Morton Terry, D.O.
Osteopathic Icon Leaves Lasting Legacy
When I became dean of NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine in July 1998, I assumed my responsibilities with an incredible sense of pride and reverence. Being named dean of NSU-COM was a significant honor for many reasons; however, it was especially meaningful because it felt as if Dr. Morton Terry—the college's beloved founder—was entrusting me to run the physical expression of his love for the osteopathic medical profession.

The hardest thing for a person to do once he has built a successful organization with his own blood, sweat, and tears is to turn that project over to other people. Fortunately, although he remained intricately involved in the institution he loved until the day he died, Dr. Terry was shrewd enough to realize that merging with Nova University in 1994 was an advantageous decision for all involved.

Similarly, as the College of Osteopathic Medicine grew and matured, Dr. Terry prudently adapted to the times. Whenever we were discussing a proposed educational enhancement, Dr. Terry would say, "I hired you as the dean, and I'm going to let you do what you think is right." But then he would smile and say, "I only have one job, which is to hire and fire the dean, so go ahead."

It may have sounded like a veiled threat to some, but I found his sense of humor endearing because he was always supportive of my desire to implement contemporary educational modules. In fact, I can literally count on one hand the number of times he actually vetoed an idea. On those rare occasions when we did disagree, Dr. Terry would provide an analytical view that inevitably shed a whole new perspective on the issue for me.

Whenever we discussed the possible addition of a new program or a potential curricular enhancement, he would frequently say, "You know, I don't totally understand why we need to do this, but okay, go ahead and do it." Thankfully, as the successes, accomplishments, and accolades accrued because of the efforts of the collective NSU-COM team throughout the five-and-a-half years we worked together, I could see how much he enjoyed watching the reputation of our school grow.

Despite the innumerable illnesses he struggled with and the various surgeries he suffered through in his final years, Dr. Terry always maintained his dry sense of humor. He also earned my undying admiration for the way he always came to work no matter how he felt—an act of dedication that truly illustrated his enduring love for the amazing educational institution he created.

For those of us who knew Dr. Terry well, it's hard to believe he is not going to be here in body anymore—although his spirit will most certainly endure. He always used to brag that the key to his success centered on surrounding himself with good people who were smarter than him—because that would ensure he always looked good. But I never felt that was true for me when I was with him.

Unlike many people, who confront their mortality with a sense of regret over the things they didn't do or the dreams they never realized, Dr. Terry faced his knowing he lived life to the fullest while making an indelible societal contribution that lives on through the countless alumni, students, faculty, and staff associated with NSU's Health Professions Division.

As a result, Dr. Terry's illustrious legacy does not end with his passing. In fact—in many ways—it's just beginning.

"It's hard to believe he is not going to be here in body anymore, although his spirit will most certainly endure."
I consider Dr. Morton Terry to be a giant in his profession, a leader in medical education, a consummate humanitarian, and a personal friend.

Few people in their lifetime can say they were instrumental in the creation of, not one, but six colleges in the health care field. It was Dr. Terry who first approached us with the idea of merging Nova University and Southeastern University of the Health Sciences.

I remember his vision for the combined university was so clear. He literally outlined his plan for us on the back of a napkin. Within one year, the merger had been completed—and he was its driving force.

It has been said that, "Students are the messengers we send to times and places we never see." Literally thousands of health care professionals received their career education thanks to Dr. Terry’s vision. His influence will continue for generations to come for future osteopathic physicians, dentists, optometrists, pharmacists, physician assistants, nurses, and other health care professionals who entrust NSU with their education. They, in turn, will affect the lives of tens of thousands of patients.

The students trusted and admired Dr. Terry. They saw in him the spark that drove Dr. Terry when he was a medical student. Waiting on tables back then, he only had money for one meal a day. The extra few pennies were for books and, later, to court a young nurse named Gerry who became his wife and the love of his life.

I greatly admire Mort and Gerry as a couple, as well as their children and grandchildren. One of the great joys in Mort’s life recently was to see his grandson graduate from NSU’s law school.

I am so grateful to have known Mort Terry. He had such a profound influence on my life and the success of this university. They say that, "Great is the person who plants a tree, knowing they will never enjoy its shade." Thankfully, my friend and colleague Mort saw his trees grow and flourish.

I feel his presence each time I enter the Terry Building. I see his optimism in the faces of our students. I see his drive and perseverance in our faculty and researchers. And I see his influence on the decisions made by Health Professions Division administrators.

He will always be remembered. His legacy will continue. And I am certain—right now—he’s finally taking a moment to enjoy the shade.

"I feel his presence each time I enter the Terry Building. I see his optimism in the faces of our students."
FEATURES

Raymond Ferrero Outreaches to Drug and Alcohol Addicts - 9
When Raymond Ferrero III conducted a site visit at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center called Here’s Help in Opa Locka, Florida, he had no idea he would soon be hosting a weekly radio show from the facility or become such an ardent advocate for its young clients.

Colleagues Share Their Treasured Memories of Dr. Morton Terry - 15
Throughout his life, Dr. Morton Terry left an indelible imprint on every person he came in contact with during his legendary career. In this seven-page tribute section, everyone from students and staff members to alumni and fellow NSU administrators share their memories of a man who has meant so much to so many.

Remembering Dr. Terry: Osteopathic Icon Leaves Lasting Legacy - 22
When Dr. Morton Terry passed away on Sunday, January 11, 2004, at the age of 82, he left behind an extraordinary professional legacy that will continue to live on through the six colleges and numerous programs that comprise NSU’s renowned Health Professions Division.

Heartbreak, Joy Distinguish Medical Mission 2004 to Guatemala - 29
The 2004 Medical Mission to Guatemala, which proved to be the most ambitious undertaking yet in the four-year history of the college’s international medical outreach program, evoked a kaleidoscope of emotions from the 92-member volunteer health care contingent.

1988 Alumnae Dr. Betty Baker Exhibits Altruistic Attitude - 36
Tough-talking pragmatist. Kindhearted altruist. Revered family physician. These are just a few of the colorful phrases that can be used to describe Dr. Betty Baker, who has spent the past 10 years bringing heart and health care to her patients at the C.L. Brumback Health Center in Belle Glade, Florida.

Alumni Pay Homage to Dr. Lori Dribin at Annual Reunion - 38
The Eighth Annual NSU-COM Alumni Reunion and Continuing Medical Education Program provided attendees with an opportunity to catch up with old friends, celebrate the contributions of faculty favorite Dr. Lori Dribin, and earn CME credits.

DEPARTMENTS
Dean’s Message – 2
President’s Message – 3
News Briefs – 5
Faculty Focus – 12
Student Organization of the Month – 27
Staff Snapshot – 28
Alumni Corner – 32
On January 21, Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D., who has served as executive vice chancellor and provost of the Health Professions Division since 1998, was elevated to the position of chancellor by NSU President Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D. “We are pleased that Dr. Lippman has accepted this new challenge of leading our Health Professions Division with its six medical colleges,” said President Ferrero. “We are certain that Dr. Lippman will continue the work of the late Dr. Morton Terry in producing top health care professionals, conducting cutting-edge medical research, and continuing the community outreach clinical programs that have always been part of the university’s mission.”

In related news, Irving Rosenbaum, D.P.A., was promoted to the position of vice chancellor and provost of the Health Professions Division. Dr. Rosenbaum, who previously served as assistant vice chancellor for professional affairs, joined the Health Professions Division in 1998.

On December 21, Loretta Graham, Ph.D., who serves as the college’s medical education specialist, hosted a standardized patient holiday party on the HPD campus. The holiday party was coordinated to help thank the numerous individuals who participate in the NSU-COM Standardized Patient Program. During the festivities, Ronnie Martin, D.O., FACOFP, associate dean of academic affairs, thanked the patients for their outstanding work with the students and emphasized how important their contributions are to educating future generations of osteopathic physicians.

A number of distinguished individuals attended the Third Annual NSU-HPD A Glimpse of the Future of Health Care in America Conference, which was held January 9-10, 2004, in the Health Professions Division complex. One of the symposium’s highlights involved a community forum, which allowed the public to interact with a panel of state and national experts on topics involving the affordability and quality of health care in America. Other relevant issues discussed were

- Can Public Policy Affect Americans’ Lifestyle Choices?
- America’s Struggle with Obesity, Fitness, and Mental Health
- Can We Be Confident in the Quality of Health Care in America?
- The Quality of Health Care in America: A Question of Confidence

In January, M-2 student Olga Martinez was voted NSU-COM Student D.O. of the Year by her classmates. Martinez, who currently serves as president of the college’s DOCARE student chapter, said it was a significant—and unexpected—honor to be recognized by her peers. “It was actually a big surprise because we have a number of outstanding leaders in our class that go way above and beyond in terms of service,” said Martinez, who has participated in the college’s medical missions to Guatemala since their inception in 2000. “It is an honor that makes me want to work even harder in the future.” Martinez received an additional honor in March when she was selected as NSU-COM’s Student of the Year nominee for the upcoming Student Life Achievement Awards.
Edward Packer, D.O., FAAP, FACOP, associate professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics, recently supervised M-1 students in a special physical examination lab on how to properly examine an infant. During this exercise, infant simulation models were used as patients. The students performed the various components of a child health maintenance visit, including growth charts and developmental assessments. Participation in this lab is essential because it will help prepare students for the experience of examining real infant patients.

In February, Gustavo Saldias, M.P.H., was promoted to the position of associate director of the college’s AHEC Program. According to Steven Zucker, D.M.D., M.Ed., who serves as associate dean for community affairs and AHEC Program director, “Gustavo’s promotion to this position is based on his extensive experience, having been associated with our AHEC Program for over five years, and his clear familiarity of the AHEC system both in Florida and nationally.”

On January 29, Dr. Morton Terry and his wife Geraldine received the university’s highest honor during NSU’s Sixth Annual Celebration of Excellence ceremony, which was held at the Signature Grand in Davie. Dr. and Mrs. Terry were the recipients of the President’s Community Award, which recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the university.

The Celebration of Excellence ceremony, which also honors outstanding alumni from NSU’s 15 academic centers, colleges, and schools, also proved to be a special occasion for 1990 alumnus Jeffrey Grove, D.O., who was presented with the NSU-COM Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. The Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award is the highest accolade an individual can receive from NSU’s Alumni Association.

On January 30, the faculty was treated to an insightful luncheon presentation by Eugene Mochan, D.O., Ph.D., who serves as associate dean for primary care and director of the Center for Primary Care Evidence-based Practice at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. During his presentation, Dr. Mochan (pictured left with Dr. Silvagni) discussed the topic “Integrating Evidence-based Medicine into Clinical Practice.”

On January 14, Frederick Meoli, D.O., president of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, made a special luncheon presentation to the NSU-COM faculty on the topic “How to Prepare Students for the Osteopathic National Boards.”
In February, the Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine paid fitting tribute to the pioneering efforts of Dr. Morton Terry by posthumously honoring him with its inaugural Osteopathic Board Recognition Award. The accolade was established to recognize and commend osteopathic physicians who exemplify the high standards of the profession and a dedication to public service.

NSU President Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D., recently received a prestigious honor when he was named one of the "Broward Power Dozen" by The Herald newspaper. The list comprises the 12 most influential business people in Broward County who wield authority by the size of their business holdings and their impact on the business community and civic life.

Robert S. Oller, D.O., chief executive officer of NSU's Division of Clinical Operations, was named a "Heavy Hitter in Health Care" in the January 23 issue of the South Florida Business Journal. Over 30 men and women in the health care field from Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties were named "Heavy Hitters" by the journal. According to the article, inclusion was based on criteria such as prominence, achievements, and community involvement.

On March 5, NSU-COM coordinated its annual Hospital Day, which provides students an invaluable opportunity to meet with representatives from various hospital programs throughout the United States regarding future rotation, internship, and residency possibilities.
On January 8-11, 2004, NSU-COM hosted the Eighth Annual National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) Case Development Workshop for the COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE. John R. Gimpel, D.O., who serves as NBOME director of performance testing and a faculty member at Georgetown University School of Medicine, chaired the workshop.

On day one, a trio of experts helped train 12 local standardized patients to portray one case each:

- Tony Errichetti, Ph.D., M.Ed., consultant for SP training and case development and a member of the faculty of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Loretta Graham, Ph.D., NSU-COM medical education specialist

During the remainder of the workshop, 24 additional faculty members from around the United States began development on cases that will become part of the new COMLEX-USA-Level 2-PE, which is the performance evaluation/clinical skills component to NBOME’s COMLEX-USA. The experience proved to be quite rewarding because it allowed the attendees to evaluate the cases and checklists as they observed a physician examining one of the standardized patients. The NBOME has continued to use NSU-COM as a key site for case and exam development for its clinical skills exam, which will be administered to fourth-year osteopathic medical students beginning in the fall of 2004.

On January 26, NSU and the City of Pembroke Pines commemorated the grand opening of the Nova Southeastern University Geriatric Health Care Center at the Southwest Focal Point Senior Center. The growing geriatric population in Pembroke Pines and southern Broward County will benefit from this joint venture by having access to qualified physicians who specialize in geriatric health care and wellness. Naushira Pandya, M.D., C.M.D., associate professor of internal medicine and chair of NSU-COM’s Division of Geriatrics, will head the medical team that will initially be seeing patients three days a week at the senior center.

“This brings a unique opportunity for a university to partner with a city and provide a broad spectrum of health care services,” said Robert Oller, D.O., who serves as chief executive officer of NSU’s Division of Clinical Operations. “The resources provided by the university are vast and will allow expansion of services for the community as the needs are identified and the center continues to grow.”

“The idea of a geriatric clinic is to make health care for seniors one-stop shopping,” said Dr. Pandya, who leads the clinic team that includes Susan Ledbetter, D.O., and medical assistant Eileen Gonzalez. “Sometimes when seniors go to the doctor’s office, they are treated on the surface. Geriatrics pays attention to details. Our priority is to provide the service. Our intent is to keep the doors open.”

Although NSU currently operates 15 health care clinics in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, the one at the senior center marks the first time the university has developed a partnership with a municipality. Future plans include the establishment of an NSU optometry clinic at the senior center later this spring.
Raymond Ferrero Outreaches to Victims of Drug and Alcohol Addiction on Radio Show

When Raymond Ferrero III, J.D., who serves as assistant professor of family medicine (law), conducted a site visit at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center called Here’s Help in Opa Locka, Florida, he had no idea he would soon be hosting a weekly radio show from the facility or become such an ardent advocate for its young clients.

Ferrero, who also runs a law practice specializing in the representation of drug and alcohol dependent individuals, was unable to send his clients to Here’s Help because it was located outside his jurisdiction area. However, he was so impressed with the facility and its CEO, John Kross, that he was invited to be on the Here’s Help Show, which airs every Sunday from 6:00 to 7:00 a.m. on Y-100 in Fort Lauderdale and 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. on BIG 106 in Miami.

“When I first met John Kross (also known as the radio personality “Footy” on Y-100), I was visiting Here’s Help based on the work I do with the Marchman Act, which involves the involuntary evaluation and commitment processes for adults and adolescents through the court system,” he explained. “Since our main goal is to gear people toward treatment, I went down there to look at the facility because we are always in need of beds and places to send people. However, even though it turned out it was outside our jurisdiction, John and I struck up a conversation and he invited me to be a guest on the radio show.”

After his initial stint on the show, Ferrero was invited back to be a regular guest on the program, which serves as a vital community resource for people struggling with recovery issues related to drug and alcohol addiction. “I’ve been doing the show for over a year, and I’ve been amazed at the response it’s received,” said Ferrero, who joined the college’s faculty in August 2003. “In fact, there have been people who actually drove straight to Here’s Help for assistance after listening to the show.”

Ferrero was also surprised to learn that a significant portion of the show’s listening audience is comprised of prison inmates, who congregate as a group in their cells to listen to young adults in the Here’s Help residential program discuss their often-horrible tales of addiction. “Most of the drug dealing in jails and prisons goes on in the morning because that’s when the inmates are moving around the most,” said Ferrero, who oversees the college’s behavioral medicine course. “We received an email from one inmate who said he listens to the show each week because it keeps his mind occupied during those hours when the dealing is going on and keeps him out of trouble.”

In addition to his radio show duties, Ferrero and former NSU employee Dr. Carmine Pecoraro provided the funding to purchase Dell computers that allowed the facility to create a fully functioning computer lab for the residents. He also donates a portion of the proceeds from sales of a CD-ROM he created called The Drug CD: An Interactive Guide to Drugs and Addiction, which addresses the devastating emotional, financial, and physical effects drug and alcohol abuse can have on a family.

“Over 90 percent of people currently in jail are there because they were trying to obtain drugs or committed a crime while under the influence of drugs or alcohol,” said Ferrero, who also assists the Broward County Sheriff’s Office with employment law and arbitration issues. “That’s why the Here’s Help Show is such a valuable community resource, because it allows us to share information and help people understand the process of addiction and the steps that can help lead them to recovery.”
## Class of 2006 Clinical Rotation Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Hospital and Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delcine Abraham</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Ache</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Ali</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Andescavage</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Ansari</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Arena</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Balys</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tye Ed Barber</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noelle Barrera</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hadi Berry</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hans Bez</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Biggers</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel Biggers</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Bley</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Boester</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bozak</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marisabel Bravo</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Brenes</td>
<td>Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Brookshire</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Burton</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Buschman</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Cadiz</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominic Carollo</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald Kevin Carroll</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Carter</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity Celoria</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Chandler</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Chapman</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Chrobak</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Cole</td>
<td>Kendall Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Combis</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Condo</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Cook</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Corson</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Goykendall</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryan Currie</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia Czander</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Dean</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniele DeGennaro</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Diamond</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Dietz</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Douglas</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Drach</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aysen Earlywine</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parham Effekhari</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Elengical</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faysal El-Jabali</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffany Ellis</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Encarnacion</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Engel</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Escoto</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sameer Farooki</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luis Fernandez</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Ferreira</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Fier</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Foley</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Frakes</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyeese Gaines</td>
<td>Westchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nkerson Geneve</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Gerhart</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almari Ginory</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monika Goyal</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Greene</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Grenier</td>
<td>Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Guirguis</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Gurgan</td>
<td>Westchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Hailey</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jott Hallman</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mazen Hammad</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Henderson</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Henderson</td>
<td>Kendall Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Hendrix</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Hevener</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danny Fierholzer</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sameea Husein</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Hutto</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor Jaffe</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana James</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Jensen</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seama Kapur</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristophe Karami</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Kast</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Kellert</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Kessler</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khuram Khan</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rizwan Khan</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Kim</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Kitay</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalie Kot</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory Kozlov</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ragaari Kumar</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Labrador</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael LaRochelle</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearl Lee</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose Llach</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raul Llanos</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Luckey</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Lunceford</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Malone</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalie Mang</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carmen Marrero</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olga Martinez</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose Mathew</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa McDonald</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Mercier</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natasha Minidis</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julio Montoyo</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Jamie Morris</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynita Mullins</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Neber</td>
<td>Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Nielsen</td>
<td>Westchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fariba Nikpour</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Noixues</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Papiernik</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Park</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luanz Phillips</td>
<td>Kendall Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Pierson</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niloufar Pourmashiha</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Pruitt</td>
<td>Gulfcoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammad Rahat</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanjiv Rao</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Rasansky</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Ravish</td>
<td>Gulfcoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rishi Razdan</td>
<td>Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumana Reddy</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Reidy</td>
<td>Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeannette Rios</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Rizk</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuel Rodriguez</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Rosemeyer</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauricio Sabogal</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberly Sackheim</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iris Saleh</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annaldo Sanchez</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Srilatha Sankarapapun</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc Seheer</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Schmidt</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad Schulte</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemalan Selvaraju</td>
<td>Gulfcoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Senn</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Sessions</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil Shah</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryam Shahsavari</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Husam Shalash</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lior Shamai</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bing Shen</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Shin</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jison Sum</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooke Sliger</td>
<td>Memorial Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Smyrly</td>
<td>Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Street</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arash Tazavoni</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanya Thierault</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axel Thors</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duane Tippets</td>
<td>Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Torrents</td>
<td>VAMC/Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amber Uddin</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mija Vail</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robyn Valdes</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Venezia</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Waite</td>
<td>Florida East Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lydia Wallace</td>
<td>Palmetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Walters</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia Watson</td>
<td>Miami Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Watson</td>
<td>Suncoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Welch</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Yashou</td>
<td>NBHD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fellows**

- Dan Halpert - Florida East Orlando
- Jamie Matherly - Memorial Regional
- Patrick Moran - Palmetto
- Jessica Sheridan - Suncoast
- Amber Stephens - NBHD

**NBHD - North Broward Hospital District**
The College of Osteopathic Medicine received a record nine nominations in the Fifth Annual NSU Student Life Achievement Awards (also known as the Stueys) competition, which serves as a celebration of NSU's best in leadership, scholarship, service, integrity, commitment, involvement, and responsibility. The awards ceremony will take place on April 20, 2004, at 6:15 p.m. in the NSU Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center.

The esteem in which NSU-COM and its students, faculty, and staff are held was reflected by the fact that the college was nominated in every category in which it was eligible and earned more nominations than any other NSU college or center. The College of Pharmacy and the Shepard Broad Law Center were the second-most recognized colleges, earning six nominations apiece. A full wrap-up of the Stuey Awards ceremony will appear in the summer 2004 issue of COM Outlook.

If you would like to support the college's nominees and attend the April 20 ceremony, please contact Kenny Hendrickson, NSU director of student development and special events, at (954) 262-7283 to obtain free tickets. Following are the NSU-COM affiliated individuals and organizations that received Stuey nominations:

**UAAO Members Assist Habitat for Humanity**

On January 31, members from the college's Undergraduate American Academy of Osteopathy (UAAO) showcased their selflessness by working with Habitat for Humanity to help build seven houses on 15th Court in Sunrise, Florida. Although the day dawned cold and wet, that did not dissuade the students from having a great time as they provided a major community service.

"What a perfect day for the Undergraduate American Academy of Osteopathy to get out of bed and help build some houses," said Beth Biggers, who serves as the college's national UAAO representative. "Fuelled with hot coffee and fresh doughnuts, the group worked hard to help some very nice people from Habitat for Humanity build the new homes."

Making a difference in the community are UAAO members Steve Turner, Holly Turner, Joel Biggers, and Andy Carter (back row from left). Pictured in the middle row are Elizabeth Biggers, Ray Cole, Jison Sim, Cynthia Sessums, Bradley Bley, and Melissa Green. Kneeling are Mike Waters, Amber Chambers, and Melchiorra Mangiaracina.
Joseph DeGaetano, D.O., FAAFP, assistant professor of family medicine and director of clinical curriculum and graduate medical education, has been accepted into the Harvard Macy Institute Leaders in Medical Education Program at Harvard Medical School. During the one-week program, which will take place in June in Boston, Massachusetts, Dr. DeGaetano and the other participating educational leaders will develop their own action plans for leading and managing change to fulfill their institution's educational mission. The formal curriculum is designed to assist participants in developing their own strategies for leading change in their institutions. Dr. DeGaetano recently received another prestigious honor when he was named vice chair of family medicine at Broward General Medical Center.

In January, Elaine Wallace, D.O., professor and chair of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, was a deserving recipient of the Outstanding Contribution Award for Clinical Preceptor Training from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. In addition to her clinical and teaching responsibilities, Dr. Wallace has been a sought after speaker at a number of events. Her busy agenda has included presentations to the southwest branch of FOMA on "Spirituality and Medicine" and the Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association on "Respiratory Disease and OMT." She also delivered a two-session training program to the UAAO on "Torque Unwinding," which is a technique she invented and developed, and served as a visiting AAO lecturer on the same topic for the Des Moines College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Wallace also chaired the OPP/NBOME Committee, which prepared all three parts of the COMLEX exam that was administered the first weekend in March. Dr. Wallace is also listed in the eighth edition of the Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

Rosebud Foster, Ed.D., special assistant to the chancellor, was recently appointed to serve a three-year term on the Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary Community-based Linkages of the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. Tommy Thompson, who serves as secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, appointed Dr. Foster to this prestigious position.

Naushira Pandya, M.D., C.M.D., associate professor of internal medicine and chair of the Division of Geriatrics, was responsible for the revision of the American Medical Directors Association Clinical Practice Guidelines on Osteoporosis for long-term care patients. These guidelines are now being accepted as standards of care for nursing home and other geriatric patients and also by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid in their guidelines to surveyors. In January, Dr. Pandya received notification from the American Board of Internal Medicine that she passed her certifying exam in endocrinology and metabolism.

In February, Jean M. Malecki, M.D., FACPM, clinical professor and chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine, was honored as a Local Legend at the American Medical Women’s Association Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. Dr. Malecki, who also serves as director of the Palm Beach County Health Department, was recognized for being "a woman physician who has demonstrated commitment, originality, innovation, and creativity in the field of medicine." In addition, the National Library of Medicine will be adding Dr. Malecki to its Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians exhibit at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland.
Ronnie Martin, D.O., FACOFP, professor and chair of the Department of Family Medicine and associate dean for academic affairs, maintained a whirlwind schedule of speaking engagements and related academic activities throughout the winter season. In February, Dr. Martin presented a seminar on “Treatment and Prevention of Hypertension and Heart Disease” for retired federal employees in Hollywood, Florida, and discussed “New Trends in Medical Education” at the NSU-COM Alumni Reunion and Eighth Annual Continuing Medical Education Program held on the HPD campus.

His busy speaking agenda also included a discussion on “Men’s Health, Prostate, and Sexual Health” at the FOMA Convention in Fort Lauderdale and a talk on “Men’s Wellness and Health from an Osteopathic Perspective” at the ACOFP Convention in Tampa. Over the past few months he also

- served as chair of the Predoctoral Committee for the AOA and chair of the CCAT training session on the new AOA Standards of Accreditation for Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
- helped organize BCOMA participation in the American Heart Association Heart Walk on the NSU campus
- worked with the Central Florida Health System to develop an AHEC-funded research project on medical students’ utilization of EMR at their West Coast sites
- assisted in the development and coordination of a faculty development program for full-time faculty on improving large-group presentation skills
- earned reelection as secretary/treasurer of the ACOFP

Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., served as a course consultant for a continuing medical education monograph titled *The 21st Century Physician*. The monograph, which is intended for managers and health care representatives working in the pharmaceutical industry, covers the areas of science and medicine, disease management, business in health care, and pharmaceutical management. In February, Dr. Silvagni was elected to a serve a second term as president of the Council of Florida Medical School Deans. The council, which was officially established in 2000, provides a forum for the deans of the state’s existing medical schools to discuss medical education issues and identify mutual state and federal legislative priorities.

On February 20, Cyril Blavo, D.O., FACOFP, professor and director of the Master of Public Health Program, coordinated an African crafts exhibit to help commemorate Black History Month. The event, which was held at NSU’s Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center, helped showcase the historical and cultural significance of African heritage on American society.

Edward Packer, D.O., FAAP, FACOP, associate professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics, devoted his time to several community service activities, including a presentation about the ear that incorporated a hands-on tab for first-grade students at NSU’s University School. He also participated his time and talent to the annual AMSA/AHEC Florida Rural Mission for Health that was held in Belle Glade in January and worked with the college’s Pediatrics Club to weigh children and read them stories at NSU’s 13th Annual Love Jen Family Festival in February.

Albert Whitehead, D.M.D., assistant professor of family medicine and director of the Office of Student Services, had his article titled “Student’s Perceived Importance of Diversity and Training in Dental Education” published in the March 2004 issue of the *Journal of Dental Education*. 

COM Outlook · Spring 2004
In January, Michael M. Patterson, Ph.D., professor and assistant chair of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, to participate in the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Russian School of Osteopathic Medicine. He delivered a lecture at the associated seminar on current knowledge of the osteopathic facilitated segment concepts and served as president of the international jury hearing research theses of the graduating students. In February, Dr. Patterson journeyed to Munich, Germany, where he was involved in the Eighth Annual Seminar and Research Day for the German School of Osteopathy. During the seminar, Dr. Patterson presided over the juries hearing the graduating osteopathic students research theses and presented lectures on research and long-term changes in spinal reflexes.

Kenneth Johnson, D.O., who serves as director of NSU’s Women’s Health Center and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was recently invited to join the American Osteopathic Association’s Media Spokesperson Network. In this role, Dr. Johnson will serve as a vital resource for the national media on topics related to women’s health. He was also quoted in a recent article posted in the online magazine e Pregnancy titled “Overdue? Don’t!” that dealt with tactics women resort to in order to jumpstart labor.

Robin McFee, D.O., assistant professor of preventive medicine, served as a major informational source for an Associated Press article titled “Arkansas Officials Limit Sharing Information About Flu Deaths” that appeared in numerous newspapers throughout the country in late December 2003.

Barbara Arcos, D.O., assistant professor of family medicine, provided a lecture called “OMT Update: TMJ Dysfunction” at the FOMA Convention in February and addressed the topic “Update on Osteopathic Manipulative Techniques: OMM for the Family Physician” at the ACOFP Convention in March. Dr. Arcos also had an article titled “Female Sexual Function and Response” published in the February 2004 issue of the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA).

Judith Schaffer, D.O., assistant professor of family medicine at NSU’s North Miami Beach medical clinic, was recently elected president of the Dade County Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. Schaffer follows in the footsteps of other notable D.O.s, including Dr. Morton Terry, who served as president in 1952-53, and Dr. A. Alvin Greber, who served as president from 1997 through 2001.

Eric Shamus, Ph.D., assistant professor of osteopathic principles and practice, coauthored an article titled “The Effect of Static Stretch and Warm-up Exercise on Hamstring Length Over the Course of 24 Hours” that appeared in the December 2003 issue of the Journal of Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy.

Angel Cadiz, M.D., FAAP, clinical assistant professor of pediatrics, who serves on the Board of Consultants for the peer-reviewed journal Consultant For Pediatricians, coauthored an article in the journal’s October 2003 issue. The article discussed presentations, differentials, and treatment modalities for children with hypersensitivity reactions and cellulitic changes from insect bites.
When Dr. Morton Terry passed away on Sunday, January 11, 2004, at the age of 82, he left behind an extraordinary professional legacy that will continue to live on through the six colleges and numerous programs that comprise NSU's renowned Health Professions Division.

Throughout his legendary life, Dr. Terry masterminded a number of bricks-and-mortar successes, including Osteopathic General Hospital, Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine (SECOM), and Southeastern University of the Health Sciences. However, in a life defined by accomplishment, his impressive legacy is perhaps best quantified by the countless lives he touched and the profound impact he had on those who had the privilege of working with him as he watched his dream of establishing a health professions mecca come to sweet fruition.

“There are few people in life who have done as much for their profession and for medical education than Dr. Morton Terry,” said NSU President Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D., who had formed a familial bond with Dr. Terry over the years. “He was a valued friend, colleague, and mentor, and I will sorely miss him.”

Perhaps no one in the NSU hierarchy knew Dr. Terry better or worked more closely with him than Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D., who was recently named as Dr. Terry’s successor as...
chancellor of the Health Professions Division. "It's so difficult to try to encapsulate a man's professional, entrepreneurial, and collegial life in just a few sentences," said Dr. Lippman of his three-decade affiliation with Dr. Terry. "One fact that needs to be recognized is that Dr. Terry practiced in his beloved field of osteopathic medicine for nearly half of the life of the profession. What a lot of people have not focused on was his incredible ability as an internal medicine physician and his efficiency and compassion as a caregiver. Sometimes he would be up until 3:00 or 4:00 in the morning reading charts because he was so dedicated to his patients' health."

Although Dr. Terry's professional triumphs involving the establishment of SECOM and NSU's Health Professions Division have been well documented over the years, he was also engaged in numerous other entrepreneurial endeavors that received far less ink and attention. "His dream of dreams was always to establish a college of osteopathic medicine, which he did at the height of his financially and professionally successful physician career," Dr. Lippman said. "However, what made him so unique was that he was successful as both a medical professional and accomplished businessman."

"Most people don't know that Dr. Terry played a key role in the creation of County National Bank or that he helped fund the formation of TransFlorida Bank," Dr. Lippman added. "He was involved with many endeavors, including multiple investments in real estate. As I see it, he was never a gambler with his money, but he was willing to gamble his professional career and his reputation in order to forward the educational enterprise."

Regardless of the numerous political or financial roadblocks that materialized over the years as he attempted to realize his dreams, Dr. Terry doggedly forged forward, refusing to accept defeat as the ultimate outcome. "There was no such thing as losing in his vocabulary," said Dr. Lippman, who served as the College of Pharmacy's first administrative officer in 1987. "It's very trite to say that a problem was an opportunity, but that truly was the way Dr. Terry viewed difficult situations. He always felt you had to give something a chance to prove itself, and if it didn't work out you learned from the experience and moved on to the next challenge."

According to Dr. Lippman, Dr. Terry's unqualified success as an administrator and health care practitioner can be traced to several defining traits, including a fierce adherence to the characteristics of loyalty, efficiency, and humanity. "He always allowed his colleagues the freedom to express their thoughts, although he used to joke that he believed in a democratic society as long as he had the majority vote. He had incredible instinct for the human aspects of education. In fact, in many ways, he was like a parent to all of us because he could scold you one minute and then give you a hug a minute later."

Elaine Lefkowitz, who joined the SECOM staff in September 1987, says she frequently witnessed the humanistic side of Dr. Terry, who looked upon his personnel as extended family members. "Dr. Terry was a man who was extremely loyal to everyone who worked for him or showed loyalty to him," said Lefkowitz, who serves as the college's director of clinical education. "It didn't matter if you were rich or poor, a physician or a staff member. It made no difference where you came from. I recall instances when he knew some of his employees could not continue to work in the capacity they were hired for, and many supervisors felt they should be terminated. I myself heard him say, 'As long as they want to work, they will continue to work for me.' There was never a time when he didn't stop me to ask how things were at home. I will miss him immensely and hope I can continue to help preserve the legacy he has built."

Put a Doctor in the House. "This was the slogan used by Dr. Terry in the late 1970s when he ran for the Florida legislature. He was an energetic candidate, and many physicians in the area campaigned for him, including myself. We solicited door to door and waved banners on street corners in North Miami Beach. Even though the campaign was not successful, I discovered the honesty, devotion to ideals, and thoughtfulness that Morton Terry possessed. I started out as a friend doing a friend a favor, but I finished with admiration for a truly unique individual—a person who was selfless in his desire to help people."

Stan Simpson, D.O.
Associate Professor of Family Medicine
Peers Pay Homage to Dr. Morton Terry

As a young osteopathic physician in South Florida, I had the privilege of being on the receiving end of Dr. Terry's leadership, guidance, and inspiration from my first contact with him in 1970 when, as an intern in Philadelphia, I wrote him a letter to see if he knew of any opportunities for a young family doctor looking to relocate to Florida. He provided the guidance and generosity that was the foundation of my successes in later life and was instrumental in instigating my return to Nova Southeastern University to follow in his footsteps of giving back to my profession and community.

Dr. Terry was an innovator who saw a need and made it happen. Under his direction, Osteopathic General Hospital was the first hospital in Dade County to offer telecommunications from its emergency room to paramedics in the field. When it became apparent that Osteopathic General needed to provide new services in the form of nuclear medicine imaging, he sought out opportunities for training in order to offer cutting-edge services to patients and his medical staff.

He always remained loyal to the osteopathic profession that provided the opportunity for his many successes, fulfilling a lifelong dream of establishing the first osteopathic college in the southeastern United States. Not just satisfied with that fulfillment, he provided the inspiration and guidance in expanding into six different colleges and 36 programs as well as steering the merger with Nova University to develop what is now the ninth largest private independent university in the United States.

As is the case with so many successful osteopathic physicians today, it would have been easy for me to forget my roots and leave the profession. But this is impossible when your inspiration is Dr. Morton Terry, whose whole demeanor was to give back, give back, and give back.

I was recently asked in an interview to name my greatest role model. My answer was immediate: Dr. Morton Terry. Over his career, Dr. Terry saw the voids that existed in the health care industry and filled them as a practicing physician, a hospital founder/administrator, a leader in professional associations—and as an educator and inspiration in the health care arena.

When I was initially contemplating taking the position at NSU-COM, I visited the campus. Dr. Terry was the first person I was introduced to. He welcomed me immediately and started telling me all the good things about moving to South Florida. He reminded me that not only was there sunshine, but I would never have to pay state income tax. Since I was coming from the Kansas City area and he had family living in that area, we started talking about places and things we were both familiar with. He then made a quick phone call and arranged for me to see the campus and the surrounding area. Dr. Terry told me more than one time that I would never regret joining NSU-COM—and he was right!

A clear sense of direction and strong sense of purpose and justice were the hallmarks of Dr. Terry. This was a man who demonstrated dedication to a profession and cause he believed in every day—not when it was easy or popular—but when it was hard and others did not walk the same path. Strong patriarchal leadership founded this school and nursed it through its awkward years to the maturity it is reaching today. The leaders he developed and the foundations he laid will carry it forward for years. It is the spirit of the man that will endure and will ensure that generations of individuals know who he was and how much he cared. His name on our building will stand for the man as he stood for equal opportunity for thousands of patients and students. I was pleased to know him and will never forget his vision and guidance.

"Dr. Terry dedicated his life to the education of health care practitioners. His contributions will continue to impact generations to come."

John Agwunobi, M.D.
Secretary, Florida Department of Health
Peers Pay Homage to Dr. Morton Terry

It was in 1984 during a trip down from Virginia to South Florida to visit relatives that I had the good fortune of meeting Dr. Terry through a family friend who was a civic leader in North Miami. At this meeting, I immediately felt in awe of him and inspired by his love for his profession and his vision, commitment, and enthusiasm for osteopathic medical education. It was clearly apparent to me that this was a great man who was going to be a giant in health professions higher education, and that wonderful things were in store for any institution fortunate enough to have him as its leader.

To this day, I thank my lucky stars for him giving me the chance to join his young SECOM team a year later—and never for even a second over the entire 19 years I worked for him have I ever regretted my decision to accept his offer to join SECOM's faculty in the fall of 1985. During these exciting years, I had the great pride and privilege of bearing witness to his uncanny abilities to guide the growth of SECOM into the Southeastern University of the Health Sciences and eventually into the Nova Southeastern University Health Professions Division.

Dr. Terry attended and participated in all of the many community events AHEC held in those early days to build support for the program in academic, community, and governmental circles. One of my fondest memories of Dr. Terry relates to a special awards reception we held at our institution in May 1988 to celebrate our major AHEC federal grant award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. At this community event, we had a replica of the actual check from the U.S. Treasury for $2.1 million made up and presented to Dr. Terry from representatives of the offices of the then U.S. Senators Lawton Chiles and Bob Graham, as well as from the offices of our local U.S. Congressman Bill Lehman.

Dr. Terry was very proud of this award, not only of its size, but also of the significance of the recognition and stature that his beloved institution had developed nationally in such a brief period. To commemorate this achievement, he had this check replica mounted and always kept it in his office, even upon moving to our Davie campus. On many occasions over the years, when I would be meeting with him in his office, he would point to this check and comment, "I don't forget!"

Well, neither will those of us who worked with him all those years ever forget his outstanding, rock-solid leadership, the great support and assistance he always provided, his enigmatic charm and charisma, and the inspiration he was to all of us. He always gave his best and made each of us want to give our best in return for all of our professional lives.

I first met Morton Terry in 1967, when I began the practice of orthopedic surgery at Osteopathic General Hospital. At that time "osteopaths"—as we were then known in the community—were considered "cultist" by the medical community. It was even considered unethical for an allopathic physician to do a consultation for a D.O. In fact, if an M.D. went to see a patient in an osteopathic hospital, he was in jeopardy of being suspended from the local and state medical societies.

In order to improve the quality of orthopedic surgery at Osteopathic General Hospital, Mort approved my request to purchase a state-of-the-art orthopedic operative table and upgrade all the operative orthopedic equipment. Mort's philosophy was to maintain the osteopathic referral base by rendering quality medical care.

Although it was unknown to many D.O.s at the time, Dr. Terry, Murray Zedeck, and myself met with representatives of the Dade County Medical Society to discuss permitting consultation between M.D.s and D.O.s—despite the fact that the state medical society had voted against removal of the cultist stigma. Mort was instrumental in this effort, even though he was fully aware that this would lead to opening M.D. hospitals to D.O.s for staff privileges, thus leading to a loss of staff members from Osteopathic General Hospital, which is an event that soon followed. This was shortly followed by recognition of osteopathic physicians by major insurance companies, such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Prior to that time, insurance companies would not pay D.O.s directly and would send the checks directly to the patient instead. Current and future generations of osteopathic physicians throughout Florida owe a huge debt of gratitude to the perseverance and unselfishness of Dr. Morton Terry.
Peers Pay Homage to Dr. Morton Terry

During his internship at Philadelphia Osteopathic Hospital, Dr. Terry decided he wanted to be an internist and wanted the hospital to start what would be the first osteopathic internal medicine residency program in the country. The self-trained internist at the hospital initially turned the idea down—perhaps because he did not want the competition of a formally trained internist. Dr. Terry was not discouraged. He stayed on after he completed his internship as a house physician for minimum pay, took all the night calls, and covered the emergency room. Eventually, the staff became quite comfortable with all the wonderful assistance he was providing.

Dr. Terry offered to remain at the hospital if the administrators would agree to establish a three-year residency. If that didn’t occur, Dr. Terry explained that he would have to leave to find another hospital to do this. By now, the physicians were spoiled and began to enjoy the freedom that all of this service allowed them and decided they would give him the training program he wanted. Even then, he did all of the work with the American Osteopathic Association to create the internal medicine residency program. This ingenuity and determination would be Morton Terry’s modus operandi throughout his illustrious career.

During this time, he decided to ask the lady he affectionately referred to as “the skinny little Irish girl” who was an R.N. at the hospital to marry him—and she agreed. During their South Florida honeymoon, Dr. Terry visited a D.O. friend, who mentioned that he had a wealthy patient who was vacationing in Cuba. The patient, who was suffering with a severe case of asthmatic attacks, desperately wanted to receive some osteopathic manipulative therapy, which had always worked better for him than medication. The physician asked Dr. Terry if he would be willing to go and treat this patient osteopathically if the patient agreed to pay all expenses in addition to his physician fee.

Dr. Terry agreed, went to Cuba, examined the patient thoroughly, and treated him with osteopathic manipulation. The patient thanked him profusely and asked him to return the next day at 10:00 a.m. He did so and found that the patient’s condition had improved significantly. By the time he administered another OMT treatment to the patient, Dr. Terry decided that after all this glorious exposure to the sun, sand, and palm trees, he and Geraldine would permanently settle in Miami.

My first interaction with Dr. Terry occurred when I wrote him a letter when I was an intern at Dayton Grandview Hospital, inquiring about practice opportunities. He answered my letter immediately and made recommendations, which ultimately determined where I set up practice in Florida. He was also an aggressive land investor and helped Dr. Tom Carney start a successful bank.

Dr. Terry was one of the first people to recognize that the constantly increasing demands and restrictions of Medicare—coupled with the growing government supported strength of the new form of medicine called managed care and the growth of preparatory hospital chains—would slowly suffocate smaller “mom and pop” hospitals such as the osteopathic institutions. Once again, his foresight and vision created a wonderful legacy and gave him the opportunity to exercise his growing desire to enter academia and start an osteopathic college that would serve the southeastern United States.

Dr. Terry's life is an example of what ingenuity, motivation, honesty, integrity, and perseverance can achieve. We will all fondly remember and revere him.

What I will miss most is interviewing applicants with Dr. Terry because it was an amazing learning experience. I will always cherish our discussions about the history of osteopathy and the founding and evolution of our school, which is now an integral part of a wonderful university. I truly learned to respect and love Dr. Terry and his wonderful traits of futuristic vision, brilliance, commitment, and toughness balanced with compassion and ethics.

“Seeing how much this school has grown and how osteopathic medicine has emerged in South Florida just goes to show the tremendous impact Dr. Terry has made, not only for NSU, but for the entire osteopathic community. I am proud to be a part of it.”

Peter Shin, M-2 Student
I had the great pleasure of working with Dr. Terry on both a community and professional level for over 30 years—long before the Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine ever became a reality. I sat with him on the board of the federally funded Health Systems Agency of South Florida, Inc. for over five years. On this board, Dr. Terry provided significant leadership in helping to shape the health care system and its decision making relative to the coordination of new services to be made available to the community through hospitals, community centers, and other health care facilities. It was during these meetings that Dr. Terry would continuously share his dream and vision with me for an institution of osteopathic medical education in South Florida.

Dr. Terry later became a great supporter of the development of Florida International University’s north campus during my tenure as leader of this campus. During this time, he often provided me with his invaluable formal and informal wisdom pertaining to the development of our health-related programs at FIU and the importance of focusing on the needs of the area’s underserved and needy populations.

Once Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine was started, we continued to collaborate on the development of several new colleges and programs under development at Southeastern. I had always admired Dr. Terry and looked forward to joining the Southeastern University family one day. This dream finally came true for me in 2001 when I retired from FIU to join Dr. Terry, along with Dr. Fred Lippman, Dr. Steven Zucker, and his great team here at Nova Southeastern University.

Throughout my over 30 years of working with Dr. Terry, he always served as my great friend, colleague, leader, and mentor who was always happy to see me and always made me feel like the most special person on earth.

"Dr. Terry didn’t just create a school; he created an inspiration. This inspiration has led to numerous health care professionals, all with the common goal of providing the best care possible to people of the world."

Laura Drach, M-2 Student

On his desk sat an index box with hundreds of cards documenting loans made to faculty, employees, and students, many “yellowing” with age from unpaid accounts, just remaining in that index box until paid (oft times never).

In the second week of my employment at Southeastern University of the Health Sciences in 1989, Dr. Terry called me to his office where he sat with Dr. Joe Namey, who was soon to be named dean of the college. Casting a sheaf of photos across his desk to me, he explained, “Pick a kid to adopt.” These were pictures of children in Latin American countries dressed in tattered clothing, emaciated, and tearful. “You won’t miss the 12 bucks a month,” he said. “And you’ll sleep better.” He was right, and the messages that followed from the “adopted kids” were heartwarming.

Dr. Terry was an easy mark for any charity that came his way. The more checks he wrote for anything mailed to him (Boys Town, Covenant House, Salvation Army, etc.), the more he received and responded to. I recall the time we were going to lunch and, as usual, a downtrodden figure holding up a sign detailing his unfortunate status strode on the off ramp. Blowing his horn and lowering the window, Dr. Terry offered some paper money and was the recipient of overwhelming gratitude. As we pulled away, I said, “Most people regard these signs as phony with attempts to obtain more money for alcohol or drugs rather than food.”

“I never make judgment,” he replied. “Maybe you’re right, but it might be legitimate. If I don’t know for sure, I’d rather feel they really are hungry and I’ll help.”

I could go on with other numerous examples of the Dr. Terry I knew, hidden from public view, but space doesn’t permit me to elaborate. He will be missed by more people than we could imagine.
Dr. Morton Terry was my mentor, teacher, father figure, and friend. He always welcomed me into his office, so for me the “5th floor” was a friendly place, contrary to many other people’s beliefs. However, his gravelly voice could be terrifying or reassuring.

It was February, during our first year in the old nursing home building in North Miami Beach. It was one of those rare 38-degree days in South Florida and—of course—the air conditioning was on in the building. Needless to say the 40 of us were freezing. I turned off the air conditioning and turned on the heat. About 10 minutes later the fire alarms went off. It turned out that no one had turned on the heat since the system was installed, and since there was a lot of debris on the heater coils, they started to smoke, setting off the smoke alarms in the air conditioning units.

When we got back to class after the ruckus settled down, I got called up to see the chancellor. Dr. Terry demanded to know why I turned on the heat and set off the alarms. I explained that we were cold, and tried to point out the bright side by commenting that he must be glad to know the smoke detector worked. Within the hour there were locks on all of the thermostats.

Another story that stands out was when it was time to take part one of our boards—and I was sure I was going to fail. Dr. Terry assured me I would not, and he even suggested a little wager. If I passed I would owe him $100, and vice versa. Well of course I passed, and Dr. Terry reminded me that I owed him $100. He never said it had to be in U.S. currency, so I was able to gather money from eight or nine foreign countries.

The day I was to repay him, I checked in the Wall Street Journal and figured out the conversions needed to make it exactly $100. I went to his office and gave him a plastic bag filled with all the different currencies. He looked at the bag and then at me and shook his head. As far as I know, he still had the bag in his desk.

In fact, even as recently as four months ago, he remarked about our bet of almost 20 years ago.

Through my work with the National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, the organization donated a therapeutic device called a Theracyle to the Sanford L. Ziff Health Care Center in 2000. Dr. Terry provided strong support to foster the relationship between the university and the foundation. We have since established a very close working relationship between NSU and the National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, including receiving research grants from the organization.

“Even before his death, Dr. Terry was considered a legend to the students of NSU-COM. Through stories told by the faculty, I know that I owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Terry for having the opportunity to be trained in and practice osteopathic medicine in the state of Florida.”

Erin Gerhart, M-2 Student

Although our paths crossed infrequently over the past five years, I was always impressed with the unabashed pride and affection Dr. Terry displayed whenever I interviewed him about the college’s countless achievements and the warp-speed growth of the Health Professions Divisions. During one such interview, it was apparent that Dr. Terry was in considerable pain. However, once we began discussing the creation of SECOM and the subsequent merger with Nova University, his demeanor immediately changed. Suddenly, his eyes blazed with enthusiasm and his voice grew stronger as he recalled the events that led to the evolution of a nationally acclaimed health professions mecca at NSU. When ill health became a daily facet of his life in his final years, it would have been easy for Dr. Terry to slip quietly from public view. Instead, he bravely faced his mortality with his trademark brand of courage, humor, and feistiness.
In 1874, an astute trailblazer by the name of Andrew Taylor Still made a seminal contribution to the medical world when he founded a revolutionary form of health care called osteopathic medicine. Over the past century, a number of other noteworthy individuals have played significant roles in furthering the profession by creating essential educational opportunities for future generations of osteopathic practitioners.

One visionary who has carried on the proud legacy of Dr. Still is Morton Terry, D.O., FACOI, who has served with distinction as chancellor of Nova Southeastern University’s renowned Health Professions Division. In a 60-plus year medical career marked by numerous landmark achievements, Dr. Terry has become a revered icon who has served as a pioneer in the advancement of osteopathic medicine.

In addition to establishing Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine (SECOM) in 1981, Dr. Terry was at the vanguard of the profession as early as 1946, when he helped create the first osteopathic medical residency in internal medicine at the Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia.
Three decades later, in 1976, Dr. Terry paved yet another path to the profession when he became the first osteopathic physician in the south to become board certified in nuclear medicine.

**Dr. Terry Embarks on Osteopathic Odyssey**

Dr. Terry's rise to prominence in the osteopathic medical field began in the early 1940s when he applied to an array of medical schools. On one memorable day in 1942, Dr. Terry received three acceptance letters in the mail, including one from an allopathic college and another from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy (PCO).

However, it was the third letter—from the U.S. Draft Board—that really caught his attention. "The third one was not a viable option," smiled Dr. Terry at the memory. "So I elected to go to PCO, and I've never been sorry."

Naturally, the draft board was suspicious when Dr. Terry applied for an educational deferment, mainly because it had become common practice for draftees to use any possible excuse to avoid military service. "I had a very tough draft board," he recalled. "They had decided that most people applying for educational deferments were doing so to avoid the armed forces. So they obtained my records from the New York City School System."

As it turned out, Dr. Terry had unknowingly outwitted the draft board. Although his school records contained a wealth of general information, the most important data was printed at the bottom of each file. "Every year, from kindergarten on up, they asked us for career goals," he explained. "And I always indicated that I wanted to be a physician. As a result, they had no choice but to defer me."

Dr. Terry's triumph over the draft board would prove to be the first of many victories in an illustrious career defined by landmark accomplishments. "When I started medical school, D.O.s were looked down on terribly," he explained. "I was convinced that osteopathic physicians offered more to the patient than the allopathic profession did in terms of concepts like manipulation and the holistic approach. I didn't realize it at the time, but the profession was less than 50 years old when I started. And that explained why we lacked respect. When I approached graduation, I knew I wanted to work in internal medicine. But there were no residencies open to me as a D.O. So I went to the chief of the Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia and asked him if I could start a residency, and he said 'no way.'"

Eventually, Dr. Terry's persuasive arguments swayed the hospital chief to establish the residency program. As a resident, Dr. Terry earned a meager $25 per month; still, it was a monumental improvement over the $1 weekly stipend he received during his hospital internship. It was during this time that Dr. Terry also met the woman who would lead him down the matrimonial path and became the mother of his four children.

The loving couple married in 1948, forming a symbiotic union based on deep affection and mutual respect that endures to this day. "Marrying Geraldine, who was working as a student nurse at the Osteopathic Hospital of Philadelphia when we met, was one of the smartest things I ever did," he admitted. "She has been a perfect mate and partner."

**South Florida Honeymoon Proves Fortuitous**

Prior to honeymooning in South Florida, Dr. Terry accepted a position as an internist at Memorial Hospital in York, Pennsylvania. However, once the newlyweds set foot in Miami, they were quickly seduced by the area's subtropical charms. "I took one look at this place and decided I wasn't going to live anywhere else," he recalled. "I started my practice and came down here permanently a month or so later and have been here ever since."

Over the past few decades, the osteopathic concept has become widely accepted throughout the United States, but 50 years ago relatively few D.O.s practiced in the South Florida area. "When I came here, the nearest internist in the osteopathic profession was in Wilmington, Delaware," Dr. Terry explained. "The profession was very rudimentary in 1949, and there were maybe a dozen D.O.s in Dade County, all in general practice. There was one small 16-bed hospital with an attached outpatient clinic in North Miami that was owned by two D.O.s, which is where I began my practice."

It may seem hard to imagine in today's progressive medical climate, but Dr. Terry says there was a time not so long ago when D.O.s were restricted from the staff of all allopathic hospitals. "As a matter of fact," he added, "the Dade County
Medical Society, as its official policy, prohibited M.D.s from 'consulting or consorting' with D.O.s. Several M.D.s violated this sanction in order to assist in the care of very sick patients. For this, they faced actionable charges by the society. As I said, it's been a long road."

As his medical practice flourished, Dr. Terry began collaborating with other D.O.s to establish several osteopathic hospitals in the area, most notably Biscayne General Hospital—a 100-bed general community hospital founded in 1953. From its inception, the facility accepted medical students from the five existing osteopathic colleges throughout the country for clerkships, internships, and rotations. Initially, Biscayne General was created as a for-profit institution, but in 1956, the board of directors wisely voted to become a nonprofit and donate its original investment—a decision that would yield remarkable dividends several decades later.

In 1960, the hospital relocated a few miles up the road to North Miami Beach and was renamed Osteopathic General Hospital. Over the next few years, Dr. Terry helped institute vital graduate medical education opportunities, including a rotating internship as well as a comprehensive residency program in areas such as general surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, orthopedics, radiology, and urology.

Sowing the Seeds of SECOM

The osteopathic profession was making perceptible strides in the Miami area, but Dr. Terry always anticipated the day when he could help establish an osteopathic college in the southern United States. "From the time I came here, I always visualized a college of osteopathic medicine," he said. "There was nothing in the South, and there were only five schools nationally. I always wanted to establish a college of osteopathic medicine, but the rigors of running my practice and making a living and raising a family were too great to put in significant time."

By the end of the 1960s, Dr. Terry decided the time had come to make his longstanding dream a reality. "In 1970, I made the first real attempt with the blessing of the then-president of Florida International University (FIU)," he explained. "I went to the Florida legislature to start a college of osteopathic medicine in conjunction with FIU. The initiative passed both houses but was killed in a joint conference committee."

After suffering through several additional unsuccessful efforts, Dr. Terry realized the creation of a Florida-based osteopathic college would have to become a private endeavor. "I figured at that point I would have a long gray beard waiting to do anything with the state," he stated. "So in 1975, I went at it hammer and tongs and quit seeing patients full-time."

In the late 1970s, America's health care system was undergoing a vast transformation with the advent of managed care. Sensing the profound effect this would have on many of the country's privately owned hospitals, Dr. Terry initiated a farsighted series of transactions. "I was chairman of the board of Osteopathic General Hospital at the time, and I realized what was going to happen with managed care coming in to mom-and-pop hospitals," he explained. "So I sold the hospital to American Medical International (AMI) for $12 million in 1979. And that money was put into a foundation for the creation of an osteopathic college."

Utilizing his shrewd negotiating skills, Dr. Terry structured the sale to ensure the continuation of graduate medical education opportunities for osteopathic practitioners. "We had certain stipulations with the sale," Dr. Terry explained. "Although the hospital was purchased by AMI, it had to remain an osteopathic hospital. It would remain a teaching hospital with internships and residencies and be the primary teaching hospital for the college."

In 1981, Dr. Terry established SECOM—the 15th osteopathic college in the nation. In 1985, SECOM achieved two more milestones: graduation of its charter class of 35 students and accreditation by the American Osteopathic Association.

Soon, Dr. Terry began receiving inquiries about establishing other health professions colleges. In 1986, Dr. Terry had lunch with a hospital administrator who asked him, "What do you think about starting another school? We can't seem to
get any pharmacists." After mulling it over, Dr. Terry decided to investigate the feasibility of the idea.

"I put together a task force to gather opinions, and within a year we were off and running with a pharmacy school, which of course became very successful," he said. "And once that became successful, we looked for another degree-granting professional school, which was optometry."

During this period, another fortuitous event occurred when AMI opted to close the hospital it had purchased in 1979. Acting quickly, Dr. Terry cleverly repurchased the five-story hospital for the bargain price of $4 million dollars. "Once we reacquired the property, we converted it into additional university space and built an optometry clinic and spacious classrooms."

Around the time the Southeastern College of Optometry admitted its charter class in 1989, the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities accorded the three colleges—osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, and optometry—with university status, prompting the adoption of a new name: Southeastern University of the Health Sciences.

In the early 1990s, the creation of the College of Allied Health added important new degree programs to the university. But now that he had surpassed his 70th birthday, Dr. Terry began contemplating the steps that would be necessary to ensure the continued success of Southeastern University. "We all think we're indispensable, which we're not," Dr. Terry noted. "I began to think about perpetuity. I wanted to find another university to merge with, to create a partnership that would make both institutions stronger."

**Nova Merger Enhances Medical Education**

In 1994, Southeastern University of the Health Sciences merged with Nova University to become Nova Southeastern University. According to Dr. Terry, the idea for this historic merger was conceived in a surprisingly effortless manner. "How it all came about was interesting," he recalled. "I attended the inauguration of a new president at Nova, Dr. Stephen Feldman. And on the program I wrote out a list of criteria that would be met if we were to merge. I handed it in, they accepted it, and we merged. It was as simple as that. We had a board of governors, and our board voted to accept it, and Nova's board of trustees voted to accept it."

Once the arrangements were finalized, Nova allocated $17 million to purchase the real estate that would eventually house one of the most comprehensive and progressive medical teaching facilities in the country. At the same time, Southeastern University of the Health Sciences appropriated $60 million to construct a paradigm of educational excellence called the Nova Southeastern University Health Professions Division. In June 1996, one of Dr. Terry's most significant professional achievements was unveiled—and the accolades have been accruing ever since.

Since the merger was enacted in 1994, two more colleges have joined the Health Professions Division—medical sciences and dental medicine. The success of the latter college, which admitted its charter class in August 1997, has been particularly gratifying to Dr. Terry. "When we established the College of Dental Medicine, we were told we were out of our minds because dental schools were closing all over the United States. But we prevailed and opened the first new dental school in the United States in 24 years. I'm happy to say it's been a great success."

Over the course of his storied career, Dr. Terry encountered numerous obstacles. However, thanks to his tenacious spirit, he succeeded in creating a medical educational mecca that has earned international recognition for producing primary care-oriented physicians, fostering interdisciplinary understanding across the health professions, and addressing the health care needs of minority, geriatric, and rural patient groups.

"Obviously, it's a thrill of a lifetime. It's the achievement of a lifetime," he admitted. "But the chief reason for the success was that I surrounded myself with a lot of people who looked at the process as a labor of love. Nobody was out to make money from it. That's where the success came from. The founders never wanted anything except to be involved and do what they could to make the College of Osteopathic Medicine successful. When you surround yourself with good people throughout your life, good things tend to happen."
Dr. Terry’s Honors and Awards Summary

1973 - Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation, City of North Miami Beach
1973 - Outstanding Service Award, Osteopathic Profession and the Community
1981 - Distinguished Service Award, American College of Osteopathic Internists
1981 - Who’s Who in Florida
1982 - Honorary Life Member, Florida Osteopathic Medical Association
1982 - Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation, State of Florida
1983 - George W. Northup, D.O. Distinguished Service Award, Student Osteopathic Medical Association
1983 - Honorary Membership, Sigma Sigma Phi
1986 - Certificate of Appreciation, American Heart Association
1989 - Leadership Award, Brooklyn College of Pharmacy – Florida Chapter
1990 - Life Membership, American Osteopathic Association
1990 - O.J. Snyder Medal for Distinguished Alumni, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
1991 - Osteopathic Leadership Award, Lambda Omicron Gamma
1995 - Charter Membership, Grover Gillum Society of the American College of Osteopathic Internists
1997 - Lifetime Achievement Award, Florida Osteopathic Medical Association
1997 - Special Appreciation Award, Florida Osteopathic Association
1997 - Educator of the Year, National Osteopathic Foundation, American Osteopathic Association
1997 - Doctor of Humane Letters (Honorary), NSU Health Professions Division
1998 - Doctor of Laws (Honorary), Barry University
1999 - Entrepreneur of the Year Award, NSU School of Business and Entrepreneurship
1999 - Golden Heart Award, American Heart Association
1999 - Lifetime Achievement Award, American College of Osteopathic Internists
1999 - Dale Dodson Award, American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
2002 - Administrator of the Year “Stuey” Award, Nova Southeastern University
2004 - President’s Community Award, NSU Celebration of Excellence
2004 - Osteopathic Board Recognition Award, Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine
The diversity of interest among NSU-COM students is most notably reflected by the several dozen student organizations that exist on campus. However, what's often lost in the alphabet soup of acronyms that comprise these clubs is the important role they play in enhancing the medical school matriculation experience.

That's certainly the case for the Association of Military Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (AMOPS), which provides a welcome forum for students on a tri-service military regiment (army, navy, or air force) to deal with the myriad challenges of their dual existence.

AMOPS, which was established in 1977 to serve and represent osteopathic physicians in the uniformed services, focuses the attention of the American Osteopathic Association on the unique aspects of practice in the uniformed services by the more than 2,200 osteopathic physicians meeting our nation's military and federal medical needs throughout the world.

At NSU-COM, the student chapter of AMOPS has three specific goals:

- to provide guidance and assistance to students, as future osteopathic physicians and military officers, regarding the Health Professions Scholarship Program
- to introduce students to the aspects of military medicine
- to give potential medical officers an introduction and exposure to the military character of their respective services

Unlike many student organizations, which spend a majority of their time coordinating community service activities and fund-raising endeavors, AMOPS' raison d'être is decidedly more insular. "As a club, our focus is strictly military," said M2 student Ashley Chandler, who serves as president of the college’s AMOPS student chapter. "Last semester, our main goal was helping the M1 students get acquainted with all the paperwork that needs to be turned in when you’re in the military."

Students enlisted in military service may have the benefit of receiving full medical school scholarships, monthly stipends, and book reimbursements. However, as is the case with any bureaucracy, a blizzard of paperwork is required for even the most simplistic task. "You are constantly turning things in, but you have to know how to make the paperwork pass through the appropriate military channels," explained Chandler, who is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. "It takes some skill to do it properly, so we assist our members with this task."

In addition to assisting members with the voluminous paperwork process, Chandler and the other AMOPS officers coordinate club activities that are both educational and entertaining in scope. One of the most anticipated activities, which will take place during Fort Lauderdale’s Fleet Week in late April, is a planned tour of two navy ships. One of the ships—the USS Cole—is of particular interest to the AMOPS members since it is a vessel that received worldwide attention in October 2000 when a small boat laden with explosives was detonated alongside it as it refueled in Yemen, killing 17 American soldiers.

AMOPS members also have the opportunity to glean insight from an array of distinguished guest speakers that are invited to visit the campus on a continuum. "The director of the army's medical Health Professions Scholarship Program will be coming in to answer questions about military clinical rotation opportunities," said Chandler, who will be serving an eight-year stint in the army once she completes her residency training. "We also have an M1 student who is really gung ho about working in the field of aviation medicine, so we are hoping to get someone
from NASA to come down to do a lecture on the topic.”

Although there are many perks associated with being a physician in the military—including the absence of need for possessing malpractice insurance and ample monetary compensation—Chandler and her AMOPS cohorts are fully aware of the inherent dangers that exist in their chosen fields. “If I hadn’t gone to medical school, I would be serving active duty right now in Iraq,” she explained. “You always have to keep in the back of your mind the fact that if there’s a war, you go, too. Doctors are not immune from service.”

When the time comes for Chandler to begin her commission as an attending physician in the army, she will do so with a healthy dose of excitement that will be balanced by an equally appropriate measure of respect. “The people you are serving are the soldiers and their families, so it’s important to understand how proud you should be to serve people who are willing to give up their lives for their country.”

According to Chandler, a sentiment articulated by Major Thomas McCorney, an army surgeon general, best sums up her feelings about the military career she and her AMOPS peers have chosen to pursue. “Major McCorney said, ‘One of the most important things about being a military doctor—if not the most important thing—is the honor of being able to care for soldiers who have been injured in combat.’ That’s definitely a philosophy I’ll carry with me throughout my career as an army physician.”

Family Facts: I have been married to my wife Dominique for the past 11 years and I knew her prior to that for about another 10 or so years. We have a 9-year-old son name RaShaad. Because all three of us are in school, we schedule our “family fun days” around school and work schedules.

Date of Hire: February 1993

Official NSU-COM responsibilities: I am responsible for the coordination, maintenance, and operation of the distance learning communications between the College of Osteopathic Medicine and 19 teaching hospital facilities.

Reasons I enjoy working at NSU-COM: I enjoy encapsulating my educational field of study (educational technology) into my work for the Consortium of Excellence in Medical Education (CEME), while specializing in other interests such as videoconferencing and online education.

What did you do professionally before joining NSU-COM? For six years prior to my life here at NSU, I was in the U.S. Navy working as a data technician. After receiving a medical discharge for a respiratory ailment, I puttered around until I decided I would work and (slowly) go to school. I then joined the NSU family.

Greatest achievement in life: My greatest achievement in life was to marry my college sweetheart and have a rambunctious nine-year-old boy.

My ultimate goal is to: My ultimate goal is to receive my doctorate in education (Ed.D) and work in a stress-free or low-maintenance online environment. I also aspire to own/operate and chair a computer after-school program in urban neighborhoods.

What makes you happiest in life? Happiness is relative. But as long as my family is not in immediate danger and we are all healthy and together, I am happy—although winning the lottery wouldn’t hurt.

Three words that best describe me: Concerned, particular, and underrated.
Heartbreak, Joy Distinguish Latest Medical Mission to Guatemala

By Scott Colton
Director of Education Communications

The 2004 Medical Mission to Guatemala, which proved to be the most ambitious undertaking yet in the four-year history of the college’s international medical outreach program, evoked a kaleidoscope of emotions from the 92-member volunteer health care contingent. There was the feeling of joy that came from participating in the birth of a healthy baby, which was cruelly juxtaposed with the atmosphere of heartbreak that occurred while witnessing a mortally ill infant withered to nothingness from the end-stage effects of marasmus.

The two-week excursion, held January 12 through January 23, actually consisted of two separate missions in various regions of Guatemala, which allowed the participants to provide vital follow-up care in areas previously visited as well as supply critical outreach to other medically underserved regions. It also featured the usual mix of ailments ranging from the mundane to the mysterious.

“We tend to see an assortment of medical conditions during these trips,” said Elisa Ginter, D.O., an assistant professor of family medicine who has participated in six of the college’s seven humanitarian missions to Guatemala. “Because so much of their lives revolve around manual labor, the Mayan Indians frequently suffer from severe headaches, backaches, neck aches, and muscle pain. In fact, it’s not unusual for people to carry 20 watermelons up a mountain or to see young children carrying cinder blocks on their backs.”
"As D.O.s, the one thing we provide that the M.D. groups don't is osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT)," she added. "The Mayans really believe in the concept of bone doctors and are receptive to being touched. They are incredibly delighted after we administer treatment because they immediately feel better. It's a wonderful reward when they smile and kiss your hand to express their thanks."

Because muscular distress is such a pervasive problem in Guatemala, physicians such as Dr. Ginter, Dr. Elaine Wallace, and a number of the college's OMM fellows who are skilled in the practice of OMT made a special effort to administer as much manipulative therapy as possible. Their efforts were bolstered considerably thanks to the selflessness of Philip Huston, an NSU engineering employee who accompanied the health care team during this year's mission.

"Phil was amazing," said Dr. Ginter of Huston's efforts, which included providing wood and tools that he used to build three OMT tables as well as shelving for the temporary pharmacies at the two largest sites. "His assistance was extremely appreciated, especially since he worked hard throughout the whole trip in an effort to make NSU-COM a permanent presence in these communities. At the end of the first week, at a final gathering of our group, Dr. Joel Spalter gave a speech and presented him with the inaugural "Phil Award," which was a large wooden Mayan Indian. In the future, this award will go to the individual who adds a new dimension to the mission and goes beyond the expectations of the mission to make it better."

According to Camille Bentley, D.O., the participating students—who pay their own way to participate in the international missions and miss critical classroom lectures—are also deserving of awards and acclaim for their selfless efforts. "The students are basically working all the time during these missions," said Dr. Bentley, an assistant professor of family medicine who also serves as medical coordinator of the NSU-COM Health Education and Training Center Program. "When they're not seeing patients, they're getting their class notes emailed to them from the college's note service and studying for upcoming exams."

Although the students endure some hardships to participate in these medical outreach programs, the enriching crash course they receive in terms of exposure to rare ailments and medical emergencies provides more-than-ample compensation for their efforts. One of the more tragic cases the students were exposed to on this trip involved the debilitating ailment marasmus. This severe condition, which is characterized by malnutrition, can be caused by poverty due to the inability to afford food or be due to decreased appetite and abdominal pain associated with parasitic infections.

"The parents of a very ill three-year-old had taken their daughter to the hospital in Guatemala City for treatment, but the parents were told it would cost them about $1,200," said M-2 student Olga Martinez, who has participated in numerous medical missions to Guatemala. "They had to take her out of the hospital and bring her back to their village, which was basically a death sentence for the child. It was tragic to see how cruel and unfortunate life can be for some people—to not even have enough money to save your child's life. That was by far the hardest day for the students and the doctors."

Unfortunately, even those that do receive a modicum of medical care for an illness or injury frequently wind up in even worse shape than before they visited an unskilled local health care practitioner. Dr. Ginter discovered that firsthand when she tended to a man whose ear was literally falling off following a freak farming accident.

"This poor man had been working on a mountainside when a boulder suddenly came rolling down and hit his head," she explained. "He had seen someone who gave him a shot of penicillin and sutured his mutilated ear, but when we saw him about two weeks after the accident, the ear was a mess. It was literally falling apart because it was so badly sewn and major infection had set in. This is a result of medical treatment that is not up to date, is poorly executed, and fails to follow any standards of care. If we weren't there to take care of him, his ear would have literally fallen off."

During their visit to a new, more urbanized site called Cocalés, the participants found themselves treating patients for a host of sexually transmitted diseases, which was a sadly all-too-expected finding according to Dr. Bentley.
"Many of these villagers, whose only skill is farming, leave their rich cultural communities because they want to get ahead in life and move to the city," she said. "But to work in an urban environment you have to be skilled in something and know how to read and write. What happens is that instead of improving their situation, they actually become poorer. They can’t get jobs because they’re not literate, so they end up residing outside the city in shacks in a slum, living on whatever they can get their hands on. As the lifestyle becomes more desperate, many of them resort to prostitution."

In a country rife with suffering and squalor, visitors are usually hard-pressed to find anything comical to comment on, but Dr. Ginter unearthed a humorous and surprisingly vainglorious side to the feminine Mayan culture during this year’s medical mission. “In the past, whenever we’ve visited San Antonio Palopó, the women have always worn a specific red, green, and blue-striped outfit,” she explained. “However, this year I noticed the women were wearing a purple, blue, and green shirt without any red in it. When I asked one of the Mayan women what had happened to the red, I thought her response was so cute because she said, ‘We think purple makes us look younger.’ It seems that no matter who you are or where you live, we all have the same sort of ego.

“Some of the young girls who had sun spots or acne also wanted to know if we had medication to help clear up their skin,” Dr. Ginter marveled. “I was surprised to find they are no different than our young people here in the States. Even though they live hard lives with little material wealth, their thoughts were still on their vanity. I guess that’s what we call the human connection—and it’s wonderful to see."
Alumni Corner...Alumni Corner

Alumni Association Executive Committee

2004-2005 Officers
Dr. Kenneth Johnson, President (1991)
Dr. Steven Cimerberg, President Elect (1987)
Dr. Ronald Renuart, Vice President (1990)
Dr. Gregory James, Secretary (1988)
Dr. Robert Blackburn, Treasurer (1986)
Dr. Glenn Moran, Immediate Past President (1988)

Past Presidents
Dr. Orlando García (1994)
Dr. John Geake (1993)
Dr. Michael Gervasi (1987)
Dr. Tamer Gozleveli (1987)
Dr. Jeffrey Grove (1990)
Dr. Daniel McBath (1990)
Dr. Isidro Pujol (1994)

Trustees at Large
Dr. Jeffrey Grove (1990)
Dr. Isidro Pujol (1994)
Dr. Ronald Tolchin (1989)

Living Tribute Honorees
2002 - Mary Smith Allegro
2003 - Dr. Arthur Snyder
2004 - Dr. Lori Dribin

NSU Celebration of Excellence
Distinguished Alumni Honorees
2000 - Dr. James Turner (1988)
2001 - Dr. Daniel McBath (1990)
2002 - NO CEREMONY
2003 - Dr. Joel Rush (1985)
2004 - Dr. Jeffrey Grove (1990)

Alumni Web Page
http://medicine.nova.edu

Join Our Listserv
(listserv@listserv.nova.edu or
nsucom_alumni@list.nova.edu)

COM Outlook is sad to report the untimely deaths of two 2002 alumni. In December, Donald Toler, D.O., who was conducting his residency at Sun Coast Hospital in Tampa, was killed in a motorcycle accident. In January, Jeffrey Yuskaitis, D.O., who was a resident at Broward General Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale, was struck and killed while riding his bicycle near his home in Weston.

Have you published a paper, received an award, or been promoted or elected to a lofty professional position? If so, COM Outlook wants to know. If you have alumni news of note to report, please submit the information via email to scottc@nsu.nova.edu.

Ronald B. Swanson, D.O., has been named medical director of the Emergency Department at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and Heart Institute in Fort Pierce, Florida. In addition to his tenure with Lawnwood, Dr. Swanson has served as an attending emergency physician with Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center and Glades General Hospital and as clinical director with Wellcare of Florida.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine has selected University Publishing Corporation (UPC) to publish an updated alumni directory in 2004. UPC specializes in the publication of high school, college, and professional school directories nationwide. The company's unique methods will allow us to provide an attractive and accurate directory to all participating alumni at no cost to the college. The program will be funded entirely by your voluntary contributions, with a share of the profits going to NSU-COM.
In the spring of 1999, NSU-COM launched an alumni-based fund-raising effort to generate dollars that would be used to create an endowment fund to reduce future tuition costs for NSU-COM students and produce a funding pool that would be utilized for discretionary purposes as determined by the Alumni Association Executive Committee. If you would like to learn more about the Alumni Association Fund, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (954) 262-1029. Following are the altruistic individuals who have contributed to the Alumni Association Fund since its inception:

### 2004 Alumni Association Fund Donor List

#### 250 Club ($250 - $499)
- Dr. Michael Baron (1988)
- Dr. Jack Goloff (1985)
- Dr. Kenneth and Michelle Johnson (1991)
- Dr. Lawrence Schwartz (1990)

#### Century Club ($100 - $249)
- Dr. Shoaib M. Ayubi
- Dr. Alice Blavo
- Dr. Charles Chase (1989)
- Dr. and Mrs. Gaston Dana (1992)
- Dr. Lori and Michael Dribin
- Dr. John Gordon (1992)
- *Dr. Nancy Harpold (1996)
- Donna Kaplan
- *Dr. Robert Klein (1991)
- Dr. Soling Li (2000)
- Dr. William E. Osborn, III (1996)
- *Dr. Steven Reeves (1995)
- Dr. Stephen Yandel (1989)

#### Friends (up to $99)
- *Dr. Melissa Broadman (1998)
- *Dr. Heidi Handman (1990)
- *Dr. Cecylia Kelley (2002)
- *Dr. Ronnie and Sherri Martin
- Dr. Michelle Powell-Cole (1999)
- *Dr. Steven Sager (1990)
- Dr. John Simons (1992)
- *Dr. Michael Traktman (1990)
- Dr. Scott Yagger (1994)
- *Contribution made in honor of 2004 Living Tribute Award winner Dr. Lori Dribin.

### Cumulative List of Donors (1999-2004)

#### Heritage Circle
- Represents donors that have made a significant deferred gift via life insurance policies, insurances, or trusts.
- Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Grove (Gift: $500,000 life insurance policy)

#### Chancellor's Council ($5,000 and Up)
- Dr. John Geake, Jr. (1993)

#### Dean's Council ($2,500 - $4,999)
- Dr. Jeffrey Grove (1999)

#### Dean's Council ($1,000 - $2,499)
- Dr. Tamer Gozlevei (1987)
- Dr. Donald C. Howard (1985)
- Dr. Gregory James (1988)
- Drs. Kenneth and Michelle Johnson (1991)
- Dr. Robert Sammartino (1990)
- Dr. Stanley Zimmelman (1990)

#### 500 Club ($500 - $999)
- Dr. Roger Boyington (1994)
- Dr. Charles Chase (1989)
- Dr. Joseph Corcoran (1986)
- Dr. Richard Cottrell (1990)
- Dr. James T. Howell (1992)
- Dr. Robert Klein (1990)
- Dr. Carlos Levy
- Dr. Joel Rush (1985)
- Dr. Gregory Serfer (1997)
- Ms. Lorraine Snyder
Dr. Eric Alboucrek (1992)
Dr. Michael Baron (1988)
Dr. Edgar Bolton
Dr. Janet Bradshaw (1992)
Dr. Daniel C. Carney (1995)
Dr. Kenneth Chen (1992)
Dr. Tyler Cymet (1988)
Dr. John DeCosmo (1987)
Dr. Michael Gervasi (1987)
Dr. Lee L. Gibson (1985)
Dr. Sandy Goldman (1986)
Dr. Jack Goloff (1985)
Dr. Thomas Green (1991)
Dr. Michael Hase (1996)
Dr. Sharron Bennett (1986)
Dr. Andrew Biondo (1999)
Dr. Alice Blavo
Dr. David Cislo (1988)
Dr. Robert Darrel Collins (1993)
Dr. Bret Ackermann (1992)
Dr. Lee Adler
Dr. Albert Alessi (1994)
Dr. John Allred (1997)
Dr. Barnet Alpert
Dr. Barbara Areos (1994)
Dr. Muiji Astichi (1989)
Dr. Donald Auerbach
Dr. Paul Avidanin (1994)
Dr. Michael Band
Dr. Dan Barkus
Dr. Breid Bellingar (1986)
Dr. Peggy Benzing
Dr. Deidra Bergmann (1985)
Dr. Adam Berkof (1996)
Dr. Bob Blackburn (1986)
Dr. Barry Blumenthal (1990)
Dr. Robert Beltuch
Dr. William Borkowsky
Dr. Rogelio Brito (1992)
Dr. David Brown (1987)
Dr. James M. Brown (1993)
Dr. Jaunita Brown (1991)
Dr. James Burnett
Dr. Francine Carattini-Eley (1988)
Dr. James Castellette
Dr. Naih Chen (1995)
Dr. Jules Cohen
Dr. Paul Cohen
Dr. Robert Contrucci
Dr. Beverly Cyper-Greenberg
Mr. Paul DeBlasi
Dr. Ronald J. D’Orazio
Dr. Aaron S. Dubrsnsky
Dr. Bonnie Pollock Ellenoff (1999)
Dr. Tracek Elrafei (1995)
Dr. Perry Fab
Dr. Eileen Farwick (1988)
Dr. Sheldon Feldman
Dr. Julie Fernandez (1998)
Dr. Ira Fialko
Dr. and Mrs. John Fischer
Dr. Walter Flesner
Ms. Margaret Foye-Payne
Dr. James Fish
Dr. Paul Friedman (1996)
Dr. Joseph Fortunato
Dr. Lucille Friar-Carrasco
Dr. Jorge Gadea (1995)
Dr. Basilio Gavara-Seikel (1990)
Dr. Gary Gary
Dr. Bret Ackermann (1992)
Dr. Lee Adler
Dr. Albert Alessi (1994)
Dr. John Allred (1997)
Dr. Barnet Alpert
Dr. Barbara Areos (1994)
Dr. Muiji Astichi (1989)
Dr. Donald Auerbach
Dr. Paul Avidanin (1994)
Dr. Michael Band
Dr. Dan Barkus
Dr. Breid Bellingar (1986)
Dr. Peggy Benzing
Dr. Deidra Bergmann (1985)
Dr. Adam Berkof (1996)
Dr. Bob Blackburn (1986)
Dr. Barry Blumenthal (1990)
Dr. Robert Beltuch
Dr. William Borkowsky
Dr. Rogelio Brito (1992)
Dr. David Brown (1987)
Dr. James M. Brown (1993)
Dr. Jaunita Brown (1991)
Dr. James Burnett
Dr. Francine Carattini-Eley (1988)
Dr. James Castellette
Dr. Naih Chen (1995)
Dr. Jules Cohen
Dr. Paul Cohen
Dr. Robert Contrucci
Dr. Beverly Cyper-Greenberg
Mr. Paul DeBlasi
Dr. Ronald J. D’Orazio
Dr. Aaron S. Dubrsnsky
Dr. Bonnie Pollock Ellenoff (1999)
Dr. Tracek Elrafei (1995)
Dr. Perry Fab
Dr. Eileen Farwick (1988)
Dr. Sheldon Feldman
Dr. Julie Fernandez (1998)
Dr. Ira Fialko
Dr. and Mrs. John Fischer
Dr. Walter Flesner
Ms. Margaret Foye-Payne
Dr. James Fish
Dr. Paul Friedman (1996)
Dr. Joseph Fortunato
Dr. Lucille Friar-Carrasco
Dr. Jorge Gadea (1995)
Dr. Basilio Gavara-Seikel (1990)
Dr. Gary Gary
Dr. Andrea Gault (2000)
Dr. Mitchell Ghen
Dr. Randy Gould (1995)
Dr. Diana Johnston Graves (1986)
Dr. Alvin Greber
Dr. Leslie Greco (1987)
Dr. Harry Grossman
Dr. Heidi Handman (1990)
Dr. Bethany M. Harris (1990)
Dr. Michael Landman (1988)
Dr. Thomas C. Kelly
Dr. Robin Kesselman (1985)
Dr. Michael Higgins (1996)
Dr. Donald Krieff (1992)
Dr. James Landreau (1998)
Dr. Michael Lamoyeux

Fay Lampert
Dr. Christopher P. Lampson (1985)
Dr. Michael Landman (1988)
Dr. James Landreau (1988)
Dr. Jerry Langseth
Dr. Jeffrey Lebow
Dr. Alan Lee (1985)
Dr. Andrew Leppo (1986)
Dr. David Levine
Dr. D. Mitchell Levinson (1988)
Dr. Robert Lewis

Dr. Deborah Longwill-Fox (1988)
Dr. Albert Lopez (1992)
Dr. Leonardo Lopez (1990)
Dr. Anne M. Lord (1995)
Dr. Jason Lu (1999)
Dr. Jerold Lynn
Dr. Jeffrey Lyons (1994)
Ms. Cindy Maggio
Dr. Diane Mainwaring (1990)
Dr. Marvin Malamut
Dr. Gary Marder
Dr. Samuel Martino
Dr. Keith Marshall
Dr. Bach A. McComb (1998)
Dr. Patrick McGrail
Dr. Clyde Meckstroth (1985)
Dr. Joseph Morelos (1992)
Dr. Mark Morganstein
Dr. Alan Morrison
Dr. Linda Murray (1998)
Dr. James Napier
Dr. Alan Netzman
Dr. Aron Newfield
Dr. Jeff Newfield
Dr. Nam Nguyen (1999)
Dr. Hue Nguyen (1986)
Dr. Kay Nissenbaum (1985)
Dr. Robert Nisenbaum (1989)
Dr. Sheryl Movsas (1992)
Dr. Steven and Carolyn Newman
Dr. Jilleen Panza (1989)
Dr. Herbert Pardell
Dr. Christopher Patterson (1993)
Dr. Todd Patterson
Dr. Raymond Oemmink (1985)
Dr. Robert Oller
Dr. Samuel Orr (1990)
Dr. Ralph Ortiz (1998)
Dr. James Otis (1985)
Dr. Sheryl Pearlman Movsas (1992)
Dr. David Stasio (1991)
Dr. Richard J. Sapien (1988)
Dr. Anthony Perrotti (1987)
Dr. Harvey Pflanzer
Dr. Tammy Pruse (1999)
Dr. Thomas Quinn
Dr. Antonio Ramirez (1990)
Dr. and Mrs. Vincent Randaisi (1993)
Dr. Inciya Rangwalla (2001)
Dr. Michael Rappa (1988)
Dr. Charles Reddy (1992)
Dr. Eric Rentz
Dr. Gerald Reynolds
Dr. Jeffrey Ritch
Dr. Marc Ritch

Dr. Paul Rodriguez (1994)
Dr. Gary N. Rosenberg (1990)
Dr. Allan Rubin
Dr. Gerald Safier
Dr. Susan Sager (1989)
Dr. David Saltzman
Dr. Melvin Sarnow
Dr. Lawrence J. Scalzo (1994)
Dr. Judy Schaffer
Dr. Sandra Schwimmer
Dr. Robert Sculthorpe
Dr. Craig Shapiro
Dr. Benjamin Shore
Dr. John Shover
Dr. Leslie Simon
Dr. John Simons (1992)
Dr. Stanley Skopit
Dr. Snaro Skordas
Dr. Scott William Smith (1994)
Dr. Kathleen P. Soe (1999)
Dr. William Stager (1986)
Dr. Margret Starr
Dr. Joseph Stasio (1991)
Dr. Michael Stazely (1991)
Dr. Wynn Steinsnyder
Dr. Mark Stich (1987)
Dr. Stanley Stockhammer
Dr. Joseph W. Sullivan (1988)
Dr. Richard J. Susi
Dr. Cheryl Tapp (1997)
Dr. Frederick Taylor
Dr. James H. Taylor
Dr. David Thomas (1990)
Dr. Michael Traktman (1999)
Dr. Dafna Teites (1994)
Dr. Todd Tires
Dr. Niel Tylle
Dr. Ruben Valdes
Dr. Steve Vanni (1995)
Dr. Douglas Walsh
Dr. Colleen Ward (1988)
Dr. Alex Wargo
Dr. Robert Waskin
Ms. Martha Weber
Dr. Richard Wilder
Mr. Mark Wilder
Dr. Gregg Wilentz (1997)
Dr. Robert L. Wilkinson (1995)
Dr. Paul Winner
Dr. Scott Yagger (1989)
Dr. Melissa Young (1994)

Those are just a few of the colorful phrases that can be used to describe Betty Baker, D.O., M.P.H., who has spent the past 10 years bringing heart and health care to her patients at the C.L. Brumback Health Center in Belle Glade, Florida. She can also be viewed as a much-needed stereotype-buster who helps debunk the myth that physicians are uncaring megalomaniacs who care more about fattening their bank accounts than they do about dispensing caring and comprehensive patient care.

In her role as a family practice physician at the C.L. Brumback Health Center, Dr. Baker has established herself as a beloved philanthropic icon who will do whatever it takes to help those less fortunate than herself. "I can't explain why I do it; it's just something that needs to be done," said Dr. Baker of her charitable tendencies that encompass everything from providing her patients with lunch money and making home visits to collecting vast quantities of clothing to send to underprivileged children in Zimbabwe and South Africa.

As an only child growing up in Miami, Florida, Dr. Baker was never one to set her sights too low—an enviable trait instilled in her by her mother. "I always wanted to either be president of the United States or a doctor," said Dr. Baker, who earned her M.P.H. degree from NSU-COM in 2003. "My mother always stressed the importance of education, education, and more education, and that's a message I never forget."

Although she wasn't exactly sure how to go about pursuing her medical dream, Dr. Baker relied on her unique brand of curiosity and common sense to achieve her ultimate ambition. "I didn't have a specific direction or any mentors to tell me what to do or how to do it," said Dr. Baker, who eventually chose to matriculate at the University of Portland in Oregon. After receiving her B.S. degree in biology, Dr. Baker returned to South Florida and continued her education by becoming certified in nuclear medicine technology at Miami's Jackson
After uprooting her family and driving to Sioux City the week going to love bobsledding and learning how to ski, but they weren't the least bit joy to Dr. Baker's life. However, the desire to continue on the educational course her mother had so effectively ingrained in her psyche compelled Dr. Baker to tackle the challenging triumvirate of marriage, motherhood, and matriculation and pursue a D.O. degree at SECOM.

In 1988, Dr. Baker's dream of becoming a physician was realized when she graduated from SECOM—a feat she celebrated with her family by playing the apropos song “Blood, Sweat, and Tears” by the group Chicago. There was just one slight problem looming on her osteopathic horizon—what to do next. “I had no clue what I was going to do; in fact, I hadn’t even thought about it,” admitted Dr. Baker, who credits much of her success as a physician to individuals such as Drs. Morton Terry, Edgar Bolton, and Alex Philogene. “Even until my final residency rotation, I had no idea what I was going to do.”

While she waited for a bolt of inspiration, Dr. Baker completed an internship at Orlando General Hospital, followed by a rotating family practice residency conducted through SECOM. However, before entering her family practice residency, Dr. Baker decided to take a stab at psychiatry via a residency program in Sioux City, Iowa. What followed next was nothing short of a comedy of errors.

After uprooting her family and driving to Sioux City the week before Thanksgiving, Dr. Baker discovered that the house they were supposed to stay in had flooded, causing them to spend the holiday in a small, dreary hotel. With snow cascading outside the hotel and complaints raining down around her inside, it soon became abundantly clear that an immediate return to South Florida was the only feasible solution.

“I was trying to convince my kids how much they were going to love bobsledding and learning how to ski, but they weren’t the least bit persuaded,” laughed Dr. Baker when she recalled the snow-capped experience. “There were no job opportunities for my husband, so my family lovingly told me I could stay up there by myself, but they were coming back to Miami.”

Once she completed her family medicine residency in 1993, her first order of business was to go home and rest. However, Dr. Dan Reider, who served as director of the college’s family medicine residency program at the time, had another plan in mind for Dr. Baker. “Dr. Reider called and asked if I would accept a family practice position at the C.L. Brumback Health Center, which is where I had done my rural medicine rotation during my residency,” she explained. “My first response was to say no, but then Dr. Reider reminded me of a promise I had made to him during my initial residency interview. He said, ‘Do you remember how you told that you’d made a commitment to serve wherever you were needed if God put you in medical school and kept you there? Well, it’s time to make good on that promise.’”

Being a woman of integrity, Dr. Baker graciously accepted the position, which proved to be a sagacious decision for all involved. “I am basically a jack-of-all-trades, master-of-nothing physician,” said Dr. Baker, who has become an especially ardent advocate for her HIV and AIDS patients. “When you come to me, I take care of the total person.”

Dr. Baker, who has made several humanitarian trips to South Africa, is also distinguished by her distinctive bedside manner, which mixes warmhearted compassion with cold-blooded candor. “I tell my patients the truth,” she explained. “If they have AIDS and ask me when they’re going to die, I say, ‘Don’t ask me when you’re going to die because I have no clue. That’s between you and the man upstairs. I’m just an instrument in the healing process. If you choose not to live, so be it, but you can never say that I did not educate you or make you aware that you should do these things to remain healthy.’ I tell them the truth—and they trust me enough to share everything with me.”

Because of her interaction with HIV/AIDS patients, Dr. Baker has made it a point to attend the biannual International AIDS Conference every year since 1998—an experience that has brought much enrichment to her life. “I have sacrificed and paid my own way to go to these international conferences because I believe in acquiring knowledge,” said Dr. Baker, who plans on attending the July 2004 AIDS symposium in Bangkok, Thailand.

“Money is not my motivation for being a physician,” stated Dr. Baker, who recently graduated from the college’s Osteopathic Preventive Medicine and Public Health Residency Training Program. “It’s the satisfaction I get from knowing I am helping someone that keeps me going. Every time I get frustrated and think about quitting, you know what happens? Some patient will come in and say, ‘Dr. Baker, I don’t know what I’d do without you. Please don’t ever leave me.’ Hearing a patient say that is my ultimate reward.”
Alumni Pay Homage to Dr. Lori Dribin at Annual Reunion

Dr. Dribin receives her Living Tribute Award from outgoing Alumni Association President Glenn Moran, D.O.

The Eighth Annual NSU-COM Alumni Reunion and Continuing Medical Education Program, held February 6-8, 2004, at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six Resort in Fort Lauderdale, provided attendees with an opportunity to catch up with old friends, celebrate the contributions of faculty favorite Lori Dribin, Ph.D., and earn CME credits.

A large contingent of well-wishers attended the alumni banquet to honor Dr. Dribin, who serves as professor of anatomy and assistant dean for student affairs at NSU’s College of Medical Sciences. Dr. Dribin was presented with the Alumni Association’s prestigious Living Tribute Award, which is given annually to outstanding faculty/staff members and administrators that have made significant contributions to the college and the osteopathic profession.

“It was so nice to be a part of my first NSU-COM Alumni Reunion,” said Lynne Cawley, associate director of interprofessional and alumni affairs. “Everyone was so receptive, and the feedback and involvement of the alumni was wonderful. I’m already looking forward to next year.”

Other reunion highlights included 10th anniversary recognition for the class of 1994 and the selection of new Alumni Association Executive Committee officers.
Over the past two decades, Lori Dribin, Ph.D., has been dedicated to the education and enrichment of students, first at Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine (SECOM) and now at the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University. During that time, countless numbers of students have benefited from her knowledge, sense of humor, and dedication to their education and success.

When she joined the fledgling staff of SECOM in 1982 as an associate professor in the Anatomy Department, her initial tasks included teaching histology and neuroanatomy to the first-year medical students. However, as more colleges were established, Dr. Dribin began sharing her wisdom with dental, optometry, and occupational therapy students, earning the rank of professor in 1993.

In addition to her teaching tasks, Dr. Dribin has assumed an array of administrative responsibilities by chairing and serving on many committees within the various Health Professions Division colleges as well as acting as assistant dean for student affairs in the College of Medical Sciences. But it is her inimitable teaching style that has brought her the most recognition and enjoyment—a style that attempts to impart knowledge in a serious environment while also incorporating a liberal dose of humor.

Dr. Dribin believes there is no inherent contradiction in this approach, and her students seem to agree. Her lab practicals are renowned for their rest stops marked by helium-filled balloons attached to the microscopes and for her stickers and toys placed all over her histology lab. She always takes the time to memorize the names and faces of her incoming students within a few days of the start of the academic year—much to their surprise and amazement. She is also revered and respected for being a compassionate soul whose door is always open to address her students' problems or serve as their advocate within the faculty and administration. Not surprisingly, Dr. Dribin has received numerous accolades in recognition of her teaching, including the Golden Apple and Professor of the Year awards.

Dr. Dribin’s altruistic attitude also extends to other worthwhile endeavors, including the coordination of blood and marrow drives at NSU and other locations. Not surprisingly, the American Red Cross and the National Marrow Donor Program have recognized Dr. Dribin for these selfless efforts. In her “spare time,” Dr. Dribin indulges her passion for music by playing the piano, flute, and bassoon with the North Miami Community Band. However, it is her devotion to teaching and to the success of her students that is truly praiseworthy. It is this dedication that is duly recognized with warmth and gratitude by her former students.
"We all have idiosyncrasies, and Dr. Terry was no exception. At noon everyday, he had to eat lunch. It made no difference what he was doing or who was here—it could have been the president of the United States, and it wouldn’t have mattered. If it was noon, it was lunchtime. But most of all, I will remember his incredible instinct, his demand for what I would call humane excellence, his loyalty, and his undying respect for what is right."

Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.
Chancellor
Health Professions Division

"Dr. Morton Terry was a dynamic visionary. Although Dr. Terry is physically gone, he will forever be a presence in the halls, laboratories, and classrooms of NSU’s Health Professions Division. And that presence will be very real because he cared deeply about the Health Professions Division. Let me quote him verbatim from his speech at the dedication of the Health Professions Division buildings, which took place on June 22, 1996. He said, ‘Today, I give you part of my life.’"

Jay Tischenkel, R.Ph., Director
Institutional Advancement
Health Professions Division