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Alumni News Volume 1 No. 1

Touro College Barry Z. Levine School of Health Sciences

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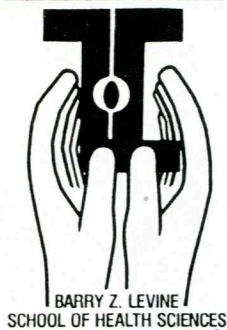


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TOURO COLLEGE

BARRY Z. LEVINE SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

ALUMNI NEWS

Volume 1, No. 1

November, 1992

Letter from the Dean

Dr. Joseph Weisberg, Ph.D., P.T.



Dear Alumnus;

It is with pride that I report on the progress of the Barry Z. Levine School of Health Sciences over the past three years and some of the school's future plans.

Under the leadership of Jill Auster-Liebhaber, the Physical Therapy Program has grown to become one of the largest in the State. Mrs. Auster-Liebhaber has done a superb job in improving the program which was just re-accredited for eight years by the APTA. Furthermore, the student passage rate on the New York State Licensure Examination was 100%.

The Occupational Therapy Program, under the leadership of Dr. Catherine Y. Gordeon, received full AMA and AOTA accreditation in 1991. They have a full class of thirty-one students for the Fall 1992 semester. The national AOTCB Certification Examination passage rate for the program's first two classes was 100%, with all students performing well above the national average.

The Physician Assistant Program, under the leadership of Paul F. Jacques was re-located to the Dix Hills campus in August, 1990 and was re-accredited in

May, 1991. Furthermore, a second PA class is planned at Coney Island Hospital for the Brooklyn area. The student passage rate on the National Certificate Examination given on October 17, 1991 has also risen to 92%.

Under the leadership of Faith Charny-Goldstein the Health Information Management Program is expanding. The program plans to offer courses at the Dix Hills campus for the first time beginning January, 1993 and is exploring sites in Brooklyn.

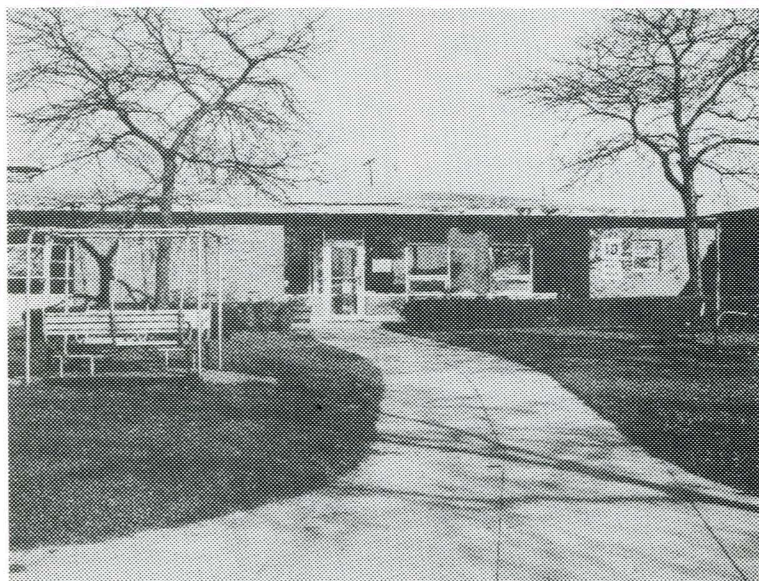
Moreover, the student passage rate on the American Medical Record Association Examination has consistently been above the national average.

The Biomedical Program is also expanding and is proud to boast an entering class of twenty students. Dr. Gerald D. Barry continues his excellent leadership of the program and we are planning to expand our relationship with the Technion.

In addition, to our academic success we have engaged in serving the clients of the Long Island Developmental Center. Our faculty consult with LIDC on a continuing basis ensuring a high level of care.

As you can see, we have done well in improving and expanding our programs. However, we will not stop there. The need for health care professionals is well documented and we plan to expand our role. We are in the process of developing new entry level programs as well as

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PA Program Expansion

In March 1990 Touro College President Dr. Bernard Lander appointed Paul F. Jacques, RPA-C, the Director of the PA program. Mr. Jacques, a 1977 graduate of the Touro College PA Program, has worked in primary care for 15 years. During 1988 he served as the president of the New York State Society of Physician Assistants (NYSSPA) and during his tenure had to deal with the problems that had come up because of the success of the PA program.

As the president of NYSSPA he presented testimony to the Department of Health Task Force on Health Manpower. The proposal to the Dept. of Health was to expand PA educational opportunities. Taking on the responsibility of Program Director at Touro College offered Mr. Jacques the opportunity to enter education and meet the demand for PA graduates.

Mr. Jacques instituted a reorganization plan for the curriculum and the admission policies of the program. A reflection of the positive impact of these changes is the fact that the class of 1991 had a 92% pass rate on the NCCPA examination. This is an all-time high percentage rate for any class during the last decade. This high percentage rate occurred at a time when the national pass rate decreased from the usual 80% overall passing to a 69% pass rate.

To meet the escalating demand for additional PA's and to accommodate the expanding applicant pool, the college has entered into an agreement with Coney Island Hospital in Brooklyn to establish an extension center (CIEC). The CIEC is currently awaiting official approval of the New York State Education Department. Pending approval, the extension center

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Your Input Is a Key to Our Success



By Esther Ingber
Director of Alumni Affairs

As an alumna of the Health Information Management Program and Program Assistant in the Physician Assistant Program, for the past 15 years, I am honored to have been chosen to serve as Director of the Alumni Organization for the School of Health Sciences.

One of my main roles in this position is to guide alumni to sources of information about job openings in each of our health divisions and to assist them in job placement. In addition to publishing a newsletter we will conduct alumni events and establish a system for networking graduates. We will also seek to provide funds for scholarships for needy students.

A Steering Committee of Alumni is being established to design the development of the organization. The key to the success of this effort will be the cooperation which I hope to receive from all graduates of the Barry Z. Levine School of Health Sciences. We are looking forward to your suggestions, involvement and participation.

The Alumni Office will be located in Building #14 at the campus in Dix Hills.

This newsletter is for you, our alumni. Any articles, letters, comments or requests for placing advertising should be directed to:

Esther Ingber
Director of Alumni Affairs
Touro College
Barry Z. Levine School
of Health Sciences
135 Carman Road
Building 14
Dix Hills, NY 11746
(516) 673-3200

Health Information Management Program Highlights

By Faith Goldstein, RRA Director

1979

Touro College contacts (then AMRA, now AHIMA) and opens the MRA Program. The program is begun with the goal of "Meeting the Needs of the Adult Working Student, Working In the Health Care Field—Who Knows the Value of the R.R.A."

1981

The Program graduates its first class. All students pass the R.R.A. Examination. The MRA program is a part of the School of General Studies.

1983, 1985 & 1991

The Program is reaccredited.

1986

The R.R.A. examination changes to a competency-based format.

1987

The Program changes its name from Medical Record Administration to Health Information Management in October, 1992. The American Medical Record Association changes its name to the American Health Information Management Association. The H.I.M. program becomes a division of the school of Health Sciences (SHS). The SHS has programs in Physical Occupational Therapy, Physical Assistant and Biomedical.

1988

M. Lynn Scandia, RRA resigns as Program Director. Faith Goldstein, RRA begins as Director. Kaarin Kolbre, RRA continues as Assistant Director. AHIMA adopts a curriculum based on "Competencies for Registered Record Administrators."

1990

The HIM Program adopts a "Distinguished Faculty" Award and an "Outstanding Clinical Preceptor" Award. The winners of the Faculty Award are: Karen Silfen, RRA-1990; Kathleen Frawley, RRA, J.D.-1991. The winners of the Preceptor awards were won by: Jolie Schocker, RRA-1990; Guy Pontrelli RRA-1991.

1991

CPT coding is added to the RRA examination.

1992

AHIMA adopts a "Domains, Tasks and Subtasks" curriculum. The RIA examination is structured to match the School of Health Sciences' forms in the Alumni office.

Message From the Associate Dean



A warm "Hello Class" to all Touro College, School of Health Sciences alumni. I hope you are all happy

We at Touro are pleased with the growth and progress made in our programs. The P.T. and P.A. Programs are both well established at the Dix Hills campus. O.T. has grown and expanded its facilities and HIM will soon join us in Dix Hills. The Biomedical Program has admitted its largest class to date—20 students.

Many challenges lie ahead. We are presently working on the facilities. A book store has been added and cafeteria service will begin soon. However, our primary objective, as always, is to maintain and strengthen the quality of our educational programs. Soon new, qualified Health Professionals will graduate and join you in forming an ever increasing group of Touro Health Care Professionals. That makes me happy...and proud. My best wishes to all of you.

Sincerely,
Gerald D. Barry, Ph.D.

THE TOURO COLLEGE BARRY Z. LEVINE SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

is pleased to announce its

THIRD ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

honoring:

Dr. Raymond Damadian
Chief Executive Officer
Fonar Corporation

Dr. Janet L. Mitchell
Chief of Perinatology
Harlem Hospital Center

Dr. Edward S. Orzac
Medical Director
Franklin Hospital Medical Center

Wednesday Evening, December 2, 1992

CREST HOLLOW COUNTRY CLUB

Woodbury, Long Island, NY

Physical Therapy News

By Piraska I. Szabo Ph.D., P.T.

When, in a misguided moment last year, I told Jill Auster-Liebhaber, then Acting Director, that I would do a survey of the alumni of the Touro Physical Therapy program, their employers and Clinical Instructor for the APTA reaccreditation process, I had no idea of the magnitude of this task. Now, a long six months later, the responses have been tabulated and analyzed with the help of my advisor, Dr. John Magel, and a statistics program, and, thanks in part to your cooperation by returning the surveys, I have been able to write a thesis and finally get my P.T. degree (June, 1992).

I thought that as alumni you might be interested in some of the results of the survey and also in knowing that your comments were all read and considered, and that some substantial changes have been made in the curriculum in response to your input.

First, let me briefly present some general data derived from the survey.

1. The response rate among the alumni was 63% overall, ranging from a low of 44% for the Class of 1987 to a high of 87% for the Class of 1989. A total of 74 alumni, 34 Clinical Instructors and 35 employers responded.

2. The average number of continuing education courses taken by all alumni is somewhat higher than two per year.

3. Four alumni are currently participating in advanced degree programs. Seven alumni are involved in clinical research. Thirty alumni (41%) are affiliated with a physical therapy teaching program. (I guess Dr. Driscoll's education course is turning out to be useful.)

4. 65% of responding alumni hold one job, 23% have two jobs and 12% hold three positions simultaneously. The Class of 1988 had the highest percentage of respondents (55%) who stated that they hold more than one job.

Second, I would like to give

you an idea of what the highest and lowest rated survey items were when all respondents (alumni, employers, and clinical instructors) were considered. Of fifty-one survey items analyzed, six were scored with a "5," meaning "strongly agree," by 50% or more of the respondents, indicating that the particular competency was very well met and that the Program preparation in this area was very strong. Four of these items concerned behavior patterns demonstrated by the graduates. Graduates of the Touro Program were reported by clinical instructors and employers/supervisors to practice in an ethical, legal, safe, and caring manner and the alumni indicated by their responses that the Program encourages these behaviors. Two other questions, which dealt with skills and treatment techniques taught by the Program in the areas of electrical modalities and massage, were in this group of items with the highest rankings. Preparation in electrical modalities was the item ranked highest by the alumni; 20% scored it with a "4," meaning "agree" and 78% scored it with a "5," meaning "strongly agree."

At the low end of the scale were seven items, which received a rating of "1," meaning "strongly disagree" or "2," meaning "disagree," from 15% or more respondents. These items addressed neurological interpretation and physical therapy diagnosis, and skills and treatment techniques in wound care, hydrotherapy, sterile technique and infection control. A final item in this category dealt with awareness of fiscal realities in the discharge of physical therapy practice. It was considered that the competency was inadequately met for these items and that the preparation of the graduates by the Program was very weak.

Significant differences were identified between the mean response scores of the various alumni classes for five survey

items. Only the last four alumni classes were compared, because the Class of 1987 had too few respondents (4) for a meaningful analysis. It was possible to group these five items into two categories. One category, which contained four of the items, was related to coursework in the cardiovascular area. The particular items were cardiovascular evaluation, interpretation, and physical therapy diagnosis, and cardiopulmonary skills and treatment techniques. All significant differences involved the Class of 1989, which had much lower response rates than the other alumni classes for these items. This appeared to be related to the performance of the instructor who taught the cardiovascular course to that class. The second area in which there was a significant difference between class means was documentation. The Class of 1988 had a substantially lower response mean than the subsequent classes. From the comments of the alumni, it appears that this skill was not covered adequately in the didactic portion of the Program for the Class of 1988. These survey results suggest that the experience and perception of the Classes of 1988, 1989, 1990, and 1991 of their preparation for Physical Therapy by the Touro College Physical Therapy Program did not change significantly except in the two areas noted above.

Many things have changed at Touro since the years when you were enrolled in the Program. Class size is now up to 54 students. Some of you commented on the lack of equipment while you were attending school. The Program now has hydrocollators, whirlpools, ice machines, two treadmills, two bicycle ergometers, an upper extremity ergometer, and even a Cybex 340. The purchase of much of this equipment has been made possible by a grant from Rehabilitation Hospitals and the continued support of George E. Miller. There is more equipment available for Dr.

Kahn's electrical modalities course than there used to be. Fran Ferrante-Corio has increased the collection of prosthetics and orthotics available for study. Of course all areas could always use more equipment, so **think of Touro** if you have anything useful that you could donate to the program. (Fran is particularly interested in acquiring more orthotics.)

Some of the changes that have occurred in the curriculum have involved faculty changes. Three years ago Dr. Marianne Beninato, P.T., who has a Ph.D. in Anatomy, joined the faculty and is now Course Director of Neuroanatomy and Clinical Neurology, as well as participating in Gross Anatomy and Histology. She has worked as a P.T. for a number of years prior to getting her Ph.D. and has done a great job for the Program, especially in upgrading the neurological area of the curriculum.

There have been substantial changes in the teaching of the therapeutic exercise courses as well. A new faculty member, Robert Paskoff, P.T., M.A., who has an interest in motor learning, is involved in those courses and is assisting Jill Auster-Liebhaber in Pediatrics.

Because its preliminary survey results were available early this year, the program was able to address weaknesses and immediately implement some changes in the teaching of wound care and sterile techniques in the Physical Therapy I course for the first year students. A more comprehensive treatment of balance will be presented in the Evaluation I course this summer. (Those of you who commented on weaknesses in the evaluation area may be interested to know that we now also have an Evaluation II course, given in the third year by Gary Corso, P.T. and Tony Corso, P.T., which the students find very helpful.) As you can see from the above, there is a strong commitment by the Program to improving the

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Physical Therapy News
continued from page 3
curriculum.

Your comments regarding the working of some of the items on the survey were very helpful, and some changes will be made in future versions of the survey. The many positive, unsolicited comments by alumni were welcome. Please keep in touch with the Program. Send us a change of address form if you move. And, if in the future you receive another survey from us, please respond again. As you can see **your responses to this survey did have an effect!!**

Finally, you may be interested in knowing that effective July 29, 1992, after two years as Acting Director, Jill Auster-Liebhaber is the new Director of the Physical Therapy Program.

Many thanks and best wishes in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,
Piroska L. Szabo,
Ph.D. P.T.

P.S. We are very proud that the last two graduating classes have had a 100% passing rate on their first attempt at taking the National Physical Therapy Licensure Examination.

Letter from the Déan
continued from page 1

vanced education programs. Furthermore, we are on the verge of establishing a research institute in bioengineering and rehabilitative services. This expansion will enable us to serve you by turning our school into a center which will encompass teaching advanced clinical skills and research by national and international experts.

As proud as we are of all our achievements, a School without a strong alumni organization cannot fulfill the basic needs of its student body. Under the leadership of Esther Ingber, the Barry Z. Levine School of Health Sciences has established an Alumni Association. It is our hope that every graduate will become a member and participate in the activities planned. The association's kick-off event was held on Sunday, November 1, 1992. Watch your mail for an invitation.



OVERHEARD



By Ginger

Esther Ingber, appointed Director of Alumni Affairs for School of Health Sciences. **Zvi Adler, P.T. ('87)**, married, is in Israel for a year. **Stanley Schwartz, P.A. ('84)**, is in San Francisco sends regards and wants visitors. **Fern Arlen, P.A. ('80)** has her MD Degree and is living in Buffalo. **Margaret Hospedales, P.A. ('80)** is also living in Buffalo. **Lori Sukenik, P.A. ('85)** is married; new name Kursun. **Jaylynn Lyon, P.A. ('79)** sends regards from Salem, Oregon. **Meryl Schaefer, P.T. ('90)** moved to Aventura, Florida. **Robert Neblock, P.T. ('90)** became a Father for the first time. **Mark Fellows, P.T. ('90)** married February, 1992. **Russ L'Hommedieu, P.T. ('90)** wife expecting a baby in March and just purchased a house. **Jane Baldwin, P.T. ('91)** got engaged the week-end of graduation. **Maureen Padavan, P.T. ('92)** married in October. **Bernie Dunne, P.T. ('92)** became a Father in Senior year at Touro. **Donald Porter, P.T. ('92)** got married this past summer. **Michael Miller, P.T. ('92)** shopping for engagement ring. **Lisa Sussman, P.T. ('92)** got engaged. **Ken Eato, P.T. ('92)** likes the snow and moved to Minnesota with his family. **Kathy Hudson, P.T. ('92)** relocated to Massachusetts. **Laurie Stashower, P.T. ('92)** took a job with a hospital in Philadelphia.

Guy Pontrelli, (HIM) '82, Director Medical Records, Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, **Faina Fujii, (HIM) '82**, Director Medical Records, New

Occupational Therapy

By Dr. Catherine Y. Gordon
Director

The Occupational Therapy Program is the only one of its kind on Long Island and is accredited by the AMA and the AOTA. As in physical therapy, students are admitted to the program as juniors, study three years at the college and are graduated with a dual B.S.-M.A. degree, a model unique in the field.

Occupational therapists work with individuals suffering from a wide variety of diseases and disabilities which limit their independence in daily life. They can be found working with handicapped children in schools, or in a rehabilitation center teaching a person with arthritis how to manage her kitchen safely, or strengthening the arms of a boy paralyzed after a car accident so that he can get in and out of his wheelchair alone. Occupational therapists also

work in neonatal intensive care units, home health agencies, nursing homes and industrial rehabilitation centers.

One of the fastest growing professions in health care, occupational therapy offers excellent employment opportunities. Ninety-eight percent of all graduates are employed within six months and the Department of Labor forecasts continuing needs in the future. Similar to the other therapies, salaries start at \$35,000 a year.

At Touro College, students have the opportunity to take advanced specialty courses, and learn research and professional educational skills. The curriculum is designed, further to provide this education within the Jewish tradition of ethical and humanistic service to the community.

York Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital. **Diane Damiano Risorto (HIM) '89**, Asst. Director Medical Records, Staten Island Hospital, **Lesbia Delgado (HIM) '89**, Director Medical Records Lincoln Hospital. **Julia Alberino (HIM) '88**, Health Care Finance Administration NYC, **Mary Green (HIM) '84**, Asst. Director Medical Records, North Central Bronx Hospital, **Diane Chappelle, (HIM) '86**, Director Medical Records, North Central Bronx Hospital, **Sturt Holtzer (HIM) '84**, Director Medical Records, Gouverneur Hospital, **Grethel Escobar-Marks, (HIM) '89**, Director Medical Records, Hospital for Joint Diseases, **James Harris, (HIM) '85**, Director Medical Records, Long Island College Hospital, **Arlene Quinteros (HIM) '84**, Director Medical Records, Long Beach Memorial Hospital, **Michael Brummel (HIM) '82**, Private Corporation (Coding) NYC.

PA Program Expansion

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will admit 20 students beginning January 20, 1993. The students enrolled at the CIEC will be admitted using the same admission criteria as the Dix Hills campus and will be offered the identical curriculum. The CIEC curriculum is offset by one semester so the College will be offering twice the number of courses per semester leading to the PA credential. Alumni interested in enrolling in a course for purposes of remediation should contact the Program Director for discussion of courses that are available.

Development of an extension center (satellite campus) is a novel approach to expand the capacity of the PA program. Collaborative efforts between CI hospital and Touro College will bring additional medical educational expertise to the evaluation of the curriculum and will provide CI hospital with a system to more effectively recruit PA's and retain the PA's on staff.

We Missed You At the Reunion

The Touro College Barry Z. Levine School of Health Sciences held its First Annual Alumni Reunion on Sunday, November 1st. Over one hundred alumni, representing graduates from 1974 to 1992, were present at the Health Sciences School Campus in Dix Hills.

At the brunch, the Directors of each Program gave a short presentation and drew winning tickets for door prizes.

Regards from some of your fellow classmates and friends. **Robert Kirk, P.A. ('76)**... **Ellen Ward, P.T. ('89)**... **Laura Scanlon, P.T. ('89)**... **Karen Messina, P.T. ('88)**... **Laura Squicciarini, P.T. ('88)**... **Mariam Karam, P.A. ('88)**... **Robert Brugna, P.A. ('84)**... **Louis Kaplan, P.A. ('84)**... **Susan Scheer, P.A. ('88)**... **Susan Schmidt O.T. ('91)**... **Sharon Wander, MD, P.A. ('74)**... **Debbie Weingarten, P.T. ('92)**... **Michelle Galante, P.T. ('92)**... **Hamid Bamshad, P.A. ('87)**... **Tracy Keelan, P.T. ('90)**... **Lou Garone, P.T. ('90)**... **Frank Osterwald, P.T. ('90)**... **Mark Garber, P.A. ('79)**... **Marie Baron, P.T. ('87)**... **Dominick DiCapua, P.A. ('79)**... **Verla Uberty, P.T. ('88)**... **Allan Goldblatt, P.A. ('88)**... **Veronica Christman, P.T. ('92)**... **Raymond Mattfeld, P.T. ('91)**... **Denise Clark, HIM ('86)**... **Karen Kolbre HIM ('86)**.

Please accept our apology if your name is not included here. Perhaps you didn't sign the guest listing.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our next function in the Spring of '93.

Please keep in touch. Send us an article or information about yourself for the next issue in the Alumni News. See your name in print.

Touro College PA Program Emphasis Is On Primary Care

25 years ago, the PA profession was developed to increase access to primary care by training individuals to be "Physician Assistants" to the primary care physician. Today the need for primary care providers is greater than it was at the advent of PAs. A mere 17% of current medical school graduates are going into primary care practices; whereas 60% of all practicing PAs are working in primary care medicine. For new graduates to feel comfortable in a primary care practice setting, it is important for them to receive clinical training in a primary care setting. To accommodate the PA Program's goal of enhancing students' confidence level for practicing primary care, the alumni is urged to contact the program and offer their practice setting as a training ground for the PAs of tomorrow. Primary Care consists of ambulatory care settings providing pediatrics, ob/gyn, urgent care settings, internal medicine, family practice or emergency medicine.

Contact: Emily Nelson, RPA-C, Clinical Coordinator at (516) 673-3200.

Our Heartfelt Thanks...

We wish to thank the following corporations and individuals for their generous donations.

Amerex of California
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Graduation News

By Lisa Weinstein, RPA, Magna Cum Laude
1992 PA Valedictorian at Graduation, September 20, 1992

It was over two years ago that I found myself at Touro College Physician Assistant orientation. We all introduced ourselves and spoke a bit about who we were and how we came to sit together in that room. Our diverse group included several nurses, Ph.D.'s, M.D.'s, a podiatrist, a teacher, a stockbroker and many others. We came from places like Russia, Turkey, Haiti, Africa and across the United States. Our ages spanned several decades, yet we were all joined together by a common goal: the desire to provide quality health care to the people who really need it. During the two years to follow we spent countless hours studying and trying out our skills on clinical rotations. With the vital support of our family and friends, we have made it to this important milestone in our lives and will soon be graduates. I would like to reflect on the past, present and future of our unique profession.

Twenty-five years ago, in 1967 the top three TV shows were "The Andy Griffith Show," "The Lucy Show" and "Gunsmoke." The top three movies were "In The Heat Of The Night," "The Graduate" and "Look Who's Coming To Dinner." The Vietnam War was in full swing, Israel was victorious in The 6 Day War and Thurgood Marshall becomes the first Black appointed to the United States Supreme Court. The first heart transplant is performed and the first PA class is graduated from Duke University.

The concept of PA profession was an idea right for its time. The rapid growth of the PA profession was fostered by explicit policies of the federal government to address a specific problem, an inadequate supply of generalist physicians. We have been successful all over this country because we have demonstrated that we can meet critical health care access needs

and do so cost effectively. This is what has made us different. Although the number of PA's and PA programs have grown over the past 25 years, we are still far too few in number and cannot begin to meet the demand for our services.

We must continue to reaffirm our position as the profession of medical service. We must also insist that educators continue to emphasize the social responsibility of the profession. We desperately need more PA graduates if the profession is to meet existing needs while continuing to evolve in new directions. The planned expansion of the Touro PA program to a second campus at Coney Island Hospital is an example of how we are doing our part to meet the growing demands of our services.

As health care practitioners we have an obligation to educate our patients regarding how to promote health, prevent disease and select from among treatment options. The patient should be the ultimate decision maker in matters of treatment. Only then can we begin to tackle issues such as drug abuse, cancer, drug resistant TB and AIDS.

With the escalating cost of private medical insurance and yearly Medicaid cuts, it is likely that the number of uninsured Americans will continue to grow. This number is presently estimated to be nearly 32 million.

The quality and cost effective care that PA's have been proven to provide could play a vital role in the U.S. move to create a national health program that would guarantee universal access and moderate health care expenditures.

Not only is this a time to commend the hard work and accomplishments of the class of 1992, but I believe it is in order to mention the metamorphosis of the Touro PA program itself.

As we were growing and striving for excellence over the past two years, the PA program has grown with us.

Under the leadership of Paul Jacques our new program director and his fine staff, we have regained full accreditation and in one year churned out the class of 1991 which is proud to possess a 92% pass rate on the National Boards, the second highest in New York State. We hope to be Number One in 1992 and I have no doubt that we can do it.

The facilities at the Dix Hills campus easily surpass that of any previous Touro site. The number of clinical rotation sites has grown larger than any other PA program in New York. The positive aspects of my Touro experience outweighs the negatives by far. With the support of our family and friends both old and new, we completed the course of study and some of my new friendships rival those I've had for years. The past two years of hard work and sacrifice have finally paid off and it's time to give ourselves the pat on the back we deserve.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the faculty, my friends and most of all my family who have given me the loving guidance and support that has brought me to this moment.

Congratulations class of 1992!

