

THE 42ND ANNUAL

Walter Zeit Fellowship Recognition Dinner

Friday, October 20, 2023





That was followed by a cardiothoracic surgery residency and faculty appointment at the University of Pennsylvania, where he served at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Stephenson also established HUP's Level One Trauma Center, served as its first director and was named the J. William White Professor of Surgical Research.

In 1989, Dr. Stephenson joined the Wayne State University School of Medicine as professor and chief of the division of cardiothoracic surgery. He also was chief of cardiothoracic surgery at Harper University Hospital and specialist-in-chief at Detroit Medical Center and its affiliated hospitals – positions he held for 22 years. He was invested as the Ford-Webber Chair in Surgery at Wayne State in 1995.

Throughout the course of his career, Dr. Stephenson performed an estimated 6,000 surgeries. In addition to teaching and patient care, Dr. Stephenson focused his research on the use of ventricular assist devices and on the replacement of damaged heart muscle with muscles from other parts of the body.

Dr. Stephenson authored or co-authored 13 books, 48 book chapters and more than 300 articles on medicine, science and general history. He is considered one of the world's preeminent scholars on the history of cardiothoracic surgery.

In 2016, he was asked to write a comprehensive history of the Wayne State University School of Medicine for its 150th anniversary in 2019. Dr. Stephenson was named as the medical school's historian, a position he continues to hold today.

In 2000, Dr. Stephenson was one of 50 surgeons worldwide to be honored in Paris for their pioneering work in heart surgery. In 2009, he was elected to membership in the surgical branch of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences as an Honored Professor.

Returning to MCW to celebrate his 50th class reunion, Dr. Stephenson said, "It's unbelievable how much the medical school has grown. It's a top-notch institution."

In Memoriam

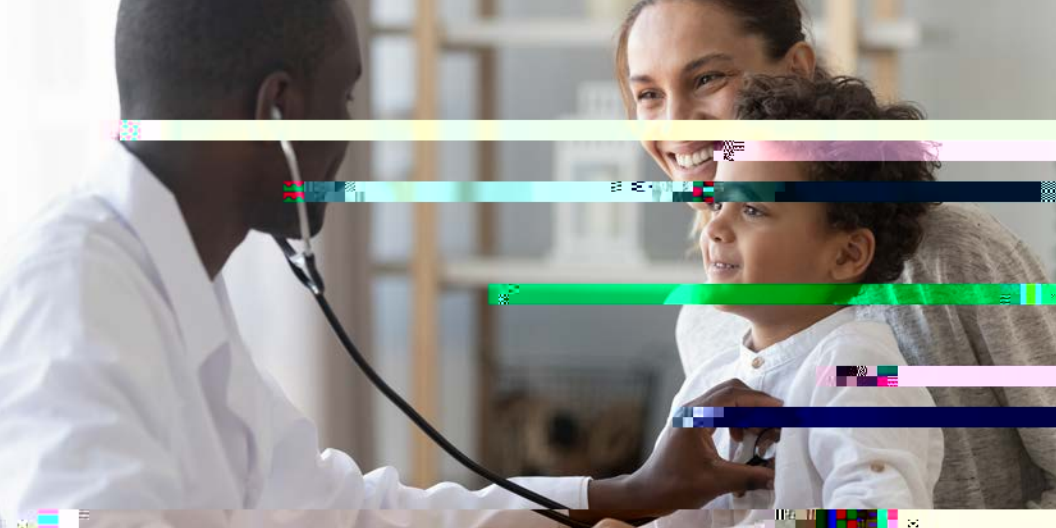
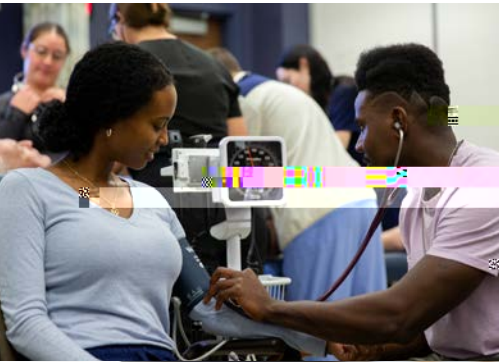
Donald E. Chisholm
Richard O. Duffey
Deborah Erdman
Nancy Barbara Geenen
Dolores F. Hayssen
Annegretel Hofbauer
Walter J. Hogan

New Members

Since October 2022

Jeffrey Kevin Bahr
George A. Binder
Michael P. Cinquegrani
Edmund R. Donoghue
Judy K. Donoghue
Aron Geurts
Jennifer L. Geurts
Kandavar M. Gopal
Lisa Henk
Thomas S. Keskey
Dennis M. Korger
Richard M. Lampe

Robert H. Lehner
David L. Norene
Jerome W. Oakey
Howard Pearl
Philip E. Pier
Austin Ramirez
Gretchen M. Roth
Michelle Snyderman
Ellen Velie
Frank L. Walter
Karolyn A. Wanat



Walter Zeit, PhD (1898-1991)



"It gratifies me to know that the school is in good hands and its future as a quality academic school is assured."

Walter Zeit, PhD

The late Derward Lepley, Jr., MD '49 formed the Walter Zeit Fellowship in 1980 to honor and permanently recognize the many contributions of Dr. Walter Zeit. Few individuals have been as closely associated with The Medical College of Wisconsin or have contributed as much to its growth as Dr. Walter Zeit.

In 1921, when Dr. Zeit first joined the Anatomy Department of what was then the Marquette University School of Medicine as a student assistant, the institution was in its infancy. It had been formed just eight years earlier through a merger of the Wisconsin College of Physicians & Surgeons and the Milwaukee Medical College. He went on to become a triple alumnus of Marquette University, receiving a BS in 1925, an MS in 1927 and a PhD in 1939.

Throughout his distinguished career as a teacher of anatomy, with faculty appointments ranging from student assistant to associate dean, Dr. Zeit instructed well over 4,500 medical students and thousands of other health care profession students. He was known for bringing a keen vitality to his teaching, raising anatomy from an academic discipline to a fresh and dynamic educational experience. He is best remembered by his students for the personal attention and understanding he shared with them.

Dr. Zeit witnessed a half-century of phenomenal growth at MCW and he was also an integral part of that growth. He was a gifted research scientist whose published work involved studies of nerve endings, and the structure and function of the junction between nerve fibers and muscle bodies. His affiliation with the Medical College of Wisconsin ultimately spanned six decades, three buildings and five deans.

Walter Zeit Leadership Award Recipient



MCW-Milwaukee

Nina Punyamurthy is a fourth-year student at our MCW-Milwaukee campus and plans to apply for a residency program in Dermatology. Nina has demonstrated excellence across all areas throughout her time at the Medical College of Wisconsin and is a wonderful role model.

Nina has excelled in academics throughout her medical school career with honors and high pass grades in all her clinical clerkships. She is extremely skillful in research as well, having found the time to work on multiple

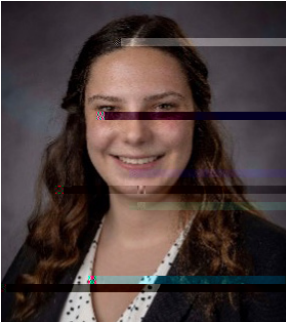
projects concurrently with a manuscript in submission, seven first author peer-reviewed presentations and publications, and four other publications in reputable biomedical journals to her credit. She is passionate about Global Health, travelling to Honduras for medical service trips, and most recently, travelling to Tanzania to help the local population and improve tele-dermatology as a means of improving access to care in an area where resources and specialty care access are severely limited.

Her leadership qualities are exemplified by her roles not only as a provider, but also as Clinic Manager and Director of Referrals at the Saturday Free Clinic for the Uninsured and volunteer in the Philippine Center - Free Medical Clinic and the MCW Check UP program to help underserved populations. Additionally, she is working on assessing an automated scheduling system in Dermatology to reduce patient wait times.

Nina exemplifies the description of the Walter Zeit Leadership Award as an accomplished, community-focused, reliable leader. Her incredible work ethic is essential as a physician and strongly suggests her as an excellent representative of MCW, upholding the standards, values, and traditions of the Walter Zeit Leadership Award.

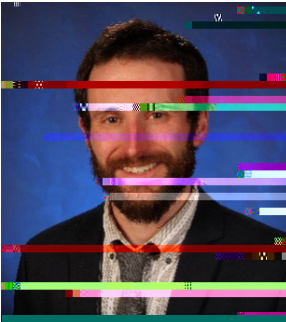


Founding Dean Award Recipients



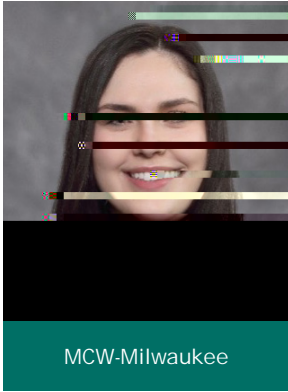
MCW-Green Bay

Hannah Mueller-Boysen is a third-year student on the MCW-Green Bay campus and plans to apply to a residency program in Obstetrics and Gynecology this fall. Hannah has served in multiple leadership roles throughout her time at MCW-Green Bay, leading programs for area middle and high school students and serving as a peer mentor across multiple operations supporting her fellow medical students. Within the community, Hannah has volunteered her time to connect with a variety of organizations focusing on supporting community wellness and education, providing food for local residents, and helping community members with Parkinson's disease maintain and enhance balance. Hannah has demonstrated sincere dedication to education and leadership to her classmates and community, and she represents the core principles of service and humanistic medicine that define this award.



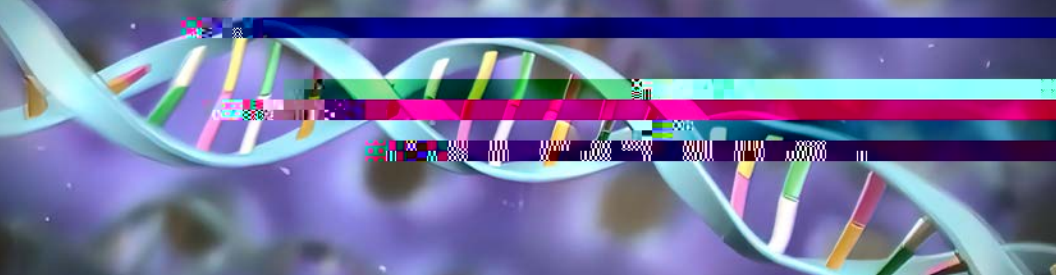
MCW-Central Wisconsin

Jonathan Bressler is a non-traditional student, on-track to graduate in 3 years from MCW-Central Wisconsin. He has shown incredible dedication to his community and is an exemplary leader. When Wausau was selected as a new refugee resettlement site, Jonathan produced a local guide for refugee healthcare that is now used and provided throughout the area as a crucial health resource guide. Along with producing the document, Jonathan served on a local resettlement team. Additionally, he has held multiple leadership roles, produced two manuscripts while in medical school, and made time for volunteer work. Jonathan displays all that MCW values in the attributes of future physicians, known for his generosity, ability to connect with others, and compassion.



Leah Gerlach is a fourth-year student at the MCW-Milwaukee campus and plans to apply for residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology this fall. As a student leader and patient advocate, Leah is a role model for other students, consistently finding time to reach out to others when they need help, and she constantly strives to find ways to improve processes. She has held leadership positions among multiple student organizations, working tirelessly for her peers, and is passionate about community service and advocacy, devoting an incredible amount of time to volunteer work

and serving her community. Leah spent much of medical school personally developing novel research to aid in the diagnosis of specific dementias, resulting in four first author peer-reviewed presentations and receiving a Medical Student Summer Research Grant. Leah's demonstration of selfless service and leadership will serve her well as a wonderful physician.



Purpose of Fellowship

A recognition society designed to promote and support the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Purpose of Annual Event

Provide the Medical College of Wisconsin with an opportunity to thank the membership for their vision and generosity, which has helped to advance new knowledge and turn hope into health for our communities and beyond. Also promote fellowship among the membership. This annual event is made possible thanks to the income generated by a donor established endowed fund.

Walter Zeit Leadership Award

