THE SKY’S THE LIMIT
WesternU DO becomes flight surgeon for Thunderbirds.

NEW GUIDE MAY SAVE LIVES
Publication urges people with disabilities to take responsibility for their own safety.

FOCUS ON ALLIED HEALTH
The emphasis is on team spirit as three departments work toward a common goal.
EVERY GIFT COUNTS.

Gifts to the University Annual Fund help develop and provide for outstanding faculty, scholarships, up-to-date facilities including library and laboratory resources. A gift of any size—large or small—allows us to leverage opportunities to secure grants and donations from corporations and foundations. Furthermore, the percentage of alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and other individuals who participate is a factor used in U.S. News & World Report when determining a university’s ranking.

Benefactors contributing $100 or more are recognized in the Honor Roll of Donors published each year in WesternU View. If you would like to make an annual gift to the university, please contact the director of Annual Giving at 929-469-5678 or by email at annualfund@westernu.edu.
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University continues to thrive and grow.

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COMP professor and alumnus in Air Force Thunderbirds ranks.

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Ready to assist the university, but don’t know who to call?
Every day I get news in my office about the wonderful accomplishments of our students, alumni, and faculty. This university has such a direct impact on the quality of life here in Southern California and in every community around the world where our alumni are in practice serving to improve the human condition. You get to read about some of these amazing stories here in WesternU View.

The reputation of Western University of Health Sciences as a unique academic health center is built on our commitment to innovative, compassionate education in the health care professions.

WesternU is a thriving and growing institution. The university is preparing to admit students to the entering classes next fall with new programs and increased enrollment between the five colleges.

The university’s financial position is strong, as evidenced by the report included in this issue of WesternU View. The list of corporate partners, foundations, and individual donors continues to grow every year—all because of people like you who believe in our mission.

I also want to share with you that our friend and colleague Dr. George Charney, executive vice president for academic affairs and chief operating officer, has announced his retirement. George’s commitment to this university, to our students, and to the development of faculty and leaders in the profession is unequalled. He leaves the university July 1, and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

Philip Pumerantz, PhD
A DAY IN THE LIFE

Students’ own exotic pets are welcomed for a day.

Campus clubs spread holiday cheer.

Giving thanks during the annual luncheon.
While most history makers are eager to share their accomplishments at a glib moment’s request, you’d have to virtually pry from Dr. Burt Routman the precedent he set at the time of the Vietnam War. Modest almost to a fault, Routman has forever etched his name in the annals of medical lore as the first osteopathic physician to be commissioned a flight surgeon for the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, the elite air demonstration team that has symbolized the Pentagon’s aerial division for more than half a century. Activated in 1953 at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona, the Thunderbirds—a name derived from southwestern Native American folklore, which has long revered the half-eagle, half-hawk for its valor and sky prowess—are the epitome of flight precision and artistry, cockpit tacticians for whom the skies are at once training course, playground, and stage show. Prior to Vietnam, however, no DO had ever served as a flight surgeon. “Osteopathic doctors simply were not accepted by the military at that time,” recalls Routman, a family medicine professor at WesternU since 1995 and a practicing physician in the university’s medical center. “It [osteopathic medicine] hadn’t yet been fully embraced across the country as a valid medical profession.” In fact, his 1968 graduating class was only the second class of DOs accepted into the U.S. military. The path nonetheless had been paved.

Told that he’d been made privy to highly classified intelligence regarding a commanding officer, Routman instinctively substituted himself as the subject in question to protect the medical privacy of his superior, only to learn that the confidential matter was a sham. “They were testing me all along,” Routman reveals, showing a slight grin at the naiveté of his youth. “I guess I earned their trust.” Moreover, he’d earned a place in Thunderbird history as the first flight surgeon with osteopathic credentials.

A 1968 graduate of the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences at Des Moines, Iowa, Dr. Routman went on to log over 250 hours of flight time during his active duty with the U.S. Air Force. His tenure as a Thunderbird flight surgeon, a customary two-year term, took him to nearly every corner of the world. The gleam in his eyes is evident as he recounts the awe-inspiring experience that would define his life at a young age: “It’s simply incredible to know that by 30 I’d experienced the ultimate high of my life. Few people are afforded such an opportunity.”
the ultimate high of my life,” he says. “Few people are afforded such an opportunity.” Few indeed. Which makes what he did for one of his own students back in the mid-1990s all the more noteworthy.

Henry K. Lau, DO, graduated from WesternU in 1996 with aspirations to serve as a member of the Thunderbirds, an ambition kindled by the photo montage of Air Force aircraft in mid-flight that decorated the office walls of one of his DO instructors at the time, Routman himself. Hank (as he insists on being called) bristles with pride as he reminisces about his tutelage under Dr. Routman and the letter of recommendation he wrote on Lau’s behalf that was instrumental in his being accepted into the elite air demonstration corps in June 2003. Says Lau, “Dr. Routman was definitely the spark . . . to see those photos on his office walls and learn about his own experience as a Thunderbird ignited my imagination. I knew then that I wanted to be a part of it.”

Commissioned in the Air Force in 1992, Lau’s military tenure is marked by a steady rise in rank: from second lieutenant to captain in May 1996 to major in May 2002, during which time he took part in the search and rescue arm of the Operation Enduring Freedom mission in Afghanistan shortly after the World Trade Center terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. On November 1, 2003, Major Henry K. Lau officially signed on as an Air Force Thunderbird flight surgeon, his aviation medicine expertise at the ready for pilots and other aviation personnel. Thunderbird 9 (the number assigned to flight surgeons) is his designation, as it was for Dr. Routman, representing their position in the sequential order of the 12 officers comprising the decorated air unit.

Nellis Air Force Base, an integral part of the United States Air Force’s Air Combat Command and where Routman was and now Lau is stationed, is known as the “home of the fighter pilot.” Its 10,000-strong military and civilian workforce makes it one of the largest single employers in southern Nevada. It is at Nellis that Lau practices family medicine in what is now his eighth year. Reflecting on his life, it all seems so surreal to the second DO in Thunderbird history. “I have to pinch myself sometimes as a reminder that this is truly real,” says Lau. “I’m practicing family medicine, a life-long passion, I’m a flight surgeon with the Air Force Thunderbirds, and Dr. Routman paved the way. Wake me when the dream’s over, will you?”

A dream fulfilled.

*Photos courtesy of USAF Thunderbirds, Nellis AFB, Nevada
To reflect on September 11, 2001, is to relive the horror of countless lives lost and the felling of a landmark business property that remains buried deep in the American psyche. The sadness isn’t lost on Brenda Premo; however, the twin tower attacks did more than heighten national security. It presented an opportune moment to rethink emergency preparedness and evacuation procedure for building dwellers, particularly those with disabilities.

“In this post-9/11 world, people with disabilities must take responsibility for their own safety,” says Premo, director of the Center for Disability Issues and the Health Professions (CDIHP), a subsidiary of WesternU that advocates for full participation of people with disabilities. “There is a universal human tendency to avoid thinking about possible emergencies. This avoidance may have greater consequences for people with disabilities.”

According to June Isaacson Kailes, associate director of CDIHP, it is not safe to assume that people with disabilities have been included in the evacuation plans of multi-story buildings. “Because there are no federal guidelines requiring disaster or evacuation plans to include the needs of people with disabilities, many people are unclear exactly whose responsibility it is,” says Kailes. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) does not require formal emergency plans. However, ADA’s Titles I, II, and III do require that employers, public services, public accommodations, and services operated by private entities modify their policies and procedures to include people with disabilities. The inclination to do this, however, is not pervasive on the part of building professionals, which makes it imperative that people with disabilities get involved in the planning process.
CDIHP spells this out with clear and precise language in its publication “Emergency Evacuation Preparedness: A Guide for People with Disabilities and Other Activity Limitations.” Available on the internet, on CD, and in printed form, the guide provides an action plan for emergency planners and people with disabilities alike in best- and worst-case scenarios of natural and unnatural disasters. The massive and devastating fires that ravaged the Inland Empire toward the end of 2003 served to heighten awareness of the emergency needs of the disability community, making the CDIHP guide all the more timely.

“No matter what laws and public policies say, it’s up to people with disabilities to individually and collectively do what we need to do to prepare for disasters,” added Kailes, the guide’s author. The emergency preparedness guide is only one of a host of projects in which the CDIHP is proactively engaged. Medical equipment modifications to better accommodate people with disabilities is another area of its research and advocacy.

Hopping up on a physician’s exam-room table for a routine check-up may be second nature to the average medical patient, but imagine being in a wheelchair or having impaired body movement capability. How effective (or hazardous) would a standard-issue defibrillator be for a patient with paralysis? And what about exercise equipment designed primarily for patients without disabilities? Medical equipment largely engineered toward the nondisability patient poses impediments to basic health-care provision for people with mobility limitations, seniors, and others with various physical disabilities. Issues such as these are addressed in CDIHP-sponsored research programs that release findings on the experiences of focus-group participants with disabilities during routine medical visits.

In addition to the emergency preparedness guide, the center has also made available an informative breast-care-for-women-with-disabilities CD-ROM, which is designed to educate health care providers on administering diagnostic and preventive services to an underserved population. The Pathways™ Series: Breast Care CD may be highly effective in reducing care providers’ risk for missed diagnosis of a potentially life-threatening disease.

It is these efforts, among others, that form the mandate of the Center for Disability Issues and the Health Professions: to increase awareness among people with disabilities about their health-care options, to assist them in becoming better informed and emboldened advocates for their own health care, and to increase the number of qualified health professionals with disabilities.
FOCUS ON ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

As dean of the College of Allied Health Professions, Stephanie Bowlin realizes her college is unique: It has three departments all under one roof.

An open flow of communication between the departments—Health Sciences, Physician Assistant Studies and Physical Therapy—is key to the college’s success. Working together as a team is also essential.

“Even though the physician assistant profession is one that is dependent, and the physical therapy profession is one that is independent, and the health sciences profession is neutral, when it comes to providing quality education and quality patient care, they all have the same goals,” says Bowlin, EdD, PA-C, MSHPE ’92, the college’s dean since 1999.

“As a team, we all have the same bottom line.”

Providers as educators

One of the oldest programs on campus is the Master of Science in Health Sciences-Health Professions Education, developed out of a need of the College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1986.

The two-year program was designed in response to a nationwide demand for qualified clinical educators and provides formal training for professionals who plan on or are currently teaching in the health sciences. Courses are offered online and in a traditional classroom setting.

“Just because you’re a health care provider does not mean you know how to teach,” says Michael Burney, EdD, PA ’92, MSHPE ’95. “This program gives these clinicians added skills as educators.”

Dr. Burney, who credits the program with jumpstarting his career at the university, says he would like to see more people take advantage of the program’s accessibility and affordability.

“Health care providers are teachers whether they want to be or not,” he says. “This setting trains them formally. For many students, obtaining the Health Sciences degree is going to assist them in enhancing their credentials and building their careers.”

More than assistants

The Physician Assistant Program started in 1990, and nine years later, the university’s Board of Trustees voted to change the program to the master’s degree level.

Roy Guizado, PA ’94, MSHPE ’97, chair of the Physician Assistant Studies department, often addresses the misconception that a physician assistant is the same as a medical assistant. He’s quick to point out that PAs do much more than take blood pressure readings and check your weight.

“A physician assistant is an extension of a physician,” he explains. “We perform the same functions and duties as a physician does. We are there to help our patients and to extend the services of physicians.”
Unlike mid-level medical professionals, who usually seek to start their own businesses as independent practitioners, physician assistants strive to be dependent practitioners.

“We know we’ll be part of a team, and we like that,” Guizado says. He adds that as part of that team, PAs can help physicians increase the number of patients seen in a day and can provide more care.

Throughout their studies, PA students are involved in community outreach, participating in health fairs and offering services. Students also visit Pomona-area high schools to make those students aware of the PA’s role in health care.

“Everybody thinks you have to be a doctor or a lawyer, but no one thinks about the health professions in between,” Guizado says. “We want to plant a seed early that there are other options.”

**A growing profession**

It was not long after the introduction of the PA program that a Master of Physical Therapy program was launched, graduating its charter class in 1994.

Last year, based on nationwide trends, the program was changed to a Doctor of Physical Therapy.

With the role of the physical therapist continually expanding, the program prepares students to become a PT generalist with education in all areas of practice, including clinical practice, evidence-based research, and clinical teaching.

Also started in 2003 was the transitional DPT program, which is open to licensed physical therapists who wish to pursue their doctorate and advance their skills.

Donna Redman-Bentley, PT, PhD, chair of the Physical Therapy department, says the increasing need in the job market for physical therapists exists thanks to a movement toward direct access to care.

“The profession of physical therapy is a good, viable profession to enter,” she says. “It gives you the opportunity to work with people and it’s very rewarding to see the changes in your patients.”

Dr. Redman-Bentley says the accomplishments of the program’s graduates are what make her most proud.

“We get feedback from the clinicians out there who have our former students and they really enjoy them as employees,” she says. “The successes of the graduates have given us a good reputation.”

**Building on success**

Continuing to build on the quality reputation of the college’s programs remains a top priority for Dr. Bowlin and her faculty. With an eye toward meeting the health care needs of the 21st century, the college develops a strategic plan that guides its success.

Whenever possible, Dr. Bowlin makes sure word gets out that WesternU’s College of Allied Health Professions is a great place to be a student.

“The facilities and people are what make the difference here,” she says. “People who teach here have that humanistic touch with students. That makes a difference.”
Congratulations to **Lynette Ballew**, MPT ’94, on the birth of her second child, Ashley Renee Ballew, in July of last year.

**1995**

Congratulations to **Michelle Grippo**, MPT ’95, who gave birth to a son, Jack, last November. Michelle and her husband Chris are currently living in Germany and loving their adventure there.

**1996**

**Wan-Tzy Cooper**, DO ’96, completed a general surgery residency at St. Barnabas Hospital in Bronx, New York in June 2002, and is currently working in a fellowship practice.

**1998**

Congratulations to **Erika Taylor**, MPT ’98, who has married Brandon Cisan. They are the proud parents of a 1-year-old daughter, Cora.

**Warren Wisnoff**, DO ’98, is practicing dually in internal and emergency medicine at St. Mary’s Hospital in Langhorne, Penn.

**Erin O’Brien**, MPT ’98, completed a year-long manual therapy course and passed her OCS exam.

**Mary Rozina**, MPT ’98, also completed a year-long manual therapy course and will sit for her OCS exam this month.

**1999**


**Jonathan Wiggenhorn**, DO ’99, is president of otolaryngology with the St. John Health System in Michigan.

**2000**

**Sandra Baik**, DO ’00, is currently working in the financial district of Los Angeles in a small group pediatrics practice after finishing her residency at Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles. She was married in May of last year in Pasadena with fellow classmates **Mac Revilla Kim**, **Ken Maxwell**, **Daryl Makishi**, **Hao Cao** and **Rami Mowjood**, all class of 2000, in attendance.

**Stefanie Fightlin MacCallum**, also DO ’00, was a bridesmaid.

Congratulations are in order for **Antonia Rogers**, PA-C ’00, who became a grandmother when her son Erik and wife **Tammy Filler-Shipley**, MPT ’00, gave birth to Tyler Daniel Shipley in October of last year.

**2001**

Warm congratulations to alums **Van Pham**, DO ’00, and **Connie Cheng-Pham**, DO ’01, on the birth of their son, Logan Raymond Pham, in October of last year.

Kudos to **Albert Quan**, DO ’01, who is currently in his second year of a radiology residency at Botsford Hospital. He passed the physics portion of his radiology board exam and his radiology poster board exam.

Kudos also to sister **Vicki Quan**, DO ’01, who finished her residency at White Memorial Hospital and will go into a nuclear radiology residency at USC.

**Tania Bajada**, (formerly **Tania Frangieh**), MPT ’01, finished Kaiser Vallejo PNF program and the Kaiser Hayward Orthopedic Mentorship Program. She is currently employed with John Muir Hospital outpatient orthopedics.

Congratulations to **Tricia Ann Borchers**, PA ’01, who gave birth to a baby girl in February 2004.

Congratulations to **Vasco Deon Kidd**, PA ’01, who was married in March of last year.

Congratulations also to **Michelle Tull**, PA ’01, who married Matthew Hitchcock in June of last year.

Congratulations to **Teresa Langslet**, PA ’01, who married in August of last year.

**2002**

Congratulations to **Nicole Wright**, MSPA ’02, who married Shane Orr in May of last year. Nicole is currently employed with CANF Ortho Specialists in Newport Beach.

Congratulations also to **Tyler Munson**, DO ’02, on the birth of a new daughter, Hannah, in October of last year.

**2003**

Congratulations to **Debora Batistelli**, MPT ’03, who was married in January 2004.

**Eric Jarvina**, MPT ’03, is currently working as a staff physical therapist at ProSport Physical Therapy in Newport Beach.
Among its 2004 graduating class, COMP’s own Jeffrey Lawler was featured in a New York Times article last November, documenting the steady progress disabled medical students are making since passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Legally blind since 1993, Lawler will graduate in June near the top of his class and hopes to practice physical medicine and rehabilitation.

“Jeffrey Lawler exemplifies the core tenets of WesternU. He was admitted here not because he has a disability, but because of his qualifications. The humanistic approach to health care requires the valuing of the person. Jeff is uniquely equipped to deliver such an approach to his patients. We are certainly proud of him,” comments President Philip Pumerantz. 

Jeffrey Lawler, DO ’04, joined by his dog Burke, makes his rounds at the Veterans Hospital in West Los Angeles.

*Photo courtesy of J. Emilio Flores, NY Times
“I like challenge,” says Dr. Daljit Sarkaria. “We learn a great deal about ourselves through our approach to adversity.” An extensive medical-professions résumé girded by a living philosophy of self-drive and -ingenuity affirms the statement as more than mere words. Surmounting challenges may well be a silent mantra of this medical luminary who understood early on that investing in a medical career and in property weren’t exactly mutually exclusive endeavors. Both have paid handsome dividends for Sarkaria and his family. His decision to share the earned bounty with WesternU in the form of a substantial real estate gift will assist future medical professionals in meeting their own career challenges.

Upon earning a PhD from Cornell University in 1948 and an MD from New York State University at Buffalo in 1957, Sarkaria entered residency training at UCLA Medical School which prepared him for a 22-year tenure with La Mirada Hospital (now Kindred Hospital of Southern California) as a pathologist. While at La Mirada Hospital, he would befriend fellow physician Ethan Allen. Little did either know at the time the friendship would be a defining element of their lives. It was Allen, a founding director of WesternU and its longest-serving active board member to date, who acquainted Sarkaria with the university and the philosophy of osteopathic medicine. Osteopathy’s humanistic, patient-centered underpinnings meshed with Sarkaria’s own holistic approach to health care. “As a long-time colleague and friend, I was moved with joyful excitement upon learning of Daljit’s benevolent gift to COMP,” says Allen.

Dr. Sarkaria and his wife of 44 years, Elaine, have extended their generosity and reverence for life enhancement in the form of a real estate donation. As an investment, they had bought property located in a commercial area of La Mirada the value of which has increased exponentially—a market valuation upwards of $1.2 million today—since their original purchase. They discovered that with the use of a charitable trust, they could accomplish multiple goals. While supporting education was their primary objective, they also ensured their retirement futures as well as secured considerable tax savings.

Jim Williams, gift planning specialist, commends the Sarkarias’ compassion. “It has been a real joy to work with Dr. and Mrs. Sarkaria,” he says. “They truly care about the future of their family and the world around them.”

Says Dr. Benjamin Cohen, interim dean of COMP: “We certainly owe a debt to the Sarkarias for their generosity. Not only are we humbled by their support, we are further impassioned in our efforts to educate only the highest-caliber medical professionals the world over.”

Retired from medicine since 1989, Dr. Sarkaria appreciates having been afforded an opportunity to make a contribution to the health professions and to the betterment of human life. “I am only a link,” he states with humility. “Giving back to education is my way of helping strengthen the chain of health care providers well into future generations.”

A priceless investment indeed.
"By taking prudent and carefully contemplated financial actions, remaining steadfast to the university mission and vision, and continually acting in the best interests of the students, the university continued to stay the course and successfully position itself for future growth and educational progress."

— Kevin D. Shaw
Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

for the Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2003 with Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Revenue</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>2003 Total</th>
<th>2002 Total</th>
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<td>Student tuition</td>
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<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$35,713,092</td>
<td>$35,134,120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less: scholarships and grants</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(638,814)</td>
<td>(612,591)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net tuition</td>
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<td></td>
<td>35,074,278</td>
<td>34,521,529</td>
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<td>Gifts, contracts, and grants</td>
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<td>441,456</td>
<td>87,275</td>
<td>3,842,524</td>
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<td>Sales and services of auxiliary enterprises</td>
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<td>1,430,377</td>
<td>1,560,279</td>
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<tr>
<td>(medical centers)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Other operating revenues</td>
<td>1,690,929</td>
<td>15,622</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>1,706,596</td>
<td>1,521,512</td>
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<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>457,853</td>
<td>(457,853)</td>
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<td>Total revenues</td>
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<td>(775)</td>
<td>87,520</td>
<td>42,850,812</td>
<td>41,199,240</td>
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## EXPENSES:

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<th>Type of Expense</th>
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<th>2002 Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total educational and general expenditures</td>
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<td>37,586,991</td>
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<td>Development and fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>39,015,321</td>
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## CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>3,748,746</td>
<td>(775)</td>
<td>87,520</td>
<td>3,835,491</td>
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## CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OTHER NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES

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<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>2003 Total</th>
<th>2002 Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>(3,293,806)</td>
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## INCREASE IN NET ASSETS

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<th>Amount</th>
<th>2003 Total</th>
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<td>454,940</td>
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## BEGINNING NET ASSETS

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<th>Amount</th>
<th>2003 Total</th>
<th>2002 Total</th>
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<td>2,458,802</td>
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## ENDING NET ASSETS

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<th>Amount</th>
<th>2003 Total</th>
<th>2002 Total</th>
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<td>$16,585,475</td>
<td>$2,896,896</td>
<td>$2,572,697</td>
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### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As of June 30, 2003 with Comparative Totals as of June 30, 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable, net of allowance</td>
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<td>3,348,340</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
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<td>18,648,349</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and deposits</td>
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<td>740,304</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notes receivable, net of allowance</td>
<td>8,457,679</td>
<td>8,013,575</td>
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<td>Contributions receivable, net of allowance</td>
<td>1,153,317</td>
<td>1,178,317</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventories,</td>
<td>548,268</td>
<td>722,910</td>
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<td>Other assets</td>
<td>9,732,094</td>
<td>7,323,633</td>
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<td>Deposits with trustee</td>
<td>5,896,506</td>
<td>4,016,036</td>
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<td>Plant facilities, net of depreciation</td>
<td>41,405,911</td>
<td>38,232,445</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>$91,006,674</td>
<td>$82,662,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$1,786,332</td>
<td>$1,463,582</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued liabilities</td>
<td>2,848,642</td>
<td>498,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued bond interest payable</td>
<td>304,076</td>
<td>304,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lines of credit</td>
<td>6,600,000</td>
<td>7,150,000</td>
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<td>Deposits for agency funds</td>
<td>474,293</td>
<td>471,876</td>
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<td>Deferred revenues</td>
<td>8,296,074</td>
<td>6,736,029</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notes payable and capital lease agreements</td>
<td>546,792</td>
<td>313,422</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonds payable</td>
<td>35,310,000</td>
<td>31,345,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liability on split interest agreements</td>
<td>3,677,842</td>
<td>4,712,624</td>
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<td>Government advances for student loans</td>
<td>9,107,555</td>
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<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>68,951,606</td>
<td>61,464,008</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>16,585,475</td>
<td>16,130,535</td>
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<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>2,896,896</td>
<td>2,609,555</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
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<td>2,458,802</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>22,055,068</td>
<td>21,198,892</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total liabilities and net assets</td>
<td>$91,006,674</td>
<td>$82,662,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Revenue increases**
  4.0 percent from fiscal 2002 to 2003 while growing 48 percent since 1998.

- **Instruction, academic support, research, and student services increases**
  3.7 percent from fiscal 2002 to fiscal 2003 while growing 85 percent since 1998.

- **Gifts, contracts, and grants**
  grew by 37.8 percent due primarily to fundraising for the College of Veterinary Medicine.

- **University operates the fiscal year with yet another balanced budget.**

- **Net assets of the university increased to $22,055,068.**
HONOR ROLL OF DONORS. WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF SPIRITED INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS, WESTERNU COULD NOT FULLY REALIZE ITS MISSION TO EDUCATE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO PRACTICE AND TEACH WITH EXCELLENCE AND COMPASSION. THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDES CRITICALLY NEEDED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS, FACULTY SUPPORT, AND ACADEMIC PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS THAT WOULD NOT OTHERWISE EXIST. OUR HONOR ROLL OF DONORS RECOGNIZES ALL THOSE WHO MADE GIFTS BETWEEN JULY 1, 2002 AND DECEMBER 31, 2003. WE THANK OUR DONORS FOR MAKING AN INVESTMENT IN THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS, WHO ARE TOMORROW’S HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.
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COMP RECEIVES $10,000 GIFT

A $10,000 gift was bestowed upon COMP by an anonymous benefactor in honor of Dr. R.O. Waiton, an original adjunct faculty member of the college and an entrepreneur whose private practice in Los Gatos spans the better part of 30 years. The donation was made in November 2003 and will assist COMP with furthering its educational research goals.

"Dr. Waiton is a revered practitioner of osteopathic medicine and a distinguished member of the COMP family," said Dr. Benjamin Cohen, the college’s interim dean. "We are proud to accept this gift in his name."

Dr. Waiton is currently looking for a successor to continue operating the private practice he started three decades ago.

For more information, contact University Advancement at advancement@westernu.edu.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS CHANGES

With this edition of the WesternU View, we are changing the timing of the reporting of the Honor Roll of Donors. This report includes the fiscal year 2002-2003 and the second half of 2003. Charitable giving for tax purposes is based on the calendar year. In the future we will be reporting the Honor Roll based on the calendar year. Each year in the first spring issue of WesternU View, we will be able to recognize and honor your generosity and support of the university in a timelier manner. Thank you for your support.
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE PROFESSOR HONORED FOR EXCELLENCE

By Jill Dolan

“When you look at the fact you’re up against professors from all the veterinary colleges in the country and that some of my favorite teachers have won in the past, it’s nice to be in that group of people.”

— Dr. S. Dru Forrester
Dr. S. Dru Forrester of the College of Veterinary Medicine has been chosen as the 2003 recipient of the National Carl Norden/Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award. This selection, made by a committee of her peers, designates her as the outstanding veterinary medical educator of the year in the United States.

Forrester, who had been honored as teacher of the year several times while at Virginia Tech’s Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, says she was surprised, shocked, and thrilled all at once to receive the national honor. “It’s very exciting,” says Forrester, who joined the college in April 2003 as a professor of small animal medicine. “When you look at the fact you’re up against professors from all the veterinary colleges in the country and that some of my favorite teachers have won in the past, it’s nice to be in that group of people.”

Dr. Forrester will receive her prize at the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges’ annual meeting in Washington, D.C., this month.

A committee based its selection of Dr. Forrester on her teaching philosophy, the roster of classes she teaches, and endorsements from students and administrators.

Dr. Forrester says she tries to put herself in the students’ position when thinking about teaching, drawing on her own experience as a student. She strives to pass on information and skills she knows her students will need once they are practicing. “I like to present students with a minimum of extraneous information and instead focus on showing them how to apply the information they have already learned or are continuing to learn,” she says. “I believe that students are more likely to learn from using the information they have learned rather than trying to remember facts for examinations.”

Many of Dr. Forrester’s students say they appreciate her teaching style as well as her approachability and sense of humor. And they are not at all surprised she earned such a prestigious professional honor.

“Dr. Forrester has a tremendous ability to provide enough guidance to students to direct their learning but does not provide ‘the answer’ per se, and this keeps the students motivated to explore and discover the ideas on their own,” says Megan Templeton, DVM ‘07.

Avery Woodworth, DVM ‘07, says she has had the opportunity to work with Dr. Forrester in a small group setting and is looking forward to working with her in the future.

“She has a remarkable ability to engage students in a discussion in which they are both enlightened by her immense knowledge and confident about sharing their own knowledge. Never does she give the student a sense of inadequacy or incompetence,” Woodworth says. “Her sense of humor livens up conversation and helps portray the sense of enjoyment and ease she feels in teaching.”
Dr. George Charney, 66, executive vice president for academic affairs and chief operating officer, announced his retirement effective July 1, 2004. Charney concludes a 42-year career as an osteopathic physician, hospital administrator, and educator.

“I have sincerely appreciated my stay at WesternU and enjoyed my affiliation with the many extraordinary people within the university family. I am proud of the growth and development of the university during my watch and look forward to following the future enhancements,” says Charney.

During his seven years at WesternU, Charney watched the Health Professions Center being built to house the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (COMP) and the Colleges of Graduate Nursing and Pharmacy. While here, he also saw the Pumerantz Library constructed and the College of Veterinary Medicine opened, with its first class in a new building.

Dr. Pumerantz, president of WesternU, says, “Dr. Charney’s efforts on behalf of the university are much appreciated. During his tenure, WesternU has grown, developed, and matured. Dr. Charney’s energy, intellect, and loyalty have been unequalled.”

Shirley D. Johnston, PhD, DVM, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, says, “The College
of Veterinary Medicine opened during the years of Dr. Charney’s leadership as executive vice president of Academic Affairs. I am very grateful for his wisdom, guidance, and support during these formative years for the college.”

Kay Kalousek, DO, assistant professor of family medicine and chair of the COMP curriculum committee, says, “As a DO physician interested in academic medicine, Dr. Charney has been an inspiration to me, showing ways that physicians can train future DOs. He has always demonstrated an interest in our projects in family medicine and is always available for guidance.”

“I first met Dr. Charney when he assisted Dr. Pumerantz in teaching the Master of Health Science program here at WesternU,” says Nancy Nielson-Brown, PA-C, assistant professor in Physician Assistant Studies in the College of Allied Health Professions. “He was approachable and engaged in teaching this course. Dr. Charney is committed to the university, to developing faculty and leaders in the profession. He is always willing to go the extra mile for students.”

Charney, a native of Brooklyn, New York, trained as an osteopathic physician at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and specialized in anesthesiology. He began his career as a family practice physician and went on to become a hospital administrator, including ten years as medical director and chief medical officer at Kennedy Memorial Hospital University Medical Center in Stratford, New Jersey.

Charney joined COMP in 1997 as associate dean of Clinical Affairs and Research. He became vice dean of COMP in 1999 and was promoted to executive vice president for Academic Affairs and chief operating officer later that year. The deans of the five colleges and the dean of Student Affairs report to Charney along with the vice president of Advancement.

Charney’s duties will change as he becomes special assistant to the president to work on a number of projects at the university before he retires. Benjamin Cohen, DO, interim dean of COMP, will also serve as the interim chief academic officer and chief operating officer until both these positions are filled.†
COMP DEAN PROMOTED TO CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

It wasn’t long ago that Benjamin Cohen, the newly appointed interim executive vice president of academic affairs and chief operating officer, was looking forward to retiring from the working world to enjoy his hobbies of writing and painting.

But he will have to wait just a bit longer to pen that award-winning novel or create a masterpiece in oil.

Cohen, a retired DO, has been serving as interim dean of COMP since last summer and added the duties of interim chief academic officer/chief operating officer in January.

Cohen officially retired in August 2002 from the University of North Texas, Health Science Center, yet that time off was cut short when he was asked to serve as the interim chief executive officer and dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Touro University in Vallejo, Calif. And once that assignment was over, he was called to duty at WesternU.

Long a critical care pediatrician, Cohen says his profession often was stimulating, challenging and interesting. Now, he says, "Medical education became just as exciting."

Although his amount of time at WesternU will be limited, Cohen is eager to leave a blueprint for the future.

“The potential excites me,” he says. “I’m working with good people and together we can build a great health science center, additional buildings, and promote an innovative curriculum and ways of teaching. Wherever you look, you can always do things better.”

Among his visions, Cohen would like to see COMP develop centers of excellence. Cohen knows of what he speaks. It was under Cohen’s watch that an Alzheimer’s and aging institute as well as an eye institute were developed at University of North Texas, College of Osteopathic Medicine. During his 10-year tenure, the school blossomed into a complete health science center, which included a public health school, a graduate school for bio-medical science, and a physician assistant program.

Cohen would also like to see WesternU follow in the steps of the Osteopathic School at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, where he was founding dean. There, the school grew to national prominence and became a leader in medical research and the development of a significant faculty practice.

“(Research) is an obligation of the university to increase knowledge and to provide an atmosphere where ‘Why?, Why not? and Can we do it better?’ are asked all the time. We want our students to be thinking along that line,” Cohen says. “It has to be developed so we can have scientists working alongside physicians.”

Having a faculty practice—a full-service, multi-specialty clinic with upwards of 60 physicians—would provide care to a larger segment of the community but also assist students.

“I want students to have role models,” Cohen says.

It would seem evident that they already have one in Cohen, who operates under the motto: “Leadership is dreaming of the possibilities, laying down the vision and inspiring the team.”

Richard Sugerman, PhD, has been appointed to the position of executive assistant dean for basic sciences and research. He also continues to teach anatomy courses. Dr. Sugerman had served as assistant dean for basic sciences and research for COMP since July 2003 and previously served as chair of COMP’s anatomy department. Dr. Sugerman has been a member of WesternU’s staff since July 1980, when he started as an assistant professor of anatomy.

Gail Singer-Chang, PsyD, has been named the new assistant dean for student affairs for COMP. Dr. Singer-Chang oversees matters related to the quality of COMP student life and issues of professional development. She also is an assistant professor of family medicine, teaching a course on doctor-patient communications. She has been with WesternU for 5 years.

Michael Finley, DO, has been named assistant dean for clinical affairs for COMP and also serves as chair of the department of internal medicine, a position he has held since 2000. Dr. Finley has been with WesternU since 1993, when he started as an assistant clinical professor of medicine. He was promoted to associate professor of medicine in 2000.
MOCK CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS TACKLE RISING DRUG PRICES

Skyrocketing prescription drug prices apparently isn’t a hot-button issue solely for the U.S. Congress to debate. College of Pharmacy students presented their take on the impact of runaway prescription costs on Medicare recipients and medication consumers, using the format of mock congressional hearings, staged November 18 through 20, 2003. As future pharmaceutical industry professionals, students provided a first-hand account of an industry in the crossfire of rising health insurance premiums, a steady growth in prescription purchases outside the U.S., and a constant bottom-line pressure on drug makers to reap healthy returns on investment in research and development.

Students were grouped into teams, representing a body of U.S. Congress subcommittee members, a faction of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), a sampling of health insurance providers, and a bevy of pharmaceutical companies—the latter three groups posing as witnesses given the opportunity to convey their hardships and defend their business practices. “I felt proud that the students brought a real-world sensibility to the hearings as a result of their research into the varied components of what has become a national health-care crisis,” said Dr. Max Ray, professor of Social and Administrative Sciences and dean of the college. “These [rising drug costs and insurance premiums] are issues that affect all of us as health care providers and consumers, and the mock hearings serve to inspire our students to not only think about their personal health-care concerns, but to also meet the industry challenges that await them upon graduation as newly minted health professionals.”

The mock hearings made for timely discussion as they coincided with debate and passage of a Medicare prescription drug bill in the U.S. House of Representatives during the waning weeks of November. The legislation, an amalgamation of higher premiums for senior Americans earning more than $80,000 a year for non-hospital coverage under Medicare and tax-preferred health accounts open to individuals with high-deductible insurance policies, at press time was scheduled for a Senate vote. Whereupon, should it pass, it is expected to be signed without pause by President Bush just as his re-election campaign gets underway this year. The mock hearings are part of a seminar required of all first-year students of the college, entitled Pharmacist’s Leadership Responsibilities in Professions Practice Issues.

VET MED RECEIVES SAVMA CHARTER

The College of Veterinary Medicine was presented with the charter for the student chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association in October.

Dr. Rosemary LoGiudice, assistant director of membership and field services and Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) advisor, traveled from Illinois to make the presentation.

She says it was a special moment for her and the AVMA. “This is the first new student chapter in 20 years,” LoGiudice says. “It’s exciting we have a new veterinary school.”

She says every CVM student decided to join, a bit of a departure from the 93 percent membership figures nationwide. Membership in the student chapter guarantees automatic membership in the AVMA upon graduation as long as the member is in good standing.

The student chapter’s advisor is Dr. John Jacobson and the chapter president is Avery Woodworth.

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Philanthropic gifts are vital for the university’s growth and future success. Your financial support will provide critically needed student scholarships, faculty support, and academic program enhancements. The university has a team of development professionals who are all working to cultivate independent monetary resources to support the educational programs of the university.

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