

Cover-to-Cover

I've really enjoyed recent issues of the *Alumni Journal*. The articles in the last issue on Dr. Rohner and Dr. Threatte were great—it hadn't occurred to me that pathology might actually be fascinating! And the new issue's excellent too. I especially liked the articles on migrant workers and the med student who's published an English translation of the Ramayana. I'm not an alumnus and not even a physician, but I think you're doing something right!

*Joshua Barwick
Syracuse, New York*

I wish to express my appreciation to you and your staff for publishing such an outstanding journal. Special kudos to the creators of the most interesting covers.

I especially liked the articles on Mary Collins and Justin Mueller. Keep up the good work.

*Robert L. Nelson, MD, Class of 1944
Oceanside, California*



Migrant Care

The "planting of the seed" with respect to involvement with the migrant laborers by Upstate actually began almost two decades before the present venture.

In the early 1960s, under the leadership of Dr. Bernard Samson (Medicine) and Dr. William Bergstrom (Pediatrics), together with the New York State Health Department (NYSHD) and the Auburn Health Department, many clinics were held during the summer months in King Ferry, New York. I, myself, was involved through the NYSHD's Junior Public Health Intern Program. This experience led me to other similar situations (in West Central Missouri and Brazil). One of the biggest recurring problems is the fact that migrants are not residents of a single state, so who pays for their health care?

I'm not sure such experiences "help medical students develop as compassionate caregivers," but they do give them a picture of life in these United States that they otherwise would not have seen.

*Robert J. Snowe, MD, MPH, Class of 1964
Seaford, New York*

Mystery Solved!

In the last issue, we published a photo of an unidentified man in the old Peck Hall anatomy lab and asked for your help in finding out his identity. We heard from both Emma Kent, MD '35, and C. Eugene Erway, MD '39, who recognized the mystery man as former anatomy professor Henry W. Stiles, MD. According to the Upstate Historical Collections Office, "Stiles was known as the Beau Brummel of the faculty, a swank dresser at a time when professional men's attire was conservative. He was renowned for quoting poetry and scripture. His custom was to walk between isles of cadavers, cigarette held jauntily in an ivory holder, stopping now and then to observe some student's dissection, or spring some question about the anatomical part." Stiles died in 1944.

Many Thanks

Let me take this opportunity to thank you all for doing such a wonderful article on me. Since I entered Upstate in fall 2001, the Alumni Association has been incredibly supportive. Specifically, the Alumni Association awarded me a \$1,000 Helping Hand Scholarship when tuition began to increase, helped me arrange a summer internship in New York City, and now did this article on my book.

For many students, the Alumni Association is nothing less than god sent. In this incredibly competitive field, to have an office that consistently seeks to advance students in whatever capacity it can is a reflection of the integrity of so many alumni who generously give their time and support to making it possible.

I don't mean to sound like a billboard, but I truly am grateful to you all for your assistance in so many of my endeavors.

*Ruchir Gupta, Class of 2006
Vestal, New York*

Expanding Horizons

I would like to thank the Alumni Association for your assistance to attend the March General Assembly of the International Federation of Medical Students. I had a wonderful experience meeting with medical students from across the globe. It was eye opening to see how medical education is different in other countries and how students move to make changes, not only at a local level, but nationally and internationally.

The highlight of the meeting was during the last night, a presentation given to increase awareness on the plight of medical students in the Ivory Coast. Since the failed coup in 2002, the country has been in peril. During the coup, buildings and materials were destroyed; students disappeared and were killed. Two students came to the meeting to ask for our help. They need everything from clothing to pencils and paper. And the students there were ready to give: offering up their white coats on hand and mobilizing an international task force to provide them with assistance. It showed me that the humanistic spirit I see in my classmates here at Upstate is universal and can cross language and cultural barriers.

Once again, thank you.

*Thomasina Bailey, Class of 2007
New York, New York*