Gift of $10 million fortifies the future of primary care

Primary care in Greater Boston looks and feels much different than it did five years ago. This can be attributed largely to the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care, which has worked tirelessly to improve patient experiences, catalyze innovation, and enhance health care outcomes while controlling costs.

Now the center aims to expand its impact by transforming primary care nationally and globally. And it’s getting a substantial boost of support in the form of a $10 million gift from the same anonymous donor whose $30 million gift established the center in 2010.

“This gift positions us to work aggressively toward meeting our ambitious goals while building a diversified revenue portfolio in order to sustain and deepen our impact on the field of primary care for many years to come,” says Russell Phillips, MD, director of the Center for Primary Care and the William Applebaum Professor of Medicine at HMS, as well as a devoted primary care general internist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

According to Andrew Ellner, AB ’97, MD ’04, co-director of the Center for Primary Care and director of the Program in Global Primary Care and Social Change at HMS, private support like this is critical to achieving the kinds of breakthroughs he and Phillips envision. “This gift enables the type of flexibility, optimal creativity, and even disruptive change that otherwise would not be possible.”

Building on Progress

In just five years, the Center for Primary Care has had a tangible impact on patients, caregivers, and students alike. Through its Academic Innovations Collaborative, the center has built and nurtured an active and highly engaged learning community across 28 Harvard-affiliated primary care teaching practices that aim to improve the care experience for more than 300,000 patients and enhance the education of nearly 500 trainees.

The center’s Student Leadership Committee has launched more than a dozen projects in curriculum reform, social justice, advocacy, family medicine, and health system innovation. To help prepare HMS students for careers as primary care leaders, the center has established the Master’s Scholars program, in which one HMS student is selected each year to receive funding for a master’s degree, and has funded more than 300 student-led projects—from developing protocols for end-of-life conversations to fighting malnutrition in Guatemala.

The next phase of the center’s work concentrates on building the infrastructure necessary to transform education, advance care systems, and create new approaches to primary care and health.

“Over the next four years, we will leverage our work in practice transformation to create a primary care learning network that extends, shares, and spreads our work nationally and globally,” says Phillips. “We will also expand our support for entrepreneurs in the HMS community and elsewhere who want to work with us to invent the future of health care.”

“...the benefactor”

Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care Director Russell Phillips, MD, and Co-director Andrew Ellner, AB ’97, MD ’04, who are leading innovation in primary care delivery.

“...This gift enables the type of flexibility, optimal creativity, and even disruptive change that otherwise would not be possible.”

—Andrew Ellner, AB ’97, MD ’04
It has been 17 months since we celebrated the public launch of The World Is Waiting: The Campaign for Harvard Medicine. I am pleased to report that as of Feb. 29, 2016, we have raised more than $531 million toward our $750 million goal, representing gifts and pledges from 8,961 alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of HMS.

In this issue of The Benefactor, we celebrate dozens of generous donors whose philanthropy toward HMS is helping people throughout the world live longer, healthier lives.

In the area of education, the A. W. Baldwin Charitable Foundation has given $150,000 to provide scholarships to students with demonstrated financial need who plan to pursue primary care. Jeanne Yu, AB ’95, MD ’99, and her husband, Graham Robinson, JD ’99, are supporting the Medical Education Building Revitalization Fund with a gift of $125,000, while G.S. Beckwith “Beck” Gilbert and his wife, Kitty, are increasing high school students’ interest in medicine with a $100,000 investment in the MEDscience program.

Building on its decade-long support of HMS, the Glenn Foundation for Medical Research has pledged $3 million to propel the work of the Paul F. Glenn Center for the Biology of Aging. Also in the area of discovery, Cindy and Evan Goldberg, AB ’87, are supporting research into BRCA1 breast cancers with a gift of $2 million, and longtime leadership volunteers Barbara and Louis Perlmutter are advancing novel research on Alzheimer’s disease and Parkinson’s disease with their gift.

In the area of service, our cover story celebrates the Center for Primary Care and the anonymous benefactor whose $30 million gift led to the center’s creation in 2010 and whose new $10 million gift is funding its future.

Last but certainly not least, we applaud the foresight and leadership of George W. Gay, MD 1868, whose bequest of more than $8.5 million provides significant unrestricted funds to be used at the discretion of the dean of HMS, along with a $250,000 endowed scholarship fund to support students with demonstrated financial need.

Thank you for your enduring support of our mission and work. Learn more about our Campaign and how you can get involved at hms.harvard.edu/campaign.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Boudreau
Interim Dean for Resource Development

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Amidst this transformation, George Washington Gay received his medical degree in 1868. Immediately following graduation, he began practicing medicine in Boston, focusing almost exclusively on surgery. His professional advancement was rapid, due in large part to the acclaim he earned from handling a number of serious cases at a young age. This success ultimately gave him the freedom to establish one of the largest private practices in the region.

From 1872 to 1899, Gay held the post of visiting surgeon, and later senior surgeon, at Boston City Hospital. He also served as an instructor in clinical surgery at HMS, a position he held for many years, beginning in 1888.

While all of these accomplishments earned Gay an honorable position among American surgeons of the highest rank during his lifetime, he is remembered at HMS for much more.

In 1917, he established the George W. Gay Lectureship with a gift of $1,000. The oldest endowed lectureship at HMS, and quite possibly the oldest medical ethics lectureship in the U.S., has featured many of the nation’s most influential physicians, scientists, researchers, and social observers as speakers, including Felix Frankfurter, Erich Fromm, Joshua Lederberg, Margaret Mead, Elizabeth Kübler Ross, Elie Wiesel, and E.O. Wilson, PhD ’55.

"Realizing the fact that young physicians not infrequently make embarrassing mistakes in ethics through ignorance, or thoughtlessness, I beg leave to establish a permanent fund for lectures upon the wise and proper methods of conducting the business of physicians, as it relates to fees, collections, investments, etc.," wrote Gay, in a 1917 letter to the President and Fellows of Harvard University that accompanied his gift.

Now, a century after Gay established his lectureship in bioethics, his trust is bequeathing more than $8.5 million to HMS. This monumental gift serves two purposes: providing crucial unrestricted funding to be used at the discretion of the dean of Harvard Medical School and establishing a $250,000 scholarship fund to support students with demonstrated financial need.

"Dr. Gay’s foresight and commitment to Harvard Medical School is astounding," says Dean Jeffrey S. Flier, MD. "This unrestricted support will enable the School to make strategic investments in those areas that create the greatest impact, ultimately allowing us to continue to cultivate the best doctors, researchers, and students who are changing the face of medicine."

Gay died May 30, 1931, at age 89. Through his unparalleled generosity, his legacy will live on at HMS in perpetuity.

Learn more about the George W. Gay Lecture in Bioethics, including video of the 2015 event, at bioethics.hms.harvard.edu/gay-lecture

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WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

"I have included HMS in my will as thanks for the blessing and opportunity Harvard gave me. My parents died when I was a teenager, so money for medical school was nonexistent until HMS provided my funding. My gift will allow future students with limited resources to attend HMS.”

—Stephen M. Brooks, MD ’76

Consider naming HMS as a beneficiary of your will, trust, life insurance policy, and/or retirement plan.

Learn more at hms.harvard.edu/bequest or contact Karen S. Turpin or Carolyn Stone in confidence at 1-800-922-1782 or giftplanning@hms.harvard.edu

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ALBRIGHT SYMPOSIUM: THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE

For more than 60 years, Hollis L. Albright, MD ’31, dedicated his life to surgery, patient care, and the students he mentored. In recognition of his lifelong achievements and to foster the values he cherished, his children—Tenley E. Albright, MD ’61, and Nile L. Albright, AB ’61, MD—established an endowed symposium at Harvard Medical School in his honor.

This spring, the 15th annual Albright Symposium explored the future of medicine, with presentations by Dennis A. Ausiello, AB ’67, MD, chairman of medicine emeritus at Massachusetts General Hospital and director of the Center for Assessment Technology and Continuous Health; Nancy E. Oriol, MD ’79, dean for students at HMS; and moderator George Q. Daley, AB ’82, MD ’91, PhD, Samuel E. Lux IV Chair of Hematology/Oncology at Boston Children’s Hospital and professor of biological chemistry/molecular pharmacology and pediatrics at HMS; Derek S. Stenquist, MD ’16, received the 2016 Albright Scholar Award. His interest in orthopaedics and global health have spurred him to pursue a career as an academic orthopaedic surgeon dedicated to patient care, medical education, and outcomes research both domestically and globally.

Below: Daley, Oriol, Stenquist, Dean Jeffrey S. Flier, MD, Nile Albright, Tenley Albright, and Ausiello celebrate the occasion and Hollis L. Albright’s legacy.
Confronting chronic disease, injury, and extreme poverty

An international task force met in London Jan. 20–22 to address head-on the issue of non-communicable diseases and injuries (NCDIs) for those living in extreme poverty. Over the next two years, the Lancet Commission on Reframing NCDIs for the Poorest Billion aims to rethink global policies, mend a great disparity in health, and broaden the current agenda in the interest of equity for these conditions—including cancer, heart disease, type 1 diabetes, mental health, physical trauma, and many others—that are not passed from person to person.

Co-chaired by Gene Bukhman, MD, PhD, director of the Program in NCDIs and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, and Ana Mocumbi, MD, PhD, head of the Division of NCDIs at the National Public Health Research Institute in Mozambique, the Commission is supported by a secretariat based at the HMS Department of Global Health and Social Medicine.

Now, The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust has given $550,000 to HMS to support the Commission’s efforts. “We are glad to see increased global attention on the unique burden of NCDIs among the world’s most underserved populations,” says Lydia Guterman, program officer of the Helmsley Charitable Trust’s Type 1 Diabetes Program. “We are pleased to support the Lancet Commission’s work to drive the conversation and address gaps in access to NCDI diagnostics and treatments. Too often, a type 1 diabetes diagnosis is a death sentence in low-income countries.”

According to Bukhman, type 1 diabetes is a complex problem for resource-poor countries to manage, the disease is relatively rare, and the cost of insulin is quite high. He says it’s unlikely that a problem like this will get the sustained organizational focus that it needs in poor countries without being part of a broader strategy, adding that type 1 diabetes is not linked to behavioral risk factors, so typical prevention strategies are not the answer.

“It’s really a perfect example of the issues associated with many of the non-communicable diseases and injuries endemic among those living in extreme poverty,” says Bukhman. “The Commission is thankful for the Helmsley Charitable Trust’s generous support. The Trust is making the Commission possible by supporting one of our meetings and enabling our four working groups to move forward with their critical research.”

2015 WARREN ALPERT PRIZE HONORS MALARIA BREAKTHROUGHS

The Warren Alpert Foundation Prize recognizes and honors one or more scientists, physicians, and researchers whose achievements have led to the prevention, cure, or treatment of human diseases or disorders, or whose research constitutes a seminal scientific finding that holds great promise toward ultimately changing the understanding of or ability to treat disease. Last fall, three distinguished scientists were honored for their pioneering discoveries in chemistry and parasitology, and for their personal commitments to translate these into effective chemotherapeutic and vaccine-based approaches to control malaria.

The honorees are Ruth S. Nussenzweig, MD, PhD, research professor of pathology and professor emerita at NYU Langone Medical Center; Victor Nussenzweig, MD, PhD, research professor of pathology and professor emeritus of pathology at NYU Langone Medical Center; and Tu Youyou, professor and director of Qinghaosu Research Center at the China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Beijing.

Below (left to right): Youyou’s daughter, Min Li, and her husband, Lei Mao, accept the award on Youyou’s behalf from Foundation Director and Vice President Bevin Kaplan, Warren Alpert’s great-niece and member of the Harvard Medical School Board of Fellows.

At right: The Nussenzweigs celebrate with keynote speaker Dyann F. Wirth, PhD (center), Richard Pearson Strong Professor of Infectious Diseases and chair of immunology and infectious diseases at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The event celebrated the recipients’ collective work, which will continue to impact millions of lives globally.

Kicking off the first meeting of the Lancet Commission on Reframing Non-Communicable Diseases and Injuries for the Poorest Billion, thanks to support from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust
Personal passion propels aging research

Witnessing the declining health of his great-grandparents had a profound impact on Paul F. Glenn, JD ’55. He developed a keen interest in the biology of aging in the early 1950s and became the youngest member, by a couple decades, of the American Geriatric Society. Throughout his education at Princeton University and Harvard Law School, followed by a successful career as a commodities trader, Glenn never lost sight of the fact that what happened to his ancestors would likely happen to him.

This experience led him to establish the Glenn Foundation for Medical Research in 1965. Its mission is to extend the healthy years of life through research into the mechanisms of biology that govern normal human aging and its related physiological decline. Its primary objective is to translate research into interventions that will extend healthspan with lifespan.

Building on its decade-long support of Harvard Medical School, the foundation recently pledged $3 million to propel the work of the Paul F. Glenn Center for the Biology of Aging and its research team, led by David Sinclair, PhD, and Bruce Yankner, MD, PhD. This grant brings the foundation’s total funding to HMS to $13 million.

“Over the last 10 years, there have been several important discoveries by the principal investigators at the Harvard Glenn Center that have added to the growing understanding of the biology of aging and possible interventions that would extend the human healthspan. In the coming years, we expect to see drugs that will extend the period of healthy life, made possible by a deeper understanding of the complexities of biological aging,” says Mark R. Collins, president and director of the Glenn Foundation.

Fruits of Labor

The Glenn Foundation is beginning to see the fruits of its labor. Between the core and affiliated labs of the Glenn Center at HMS, there have been significant advances in aging research and in diseases related to aging, such as Alzheimer’s.

“We have deepened our understanding of the molecular pathways that regulate the aging process and of what goes wrong in aging-related diseases,” says Sinclair. “New drug candidates and therapeutic approaches have been identified, including some that are approaching clinical trials.”

The center also has recruited world-class faculty—including Marcia Haigis, PhD, associate professor of cell biology, and Amy Wagers, PhD, Foster Family Professor of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology at Harvard University—and has become a fertile training ground for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and visiting professors, who represent the future of aging research.

The Glenn Center team at HMS will capitalize on these achievements over the next three years thanks to this $3 million grant from the foundation.

“We in the entire field owe a debt of gratitude to Paul for his unwavering support,” says Yankner. “Although Harvard paved the way with the first Glenn Center, there now exists a network of other Glenn Centers around the country dedicated to advancing aging research, even at a time when government funding has been more restrictive than ever before.”

Watch the video celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Glenn Center at HMS at hms.harvard.edu/videos/glenn-laboratories

ALUMNI CONVENE IN BALTIMORE

Last fall, in conjunction with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) annual meeting in Baltimore, Md., the Harvard Medical Alumni Association hosted an evening reception for local alumni and HMS-affiliated attendees. The AAMC annual meeting is the signature learning and networking event for people influencing decisions and advocating change across the missions of academic medicine.

Guests at the reception enjoyed time with HMS faculty members, including Ronald Arky, MD, Daniel D. Federman Professor of Medicine and Medical Education and advisory dean and director of the Francis Weld Peabody Society; Edward M. Hundert, MD ’84, dean for medical education and the Daniel D. Federman, MD Professor in Residence of Global Health and Social Medicine and Medical Education; and Nancy Oriol, MD ’79, dean for students, associate professor of anaesthesia, and lecturer on social medicine.

Above (left to right): Peter Slavin, AB ’79, MD ’84, MBA ’90, president of Massachusetts General Hospital; Steve Suissa and his wife, Kerri Hirt Suissa, MD ’00; and Hundert were among the guests who gathered following the first day of the AAMC’s “Learn Serve Lead 2015” program.
In brief

The following grants of $250,000 or more support Harvard Medical School faculty members in their work to alleviate human suffering caused by disease.

The JPB Foundation has awarded a grant of more than $440,000 from the Aetna Foundation, Inc., has given more than $388,000 from the Dr. Miriam and Sheldon G. Adelson Medical Research Foundation to support the development of effective combination therapies for high-grade serous ovarian cancer.

The Breast Cancer Research Foundation is also extending its support for Brugge with a $250,000 grant to advance her research into breast cancer tumor progression, metastasis, diversification, and drug sensitivity.

The Aetna Foundation, Inc., has given more than $246,000 to further support the Aetna Research Collaboration under the direction of Isaac Kohane, MD, PhD, the Martin Nelson Professor and chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics. The collaboration is focused on analyzing health care data in new ways to further clinical research and improve the quality and affordability of health care.

The Aetna Foundation has also given $100,000 to support Jennifer Bennet, executive director of the Family Van, in her work to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities by harnessing the power of mobile clinics.

A $287,500 grant from the Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard is supporting research by Ulrich von Andrian, MD, PhD, the Edward Mallinckrodt Jr. Professor of Immunopathology at HMS, into the regulation and function of immune cells in health and disease.
Tamara R. Fountain, MD ’88, an ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgeon in private practice on Chicago’s North Shore, and professor of ophthalmology and emeritus section chief of oculoplastic surgery at Rush University Medical Center, has been named chair of the Harvard Medical School Alumni Fund. The Fund raised $1.8 million from more than 2,400 alumni in FY15.

Fountain is active in organized medicine and has held several leadership positions in the American Academy of Ophthalmology, including a term on its board of trustees. She is currently secretary for membership of the 31,000-physician organization, vice president of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and past president of the Illinois Association of Ophthalmology.

In her new role as Alumni Fund Chair, Fountain says she hopes to ensure that future generations of bright, eager, and passionate medical students will have the same chances she had. “It is now our turn to pay it forward and help HMS continue this storied tradition of medical education for the next generation of aspiring young physicians.”

Changing the standard of care

Cancer has touched nearly everyone in some way, and Cindy and Evan Goldberg, AB ’87, are no exception. In addition to watching loved ones battle various forms of the disease, their family is also at risk for BRCA1 gene mutations. These genes are normally cancer suppressors but mutations can affect their function, allowing cancer cells to go into overdrive, ultimately increasing the risk of cancer for people who inherit the mutations.

In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the risk of breast or ovarian cancer among BRCA1 mutation-carrying women is as much as six times higher than in the general population. For these women, prevention of the disease remains a primary goal of research, especially considering that the surgical removal of the breasts and ovaries is currently one of the only preventive options.

“We need to change the standard of care for these women. There should be less invasive and more effective alternatives,” Evan Goldberg says. “Currently, awareness of BRCA1 cancers is at an all-time high, which is making the potential of a major breakthrough even more possible.”

In hopes of making an impact, the Goldbergs created The BRCA Foundation to accelerate research and foster collaboration toward preventing and curing these cancers. The foundation has committed $2 million to The Harvard Medicine BRCA1 Research Project, a collaborative endeavor between Harvard Medical School and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI), to develop strategies for more effective and less invasive BRCA1 breast and ovarian cancer prevention.

Led by Joan Brugge, PhD, Louise Foote Pfeiffer Professor of Cell Biology and co-director of the Ludwig Center at Harvard, and David Livingston, AB ’61, MD, Emil Frei Professor of Medicine and Genetics and chairman of the DFCI Executive Committee for Research, the project will integrate results from parallel research conducted in both laboratories to determine strategies for halting the emergence of malignant tumors in BRCA1 carriers.

Fostering collaboration is a critical component of the foundation’s funding criteria, and Goldberg says that investing in the medical school was an obvious choice from the start. “HMS is on the cutting-edge of research. The combination of its basic science expertise, impressive affiliate network, and the quality of its clinicians provides a unique arrangement with the potential to deliver great opportunities for cures and prevention.”

The Goldbergs hope researchers are able to gain a better understanding of cancer that develops from the BRCA gene, and that this research will go beyond the “organ of origin” to examine the similarities in hereditary cancers in order to better inform treatment options.

“Dr. Livingston and I have committed our professional careers to breast and ovarian tumors,” says Brugge. “This generous funding from The BRCA Foundation and the Goldbergs allows us to combine the strengths of our two laboratories and engage additional Harvard cancer research experts throughout the project’s progression.”
A chasm exists between promising basic research and new therapies for patients. Federal funding cuts have halted and delayed vital scientific projects, including those across the Harvard Medical School community. In many cases, private funding has helped early-stage research to see the light of day.

HMS is working to fill this void through the Quadrangle Fund for Advancing and Seeding Translational Research (Q-FASTR). Established in 2014 thanks to a $3 million gift from an anonymous donor, Q-FASTR aims to accelerate early-stage research that has the potential to lead to commercialization and, ultimately, improve people’s health.

Through the Quadrangle Fund for Advancing and Seeding Translational Research (Q-FASTR), Barbara and Louis Perlmutter join fellow HMS donors in advancing promising, early-stage research that often falls through the cracks due to lack of funding.

Through the Quadrangle Fund for Advancing and Seeding Translational Research (Q-FASTR), Barbara and Louis Perlmutter join fellow HMS donors in advancing promising, early-stage research that often falls through the cracks due to lack of funding.

The sweet spots for this seed funding are research projects that fall in the post-discovery, pre-proof-of-concept, pre-commercial development gap that have the potential to become attractive opportunities for collaboration with industry or the venture community, or that are deemed strong candidates for licensing.

Risk and Reward

An Executive Steering Committee, comprised of individuals from academia and business, will issue annual requests for proposals from HMS faculty members conducting interdisciplinary, novel research on the biological mechanisms and processes underpinning Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s diseases. This panel of experts will then select the most worthwhile projects and allocate the donated funds.

To be eligible, proposals must involve collaboration among departments, and principal investigators are encouraged to team up with hospitals and research institutions affiliated with HMS and beyond. Grant recipients will work with a project manager to define, track, and evaluate deliverables and milestones.

While we understand this project is very high-risk, we are hopeful that positive results will emerge. We are convinced that many of the future breakthroughs will occur at the intersection of multiple disciplines working together to leverage their insights,” says Louis Perlmutter, who is a member of the HMS Board of Fellows and Campaign Steering Committee.

“While we understand this project is very high-risk, we are hopeful that positive results will emerge. We are convinced that many of the future breakthroughs will occur at the intersection of multiple disciplines working together to leverage their insights,” says Louis Perlmutter, who is a member of the HMS Board of Fellows and Campaign Steering Committee.

Flier added that the initial gift from the anonymous donor who established Q-FASTR included matching funds that were dependent upon support from additional donors. That match has now been completed thanks to this gift from the Perlmutters and a recent gift from The Warren Alpert Foundation.

Transformative is the word that comes to mind for Albert “Buck” R. Frederick Jr., MD ’61, when he recalls being a student at Harvard Medical School. “I am certain that the time I spent with world-renowned teachers and my association with brilliant and creative classmates at HMS contributed significantly to my personal and career growth,” he says.

As a class agent for the Class of 1961, which is celebrating its 50th Reunion this year, Frederick hopes to encourage fellow alumni to join him in celebrating their alma mater. He and his wife, Suzanne, are leading by example with a $100,000 gift supporting student scholarships and honoring Daniel D. Federman, AB ’49, MD ’53, the Carl W. Walter Distinguished Professor of Medicine and former dean for medical education.

“We live in a time of unparalleled biological excitement, and the requirement for productive medical research and excellent patient care is also at its zenith,” says Frederick. “It is a very rewarding feeling to be able to be part of these advancements.”

With their gift, the Fredericks have established a charitable gift annuity (CGA) that pays them fixed income for life. A portion of their gift will name a chair in the Joseph B. Martin Conference Center Amphitheater in honor of Buck’s father.

“My father was a highly regarded general practice physician in southern Florida who delivered more than 1,000 babies,” says Frederick. “He was the single most important influence in my career, and I am proud to honor him while aiding the next generation of Harvard Medical School students.”
Advancing global health equity

Mitchell Adams, AB ’68, MBA ’69, made the decision years ago to direct the majority of his philanthropy to a single cause rather than making smaller gifts to many organizations. When it came time to honor his upcoming 50th Reunion from Harvard College, he was thrilled to recognize this milestone with a $100,000 gift to the Harvard Medical School Chair’s Opportunity Fund in Global Health to continue his steadfast support of Paul Farmer, MD ’90, PhD ’90, Kolokotrones University Professor and chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at HMS. The gift is also in memory of Adams’ late husband, Kevin M. Smith, AB ’76.

Adams became acquainted with Farmer’s work more than a decade ago. At the time, Adams was researching health care organizations to support, and Farmer was leading Partners In Health (PIH), a global health organization committed to improving the health of the poor and marginalized.

“Providing immediate relief to the suffering of the world’s poorest people is compelling and very powerful motivation,” says Adams, who currently sits on the PIH Board of Directors.

Today, HMS and PIH have formed a strategic partnership and common agenda around global health equity. Together, they are committed to advancing health care delivery in resource-poor settings through research, education, and collaboration with local providers.

“In order to provide the highest standard of care for the poor, we must inform our work in the field with rigorous research and provide training for the next generation of global health practitioners,” says Farmer. “The partnership between HMS and PIH is critically important to the success of these combined efforts, and I am grateful to people like Mitch who support this unique vision.”

Adams couldn’t be a bigger champion of Farmer. “The discretionary fund is where this money belongs. I’d write a blank check to Paul if I could. I have no doubt he’ll use it in the best possible way,” says Adams.

Investing in leadership

Christoph Westphal, MD ’96, PhD ’98, and his wife, Sylvia Pagán Westphal, PhD ’99, have been loyal supporters of Harvard Medical School since their days on the Quad. Now, two decades later, Christoph Westphal sits in an advisory role as a member of the HMS Board of Fellows, and both are excited about how the institution is evolving. They believe that this is the right moment for HMS to leverage its leadership position to help science and medicine benefit mankind.

This confidence inspired the Westphals most recent gift of $250,000 to support the Board of Fellows Annual Fund and the Dean’s Leadership Fund, both of which provide flexible, unrestricted money to the School.

“We consciously give unrestricted money to HMS because we believe in the leadership and the integrity of the institution. As a startup person, I get money from venture capitalists who believe in management to make good decisions. Similarly, I trust the judgment of HMS leadership to use the money where it will have the greatest impact on society,” says Christoph Westphal.

He credits the Harvard Medicine community’s broad perspective, through its multidisciplinary teams and spirit of open inquiry, with inspiring them both to find their own ways to benefit humanity.

Westphal is engaged in translational medicine, (taking academic discoveries into human clinical studies), and Sylvia is translating in her own way—as a science writer—to bring awareness of important health issues to the public.

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT: ESTATE PLANNING FOR WOMEN

It’s a fact that women tend to live longer than men. That’s why it’s important for women to have an estate plan they understand. This fall, Harvard Medical School’s Gift Planning Office offered a first-of-its-kind seminar to alumni, faculty, and friends, designed to educate women about the goals of estate planning, what’s entailed, and why there is no time like the present to take charge.

The event was hosted by Eleanor G. Shore, AB ’51, MD ’55, MPH ’70, senior consultant to the Office for Academic and Clinical Programs and retired dean for faculty affairs at HMS, and featured Anne Katsas, Esq., JD ’99, founder and owner of Port Estate Planning, LLC, who discussed the basics of estate planning and included specifics about passing assets to loved ones and charities. Shore spoke personally about her experience planning her own estate, saying that she and her husband have established a testamentary charitable remainder trust at Harvard and have peace of mind knowing that the trust will not only benefit their son but in part will also support The Eleanor and Miles Shore 50th Anniversary Scholars in Medicine Fellowship Program at HMS.

Right: Shore (left) and Katsas brought knowledge, personal experience, and warmth to the topic of estate planning.
A legacy of lifelong learning

Richard “Dick” W. Greene graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1942, a year defined by the looming crisis of WWII. The foreword in that year’s yearbook reads: “Born babies of the First World War, we have been trained so that we may become men of the Second.” Greene took that call to action earnestly, serving as captain in the Army Medical Corps for three years.

When he ended his service, he was ready to embrace the opportunities in medicine he had put on hold. Although he followed educational pursuits outside of his home state, Greene returned home to New Jersey to establish his ophthalmology practice in 1949. He practiced privately for nearly 60 years, retiring at age 90.

A believer in the importance of lifelong learning, Greene became the oldest student to attend Monmouth University in West Long Beach, N.J., where he audited several history courses. At HMS, Greene’s passion for learning continues through a $100,000 bequest supporting student scholarships.

“The gifts from alumni like Dr. Greene allow HMS to ensure that the most promising students—who will become tomorrow’s preeminent medical healers and scientific leaders—continue to choose the nation’s best medical school, regardless of their ability to pay,” says Edward M. Hundert, MD ’84, dean for medical education and the Daniel D. Federman, MD Professor in Residence of Global Health and Social Medicine and Medical Education.

HUBWEEK: THE POWER AND PROMISE OF PRECISION MEDICINE

Harvard University, along with The Boston Globe, Massachusetts General Hospital, and MIT, was a founding partner of HUBweek, a weeklong ideas festival, held Oct. 3–10, celebrating the work happening at the intersection of art, science, and technology across Greater Boston.

Harvard Medical School hosted a symposium, open to the general public, on the hot topic of precision medicine.

Below (left to right): WBUR Reporter Martha Bebinger moderated the discussion, between HMS faculty members George M. Church, PhD ’84, Robert Winthrop Professor of Genetics and founder of the Personal Genome Project, and Isaac S. Kohane, MD, PhD, the Martin Nelson Professor and chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics. Together, they tackled the questions: what is precision medicine, why does it matter, who’s going to lead, who will have access to it, who’s going to pay for it, and how might it affect patient privacy?

The event ended with a spirited question-and-answer session.

Watch video of the HUBweek symposium at youtube.com/watch?v=Hq29i8iC8c0

Monmouth University in West Long Beach, N.J., where he audited several history courses. At HMS, Greene’s passion for learning continues through a $100,000 bequest supporting student scholarships.

Mending a great disparity in global health

What do type 1 diabetes, heart disease, childhood cancers, epilepsy, burns, broken bones, and depression have in common? They are all non-communicable diseases or injuries (NCDIs). And for the poorest people in the world, they account for an estimated 30 to 40 percent of years of life lost due to illness.

The Lancet Commission on Reframing NCDIs for the Poorest Billion is working to address these startling statistics and the vast unmet need posed by these chronic conditions. Co-chaired by Gene Bukhman, MD, PhD, director of the Program in NCDIs and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, and Ana Mocumbi, MD, PhD, head of the Division of NCDIs at the National Public Health Research Institute in Mozambique, the Commission includes 23 members representing 16 countries.

Now this work is getting a boost thanks to a gift of $180,000 to HMS from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. “Children and young adults in the poorest populations are suffering and dying from diseases, many of which can be prevented or cured at relatively low cost. What we lack is the focus and the will to tackle them,” says the anonymous donor.

“We need to shift from a mentality of selecting just a few diseases to treat in these settings and instead support development of basic health systems that treat the whole person,” Bukhman agrees that it’s time for a new approach.

“We hope to come out of this process with a compelling story about what’s possible and what’s needed to save hundreds of thousands of young people and prevent poverty,” he says. “This work would not be possible without private support.”

HUBWEEK: THE POWER AND PROMISE OF PRECISION MEDICINE

Harvard Medical School hosted a symposium, open to the general public, on the hot topic of precision medicine.

Below (left to right): WBUR Reporter Martha Bebinger moderated the discussion, between HMS faculty members George M. Church, PhD ’84, Robert Winthrop Professor of Genetics and founder of the Personal Genome Project, and Isaac S. Kohane, MD, PhD, the Martin Nelson Professor and chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics. Together, they tackled the questions: what is precision medicine, why does it matter, who’s going to lead, who will have access to it, who’s going to pay for it, and how might it affect patient privacy?

The event ended with a spirited question-and-answer session.

Watch video of the HUBweek symposium at youtube.com/watch?v=Hq29i8iC8c0

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Harvard Medical School alumni across the country have been opening their doors and welcoming fellow alumni into their homes for informal gatherings as part of the HMS Alumni Open House series. The goal of these events, most recently hosted in Bryn Mawr, Pa., Omaha, Neb., Tucson, Ariz., and Chicago, Ill., is to give alumni the chance to connect with other local alumni in a relaxed setting.

If you are interested in hosting an Open House in your area, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 617-384-8520 or hmsalum@hms.harvard.edu.

Dean for Medical Education Edward M. Hundert, MD ’84, the Daniel D. Federman, MD, Professor in Residence of Global Health and Social Medicine at HMS, says scholarships encourage stellar students to attend HMS and focus on their dreams.

Dean for Medical Education Edward M. Hundert, MD ’84, who is thankful to the A. W. Baldwin Charitable Foundation for supporting future primary care physicians who have demonstrated financial need in keeping with HMS’s mission, they enrich our community with a tapestry of diverse backgrounds and perspectives,” says Hundert.

“Supporting students’ dreams

There will be a shortfall of between 12,500 and 31,100 primary care physicians by 2025, according to a recent study commissioned by the Association of American Colleges. At the same time, the cost of a medical education continues to rise. In fact, 80 percent of Harvard Medical School students receive need-based financial aid, and the average loan debt at graduation is $111,585.

The A. W. Baldwin Charitable Foundation is troubled by these statistics and is committed to addressing these trends. Founded in 1969 by Alfred Whitman Baldwin, AB ’31, a World War II veteran and fixture in the Boston investment community, the foundation is now managed by the heirs of Baldwin’s close business associate and carries forward his interests in medical and educational advancement.

The foundation has given $550,000 since 2012—including $150,000 this year—to create the Baldwin Scholarship Fund, which supports HMS students with demonstrated financial need who plan to become primary care physicians.

“Our purpose is to support students who pursue primary care medicine and to provide financial relief for the most exemplary medical applicants. Therefore, in the future, these talented doctors will be able to truly make a difference in the lives of the patients and the communities they serve,” says Lee Graham, a trustee of the A. W. Baldwin Charitable Foundation.

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“We are grateful to the A. W. Baldwin Charitable Foundation for its foresight and generosity. Scholarships not only change the trajectory of students’ lives in keeping with HMS’s mission, they enrich our community with a tapestry of diverse backgrounds and perspectives,” says Hundert.

ALUMNI HOST OPEN HOUSES IN FOUR CITIES

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Bottom left (left to right): William Weintraub, MD ’64, Franee Weintraub, Bruce Dunkman, MD ’65, and Karen Dunkman gather at the home of Deborah Herrmann, MD, and Howard Herrmann, AB ’77, MD ’81, in Pennsylvania for an afternoon of conversation.

Bottom right (left to right): Lori Hudson, MD ’91, Mridula Aggarwal, and Domingo Cheleulitte, MD ’95, catch up with one another after Arthur Herbst, AB ’53, MD ’59, graciously opened his home to local alumni and friends in the Tucson area.

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Reunion reflection

Serving on his 50th Reunion committee has given Jonathan Glass, MD ‘66, the unique opportunity to reflect on how his Harvard Medical School education has opened doors throughout his career. This understanding prompted him and his wife, Jane Crandell, to establish an unrestricted charitable gift annuity (CGA) in honor of this meaningful milestone.

Specifically, Glass credits HMS with helping him find his passions for hematology and oncology. As a student, Glass worked under the tutelage of William Castle, MD, and James Jandl, MD ’49, at Boston City Hospital and describes this time as “inspirational.” These experiences—coupled with the compassion and adaptability he learned at HMS—motivated Glass to establish the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center, part of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport. He served as the center’s founding director since its inception in 1993 until his retirement in 2011, helping it blossom into a leading academic cancer center treating an underserved population.

“I have seen the changes in the science and practice of medicine that have bridged an era of little hope and short survivals for cancer patients to an era of great hope and markedly improved outcomes,” Glass says.

Crandell is proud of her husband’s accomplishments and jokes that she developed the innovative Arts in Medicine therapy program for patients at the center partly so she could spend time with him.

“We are always searching for investments that support a good cause and that afford a good return to us. The CGA fits the bill perfectly: a good return nicely embellished with a charitable tax deduction and a gift that benefits the Medical School,” says Glass, who encourages his fellow classmates and all alumni to investigate the benefits of a CGA.
Second-year student Victoria Robson discusses her research with Alvin Poussaint, MD, faculty associate dean for student affairs, at the 76th Soma Weiss Student Research Day in January.

Ellen Gordon, GSA ’69 (front row, fourth from right), member of the HMS Board of Fellows and honorary co-chair of the Campaign Steering Committee, joins her family, Dean Jeffrey S. Flier, MD, and investigators from HMS and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital to learn about the progress being made at the Ellen R. and Melvin J. Gordon Center for the Cure and Treatment of Paralysis.

The Harvard Medical School Center for Global Health Delivery–Dubai presented its inaugural symposium, “Delivering Health Globally: Examining the Challenges in the 21st Century,” at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Academic Medical Center at Dubai Healthcare City.

The newest members of the Walter Bradford Cannon Society, representing the Class of 2019, celebrate White Coat Day.

Team Caravan takes home the grand prize at the 2016 Primary Care Pitch Night as part of the Center for Primary Care’s InciteHealth program, which focuses on transforming care delivery by accelerating new ventures.

At Medical Education Day in October, attendees participated in workshops and hands-on experiences designed to enhance their work as teachers in the changing education environment.

Board of Fellows members Virginia and John Kaneb (center and center right) celebrate the fellowship they established at HMS with (left to right): Dean Jeffrey S. Flier, MD, and 2015–2016 recipients Stirling Churchman, PhD, assistant professor of genetics, and Joseph Loparo, PhD, assistant professor of biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology.

Beth Stevens, PhD, HMS assistant professor of neurology at Boston Children’s Hospital, has been named a 2015 MacArthur Fellow. She is among 24 individuals honored by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation for “pushing the boundaries of their fields.”

Debt of gratitude

Roger Moseley, MD '59, fondly refers to Harvard Medical School as the “gold standard of medical schools.” After completing his undergraduate degree at Princeton University, Moseley was thrilled to be accepted by HMS and quickly began planning his move to Boston, with his now-wife Caroline, AB ’57—a feat that he acknowledges wouldn't have been possible without financial aid.

Moseley recalls getting his scholarship award, admitting that he didn’t really appreciate the value of it at the time. “Of course I enjoyed it and I certainly needed it. But looking back now, I feel like I owe Harvard for the education I received and the gratifying life I’ve led as a surgeon,” he says.

As the cost of education continues to climb, Moseley worries that high debt burdens are distorting specialty selection for today’s medical students. To ease this financial pressure, the Moseleys have established a $100,000 charitable remainder unitrust (CRUT) to support student scholarships.

“A CRUT is a convenient way to do something good and get something back. I get to make an impactful gift during my lifetime, while also generating retirement income,” Moseley says. “I hope to inspire others to think about how they can support their alma mater.”

Caroline feels equally connected to HMS. “I’m very proud that Harvard is part of Roger’s training. It was such a shared experience and I always say ‘we’ were in medical school. I’m happy that we can help produce more doctors who care,” she says.

Alumna advances health care policy

The graduates of Harvard Medical School’s Class of 1992 are unique. Despite the fact that only 7 percent of all board-certified orthopaedic surgeons—15 percent including those in training now—are women, the HMS Class of 1992 produced three alumnae leaders in the specialty. One of these women is Alexandra Page, MD ’92.

“Harvard offers you the opportunity to learn from and with a number of amazing people, and you don’t always realize what you carry with you throughout your career,” says Page, who is reminded daily of the impact of her HMS education.

After completing her training, Page left academics for a fulfilling clinic practice with Kaiser Permanente. However, she struggled with the sense that serving patients as a good orthopaedic surgeon was not enough. Selection for the Leadership Fellows Program with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons exposed her to other opportunities to enrich her profession. It was through her work with the Orthopaedic Academy that she developed a passion for health care delivery and policy.

Today, as a member of the Health Care Policy Advisory Council at HMS, Page recognizes that she is practicing medicine in a time when policy is rapidly changing. Through a generous gift of $100,000 to the Chair’s Opportunity Fund, she is helping to provide the resources necessary for HMS’s Department of Health Care Policy to act swiftly and strongly in addressing some of the most pressing challenges facing health care in the U.S. Page has also made arrangements to include HMS in her estate plan.

“I hope that my gift will help keep the vital policy ball rolling,” says Page. “And, in a much larger sense, I believe supporting HMS in any capacity helps provide a superior level of education and training to the next generation of physicians.”

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS CONVENE

Last fall, members from each of the four Advisory Councils—Education, Discovery, Health Care Policy, and Global Health and Service—convened at the Harvard Club of Boston for an intimate dinner with prominent HMS faculty in each of the council areas. The dinner marked the first gathering of the consolidated Discovery Council, which brings together members from the previous HMS Genetics, Immunology, Neurodiscovery, Systems Biology, and Therapeutics Councils—a change that recognizes the increasing importance of interdisciplinary biomedical research.

Guests were welcomed by Edward M. Hundert, MD ’84, HMS dean for medical education, and John W. Rowe, MD, co-chair of the Advisory Council on Education and chairman of the HMS Board of Fellows.

Above (left to right): David E. Golan, AB ’75, MD, PhD, dean for basic science and graduate education, and Paul Farmer, MD ’90, PhD ’90, Kolokotrones University Professor, chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at HMS, chief of the Division of Health Equity at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and co-founder and chief strategist at Partners

In Health, share ideas with Rowe prior to the evening program.

Watch The World Is Waiting: The Campaign for Harvard Medicine video at hms.harvard.edu/giving/campaign-resources/videos
A space for innovation

Graham Robinson, JD ’99, admits that he is fascinated by medicine. A member of the Harvard Medical School Board of Fellows since 2013, Robinson focuses his law practice on mergers and acquisitions in the pharmaceutical, medical device, and technology industries.

When HMS launched The World Is Waiting: The Campaign for Harvard Medicine, Robinson and his wife, Jeanne Yu, AB ’95, MD ’99, began to discuss which of the School’s four funding priorities was the most meaningful to them. It didn’t take them long to decide to direct their $125,000 gift to the Medical Education Building Revitalization Fund.

According to Yu, who is a member of the HMS Advisory Council on Education, education in general is very important to their family. “No matter what the field of study, helping students learn is very motivating,” she says.

Robinson couldn’t agree more. “We hope that the cumulative effect of the Campaign will bring to fruition the many exciting ideas that will propel medical education and help HMS maintain its leadership position.”

Training the next generation of leaders in science and medicine requires innovation and a constant evolution of teaching methods. Both Robinson and Yu are excited by the recent launch of the Pathways curriculum. But they also noted that its success is inextricably linked to the space in which it is delivered. They hope that this fund will help create flexible learning and study spaces that are necessary to foster the new pedagogical style of small-group and team-based learning.

“The new spaces being planned will not only help develop community among students, but they will also help leverage the institution’s great faculty by giving them the spaces they need to support how students learn,” Robinson says.

LEARNING SUITES COMPLEMENT NEW CURRICULUM

Last fall, Harvard Medical School launched its redesigned Pathways curriculum, built upon a foundation of flexible, case-based, collaborative learning—a complete structural and pedagogical redesign of the previous MD curriculum. In order to accommodate this interactive and dynamic approach to learning, the classrooms in the Tosteson Medical Education Center (TMEC) have been reimagined.

Bright, modern, and filled with state-of-the-art equipment, the four new learning suites were constructed to be flexible in design and technologically advanced. Each three-room suite features wheeled tables that can be arranged to accommodate groups of varying sizes, cutting-edge information technology tools and cameras, high-resolution touch and stylus-driven tablets for easy sharing across multiple screens, and privacy walls that can be added to create individual work stations. Remote accessibility allows students and instructors to connect with other TMEC classrooms, HMS-affiliated hospitals, and faculty around the globe.

Below: Students utilize the new flexible classroom space to collaborate in small groups of four to eight before reuniting with larger groups of around 40 students to discuss their findings.

“Financial aid played an instrumental role in deciding where I would attend medical school. HMS provided me not only with an incredible opportunity, but also the ability to pursue it without financial hardship.”

—Michael Nguyen, MD ’18
“HMS provides an innovative environment where researchers and clinicians work together for the advancement of the field and the benefit of patients.”

“As a student at HMS, I was constantly surrounded by people who were vested in my education, progress, and success.”

“The quality of the faculty and commitment to rigorous research and scholarship position HMS to influence policy and the practice of medicine in our rapidly changing health economy.”

SHARE YOUR STORY AT HMS.HARVARD.EDU/I-AM-HARVARD-MEDICINE

JOIN US CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2–3
Reunion & Alumni Week
Alumni from HMS classes ending in 1 and 6 and their guests are invited to rediscover the campus and reconnect with one another during the 2016 Reunion festivities, which include a gala, faculty and alumni symposia, classspecific events, and much more. All alumni are invited to attend Alumni Week, which also includes the Dean’s Address, the HMAA annual meeting, tours, and more.

For additional information, visit hms.harvard.edu/reunion or hms.harvard.edu/alumni-week, or contact Emma Hastings at 617-384-8520 or hmsalum@hms.harvard.edu.

August 1
Alumni NMA Reception in Los Angeles
If you are planning to attend the National Medical Association’s annual convention and scientific assembly, please join us on Monday evening from 5–6:30 p.m. for an alumni reception hosted by the HMS Office of Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership and the Harvard Medical Alumni Association.

Formal invitations will follow. For more information, contact Althea Roach Thomas at 617-432-0161 or althea_roachthomas@hms.harvard.edu.

September 22
2017 Reunion Kickoff
Alumni Council members, class agents, and Reunion Committee volunteers are invited to join us for this annual event celebrating their service to and passion for their alma mater. Hosted by Alumni Relations Chair A.W. Karchmer, MD ’64, and Alumni Fund Chair Tamara R. Fountain, MD ’88, the reception and dinner begin at 6 p.m. in the Waterhouse Room, Gordon Hall of Medicine.

Formal invitations will follow. For more information, contact Emma Hastings at 617-384-8520 or hmsalum@hms.harvard.edu.

October 6
Warren Alpert Foundation Prize & Symposium
Celebrate the winners of the 2016 Warren Alpert Foundation Prize, which recognizes the world’s foremost scientists, physicians, and researchers for their breakthroughs in biomedicine. The 28th annual symposium begins at 1:30 p.m. in the New Research Building.

Contact Caitlin Craig at 617-384-8467 or events@hms.harvard.edu for more information.

October 21
HMSLXX: 70 Years of Women at HMS
Join us for this celebration recognizing important milestones for women at HMS, including the 70th anniversary of the admittance of women students, 10th anniversary of the Archives for Women in Medicine, appointment of the 200th woman as a full professor, and more. The event will begin at 2 p.m. with a series of symposia and culminate with a keynote address and festive dinner.

Formal invitations will follow. For more information, contact Emma Hastings at 617-384-8520 or hmsalum@hms.harvard.edu.

View all upcoming HMS events at http://hms.harvard.edu/calendar or follow HMS at: @HARVARDMED /HARVARDMEDICALSCHOOL /HARVARDMED