



THE CUPOLA

The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center
Cooperstown, New York

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Columbia-Bassett Program: 10 Years Later

By Sharon Tregaskis

Since welcoming its first students in 2012, the Columbia-Bassett medical student education program has embraced a simple premise: The health care system in the United States has room for improvement, and a tailored curriculum can prepare aspiring physicians to lead improvements of the well-being of patients and physicians.

The Columbia-Bassett program combines science-based coursework in Manhattan with clinical education at Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown. A longitudinal integrated curriculum allows students to follow a panel of patients for a full year across specialties. In addition, students use Systems, Leadership, Integration, and Management (SLIM) modules to learn the tools and principles of process improvement.

The first class of 10 students began their major clinical year in Cooperstown in 2012. The program has a lot to celebrate one decade—and 70 graduates—later, says Dr. Henry Weil, the chief academic officer at Bassett Healthcare Network and a Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons (VP&S) professor of clinical medicine who serves as



Columbia-Bassett student Peter Suwondo with Dr. Daryl Gildenblatt, an obstetrician and gynecologist at Bassett Medical Center.

Credit: Jörg Meyer for Columbia Medicine

senior associate dean for the program. “Our graduates know more about performance improvement than 99% of doctors of any age,” says Weil, who led development of the SLIM curriculum, which was expanded to all VP&S students in 2014.

A third training focus has emerged at Bassett in recent years. Known as LEC (Life Experiences Curriculum), the track prepares students to recognize and respond to the roots of emotional trauma underlying physical illness in people who might offer only subtle hints of emotional struggle. Dr. Maeve O’Neill ’16 was in the third class at Columbia-Bassett; now a psychiatrist, she co-directs the LEC.

“Columbia-Bassett is really trying to consistently ask questions about

what we can do better in medicine and medical education,” says O’Neill, who also leads the Bassett Research Institute’s nascent effort to understand how sub-clinical emotional and psychological stressors affect people living in the Cooperstown area and what the medical center can do to support their well-being.

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Message from the President of the Medical Alumni Board of Directors

Greetings to all our alumni. It certainly is a lovely time of year in upstate New York. In early October, when the alumni board met, we were delighted by the brilliance of changing colors this season. If you want to rekindle your fond memories of autumn in Cooperstown, remember that in October of 2023 we are planning our next Bassett Family Reunion. It would be a great time to learn more about what is new at Bassett, meet up with your friends and colleagues, and enjoy everything that Cooperstown has to offer. More details will be shared in future issues but pencil the Family Reunion in your calendar for the first full weekend of October 2023.

In this issue, alumni and Bassett staff members will find news of note in which you can take pride. Let us congratulate Dr. Henry Weil and the original founders of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School

program. It was a bold undertaking to establish this innovative medical school track at a time when so many challenges face rural health care providers. Yet, it has proven successful, and its graduates are making their impact in the field as the program passes its tenth anniversary.



Dr. James A. Murray

We also extend our applause and gratitude to Jane Forbes Clark and the Scriven Foundation for their generosity in making a grant of \$82 million. Details about the grant and how these funds will be used appear in the article on the back cover of *The Cupola*.

Finally, kudos to Dr. Tommy Ibrahim, Bassett’s President and CEO, upon the extension of his contract. You can read about that in this issue and remember...join us next October for the Bassett Family Reunion! ■

The Cupola is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett's Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

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The Cupola is published three times a year. Please send comments and news, including change of address information to: Editor, *The Cupola*, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Medical Center, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, NY 13326 or e-mail cupola@bassett.org.

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Alumni Association Board Gathered for Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting of the Alumni Association Board members was held on October 7. As customary, it was preceded by a lecture by the John S. Davis Visiting Professor, Kyle R. Allen, D.O. His talk entitled "Creating an Age-Friendly Health System: an Evidence Based Approach" provided an uplifting view of future developments in health care aimed at offering more services for the aging population in-home rather than in the hospital or other custodial settings.

The Board meeting was called to order by President James Murray, followed by several presentations. William Walker, Ph.D., representing the Cooperstown Graduate Program spoke of their students' work in gathering personal stories from an array of Cooperstown residents to maintain oral history of the area. Several Bassett physicians, including Drs. John Davis and Emery Herman, have had their interviews added to the program's archives. His request for further participants from the Bassett community was met with enthusiastic response.

Reports from the Departments of Medicine and Surgery were limited due to illness and conflicts in schedule. Medicine continues the recruitment of staff for Primary Care and subspecialties and looks ahead to expanding outpatient infusion service capabilities. Surgery has had some success in staff recruitment. The department plans to open a hybrid OR which will



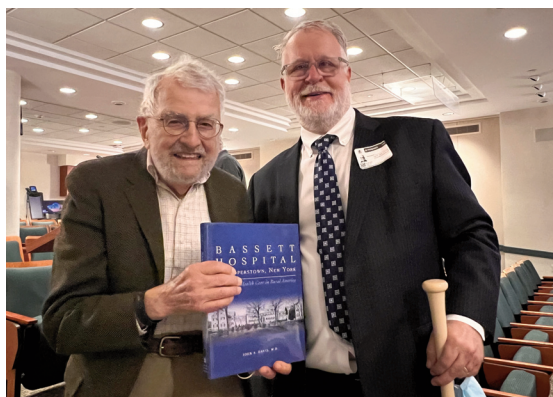
Members of the board and some spouses enjoyed an evening at *The Otesaga* after the meeting. Front row: Lynn Marsh, Joey Dier, Dr. John Davis, Marion Karl, Dru Wilkins. Back row: Drs. Jim Dalton, David Newman, Doug DeLong, John Dier, Ken Wilkins, Anush Patel, Jim Murray, Erin Gillaspie, Stephanie Ocegüera, Alan Kozak next to spouses Deb Dalton and Bijal Patel.

serve both the cath and cardiothoracic teams when working with higher risk patients.

Dr. Henry Weil provided broad overview of a variety of topics. Dr. Darah Wright, family physician based in Cobleskill, has been named director of Faculty Development. Effort to recruit a director of Medical Education, a part-time position, continues. The combined efforts of current and preceding residency program directors have led to improved results on ACGME surveys.

The presentations given by the Medicine, Surgery, and Transitional Residency Program directors were extremely positive. Medicine has seen a 93 percent and Surgery a 100 percent specialty board exam pass rates over the past three years. Several graduates of the surgical program have carried on with careers in rural settings. Most Medicine trainees apply to subspecialty programs, but many carry forth as hospitalists. ■

Med Ed Hosts Visiting Professor



John S. Davis, M.D., presenting gifts to Kyle R. Allen, D.O., the annual Davis Visiting Professor Lecturer.

Dr. Kyle R. Allen, a former fellow of the Health & Aging Policy Program was the John S. Davis Visiting Professor this year. He lectured on the topic of age-friendly health systems on Friday, October 7. Allen has a 35-year career devoted to serving and improving care of older adults and vulnerable populations. He shared his perspectives and experiences as a clinician, educator, and health system executive. ■

Columbia-Bassett Program Grad Returns to Bassett

When Bassett Healthcare and Columbia University Medical Center joined forces to launch a new medical school program, one stated goal of the partnership was to address the rural physician shortage. The investment is beginning to show results as the early graduates are moving from residencies and fellowships to establish their careers.

In the Fall 2018 issue of *The Cupola*, we reported on the first graduate of the Columbia-Bassett program who returned to work at Bassett, Dr. Allan Guiney, an attending physician in Emergency and Trauma Services. Now another graduate has joined the medical staff at Bassett.

Dr. Margaret Dowd, an attending in Dermatology, provides Mohs Surgery in Cooperstown. She completed her residency in dermatology and a fellowship in Mohs Micrographic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University Irving Medical Center in New York.

Dowd was a student in the second year of the Columbia-Bassett (C-B) medical school program. Originally from the Binghamton area, she was attracted to the program because it offered the two-fold opportunity of a degree from an established medical school with a reputation of academic excellence combined with the experience to care for an underserved upstate population. In addition, having a prior career in banking, she was open to the program's non-traditional track even though it was new and unproven.

The year in Cooperstown was influential in Dowd's career decisions. She discovered that her surgical experience as a medical student was more hands-on here than in larger



Dr. Margaret Dowd

medical centers because the teams were smaller, and students were able to work closely and directly with surgeons. The diversity of cases provided broad experience. Dowd said, "Working with Bassett plastic surgeon Dr. Eric Mooney treating skin cancer and performing skin grafts spurred my interest in dermatologic surgery. In addition, after spending time with Dr. Ann Gadomski, my preceptor in pediatrics, I seriously considered specializing in pediatric dermatology, but ultimately, I opted for a surgical path. However, that experience was formative and I still am the primary dermatologist for pediatric patients at Bassett."

Returning to the region was a priority for Dowd. "I attended medical school because I wanted to make a greater impact, and it was important to me to return upstate to work. My husband and I have a special appreciation for Cooperstown. We were married here when I was a student. This small community is rich in culture, offering art, theater, good schools, the Clark Sports Center, and wonderful people. Bassett does a good job of bringing people into the health care system, and the patients I care for are lovely."

Dowd concurs that the C-B program provides an opportunity to cultivate students' interest in working with rural populations. "The graduates of the C-B program make an excellent prospect pool for Bassett." She adds, "Columbia provides the educational excellence that is part of Bassett's heritage and the C-B track nurtures a respect for rural communities and a desire to help people in their pursuit of health." ■

Program from page 1

The LEC origin story exemplifies the best of Columbia-Bassett, says O'Neill, who notes that students and faculty together identified the need for better training about trauma and its effect on clinical care. "It's that ethos of looking at where we need to change and improve and really living that out, making those changes, that sets us apart."

Dr. Sam Porter '16, also a member of the third Columbia-Bassett class, credits the program for setting the trajectory of his career. Now an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Porter leads training programs in medical leadership and quality improvement for internal medicine residents.

"Going through Columbia-Bassett made me realize that there's a connection between getting to have a relationship with patients and being a transformative agent of change in health care," says Porter. "If you have the tools to improve the system, you can make your patients' outcomes better and safer, make the system work more efficiently, and design a system that gives you the time to connect with patients. It helped me see that vision not just for my career, but for how other physicians can have that power, too." ■

**This article is reprinted from
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of *Columbia Medicine*,
a publication of Columbia University
Vagelos College of
Physicians and Surgeons.**

New Dean Named at Columbia



*Dr. Katrina
Armstrong*

Dr. Katrina Armstrong was named the Chief Executive Officer of Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Executive Vice President for Health and Biomedical Sciences, and Dean of the Faculties of Health Sciences and Medicine. A distinguished physician, researcher, and educator, previously Armstrong was the Jackson Professor of Clinical Medicine at Harvard Medical School, Professor of Epidemiology at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and chair of the Department of Medicine and physician-in-chief at Massachusetts General Hospital. Her tenure at Columbia began in March 2022.

Armstrong received a B.A. in Architecture from Yale University, an M.D. from Johns Hopkins University, and an M.S. in Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Pennsylvania. She was a resident in internal medicine at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. She joined the Division of General Internal Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania as a Physician Scientist Fellow in 1996 and became a member of the faculty two years later. In 2013, she joined Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard where she oversaw the management of 2,000 faculty, residents, and fellows in 10 clinical divisions, and more than a dozen research centers and units. ■

THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

Please keep your notes and photos coming!

1960s

David Svahn, M.D. (P&S student summer-1964, Rotating/Internal Medicine resident 1965-67, Attending 1972-99) writes, “Karin and I are approaching two years at a retirement community in Doylestown, Penn. Adjustment was challenging moving as we did at the height of COVID. It’s been 23 years since part-time retirement and 12 years since completely hanging up my stethoscope. We find it gratifying that two of our kids now own properties on Otsego Lake, (One lives in CA!) suggesting they valued their life in Cooperstown.”

1990s

Alan James, M.D. (Medicine resident 1994-97) reports from Wisconsin, “I am going to retire from my allergy practice at the end of March 2023. My wife continues as the medical director for a local hospice organization. The practice of medicine sure has changed in the last 20 years, some of the joy of being a doctor is gone.”

Cheryl Baker, M.D. (Internal Medicine/Primary Care resident 1995-98) is living in Durham, N.C. teaching Internal Medicine residents at Duke in their outpatient continuity clinics with



Evan (in rear) with daughters Amelia and Elise. A friend James and Cheryl Baker in the foreground.

diverse high-risk patients. She adds, “We’ve just finished two-years building a new downsized home. My two daughters have launched, the youngest an undergrad at Tufts and the oldest is working in New Orleans. My husband (Evan) is full Professor of Family Medicine at UNC.”

2000s

Oliver Ni, M.D. (Internal Medicine resident 2000-01) resides in Minneapolis. He is in private practice as a neurologist and works part time as a neuromuscular pathologist. He wrote that he and his wife, “have three



(L -R) Oliver, Opal, Orly, Olive and Olin

pretty cool kids who keep us young.” And, “I will always have fond memories of my time at Bassett.”

Erin Gillaspie, M.D. (Surgical resident 2009-13) was reunited with Bassett colleagues, **Joan Delto, M.D.** (Surgical resident

2009-10) at Vika Maslova’s wedding in Maine this summer. All three of them were at Bassett during 2009-2010 when Joan and Erin were surgical residents and Vika was a critical care ICU nurse. She wrote, “We became the best of friends and still get together whenever we can for fun reunions and holidays. Vika now works as a

C.R.N.A. at Maine Med in Portland, Maine. Joan is a urologist at Creighton in Omaha, Neb. and I am a Thoracic Surgeon at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.”

2010s



Mathhar Aldaoud, M.D.

Mathhar Aldaoud, M.D. (Internal Medicine chief resident 2017-18) recalls that Cooperstown was a wonderful experience where he built a lot of memories and met great people. After completing residency here, he went to Detroit for four years specializing in Cardiology/Interventional Cardiology. He has recently started work in a private group in Fayetteville, N.C. He offered, “I would be happy to provide advice and guidance to cardiology enthusiast residents to reach their goal!” ■

Save
These
Dates:

October 6 & 7, 2023



Bassett Healthcare Network
Bassett Medical Center

Save the Date
Reunion Weekend
October 6 and 7, 2023

Celebrate the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Medical Alumni Association and spend a weekend in Cooperstown.

Reconnect with friends and meet current faculty and residents.

To volunteer to help with the reunion, contact Mary Wiswell, Office of Medical Education, 607-547-3764 mary.wiswell@bassett.org

Dr. Tommy Ibrahim Offered Contract Extension

Bassett Healthcare Network and Dr. Tommy Ibrahim have mutually agreed to an early contract extension. Originally scheduled to expire in December 2024, Dr. Ibrahim's contract has been extended through the end of 2029.

"I am so grateful for this opportunity to continue our mission-critical efforts to lead Bassett into the future and to continue serving our community with superb health care services. This region is my home now and the place where my wife and I want to raise our children and receive our own care," said Ibrahim. "Since coming to Bassett in the summer of 2020, I have been impressed by the quality of the caregivers and practitioners who expertly and caringly serve our patients, day-in and day-out," he reports.

"There is so much left to accomplish here, but most importantly, I am determined to see our transformation through, to becoming the best employer in the region. Our 5,000 employees deserve no less," Ibrahim continued.

"Dr. Tommy Ibrahim has had a remarkably successful initial run at Bassett at a time when health care executives across the nation have been confronted by significant market turmoil and challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic which broke out at about the time of his arrival," says Bassett Healthcare Network Board of Directors Chair, Doug Hastings. "Dr. Ibrahim has exceeded our expectations which were already high when he agreed to come to Cooperstown with his family," explained

Hastings, a national expert in health care policy and law who has chaired Bassett since 2019.









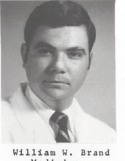






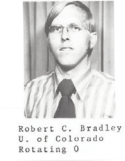
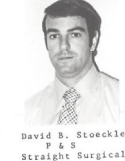
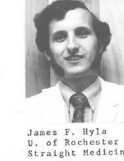







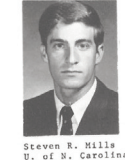











"Dr. Ibrahim has championed a number of visionary initiatives that have positioned our network well for growth and financial stability while advancing our mission to improve patient health and community well-being," Hastings added. "Tommy's strategic vision, work ethic, and calm resolve have been of immeasurable value."

Ibrahim was named Bassett Healthcare Network's President and Chief Executive Officer on July 13, 2020, after a nationwide search. At the time of his selection by Bassett, Ibrahim was the Executive Vice President, Chief Physician Executive for Oklahoma-based INTEGRIS.

Jane Forbes Clark, Chair of the Bassett Medical Center Board of Directors, said she has "enormous respect for Tommy's commitment to Bassett Medical Center and Bassett Healthcare Network," adding she "believes that the mission going forward is well-served under Tommy's leadership."

"The past two years were incredibly difficult, as we took important steps to create a sustainable foundation to build upon. I am deeply appreciative of our system and entity boards for their unwavering support. Our leadership teams and each of our caregivers and practitioners have done a masterful job to get us here, and we're still only getting started," Ibrahim shared. ■

BASSETT LOOKS BACK

RESIDENTS					INTERNS				
1972-1973					1972 - 1973				
 H. Jack Myers Surgery	 Ross E. Zumwalt Psychology	 Richard Leach, Jr. Medicine	 David K. Aldrich Surgery	 Donald J. Grubb U. of California Rotating 0	 Tony C. Bartley U. of S. Carolina Rotating 0	 Larry S. Freeman U. of California Rotating 6	 Richard L. Nutt U. of S. Carolina Rotating 0		
 William V. Brand Medicine	 Alexander Wall III Surgery	 Theresa Zumwalt Ob-Gyn	 Alan J. Kozak Medicine	 James Bordley IV Surgery	 George K. Kraemer U. of Rochester Straight Surgical	 John A. Curtis P & S Straight Medicine	 Robert C. Bradley III U. of Colorado Rotating 0	 David B. Stoeckle P & S Straight Surgical	 James F. Hyle U. of Rochester Straight Medicine
 William O. Samuels Psychiatry	 Michael J. Maloney Psychiatry	 Stuart George Surgery	 Michael H. Wisnawatt Surgery	 James Hutchinson Medicine	 James J. Lipsky Johns Hopkins Straight Medicine	 Steven S. Searl P & S Straight Surgical	 Steven R. Mills U. of Illinois Rotating 0	 Mark S. Gibson U. of Illinois Straight Medicine	 Robert A. Menotti P & S Straight Surgical
 Don V. Lewis Medicine	 Gary Weaver Medicine	 Michael J. Soltero Surgery	 Richard Sullivan Medicine	 Ronald A. Coeras U. of Florida Rotating 0	 Donald L. Schoner U. of Michigan Straight Medicine	 John W. Atkinson U. of Washington Straight Medicine	 Patricia M. Otto U. of Wisconsin Rotating 0	 Thomas G. Kreindler U. of Cincinnati Rotating 0	

Bassett Named to Forbes Best-in-State Employers List for 2022

Bassett Healthcare Network has been named to the list of Best-in-State Employers 2022. This prestigious award is presented by Forbes, renowned American business publication, and Statista, Inc., the world-leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider.

America's Best-in-State Employers 2022 have been identified based on survey results from approximately 70,000 Americans working for companies in the U.S. that have more than 500 employees. Across 25 industry sectors, 1,380 employers were ranked among the top employers, including Bassett Healthcare Network.

"Bassett is delighted to be recognized on the *Forbes* list of Best-in-State Employers 2022," says Dr. Tommy Ibrahim, President and CEO of Bassett Healthcare Network.

Bassett Healthcare Network has prioritized vast efforts over the past couple of years to improve employee and organizational culture in the wake of COVID-19 and institutional restructuring. The health system has invested nearly \$50 million in pay increases for its workforce after undertaking a full compensation analysis for its caregivers and practitioners. Additionally, a recent grant from the Scriven Foundation is allocating \$82 million to resources for Bassett's recruitment and retention of clinicians and nurses, which includes expanding benefits, housing, clinical and virtual tools, childcare, educational opportunities, and much more.

In addition to significant compensation and benefit expansion

initiatives over the past year, Bassett has responded to increased workplace violence, investing in a new security response system at all locations—one of the first health systems in the country to do so—providing nearly all employees with a wearable alert button attached to their ID badges to summon security in emergency situations. This, coupled with a broad public campaign speaking out against caregiver violence, has highlighted Bassett as an employer taking a stand against workplace violence in New York State and nationwide.

Bassett has also been working to build innovative strategic partnerships with companies like Optum, which is offering new professional paths for employees while providing Bassett with infrastructure and resources for support services like information technology, analytics, billing, and call center operations. In addition, Bassett's new collaboration with Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI) and longstanding eight decades-long partnership with Columbia University are propelling forward Bassett's deeply rooted commitment to rural health, fostering opportunities for clinical research professionals.

The *Forbes* Best-in-State Employer evaluation was based on direct and indirect recommendations from employees who were asked to rate their willingness to recommend their own employers to friends and family. Employees were also asked to evaluate other employers in their respective industry and state that stood out either positively or negatively. ■

Alumni Remain at Bassett

Anjeela Kadel, M.B.B.S., joined Bassett Healthcare Network as an attending physician hospitalist at the Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown. She earned her medical degree at the Nepal Medical College, Kathmandu, Nepal, and did a residency in Internal Medicine at Bassett Medical Center, Cooperstown.

After recently completing residency in Medicine at Bassett, Azkia Khan, M.B.B.S., has accepted a position as a hospitalist at Bassett Medical Center and A.O. Fox Hospital in Oneonta. She is a graduate of Army Medical College, Pakistan.

A third who completed his Internal Medicine residency in June 2022 also remained to work as a hospitalist. Muhammad Daniyal, M.B.B.S., is a graduate of Jinnah Sindh Medical University, Karachi, Pakistan. He will be working at Bassett Medical Center. ■



Anjeela Kadel,
M.B.B.S.



Azkia Khan,
M.B.B.S.



Muhammad Daniyal,
M.B.B.S.

Excellence in Ambulatory Teaching Named



Dr. Brenda Davies
Wait

Dr. Brenda Davies Wait won the Excellence in Ambulatory Teaching Award for 2021-2022. This Golden Award was presented at the Internal Medicine residency graduation dinner.

This year's recipient, Dr. Davies Wait, was recognized for the remarkable accomplishment in teaching interns and residents how to use the Epic EMR. She worked shoulder to shoulder with them creating tools for efficiency and showing them how to maximize the EMR to improve the care for their patients.

This award recognizes a physician in Internal Medicine or any of the Internal Medicine subspecialties who exhibits enthusiasm, dedication, and artful teaching on the care of patients in the ambulatory setting. The winner is chosen by all interns and residents annually. This is the second year that the award was presented. Wait was preceded by Dr. Douglas DeLong who was recognized in 2021. ■



A reminder: Who are the members of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association?

You are past and current interns, residents and fellows. You are former and current members of the senior doctoral staff. And you are students of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School program or students who spent your final two years of medical school at Bassett.



See our latest news and updates
at Bassett Medical Alumni Association

IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

Robert F. Bedford, M.D. 1942-2002

Robert Forrest Bedford, M.D., 79, of Charlottesville, Va. and St. Petersburg, Fla. died peacefully at home on September 2, 2022. He and Faith Andrews were married in 1963, and in 1964 he obtained his A.B. from Princeton University, and his M.D. from Cornell University Medical College in 1968. He served as a Major in the Army Medical Corps during the Viet Nam War. He had a lifelong career in Anesthesiology centered at the University of Virginia School of Medicine as Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology and including Chair of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and as director of the Division of Anesthesia at the Food and Drug Administration. From 1974 to 1977 he was an attending in Anesthesiology at Bassett Hospital. He delighted in working with residents and medical students, and those teaching moments were the highlight of his professional career. He is survived by an extended family including his beloved wife of 58 years, Faith Andrews Bedford, with whom he shared a love of art and architecture, travel, music, reading, skiing, and sailing, as well as a deep devotion to their children and grandchildren.

John G. Freehafer, M.D. 1939-2022



John G. Freehafer, M.D.

John G. Freehafer, M.D., 82, died suddenly at his Cooperstown home on August 27, 2022. Born in New Rochelle, N.Y. on October 7, 1939, he obtained his undergraduate degree from Brown University and his M.D. from McGill University in 1965. After serving as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force in Alaska, he completed a fellowship in Neonatal Medicine at the University of Georgia and joined Bassett Hospital as an attending in Pediatrics in 1971.

A Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics, he retired in 2000 after treating and supporting countless

children and their families. In retirement he continued as an avid fisherman, sportsman and treasure hunter. He and his second wife Gail Freehafer enjoyed many traveling adventures together and with friends and family. He is survived by his wife and an extended family.

Joseph Scott Lunn, M.D. 1931-2022

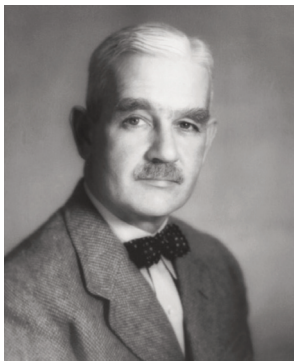


Joseph (Joe) Scott Lunn, M.D.

Joseph (Joe) Scott Lunn, 91, died peacefully at his home on August 28, 2022. He was born on July 11, 1931, in Oneonta, NY. He graduated from Oneonta High School in 1949, and Wesleyan University in Conn. in 1953. He received his medical degree in 1958 from the S.U.N.Y. Upstate Medical School in Syracuse, N.Y., and completed his internship and residency in Syracuse. In 1962, he began a two-year tour with the Public Health Service in Atlanta, conducting malaria research. In 1966 he

completed a two-year fellowship in infectious diseases at the Upstate Medical School, and then entered practice in Syracuse. In 1969, he was appointed associate physician at Bassett Hospital, and from 1974 to 1980 he served as physician-in-chief. During his six years as chief, the Medical Service opened its first cardiac catheterization lab, Bassett's regional clinics began, research projects flourished, and new house staff housing was completed. In 1980 he joined the Medical College of Georgia as an attending physician and clinical professor until his retirement in 1996. Joe Lunn was preceded in death by his three wives, Janet N. Lunn (mother of his children), Marilyn C. Lunn, and Ramona C. Lunn (mother of his stepchildren), and his two siblings, William H. Lunn Jr., and Charlotte L. Georgeson. He is survived by a large and extended family. ■

BASSETT LOOKS BACK



The Summer 2022 issue of The Cupola celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the opening of Bassett Hospital to the public in 1922. Here we focus on the transformation of Bassett from a community hospital into an academic medical center in 1927 by Director George Miner Mackenzie, M.D. The institution was, and arguably still is, the nation's only academic medical center located in a village.

Physician Employment Opportunities in the Bassett Healthcare Network

Thinking of a career move? Do you know another physician seeking a position in an award-winning network of six hospitals and 30 regional sites? Consider these openings in Central New York and Cooperstown.

Anesthesiology	Neurology
Cardiology - Non-Invasive	Neurosurgery
Critical Care	Orthopedics - Hand and Trauma
Director, Bassett Research Institute	Pediatrics
Director, Center for Stress Health	Psychiatry - Inpatient and Outpatient
Family Medicine	Pulmonology
Hematology Oncology	Radiation Oncology
	Urology

For more information visit:
<https://www.bassett.org/careers/physicians-and-advanced-practice-clinicians> or call
Medical Staff Recruitment at 607-547-6982.



Bassett Healthcare Network
Bassett Medical Center

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Bassett Receives Grant of \$82 Million from the Scriven Foundation

Bassett Healthcare Network is pleased to announce some exciting news! Bassett Medical Center is the recipient of an \$82 million grant from the Scriven Foundation to make rapid improvements resulting in greater patient care access. The organization will also launch further and significant recruitment and retention initiatives for staff in key areas.

“Bassett’s tremendous footprint connects many thousands of patients with care who otherwise would not have access,” says Jane Forbes Clark, Chair of the Bassett Medical Center Board of Directors and President of the Scriven Foundation. “I am proud of the critically important work Bassett has accomplished over more than 100 years—and continues to build upon—in rural medicine. On behalf of the Scriven Foundation, we are pleased to offer this impactful investment to bolster resources, benefits, and recruitment efforts for Bassett’s clinical workforce.”

As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there have been many challenges in recruiting and retention of medical staff across the country, especially those in our frontline areas. Unfortunately, that has been negatively affecting patient care access. This very noble grant from the Scriven Foundation will fund new programs to address some of the challenges felt in rural health care communities every day while ensuring continued financial stability.



Some of the programs the Scriven Foundation restricted grant will make possible include enhanced investments in:

- More competitive salaries, benefits, and retirement for practitioners
- Improving access to childcare for employees
- Increasing affordable housing options for employees
- Developing new mentorship opportunities with local nursing schools
- Decreasing administrative demands on practitioners by acquiring more support staff and implementing technologically driven solutions
- Increasing education and training programs for clinical staff

“Our continued success as an independent health system is possible because of mission-driven partnerships with organizations like the Scriven Foundation,” remarks Dr. Tommy Ibrahim, President and CEO of Bassett Healthcare Network. “We are deeply grateful to the Scriven Foundation and Jane Forbes Clark for their remarkable support of Bassett and the communities we serve.”

Learn about more ways to contribute to Bassett Healthcare Network by visiting www.friendsofbassett.org. Contact Friends of Bassett by emailing friends.office@bassett.org or call 607-547-3928.