

medicine

at M I C H I G A N

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Recruits on the Front Lines of Science

The First Biological Sciences
Scholars Arrive



A PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL

A Fabulous Tradition

➔ **A Historic Convocation Becomes a Time for Heartfelt Thank You's**



Waiting for the convocation to begin: Allen S. Lichter, dean of the Medical School; Gilbert Omenn, U-M executive vice president for medical affairs and CEO of the Health System, talking with Harold T. Shapiro, eleventh U-M president and now president of Princeton University; Antonia Novello, U.S. surgeon general during the Bush administration and now health commissioner for the state of New York, talking with U-M President Lee C. Bollinger.



Left: Robert D. Burton (M.D. 1953, Residency 1959) of Grand Rapids, Charles Danek (M.D. 1968, Residency 1976) of Traverse City, and Alphonse R. Burdi (Ph.D. 1963), professor of anatomy and cell biology and director of the Inteflex Program, walking with the procession into Hill Auditorium.

Right: Antonia Novello with U-M officers Cynthia Wilbanks, vice president for government relations, Provost Nancy Cantor, Vice President for Development Susan Feagin, and Regent Emerita Veronica Smith of Grosse Ile.



“As a student, you always felt your education was the center of the faculty’s attention.”

—Keith Black

An afternoon convocation at Hill Auditorium on October 1 marked the beginning of the official celebration of the Medical School’s 150th anniversary. Dean Allen S. Lichter welcomed guests who had come to “pay homage to the 150-year legacy entrusted to us,” and noted the “fabulous tradition” of which they were all a part.

Nine speakers, each chosen to represent a particular time and personal vantage point in the School’s contemporary history, talked about the influence of the School and medicine at Michigan on their lives.

Antonia Novello (Residency in Internal Medicine, 1974), former U.S. surgeon general and now health commissioner for the state of New York, expressed her gratitude for the School’s “taking a chance on a kid from Puerto Rico” and for imbuing her with a sense of service, for never allowing her to “forget the people behind the statistics.”



Representing all the patients served by the University of Michigan Health system, 29-year-old Erik Morganroth described the 34 days he spent on cardiac life support and the 1995 heart transplant that saved his life.

Renowned neurosurgeon Keith Black (M.D. 1981, Residency in Neurosurgery 1987), director of the Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, representing the 18,000 physicians who have received their M.D. degrees from the Medical School since 1851, described his 12 years at Michigan as “unequivocally the best years of my life; as a student, you always felt your education was the center of the faculty’s attention.”

William N. Hubbard, M.D., who served as dean from 1959 to 1970, noted wryly the program’s description of his tenure as “the golden era,” and said he thought rather it was the new century “that truly holds the promise of being the golden era.” All he had done, he said, was to “remove impediments to the potential of the faculty and students,” which he deemed to be the major responsibility of those, like him, whose role in the School’s history had been an administrative one. ➤



Above: U-M president Lee Bollinger with Harold Shapiro, president of U-M from 1980-87.

Far Left: Thomas F. Kerns (M.D. 1954) of Yakima, Washington, with Tom Varbedian (M.D. 1956) of Bloomfield Hills.

Below: Third-year medical students Aaron Anderson, Neda Yousif, and Anita Lopes with their souvenir histories by Horace Davenport.

Right: Antonia Novello signs her autograph in first-year student Natalie Hubbard's copy of the new Horace Davenport book, *Not Just Any Medical School*.



Former U-M President Harold T. Shapiro talked about his memories of the “courageous action on the part of many individuals” in the “high-stakes poker game” that was involved in raising \$210 million to replace the 61-year-old “Old Main” Hospital with a new one in the 1980s, and the “forced march” of his own medical education that was part of the process. (Shapiro, now president of Princeton University, serves as head of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission.)



David Botstein (Ph.D. 1967), chair of the Department of Genetics at Stanford University School of Medicine, representing graduate students, expressed his thankfulness for the “blending of basic science and medicine” at

Michigan, a blending, he said, that could have been accomplished only at Michigan where the “breadth of vision” far exceeded that found anywhere else at the time.

President Lee C. Bollinger and Gilbert S. Omenn, executive vice president for medical affairs, represented the current leadership of the University and the Health System. Both spoke of the revolution in the life sciences and its promise for the new century. Despite all we’ve learned over 150 years, Omenn said, “our ignorance is still a compelling challenge.”



Above: Keith Black (M.D. 1981, Residency 1987), director of the Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, with Professor of Surgery Robert Bartlett (M.D. 1963, Residency 1969).

Left: Grateful patient Erik Morganroth, who received a heart transplant in 1995 at University Hospital.

Far Left: From left, on stage: Keith Black, William Hubbard, David Botstein, Allen Lichter, admiring the crystal memento given to each speaker.



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of basic science and medicine
that could only have been
accomplished at Michigan.”**

—David Botstein



Top Left: Faculty members Jack Dixon and James C. Stanley (M.D. 1964, Residency 1970) leading the convocation processional down the aisle in Hill Auditorium.

Above: A legacy of great leadership: Five deans whose tenures span the years 1959 to the present: from left, Allen S. Lichter (1998-present); A. Lorris Betz (1996-98, interim); Giles G. Bole (1990-96); Joseph E. Johnson III (1985-90); and William N. Hubbard, Jr. (1959-70), the Medical School’s first full-time dean. Not present: Peter A. Ward, interim dean from 1982-85 and now chair of the Department of Pathology, and the late John A. Gronvall, dean from 1970-82. Alumni deans: Lichter (M.D. 1972), Bole (M.D. 1953, Residency 1956), Ward (M.D. 1960, Residency 1963).