

THE CUPOLA

The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital
Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown, New York



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Kenneth W. Wilkins, M.D.

Greetings from Cooperstown and New Bern. Summer is really here: hot as can be in North Carolina, full of excitement in upstate New York. Beyond the usual good-byes and hellos to departing and arriving House Staff, Bassett has entered a new chapter in its affiliation with College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University. My main worry about medicine these days is the future of primary care. One hopes that the addition of medical students in a rural setting will encourage some of them to practice primary care somewhere.

Enjoy the other articles in this issue of The Cupola, and please let us hear from you. Many of us turn first to the Family Album, and it's always fun to see where folks are now. So, keep in touch!

*Kenneth W. Wilkins, M.D.
President, Board of Directors
Bassett Medical Alumni Association*

THE COLUMBIA-BASSETT MEDICAL SCHOOL

Class of 2014 to Launch a New Era in Medical Education

News headlines carried the announcement this spring that Bassett Healthcare and Columbia University Medical Center have joined forces to launch a new medical school program and establish Bassett as a clinical campus of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, taking a more-than-60-year relationship to the next level. The partnership is aimed at addressing the rural physician shortage and the need for medical education to better align itself with the health care needs of the 21st century.

Bassett President and CEO William F. Streck, M.D., welcomed the crowd gathered at The Otesaga during a May 11 event formally announcing the partnership. "The country spends \$2.3 trillion of a more-than-\$14 trillion economy on health care amidst an environment of physician shortages and demands for health care reform," he said. "Part of the solution going forward is in the field of education, particularly innovation in medical education. That's why Columbia and Bassett have partnered to create the Columbia-Bassett program."

Thomas Q. Morris, M.D., chairman of the Bassett Board of Trustees and alumni professor emeritus of clinical medicine at Columbia, told those gathered that, as a fully salaried, closed-staff



Left to right: NYS Health Commissioner Richard Daines, M.D.; Dr. Streck; Dr. Weil; Dr. Morris, chairman, Bassett Board of Trustees and alumni professor emeritus of clinical medicine, Columbia; Dr. Lee Goldman, dean of Faculties of Health Sciences & Medicine, Columbia; Congressman Michael Arcuri, 24th District, New York.

model, "this is the only example among all the Columbia-affiliated institutions where the hospital and the physicians have their incentives aligned." Morris concluded by saying, "Bassett's integrated academic health system is the model of the future. It's been here at Bassett for a long time. Exposing students to it and giving them in-depth experience will be a remarkable difference for students at Columbia."

Lee Goldman, M.D., dean of the Faculties of Health Sciences and Medicine, Columbia University Medical Center, said the new program will offer students greater continuity, by allowing them to follow a full panel of patients, getting a sense of what it means to be someone's physician over time. "It's a model that's very typical in rural

America, not so typical in the urban centers such as New York. We believe Bassett serves, therefore, as a perfect example of how we can train a cadre of students to see what medicine should look like in the future," he said.

The announcement comes at a time when the Association of American Medical Colleges is calling for a 30 percent increase in U.S. medical school enrollment by 2015 to address the nation's physician shortage, which is especially severe in rural America. At the same time, the nation's medical schools are being called upon to explore ways to better equip physicians to deal with the issues driving the debate over health care reform, including quality, safety, efficiency and cost management.

New York State Health Commissioner Richard Daines, M.D., who spoke at the May 11

*'Building the modern doctor of the future is a task
that falls uniquely to places like Bassett.'
—Henry Weil, M.D.*

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THE CUPOLA is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

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John S. Davis, M.D.
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An estimated 62 million people in this country call rural America home and yet, while 25 percent of the population lives in rural America, only 9 percent of physicians practice in rural parts of the country. That issue, as well as others related to providing health care in rural America, brought more than 100 people to Cooperstown from May 17-18 for the fourth annual Rural Surgery Conference sponsored by Bassett Healthcare's Mithoefer Center for Rural Surgery at The Otesaga Resort Hotel. Fourteen faculty members from across the country presented their views on issues pertaining to education, research and the current state of rural surgery in the United States.

Brock Slabach, senior vice president of the National Rural Health Association, noted there is a lot of discussion about health care reform that centers on universal coverage. "But, people's health cannot be improved without access to care. Access remains the gravest concern for rural America," said Slabach. The dialogue around health care reform and coverage is useless if it

RURAL HEALTH CARE IN SPOTLIGHT



Steven Stain, M.D., left, receives the ceremonial bat from David Borgstrom, M.D., Bassett's Surgery Residency director, at the Mithoefer Center for Rural Surgery's fourth annual Rural Surgery Conference.

doesn't also address access to care, he concluded.

The symposium also tackled the issue of recruiting and retaining rural general surgeons. Among the suggestions proposed at the conference:

- Provide help with medical education loan repayment
- Expand residency programs that have a rural track
- Create equity in reimbursements
- Create tax incentives for doctors who agree to live and work in rural communities
- Improve telemedicine

capabilities so that doctors who practice in rural areas don't feel professionally isolated

Steven Heneghan, M.D., Bassett's Surgeon-in-Chief and co-director of the Mithoefer Center for Rural Surgery, said, "The symposium is another tool to provide physicians, researchers, hospital administrators and medical students with information and networking opportunities related to providing rural care in our communities. It's a great way for those in the business of providing health care in rural areas to

trade ideas on what's working, what's not and what needs to change. We know, for instance, that rural hospitals, in order to remain viable, must provide surgical care. Yet, there is a severe shortage of rural general surgeons. In this conference, we heard meaningful dialogue on possible solutions to that and other issues confronting us as we look to meeting the needs of rural communities in the 21st century."

The Mithoefer Center for Rural Surgery was established in 2003 in order to respond to the issues facing rural general surgeons throughout the United States. The center's research efforts are focused on: describing the rural surgical work force; determining rural surgeons' practice patterns; discerning the educational needs of rural surgeons; examining the financial impact of surgical services on rural hospitals; improving rural residents' access to high-quality surgical care, and reducing disparities in access to high-quality surgical care in underserved areas.

For more information visit www.centerforruralsurgery.org. ■

BASSETT, FOX PARTNER ON ORTHOPEDICS

Bassett orthopedic surgeons began seeing patients May 6 at the FoxCare Center in Oneonta as part of shared service agreement between A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital and Bassett Healthcare. As a result of that agreement, Bassett providers will see patients in clinic once a week at FoxCare.

"This is an important step forward and the first piece of the shared service proposal announced last November," said Bassett Chief of Surgery Steven Heneghan, M.D. "In addition, we anticipate that Bassett orthopedic surgeons will operate on patients from these clinics who need sur-

gery, as well as provide surgical services to patients during some emergency room coverage periods."

Dr. Carlton Rule, A.O. Fox's executive vice president, Medical Affairs, said, "The sharing of services is a very positive development for the community because it maintains care in the Oneonta area, enhances the quality of services, provides convenient access and enhances physician recruitment. As we launch the orthopedic component of the shared service discussion, we continue working on developing areas of cooperation for cardiac and cancer care as well." ■

MEDICAL STUDENTS FIND HUMANITIES PROJECTS REWARDING

From fictional monologues between Chekhov and Shakespeare to sketches of patients, Columbia University students are doing some amazing creative projects during their Bassett rotations.

Under the direction of Alan Kozak, M.D., Bassett has included a humanities component in its medical education program for more than 15 years. At the end of their Bassett rotations, third-year medical students are asked to present a creative project related to their experience in the primary care clinic. The first projects were mostly written pieces, many of which were later compiled in the acclaimed "Let Me Listen to Your Heart" anthology edited by David Svahn, M.D., and Dr. Kozak.

Recent projects have encompassed art, music and theater, including Brahms piano intermezzos, dance choreography, watercolor sketches and a play about primary care written and performed by three members of the Bard Hall Players, Columbia's theater group. The projects are as diverse as the students – and patients – themselves. One student created a sketchbook with portraits of patients he had seen in the clinic; another wrote a computer program creating a visual depiction of the physician's task of using many pieces of data to arrive at a diagnosis.

Dr. Kozak, who himself has a strong humanities background (he earned his undergraduate degree in foreign and comparative literature) likens the humanities focus in Medicine to frosting on a cake, lending elegance and beauty to a foundation rooted in science. "Basic science is very important," he says "but we can't forget the importance of the human element that has to be factored in as we take care of our patients."

From a teaching perspective, it allows him to form a more personal connection. "It taps into the special sensitivities and talents of the stu-



Dr. Alan Kozak displays some of the humanities projects done by medical students.

dents that you otherwise might view as unidimensional, interested only in the science of medicine and its relation to patient care. You really realize and appreciate their depth and the special attributes that will make them extraordinary, caring physicians."

Students say the project was a valuable part of their experience. "I feel medical school is so furiously rushed to cram the sometimes-dry, but always crucial, biological sciences into us," said Tim Rice, who did his project in April, "that it's easy to become too wrapped up in science and, as a result, lose sight of the basic human peace and happiness which unite us all as people."

Rice drew on his art history background to create a gridwork of photos of patients he met as a student of Gerald Landry, M.D., in the Oneonta clinic.

Brian Hwang said his project of sketching patients began as a way to decompress, but evolved into a meaningful tool. "As I continued to sketch, I realized that it began to change the way I related to patients in the clinic, the way I remembered them (both as a person and as a patient), and even the way I approached their medical issues," he said. "I realized that the way a patient greets a physician, talks, sits in a chair, buttons the shirt, makes hand gestures and interacts with family members all conveyed interesting and sometimes important information about the person and his or her medical/psychiatric issues that may not be evident in the chief complaint or in the charts.

"This, of course, helped me with the sketches, but more importantly, helped me connect to the patients better, because I could bring up certain things about them based on my observation that patients would want to talk about, and become more observant and cognizant of physical signs and symptoms. ... At the end of the day, I was able to vividly remember the patients and their stories and issues (and even lab results) and synthesize a collective impression of them which I transferred into my drawings. It was an uninterrupted 20-30 minutes of contemplation totally dedicated to one patient. Sometimes, to my amazement, this would help me think of different or new ways to address their concerns and medical problems, which I discussed with my attending the next morning."

For Pelton Phinizi, who transformed a soccer ball into a "memory ball" filled with illustrations of his experience upstate, the project was a refreshing change of pace. "As med students, I think we all get caught up and trapped in all the classes and memorization that we forget what's going on in our lives and in our world," he said. "It's nice to lift my head out of a book and take a look around every once in a while." ■

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event, said the Columbia-Bassett program is the kind of creative solution needed and will complement the state's efforts to entice doctors not just to pass through rural New York, but to establish roots here.

Henry Weil, M.D., Columbia's assistant dean for education, Bassett Healthcare, told those gathered, "Building the modern doctor of the future is a task that falls uniquely to places like Bassett. The problems facing health care today are problems of humanism, of safety and of evidence-based care. ... The goal of the Columbia-

Bassett curriculum is to turn out skilled clinicians who are passionate about patient care, good communicators, adept at evidence-based medicine, and accountable to society as responsible managers of the health care system."

Walter Franck, M.D., Columbia's senior associate dean for the Bassett affiliation, notes that the students who participate in the new program will experience all disciplines of clinical medicine, ranging from the broad spectrum of primary care to the wide variety of subspecialties in medicine. "Our goal is to educate them in excellent practice taught in a rural setting."

Columbia will expand its class size and offer

10 to 14 top-ranking students the opportunity to apply to the Columbia-Bassett program. Recruitment will begin this year for the Class of 2014. Thanks to the generous support of the Scriven Foundation, students who enroll in the program will receive \$30,000 per year in tuition support. Graduates will receive the standard Columbia diploma. Students will spend their first year and a half at Columbia's Manhattan campus. Bassett will be the host campus from the middle of the student's second year until graduation. ■

To learn more about the Columbia-Bassett Program, go to www.columbia-bassett.org

PYHICIAN'S ASSISTANT TO MED STUDENT TO RESIDENT: BASSETT'S GOOD FORTUNE

Battle Creek to Cooperstown. Icon to icon. Everyone associated with Bassett has his or her own story of serendipity, blind luck or cunning that enabled them to receive some of their medical training in Cooperstown. Craig Henson, M.D., just-finished as chief resident in Surgery, a member of the Bassett medical alumni board and now an attending physician in General Surgery at Bassett, took a particularly circuitous route.

Craig obtained a Bachelor of Science from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1992. After a year's work in the University of Michigan's Department of Nuclear Medicine as a research assistant, he obtained physician assistant certification from Cornell in 1995. He then took a position working for a plastic surgeon in Manhattan. One year of rich doyens was apparently enough, and he took a job in a rural regional medical center in north-

west Wisconsin (The Marshfield Clinic). While working with the only surgeon in an area of greater than a county, he also had occasion to bail out Doug DeLong on more than one occasion in the ER with the usual array of minor and major trauma that one would expect in a rural environment. (Think chain saw lacerations and hunting accidents.)

Several years into this endeavor, and following the trail blazed by his surgical collaborator's daughter, Craig was off to medical school in Ireland. He received his MB, BCh and BAO from University College Dublin in 2004. His exposure to European life never deterred his goal of being a rural general surgeon, however. On Doug's advice, he spent one summer in "America's favorite village" doing a rotation in the new ICU. Smitten with the beauty of the place and the quality of the instruction, he returned the subsequent summer for a rotation



Craig Henson, M.D.

in surgery and to buff his CV for residency.

As the heavens would divine, both Craig and Bassett rated each other highly, and he started his stint as a surgery resident; selected as chief resident, he finished up in June 2009. As noted in the summer 2008 issue of The Cupola, Craig received The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award, awarded by third-year medical students from Columbia University, as a resident who exhibited particularly strong teaching skills and was a role model for compassionate, relationship-centered care. He remains a member of the Bassett Medical Alumni Board, having been chosen in 2004 as a resident member.

When looking to life after Bassett, Craig says he almost took a position in the Adirondacks to closely replicate his North Woods experience, but in the end, opted to stay in C'town as the newest attending in Surgery. The journey has not been without its up and downs, but, through a combination of hard work, persistence and optimism, Craig and his wife, Lisa, a PA in the Bassett Emergency Department, look forward to calling Cooperstown home for a long time. ■

GOLDEN AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The 2009 Golden Apple awards, given by the residents to the faculty members they felt were their most outstanding teachers, were presented to M. Bernadette Ryan, M.D., and Eric Mooney, M.D., (Surgery); and to James Kruse, M.D., (Medicine).

Bassett residents and students recently honored two of their own with the Golden Stethoscope awards. The Surgery students chose Kenneth Bark, M.D., as the senior resident they felt was their best teacher. The Internal Medicine residents selected Niyutchai ("Tone") Chaithongdi, M.D.

BASSETT BIDS FAREWELL TO 21 RESIDENTS

Bassett thanks 21 physicians who have completed their residency programs. The following either enter practice or begin an advanced residency/fellowship program:

Kenneth Bark, M.D., Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship, Presbyterian/UT Southwestern, Dallas, Texas.

Kimberly Blasius, M.D., Anesthesiology Residency, Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York, N.Y.

Elizabeth Carpenter, M.D., Radiology Residency, New York University, New York, N.Y.

Miriam Cerutti, D.O., Hospitalist, Cape Cod Health Care, Hyannis, Mass.;

Niyutchai Chaithongdi, M.D., Endocrinology Fellowship,

University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Miss.

Gregory Gardner, M.D., Radiology Residency, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, Vt.

Joseph Gorodenker, M.D., Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology Residency, Internal Medicine, George Washington University Hospital, Washington, D.C.

Craig Henson, M.D., Attending Surgeon, Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown, N.Y.

Seth Iverson, M.D., Radiology Residency, Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, N.Y.

Heeong Joong Kim, M.D., Internal Medicine Residency, Advocate Lutheran General

Hospital, Park Ridge, Ill. Rebecca Lenhard, M.D., Radiology Residency, Albany Medical Center, Albany, N.Y.

Mellissa Mahabee, M.D., Medicine/Pediatrics Residency, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, Calif.

Marie-Eve Noel, M.D., Ophthalmology Residency, Ira G. Ross Eye Institute, Buffalo, N.Y.

Resmi Rajan, M.B., B.S., Hospitalist, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, Maine.

Narasimha Swamy Raju, M.B., B.S., M.P.H., Hospitalist, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, Maine.

Mandip Rawla, M.B., B.S., Hospitalist, Norfolk Hospital, Norfolk, Va.

Robert Swan, M.D., Ophthalmology Residency, Albany Medical Center, Albany, N.Y.

Sofia Syed, M.B., B.S., M.P.H., Internal Medicine Residency, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, Mo.

Ken-Lin Tai, M.D., Preventive Medicine Residency, Johns Hopkins/Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Md.

Savitree Talhapak, M.D., Nephrology Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, Penn.

Kara Willenburg, M.D., Infectious Disease Fellowship, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, N.Y. ■

ALUMNI BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: JAMES BORDLEY IV, M.D.

James Bordley IV, M.D., was elected to the Bassett Alumni Board of Directors in October 2007, during a career at Bassett that began as a Columbia P&S medical student, followed by a residency in Bassett's General Surgery Residency (chief resident 1974-5).

His fellow chief surgery resident, Russ Dilley, was also from P&S, and there were 11 other P&S graduates on Bassett's house staff that year. There followed a fellowship in biliary and pancreatic surgery with Dr. Thomas White at the University of Washington in Seattle and a return to Bassett as an attending surgeon in 1977, a position he continues to hold as the highly respected current "dean" of Bassett's general surgery section.

Jim Bordley grew up in Cooperstown from age 4; his father, James Bordley, III, M.D., was Bassett's director from 1947-76 and served on the Board of Trustees from 1947 to the time of his death in 1979. Jim hadn't known his father until he was 3, he explains, "because I was born six months after he left for the second world war, and he was gone for 3-1/2 years, becoming the commanding officer of the Johns Hopkins medical unit, which was in Australia, New Guinea, and then the Philippines. He was an internist, the chief of medicine, and he also originally had this fellow who was a regular army guy who was their commander. They got to the Philippines, and General MacArthur staged an inspection to this



Left to right: James Bordley V, James Bordley III, M.D., and James Bordley IV, M.D.

field hospital, and the regular army guy got so nervous that he got drunk. So MacArthur arrived and found this guy drunk and said, 'Who's the second in command?' It was my father, and he said, 'You're in command.' That was it for the regular army guy, and my father was in command of the unit for the rest of the war." (Please see Bassett Looks Back on Page 6 for more on James Bordley III, M.D.)

In a recent interview with Jim and his son,

James (Jamie) Bordley V, a current third-year P&S medical student, Jim mentioned that his research into family genealogy had uncovered at least two other Dr. James Bordley forebears. Jim had planned to go into Internal Medicine, but it was his fourth-year student experience on Bassett's surgery service that made him change his mind, an experience in surgery diametrically different from what he felt was offered to medical students at P&S. He recalled that in 1973 he was the first surgery resident at Bassett to learn endoscopic techniques (from the GI group), a breakthrough concept in the training of surgeons, thanks to permission from Surgeon-in-Chief David Blumenstock, M.D., and "Bassett's flexibility."

This was opposed to the norm in other surgery residency programs and five years ahead of the Surgery Residency Review Board's decision to make endoscopy a requirement for the training of general surgeons. Jim's resultant endoscopic expertise logically segued to his performance of Bassett's first laparoscopic cholecystectomy, the first in the upstate region and the start of the current and ever-expanding wave of laparoscopic procedures at Bassett. As he contemplates retirement down the line, Jim Bordley continues his career as Bassett's general surgeon par excellence.

Jim and his wife, Dianne, live in the village of Cooperstown. ■

BASSETT RESIDENT RECEIVES TEACHING AWARD

Bassett surgical resident Rachel Wooldridge, M.D., has been selected by Columbia University's third-year medical students as one of six outstanding residents to receive the Arnold P. Gold Foundation's Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award. Recipients are selected not only for exemplary teaching skills but for their compassionate treatment of patients, families, students and colleagues.

Dr. Wooldridge came to Bassett in July 2006 and plans on entering a breast fellowship following completion of her residency in June 2012. She is interested in pursuing medical mission work after her residency is finished, preferably in Haiti, where she has already done some mission work.

When asked what this award meant to her, Dr. Wooldridge responded, "One of the highest honors is to be recognized for teaching others; the reward is the knowledge that you've made a positive impact on someone's life." ■

THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM

Hello out there. What's happened to the Bassett Family Album? For this issue, it's simply dried up. Some of us feel that it's the most important feature of The Cupola. There are well over a thousand of you out there. So PLEASE resume sending us updates and photos for the Fall/Winter issue and beyond.—The Editor

POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT BASSETT

Bassett Healthcare seeks physicians for the following positions. Openings are at the Cooperstown Campus unless otherwise indicated. There are also openings for physician extenders and administrative positions. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact Debra Ferrari, Medical Staff Affairs, at (607) 547-6982 or debra.ferrari@bassett.org

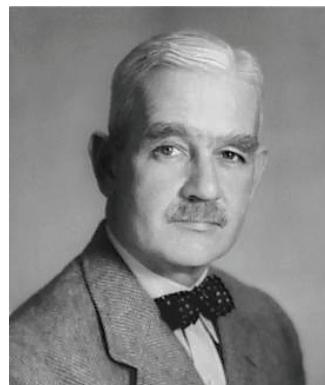
Anesthesiologist-in-Chief/Director of Operative Services	Internist - Oneonta
Anesthesiologist	Obstetrician/Gynecologist
Cardiologist, Interventional	Obstetrician/Gynecologist - Hamilton
Dentist - Hamilton	Ophthalmologist
Dermatologist	Orthopaedic Surgeon
Emergency Medicine Physician	Orthopaedic Surgeon, Joint Reconstruction
Family Medicine Physician - Hamilton	Pathologist
Family Medicine Physician - Sherburne	Pediatrician
Gastroenterologist	Pediatrician - Herkimer
Hospitalist	Psychiatrist, Adult
Hospitalist - Hamilton	Psychiatrist, Child
Internist - Herkimer	Radiation Oncologist
	Radiologist

BASSETT LOOKS BACK

THE ORIGINS OF THE BASSETT-COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AFFILIATION

Bassett's affiliation with Columbia University has been on a steady, slowly-evolving track since 1927, when Bassett Hospital reopened. The institution's first two directors were recruited from Columbia University's faculty: surgeon James Greenough, M.D., followed by George MacKenzie, M.D. In 1931, Elizabeth Palmer, M.D., a graduate of The College of Physicians and Surgeons, was appointed to Bassett's resident staff. Dr. MacKenzie's July 1932 Annual Report states, "Another evidence of the increasing reputation of the hospital is the fact that this year we have had applications from a number of students to study at the hospital during the summer. We have accordingly taken four students representing Johns Hopkins, Columbia and the Albany Medical College for periods of two to three months."

The 1936 Annual Report notes that "another development of importance in the work of the hospital is an arrangement which has been made with Columbia University. As a result of conversations with the Dean, several members of the faculty of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and with the President of Columbia University, an affiliation has been entered into whereby the hospital



George MacKenzie, M.D., 1934

becomes in a small way a teaching institution and an adjunct of the University. It has been agreed that this affiliation should begin in a somewhat informal manner and be allowed to develop in any ways that may seem advisable to both parties to the agreement. At the present time there are four students from Columbia University taking medical and surgical work at the hospital. The work here will be counted by the University as work done toward fulfilling the requirements for the medical degree. It is believed that this affiliation will work beneficially for the hospital in many ways, not the least of which is the stimulation for members of the Staff from contact with alert students. In order to provide living quarters for these students, rooms have been prepared in the north attic occupied by the library stack room."

The 1937 Annual Report stated that "the affiliation with Columbia



James Bordley III, M.D., 1960

University has continued in operation. Again this summer a group of students is receiving instruction in medicine, surgery and pediatrics, for which, if satisfactory standing is obtained, they will be granted credit by Columbia University."

The 1938 Annual Report notes that "With the material available in the hospital and the staff we have, it is apparent that students receive training here which they value highly."

By 1945, "the number of (P&S) students applying for this work has steadily increased and already nearly all openings for the next 8 months have been filled." Thus, despite wartime shortages of all hospital personnel, "persistent efforts were made to extend and improve the education of the students from the College of Physicians and Surgeons who came to Cooperstown as Clinical Clerks for periods of about two months."

The next and signal inter-institutional event took place in 1947.

James Bordley III, M.D., had been recruited from John Hopkins University to be Dr. MacKenzie's successor as Bassett's director, and one of Dr. Bordley's stipulations was that a formal affiliation be established between Bassett and Columbia University. Dr.

MacKenzie's last annual report noted that "the final step in the development of the affiliation was taken in the spring (of 1947) when the faculty of the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Trustees of Columbia University by formal resolutions made the hospital an affiliated institution. Thus the teaching program offered at the hospital ceased to be extracurricular and became an optional course in the medical curriculum of Columbia University." The agreement was comprehensive and included that "the University will appoint to appropriate academic positions certain members of the hospital staff who are directly responsible for the instructional program in the hospital."

In the ensuing 62 years, the affiliation has flourished, with P&S medical students steadily rotating to Bassett. Fast-forward to this year's exciting transition of Bassett Healthcare into an actual clinical campus of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, as featured on Page I of this issue of The Cupola. ■

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Bassett Healthcare
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