Medical program relocates; students to get more classes

By Natalie Davis
Lantern staff writer

The graduate program in Hospital and Health Services Administration has found a new home.

Once under the School of Allied Medical Professions, the two-year, masters degree-granting program is now a Division of the College of Medicine.

"By our new status and participation in the College of Medicine, we will be more active in teaching classes to medical students on the importance of health care cost containment and health care financing," said Steve Loeb, associate professor of allied medicine and chairman of the program.

Exposing medical students to health cost issues, like changes in medical insurance coverage and medical technology, has been of growing importance over the past several years, said Michael Whitcomb, associate dean for clinical affairs, and medical director in the College of Medicine.

Current plans are to incorporate these classes into the first year of the medical school curriculum and as elective seminars for students in their third and fourth years of medical school, Whitcomb said.

"We now have academic status equivalent to most other graduate programs in the nation," Loeb said.

Loeb said in 1981, he and his faculty began a national study of other graduate programs to determine if Ohio State's program was in the most competitive position for research grants, quality faculty and the best job opportunities for graduating students.

"We concluded that our position was not in our best interests," Loeb said. This sparked a three-year effort to officially move the graduate program. The move was approved by the Board of Trustees on June 7.

A committee recommended that the program change because it would improved ties with University Hospitals and the College of Medicine and make recruitment of students, faculty easier, as well as make more money for research available, Issac said.
Media Advisory

February 23, 1988

A nationally known expert on medical ethics will speak at The Ohio State University Hospitals on Tuesday, March 1.

Dr. Charles M. Culver will speak on "Managing One's Own Dying," at 4 p.m. in the Rhodes Hall auditorium.

The lecture is sponsored by Ohio State's Division of Hospital and Health Services Administration, College of Medicine and Graduate School.

Culver has educated and advised physicians, nurses and other health care professionals on the ethical dilemmas that they face in dealing with "Do Not Resuscitate" orders, withdrawing life-support measures, abortion, in vitro fertilization and other issues.

An an instructor of ethics courses at Dartmouth Medical School and Vermont Law School, Culver emphasizes health law and moral philosophy and their applications in medical decision making. He also chairs the Ethics Advisory Committee at Dartmouth's Mary Hitchcock Hospital.

Culver received M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Duke University. He has written extensively on ethical issues in treating patients with chronic diseases and has co-authored a book, "Philosophy in Medicine."

Reporters are invited to attend the lecture. Dr. Culver will be available for interviews following his presentation.

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Contact: David Crawford, Hospitals Communications, 450-3909
Hospital & Health Services offers grads wide variety of employment opportunities

If you have leadership potential and an interest in the health care industry the Hospital and Health Services Administration Division has the program for you.

The curriculum of the graduate program in Hospital and Health Services Administration emphasizes graduate business courses such as finance, marketing, human resources management, and planning, all geared toward the health care environment.

The two-year program includes six quarters of academic course work and a three-month administrative residency, which is completed during the summer after the first year of enrollment.

As administrative residents, students gain practical experience working directly with top-level managers in a variety of health care organizations.

Administrative residents also complete projects which allow them to test skills acquired in the classroom, and attend management meetings to observe as many areas of an organization as possible.

The graduate program in Hospital and Health Services Administration accepts approximately 25 students a year, and has seven full-time faculty members along with joint and adjunct faculty members from other areas of the university and the Columbus health care community.

“We employ quite a number of students to work with faculty members on research projects,” says Pat Strohl, director of admissions for the Hospital and Health Services Administration graduate program.

“In addition, health care institutions and government agencies in the Columbus area offer our students a variety of part-time employment opportunities during the academic year.”

The Hospital and Health Services Administration Division boasts a near 100% job placement record for its graduating students.

In the fall, the program offers a career seminar and job-search workshops for its students, including practice-interviews. The division also mails students’ resumes to over 1000 health care organizations.

“In addition to the obvious management opportunities in hospitals and other health care delivery institutions, trade associations, government agencies, and corporations offer many opportunities for employment,” says Strohl.

“Last year we had active alumni located in almost every state and in foreign countries who informed us of job openings.”

“It’s interesting to note that over one-third of the nation’s gross national product involves health services, so there are many different kinds of positions for our graduates,” adds Strohl.

Students who enter the program come from a variety of undergraduate disciplines including the sciences, business and the humanities.

The undergraduate majors of students enrolled in the program in 1990-1991 are as follows:

- Business: 28%
- Sciences: 26%
- Social sciences and humanities: 22%
- Health Professions: 20%
- Engineering: 4%

For students who want the increased flexibility of two degrees, the department also offers dual degree programs with the College of Law, College of Business, and School of Public Policy and Management.
Hospital Administration Conducts Research

When Bernard Lachner, former Director of University Hospitals, started the masters degree program in Hospital and Health Services Administration at Ohio State in 1967, he had no idea of the legacy he was creating.

Now with Stephen F. Loeb as Chairman for the Hospital and Health Services Administration program, the research and public service aspects of the program have really taken off.

Research underway in the Division of Hospital and Health Services Administration includes health care cost analysis, employee-patient satisfaction studies, and the largest program for financial analysis of hospitals and nursing homes in the country.

"The scale of some of our research projects is very large and a number of students work on these projects along with faculty," says Robert J. Caswell, associate professor and chair of graduate studies in Hospital and Health Services Administration at Ohio State.

But it wasn't always this way.

"The first health administration programs established in the country dealt with hospital-based training of physicians," says Caswell.

Beginning in the 1930s, universities developed a variety of approaches to teaching health administration.

It wasn't until the 1960s when the health administration field really began to change its approach toward health services. During this time the number of universities offering programs in health services administration nearly doubled.

"The '60s was a time when federal policy and technology transformed the health administration industry," says Caswell. "It became too complicated to be both a physician and a manager."

The first students were admitted into the Hospital Administration program at Ohio State in 1969.

"Hospital administrators constituted the first faculty for the eight-member class," says Caswell.

Under the leadership of Donald Dunn, currently President of the Iowa Hospital Association, a program based upon an emerging two-year curriculum model was formed.

The scholastic rigor of the program was enhanced during the '70s. The faculty reflected this emphasis on academics, as scholars with experience in health care management and policy were recruited.

"George Johnson, former director of Ohio State's health services administration program, was really responsible for developing the program and gathering a nationally recognized faculty in the 70's," says Caswell.

"To this day, the Hospital and Health Services Administration faculty enjoy a very strong national reputation."

stories by
Jean Giovannetti

photos by
Jim Criswell
Executive-in-Residence serves graduate program and OSU Hospitals

Donald Newkirk, Executive-in-Residence for the Graduate Program in Hospital and Health Services Administration, utilizes his many years of experience to perform an unique job.

Newkirk is one of the founders of the Graduate Program in Hospital and Health Services Administration, and has been an adjunct faculty member for the last 20 years. He's also served as President of the Ohio Hospital Association for 30 years.

Chairman of the Graduate program in Hospital and Health Services Administration, Stephen Loeb, found an excellent opportunity to capture some of this healthcare statesman's time when Newkirk decided to retire from the Hospital Association and began discussing the Executive-in-Residence position.

University Hospitals also shared an interest in Newkirk's participation as a consultant for networking and strategic activities. Collaboration between the hospitals' executive staff and Loeb's quickly developed.

As executive-in-residence, Newkirk's duties include special seminar development, student counseling, provider and alumni relationships and research.

"Because the program is very flexible in its scope, other tasks are taken on as time permits," says Newkirk. "I also work part time as a consultant to the Chief Executive Officer of University Hospitals."

Additionally, Newkirk continues to serve on American College of Health Executive Boards, including the Middletown (Ohio) Regional Hospital.

Newkirk says his outside activities (consulting, executive search, serving in hospital governance) "help ensure that the graduate program faculty and students have the benefit of up-to-date information, not just historic content."
Department Chairman Stephen F. Loebs, Ph.D. (center) discusses a project with Hospital & Health Services students (clockwise) Kris Stickler, Linda Mattson, Bill Jennings, Tony Firmstone, Rob Dyckes.
Lack of health insurance is ‘critical’

By David Tull

This nation’s health care system is reaching a critical point, a point at which private insurers cannot guarantee that those who need care can receive it.

Because of this, the nation must soon develop some kind of federally-backed plan to provide universal access to necessary care.

That’s the view of Emily A. Friedman, Ohio State’s first Midland National Lecturer. Friedman’s Nov. 13 talk inaugurated a series that is intended to become “a permanent national podium,” according to Stephen F. Loeb, chairman of the graduate program for hospital and health services administration.

The annual lectures are made possible by an endowment from the Midland Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Friedman for more than 15 years has studied and written about the nation’s health care system. She has published more than 450 articles and editorials and presented more than 250 lectures and seminars.

In her address, “The Baby and the Bath Water: Protecting the Uninsured Without Destroying the U.S. Health Care System,” Friedman said, “Lack of insurance is the greatest threat facing the health care system.”

For those who can afford health care, the United States provides excellent technology and service, she pointed out. However, "tens of millions of people would like to have access to it," but not everyone can. "The issue is, who gets this greatest of all health care? It’s a moral and ethical issue — a spiritual threat."

Friedman estimated that from 31 million-37 million Americans in a given year have no health insurance. Of this number, from 15 percent-20 percent are children.

Both health care providers and the economy are threatened, she added. “You need to be healthy to work. And American hospitals provide huge amounts of care to the uninsured.”

Until recently, providers have feared what might come from universal access — a system guaranteeing every individual “necessary and appropriate” medical care. The specter of socialized medicine is often invoked. Now, as the needs become more apparent, “health care providers agree that the situation has gotten out of hand,” Friedman said.

In the past, the uninsured were those without political power, such as the elderly and children, she added. Today, many more people, including those in the middle class are finding themselves inadequately covered.

Even so, in what she termed “medical apartheid,” people are willing to deny health care to certain groups, such as drug users, those with AIDS, smokers, people with low incomes, and perhaps obese people. In contrast, medical care required by injuries from high-risk middle-class activities, such as hang-gliding, jogging and skiing, does not trigger complaints.

Politics plays a key role. The 1996 election will be a crucial one, she predicted. In recent elections, several candidates who campaigned for universal access to health care did well. In 1996, there will be no presidential incumbent and “the first Baby Boomers will hit 50. Universal health care may be the campaign issue.”

Friedman discussed a variety of options, ranging from “doing nothing but talking about it a lot,” to what she called the Canadian approach, where the government provides all health insurance, eliminating private insurers.

Her own preference would be a system built around basic reforms and federal involvement but using existing commercial insurers. This would “level the playing field,” while retaining the strength of the current pluralistic system.

She argued for establishing a national policy that “health care is a human service rather than a commodity.

“Understand that the stakes transcend costs. There are human beings at the other end of this gun.

Yet, people must beg for health care as if they are from the Third World. It is wrong for this good country to allow this to go on.”
JULIE ALEXANDER RECEIVES HEALTH ADMINISTRATION SCHOLARSHIP

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Julie Alexander (Springboro, 45066), a second-year student in the Graduate Program in Hospital and Health Services Administration at The Ohio State University, recently was awarded the Bernard J. Lachner Scholarship in Health Administration. The award is one of the most prestigious honors given a student in the program.

The Lachner Scholarship is presented annually to a second-year graduate student who demonstrates high academic achievement, outstanding leadership contributions, and concern for the improvement of the delivery of health care.

Alexander earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry cum laude at Butler University in Indianapolis. Before entering graduate school at Ohio State, she was employed by Kiwanis International in Indianapolis, and St. Francis Hospital Center in Beech Grove, Ind. She currently is employed by The Ohio State University Hospitals.

Alexander serves as president of The Ohio State University Student Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives. During the summer of 1992, she completed a summer administrative residency with Mitchell International in Skokie, Ill. Also in 1992, Alexander completed a British National Health Service seminar in Wroxtone, England.

Alexander will receive her master's degree from The Ohio State University in June 1993.

The scholarship is made possible by Mr. and Mrs. Bernard J. Lachner. Mr. Lachner was the first director of the health

(over)
VALERIE SMITH RECEIVES HEALTH ADMINISTRATION SCHOLARSHIP

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Valerie Smith (Dayton, 45407), a second-year student in the Graduate Program in Hospital and Health Services Administration at The Ohio State University, was honored recently as a recipient of the Albert W. Dent Scholarship in Health Administration.

The scholarship competition is sponsored by the Board of Governors of the Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives. The scholarship is offered annually to provide financial aid and increase enrollment of minority and handicapped students in healthcare management graduate programs and to encourage minority students to obtain middle and upper level positions in healthcare administration. The scholarship award is $3,000.

Smith will receive her master's degree in June 1993. She earned a bachelor of science degree in industrial and systems engineering at The Ohio State University and is currently employed by The Ohio State University Hospitals' Department of Strategic Planning. In 1992, Smith completed a summer administrative residency at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton.

Smith serves as the treasurer of The Ohio State University Student Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives. She also is a member of the National Association of Health Services Executives.

The scholarship is named in honor of Dr. Albert W. Dent, the first black Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. Dr. Dent, president emeritus of Dillard University in New Orleans, was granted fellowship in the college in 1939.

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Contact: Elizabeth Samuels, University Hospitals Communications, 293-3737.
For Immediate Release
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NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE EDITOR EMERITUS DR. ARNOLD RELMAN TO DELIVER FOURTH ANNUAL MIDLAND LECTURE NOV. 16

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Dr. Arnold S. Relman, editor-in-chief emeritus of The New England Journal of Medicine, will deliver the fourth annual Midland Lecture Nov. 16 at the Fawcett Center for Tomorrow, 2400 Olentangy River Road.

Relman, who became editor emeritus of the prestigious medical publication in 1991 after serving 14 years as editor, will speak at 4:30 p.m. on "Medical Care as an Industry: Where Are We Headed?" His address is free and open to the public.

The lecture is sponsored by The Midland Mutual Life Insurance Co. of Columbus and The Ohio State University Graduate Program in Hospital and Health Services Administration.

"With health care reform on the front burner of national debate, we are particularly pleased to have Dr. Relman join us for this year's lecture," said Dr. Stephen Loebs, associate professor and chairman of Ohio State's Graduate Program in Hospital and Health Services Administration. "He is one of this country's keenest observers of the issues in health care delivery and will bring to us a unique perspective from his many years as editor of a prestigious medical journal."

The Midland established the lecture three years ago to bring distinguished commentators on health care issues to Ohio State (over)
with the intent of furthering the national dialogue on important issues of health and insurance.

"President Clinton has opened the national debate on health care reform, and we are extremely pleased to augment that debate by offering to the Columbus community this outstanding authority on the topic," said Gerald E. Mayo, chairman and chief executive officer of The Midland. "Reform can take place only after rigorous but thoughtful public debate of the issues and Dr. Relman most certainly will contribute greatly to that process."

After serving as editor of The New England Journal of Medicine from 1977-91, Relman became editor emeritus of the publication and a full-time professor of medicine and of social medicine at the Harvard Medical School. He recently was appointed by President Clinton to the Health Professionals Review Group.

From 1962-67, he served as editor of The Journal of Clinical Investigation. In 1968 he became chairman of the Department of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where he served before joining The New England Journal of Medicine.

Relman graduated from Cornell University with distinction in philosophy and received his medical degree from Columbia University. His research has focused primarily on the kidney and he has published numerous articles and textbook chapters on this topic. Recently, he has written widely on the economic, ethical, legal and social aspects of health care.

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Contact: David Irwin, College of Medicine Communications, 614-293-3737.
Center of Health Policy Studies

At a time when health care policy has become a major focus of the U.S. and many state governments, Ohio State's Board of Trustees voted Friday to create the Center of Health Policy Studies.

The center builds upon the Program for Health Policy and Health Services Research in the Division of Hospital and Health Services. Among the goals of the center are to promote interdisciplinary studies and assist local, state and federal government agencies in developing solutions to health policy issues.