

TECH'S TALK

DIVISION OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Donna Spannaus-Martin is New Director of Medical Technology

The Division of Medical Technology has a new director. Donna J. Spannaus-Martin became the eighth director of the Division of Medical Technology in July, after leaving the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN, where she served as the director of the Graduate Program in Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

Although Donna moved here from Memphis, where she says she worked at "the other oldest medical technology program in the country," she is a Minnesota native, having grown up in the Como Park area of St. Paul. After graduation from Washington High School in St. Paul, she attended North Park College in Chicago. She started out as a flute major, but she soon realized music would be a better hobby than career for her. She switched majors, eventually graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in biology. From there, she went to Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago for her medical technology training. She worked there for three years in the Biochemistry Department, which at the time was headed by Dr. Samuel Natelson. (Do you remember the Natelson microgasometer?)



Donna did her graduate work at Iowa State University in Ames. She completed her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in the Biochemistry & Biophysics Department at ISU, doing research on the expression of histocompatibility complex antigens on mouse embryos, and then on the *in vitro* development of embryos in corn plants. Donna has done post-doctoral research at both Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and Iowa State University on a wide variety of topics, including schistosomiasis, rheumatoid arthritis, cholesterol, and vitamins A and E.

At the University of Tennessee, Donna began developing Web pages for the College of Allied Health and for the ASCLS annual meetings. She developed ASCLS's first online continuing education course, "Your Lab in Court," in addition to several online graduate and continuing education courses in laboratory management for the University of Tennessee.

Donna met her husband, Bruce, while they were working on their doctorates at ISU. Bruce has also joined the faculty of the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, where he is continuing his research on calcineurin, an enzyme important in cell signaling processes.

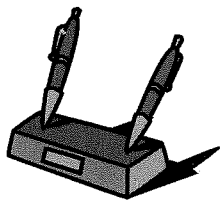
Bruce and Donna have two sons, David, a fourth grader, age 9, and Timothy, a first grader, age 7. The boys were excited about the move to Minnesota because it meant they could be close to their grandparents, and they would have lots of snow to play in. This is also the first time they have ever lived in a house instead of an apartment, so the boys are looking forward to adding a dog to the family in the near future.

Recently, Dean Alfred Michael of the Medical School recently named Donna to be the first Yvonne Chenoweth Cooke Endowed Professor of Medical Technology.

In her spare time, Donna still enjoys music, and you will often hear her whistling melodies as she walks through the hallways of the Phillips-Wangensteen Building. She says it just means she is happy to be back home in Minnesota.

Inside:	
Director's Message	2
Faculty and Staff News	4
Graduation	5
Contributors	6
Items from Previous <i>Tech's Talk</i>	8
Anniversary Classes	9
Alumni News	13
Banquet Registration	15

From the Director's Desk



First, let me say how pleased I am to be here and to be a part of the University of Minnesota's Medical Technology Program. I know some of you may be concerned that I am not an alumnus of this program, but many of my family members are University of Minnesota

alumni, and I grew up hearing about all the wonderful things that have been accomplished here at the U. In my years at the University of Tennessee (the program I have come to call the "other oldest baccalaureate medical technology program in the country"), I often heard good things about the University of Minnesota program, and of the contributions made by the many exceptional medical technologists in the state of Minnesota. Most of you already know the University of Minnesota has produced six past presidents of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS).

When I talked with Karen Karni at the 2000 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science and told her my husband and I were considering moving from Tennessee, she encouraged me to apply for the position she was leaving as Director of Medical Technology at the University of Minnesota. I will admit that following in Karen Karni's footsteps seemed like an overwhelming responsibility, one that I wasn't sure anyone could really live up to. Karen insisted, though, that I owed it to myself and to the University of Minnesota to at least apply and take a look at the program. She told me that I understood the traditions of the University of Minnesota. I admitted to Karen several months later that there were times in previous years that I would be sitting at my desk at the University of Tennessee when an e-mail from Karen to the Clinical Laboratory Educators listserv would arrive. I would think to myself that she must have the best possible job in all of clinical laboratory education to be the director of the University of Minnesota's Medical Technology Program. I never dreamed in a few short years I would be asked to fill that position!

Having been here for several months now, I have gained a good understanding of some of the factors that make the University of Minnesota's program great. Three factors stick out in my mind more than any others. The first factor is the tremendous faculty and staff who are part of this program. This is one of the most dedicated and competent groups of people I could ever hope to have working with me. In the few months I have been here, these people have had some major obstacles thrown in their pathway (see Program Review article, page 4), yet they have continued to work for the program and do whatever is necessary to provide a quality education to the medical technology students.

The second factor is the students of the program. The University of Minnesota's medical technology program attracts quality students. However, aside from their high GPAs, these students are also dedicated to the profession and to

the program. As you read through the Student Profiles (page 11) of some of these students, you will find students who are leaders in the Academic Health Center, and who are working to help their fellow students in other health care professions understand the role of the clinical laboratory scientist. As I have gotten to know these students, I have been impressed with their abilities and their enthusiasm.

The third factor that contributes to the greatness of this program is its alumni. I have been thoroughly impressed by your generosity and your willingness to work for the program. Your continued concern for the program and for the profession I believe are unequaled across the nation. Since my arrival, a number of you have come to my office or stopped me in the hallway to introduce yourself and offer to help out in any way you can. I cannot tell you how much this support has meant to me and to the program, especially as we have gone through some of these difficult situations. You truly are one of this program's greatest assets. For those of you I have not had the opportunity to meet yet, please feel free to drop by the Division office and introduce yourself so I can thank you personally for your support.

When I came to Minnesota last summer, Karen Karni showed me a copy of the "Brief History of Clinical Laboratory Science" that Mary Jane Eaves had put together for the Minnesota Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (MNSCLS) and ASCLS. I learned from this that I was not the only member of my family to play a part in shaping the practice of clinical laboratory practice in the state of Minnesota. In 1976, the year I began my medical technology training, my uncle, former Minnesota Attorney General Warren Spannaus, ruled that medical laboratory practice was not part of the practice of medicine, helping to define the role of the medical technologist as separate from that of the pathologist. I hope that in the coming years, I can leave the same sort of positive legacy for the program and the profession.

Donna



Editor:
Donna J. Spannaus-Martin

Contributors:

Claire Bjorklund
Drew Bjorklund
Nancy Brunzel
Salli Clysdale
Joanna George
Billie Anne Juni

Karen Karni
Jan Lorenz
Donna Spannaus-Martin
Pat Solberg
Cheryl Swinehart
Carol Wells
Mary Jane Yue

Division of Medical Technology
Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology
Medical School

University of Minnesota
MMC 609
420 Delaware Street S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Phone: 612/625-9490
Fax: 612/625-5901
E-mail: medtech@umn.edu
<http://medtech.umn.edu>

The Changing Face of Campus

As completion of the new Molecular and Cellular Biology Building (MCBB) on Washington Avenue draws near, plans are underway to move teaching and research programs into the new space. The seven-story building, located on the site of the former Owre, Millard, Lyon complex is on schedule for completion in April, 2002 and occupancy in June, 2002.

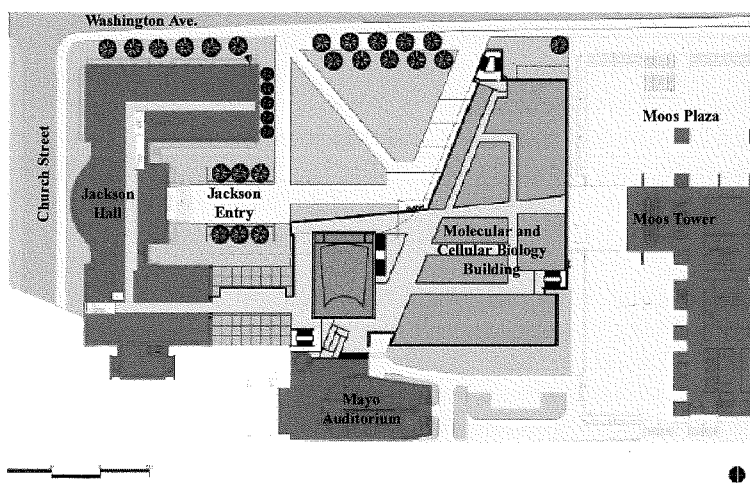
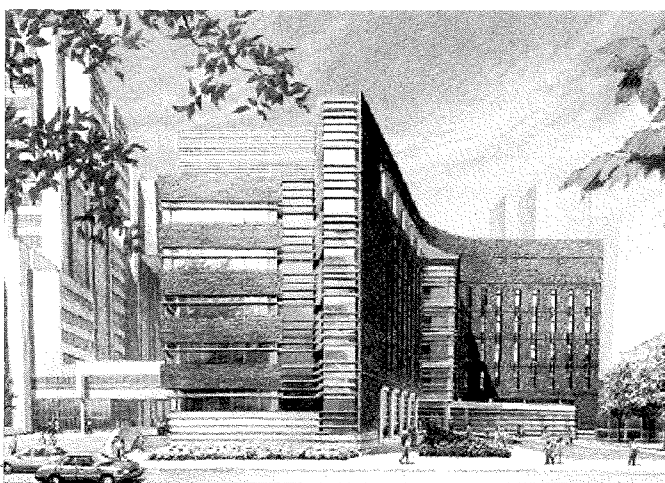
While Medical Technology will not be moving into the new space, we are benefactors. For the last three years, the programs of Neuroscience and Histology have been teaching medical, dental and graduate students in the Laboratory Medicine and Pathology teaching labs on third floor Moos Tower. This sharing has resulted in an additional 175 to 250 students per week utilizing the four lab rooms, with extensive additional setup and take-down time. Those two programs will begin moving to third floor of the new building in June, 2002 with teaching to begin in the fall.

Additionally, the Pathology course (coordinated by Dan Dykoski and directed by Dr. Alan Rose), which has been taught in Moos Tower since the building opened, will be moving to the MCBB as well. That move will take place in August at the conclusion of the summer Pathology course. What this means for Medical Technology is, for the first time since Moos Tower opened, dedicated teaching space for fall semester. Laboratory instructors are eagerly looking forward to the possibility of setting up a lab and leaving it up until the end of the semester. We will continue to share space with the eight-week Laboratory Medicine course (coordinated by

Jean Linné and Karen Ringsrud, and directed by Dr. David Brown), which is taught to second year medical students during spring semester. That course is finished by mid-March, at which time Medical Technology is again the sole occupant.

While this building project brings great anticipation to faculty and staff, it is not the only construction on campus. A big change evident on Washington Avenue is the Coffman Union renovation. The building, which has been closed since November, 1999, is scheduled for phased occupation starting fall, 2002. One of the goals of the renovation is to provide more student centered services, making Coffman the center of student life and activities on campus. It will house a new 40,000 square foot central bookstore, lounges, and a food court among many other services. The design is part of a larger project, which includes a new 1700-car ramp on River Road (now open), a new residence hall behind Comstock and new pedestrian bridges over Washington Avenue. The entire project will provide a visual connection from Northrop Mall to the Mississippi River, restoring the original master plan of Cass Gilbert. The University recently announced the addition of a virtual tour of the newly renovated Coffman Student Union, which can be found on their Web site at <http://www.coffman.umn.edu/renovation/tour.php>.

More details of these and all university construction projects as well as live cam shots and virtual tours can be found at <http://www.facm.umn.edu/facm/construction.htm>. Better yet, stop by for a first hand look.



The new Molecular and Cellular Biology Building is located between Moos Tower and Jackson Hall and connects to the Mayo Building. It is scheduled for occupancy in June, 2002. Drawings by Perkins and Will.

Division of Medical Technology to be Reviewed

In October, the Division of Medical Technology was asked to drastically reduce our budget for the current academic year, an action that would have had a severe impact on the quality of education we provide to our students. Many of you first heard about this budget cut through a letter-writing campaign which was initiated by the Clinical Laboratory Managers Association. The letters were to be directed to President Yudof, the Board of Regents, and to the Legislature to request that the Division of Medical Technology be adequately funded in order to maintain the high standards in laboratory education we have always practiced. This letter-writing campaign became so wide-spread that it was



mentioned in the American Medical Association's Health Professions Electronic Newsletter (www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/7014.html) in a series of articles they were doing on the critical shortage of laboratory personnel.

As a result of this letter writing campaign, Dr. Frank Cerra, Vice President of the Academic Health Center, has asked for an external review of the program to determine what is required to adequately fund the Medical Technology Program. This review is scheduled to take place on April 4th. The review committee will be composed of three members from across the country, Dr. Richard Lynch, the University of Iowa, Dr. Robert McKenna, the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Medical Technology Program in Dallas, and Dr. James Griffith, the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. We are confident this review will find the budget for this program cannot be cut any further. Our faculty and staff work hard to keep the costs of running this program at a minimum by working with vendors to get as many out-of-date reagents and other corporate donations as possible. The Division of Medical Technology currently has four faculty members and three full-time staff members. At a time when we should be expanding the program, it would be difficult to maintain the quality of the program with any additional reductions in staffing.

The Division is also having our site visit for our National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) accreditation on April 8th and 9th. This year we will be reviewed under the new NACCLS guidelines. Among the new guidelines is the formation of an Advisory Committee to replace the position of Medical Director for the program. For the next three years, our Advisory Committee will be composed of Dr. John Eckfeldt, Ms. Nancy Geier, Ms. Kathy Hanson, Dr. Ron McGlennen, Ms. Roberta Montgomery, Ms. Jane Reinke, Ms. Patricia Solberg, and Dr. Donna Spannaus-Martin.

Faculty News

Kim-Sue Tudor and Nancy Brunzel were awarded a \$30,000 Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) grant to develop self-paced CD-ROM-based tutorials in clinical chemistry and immunohematology for Medical Technology students. The goal of these interactive tutorials is to simulate and reinforce selected laboratory content areas and to provide additional exposure to pertinent laboratory material at several cognitive levels. Interactive tasks performed using the CD-ROM tutorials will include: selected test result interpretation, specific identification of microscopic elements, and decision-making.

The content area of one tutorial will be the analysis of urine and body fluids. It will include case studies and a comprehensive atlas of microscopic elements found in urine and body fluids (e.g., blood cells, epithelial cells, crystals). The immunohematology tutorial will include case studies and content review sections combined with "type and crossmatch" results for interpretation, and including digital photographic images. This interactive tutorial will provide students with additional opportunities to interpret results and to test their mastery of the content area.

To develop these tutorials, a portion of the grant money went to the purchase of a microscope, digital camera, and computer. This photomicroscopy system is being used to capture both microscopic and macroscopic digital images of high quality. Work has already begun and completion of this project will be a step toward a larger goal of creating a library of interactive CD-ROM tutorials that enhance the core curricula of the Division of Medical Technology's baccalaureate program. Our own Karen Lofsness (retired) planted the seed of inspiration for this library and has established an unrivaled level of quality with her CD ROM instructional program and atlas, Hematology™ Plus.

Can You Help Us?

Incorrectly addressed mail has been returned to us on a number of individuals. Below are the names and years of graduation on some of them. If you can help us with their current addresses, please call or write to Claire Bjorklund (see page 2).

Barbara Bruner Berg 1948
Mary Mankell Petteway 1959
Susan Johnson Forsberg 1966
Jan Kassulke Adams 1967
Bonnie K. Hultman 1970
Mardie G. Geiser Wollenhaupt 1973
Janice Juvland 1982
Vicki Mitteco 1989
David Ellis 1990

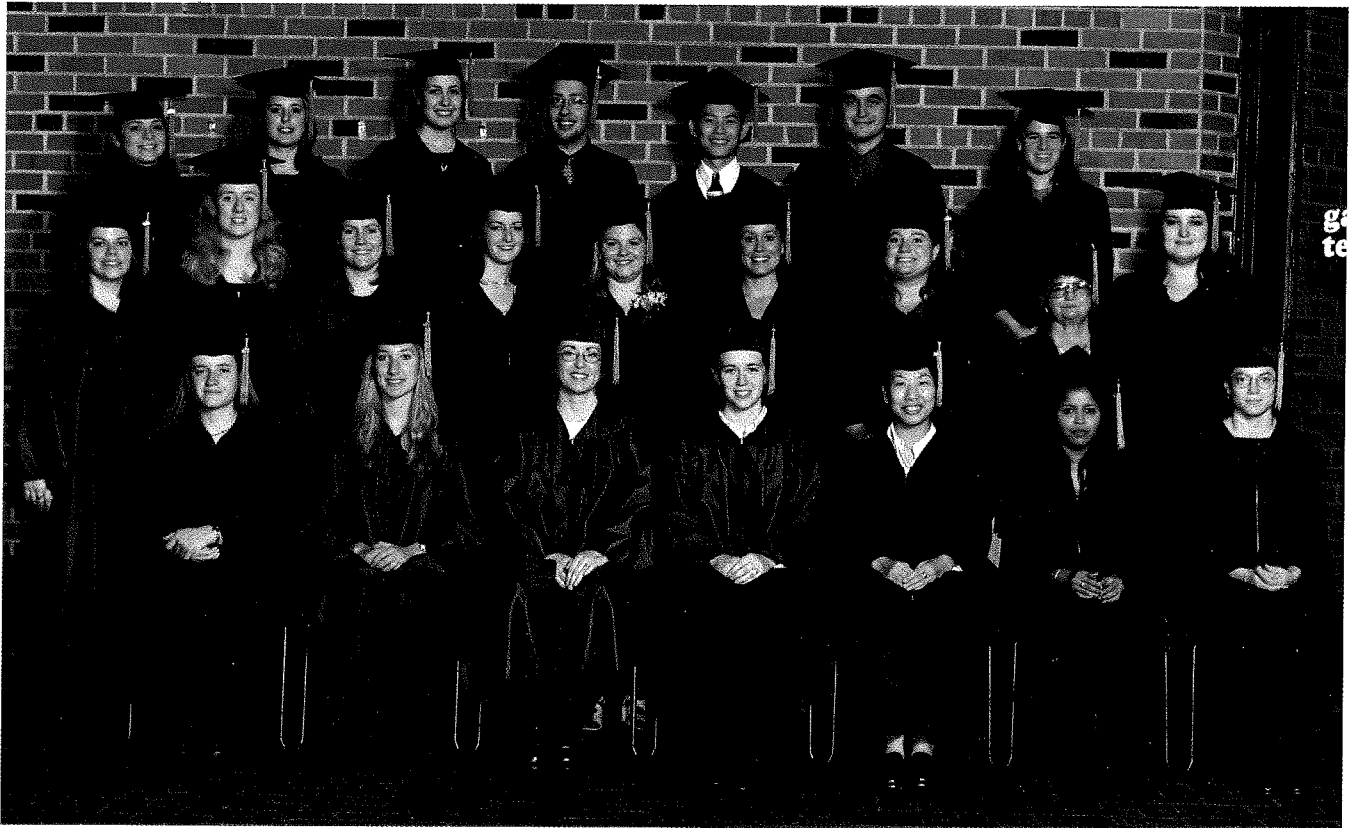
If you have changed your address, please let us know so we can continue to keep in touch.

2001 Graduation Ceremony

The twenty five members of the 79th graduating class of the Division of Medical Technology held their commencement exercise on September 22, 2001. Senior class president **Jody Dalberg** delivered the welcome and presided at the ceremony held at the St. Paul Student Center. Dr. John McClure from the Department of Pathology at Unity Hospital delivered the commencement address.

The senior slide presentation was prepared by **Heidi Parr**, **Rhonda Bloch** and **Joleen Borg**. **Kim-Sue Tudor**, assistant

professor, presented awards and led the Medical Technology Oath, introducing each class member as they signed the oath. **Amy Raether** was presented with a special gift in recognition of achieving the highest grade point average in the professional program. The new director of the medical technology program, **Donna Spannaus-Martin**, conferred the degrees. **Salli Clysdale** from the Medical Technology Alumni Society welcomed the new graduates as alumni of the University of Minnesota. The Student Center Terrace was the reception site.



Medical Technology Class of 2001

Front row (left to right)

Amy Raether, Waconia, MN
Jillian Lindenfelser, Elk River, MN
Dyana Hagen, Devils Lake, ND
Becky Middelstadt, St. Cloud, MN
Ryoko Kono, Onomichi, Hiroshima,
Japan
Geeta Bisram, Oakdale, MN
Erica Clark, Buffalo, MN

Second row (left to right)

Joleen Borg, Eyota, MN
Heidi Parr, Maple Grove, MN
Julie Gilbert, Mukwonago, WI
Colleen McDermott, Waukesha, WI
Trish Roehl, Spring Hill, MN
Michelle Dunn, Forest Lake, MN
Tammy Bentley, Danube, MN
Katie Gawboy, Minneapolis, MN
Elizabeth Enyart, Bismarck, ND

Back row (left to right)

Monica Rocheford, Brooklyn Center,
MN
Rhonda Bloch, Kimball, MN
Rachel Zieger, Cedarburg, WI
Jody Dalberg, Janesville, WI
Tuan Mai, Apple Valley, MN
Victor Gromoff, Lakeville, MN
Anne Stemper, Roseville, MN

Not Pictured

Dean Kraus, Appleton, WI
Nancy Ogilvie, Elysian, MN

Photograph by :
Anita Sime Jader (Class of 1977)

2001 Major Contributors

The following contributed \$100 or more to the Division of Medical Technology in 2001:

Over \$100,000

Carl S. Rohwer

\$1,000 - \$5,000

The Minneapolis Foundation
Karen Soderberg Karni
Verna E. Mallek

\$500 - \$999

Lorna H. Canfield
Mary E. and Todd C. Jacobson

Raymond A. Newman
Norynne M. Schiminsky
Ella Spanjers

R. Dorothy Sundberg
William and Grace Wagnild

\$300 - \$499

Cigna Fdn.
General Mills Foundation

Ruth A. Cardinal
Mary J. Eaves-Raich

Marlys E. Lund
Phyllis J. Weiss

\$100 - \$299

Abbott Laboratories Fund
Anonymous Donor
Beckman Coulter Inc.
Wells Fargo Fdn
Lee and Joanne Arvid
Helen E. Ashenbrucker
Elizabeth Bixby
Marilyn T. Budge
Jean Hyslop Carlson
Steven A. Carlson
Kathie Casey
Ruth G. Chamberlain
Ann D. Claesgens
Gerry M. Cochran
Frederick W. Coleman
E. Mary Skerik Damron
Larry M. Davidson
Kay Draves
Sally J. Economon
Grace Mary Ederer
Janet M. Flemming
Catherine Leiendecker Foster
Nancy A. Geier
Becky L. Green
Julie S. Grudzinskas

Ben and Jacqueline Hallaway
Ronald and Jean Halvorson
Jacquelin A. Heggernes
Richard and Karen Huff
Phyllis Jacobs
Jean M. Jennings
Carol Kelly Johnson
Dorothy K. Karlen
Elizabeth M. Kearney
Barbara M. Koblinski
Patricia L. Koors
Frances G. Larson
Kay M. Malerich
Joetta G. McClintock
Betty McMartin
Arlene M. Meadows
Donna M. Meyer
Diane M. Michalik
Shirley A. Michel
Aldora M. Miller
Mary Lou G. Mohn
Toni D. Muckala
Gerald R. Mulcahy
Carol A. Mulder
Clarey E. Nelson

Suzanne R. O'Brien
Toni D. Okada
Jeanne C. Olsen
Mary Beth Piscator
Marba Lou Pogue
Terri J. Poindexter
James and Elberta Prestegard
Kathryn L. Rantala
Anne M. Ringgenberg
Debra C. Rodahl
John L. Roesler
Ruth M. Rosendahl
James G. Ruggles
Jean M. Rysavy
Melicent E. Schmidt
Paul C. Schreckenberger
Patrick L. Sullivan
Aija K. Vikmanis
Nettie M. Warwood
Bob Watkins
Mary K. Weimer
Lila Wengler
Joyce M. Wian
Lori L. Wischnack-Thoreson
Joan L. Yasmineh

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 2001, 26 medical technology students received scholarships that totaled \$26,800. The scholarships ranged from \$500 to \$1,800 per recipient. Students who received the awards were enrolled in the junior and senior years as well as in clinical assignments. These scholarships are made possible through 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 \$4,402.65 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
- Karen Karni 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, Mayo Mail Code 609, 420 Delaware Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0374.

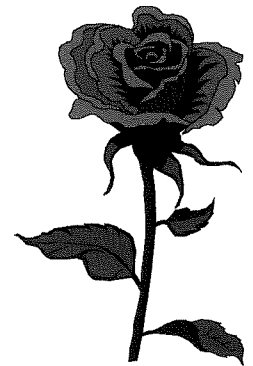
Dr. Helen L. Knudsen (1911 - 2002) Second MT Program Director

Dr. Helen L. Knudsen, medical technology class of 1934, passed away on February 28, 2002. In addition to being an alumnus of the program, Dr. Knudsen also served as the director of the University of Minnesota's Medical Technology program from 1936-1940, the second director in the program's history. Dr. Knudsen then entered the University of Minnesota's Medical School, graduating in 1944. She went on to become the director of the Division of Health Facilities at the Minnesota Department of Health. Dr. Knudsen was named "Medical Woman of the Year" by the American Medical Women's Association in 1957.

Yvonne Chenoweth Cooke (1915 - 2002)

Benefactor of Medical Technology

Yvonne Chenoweth Cooke (1937) died February 9, 2002. In 1991, Mrs. Cooke first provided monies to our program to establish a scholarship in her name. In 2000, she gave the Division additional monies to fund the Cooke Endowed Professorship (\$500,000). The Cooke and Rohwer Professorships are the only two such endowed professorships in medical technology (clinical laboratory science) in this country. Like all professorships, the endowment will be maintained in perpetuity and only interest is used to attract or retain meritorious medical technology faculty members. Funds are used to support their scholarship and educational endeavors.

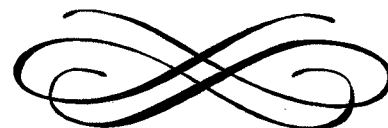


Following graduation, Yvonne Chenoweth worked for four years in the laboratories of the Minnesota State Department of Health. She recalled performing "hundreds of Wassermans each day." When her husband, Louis Cooke Jr., was in the service in World War II, she worked as a technologist in South Bend, Indiana, for three years. Following the war, she and Louis started Workman Service, a business service company. Mrs. Cooke supervised the office until her retirement and said that of all of her "med tech skills," it was her organizational abilities that helped most in the management of their business.

Throughout the years, Mrs. Cooke kept in contact with Karen Karni, former Program Director. During their visits, Karen remembers Yvonne as being self-effacing, candid in her opinions, and without pretenses. Gracious in manner, she did not wish to be recognized—in a public way—for her generosity. Instead, she enjoyed hearing about the lives of the students who had benefited from the Cooke scholarships.

At her request, the ashes of Mrs. Cooke will be spread at a "favorite place." A reflection celebration will be held on her birth date at the Golden Valley Country Club on Wednesday, May 8, from five to seven p.m. Memorials are preferred to the Cooke Scholarship in Medical Technology at the University of Minnesota.

Mrs. Cooke has left a lasting legacy to this program. Her magnanimous gifts will continue to be significant and substantial components of the Division, its students and the Cooke Endowed Professor in Medical Technology.

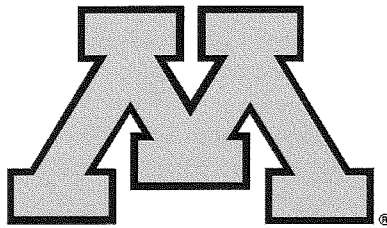


The University of Minnesota Alumni Association

Items from Previous Issues of *Tech's Talk*

The Medical Technology Alumni Society Board of Directors for 2001-2002 consists of Billie Anne Juni (president), Marba Pogue (secretary), Larry Carroll, Nancy Coley, Karen Karni, Diane Rappe, Salli Clysdale, Karin Libby, Pat Solberg, Melissa Fossum, Clareyse Nelson, Barb Streifel, Helen Hallgren, and Donna Spannaus-Martin. If you are interested in joining this group of volunteers, call the Division Office at 612-625-9490. The board is primarily responsible for organizing the spring banquet and raising money for student scholarships.

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) also promotes professional interests of allied health fields, and develops liaisons among undergraduates, prospective students and alumni. With over 400 members, the Medical Technology Alumni Society is one of the more active alumni groups within the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA). If you have suggestions for activities you would like to see the Board of Directors undertake, please send them to the Med Tech office along with the "Let's Keep in Touch" form on page 14. We are always looking for new ways to serve our alumni and students.



By joining the Medical Technology Alumni Society and UMAA you support both the University and the medical technology program. A strong UMAA has more clout at the legislature, helps support excellent programs, and enhances the student experience. Plus, as a member, you can take advantage of many programs and services that save you money and connect you to the U of M. To contact the UMAA, call 612-624-2323 or 1-800-UM-ALUMS, or send an e-mail to umalumni@tc.umn.edu. You can also visit their web site at <http://www.umaa.umn.edu>.

2001 Silent Auction a Huge Success

Our "first ever" Silent Auction at last year's Spring Banquet raised \$795 for student scholarships. This amount plus \$1005 donated directly to the Karen Karni Scholarship Fund were generously matched by Constance Bakken. Because the Silent Auction was so successful, we will be doing it again this year. If you would like to donate an item, or a service, such as last year's boat rides, please notify Claire Bjorklund in the Medical Technology Office at 612-625-9490. Your items, labeled with your name and the estimated value of your donation, must be in the Medical Technology office by April 29th.

1959 - "Did you know that automation has invaded the laboratory? Our laboratory service has machines that do white counts, red counts, blood sugars, ureas, chlorides, and alkaline phosphatases. However, being mere mechanical gadgets, these monsters do not think. So there sit the technologists, thinking, thinking, thinking. If you don't believe this, come see for yourselves --- absolutely free. Distilled water is no longer transported in carboys but comes direct from deionizer to a spigot in the laboratory. A dishwashing machine relieves the techs from much (but not all) of this labor." "Did you know that the tired night techs can't take a nap in the BMR beds anymore? We moved them." "Did you know that milliequivalents are here to stay?"

1971 - "Following the recommendations of an external review committee which visited the campus and interviewed many people, the College of Medical Sciences was dissolved and a unit, called Health Sciences, was created. There is a Vice-President for Health Sciences, Dr. Lyle French, many of you will remember him from the neurosurgery staff, and five units, each with a Dean or Director: a dentistry unit (Dean Schaffer); a hospital unit (Director John Westerman); a nursing unit (Dean Isabel Harris); a pharmacy unit (Dean Larry Weaver); public health unit (Dean Lee Stauffer); a medical unit (acting Dean Mead Cavert). Veterinary medicine shares a cooperative position with the Health Sciences and College of Agriculture. Medical Technology and the other established health professions remain with the nominal physician specialty in the medical unit. It has been recommended that a coordinator for allied health professions be appointed to serve in the vice president's office. No action has been taken on this recommendation."

Editorial comment: One can only speculate on how the allied health professions might be positioned today (administrative visibility, space allocation, financial support, etc.) if this recommendation had been adopted in 1971.

1991 - The following is taken from an article describing the establishment of the Yvonne C. Cooke endowed scholarship fund.

"Mrs. Cooke also remembers fondly her late father-in-law, Dr. Louis J. Cooke, Sr. This gentleman, for whom Cooke Hall, the athletic building is named, was instrumental in starting basketball at the U of M, where beginning in 1897, he coached for 27 seasons. During this time, he had ten national championships. 'Doc' Cooke was also the initiator of the student health services of the University.....Mrs. Cooke is a gracious and charming woman. When we met to discuss the endowed scholarship, she noted that she 'didn't want any accolades'."

A remembrance of Mrs. Yvonne C. Cooke, who passed away earlier this year, can be found on page 7.

Anniversary Classes Honored

Each year we continue our tradition of honoring the 75th, 50th and 25th anniversary classes.

Class of 1927 (75th Anniversary)

*Marjorie Edsten
**Katherine Elizabeth Scott Eitel

**Bergliot Hansen
**Leila Magnusson Jerston

Alice Batchelder Johnson
**Joseph McGrath

Class of 1952 (50th Anniversary)

Norene Blair Anderson
Iris Noma Atoji
Patricia Hanauer Bordewich
Stella Sobtzak Cook
Syrile Meyers Ellison
Delores Anderson Erickson
**Patricia Field Fish
Alice Hartman Ganter
*Luise Politis Gonia
Ben E. Hallaway
*Loretta Mackey Hanson
Phyllis Dolden Jacobs

Jeanne Jenson
Virginia Dunn Johnston
*Ada Yokomoto Kitano
*Ethelmae Rutherford Laskey
Joan Hayden Lawler
*Dorothea Eva Nippoldt Mahle
G. Eloise Anderson Metz
Hellen Ardelle Mead Mills
Doris J. Nelson
*Nancy Nelson
Shirley Nelson
**Charlotte Page Mohlke

*Ramona Rucker Paulson
Lillian L. Pierce
Patricia Tender Rygg
Lois Carlson Schorle
Edith Shumaker
Clarice Phyllis Foley Stapel
Gertrude Goodwin Stokes
Jacqueline Irons Swigart
*Lois Heaney Trank
*Shirley Wicklund
**Leatrice Caroline Williams

Class of 1977 (25th Anniversary)

Ann E. Duryea Becknell
*Craig Belcourt
Marsha Berndt
*Merry A. Bohn
Rebecca Jellings Brendel
Linda Peterson Carroll
*Claire Bruskevitz Catanzariti
Diane Cromer
Larry Davidson
Donald Dubois
Janet Donlin
Helen Rung Dykema
Lorilee Beatty Echternach
Mary Jo Grisham Faustgen
Susan K. Leszko Fautsch
*deMette Spainhour Ginn
Robert Hirte

Debra Goemer Huesman
Kathleen Sagstetter Ivory
Anita J. Sime Jader
Ronald Jadwin
Lisa J. Jarvis
Laurine K. Jessen
*Nonita R. Jimenez
*Rebekka A. Johnson
Joyce L. Jordahl
Michelle A. Martin Kaiser
Susan M. Zupfer Mann
*Denise J. McCamy
Marilyn Foschi McConkey
Trisha Millonig
*Hanna Nadler
Elizabeth A. Kearney Ostrand

Dwight E. Peper
Anne E. Perkins
*Mark Francis Perlinger
Diane Durand Pikus
James Quaday
Karen Fosholdt Radil
Katherine Jokinen Rahkola
John Roesler
Debra R. Notto Schwietz
Terry L. Scofield
Daniel J. Sloan
Dennis E. Smith
Richard C. Tender
Jean Anderson Virant
Gregory J. Wall
Merodie L. Warren
*Laura A. Wolf

*Address unknown

**Deceased

If you are a member of an anniversary class, please make a special effort to attend the annual alumni banquet. The reservation form is on page 15. 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!

Mildred King Rohwer Endowed Chair

Medical Technology Goes Online!

This past year, Mr. Carl Rohwer bequeathed to the University of Minnesota's Division of Medical Technology the funds to change the Mildred King Rohwer Endowed Professorship to the Mildred King Rohwer Endowed Chair in Medical Technology. This endowed chair is the first medical technology endowed chair in the nation.

This endowed chair was created as a memorial to Mildred King Rohwer, a 1933 medical technology alumna of the University of Minnesota. Following graduation, she worked as a medical technologist at the Gillette State Hospital for Crippled Children in St. Paul and the University of Minnesota (nights). For two and a half years, she was the only technologist for the Department of Medicine, under Dr. C.J. Watson. She worked in the Dental School for Dr. C.W. Waldron and later supervised the hematology laboratory at the University Hospitals. She also worked at Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri.

In 1951, Mildred King married Carl Rohwer in Wichita, Kansas. Mrs. King Rohwer was an active supporter of medical technology through numerous contributions to our scholarship fund. She also attended her 50th class reunion here in 1983. She was in failing health for a year, and died of leukemia December 1, 1987.

On behalf of the Division, we thank the Rohwers for their significant contributions to our program.

The Division of Medical Technology has begun to incorporate Web-enhanced education into some of its courses. Last fall, Nancy Brunzel began using the University of Minnesota's WebCT software to place the course syllabus, lecture notes, handouts, etc., for the Clinical Chemistry I course online. During this spring semester, Medical Technology's use of WebCT has been expanded to include the Clinical Chemistry II course and the Introduction to Management and Education course.

WebCT allows an instructor to place classroom materials online, link to Web sites related to the course material, collect homework assignments via e-mail, and give online quizzes and exams. All of this is done in a secured Web site which allows access only to those students who are registered for the course. Students can also communicate within the site on the class discussion boards. These discussion boards allow the students to communicate with their instructor and fellow classmates about topics that may have been discussed in class, but they can do it at a time that is convenient for them, and in a way that allows them to think about their response. These "asynchronous" discussions provide the students with time to organize their thoughts, which can result in a more thorough exchange of ideas. Students can also enter one of the course chatrooms to have real-time or "synchronous" discussions about a recent lab write-up or some other course related topic.

Employment Trends

New medical technology graduates appear to have increasing numbers of job opportunities at this time. The shortage of qualified laboratory personnel continues, and multiple interviews are available to those seeking employment.

In 2001, 68% of our graduating class accepted employment at one of our clinical sites; 24% at Fairview University Medical Center. These students became familiar with the sites during their clinical rotations, and jobs were often offered to them before they left. It is beneficial to employers to hire these individuals. Their work skills are known, and since they have already completed part of their training, orientation costs in time and salary can be minimized.

On the average, between 4 and 15% of our graduates leave Minnesota. This year, three left the state, moving to Colorado, Washington, and Maryland. The graduate who went to Maryland took a position in HIV research at Johns Hopkins University.

We now have St. Cloud State University and Minnesota State University-Mankato students enrolled in our program. As a result, we are seeing some of these people returning to out-state Minnesota for employment. The shortage of laboratory personnel in out-state areas was one of the reasons that our association with the MnSCU (Minnesota State College and University) system was developed in the first place, and we are pleased with the results.

The current trend is for new graduates to be offered both generalist and specialty laboratory positions. In the past, first employment opportunities were often limited to generalist, evening, or night shift positions.

The annual starting salary for a new medical technology graduate is currently estimated at around \$40,000. Because of the competition for qualified laboratory personnel, shift differentials, sign-on bonuses, and retention bonuses are frequently offered as additional enticements.

Student Profiles

The University of Minnesota is widely known for the excellence of its student body. The class of 2002 is no exception to this tradition. The following profiles are presented to provide our readership with a better understanding of the quality and diversity of our students.



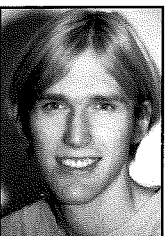
Jenny Zhengwei Mao trained in laboratory medicine for five years at Bengbu Medical College in the People's Republic of China. She was also required to take four levels of English to graduate. Jenny worked as a medical technologist at First People's Hospital in Huaibei. She was originally hired as a generalist, but after the lab became fully automated, Jenny was assigned to clinical chemistry because the new instruments were imported from the U.S., and Jenny knew English and was college educated. The senior medical technologists did not have a college education and knew minimal English. A job offer for her husband at the U of M Cancer Genetic and Cell Biology Division resulted in Jenny's move to Minnesota in January, 2000. In order to be certified here in the U.S., she needs to complete the senior year of medical technology and her clinical rotations. Jenny became interested in laboratory medicine because her dad is a horticulturist and a high school science teacher. Jenny remembers him always studying plant cells under the microscope. In China, Jenny played on the college volleyball team and went weekly to discos with her dance club. Nowadays, she can be seen doing laps at the U of M Aquatic Center. Go Jenny!



Anna Abt started college with an objective to do medical research in HIV or oncology and had plans of going to medical school. Her plans for medical school changed when she learned about medical technology from some friends who had attended a presentation by Pat Solberg to the Admission Ambassadors. The more her friends learned about the medical technology program, the more they thought how perfect the program sounded for Anna. The next day, Anna called the medical technology office to find out what she needed to get enrolled. Anna has already gone far in completing her goal of doing medical research - for four years she has worked on projects involving Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, and stem cell research in the Neurosurgery Department. Anna has been on the executive council of the Center for Health Interdisciplinary Programs (CHIP) for two years, through which she has come to realize how crucial interdisciplinary care is in today's health care. Anna enjoys music, both in attending concerts and in singing choral music. After graduation, Anna plans to go to Africa to do HIV education or work in a mission hospital before she returns to start graduate work in epidemiology or global health issues at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health.



Dorothy Toivonen spent ten years in the banking industry and another year taking accounting and business classes, but she did not find this work fulfilling and was frustrated. As part of her husband's job transfer, Dorothy had the opportunity to work with a recruiter. Dorothy informed the recruiter of her dwindling interest in the business world, and about her life-long interest in the scientific community. After a battery of tests, it was determined that her skills were a much better match with her interest in science. A career counselor at the University of Minnesota steered her towards the Medical Technology program. Dorothy says she eventually wants to work in forensics, but she has found all of the medical technology disciplines interesting and doesn't want to limit herself to focusing on any particular area just yet. Following graduation, Dorothy is planning on moving to Atlanta, GA, where she and her husband are currently building a house. At one time, Dorothy had looked into completing her medical technology training in Atlanta, but she was surprised that all of the medical technology programs in the Atlanta metro area have been closed. As a result of the loss of all of their medical technology schools, the hospitals in the area are now paying big sign-on bonuses in an effort to recruit medical technologists to the area. Following her move to Atlanta after the completion of her clinical rotations here, Dorothy hopes to obtain a position at the Centers for Disease Control.



Jack Lund was in the process of completing a degree in biology when he began considering a career in medical technology. He found the idea of being directly involved in hospital laboratory work to be especially appealing. Jack has done field work for the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and after graduation he hopes to find a position at the Minnesota Department of Health that will incorporate his love of laboratory work with his love of field work. Another option he is considering is the possibility for future education in forensic science. Jack expresses his goals by paraphrasing a Chinese proverb - "Find a job that you are passionate about, and you never work a day in your life."

Why Did You Choose Medical Technology?

The Class of 2002 was recently polled as to why they chose medical technology for their major. Many saw medical technology as a practical way to use the knowledge they were obtaining at the university: "I like the fact that medical technology is a practical degree, and when you get your degree, you can diversify to different types of jobs - in research, in clinical laboratories, or in industry." "Medical Technology is a career with direct application of classes to the working world."

Some were in other majors that just didn't seem to be quite right for them: "I was in nursing, but it didn't feel like it was satisfying or quite right for me. I looked further and found medical technology. I love it!" "I started out in environmental science, but I decided that wasn't quite the right field. I paged through the directory and found medical technology. I actually liked having blood drawn as a kid, so I love medical technology."

Some were in other science fields, but were concerned about their job prospects after graduation: "I always liked lab. I was a chemistry major, but there were no jobs available. A medical technology degree will provide job opportunities everywhere!" "I was a biology major, but the best salary I would be able to get with a biology degree was \$30,000. I saw a flyer about medical technology and got interested. Medical technology was a practical application of my biology degree."

Many were interested in a career in health care: "I wanted to contribute to the health care of others. I like to do technical things, so medical technology seemed like a good career choice for me." "I have been interested in medicine since childhood. My mother and grandmother are both nurses and a family friend is a physician. I saw medical technology listed as a field on the PSAT exam when I took it in high school and I knew that was the field for me."

Many of the students learned about medical technology over the Internet, some while searching for information about other health care careers.

You've Got Mail!

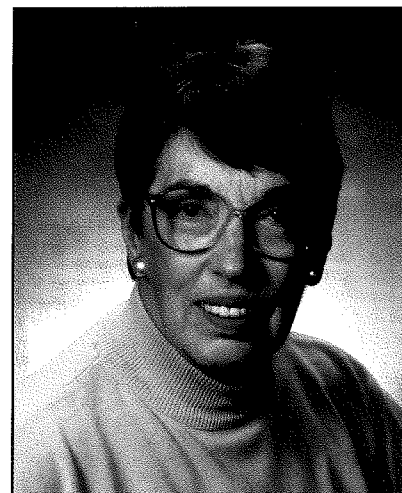


If you have an e-mail address, and would like to share it with us, please send us an e-mail at medtech@umn.edu. Having your e-mail address will provide us with a more cost-effective and faster way of contacting you. It will also allow us to send you updates as to what's new in the Division.

Stella Cook Receives 2001 Distinguished Alumni Award

In 1994, the Medical Technology Alumni Association started the Distinguished Alumni Award. The award honors one individual per year for his/her contribution to the Alumni Association, commitment to the profession, support to the Division of Medical Technology, and representation of the profession in the community. The Medical Technology Alumni Association Board determines the recipient.

Stella Cook received the honor of being named the Distinguished Alumnus for 2001. Many of you know her because of her teaching role in the Division of Medical Technology and activities in the Alumni Association.



After graduation from the University of Minnesota in Medical Technology, Stella worked at Northwestern Hospital (now Abbott-Northwestern Hospital) in Minneapolis for 13 years. For the next 13 years, Stella concentrated her time on raising two daughters. She was then employed at Mount Sinai Hospital in Minneapolis for 2 years as a part time medical technologist. In 1979, she decided to return to the University of Minnesota and serve as a teaching specialist for the medical technology students.

Stella has served as president of the Medical Technology Alumni Association and participated numerous times on the Board. She has been a mentor to students and colleagues. Students have enjoyed her so much that they voted to have her present the commencement address.

As you can see, Stella has demonstrated continued support to the Alumni Association and the profession over the years. We were fortunate to have the opportunity to thank her by awarding her the Distinguished Alumni Award. Congratulate her when you see her.

Individuals who have received the award in past years are the following:

2001	Stella Cook
2000	Helen Hallgren
1999	Salli Clysdale
1998	Nancy Coley
1997	Karen Lofsness
1996	Mary Damron
1995	Billie Anne Juni
1994	Eileen Rogers

Alumni News

Margaret Strane (1940), is currently living in Duarte, California. She wrote stating that she had worked briefly in Huron Clinic in Huron, SD, in both x-ray and the lab; at Women's Hospital in Toledo, OH; 6 years at the former Miller Hospital in St. Paul, MN; 11 years at Sage Memorial Hospital in Ganado, AZ; a year at the Presbyterian Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat Hospital in Baltimore, MD; and then 21 years in Thailand hospitals, where she taught young people with a 10th grade education how to do manual methods. She retired in May of 1983, but she remains interested in how our government's policies affect people in other parts of the world.

Peggy Pearce Pongratz (1946), lives in Sioux Falls, SD, but spends "five months of the year in Texas, fishing and touring the lovely hill country north of San Antonio."

Georgia Rietz Parker (1947) retired in 1987, but she has kept busy. In the last 10 years, she has written four books on her husband's and her genealogy. She has three children and six grandchildren.

Ruth Mlekoday Downing (1948) is retired and having fun going with her husband, Leo, to their cabin in Paynesville, MN. She also spends time going to her grandchildren's soccer, hockey, and baseball games.

Joseph Jerome (1954) is living in Fort Dodge, IA, where he worked for 41 years at the Medical Referral Clinic. He has served as the treasurer, vice president, and president of the Iowa Society of Medical Technology. He and his wife, Linda, have three sons and three grandchildren.

Joan Zenk Woods (1965) worked at Tahoe Forest Hospital for 20 years before she retired in 1990. She married in 1997, and she and her husband are living in Kings Beach, CA. Joan enjoys hiking, skiing, woodworking, antiques and beagle dogs.

Marina Pavuls Nelson (1968) moved to Monument, CO, last year after her husband retired. She says they are enjoying their little bit of heaven in Colorado.

Marba Sanders Pogue (1972) has been with Fairview Health Services since 1972. She is currently with the LIS Department, supporting all the lab computer systems throughout the Fairview System. She enjoys sailing, skiing, genealogy, photography, traveling, gardening, music, reading, and the theater. She laments that there is so much to do and so little time!

Barbara (Babs) Smith (1976) left Minnesota in 1980 and worked in R&D at Instrumentation Lab in Spokane, WA, before completing her civil engineering degree at the University of Washington in 1987. She worked for the U.S. Navy

overhauling submarines and destroyers, and then worked for a water utility until 1997. She is presently in Seattle, WA, where she is a stay-at-home mom for Colin (9) and Triston (5). She hopes to start substitute teaching math and science in the fall when Triston starts kindergarten.

Susan Ahonen (1976) completed a BS degree in industrial engineering from UMD, and is now teaching mining health and safety classes for Hibbing Community College part-time, and she has a home business, Ahonen Carriage Works. She lives in Makinen, MN, and has two daughters, Dana (12) and Kelsey (10). In her free time, she is very involved with horses, and she is a member of the National Ski Patrol.

Grace Haagenson Wagnild (1976) is a part-time office manager for a dental office and a volunteer Red Cross instructor/trainer in first aid and CPR. She and husband, Bill, have been married 24 years and have three children.

Dee Spainhour Ginn (1977) is currently working two days a week in hematology at Holston Valley Hospital in Kingsport, TN. Her husband, David, is an Associate Professor of Medicine at East Tennessee State University.

Kathy Sagstetter Ivory (1977) is a medical technologist in the Hematology Department at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire, WI. She has two children and enjoys gardening, quilting, and reading.

Teresa M. Tangen-Hedlund (1993) has worked at R&D Systems, Inc. in Minneapolis since her graduation. She has two children, Nicholas (4) and Lauren (1).

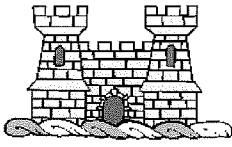
When we heard from **Kristina Sitarz Kaehler** (1994), she and husband, John, were in the process of adopting an infant from Russia, expected in late 2001. At that time, Kristina was the Product Manager at SurModics, Inc. in Eden Prairie, MN.

Ian Gamble (1999) belongs to a musical group – the Moss Piglets. The group released its first CD in February 2002. For a preview or to see where they are performing in the Twin Cities, visit their Web site: <www.mosspiglets.com>.

After graduation, **Jody Dalberg** (2001) took a position in the Acute Care Lab at Fairview University Medical Center. Because he is so enthusiastic about his job—"How could anyone not love being a med. tech.?"—he has been a very successful recruiter for Fairview Labs. Eventually he hopes to use his education to become a medical missionary with the Salvation Army in Africa. Jody was also a volunteer at the 2002 Winter Olympics where he worked with the Salvation Army manning hydration stations. He returned to Minnesota with lots of great pictures and stories about the Olympic experience.

State Collaborative Spring Meeting

The 2002 Minnesota Laboratory Meeting will be held on May 8 - 10 at the RiverCentre in St. Paul. This year's theme is "Renaissance at RiverCentre." Featured keynote speakers are:



A Renaissance at
RIVERCENTRE™

- Paula Garrott: "Legislative, Regulatory, and Professional Issues Impacting the Practice of Clinical Laboratory Science"
- Dr. James T. Griffith: "Human Genome Project: Technical and Ethical Implications for the Clinical Laboratory"
- Nancy J. Riesz: "Attitudes for Success"

Thursday morning will feature breakfast roundtable discussions. This year, a fifth section has been added to the program, which means there will be even more sessions throughout these three days, 62 sessions in all, including: bio-terrorism, West Nile Virus, new genotyping technologies, HIPAA, and many other topics of interest to laboratory professionals.

Numerous vendors and exhibitors will be present on all three days. There will be a Career Fair on Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday evening, there will be a special event at the Minnesota Science Museum. The second annual Silent Auction will also be held on Wednesday and Thursday, with all proceeds from the auction going to the Children's Miracle Network, specifically Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare.

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

Deb Rodahl
4995 Helmo Ave. North Phone: 651-779-8906
Oakdale, MN 55128

Let's Keep In Touch

Please send us an update on what you've been doing, both personally and professionally. We plan to display all contributions - including letters and pictures - at the alumni banquet. We will return the 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 15.

Annual Banquet News

for Alumni and Friends of Medical Technology

Join us once again at Jax Café for this year's annual banquet and reunion. Friends and spouses are welcome! Participate in our silent auction which benefits the Medical Technology Scholarship Fund.

Date: **Thursday, May 2, 2002**
 5:30 p.m. Social hour with cash bar, Silent Auction
 6:30 p.m. Dinner with the program to follow

Place: **Jax Café**
 1928 University Avenue N.E.
 Minneapolis, MN (612) 789-7297
 Free off-street parking available

Menu: **Grilled Pork Chop**
 Garlic whipped potatoes, chef's vegetable
 or
Honey Mustard Chicken
 Bone-in breast of chicken, honey glazed, wild rice pilaf
 or
Broiled Filet of Walleyed Pike
 New potatoes, chef's vegetables

Salad: Jax House Salad
 Dessert: Carrot Cake



Cost: Alumni Association Members \$26.50
 Nonmembers \$27.50
 Seniors (age 60 and over) \$24.50

Special recognition will be given to the classes of 1927 (75 years), 1952 (50 years), 1977 (25 years), and to the 80th graduating class of 2002.

Deadline for reservations: April 26, 2002. Send in your reservations early because seating is limited.

*This is the only mailing 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 _____ Honey Mustard Chicken _____ Broiled Walleye _____

Please reserve _____ seats for me at the 1952 table.

Please reserve _____ seats for me at the 1977 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. Reservations should be received by April 26, 2002.

Mail to: Division of Medical Technology, MMC 609, 420 Delaware Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455

Walter Library Renovation Complete

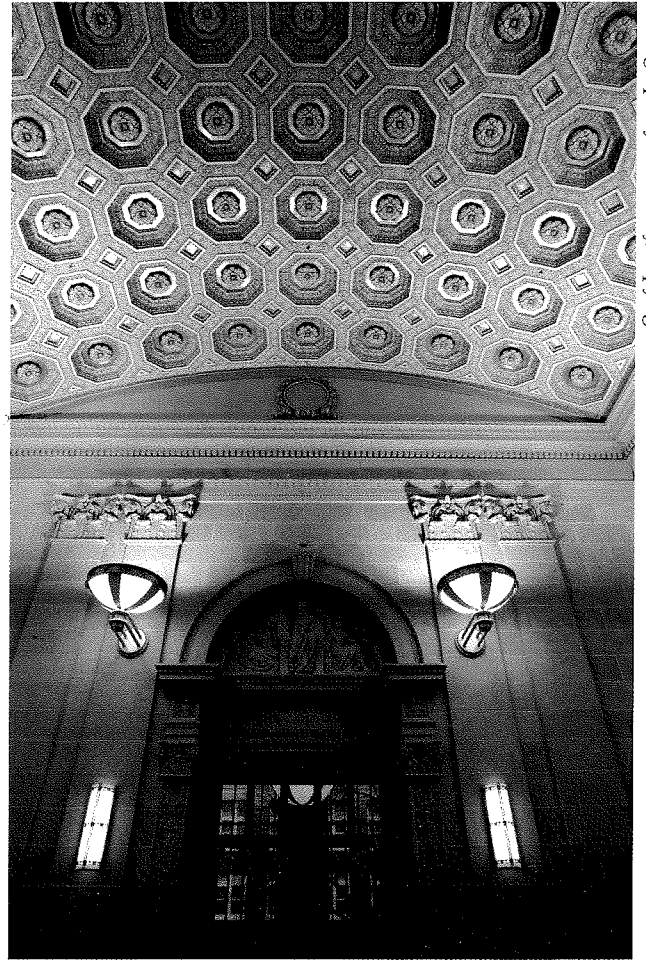
After twenty-five months, Walter Library has re-emerged from darkness and protective coverings to become a totally new learning center. While one would notice little change to the exterior of the facility, the building systems and historic surfaces of the interior have been completely renewed.

Interior stone walls and floors have been cleaned to their original appearance. Polychromatic plaster ceilings have been cleaned, repainted and gilded to the original color and luster as would have been seen in 1924 when Walter Library was first opened. Today, though, we have the advantage of seeing the color and detail as never before, thanks to new light fixtures that have been placed throughout the facility to provide task and ambient lighting.

Walter Library has been reprogrammed to provide the University community not only books and library-related functions, but also state of the art data storage and retrieval systems. The four original reading rooms have been provided with access flooring, which supports data and power infrastructure for users seeking information from University libraries or from the Internet. One of these reading rooms is now a computer lab with over 100 workstations, sporting the latest in Apple and Dell computers, each tied into the University Ethernet system and will allow access to the Internet as well. Within the Library, one can still reach for a book off the shelf, and yet on another floor (in the DTC areas) a simulation of cell-division or a solar flare is being generated at the PowerWall Room.

Reprogramming and restoring Walter Library supports the University's Digital Technology Initiative, providing teaching laboratories, digital publishing outreach, computer graphics and visualization, electronic commerce, multimedia stations, and collaborative research facilities for interactive work between industry and university researchers.

Not into digital simulations? Well, for those who used to study at the old Walter, air conditioning has been in-



Photograph by Tom Foley, copyright 2002.

stalled. Pick up your favorite book. Find a comfy chair. Read for a bit. Then relax your eyes and relish in the decorative plaster ceilings. It just doesn't get any better!

The author of this article is Drew Bjorklund, husband of Medical Technology secretary Claire Bjorklund, and the project architect for the Walter Library renovation.

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

Change Service Requested