



Mayo Alumni

mayo.edu/alumni | 2014 | No. 2



100
YEARS
OF CARDIOLOGY
AT MAYO CLINIC

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Features

2 100 years of cardiology at Mayo Clinic

August 2014 marks a century since the acquisition of an electrocardiography machine launched cardiology care at Mayo Clinic. Today, the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases sees 240,000 patients a year across all campuses, has 250 consultants, and trains more residents and fellows than perhaps any other U.S. cardiology training program.

14 From doctor to friend — Fletcher Miller Jr., M.D., and the Ford family

In 2006, cardiologist Dr. “Buzz” Miller cared for former President Gerald Ford at Mayo Clinic, beginning an enduring relationship with his family.

18 Know your Mayo Clinic Alumni Associate Board of Directors

Learn more about Theresa Emory, M.D., Holly Geyer, M.D., Kenneth Layton, M.D., and Nathaniel Tighe.

21 ‘This is our legacy’ — alumnae leave estate gift to ovarian cancer research

Lynn Hartmann, M.D., and former Mayo Clinic chaplain Mary Johnson say their gift is an investment in their colleagues and supportive of their efforts.

22 Where are they now? Pulmonologist-turned-inventor zeroes in on problem solving

Alumnus Robert Gillio, M.D., gave up his pulmonary practice for a career as an entrepreneur with inventions and developments designed to reduce medical errors, improve surgical outcomes, serve the United States in disasters and prevent chronic disease.

Mayo Update

24 Balfour/Kendall award recipients, new website update, Mayo Graduate School anniversary, obituaries

A Letter from the President

If you haven't already, soon you'll see a new Mayo Clinic Alumni Association website. Many of you participated in an online survey in which we asked for your views on connecting to Mayo. We're working toward a website that is meaningful and user friendly and enhances connectedness to Mayo. I hope you'll like the new MCAA website, anticipated to launch in August.

The Alumni Association is introducing another offering — leisure travel opportunities (below). Our online survey and anecdotal feedback revealed that many of you are interested in connecting with fellow alumni in travel environments without CME credits. We will evaluate the response to these offerings and determine if we want to continue similar activities past 2015.

Now more than ever, the Alumni Association is focused on meeting your needs, being relevant and offering ways to connect to each other and to Mayo. We want to hear from you. Please contact me or the Mayo Clinic Alumni Center with your reactions to the new website when it launches, the travel offerings, *Mayo Alumni* magazine and other ways we serve you. Your views are vital to maintaining a vibrant Alumni Association.




Juan Sarmiento, M.D.

*Associate Director of Surgery
Emory University School
of Medicine*

*Director, Hepatopancreatic
Biliary Surgery, Emory
University Hospital, Atlanta*

New leisure travel opportunities for alumni

Watch
your mailbox
for brochures
about these
opportunities.

Beginning next year, the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association is offering members upscale leisure travel opportunities (no CME component) through partners who specialize in professional and alumni association travel.

**POLYNESIAN
PARADISE
MARCH 15–25**

Cruise to the South Pacific and French Polynesia including Papeete, Moorea, Raiatea, Bora Bora, Nuku Hiva and Rangiroa.

**SOUTHERN CULTURE
AND CIVIL WAR
MAY 15–23**

Cruise the Mississippi River on *American Queen* paddle wheeler including Memphis and New Orleans.

**SHADOWS OF
THE ANCIENTS
SEPT. 21–OCT. 4**

Cruise to locations including Italy, Malta, Greece and Turkey.

**AUTUMN IN THE
HEARTLAND
OCT. 3–11**

Cruise the Mississippi River from St. Paul, Minn., to St. Louis on *American Queen* paddle wheeler.



The background features a white grid with a red ECG line. Overlaid on the grid are several semi-transparent colored rectangles in shades of cyan, green, and orange. The text is centered in the upper half of the page.

100 YEARS

OF CARDIOLOGY
AT MAYO CLINIC

This August, Mayo Clinic celebrates a century of cardiology care in a division recognized for integrated patient care, state-of-the-art diagnostic laboratories, influential research and one of the largest training programs in the world.

The early years: the 1910s — ECG explosion

Cardiology at Mayo Clinic kicked off 100 years ago when, in August 1914, Henry Plummer, M.D., directed medical fellow John Blackford, M.D. (I '17), to operate the newly acquired Cambridge electrocardiography (ECG) machine for the first time. Fellow Fredrick Willius, M.D. (I '20), recorded and interpreted the results.

When they had more than two years of experience, Drs. Blackford and Willius published the first paper from Mayo Clinic about the use of electrocardiography. The 1917 paper reported their experience administering the thyroid extract of Mayo Clinic biochemist Edward Kendall, Ph.D. (BIOC '14), to patients with heart blockages. (Dr. Kendall was awarded the 1950 Nobel Prize for Physiology of Medicine, along with Mayo Clinic's Philip Hench, M.D. [I '25], and Swiss chemist Tadeus Reichstein, Ph.D., for their discovery of cortisone.) Approximately 1,650 patients had ECGs at Mayo Clinic that year, including one during an angina attack.

The early years: the 1920s — official division

In 1922, less than a decade after ECG debuted at Mayo Clinic, Dr. Willius published *Clinical Electrocardiography* (Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders), the second American text devoted to this diagnostic technology. A year later, he was appointed by the Mayo Clinic Board of Governors to chair a new section for diseases of the heart — the Division of Cardiology. He was the only cardiologist on staff. Two years later, Arlie Barnes, M.D. (I '25), joined the section as the second staff cardiologist.

Division of Cardiovascular Diseases Highlights

The early years: the 1930s — vascular section

In 1934, Dr. Willius introduced “Cardiac Clinics” in the *Proceedings of the Staff Meeting of the Mayo Clinic*, a weekly publication sent free to thousands of physicians and medical libraries.

Concurrently, the vascular arm of the practice was developing. In 1930, George Brown, M.D. (I '40, I '48), was appointed to lead a new medical section that would evolve into the vascular section. He was selected as the first chair of the American Heart Association's new Section for the Study of the Peripheral Circulation in 1935.

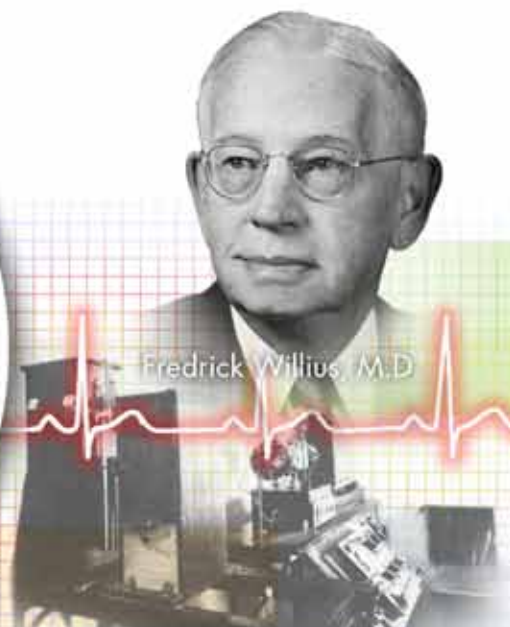
“These pioneers who listened to hearts and correlated clinical and pathological findings ushered in the modern era of cardiology at Mayo Clinic,” says W. Bruce Fye, M.D. (CV '00), Division of Cardiovascular Diseases. “Dr. Willius was ahead of his time. His writings reveal that he believed heart disease in women behaved differently than in men long before women's heart clinics existed. Based on clinical observation, he commented that high-fat diets, smoking and hypertension contributed to the development of heart disease and stroke long before we had clinical trials demonstrating these facts.”

Fast forward

The exciting early decades of cardiology at Mayo Clinic created a foundation for the Mayo Clinic Division of Cardiovascular Diseases practice that today, across all campuses, sees 240,000



Henry Plummer, M.D.



Cambridge electrocardiography machine obtained; first ECG at Mayo Clinic performed.

1914

patients per year (inpatient and outpatient), has 250 consultants, and trains more residents and fellows than perhaps any other cardiology training program in the United States.

“Over the decades since Dr. Willius established our division, we’ve built one of the largest and most well-recognized divisions of cardiology in the country that has a long, rich tradition of helping patients with heart disease,” says Charanjit Rihal, M.D. (I ’89, CV ’93), chair, Division of Cardiovascular Diseases and the William S. and Ann Atherton Professor of Cardiology Honoring Robert L. Frye, M.D.

Division forte: patient care

Mayo Clinic has been a place of firsts in cardiology — the first administration of warfarin, first mitral valve repair, first Rastelli operation, first echocardiography-guided pericardiocentesis — but that hasn’t been the division’s forte.

Heart transplant pioneer and cardiac surgeon Norman Shumway, M.D., Ph.D., said about Mayo Clinic in 1997: “... they could take somebody’s innovation and perfect it to a degree that the originator probably never thought was possible. They were extremely good at polishing ideas and techniques.” Dr. Shumway trained at the University of Minnesota during the years when Mayo Clinic was performing its first open-heart surgeries.

“We’re proud of the firsts and subsequent noteworthy accomplishments that occurred at Mayo Clinic, but we’re equally proud of the distinguishing characteristic and true foundation of our cardiovascular practice — patient-centric



Charanjit Rihal, M.D.

diagnosis and treatment provided in a highly integrated fashion,” says Dr. Rihal. “Regardless of the clinical problem, we pull together experts — outstanding clinicians, imagers, interventionalists and surgeons — who work hand in glove as an integrated team.

“This patient care would not be possible without world-class diagnostic labs that have set the standards in echocardiography and cardiac catheterization, and productive clinical and research faculty who publish 400 to 500 papers per year to share knowledge with thousands of physicians around the world.” >>

1917

John Blackford, M.D.

1923

Arlie Barnes, M.D.

Mayo Clinic Division of Cardiology established.

1933

Fredrick Willius, M.D.

1935

George Brown, M.D.

Physiologists Frank Mann, M.D., and Jacob Markowitz, M.B.E., M.B., Ph.D., surgical fellow James Priestley, M.D., and medical fellow Wallace Yater, M.D., report the transplant of mammalian heart to create a denervated heart model.

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Global contribution: training program

Mayo Clinic’s contributions to cardiology certainly include the training programs. More than 1,500 physicians from around the world have completed cardiology fellowships — clinical and research — at Mayo Clinic. These cardiologists absorb Mayo’s culture and commitment and disperse them to institutions around the world to advance practice and research.

“A unique component of our program is that we support fellows for a year of research during their training. We do this because we want to turn out the next generation of leaders in cardiology,” says Kyle Klarich, M.D. (CV ’95), Division of Cardiovascular Diseases and fellowship program director. “Some of the best cardiovascular educators in the country help our fellows learn in a program characterized by a robust clinical practice with a large patient base, nationally renowned labs, amazing facilities, academically productive faculty and fantastic educational conferences.

“Our mission is to train the best from around the world, including those who want to improve medical care in their home countries after training. This influence on innovators and pioneers — those who will advance clinical practice and scientific understanding of cardiovascular medicine — cannot be underestimated.”

Influencing global cardiology by training the best from around the world

One of Mayo Clinic’s most significant contributions to cardiology is the hundreds of fellows it has trained who go

out into the world — or remain at Mayo Clinic — to lead cardiology practice, research and education.

“Mayo provides a tremendous environment, facilities, support services and databases that can help you be very productive,” says Bernard Gersh, M.B., Ch.B., D.Phil. (CV ’79), Division of Cardiovascular Diseases, who was recently named a legend of modern cardiology at the European Society of Cardiology Congress.

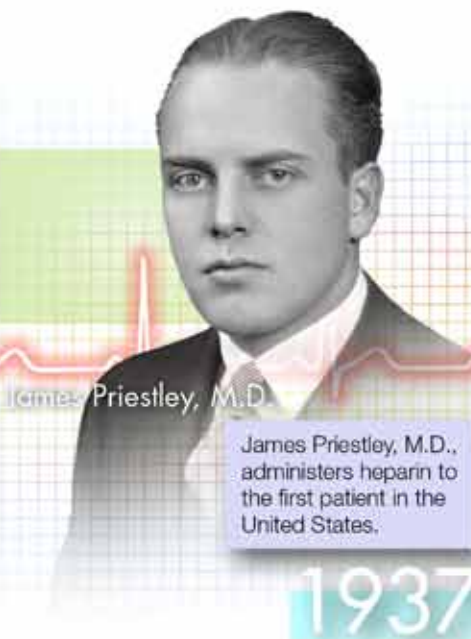
“These attributes, combined with a commitment to top-class clinical care and opportunities to interact with people around the world, have led many of us to conclude that Mayo Clinic is the ideal environment in which clinical skills and interests in academic medicine can flourish — whether for a period of training or for a career.”

The profiles that follow provide a snapshot of some leaders and future leaders in cardiology who have trained at Mayo Clinic.

“I was inspired by Dr. Denbow”

Mayo Clinic alumnus Charles Denbow, M.D. (CV ’78), was the head of cardiology at the Faculty of Medical Sciences at the University of West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, when **Monique Freund, M.D.** (I ’05, CV ’09), was in medical school.

“Dr. Denbow made such a strong impression that I decided to pursue cardiology,” says Dr. Freund. “There was something



1937



Thoracic surgeon Stuart Harrington, M.D., performs first cardiac operation, a partial pericardiectomy, at Mayo Clinic.

1938



1941

really different about him — his empathy for the patient, his bedside acumen, his clinical brilliance. His classes were a cut above the rest. I later learned his qualities were Mayo qualities. I didn't know about Mayo Clinic at the time, but I was inspired by Dr. Denbow and knew he was an outstanding clinician."

Around the same time, Dr. Freund had her second encounter with Mayo Clinic. Whyte Owen IV, Ph.D. (HEM '86), professor of biochemistry/molecular biology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, was an oral examiner for preclinical medical students, including Dr. Freund. She performed well enough to be granted a scholarship for an intercalated degree in biochemistry at Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education. The scholarship program was founded by Franklyn Prendergast, M.D., Ph.D. (BIOC '77), professor of biochemistry/molecular biology and pharmacology, the Edmond A. and Marion F. Guggenheim Professor at Mayo Clinic in Rochester and a graduate of the School of Medicine in Kingston, Jamaica.

"I didn't know where Mayo Clinic was and had to look on a map," says Dr. Freund. "Friends told me I was crazy to go there. I told them, 'I don't care where it is. I'm going there. The people are outstanding.'"

She completed an intercalated degree and a clinical clerkship in cardiology at Mayo Clinic. She returned to Jamaica for an internship at Kingston Public Hospital and began her residency there before returning to Mayo Clinic for an internal medicine residency and fellowship in cardiovascular diseases. She was the first black female to be trained as a cardiologist at Mayo Clinic.



Monique Freund, M.D.

"I saw firsthand Mayo's genuine reputation for receptivity to international and diverse physicians," she says. "I had outstanding mentorship and support in my aspirations to become a cardiologist. Mayo Clinic has provided me with opportunities to develop professional relationships with renowned cardiology experts. This and Mayo's leading professional development offerings allow me to provide contemporary best practices in caring for my patients."

Dr. Freund joined the Mayo Clinic Division of Cardiovascular Diseases in 2009 and is a consultant specializing in invasive noninterventional cardiology and echocardiography at Mayo Clinic Health System in La Crosse, Wis. She also is an assistant professor of medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. >>

Earl Wood, M.D., Ph.D., develops G-suit for pilots.



1944

Earl Wood, M.D., Ph.D.

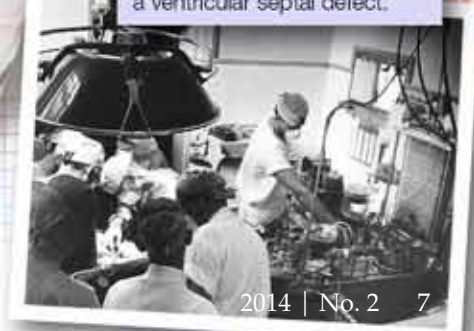
John Kirklín, M.D., performs first intracardiac operation, a closed-heart mitral commissurotomy to treat mitral stenosis, at Mayo.

1950

John Kirklín, M.D.

1955

John Kirklín, M.D., performs first open-heart operation at Mayo, using the Mayo-Gibbon heart-lung machine to close a ventricular septal defect.



“I share Mayo’s cardiology expertise in several ways — with providers and residents in communities around La Crosse, as an emerging faculty member of the American College of Cardiology, and with providers and medical students in Jamaica,” she says.

Dr. Freund cofounded an annual Advancements in Medicine Conference held in Jamaica, sponsored by the country’s Organization for Strategic Development, the Jamaican Ministry of Health and other organizations. The conference provides a forum for medical and health care professionals in Jamaica and other parts of the world to meet and exchange developments in medicine and identify and implement solutions to improve health care delivery in Jamaica. Mayo faculty members have presented at the conference.

Dr. Freund has assisted Mayo residents and medical students seeking external clerkships in Jamaica and has facilitated consultations for Jamaican patients at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

“Whether in Jamaica or in western Wisconsin, it’s important for me to share knowledge, increase awareness and help providers do more with what they have,” says Dr. Freund.

“Good ideas were encouraged”

Carole Warnes, M.D. (CV '88), was doing research for her postdoctoral thesis at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., when she attended a professional meeting and met a cardiology consultant from Mayo Clinic.

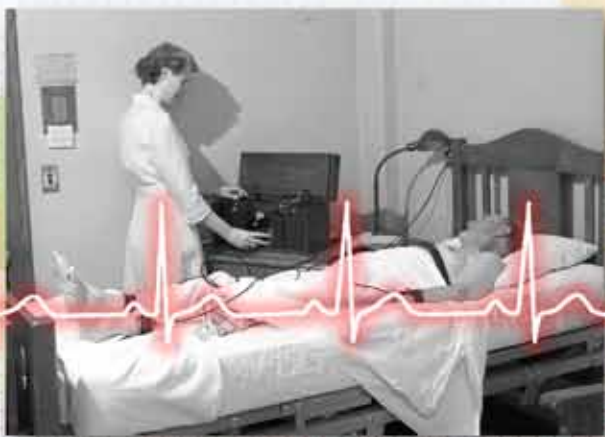


Carole Warnes, M.D.

“He asked if I wanted to come to Mayo Clinic,” says Dr. Warnes, a native of the United Kingdom. “I thought he meant for a visit, not a career.”

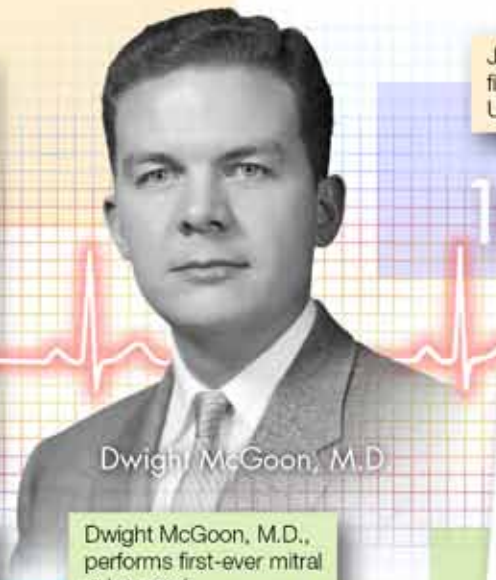
A month later at an American College of Cardiology meeting, she met Robert Frye, M.D. (CV '62), who seconded the invitation. Soon, she received a request to give grand rounds at Mayo Clinic.

“Everyone was welcoming, and they offered me a position,” she says. “It was so different from England, where interviewing for staff positions was a brutal process and there wasn’t overwhelming support for female consultants in cardiology. I left my interview at Mayo full of possibilities about my career, thinking, ‘I could work in this place.’”



1956

Mayo establishes world's first intensive care unit designed to care for postoperative open-heart surgery patients.



Dwight McGoon, M.D.

Dwight McGoon, M.D., performs first-ever mitral valve repair.

1958

John Kirklin, M.D., performs first septal myectomy in the United States.



John Kirklin, M.D.

Dr. Warnes returned to London for two years for visa reasons, with a commitment from Mayo Clinic to hold open her position. She joined the Mayo Clinic staff in 1988 and was the first woman cardiologist in a division with 59 men. She became a full professor in 1998.

The following year, she started an adult congenital heart disease program — her specialty — at Mayo Clinic. “Not many cardiologists were trained to care for this unique population,” says Dr. Warnes.

“Anything I wanted — research, teaching or practice — I was allowed to do,” she says. “It wasn’t always easy, and I worked extremely hard, but I was pleasantly surprised by the support and collegiality in the division. Good ideas were encouraged. The ethos that the needs of the patient come first was loud and clear. I don’t know of another institution like this one.”

Dr. Warnes has trained about 25 fellows who practice throughout the world. Many of them have established adult congenital heart disease programs.

“There aren’t enough adult congenital practices to care for the 1 million patients in need of this care,” she says. “Mayo has one of the largest practices in this subspecialty in North America and is nationally and internationally recognized for it. Mayo has afforded me opportunities to raise awareness of this specialty around the world, conduct research and publish, teach and train fellows. I consider it part of my mission to prepare physicians to care for these patients.”

“We influence cardiology by sharing knowledge with cardiologists around the world”

After completing medical school and residency in his native Mexico and multiple research and clinical fellowships in the United States, **Francisco Lopez Jimenez, M.D.** (CV '01), sought a position at an academic medical center that was dedicated to clinical care and would permit him to conduct research.

“Most centers were either very academic but not patient oriented or very clinically oriented with little research,” he says. “My search was disappointing until I came to Mayo. It’s strong in all three shields. This has allowed me to have a happy, productive academic career. >>



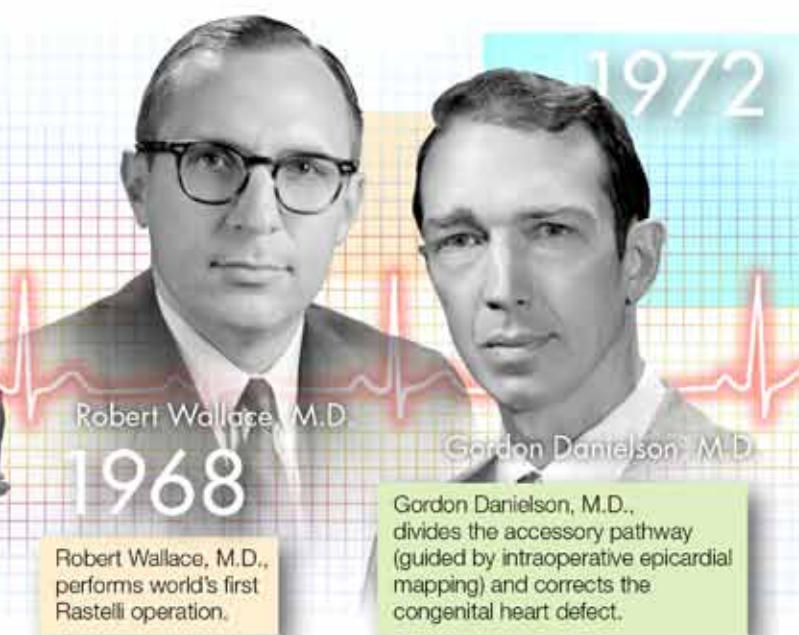
Francisco Lopez Jimenez, M.D.



1966

Dwight McGoon, M.D.

Dwight McGoon, M.D., performs first-ever procainamide injection into a right ventricle to temporarily abolish symptoms of Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome.



Robert Wallace, M.D.

1968

Robert Wallace, M.D., performs world's first Rastelli operation.

Gordon Danielson, M.D.

Gordon Danielson, M.D., divides the accessory pathway (guided by intraoperative epicardial mapping) and corrects the congenital heart defect.

“I went to medical school to treat patients. Face-to-face interaction is the most fulfilling experience to me. Research helps me identify and try to answer clinically relevant questions I encounter with patients. I can focus on what truly matters to patients and many other practitioners.”

Dr. Lopez Jimenez says Mayo Clinic’s stature contributes to the impact of his research and training efforts.

“I’ve given conferences in about 20 countries. Each one is an opportunity to teach things that will impact patient care,” he says. “We influence cardiology by sharing knowledge with cardiologists around the world and addressing clinically important questions in our research.

“Mayo’s approach to patient care is unique, especially in the context of the changing health care environment, with less time spent with patients in most places in this country. Our focus on patient welfare will continue to distinguish us, attract physicians interested in clinical care and clinically relevant research, and impact the practice of medicine.”

“Training at Mayo Clinic was the most important thing I did professionally”

Christine Attenhofer Jost, M.D. (CV ‘94), completed medical school, residencies and a cardiology fellowship in her native Zurich, Switzerland, before going to Mayo Clinic in Rochester for a yearlong clinical research fellowship in echocardiography.

Christine Attenhofer Jost, M.D.



“Dr. Maurice Enriquez-Sarano (CV ‘94, Division of Cardiovascular Diseases), visited our echo lab at the University Hospital in Zurich during my cardiology fellowship. That influenced me to choose Mayo for a clinical research fellowship,” says Dr. Attenhofer Jost.

“Training at Mayo Clinic was the most important thing I did professionally. It opened many doors, enabled me to publish and introduced me to many people from other countries. I learned so much about echocardiography and clinical cardiology. Mayo Clinic is unique in the time clinicians spend with patients. I saw how long they talk to patients and clinically examine them, and that has affected my practice.”

1977
First two-dimensional echocardiogram performed at Mayo Clinic by A. Jamil Tajik, M.D., and James Seward, M.D.

1978
A. Jamil Tajik, M.D., and James Seward, M.D., perform first-ever echocardiography-guided pericardiocentesis.

1979
First percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) performed at Mayo Clinic by Geoff Hartzler, M.D.

Today, Dr. Attenhofer Jost is a professor of medicine at the Medical School of the University of Zurich, works in a private clinic, and is a consultant in Pediatric Cardiology and Adult Congenital Heart Disease at the University Hospital Zurich. She is a research collaborator in the Echocardiography Laboratory at Mayo Clinic and publishes with her Mayo colleagues.

“Mayo also has great role models of women in cardiology, such as Dr. Heidi Connolly (I '89, CV '93) and Dr. Patricia Pellikka (MMS '83, I '86, CV '89), who demonstrated to me that women can achieve something in academic medicine,” she says. “When I returned to Switzerland, people were interested in my knowledge gained at Mayo Clinic, which opened many opportunities.”

“Mayo provided all of the required knowledge and experience to succeed in academic medicine”

“In high school, I read the Sunday newspaper and saw a story with the *U.S. News & World Report* program rankings. This was my first knowledge of Mayo Clinic as one of the best hospitals in cardiac research and patient care,” says **Cevher Ozcan, M.D.** (CV '03), assistant professor of medicine at SUNY at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine.

After medical school in her native Turkey, she wanted excellent clinical and basic research training and sought an institution that could provide it during her research fellowship.

“I'd followed Mayo closely through the years and was already interested in atrial fibrillation research,” says Dr. Ozcan. “My fellowship was a wonderful experience — nurturing and collegial. One of the greatest parts of Mayo is how senior faculty and attending physicians care for and support the juniors. I had the opportunity to get to know other investigators at the top of their field and present my work to them.” >>



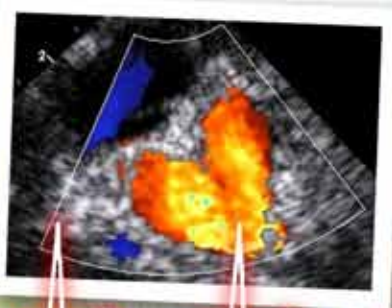
Cevher Ozcan, M.D.

Stephen Hammill, M.D.



Stephen Hammill, M.D., performs first catheter AV node ablation at Mayo Clinic.

1981



James Seward, M.D., performs first intraoperative transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) at Mayo Clinic.

1982

1984



James Seward, M.D., and Hugh Smith, M.D., provide first-ever description of platypnea-orthodoxia.

A. Jamil Tajik, M.D., and James Seward, M.D., identify ventricular noncompaction for first time ever.

1987



Dr. Ozcan, who has contributed extensively to cardiac electrophysiology with original research findings and patient care, says her training at Mayo Clinic is an important contributor to her career achievements.

“Mayo provided the required knowledge and experience to succeed in academic medicine,” she says. “That foundation was invaluable during my further training in clinical cardiology at Yale University and cardiac electrophysiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. It helped me learn to use my scientific curiosity more effectively by combining my clinical practice with research and education, and collaborate with other investigators.”

Alumni philanthropy honors cardiovascular pioneer

Earl Wood, M.D., joined Mayo Clinic in 1942 and was a scientist and pioneer in cardiovascular research who inspired and mentored generations of leaders in cardiology. In September 2013, an anonymous Mayo Clinic alumnus gave a \$10 million gift to honor Dr. Wood, his mentor and friend, for his illustrious career in cardiophysiology. The gift established the Earl H. Wood, M.D., Career Development Awards in Cardiovascular Diseases Research and Earl H. Wood, M.D., Fund for Cardiovascular Diseases Research.

“Mayo transformed my ambition”

Dawn Scantlebury, M.B.B.S., (CV '14), wants to go home to Barbados after her training. She wants to “bring 21st century cardiology” to her native country. She always planned to return home. She is just going back with a different perspective.

“I came to Mayo Clinic focused only on clinical cardiology,” says Dr. Scantlebury. “I’ve been caught up in Mayo’s huge emphasis on academia and research, in addition to patient care. I now realize the importance of an inquiring mind and clinical investigation. Health care in my country is missing the academic-research mindset. Mayo transformed my ambition. I am going to introduce academic cardiology to my country. Some people have a vague idea that they’ll go back to their countries. I don’t have a vague idea — I have a commitment.”

When Dr. Scantlebury completes her fellowship in Advanced Cardiology in 2014 and a fellowship in Interventional Cardiology in 2015, she’ll return to a new catheterization lab and interventional cardiology program — waiting for her arrival.

“I’m fortunate that they got the resources at the same time I’m being trained,” she says. “I will be the only interventional cardiologist at the government hospital serving an adult population of about 200,000 people in Barbados alone, not to mention surrounding islands. Severe, difficult-to-control hypertension is a huge problem in Barbados, and coronary disease is becoming a problem, too. We lag behind the United States by about 20 years.



Alumni national association leaders

A number of Mayo Clinic alumni have led major cardiovascular professional societies.

American College of Cardiology presidents

- Robert Brandenburg Jr., M.D. (1980–1981) (I '79, CV '82)
- Robert Frye, M.D. (1991–1992) (CV '62)
- W. Bruce Fye, M.D. (2002–2003) (CV '00)
- David Holmes Jr., M.D. (2011–2012) (I '74, CV '76)

American Heart Association presidents

- Arlie Barnes, M.D. (1947–1948) (I '25)
- Edgar Allen, M.D. (1956–1957) (I '29)
- Jesse Edwards, M.D. (1967–1977) (APATH '46)
- John Shepherd, M.D. (1976–1977) (PHYS '54)
- Valentin Fuster, M.D., Ph.D. (1998–1999) (I '72, CV '74)
- Raymond Gibbons, M.D. (2006–2007) (CV '81)

Heart Rhythm Society presidents

- David Hayes, M.D. (1998–1999) (I '79, CV '82)
- Stephen Hammill, M.D. (2004–2005) (CV '81)
- Douglas Packer, M.D. (2010–2011) (CV '89)

American Society of Echocardiography presidents

- Bijoy Khandheria, M.B.B.S. (2005–2006) (CV '87)
- Patricia Pellikka, M.D. (2011–2012) (MMS '83, I '86, CV '89)

American Society for Preventive Cardiology president

- Stephen Kopecky, M.D. (2014–2015) (I '84, CV '87)

American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation president

- Randal Thomas, M.D. (2009–2010) (CV '99)



Dawn Scantlebury,
M.B.B.S.

My first priority is to make changes at home, and I am grateful to Mayo Clinic for broadening my horizons and giving me excellent clinical training. I made absolutely the correct decision to train at Mayo, and it has been a privilege. I wouldn't have found elsewhere what I found here. My research is focused on cardiovascular disease in women, including the long-term effects of pregnancy-related hypertension. I'll continue studying these things at home.

"I would feel as if I failed myself if I stayed in the United States. I could have an easy life. But I have so many people relying on me. I need to go back and fulfill my responsibilities. I love Barbados. It's a beautiful place to be." ■

“Cardiology has continued to evolve at a fast pace in recent decades, with numerous members of the Mayo Clinic staff contributing notable innovations and advances across the spectrum of diagnostics and therapeutics in cardiovascular health and disease.” – Charanjit Rihal, M.D.

From doctor to friend — Fletcher Miller Jr., M.D., and the Ford family

'How do you repay somebody who sought to give your parents more quality years of their lives?'

Ninety cardiologists gathered in Colorado in July 2006 for Mayo Clinic's 27th Annual Echocardiographic Symposium at Vail. George Gura Jr., M.D. (I '72, CV '74), Fletcher "Buzz" Miller Jr., M.D. (I '78, CV '81), and Jae Oh, M.D. (I '82, CV '85), of the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, directed the program.

The course included live echocardiographic scanning of patients with cardiovascular disorders. Larry

Gaul, M.D., a guest faculty member for the program then in private practice at Avanti Cardiology in Colorado (now with The Multispecialty Clinics in Edwards, Colo.), coordinated the patient cases presented. After that part of the program, he took Dr. Miller aside and said one more patient needed his attention. Unlike the others, this one required private consultation and scanning. That patient was former President Gerald Ford, then 93.

'Minnesota type of people'

"I knew he had been ill. I was nervous to meet him," says Dr. Miller. "I never had a reason to be nervous around him again. As I would soon learn, President Ford was very humble and the family is very down to earth — Minnesota type of people."

Dr. Miller examined the patient and assured the family, who had a home in Beaver Creek, Colo., that Mayo Clinic had significant success treating cardiovascular patients in



PRESIDENT FORD PHOTO: COURTESY GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

their 90s. Specifically, Ford needed a valve replacement.

“Other doctors were skeptical or had only done a few valve replacements in older patients, which didn’t give us a lot of hope,” says Susan Ford Bales, Ford’s daughter. “Buzz was encouraging.”

‘He wanted to know everyone who cared for him’

A couple of weeks later, Dr. Gaul called Dr. Miller with the news that Ford had decided to go to Mayo Clinic. A Secret Service representative called to clear Dr. Miller and access Mayo Clinic’s security staff to prepare for Ford’s arrival. David Hayes, M.D. (I ’79, CV ’82), then chair of the Division of Cardiovascular Diseases, freed Dr. Miller’s schedule for the foreseeable future.

Dr. Miller flew to Colorado on Mayo MedAir with a Mayo flight nurse and a flight paramedic to transport

“They went the extra mile and made us feel comfortable and helped us understand what was going on. I love the team approach where decisions are made by groups of doctors.” – Susan Ford Bales

Ford, his son-in-law, Vaden Bales, and chief of staff, Penny Circle, to Rochester. Ford summoned Dr. Miller for a chat en route.

“He wanted to know about me and what we had planned for him medically,” says Dr. Miller. “As it turned out, he wanted to know everyone who cared for him.”

‘Mayo respected and protected our privacy’

Back in Rochester, Dr. Miller resided at Saint Marys Hospital for the duration of Ford’s two-week visit.

“It was an intense, emotional time for the family,” says Dr. Miller. “After a complete and thorough evaluation of his condition, we did what needed to be done, but we didn’t have a cure. We did in two weeks what would have taken two months anywhere else.”

Ford received a cardiac pacemaker and had angioplasty while at Mayo Clinic — details the family released to the media.

“Dad had congestive heart failure, which was not publicly known at the time,” says Ford Bales. “Ultimately, Buzz and the Mayo Clinic team decided that valve replacement wasn’t possible. They did as much as they could. They went the extra mile and helped us understand what was going on. I love the team approach where decisions are made by groups of doctors.

“It was never public knowledge that Mother was evaluated and also treated there. When she’d had care elsewhere, it was in the newspapers within 24 hours. Mayo Clinic respected and protected our privacy, which was wonderful.”

Dr. Miller says the news media wasn’t even aware that Ford was at Saint Marys and, instead, set up camp at the downtown campus.

“I was in the hospital room with the former president and his son, Steve, when news coverage of his visit

‘Mayo Clinic and the White House: Caring for America’s First Families’

The Mayo Clinic Heritage Film “Mayo Clinic and the White House: Caring for America’s First Families” (2012) details Mayo’s relationship with presidents and their families. The film, narrated by journalist Tom Brokaw, includes interesting facts, such as:

- The Mayo Clinic physician who kept clothing at the White House because he visited so frequently.
- The Mayo Clinic physician’s family that helped a presidential family wrap Christmas presents at the White House.
- The Mayo Clinic physician’s daughter who swam with the president in the White House pool.
- The Mayo Clinic founder who took a president’s family to the circus.

The film is available at www.bookstore.mayoclinic.com. It was supported by a gift from Karla M. Sorensen in honor of Marie and Albert Sorensen and their family.



The Millers, with Susan Ford Bales (right), attended a ceremony on the deck of the USS Gerald R. Ford in Newport News, Va., in 2013.

to Mayo Clinic came on TV," says Dr. Miller. "They played a clip of him receiving the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award in 2001 for pardoning former President Nixon. Steve said his father knew he was giving up a chance at being elected president by pardoning Nixon but felt it was best for the health of the country. It was nice to share that moment with them."

Dr. Miller tried to meet the Fords' nonmedical needs, too. Betty Ford wanted to have her hair done but didn't want to go to a salon. Dr. Miller arranged for his daughter, Erin Miller, to style her hair in her hospital room at Saint Marys.

Upon Ford's release, Dr. Miller accompanied the family home to Rancho

Mirage, Calif. "We advised them to avoid the elevation in Colorado in the best interest of President Ford's health," says Dr. Miller. "I sat with Mrs. Ford during the trip home and helped to get her husband settled at home. I briefed his private physician and continued to consult with him over the next few months."

'That dedication is remarkable'

The two weeks with Dr. Miller made a lasting impression on the Fords. "Buzz's dedication to my parents was amazing," says Ford Bales. "He is the kindest, gentlest, most giving man. We were so impressed that he moved into the hospital in case anything happened while Dad was there. That dedication is remarkable!"

Dr. Miller became aware of how grateful the family was less than two months later when he and his wife, Debby, were invited to the dedication of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

That invitation was the first of many in what developed into a long-term relationship. Only four months after meeting the Fords, the Millers were invited by Betty Ford and the family to participate in the state funeral events for former President Ford, who died in December 2006.

Buzz Miller, M.D., and his wife, Debby, attended the unveiling of a bronze statue of former President Ford in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol in 2011.



"They flew us to Washington, D.C., for the state funeral. We rode in the line of limousines to Washington National Cathedral with Tom Brokaw and his wife," says Dr. Miller. "We got 'misplaced' at the cathedral, and Mrs. Ford's personal assistant came to get us and seated us two rows behind the family."

The Millers then flew with the Fords, their close friends, and former President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, aboard Air Force One for a reception at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and an additional funeral service in Grand Rapids, Mich.

"When we went over the University of Michigan stadium, the aircraft flew as low as possible and tipped its wings in salute to President Ford," says Dr. Miller. "Once in Grand Rapids, we were in the official motorcade. People lined the streets as we passed by to show their respect and then streamed in all night long to view the casket on a very cold night in early January."

Betty Ford died at 93 in 2011, and the Millers were invited by the family



Mayo Clinic and first families

Mayo Clinic has had relationships with U.S. presidents dating back to President **Abraham Lincoln**, who appointed William Worrall Mayo, M.D., to be the examining surgeon for the Union Army during the Civil War. Since then, presidents and first families have been patients, advisers and benefactors at Mayo Clinic.

- In 1919, the White House doctor called Charles H. Mayo, M.D. (Dr. Charlie), for a consultation for President **Woodrow Wilson**, who had a stroke.
- Dr. Charlie was contacted in 1922 to consult for President **Warren Harding's** wife, **Florence**, who had a serious urinary blockage.
- In 1938, President **Franklin Roosevelt** and his wife, **Eleanor**, traveled to Mayo Clinic for the surgery of their son, James.
- Future president **John F. Kennedy** was a patient at Mayo Clinic as a young adult.
- During the U.S. Senate race in Texas in 1948, future president **Lyndon Johnson** was a Mayo Clinic patient for consultation about kidney stones. He had a personal relationship with Mayo Clinic physician and fellow Texan James Cain, M.D. (I '41). After Johnson became president, Dr. Cain remained his personal physician based in Rochester. Johnson needed gallbladder surgery in 1965, and Dr. Cain assembled a surgical team that went to Washington, D.C., to treat the president. Mayo's Kenneth Devine, M.D. (S '44, PLS '47), was a member of a subsequent Johnson surgical team in Washington, D.C., in 1966. Johnson's relationship with Mayo Clinic continued for the rest of his life, and he served as a Mayo Clinic trustee after he left office. Former first lady **Lady Bird Johnson** was a patient at Mayo Clinic in Arizona.
- Mayo Clinic physician John Spittell, M.D. (I '55), along with two other cardiovascular specialists, examined former President **Richard Nixon** in 1974 to assess his ability to travel to Washington, D.C., to testify in the Watergate trial. The evaluation and expert opinion were requested by U.S. District Court Judge John Sirica. Nixon had undergone surgery for thrombophlebitis, and the physicians advised that he should not travel at that time.
- Oliver Beahrs, M.D. (S '50), had a relationship with President **Ronald Reagan** and his wife, **Nancy**, and coordinated consultations and procedures for the couple during their White House years, including the president's 1986 surgery at Mayo Clinic. Shortly after his presidency, Reagan came to Mayo Clinic for another surgery. The couple continued to have checkups in Rochester. The former president was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease at Mayo Clinic and was cared for by Mayo physicians for the rest of his life.
- President **George H.W. Bush** had two hip replacement surgeries at Mayo Clinic, and his wife, **Barbara**, was a Mayo Clinic trustee.

to attend her funerals in Rancho Mirage and Grand Rapids. That year, they also attended the unveiling of a bronze statue of former President Ford in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. They've attended annual celebrations of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and a 2013 celebration of Ford's 100th birthday in Grand Rapids. In 2013, they attended a ceremony on the deck of the United States' newest aircraft carrier, the USS Gerald R. Ford, in Newport News, Va., and then attended the christening of the carrier later that year as guests of Ford Bales, the carrier's official ship sponsor.

'We had a good feeling about Buzz from day one'

The relationship involves more than just attending official events. Dr. Miller is Ford Bales' cardiologist ... and friend.

"We've learned that many in the Ford family have bad hearts — a genetic disorder," says Ford Bales, who lives in Tulsa, Okla. "I have stents, and I see Buzz at Mayo Clinic every year for heart checkups. He makes me feel like I'm doing the right things and assures me I'm OK. He encourages me to be active and live my life. I'm so comfortable with him. I can pick up the phone and talk to him about my care. He quickly went from Dad's doctor to our friend.

"How do you repay somebody who sought to give your parents more quality years of their lives? Buzz enjoys honoring my parents and, as did they, we enjoy having him in our lives. When you're in the public eye, you become perceptive about with whom you want to continue relationships and whom you don't. We had a good feeling about Buzz from day one. He's a special friend to us — very special." ■



Know your Board

The last issue of Mayo Alumni magazine featured profiles of several members of the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association, and this issue includes more.

Mayo Clinic Alumni Association Board of Directors

- Provides leadership
- Makes policy decisions
- Decides strategic direction and vision



Theresa Emory, M.D. (PATH '94)

Board Member

- Gastrointestinal Pathologist, Anatomic and Clinical Pathologist
- Peninsula Pathology Associates, Riverside Regional Medical Center, Newport News, Va.
- Residency: Pathology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
- Medical School: Eastern Virginia Medical School (Norfolk)
- Undergraduate: University of Virginia (Charlottesville)
- Native of: Arlington, Va.

Why did you decide to pursue medicine?

My parents were physicians. I thought I'd be a veterinarian. As an animal science major, I became interested in research. At 19, while volunteering with a pathologist, I decided that pathology would afford the opportunity to care for patients and engage in medical research.

Why did you train at Mayo Clinic?

My husband, Roger Emory, M.D. (S '94), and I were in the military and had the

opportunity to pursue nonmilitary residencies after our internships. We'd heard of Mayo from friends who trained there. We knew Mayo's reputation for patient-centered, coordinated medical care was unique, and Mayo was renowned for cutting-edge technology. The small-town location was appealing because we had an infant son.

What was your first impression of Mayo Clinic?

The volume of patients allowed for subspecialization, which let trainees be exposed to highly unusual medical conditions on a daily basis. This provided an incredible breadth of education.

How does Mayo Clinic influence your practice?

"The best interest of the patient is the only interest to be considered" has guided my medical career every day of my practice and my life away from medicine. It has encouraged me to be involved in my community.

Because of Mayo, I'm much more aware of the fluid nature of medical knowledge, the need to be involved in advances in medicine, and importance of bringing the public and government into the conversation. I've become involved with legislative affairs through professional organizations and in my state, advocating for changes in laws that protect patients.

What valuable lesson did you learn at Mayo Clinic?

As we face significant changes in our health care system in the United States, I believe we will navigate through these changes if the patient stays front and center, and the end results will be higher quality health care with more efficiency.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I love to travel and learn about the history, cultures and people around the world. I made it to all seven continents before age 50, and I swam in Antarctica without a wetsuit in January 2012.



Holly Geyer, M.D. (I '11)

Board Member, Executive Committee

- Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
- Division of Hospital Internal Medicine, Mayo Clinic in Arizona

- Residency: Internal Medicine, Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education (Arizona)
- Medical School: University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences (Grand Forks)
- Undergraduate: University of Minnesota (Minneapolis)
- Native of: Brooklyn Park, Minn.

Why did you decide to pursue medicine?

I was raised from the ages of 5 to 10 in South Africa as a missionary within the apartheid-segregated townships. The poverty and health deprivation plaguing the indigenous populations made an impression. When I returned to the United States, I focused on activities that emphasized the alleviation of suffering. I was fascinated by the basic sciences, and medicine surfaced as the perfect career to align my intellectual curiosities with my passion for service.

Why did you train at Mayo Clinic?

I was resolute in finding an institution that recognized the very reason for its existence within the population it served, empowered that acknowledgement with solid educational activities and advanced its capabilities through ongoing research. Mayo was an obvious choice.

How does Mayo Clinic influence your practice?

Mayo has made every effort to provide me with the best clinical tools, highly trained colleagues and a personable working environment. This inspires me to offer the best of myself to each patient I encounter.

So much of hospital medicine is the practical application of broad disease-based guidelines. In the routine of patient care, however,

patients may morph into their diseases, and practitioner treatments resemble rudimentary execution of algorithms.

Mayo has taught me to view patient care from such a greater perspective — to see the patient as I see myself, as one who struggles to live bereft of ailments that would compromise quality and quantity of existence. Every patient I encounter becomes a reminder that life is precious and fragile. I wish to never take for granted the privilege to be a provider that steps in daily to reset the physical equilibrium of health and functionality in an unbalanced system.

What valuable lesson have you learned at Mayo Clinic?

It's not enough to have good intentions. Our patients depend on us daily to be the intermediate that gets them back to health. From following up on their test results to coordinating their care to ensure their full comprehension of their conditions and treatments, our patients rely on us to take the greatest scientific advances and distill them into quality-driven, reliable care. I want to make every activity performed on their behalf reputable, impactful and accurate. I believe this philosophy is the heartbeat of Mayo.

How do you contribute to the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association?

I hope to inspire the next generation of young medical professionals to train with Mayo and model its most basic constructs as they take their practice back into the world.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I'm a competition light-rifle shooter.



Kenneth Layton, M.D. (R-NEU '05, R-ANG '06)

Board Member

- Vice Chairman, Department of Radiology
- Director, Interventional Neuroradiology
- Clinical Assistant Professor, Texas A&M Health Science Center
- Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas
- Fellowship: Interventional Neuroradiology, Diagnostic Neuroradiology, Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education
- Residency: Diagnostic Radiology, Baylor University Medical Center
- Medical School: University of Oklahoma College of Medicine (Oklahoma City)
- Graduate: Master of Science in Healthcare Management, University of Texas at Dallas
- Undergraduate: Oklahoma State University (Stillwater)
- Native of: Stillwater, Okla.

Why did you decide to pursue medicine?

I decided on medicine when I was in 10th grade. Science and math were my favorite subjects, and I challenged myself to attempt the hardest thing possible. Going to medical school after studying engineering in undergraduate school satisfied those needs.

Why did you train at Mayo Clinic?

The Neuroradiology Department at Mayo Clinic is unrivaled for its tremendous resources, facilities and teachers. I interviewed at several top-notch neuroradiology fellowship programs, but Mayo was undeniably the only place I wanted to train.

What was your first impression of Mayo Clinic?

The coordination of care was strikingly different from anything I had encountered. It was clear that Mayo Clinic was something special and different. The entire process was focused on assuring the best outcome for each patient.

How does Mayo Clinic influence your practice?

When I'm confronted with an obstacle, I often ask myself, "How would this have been approached at Mayo Clinic?" The Mayo Clinic way can be difficult to emulate outside of Mayo, but I try very hard to inject this part of my training into everything I do professionally.

I think Mayo gave me a better understanding of what the ideal practice of medicine should look like. Mayo provides the gold standard for medical care in the world. I will always be grateful for the chance to train at Mayo Clinic and thankful for all who contributed to my learning.

What valuable lesson did you learn at Mayo Clinic?

The right answer to a question is not always the most popular answer. You should always stand your ground if you are convinced your solution is the best for a patient.

How do you contribute to the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association?

I provide perspective from an interventional neuroradiologist who lives in a large metropolitan area outside of Mayo Clinic's sphere of influence. I hosted a recent Texas regional Alumni Association program, which was enjoyable.

What do you do in your spare time?

I read and study about World War II Pacific theater history, bass fish with my son and listen to old country music.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I am an avid martial arts enthusiast and have spent years training in Muay Thai.



Nathaniel Tighe (MMS '15)

Board Member, Executive Committee, MMS Representative

- Mayo Medical School, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
- Graduate: Master of Music, Boston University
- Undergraduate: Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester (New York)
- Native of: Danville, Calif.

Why did you decide to pursue medicine?

I didn't decide to pursue medicine until I was midway through my master's degree. I made several visits to friends in rural India that fundamentally changed my perspective on the world. I wanted a career that allowed me to serve people as part of my daily work.

Why are you studying at Mayo Clinic?

I noted when I first visited that Mayo is very committed to providing care that puts the need of the patient first. I knew this was the kind of physician I aspired to be. I'm incredibly lucky to be immersed in this environment and learn from people that live that mission every day.

What was your first impression of Mayo Clinic?

I was most surprised by the amount and quality of art and music that you can find around the Rochester campus. I felt like a little kid as I roamed the subways looking at paintings by renowned artists and extraordinary art from around the world.

What valuable lesson have you learned at Mayo Clinic?

I have gained a very healthy respect for the difficulties patients and their families face when dealing with our health care system. They have been my best teachers, and I am very lucky that the medical school program has given me time to listen to them.

How do you contribute to the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association?

I try to represent the perspective of my colleagues in the medical school and serve as a liaison between the students and the Alumni Association.

What do you do in your spare time?

I love spending time with my wife and 1-year-old daughter. I enjoy being in the wilderness, hiking, backpacking, skiing and camping. ■

'This is our legacy'

Alumnae leave estate gift to ovarian cancer research



Mary Johnson and Lynn Hartmann, M.D.

Lynn Hartmann, M.D. (ONC '88), and her spouse, Mary Johnson, have spent their careers working with women with ovarian cancer. Earlier this year, they decided to leave a \$1 million gift in their estate plan for ovarian cancer research at Mayo Clinic through the Doctors Mayo Society.

"We have dedicated our careers to Mayo for decades, are very loyal to Mayo and believe deeply in its core mission," says Johnson. "We see the impact Mayo has on patient care and research. Ovarian cancer has a smaller funding base than more common cancers but an outstanding research team at Mayo Clinic. This is an investment in ovarian cancer research at Mayo Clinic."

The couple say their gift also is an investment in their colleagues.

"When we thought about the gift, we envisioned real people we know working in ovarian cancer — basic and translational scientists, oncologists, surgeons, nurses, chaplains, mental health providers — and wanted to support their efforts," says Johnson. "We hope their hearts will be warmed by the knowledge that we believe in them and support what they do."

A hope that science and patient care advance

Throughout her career, Dr. Hartmann's research has focused on women's cancers. She came to Mayo Clinic in 1986

for a fellowship in Medical Oncology. She is now retired from clinical practice in Medical Oncology but continues with research work. She is a professor of oncology and the Blanche R. and Richard J. Erlanger Professor of Medical Research and was named a Mayo Clinic Distinguished Investigator in 2013. Johnson came to Mayo Clinic in 1979 as a chaplain trainee and spent the last 15 years of her career providing spiritual support to gynecologic patients. An assistant professor of oncology, Johnson retired in 2010.

"The patients we have worked with through the years have inspired us," says Johnson. "They've taught us about priorities, and about living fully and courageously. We hope our gift will move the science forward, which will enable patient care to move forward, with more effective drug treatment regimens, effective surgery, improved quality of life and possibly improved length of life."

A new phase of life, excited to see colleagues' progress

Dr. Hartmann and Johnson aren't retired in the usual sense. Dr. Hartmann continues to work part time on research projects in ovarian and breast cancer, and Johnson is an actor in the Mayo

Clinic Multidisciplinary Simulation Center in Rochester. She also is writing a play about end-of-life vigils. The couple, together since 1994 and married since October 2013, plan to remain in Rochester. They have an apartment in St. Paul, Minn., for cultural and sporting event getaways.

As they enter a new phase of their lives, they're eager to see their colleagues' progress.

“We hope our gift will move the science forward, which will enable patient care to move forward. . . .” — Lynn Hartmann, M.D.

"When I joined the staff in the late 1980s, I was the first woman on the Medical Oncology staff," says Dr. Hartmann. "Some ovarian cancer patients asked to see a female physician, which is how I became involved with this disease. Early on, colleagues and I saw possibilities for improvement and developed a research team that has grown over the years in a wonderful way. The program has become recognized with major grants.

"We're excited and proud to support the ongoing work. This is what we wanted to do. This is our legacy." ■

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Pulmonologist-turned-inventor



Robert Gillio, M.D. • 1986

In 2000, Robert Gillio, M.D. (I '83, THD '86), gave up his pulmonology practice to focus his efforts on solving problems.

"I spent 14 years of my career treating often preventable illnesses and injuries — lung cancer, asthma and emphysema caused by smoking, heart attacks from obesity and drunk-driving related accidents in the emergency room," he says. "I wanted to go upstream and prevent people from 'falling in the river' so that 'lifeguards don't have to jump in and rescue them.'"

Dr. Gillio says he always had an entrepreneurial inclination. "I've learned to listen when people complain; it means they are asking for someone to provide a solution," he says. "If you can't find an existing solution, invent one. Surround yourself with people who are smarter than you to help solve the problem.

"When I was in medical school, I saw a patient death caused by a medication error. During my residency at Mayo Clinic, I served on a pharmacy committee working on unit-dose packing of medications to reduce errors. Those experiences influenced me to collaborate with IBM engineers in Rochester immediately after residency to develop a medication-dispensing robot to help nurses give the right doses to the right patients at the right time."

That invention — one of the first electronic medication-dispensing systems — is today called MedSelect Systems. The technology was purchased by AmerisourceBergen and is licensed by Cerner and used worldwide.

With one successful invention under his belt, Dr. Gillio, then in private practice in Lancaster, Pa., was approached by his mentor, Edward Rosenow III, M.D. (I '65, THD '65), for help with a problem. Dr. Rosenow, now a Mayo Clinic emeritus consultant in Internal Medicine and professor emeritus of medicine, wanted to explore ways to test residents in bronchoscopy techniques beyond the standard paper exams. Dr. Gillio worked with others to invent a bronchoscopy/endoscopic surgery simulator and robotics program — one of the first patented in the United States.

His other inventions include designing an early multimedia telemedicine system for physicians and developing a simulated medical case online training program for physicians. He also created the first intranet and content management system for school systems, which was purchased by Apple Computer and installed as "The Family Channel" on computers sold between 1999 and 2001.

In 2000, Dr. Gillio and his wife, Beth Remick Gillio, a former Mayo Clinic dietitian, founded InnerLink, Inc., a health and wellness company that combines data aggregation with technology and content to optimize health. Dr. Gillio also is the executive director and cofounder of the Force for Health Foundation, an organization that aims to equip individuals and communities, including schools, with technology and strategies to improve population health.

"When you show interest in problem solving, people will seek you out for help," says Dr. Gillio.

Expertise sought post-9/11 attacks

Dr. Gillio's expertise was sought after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

A friend who was aware of Dr. Gillio's telemedicine and education applications contacted him to learn if they could be used by volunteers screening New York Police Department (NYPD) officers involved in the cleanup after the attacks. Police officers and other rescue workers, volunteers, and residents of Lower Manhattan and surrounding areas were exposed to unprecedented physical and mental health dangers.

Dr. Gillio went to New York City to assist with medical assessment and care of rescue workers and volunteers. He developed algorithms for staging hazardous exposure and set up the database for what would become the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Registry.

The registry — the largest post-disaster public health registry in U.S. history — allows health professionals to track 911-related illnesses. It was established by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dr. Gillio called upon his Mayo Clinic connections for help with the registry — Dr. Rosenow; Paul Enright, M.D. (THD '82), a recently retired pulmonologist who was on staff at Mayo Clinic from 1982 to 1991; and Greg Poland, M.D. (GIM '88), Division of Internal Medicine and the Mary Lowell Leary Professor of Medicine.

"Dr. Enright advised on inhalational dust exposure testing," says Dr. Gillio. "Dr. Rosenow helped find the resources needed to evaluate rashes initially thought to be anthrax. He and Dr. Poland provided input for a training video for police officers who were afraid to respond to calls about white powder on packages. Dr. Poland's experience with anthrax research at Mayo Clinic was valuable."

The registry contains a decade's worth of information about more than 70,000 rescue workers, first responders, residents of lower Manhattan and volunteers. "Primary care providers should know how to identify, evaluate, treat and refer patients with conditions that could be associated with 9/11 disaster exposure," says Dr. Gillio. "The registry provides algorithms to evaluate and care for these individuals."

Dr. Gillio received a letter of commendation from former New York City mayor Rudy Guiliani for his work in developing and assisting in clinics for NYPD officers and was invited by the White House to debrief former Pennsylvania governor Thomas Ridge on strategic disaster planning under the Department of Homeland Security.

Assistance requested in post-Hurricane Katrina

Because of his efforts in 9/11 recovery, Dr. Gillio was asked in 2005 by the New Orleans city director of Emergency Medical Services to help organize volunteer-based temporary clinics to serve thousands of people after Hurricane Katrina. For three years, the clinics provided medical screenings, prescriptions and assessments.

Dr. Gillio approached Mayo Clinic to send a team of medical personnel to a clinic he organized.

"Walter Franz III, M.D. (FM '82), Mayo Clinic Family Medicine, responded with more than 100 volunteers who stayed long after most teams went home," says Dr. Gillio.

Mayo opens doors

Dr. Gillio credits his training at Mayo Clinic with opening up doors during his career. "Mayo gives you a credential that opens any door, and the knowledge and skills to keep up with or lead those in the room," he says. "This background and access to experts has allowed me to have careers in clinical care, engineering, education and public health. I've been able to invent ways to reduce medical errors, improve surgical outcomes, serve our country in disasters and try to prevent the disaster of a generation of youth with preventable chronic disease. I feel an obligation to not let the privilege of training at Mayo go to waste." ■



A personal medical records system developed by Robert Gillio, M.D., (pictured post-hurricane in New Orleans) was used to help rebuild the records of thousands of patients whose providers' offices were flooded in Hurricane Katrina.

Mayo Update

AWARDS

Donald C. Balfour Mayo Clinic Alumni Association Award for Meritorious Research

2014 Recipient

Arthur Beyder, M.D., Ph.D.
(I '10, CI '12, GI '14)

Fellow, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology; Assistant Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine

Major scientific contributions:

Contributed significantly to the understanding of molecular mechanisms of gastrointestinal motility; established voltage-gated ion channels as druggable targets in neurogastroenterology and motility.

The annual Balfour Award, named in honor of Donald C. Balfour, M.D., recognizes research by a resident of Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education whose primary training is in a clinical field.



Edward C. Kendall Mayo Clinic Alumni Association Award for Meritorious Research

2014 Recipient

Jill Barnes, Ph.D. (ANES '13)

Associate Consultant, Department of Anesthesiology, Department of Physiology and Biomedical Engineering, Mayo Clinic; Assistant Professor of Physiology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine

Major scientific contributions:

Demonstrated that aging blunts the responsiveness of cerebral blood vessels and that the difference between young and older adults is dependent on prostaglandins; the magnitude of reduction in cerebral vessel response is associated with maximal aerobic capacity.

The annual Kendall Award, named in honor of Edward C. Kendall, Ph.D., recognizes outstanding research conducted by an individual whose primary appointment is in research.

Arthur Beyder, M.D., Ph.D. (left), and Jill Barnes, Ph.D. (right), received the 2014 Balfour and Kendall awards for meritorious research, respectively. Dr. Beyder joined the Mayo Clinic staff in June.

Profiles of Drs. Beyder and Barnes will be in the fall issue of *Mayo Alumni*.



Coming soon

A new Mayo Clinic Alumni Association website is being created to better serve your needs. Watch your mailboxes for more launch information later this summer.

Mayo Graduate School turns 25

Mayo Graduate School celebrates a milestone this fall and will mark the occasion with a Mayo Graduate School 25th Anniversary Symposium in Rochester, Sept. 29–Oct. 1. Visit www.mayo.edu/mgs/ to learn more about the school, which offers unique funding, elite faculty and access to outstanding research training embedded within Mayo Clinic.

Obituaries

Terry Guenther, D.D.S. (ODON '81), died May 19, 2014.

Ross Hays Miller, M.D. (NS '54), died May 10, 2014.

Roberta Rice, M.D. (S '49), died April 1, 2014.

Joseph Tiffany II, M.D. (S '69), died Jan. 11, 2014.

Complete obituaries and the Update section, with alumni and staff news, are available on the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association website, alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/MAYO/.

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Alumnae philanthropy to benefit ovarian cancer research



Mary Johnson and Lynn Hartmann, M.D.

Lynn Hartmann, M.D. (ONC '88), recently retired from clinical practice, and her spouse Mary Johnson, a retired Mayo Clinic chaplain, left a \$1 million gift in their estate plan for ovarian cancer research through the Doctors Mayo Society.

Dr. Hartmann emphasizes the importance of philanthropy to fund research from sources other than federal grants. "Research at Mayo

Clinic, including ovarian cancer research, benefits greatly from private philanthropy, which can allow a researcher to try a new direction or idea — maybe something a little higher risk that would not be possible with federal grants," she says. "We'd like to see research in ovarian cancer continue to be creative, take some risks, and try new ideas that can ultimately advance the science and patient care."

The couple point out that philanthropic gifts to Mayo Clinic research reap extra dividends. "Research teams at Mayo tend to be very productive because people work together without internal competition," says Dr. Hartmann. "Researchers share and help each other. This environment makes the dollars invested in research go even further."

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