the Medical School in 1972 became obsolete for teaching in the 1990's, yet these scopes are a gold mine for struggling laboratorians elsewhere.

Recently, our teaching labs donated microscopes to Friends Lugula Hospital in Webuye, Kenya, and to Saigon Children's Hospital in Vietnam. Maxine Nash, a medical technologist from Waukon, IA, delivered a microscope to Kenya as a medical missionary for Friends United Ministries. In a letter to Pat Solberg, Maxine wrote of the laboratory staff's gratitude. Microscopy is vital to their lab and their old microscope was failing.

David Nagel, a U of M medical student and founder of Worldwide Medical Charities, delivered microscopes to Saigon. David's father contacted Nikon service centers to obtain assistance in refurbishing two microscopes. Following his trip, David reported that the laboratory workers appreciated using microscopes with an electric light source. David's goal is to help laboratory practitioners set up laboratories in their native countries.

Many other miscellaneous items have been donated in the past. The need is great, and we urge all of our colleagues to remember those countries not as fortunate as ours by seeking out charities that will accept laboratory items. Contacts can be provided by calling Joanna George at 612-624-4468.



Laboratory worker in Kenya

# State Spring Meeting



The 2000 Minnesota Laboratory Meeting will be held on May 17-19 at the Radisson South Hotel in Bloomington. This year's theme is "Engineering Our Future." Featured keynote speakers are:

- Ronald H. Laessig: "The Future of Clinical Laboratory Testing—Do we have one?"
- Dr. Colleen Jacks: "The Role of Genetics in the New Millennium."
- Sondra Weinzierl: "Changing Your Mind About Change."

Thursday morning will feature breakfast roundtable discussions. Throughout the three days, there will be 46 sessions, including: bio-terrorism, viral hepatitis alphabet, new blood bank technologies, effectively handling upset customers and many other topics of interest to laboratory professionals.

Numerous vendors and exhibitors will be present on all three days. Wednesday evening will feature a carnival with friends, food, fun and games. Thursday evening there will be a special event in the Captain's Quarters.

For complete information or a registration brochure for the meeting contact:

Diane L. Petersen

420 Delaware St. SE, U.H. Box 198 Mayo  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Phone: 612-273-0499

E-mail: dpeters3@fairview.org

---

## Let's Keep in Touch

Once again we are asking you to send us an update on what you've been doing—personally and professionally. We plan to display all contributions—including letters and pictures—at the alumni banquet. We will return pictures if you wish. Thanks for keeping in touch.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name while in school (if it has changed)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Family Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to the address on page 19

# Annual Banquet News for Alumni and Friends

Join us at Jax Cafe for this year's annual banquet. Friends and spouses are welcome! Jax Cafe is located about three miles from the University, and there is ample free off-street parking.

**Date:** **Monday, May 15, 2000**  
5:30 p.m. Social hour with cash bar  
6:30 p.m. Dinner, with program to follow

**Place:** **Jax Cafe**  
1928 University Avenue N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN (612) 789-7297

**Menu:** **Grilled Pork Chop**  
Apple chutney, garlic whipped potatoes, chef's vegetable  
or  
**Chicken Breast Wellington**  
Encased in puff pastry with herbed mushrooms, rice pilaf  
or  
**Baked Filet of Salmon**  
Pineapple relish, new potatoes, chef's vegetables

Salad: Jax House Salad  
Dessert: Carrot Cake

**Cost:** Alumni Association members----- \$25.00  
Nonmembers----- \$26.00  
Seniors (age 60 and over)----- \$23.00

Special recognition will be given to the classes of 1925 (75 years), 1950 (50 years), 1960 (40 years), 1975 (25 years), and to the 78<sup>th</sup> graduating class of 2000.

**Deadline for reservations: May 8, 2000.** Send your reservations in early because seating is limited.

*This is the only mailing that you will receive for the Medical Technology Alumni Society Annual Banquet.  
Please mark your calendar and return the reservation form below.*

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me at the Medical Technology Alumni Dinner.

I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ as payment. Grilled Pork Chop \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Breast Wellington \_\_\_\_\_ Baked Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats for me at the 1950 table.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats for me at the 1960 table.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats for me at the 1975 table.

M.A.A. Member: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ M.A.A. # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (area code \_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to Medical Technology Alumni Society. Reservation should be received by May 10, 2000.**

**Mail to:** Division of Medical Technology  
Box 609 Mayo Building  
420 Delaware Street S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0374

## Then and Now—University of Minnesota

The coming year marks the 150th anniversary of the University of Minnesota. The first classes were held in 1851 near St. Anthony Falls.

This 1857 lithograph depicts the Mississippi River with the newly purchased site of the University (the "East Bank") on the right. Old Main, the first building on campus, is shown in a grove of trees. The village of St. Anthony is upriver to the right, and directly across St. Anthony Falls is the even smaller village of Minneapolis.

The photograph below of the Minneapolis campus, taken in 1999, is from approximately the same vantage point on the river as the 1857 lithograph.



▲ "View of St. Anthony, Minneapolis, and St. Anthony Falls." Lithograph by Edwin Whitefield, 1857. By permission of the Minnesota Historical Society.

◀ University of Minnesota, Minneapolis campus. Photograph by Nancy Mellgren, Biomedical Graphics, U of M, 1999.

Division of Medical Technology  
Dept. of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology  
University of Minnesota  
Box 609 Mayo Building  
420 Delaware St. S.E  
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0374

Forwarding and Return Postage Guaranteed  
Address Correction Requested