Gerald Davis, D.D.S. ’11 wants to see the future of dental education—in 3D.

Holograms and Health Caring
Message from the Executive Director

Henry A. Moses, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Professor Emeritus
Meharry National Alumni Association, Inc.

The 2017 Class Reunion Challenge

Alumni have always been the foundation on which Meharry Medical College thrives. You are the cornerstone of our existence. I ask for your help through participation and financial support to meet two of the College’s top priorities which are General Scholarships and the Vision Fund. Thank you for responding to our call in the past.

In 2012, you generously gave $600,000. This year I ask that we strive to achieve a goal of $750,000. It is without question that you can make this happen. There are several options for making your gift. Please visit www.mmc.edu and click on the “Give Now” link that will direct you to ways you may contribute. If you have questions, please contact the Development Office at 615-327-6724 or Alumni Affairs, 615-327-6266/6732.

Thank you in advance for supporting your alma mater, Meharry Medical College. I look forward to seeing you in May!

Respectfully,
Henry A. Moses, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Professor Emeritus

Dollars for Scholars

WHAT REUNION CLASSES HAVE CONTRIBUTED

2012 $600,000

OUR 2017 GOAL $750,000

Calling all alumni—
Please add your gift to the total!

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Executive Director
Camille Calloway
Consulting Director, Finance and Business Operations (Part-Time)
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Contents
Message from the Executive Director .................... 2
Campus News .................................. 4
Clinical Education Affiliates ............................ 6
Holograms and Health Caring .......................... 8
Happy 105th Birthday, Mrs. Violet Nicholas .......... 11
Alumni News ................................... 12
Student News .................................. 14
Meharry in the Military ................................. 17
Class Notes ..................................... 18
In Memoriam .................................... 20
Condolences ..................................... 22

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With restructuring in recent months, Meharry Medical College has strategically recruited and commissioned essential leaders to aid the college in its key priorities. Listed below are recently installed leadership members — some new to the college and some returning Meharrians — to serve in advancing the college’s programs and agendas.

— After 30 years serving as chair of the Board of Trustees, Frank S. Royal Sr., M.D. ’68, retired October 14, 2016, and was immediately succeeded by Nelson L. Adams III, M.D. ’78. Dr. Royal presided during a time when Meharry enjoyed unprecedented growth such as increased student enrollment, large scale infrastructure projects, the completion of the historic $125 million Campaign for Meharry and significant growth in the endowment during his tenure as board chair.

Dr. Adams has been a Meharry board member since 2005, most recently serving as vice chair. A board-certified OB/GYN, he is a past president of the National Medical Association, and the founder and president of Access Health Solutions of Sunrise, Florida — the largest minority-run managed care network in the southeastern United States.

Dr. Adams earned his B.A. from Howard University in 1974 and his M.D. from Meharry in 1978. He served his internship and residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Emory University in Atlanta.

— Peter Edmund Millet, Ph.D., HSP joined Meharry as executive vice president. Dr. Millet will be responsible for defining and pursuing institutional priorities as well as oversight and development of units assigned by the president.

In addition, Dr. Millet will develop and lead the implementation of innovative and collaborative solutions in college operations with a critical focus on technology, systems and policy improvement and effective business models. Dr. Millet comes to Meharry from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama where he served as president.

— Mr. Patrick Harold Johnson was named senior vice president for institutional advancement. Mr. Johnson, who worked in institutional advancement at Meharry earlier in his career, will work closely with the president in building sustainable philanthropic partnerships that will fund academic program development, expand student scholarships, increase opportunities for faculty development and support infrastructure improvements and expansion — all toward fulfilling the president’s vision for the college. Mr. Johnson comes to Meharry from Campbell & Company in Chicago, Illinois where he served as a senior consultant. He succeeds Mr.

The Meharry National Alumni Association, Inc.
A CITATION TO FRANK S. ROYAL, SR., M.D., ’68
This special citation is presented to you, Dr. Royal for your long, selfless dedication to Meharry Medical College. You are a role model to all alumni, and the first Alumnus to be elected Chair of the Board of Trustees of the College, a position you held for 33 years. You are an innovative thinker, pacesetting financial supporter and a visionary of what the future at Meharry Medical College may become.

We, by way of this citation, express our most sincere gratitude as you have "shown us the way” through your foresight, leadership and commitment. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for Meharry Medical College.

May 20, 2017
Nashville, Tennessee

Fernando Daniels, III, M.D. ’87
President

Henry A. Moses, Ph.D.
Executive Director

MNAA citation for Dr. Royal’s years of service
Robert S. Poole who retired from the post in 2016.

—With the March 2017 sabbatical of Marquetta L. Faulkner, M.D. ’81, M.B.A., FACP, FASN as dean of the School of Medicine and senior vice president for health affairs, Meharry named Veronica Thierry Mallett, M.D., MMM to the position. As senior vice president for health affairs, Dr. Mallett will be responsible for the quality of health care provided at Meharry and for the maintenance of the health service affiliations that help the college furnish exemplary training for its students, residents and fellows. As dean of the School of Medicine, she will serve as the school’s chief academic and administrative officer and oversee its academic programs, research efforts, curriculum, student affairs.

**Tom Joyner to be Commencement Keynote Speaker, Foundation Names Meharry “School of the Month” to Raise Scholarship Funds**

Nationally syndicated radio host and education advocate Tom Joyner will serve as the keynote speaker for Meharry Medical College’s One-Hundred Forty-Second Commencement, May 20, 2017 at 9 a.m. in the Curb Event Center on the campus of Belmont University.

In addition, the Tom Joyner Foundation has named Meharry Medical College “School of the Month” for May. Meharry’s selection by the foundation will help raise much needed money for scholarships.

Over the years, the Tom Joyner Foundation has contributed significantly to the endowments of HBCUs around the nation by providing financial assistance to students in need. Since its inception in 1998, the foundation has raised more than $60 million to support HBCU students.

“We are honored and excited that we have been selected as a School of the Month,” Meharry’s president, Dr. James E.K. Hildreth, said, “and [we’re] encouraging all Meharrians to donate as a part of this initiative.” Any contribution, small or large, will make a significant impact on reducing the student debt burden, he said.

Fundraising events will be plentiful in May, Meharry’s featured month, but contributions can be made at any time in the following ways:

Mobile pledge: Text Meharry to 41444
Donate online: Tomjoynerfoundation.org/donate
Mail a donation:
   The Tom Joyner Foundation
   Re: Meharry
   P.O. Box 630495
   Irving, TX 75063-0495
Campus News

Continued from page 5

and fiscal management. Dr. Mallett also will be responsible for the academic component of residency programs. Dr. Mallet comes to Meharry from the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso.

—Stephanie B.C. Bailey, M.D. ’76, MSHSA was recruited as the senior associate dean for public health practice and director of the Master of Science in Public Health program (MSPH). Dr. Bailey will oversee the administration of the MSPH program, expand public health initiatives and bolster the college’s public health academic offerings. She comes to Meharry after serving most recently as interim dean of the College of Health Sciences at Tennessee State University in Nashville. She served once as chief for public health practice at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

—Lloyd Renee’ Broomes Williamson, M.D. ’90, DFAPA, was appointed chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Williamson will foster the academic focus within the department as well as build and support collaborative relationships with faculty, students and external constituents. She comes to Meharry after serving as associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine at The University of Alabama College of Community Health Sciences.

—Maria de Fatima Lima, Ph.D. has been appointed interim vice president for research and innovation and will serve in that capacity until a vice president for research and innovation is named. Dr. Lima will report directly to the president. Dr. Lima will also continue to serve as dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

Clinical Education Affiliations

The School of Medicine continues to expand its clinical experiences for students. As of November 28, 2016. The following health care facilities are active participants in the Clinical Education of Meharry Students.

Current Affiliations

Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital
Memphis, Tennessee

Metro Nashville General Hospital
Nashville, Tennessee

Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute
Nashville, Tennessee

Ohio State University
Housing provided by MMC
Columbus, Ohio

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
Nashville, Tennessee

Capstone Pediatrics
Nashville, Tennessee

Carter & Richard, PC
Nashville, Tennessee

Children’s Clinic East
Hermitage, Tennessee

Harvey Bowles, M.D.
Nashville, Tennessee

Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center
Nashville, Tennessee

Medicos Para La Familia
Nashville, Tennessee

Primary Care and Hope Clinic
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Southern Hills Medical Center (ENT)
Nashville, Tennessee

Blanchfield Army Community Hospital
Housing provided by MMC
Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Tristar Centennial Medical Center
Nashville, Tennessee

East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, Tennessee

Tennessee Valley Healthcare Systems (VA)
Tennessee

Murfreesboro VA
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Skyline Medical Center
Nashville, Tennessee

Alive Hospice
Nashville, Tennessee

Lipscomb University
Nashville, Tennessee

Tennessee Health Care Partners
Nashville, Tennessee

TriStar Medical Group Women’s and Children’s Specialists
Nashville, Tennessee

Pending/In Process

Miami-Dade County
(Jackson Health System)
Miami, Florida

Southern Regional Health Authority
(Black River)
Jamaica

Information for this report provided by The Office of Frank S. Royal Jr., M.D. ’97.
Gerald Davis, D.D.S. ’11, remembers when the idea came to him. “I looked up one day and said, ‘We need to expand our simulation center to include a holographic simulation center.’” His investigation led him to Microsoft’s HoloLens.

“This is going to be beautiful,” he said.

Dr. Davis is bullish on new technology in dentistry. According to the company website, “Microsoft HoloLens is the first fully self-contained, holographic computer, enabling you to interact with high definition holograms in your world.” Dr. Davis said Meharry has been approved as a developer for the platform—what he calls augmented reality. “We’ve started assembling a team…[in] different specialties, also collaborating with the School of Medicine,” he said. He has also reached out to other universities and digital thinkers to join the effort.

“From a learning standpoint,” Dr. Davis said,
“students are able to see and compare.” Think comparative anatomy, Davis said. “You can now [juxtapose] an upper canine tooth [and] a lower canine tooth and be able to identify the differences”—important information for national boards, he said, and much better than looking at different photographic perspectives. “Spin it around…based on voice command or hand gestures, interact with this three-dimensional environment sitting right here in front of you,” he said. “You now can actually have an interactive experience.”

Chairside in today’s clinic, Dr. Davis said, computers can give multiple dental views, but HoloLens will change the approach. “Rather than having an assistant click on a computer off in the distance and say ‘Oh, no—spin it this way, no! Go back, zoom in here,’ you would be able with your own hand gestures to manipulate the image.” The dentist has the ability to manipulate the image and keep his hands sterile, he said. “You can plan for implant placement, surgical approaches, restorative cases.”

Davis’s HoloLens project has caught the imagination of others across the country. Last November, he delivered a “TED”-style talk at the 2016 ADEA Deans’ Conference in San Francisco. Dental school deans from across the U.S. and Canada heard about the use of the new visioning technology in dental applications. The opportunity put Meharry in the spotlight, he said. “It set Meharry apart, and [demonstrated] how we’re progressing…unlike any other dental school in the country.”

In line with the technology-driven vision of Meharry’s president, Dr. James E. K. Hildreth, Dr. Davis sees many opportunities for HoloLens. “What I really want to do is to create something that can…generate royalties for Meharry,” he said.

“I want to be the person who gave the gift that over time generated more than a million dollars in my absence. That to me is what it’s all about.”

For Dr. Davis, it’s all part of a heritage at Meharry of affecting the field of dentistry as well as supporting the institutional mission of health caring. “I walk down the hallway where they have all the pictures lined up of the past graduates of Meharry—and I’m moved,” he said. “You look at all these faces and you’re just amazed. But then I ask myself, ‘How many of them have written a textbook that I’m studying out of? How many of them have published the research that I’m being told to go reference. How many of them did another scientific breakthrough that has changed the way the dental profession is done?’”

Dr. Davis said he wants his students to see beyond patient care into innovation. “My fear is that we’re so focused on the immediate, acute issues of [patient care] that we don’t actually plan for the chronic issue which is, ‘How do you actually solve the condition further out?’”

As far as his students are concerned, there’s a special characteristic he looks for. “I’m looking for a person who’s innovative, creative, humble, approachable and kind—and willing. If you have those elements, I can work with you.”
Happy 105th Birthday, Mrs. Violet Nicholas

Violet May Nicholas celebrated her 105th birthday on January 6, 2017. Mrs. Nicholas is a 66-year resident of Nashville and celebrated this joyous celebration with family and friends from all over the United States.

Mrs. Nicholas was married to the late Phillip Arnold Nicholas, M.D. ’54 (1914-2002).

Attending the celebration were her family members: daughters, Mrs. Gertrude Nicholas Brooks; Allison Nicholas Metz, M.D. ’69; grandchildren, Dr. Marilyn Metz Jones and husband Anthony Jones; Leon B. Metz III; Dr. Lionel N. Metz and Laurence C. Metz (all of San Francisco, California); Ernest A. Brooks (New York, New York) and Dr. Philip A. Brooks (Nashville); and great-grandchildren, Meredith Grace Jones and Nicholas Emanuel Jones.

Photos from The Tennessee Tribune

Dr. Hildreth Visits Alumni and Friends in His Home State of Arkansas

Dr. Hildreth spent time meeting with Meharry alumni and donors in Little Rock, Arkansas December 10, 2016. Martha Flowers, M.D. ’74, Gail Reede Jones, M.D. ’81, Mr. Jesse Mason, William Rutledge, M.D. ’79 and Mrs. Cheryl Rutledge hosted the presidential reception attended by more than 60 guests. One of the attendees was the Chancellor of the University of Little Rock at Pine Bluff, Dr. Laurence B. Alexander.

Attending the reception for alumni and friends of Meharry in Little Rock, Arkansas, above right (left to right): Dr. Lawrence Alexander, Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Guardians of Our Legacy member William Rutledge, M.D. ’79 and Dr. Hildreth. Right, hosts of the event (left to right): Gail Reede Jones, M.D. ’81 and her husband, Mr. Jesse Mason; William Rutledge, M.D. ’79 and his wife, Cheryl; Dr. Hildreth and Martha Flowers, M.D. ’74.
Atlanta-Area Alumni Inducted Into Memorial Park

Five Meharrians were inducted into the Atlanta, Georgia Doctor’s Memorial Park at the groundbreaking ceremony held on January 31, 2017 in Atlanta. Meharry alums honored at this special event were:

- Clinton E. Warner, M.D. ’51
- Otis W. Smith, M.D. ’54
- Warner E. Meadows Jr., M.D. ’56
- James F. Densler, M.D. ’61
- Booker T. Poe, M.D. ’63
- John E. Hall Jr., D.D.S. ’83

The Meharry National Alumni Association congratulates the inductees and the Atlanta Medical Association.

LECTURE SERIES TO HONOR ALUMNUS

A newly endowed lecture series, commemorating the life of physician Alonzo Homer Kenniebrew, M.D. 1897 has been established at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Carbondale, Illinois. Dr. Kenniebrew was the first African-American physician to build and operate a private surgical hospital in the United States. In 1908 he established the New Home Sanitarium in Jacksonville, Illinois. He could not obtain admitting privileges at the area hospital.

The inaugural lecture was held on January 31, 2017. It was given by Kendall M. Campbell, M.D., associate dean for diversity and inclusion, the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina.
Lafayette, Louisiana Chapter Organized, 90th Birthday Recognized

A third Meharry Alumni Chapter in Louisiana was organized on November 5, 2016.

During a visit to the Lafayette, Louisiana area for the 90th birthday celebration of Ms. Beatrice Williams, widow of Wydell Williams, D.D.S. ’46, mother of Gerald K. Williams, M.D. ’96, Wydell Williams, Jr., M.D. ’84, Yolanda Williams, D.D.S. ’82 and grandmother of Gerald Williams Jr., a senior of the School of Medicine, The Greater Lafayette, Louisiana Chapter was chartered. The president of our newest chapter is Patrick Moore, M.D. ’98. Keith Ramsey, M.D. ’95, was elected secretary.

The meeting was held at the beautiful home of Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Williams on Friday. The Lafayette visit gave Ms. Gloria Sanders of Meharry’s Office of Development and the Alumni Association’s executive director, Dr. Henry A. Moses, an opportunity to join the Williams family and friends at the 90th Birthday Celebration of Mrs. Wydell Williams. The Williams family has been a great supporter of Meharry Medical College for over 50 years. The birthday party was attended by approximately 200 guests.

Photos from Cedric A. Ellsworth, Nola Vieux Photography, New Orleans, Louisiana.


Murfreesboro Alumni Reception

Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Hazley hosted a reception for alumni and friends at their Murfreesboro, Tennessee home Saturday, November 19, 2016. Attendees heard Meharrrians speak about the vision of Meharry Medical College and the importance of alumni involvement.
Alumni News

Who Built Meharry?

Alvin Harris, D.D.S. ’72
Willingness is a major determinant in Life. During the summer of 1969, some of us poorer students had to sit around Alumni Hall with no jobs, even though tuition was coming due in September. I became perturbed that BLACK Meharry seemed to have only white workers doing the school’s construction. So, I complained to the dean and president. They were told by the company owner that NO black workers could be found. I exclaimed, “I want to work!” and everyone laughed. They gave me a job as a “failure test”—but I passed. This led to the hiring of numerous other black workers there—you can see them in the photo gathered around me—the skinny guy with no muscles—atop a Meharry building. GOD IS GOOD.

Student News

Meharry Student Organizations Serve the Nashville Community

Chi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha at the Thanksgiving community service event collecting donations for a Tennessee family
Christmas at Hadley Park Towers
Alumni News

Dr. Hildreth with the Meharry Alumni Ambassadors—December 17, 2016

Lt. Col. Tibebu M. Tsegga, D.D.S. ’06, currently serves as director of clinical support, oral and maxillofacial surgery flight, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Tsegga served his residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery at David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, California. He completed a one-year fellowship in tumor and reconstructive surgery from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, a fellow of the American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and a member of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Dr. Tsegga married his Meharry School of Dentistry schoolmate, Adrienne Carmichael Tsegga, D.D.S. ’07, and together they have two daughters.

Lt. Col. Kibrom T. Mehari, D.D.S. ’06, currently serves as dental provider for the Pentagon Tri-service Dental Clinic, Washington, D.C. Dr. Mehari completed advanced education in general dentistry residency at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. As a dental provider, he gives dental support to military deployments, special operations, humanitarian missions and natural disasters. Prior to his current assignment, Dr. Mehari served at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, South Carolina and Royal Air Force Menwith Hill in Harrogate, England. Dr. Mehari is married to his wife Lidya and has two daughters.

Lt. Col. Shelrethia Battle-Siatita, D.D.S. ’06, MS, FAGD, ABGD hails from Atlanta, Georgia. She completed a two year advanced education in general dentistry residency program at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. She then served three years as a comprehensive dentist at Joint Base Andrews (formerly known as Andrews Air Force Base) in Prince George’s County, Maryland and two years at Randolph Air Force Base in Universal City, Texas as the dental education and assimilation officer. After completing an assignment at the Air Force Personnel Center, Dr. Battle-Siatita was accepted into the combined University of Texas Health Science Center-United States Air Force periodontics residency where she obtained an M.S degree in dental science and a periodontics specialty certificate. Dr. Battle-Siatita currently serves as chief of periodontics and AEGD-1 staff at Joint Base Andrews with a faculty appointment at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS). Lt.Col. Battle-Siatita is a fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry and obtained board certification with the American Board of General Dentistry. Shelrethia is married with an 8-year-old son, Chase. Dr. Battle-Siatita maintains memberships with the American Academy of Periodontology, Academy of General Dentistry and the American Dental Association.

Lt. Col. Teneshia Nelson-Hodges, D.D.S. ’08 is a resident in the comprehensive dentistry specialty program at Joint Base San Antonio, Lackland, Texas. Additionally, Dr. Nelson-Hodges completed the Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois and went on to serve in various roles delivering dental care to our military beneficiaries and humanitarian aid to the citizens of Guyana and Suriname. Most recently, she completed an overseas tour to Yokota Air Base, near Tokyo, Japan where she served as a dental provider and as the medical group’s executive officer, directing operations for the hospital’s command section. Dr. Nelson-Hodges is married to Major Derrick Hodges, Jr.
1940s

1950s

James L. Hutchinson, M.D. ’50 the first African American to practice medicine in the state of California is still on the job at 93 years of age. He has practiced family medicine in San Mateo, California for over 60 years. The local press, in making the announcement of his clearance to practice medicine, wrote “Negro M.D. Gets a Permit.” Dr. Hutchinson with his marvelous sense of humor simply took this as “free advertisement.” Congratulations, Dr. Hutchinson.

1960s

1970s

George W. Smith, M.D. ’75 was recently honored by Saint Thomas Health in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He joined the staff in 1979, has served on the Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital Board of Trustees and was on the medical executive committee. Among his other achievements, Dr. Smith was instrumental in establishing the first rural health clinic in Eagleville, Tennessee.

Marian Barr, M.D. ’79 announced her retirement after the closure of Crittenden Regional Hospital and her office building, both in West Memphis, Arkansas. She recently termed out as chair of the of the Board of Directors of the East Arkansas Family Health Centers with locations in West Memphis, Blytheville, Thurman, Lepanto, Earle and Helena. Also, she was the most recent person to be appointed by the governor to the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees. Her picture hangs in the Hall of Health Sciences at the University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff which honors distinguished health care professionals who are graduates.

1980s

Berta Maria Hines, M.D. ’82 has recently informed the national office that she no longer practices Western Family Medicine but now devotes her emphasis in the areas of:

- Healing energy for people and pets
- Life-intuitive sessions for people
- Wellness talks and workshops
- Blessings for home, business and physical spaces
- Presentations on ascension and guided meditations
- German-English translator and interpreter (specialty in medicine).

Dr. Hines practices in Portland, Oregon.

Left to right: Dr. Lisa Nelson, Dr. Elbert Nelson, Ryan Nelson and Amie Nelson Major.

Elbert T. Nelson, M.D. ’67 was one of two persons recently honored at The Christ Hospital of Cincinnati, Ohio Gala for their dedication, leadership and commitment to exceptional care for women. Dr. Nelson is director of the The Christ Hospital Birthing Center.
The American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) recently announced their 2017 President, Karyl C. Patten, D.D.S. ’90, MPH, JM. This association represents the interests of women dentists from dental school through retirement. For nearly a century, the AAWD has served to unite women dentists and provide a forum for its members to share common interests, enjoy friendship, camaraderie and scientific exchange. We congratulate Dr. Patten for this outstanding achievement.

Otis Cosby Jr., M.D. ’89, MBA, MSPH

Otis Cosby, M.D. ’89, was appointed division chief for occupational and environmental medicine within the Department of Medicine at Greenville Health System (GHS) in Greenville, South Carolina. He is board certified in occupational medicine and has practiced in the field for over 25 years in various settings, including academia, free-standing clinics and corporate environments. Dr. Cosby has been on staff for the past two years with GHS—the largest health care system in South Carolina with over 15,000 employees. In his new role, Dr. Cosby will be responsible for expansion of the current clinical services offered through the Center for Health and Occupational Services in Greenville and developing the teaching and research programs within the division. He received his M.D. degree from Meharry in 1989, the MSPH degree in 1992 and completed the Occupational and Environmental Medicine residency program in 1992.

In the Nashville Medical News publication InCharge Healthcare, Katina R. Beard, MSPH ’98, CEO of The Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center is featured with five other leaders who keep Music City’s $78-billion industry humming. Ms. Beard, who began working as an administrative assistant at the Matthew Walker Comprehensive Center over the past decade, has taken on increasingly responsible roles with the non-profit health care agency and was tapped as interim CEO in June 2014. The position was made permanent the following year. An active researcher, she is project manager for the Community Networks Program Nashville site, which looks at cancer health disparities among African Americans, and has served as an investigator and presenter on several other community-based research projects. Beard also sits on a number of advisory boards including the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance Community Advocates Advisory Council, the U-52 Cancer Coalition and the Sickle Cell Disease Center of Excellence advisory board. Beard earned her undergraduate degree in health care administration and planning from Tennessee State University and her master’s degree in public health from Meharry. The Tennessee Primary Care Association honored her in 2015 for leadership excellence.

1990s

2000-2009

2010- Current
Louis J. Bernard, M.D. ’50—DOD—December 23, 2016 in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr. Bernard was a highly skilled surgeon and former chair of the Department of Surgery at Meharry Medical College. While at Meharry, Dr. Bernard also answered the call as dean of the School of Medicine, serving in that position for 10 years.

Lyvonne Delcenia Mackel Washington, D.D.S. ’57, FACD—DOD—November 13, 2016. Dr. Washington was born to Audley Maurice Mackel, D.D.S. and Rosetta Lloyd Mackel in Monroe, Louisiana and spent most of her childhood and young adult years in Natchez, Mississippi. Dr. Washington was the first African-American female dentist in Indiana. She retired from her profession in 2000, as director of the dental program for the Marion County Health Department. Before becoming the dental program director, she was a general dentist in many community based clinics, was in private practice with her father in Chicago, Illinois, and was an instructor at the Howard University College of Dentistry. Her many awards and achievements include induction as a fellow in the American College of Dentistry, selection as a “Sagamore of the Wabash” presented by then-Governor Frank O’Bannon and the 2012 Indiana Dental Association Groundbreaker Award. She is survived by her husband Wilbert Washington, M.D. ’58, two sons—one of whom, Audley M. Mackel III, M.D. ’81, is a Meharry graduate, granddaughters, siblings, many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Bettye Wilson Story, RN ’58, Ph.D.—DOD—December 11, 2016 in Hampton, Virginia. Dr. Story was one of the 24 students in Meharry School of Nursing’s famous class of
1958—nine members of the class earned doctoral degrees. With graduate degrees—MSN and Ph.D.—from Ohio State University, Dr. Story held university faculty positions at California State University, Ohio State University and in the Meharry Medical College Department of Surgery. Dr. Story retired after a 35-year career in the Veterans Administration where she held the position of chief nurse, associate director of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) in Long Beach, California and Syracuse, New York and director of VAMCs in Salisbury, North Carolina and Hampton, Virginia.

Among Dr. Story’s professional memberships was the Federal Executive Association which, in 1980, recognized her as their top federal employee of the year. She loved nursing and expressed her belief that Meharry nurses have made significant contributions in research education and practice.

1960S

Lawrence W. Coffee, D.D.S. ’61—DOD—December 17, 2016. Date of memorial had not been set as of the publication of this magazine.


Walter G. Parker, M.D. ’62—DOD—December 13, 2016 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Henri Smith Parker, RN ’62.

Hester Lewis, M.D. ’62—DOD—July 7, 2016 in Lincoln, Nebraska. (Received February 14, 2017)

1970S

George E. Lockett Jr., D.D.S. ’71—DOD—January 3, 2017 in Lebanon, Tennessee. Dr. Lockett became board certified in anesthesiology from Boston University School of Medicine in 1982. He had a general dentistry practice for 25 years in East Nashville and later joined the Meharry School of Dentistry faculty where he recently retired.

1980s

Elaine June Pitts Ah-Low, MT ’80—DOD—July 2, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia. Recently notified by her daughter, Jade Ah-Low, of her death.

1990s

Daniel Philip Walker, MSPH ’95—DOD—December 30, 2016 in Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Walker was preceded in death by his parents, Alice and Matthew Walker Sr., M.D. ’34 and his older brother, Matthew Walker Jr. and two sisters, Maxine Giddings and Charlotte Walker, M.D. ’64. He is remembered by many loving nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends.

2000 - 2009

2010 - Current
Dr. John Thomas West

Condolences to the family of Dr. John Thomas West who passed away January 23, 2017 in LaGrange, Georgia. He was 92.

Dr. West, a long-time Meharry supporter, was featured in last year’s Donor Honor Roll.

Growing up in north Florida, Dr. West’s fascination with medicine came early. His father was a “country doctor” that had delivered his own children—Tom and his three siblings—bringing Tom into the world in 1924. Watching his father care for the sick left an impression.

Dr. West graduated in 1951 from Vanderbilt Medical School where he became familiar with Meharry Medical College. He served in the United States Public Health Service in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. While working in Seattle as chief of surgery and director of surgical residency, Dr. West selected many Meharry graduates as surgical residents. Dr. West and his wife, Ruth, consistently supported Meharry financially as friends of the college since 1982.

Dr. West is survived by his wife Ruth Blakely West, five children, seven grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Some of the information in this story is from The Seattle Times.

Ivan Cazort, M.D. ’81 and Eric Cazort (children of Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Cazort M.D. ’47) in the passing of their mother Jean on Wednesday, January 4, 2017.

Michael Rhodes Sr., M.D. ’97 in the death of his father, Dr. John Lewis Rhodes in Macon, Georgia. Dr. Rhodes father passed on Tuesday, January 17, 2017


James C. Story, Ph.D.—DOD—October 31, 2016. Dr. Story was recruited to Meharry Medical College to expand the scope of the Department of Anatomical Sciences (subsequently the Department of Anatomical and Cell Biology) and to restructure the offices of admissions and records and financial aid. He served in the dual capacity of chairman of anatomy and cell biology and dean of admissions and student affairs for the college for a decade. During this time, he spearheaded the expansion of the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) and initiated the I-CAN (Interlinking-Comprehensive Assurance Network) program, a post-baccalaureate program of which some facets persist today. Upon his retirement from Meharry in June 2004, he was nominated for and received Professor Emeritus status.

Condolences to the family of Ella Jean Suddeth who passed on November 12, 2016. Mrs. Suddeth spent 42 years at Meharry Medical College, retiring in 2006. While at Meharry, she was affectionately known as “Ms. Ella” by students, faculty, doctors and hospital staff. She was professional in her work and expected nothing less from her staff.

Bernita Faye Rivers-Wiley, former employee in the Office of Student Financial Aid. Previously married to Gregory S. Wiley Sr., M.D. ’84.

Condolences to Ms. Deborah Roberts on the loss of her son Antonio Z. “Bone” Roberts on February 5, 2017, and to Ms. Rhonda Roberts his aunt. Both Ms. Roberts and her sister are employees in the Campus Housekeeping Department at Meharry Medical College.
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