This special issue of Medicine at Michigan marks the culmination of the Medical School’s 150th anniversary, which ends with our Sesquicentennial Celebration/All-Classes Reunion on October 13 and 14 in Ann Arbor. We hope you are planning to be with us for this great event, which will be marked with a special sesquicentennial performance by the Michigan Marching Band during half-time of the Michigan-Illinois game on the afternoon of the 14th.

Over the past year we’ve celebrated the School’s remarkable 150-year history in a number of wonderful ways, including the launching of this magazine in April 1999, and creating a sesquicentennial Web site. In October 1999 we hosted the Sesquicentennial Convocation with its many distinguished speakers, and brought together in one place the School’s four living deans. In June of this year we sponsored a very well received Sesquicentennial Symposium attracting participants from all across the country to discuss the question, “Will Professionalism Be a Casualty of Modern Medicine?” We updated Horace Davenport’s history, Not Just Any Medical School, and produced a video on the School’s history.

Our celebration received national coverage when the entire February 16, 2000, issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association was dedicated to articles from the U-M as a tribute to the Medical School’s sesquicentennial, with Victor Vaughan appearing as the cover portrait.

Other sesquicentennial initiatives included the naming of basic science lecture halls after distinguished faculty, the induction of more than 75 alumni into a new Hall of Honor, the relocation of the Medical School’s more than 120 graduation composite photographs to the connection between Medical School Buildings and the hospitals, and the installation of four historical markers on the main and medical campuses to show the location of early buildings.

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In addition a physician’s office, circa 1908, was installed in the Hospital lobby area for the enjoyment of visitors, Medical School students took photos for a “Day in the Life” layout in the June 2000 yearbook, *Aequanimitas*, and students in the Victor Vaughan Society prepared a set of biographies on those individuals whose names have become part of the School’s legacy through such means as endowed professorships and named societies. Alumni/ae at more than 40 regional events and national meetings also celebrated the sesquicentennial.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work and great imagination of the Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee, chaired by Robert Bartlett, professor of general surgery. To all of them we owe a great round of applause for all they have done, for the many ways they have helped us to appreciate the wonderful heritage that is today the University of Michigan Medical School. Their names are listed in the box at left.

We hope that you have had a chance to participate in some of the sesquicentennial events over the past year and that you will join us in Ann Arbor for the gala in October!

Sincerely,

Allen S. Lichter, M.D. Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D., Ph.D.
Dean U-M Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs and CEO, U-M Health System

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**SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE**

Gerald Abrams, M.D., professor of pathology; Robert Bartlett, M.D., professor of general surgery; A. Kent Christensen, Ph.D., professor emeritus of cell and developmental biology; Kristin Colligan, staff associate, Office of the Dean; Michael DeBrincat, director of alumni relations, Office of Medical Development and Alumni Relations; Rebecca Dunkailo, second-year medical student; Erica Hanss, assistant to the dean, Michael Harrison, director, Public Relations and Marketing Communications, U-M Health System; Timothy R.B. Johnson, M.D., Bates Professor and chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; Richard D. Judge, M.D., professor of internal medicine; Eric Kaldjian, M.D., director of pathobiology, Worldwide Pre-clinical Safety, Pfizer; Bert LaDu, M.D., Ph.D., professor emeritus of pharmacology, Research Division of Anesthesiology; Howard Markel, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of pediatrics, director, Historical Center for the Health Sciences; George W. Morley, M.D., professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology; Michael Overbeck, fourth-year medical student; Kate Schuch, sesquicentennial coordinator; Gary G. Smith, director, Gifts of Art, U-M Health System; Alexandra Stern, associate director, Historical Center for the Health Sciences; James Thomas, associate vice president, Office of Medical Development and Alumni Relations, U-M Health System; Walter M. Whitehouse, Jr., M.D., chair, Department of Surgery, St. Joseph Mercy Health System. All members of the Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee are faculty, staff or students in the U-M Medical School unless otherwise noted.