Reflections on a Decade as Dean

As I leave the deanship, I would like to express my biased opinions and appreciations about and to the people of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine.

Let me first point out that our most important efforts should be directed at educating the best medical students and producing the best practicing doctors in the world. In this effort we have succeeded beyond all expectations. Our students are great, our graduates perform at the very top of their residency training programs, and our graduates in practice are recognized as among the very best in their specialties and subspecialties.

The second great aspect of this medical school is the enormous loyalty of all the students, staff, and faculty. Through many adversities, people have been called upon to contribute far beyond their usual job descriptions. It is with enormous pride that I tell you that our students, our staff, and our faculty have always said "yes" when asked to go the extra mile in the best interest of the School of Medicine and the University of South Carolina.

There are obviously people to whom I owe more thanks than others, but I would like to express a general thank you to all the people who have made the last 11 years the most meaningful of my life.

The USC School of Medicine is strong and enjoys a good relationship with the administration of the Medical University of South Carolina. The relationships of the School of Medicine with its affiliated institutions have never been better. The establishment of a student lounge at Richland Memorial Hospital is tangible evidence of this continued mutually supportive relationship. I am delighted that this lounge will be named to honor the contributions of Sue Kuhlen, R.N., M.D., to the nursing and medical professions and to the community as a whole. She cared for people and it showed.

I continue to believe that we have one of the very best medical student educational programs in the United States. Although I am stepping aside as an administrator, I want to continue to be a part of this program. Dr. Christie Hopkins, director of the Cardiology Division of the Department of Medicine, has promised that he will be able to include me in many of the teaching programs of that division. I am also eager to pursue a research career in health services delivery research. This might include the development of clinical practice guidelines, outcome measurements, needs assessment of health professionals, networking among physicians, telemedicine, etc.

In my new position as a member of the Division of Cardiology in the Department of Medicine, I hope to continue to work closely with each of you.

Thank you again for what you have given to me.

J. O'Neal Humphries, M.D.

After almost 11 years as Dean of the USC School of Medicine, Dr. Humphries returned to full-time teaching and research in March, 1994. The summer issue of South Carolina Medicine will be dedicated to him.

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16th Annual Carolina Cup Pediatric Symposium
April 1-2, 1994
Embassy Suites Hotel,
Columbia, S.C.

Featured Speakers:
Charles Bluestone, M.D.
University of Pittsburgh
Barry Gray, M.D.
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Topics will include otitis media, pneumococcal infections, streptococcal infections, diabetes, AIDS, and pulmonary function.

Co-sponsored by the USC School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital of Richland Memorial.

For further information, contact Linda Rowe,
Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine,
University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 29208 (376-4030).

Current Concepts in Psychiatry
20th Annual Hilton Head Psychiatry Conference
September 9-11, 1994
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Hilton Head, S.C.

Topics will include new medications, psychological trauma, managed care in the public sector, and professional politics.

Co-sponsored by the USC School of Medicine Department of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Science, the William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute, and the S.C. Department of Mental Health.

For further information, contact Lucius C. Pressley, M.D., or Susan Luthran, William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute, P.O. Box 202, Columbia, S.C. 29202 (734-7154).

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