

TECH'S TALK

No. 38

Editor: Verna Rausch

March 1984

Sally: "This is my report. Here it is. What follows is my report. Yes, this is my report. So far it isn't much, is it?"

Read on please. The report does get better, she says immodestly. Once again we bring you news from high atop the Phillips-Wangensteen Building overlooking the beautiful East Bank of the Mississippi River. We are assisted in this endeavor by our friends from "Peanuts", Charles Schulz, and the United Features Syndicate, Inc.

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Sally: "School starts next week. Where am I going to get three dollars for another desk?"

Charlie: "You don't have to buy your own desk. Where'd you get that idea?"

Sally: "Really? Just wait 'til I catch the kid who sold me that one last year!"

Joan Engebretson, Darleen Lukes, Elaine Oberle, and Gregory Rynders, seniors in the program, were awarded a total of \$2,100 from the William A. O'Brien Scholarship Fund for the 1983-84 year. Your contributions do help to support the students.

No, they do not need to buy desks, but tuition, microscope and locker rentals, books and supplies, and student services fees (health service, the Union, the Daily, etc.) amount to a tidy \$1,000+ per quarter. Then, there are the matters of housing, food, clothes, transportation, etc. that must also be provided. All of the students work part-time and the scholarship assistance helps to attenuate the struggle to balance the budget. Please continue to send contributions to the

William A. O'Brien Scholarship Fund
University of Minnesota Foundation
120 Morrill Hall
100 Church Street S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Thank you.

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Snoopy with poster: "This is National Dog Week."

Lucy: "This is what? 'National Dog Week'? Good grief! What makes you guys think you deserve a special week? Did a dog discover America? Did a dog write 'Lord Jim'? Did a dog compose the '1812 Overture'? Show me one good reason why you should have a special week! If you can show me one good reason, I'll be willing to wish you well! Show me ONE reason."

Snoopy: "ROWR!"

Lucy: "Have a good week."

Each year in the spring, the professional medical technology societies sponsor a National Laboratory Week. The laboratory units in hospitals participate by having displays in lobby areas or by conducting tours. Frequently, the governors of states issue a proclamation to acknowledge the occasion. These efforts focus attention on a profession that is normally not as visible as some other health professions.

As an ongoing publicity stunt, the local organization, the Minnesota Society for Medical Technology, is selling bumper stickers which proclaim "Med Techs are Clinically Significant". Pretty clever, huh?

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Eudora: "Do you ever worry about growing old?"
 Sally: "No, I don't even think about it."
 Snoopy: "I do. I hate getting old, and having my ears turn gray."

As we all know, turning gray is an outward sign of wisdom, maturity, and dignity. We honor the wise, mature, and dignified classes of 1934 and 1959.

Class of 1934 - 50th Anniversary Group

Laurena Anderson Babey	Elizabeth Engel Brandel	Anne Nechanicky Guenette*
Alice Bardwell Caso	Ethelmae Eylar Carter	Hulda Nylund Palmer
Mary Batchelder Kelly	Marjorie Hanstad*	Ardis Olson Bilben
Ruth Berens	Maxine Hill Peterson	Jennie Roberts*
Marion Braunworth*	Hazel Hodges Marquis*	Gertrude Seigel Cohen*
Beatrice Burlingame Mason**	Melba Johnson Robson**	Ruth Sisson English
Helen Cox Baker*	Florence Jones*	Esther Skerik Damron
Verna DeLeo Harner*	Helen Knudsen	Betty Smith Hall
Gladys Downey*	Marquerite Kolb Harris*	Virginia Tincher Lemon
Eleanor Duerr Farkas	Katherine Lemon Lord	Vivian Young Bennett
Margaret Dwelle*	Geraldine Lundquist Tyson	Grace Zschesche Leighton*

Class of 1959 - 25th Anniversary Group

Patricia Chambers Kriesel	Jeanette Frazier George	Mary Mankell Petteway
Astrid Chmielarz Pocza*	Karen Gates Lofsness	Alice Prchal Aamodt
Georgianne Dieson	Darlene Howe Zimmerman	Nancy Preuss*
Kay Draves	Harriet Knudson Shattuck	Suzanne Renaud Miller
Marilyn Ekberg Scherer	Joan Kosluchar Stately	Arlyce Rylander Anderson
Joy Elliason Sacre	Lucy Leus*	Phyllis Segal Post
Grace Engler Anderson	Mary McLean Ochsner	Livija Vilinskis*
Barbara Flueger Jackson	Sharon Malmstrom Bastian	Laura Werner*

* Address unknown
 ** Deceased

Please note the special area on the reservation form for the banquet.

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Marcie: "You have to go to school, sir. You can't just quit!"
 Patty: "Why can't I? Yesterday, one of the teachers even criticized my lunch! She said I had too many doughnuts and not enough carrots. It's time to quit when they even criticize your lunch!"

Approximately every 5 years, the program in Medical Technology at the University of Minnesota is required to be reaccredited by the National Agency for Accreditation of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). The process involves generating mountains of documents (close to 600 pages!) in a self-study report, having the self-study report criticized, responding to the critique, a site visit, a review by committees of NAACLS, and finally, action.

We have survived all the steps up to the committee reviews. We feel quite good about the reactions to the program and are looking forward to the final action in the fall of 1984. The site inspectors were extremely complimentary about the quality of the faculty, particularly their expertise and dedication to the students. But then, we already knew that! The site visitors even liked the food in the Health Sciences Cafeteria!

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Sally: "Dear Santa Claus, Do you need a secretary to help during the holiday season? I could answer letters and run errands, and I will work for only five hundred dollars a week."

Charlie: "Five hundred dollars a week?!"

Sally: "Why not? Everyone knows the old guy is loaded!"

We would not rudely say that you old gals and guys are loaded but we do say thank you for your generous support of the Medical Technology Fund of the University of Minnesota Foundation. During the last year we were able to purchase, with your assistance, the following items for the student teaching Laboratories:

- A commercial size refrigerator
- A commercial size freezer
- Sensitivity disc dispensers
- Anaerobe jars
- Rotators
- A videotape playback system and monitor

The Medical Technology Fund was featured in the Profile for Investors 1983 of the Foundation. As was noted, "Without alumni and friend support, we just couldn't do it."

The reaccreditation team was impressed with the quality of the equipment in the student laboratories.

Continued tax deductible contributions are welcome so that we may continue to improve the learning experiences for the students. Please send to

Medical Technology Fund
 c/o University of Minnesota Foundation
 120 Morrill Hall
 100 Church St. S.E.
 Minneapolis, MN 55455

Thank you again.

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Linus: "An envelope for me. Well! This is a nice one."

Lucy: "A blanket? How come you're getting a blanket in the mail?"

Linus: "I joined the 'Security-Blanket-of-the-Month Club'!"

Join the Minnesota Alumni Association and receive not a security blanket each month, but Minnesota Magazine, the bimonthly publication, golf course privileges, the opportunity to enroll in low cost group insurance and to participate in the travel program, library privileges, reduced rates on University Press books and items from the Outdoor Store, plus others. Each constituent society is governed by a Board, elected from the membership. It is this group that plans the annual banquet, a reception for the graduating seniors, social events for the chapter, and supports the program at the University. This year, for example, the group sponsored a theater party at Rarig Theater on the campus, sent information about the program to the counselors in high schools in the greater Metropolitan area, and arranged tours of the hospital laboratories for underclassmen and women. You are especially invited to join at the annual banquet to receive a reduced membership rate of \$15.00. The Board of Directors of the Medical Technology Alumni Association encourages your attendance at this year's annual meeting to honor four distinguished members of the faculty. Read on, please; see the last item.

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Linus: "Well, it took me six weeks, but I finally figured it out. All in all, he gave her twenty-two turtle doves, thirty French hens, thirty-six calling birds, forty gold rings, forty-two geese-a-laying, forty-two swans-a-swimming, forty maids-a-milking, thirty-six pipers piping, thirty ladies dancing, twenty-two lords-a-leaping, twelve fiddlers fiddling, and twelve partridges in pear trees! When I grow up, I'm going into research."

Charlie: "You should be very good at it!"

The mission of the University encompasses teaching, research, and service. Although the faculty are heavily involved in teaching, they do find time for service as consultants to their respective clinical laboratory specialties and for research. To cite some examples of the latter activity:

Helen Hallgren, Immunology, is involved in studies of immune function in the aging human population. She is currently investigating lymphocyte glycoprotein profiles in young and old individuals.

Larry Bowers, Clinical Chemistry, working in the area of drug analysis and using high-perforamnce-liquid-chromatography, is studying the metabolism of a variety of drugs and correlating the metabolites with patient responses.

Carol Wells, Diagnostic Microbiology, is investigating tests for detection of systemic fungal infections and the in vivo and in vitro activity of a newly developed antimicrobial agent for anaerobic bacteria.

Cheryl Swinehart, Coagulation, is purifying and characterizing the Antithrombin III in a family.

Karen Karni, a recently successful doctoral graduate, is doing research on the validation of certification examinations in the clinical laboratory sciences.

Sandra Carter, Immunohematology, is developing a method to freeze and thaw platelets for use in antibody detection and identification procedures.

Karen Lofsness, Hematology, is doing a comparison of the Coulter S-plus IV automated three part differential system with manual differential counts.

Esther Freier, Clinical Chemistry, works on the development of methods in clinical chemistry for the adaptation to instruments in the service laboratory.

Lorraine Stewart, Clinical Chemistry, is developing chemiluminescent labeling for steroids to provide alternate methods to those using radioisotopes.

Keep pushing back those frontiers, friends!

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Snoopy: "Here's the World War I flying ace taking a beautiful French lass out to dinner."

Marcie: "Potage au cerefeuil...canard a l'orange...escargots...fonds d'artichaut... pate de foie gras...et beignets, s'il vous plait."

Snoopy: "Un root beer, s'il vous plait."

You might be able to get root beer and soup but we doubt that duck, snails, artichokes or liver pate will be on the menu for the annual banquet sponsored by the Medical Technology Alumni Association.

Date: Wednesday, April 25, 1984
Social Hour (cash bar) 6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Poulet au Riz

Place: Women's Club of Minneapolis
410 Oak Grove
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Please Note: Parking is free at the Club.

Cost: \$17.50 per person (gratuity included)

Program: "Dearie, do you remember when?" Verna Rausch

Special recognition will be given to the 25th and 50th anniversary classes and to four faculty members who are leaving the University. Read on; see last item.

Deadline for reservations: April 18, 1984.

(Please cut and mail)

Please reserve _____ places for me for the Medical Technology Alumni Dinner.

I enclose _____ as payment (\$17.50 per reservation). Make check payable to the Medical Technology Alumni Association.

Please reserve _____ seats for me at the 1934 table.

Please reserve _____ seats for me at the 1959 table.

Signature: _____

Mail by April 18, 1984 to: Medical Technology Alumni Association
100 Morrill Hall
University of Minnesota
100 Church St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

We do not know how widespread the news item was, but the gentleman who reportedly was the inspiration for Charlie Brown of the Peanuts cast died during 1983. This is sadly appropriate because this will be the last Tech's Talk edited by the incumbent. Four stalwarts of the faculty, Ruth Hovde, Verna Rausch, Lorraine Gonyea Stewart, and Dr. Dorothy Sundberg, are terminating their associations with the University in June 1984.

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.

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

Thirty

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