

RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2015 VOLUME VIII, No. 3

UPCOMING RFA MEETING

"ONE PLUS ONE EQUALS THREE: THE LEVERAGING OF INSTITUTIONAL CONSOLIDATION"



Speaker: Kenneth J. Breslauer, PhD

Linus C. Pauling Professor Dean, Biological Sciences Vice President, Health Science Partnerships

Friday, October 2, 2015 Noon – 1:30 p.m. Dean's Conference Room Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Piscataway

All current and retired faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend. Lunch will be available, and contributions for the lunch may be made at the meeting.

250th Year Look Back

THE NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY'S CONNECTION TO RUTGERS

By John W. Coakley, ThD

[Editor's Note: The New Brunswick Theological Seminary is a unique and remarkable institution that, in its early years, rescued Rutgers from extinction. This article about the seminary and its close ties to Rutgers University is particularly timely since this year is the 250th anniversary of the founding of Rutgers University.

John W. Coakley, ThD, spoke about "The Theological Institution of Queen's College: A Brief History of the New Brunswick Seminary" at the May 1, 2015 meeting of the RWJMS Retired Faculty Association. He is the L. Russell Feakes Memorial Professor of Church History, New Brunswick Theological Seminary and the author of the recently published book, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, an Illustrated History, 1784-2014. The article shown below is an abridged version of his presentation at the RWJMS RFA meeting.]

The New Brunswick Theological Seminary has been in existence since 1784 in close co-existence with the college and university that came to be called Rutgers. Within the last two years, the Seminary has come to the attention of (continued on the following page)

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N.B. Theological Seminary and Rutgers

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the university in a new way. In a complicated land transaction that was finalized just three years ago, the seminary gave up a bit more than half of the land it had occupied since the middle of the 19th century in New Brunswick, and, as a consequence, all but one of the old seminary buildings, a total of ten buildings, have been razed. In much of the space that's been vacated, two large and impressive Rutgers buildings are going up. And near this new construction, the seminary has itself built a new building, smaller but impressive in its own way, on the remaining portion of its former tract of land.

All of this is quite striking and, if you have been on the College Avenue campus recently, it will have been hard for you to miss it. Here, by way of framing these recent developments, I will trace some of the history of the New Brunswick Seminary, in relation to the institution that was originally Queen's College and then became Rutgers College and eventually Rutgers University. In their formative years, we'll see, not only did the college and seminary occupy the same space; they also shared an institutional structure and, in broad terms, a mission. Now, by contrast, they could hardly be more separate in structure and mission. Yet the seminary remains a physical presence on College Avenue – and in this sense continues to be *in*, if no longer quite *of*, the university.

NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY An Illustrated History, 1784–2014 JOHN W. COAKLEY

This is the cover of the recently published book by Dr. Coakley showing the new building of the Seminary on the left and the Sage Library on the right.

The Formation of the New Brunswick Seminary

The seminary came into being, some 231 years ago, to educate clergy for the religious denomination then known as the Reformed Dutch Church (and since 1867 as the Reformed Church in America).

The Reformed Dutch Church had established itself on American soil in the early seventeenth (continued on the following page)

century, in the area first governed by the Dutch, and it slowly grew during the century and a half of the American colonial period. It was made up of Dutch-speaking people who settled in Manhattan, further north along the Hudson, on Long Island and in the valleys of the Hackensack, Passaic and Raritan rivers in New Jersey. During most of the colonial period, even after the British government had displaced the Dutch, the church remained subordinate to the mother church, which was the national church of the Netherlands, and (with occasional exceptions) its American ministers were required to receive their education and ordination in the old country.

This church's situation changed, in the years surrounding the American Revolution. It was in 1768 that, after long hesitation and struggle, the church in the Netherlands finally gave its blessing to the Dutch-Americans to create their own church governance, and to educate and ordain their own clergy. The new American embodiment of the Reformed Dutch Church that thus came into being adopted a constitution then in 1772, which included a provision that its General Synod would elect "professors" to educate students for the ministry, in accordance with the Dutch Church's Calvinist standards of belief (to which the American Dutch remained devoted). Then in 1784 – after a delay caused by the war - the Synod elected the first such professor, John Henry Livingston, a member of a prominent New York merchant family who had taken his doctorate in theology at the University of Utrecht.

The election of Livingston in 1784 created, in effect, a theological faculty. To be sure, it was a faculty that consisted then of only one person, but it was later to grow and become what we know as the New Brunswick Theological Seminary – which, if we date it from the election of Livingston, stands as the oldest seminary in America.

At first, however there was no *school* in the usual sense of the word. Livingston taught his students in his own home in New York City, where he continued to serve as a minister in the Collegiate Reformed Church (the same church that, in the twentieth century, would be the church of, for instance, Norman Vincent Peale, and is still a thriving church today.)

The Reformed Dutch Church did intend to create a school - to set it up "around" the professor, so to speak - but for a long while nobody could quite decide where the school was going to be. There were many possibilities. New Brunswick was always considered one of these - for Queen's College had been founded in 1766 by ministers and elders of the Reformed Dutch Church, and the framers of its earliest extant charter (1771) had specifically envisioned it as, in part anyway, a place where "young men of suitable abilities may be instructed in divinity, preparing them for the ministry," presumably especially in the Reformed Dutch Church. But in the early years there was no money to establish the theological school at Queen's; and perhaps more importantly, the Reformed Dutch Church itself was ambivalent about New Brunswick as the right place for it. For though there were several Reformed Church ministers and elders in this area who were keen on having the seminary here, New Brunswick was at the extreme southern limit of the Dutch culture area for that era – an area that extended north to Albany and east to the tip of Long Island – and other towns, such as Hackensack and New York City itself (though the predominantly rural Dutch-Americans held it suspect for its temptations), were much more centrally located. Furthermore, Albany and Schenectady, though far to the north, pressed their own claim as thriving towns where the Reformed Dutch churches were strong. And so for more than two decades, amid continuing debate over the merit of this town or that, the matter of location remained unresolved and Livingston remained in New York City.

The "Theological Institution" and the Restoration of Rutgers

What finally brought the seminary to New Brunswick, however, was a matter not so much of merit as of need. For Queen's College had a rocky time in its early years and was, as you may know, actually out of commission from 1794 until 1807; there were simply not the resources to maintain an academic program. But its trustees continued to meet and in 1807 they made a bargain with the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church whereby the Synod endorsed the trustees' intention to "revive" the college and the trustees agreed to assist in raising funds for the theological "professorate," on the understanding that the professor would now relocate to Queen's, in an effort to (continued on the following page)

"combine" the college's "literary interests with a decided support to evangelical truth." It was understood that the professor himself would be "nominated and chosen by the General Synod" (which meant the first incumbent would be Livingston, who still held the office), and that the "theological institution" thus created would have its own board of "superintendents," accountable to the Synod, rather than to the trustees themselves. This agreement came to be known as the "Covenant," and though in details it was repeatedly revised, it remained in effect for sixty years. By its terms, the trustees renounced control of the "Theological Institution in Queen's College," as the covenant termed it, as a price for bringing it to New Brunswick. But the trustees achieved their aim: money was raised, Livingston arrived in New Brunswick in 1810 and took up his duties as both professor of theology (on the basis of the funds raised for that purpose) and president of Queen's College (by separate arrangement, at the expense of the trustees), and the college, now including the "theological Institution," reopened permanently. And though its two parts – the "theological" part and the "literary," i.e., undergraduate, part - had different structures of accountability, Queen's was indeed formally a single institution.

The fundraising that the new covenant encouraged also made possible the construction of a building, the one we identify today as "Old Queen's," which was designed by a New York architect named John McComb Jr., (who also designed New York City Hall), and opened its doors in 1811. It was shared by the seminary and the college until 1856. The middle section of the building contained the library and classrooms, not only for the college, but also for the seminary and the preparatory school (today known as Rutgers Prep), and professors and their families lived in the wings of the building.

The Course of the "Covenant"

The seminary, as part of Queen's, thrived in its first few years. Comprising only one professor (i.e., Livingston) in 1810, it added two more by 1825 and had a student body of eighteen. (The seminary's average annual enrollment through the nineteenth century was approximately thirty.)

But during those same years, the undergraduate part of the college languished again. In 1816, it once more ceased operation, and did not resume until 1825. (At the Seminary we like to remember that this was a moment when we, as the college's "theological institution," had the role of keeping Rutgers alive!) Then when the "literary institution," that is, the undergraduate school, reopened in 1825, it did so, once again, on the basis of the covenant with the General Synod, and thus on the basis of its connection with the seminary. Now the covenant was revised, and this time, it did more than simply enable the trustees to keep the college open. For now the Synod committed the faculty of the seminary to provide most of the humanities instruction in the college as a regular part of their duties, and furthermore stipulated that one of them (Philip Milledoler, the professor of "didactic and polemic theology,") would serve additionally as president - all at the expense of the church, in order to allow the college to, as it were, get its feet on the ground. The year 1825 (in which, incidentally, the college was, at Milledoler's suggestion, renamed for Henry Rutgers in hope of the latter's benevolence) really does mark the rejuvenation of Queen's college and the decisive firming of the foundation on which its eventual phenomenal growth would be based.

Meanwhile, the Reformed Church and the college remained in the Covenant, until 1867. The covenant then had its ups and downs. Shortly after the revision of 1825, voices in the Reformed Church General Synod began to grumble at how much time their professors had to spend teaching undergraduates, giving inadequate attention to the seminary students in consequence; and at least one member of the seminary faculty, Alexander McClelland, was on record as declining to take up his duties in the college. Eventually these complaints became so insistent, and in the meantime the college itself strengthened so considerably in its own right, that in 1839 and then in 1840 the covenant was renegotiated: the seminary faculty would no longer have to produce the college's president (the first Rutgers president from outside the theological faculty being Abraham Hasbrouck, a layman from Kingston, New York, chosen in 1840), the theological professors' duties in the college were (continued on the following page)

considerably reduced (though not eliminated). and the Synod stated its confidence that the college was competent to deal with its own affairs. And indeed from around that moment, to the historian looking back, the college begins to appear as the stronger institution of the two. From that point, at any rate, the college and seminary led increasingly separate institutional lives. Eventually, in 1867, the covenant was officially closed. This was during the Rutgers Presidency of William H. Campbell (who himself had first come to New Brunswick as a professor at the seminary), when Rutgers, having been named the land-grant college of New Jersey and thus the recipient of Federal funds under the Morrill Act, was beginning its trek toward becoming a state university.

A Campus for the Seminary

The seminary continued to share quarters with the college in "Old Queen's" until the mid-1850s. But then the school began to acquire its own space. It was William Campbell, so the story goes, who met his theological students in his classroom in Old Queen's one day in 1854 and said to them that they shouldn't have to stand sharing the space with the college. They should "have a meeting." They should "make protests." They should "get the Synod or the Collegiate Church in New York or somebody to build them a theological hall for the sole use of the Seminary."

The students duly brought the matter up with the seminary's superintendents. The time was ripe; the Reformed Dutch Church had a certain kind of upper middle class élan in those years and part of the appeal of having its own building was not just the practical question of space and where students would learn and where faculty would live and so forth, but also the idea that its seminary should be a distinguished institution that could hold its head high among the theological schools of the land - and it was indeed to stand for a few decades as a firstrank theological school. At any rate, the land was purchased very quickly and it was, in large part, the land that the seminary has held until recently - that is, the tract between what is now Seminary Place and what is now Bishop Place on the south and north and College Avenue and George Street on the west and east. This was

an area that in the 1850s was not in the middle of Rutgers at all but was at the edge of the city.

The first building of the new seminary campus, Hertzog Hall, was dedicated in 1856, and by 1885 it stood in the middle of an impressive row of structures that faced the college buildings across what is now the Neilson campus of Rutgers but was then mostly still empty ground. All of those nineteenth-century seminary buildings have now been razed, except for one, Gardner L. Sage Library (1875), the remarkable work of the eclectic German-American architect Dietlef Linau, which stands adjacent to the seminary's new and yet unnamed structure at the west end of Seminary Place.



Interior of the Gardner A. Sage Library of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary Photo Credit: Saed Hindash for *The Star-Ledger*

The seminary then remained on its nineteenth-century campus - though to be sure some buildings were replaced, and some added, over time - for over a century and a half, until 2014.

The details of its internal history during that long period are beyond the scope of this brief article. (Its place in the *theological* landscape of twentieth century Protestantism - often perceived in Reformed Church circles as a "liberal" place - may be of interest to some readers, whom I invite to have a look at my *Illustrated History*.) But suffice it to say that though its relationship to the Reformed Church in America has undergone changes in recent years - the institutional tie between the two becoming somewhat looser - and though the student body has broadened to become very diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, and (continued on the following page)

denominational affiliation - the seminary still pursues, in the midst of the Rutgers campus, its mission to prepare students for Christian ministry.

The Seminary and the University In the Post-Covenant Era

With the demise of the covenant in 1867, the college and the seminary became fully separate institutions. Yet many interconnections remained.

Well into the twentieth century, for instance, Rutgers continued to be the college of choice for Reformed Church students from New York and New Jersey destined for the ministry, who then stayed on to do their graduate work at the seminary. Rutgers students themselves, moreover, were always among the residents in Hertzog Hall, and - indeed to the present moment - many a Rutgers undergraduate has spent time studying in Sage Library.

There have also been, well past the era of the covenant, notable figures who have had strong ties to both institutions at once. One of these was Rutgers' first professor of art history, John C. Van Dyke (1861-1931), who doubled for several decades as the beloved librarian of the seminary, and breadth of whose scholarly interests is still discernible in the Sage Library collection. But without doubt the most prominent of these figures was W.H.S. Demarest (1853-1956), who in certain sense incarnated the very spirit of both schools in the early twentieth century. A graduate of the college (1883) and the seminary (1888), he had grown up on the seminary campus as the son of a seminary faculty member, David D. Demarest (who was himself a graduate of both institutions). In 1901 after serving as a Reformed Church minister in Hudson Valley towns for thirteen years in a couple of towns up the Hudson Valley, W.H.S. Demarest became professor of Church History at the seminary. But after five years of service, he resigned in 1906 upon being chosen as president of the college, in which position he remained until 1924, presiding over a period of significant growth for Rutgers that saw the founding of Douglass College and considerable expansion of the College Avenue campus. And then, on retirement from Rutgers, he returned to the seminary again, serving as its president until

1934! Indeed In his years as Rutgers president, he walked down the street to the seminary to serve on the seminary's Board of Superintendents; and throughout his long life, well after his years in office, he remained active in the affairs of Rutgers as well.

Many informal connections still persist between the seminary and the college and the University. But these are significantly fewer, and less substantial, than in Demarest's day. Institutionally the two schools remain rigorously separate. And here it is important to point out the uniqueness of Rutgers' relationship to its own religious past. For there are many presently non-sectarian American universities that had religious connections in their formative years and have not lost their ties to the theological institutions that were part of their earlier history: Harvard, Yale, and Chicago come to mind in particular, in which the theological faculties have evolved within their universities as "divinity schools," fully a part of the larger life of those universities but also still engaged in preparing religious leaders and, in varying ways, preserving a sense of themselves as communities of faith. I personally wish this could have been the case as well with Rutgers and its ancient "theological institution," and as a faculty member at the seminary, being surrounded by the many resources of the University, I am acutely aware of the opportunities being missed, indeed perhaps on both sides. But of course the fundamental reason why the Seminary has not evolved as the "Rutgers Divinity School" is that whereas those other universities are private universities, Rutgers has become a public one, a state university that is. (In fact, as the university's then chief counsel told me a few years ago, Rutgers and the seminary are the *only* two American institutions in this situation - i.e., Rutgers is the only state university that originated as a religious institution and is still accompanied by a theological school to which it was once connected.) And thus for all the good will that has existed, and continues to exist, between persons in our respective institutions. the principle of separation between church and state (a principle which, let it be clear, I affirm) keeps us institutionally separate, with, in that sense, the figurative distance between us not decreasing but perhaps even increasing over

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And so the figurative distance between the university and the seminary - the institutional separateness - remains. And yet the literal distance - the geographical separation - remains slight; the seminary is still surrounded by the university. And in some sense, all the way back to its medieval origins, the concept of the "university" has always been in part geographical, denoting the sometimes complex community of teachers and students in a given place. And in that sense, institutionally separate though it remains, the seminary will continue to have a place in the life of the university, as it is lived from day to day. Relationships continue, to which your kind invitation to me to be with you today bears witness. Let us hope that, based in those relationships a sense of community that transcends the institutional boundaries may still thrive.

Significant Changes at Rutgers RWJMS

The arrival of a new dean, a planned reorganization of clinical services of RBHS (Rutgers Biomedical Health Sciences), and the convergence of NJMS and RWJMS departments are among the significant recent changes at RWJMS.

Sherine E. Gabriel, MD, MSc, has been appointed dean of RWJMS. Prior to coming to RWJMS, she served as dean of Mayo Medical School at Mayo Clinic since 2012. In addition, she had been chair of Mayo Clinic's Department of Health Sciences Research and *Professor of Medicine and of Epidemiology and the William J. and Charles H. Mayo Professor at the Mayo Clinic.*

The clinical services at RBHS are being reorganized in response to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The RBHS strategic plan of November 2014 envisioned a practice plan that "may incorporate under one umbrella all the clinical departments of multiple schools, clinical care units, geographic campuses, and a wide range of licensed providers, including, but not limited to, physicians, dentists, advanced practice nurses, including nurse practitioners, midwives, nurse anesthetists, physician

assistants, physical therapists, and other allied health professionals. As such, the practice plan could include faculty from the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Jersey Medical School, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, School of Health Related Professions, School of Nursing, and University Behavioral Health Care." To spearhead this initiative, Chancellor Brian L. Strom has formed a steering committee headed by former interim dean Vicente H. Gracias, MD, and retained the services of ECG Management Consultants, experts in academic health organizations.

Convergence of NJMS and RWJMS Departments

Suhayl Dhib-Jalbut, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Neurology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, has been appointed as chair of the Department of Neurology at New Jersey Medical School effective August 1, 2015. Dr. Dhib-Jalbut has been chair of the Department of Neurology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School since 2003. He will serve as chair of both NJMS and RWJMS departments concurrently. He is an internationally known researcher of multiple sclerosis and is president of the Americas Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis.

Two new departments have been created at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School: the Department of Neurological Surgery and the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery. Faculty of both RWJMS departments will work in collaboration with colleagues at New Jersey Medical School.

Pending approval of a joint Department of Neurological Surgery, Charles J. Prestigiacomo, MD, will be the interim chair of the joint department located at both the New Brunswick and Newark campuses while a search is conducted for a permanent Chair. Dr. Prestigiacomo is presently professor and chair, Department of Neurological Surgery at New Jersey Medical School.

Soly Baredes, MD, professor and chair, Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at New Jersey Medical School, will be the interim chair of the planned joint Department of Rutgers Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, until a permanent joint chair of the department is named. ■

News From Afar

[Editor's Note: Leonard Sciorra, PhD, joined the faculty of Rutgers University in 1971 and subsequently moved to the Department of Pediatrics of Rutgers Medical School, presently RWJMS, in 1978. He directed the Cytogenetics Laboratory in New Brunswick until 2001. He is the Joseph E. Schuch S.J. Professor of the Health and Natural Sciences at Saint Peter's University.]

Leonard Sciorra, PhD: Sometimes I think just being in the right place at the right time is really what determines your eventual fate. Maybe that is why Forest Gump is one of my favorite movie characters. I can relate to the way of life that he portrays in the film - to expect the unexpected and always be open-minded. And when the unexpected occurs, you never know what you are capable of achieving if you don't try, so don't be afraid to take chances. This has been a philosophy that I not only apply to my own life, but also a value I try to instill in the lives of my students. "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get."

For most of my life I have been really fortunate to be at the right place at the right time. Like getting my first job at Rutgers immediately after finishing my doctorate, which was basically due to a friend of a friend who told me that Douglass College was looking for someone to teach in their new Genetic Counseling Program. Spending all those years at the university and Robert Wood Johnson were just so rewarding. I had the opportunity to work with many wonderful people and teach numerous terrific students. So when I "retired" and left to come to Saint Peter's College, I was a little worried about what was in store for me in my "retirement job" at this small Jesuit school in the heart of Jersey City. Well, that box of chocolates gave me another great taste of life and it has been a wonderful 13 years post RWJMS.

I had heard about the position that I now currently hold from one of my former graduate students, Kathy Wydner. She is a professor at Saint Peter's and decided to pay me a visit when she learned that I was retiring from RWJMS. She wanted to tell me about an endowed professorship at Saint Peter's which was the result of a large donation from a former student, who had become a very successful orthopedic surgeon. The purpose of the position was to help the school's health careers students

achieve their dreams of becoming medical professionals, a responsibility which had a great deal of appeal for me. Kathy thought I would be a good candidate, so I applied and eventually got the job - once again the right place at the right time.

My transition to Saint Peter's has in many ways been like going home again for me. The school straddles JFK Boulevard in Jersey City, and I remember clearly the many times when I was a youngster, living in Hudson County, riding my bicycle past the school. Jersey City and Hudson County were very different places then. I have seen the population make-up and the real estate landscape dramatically change through the years, yet the mission of Saint Peter's has remained the same: to educate. For the most part, our student population consists of first generation children of recent immigrants to our country. We also have a very high population of international students from all corners of the world, brought to us via the numerous Jesuit high schools that dot this planet. Teaching these students has been a great joy for me to say the least. Each student that I have had the pleasure to meet has their own unique story, but I have found that the common denominator among all is an eagerness to learn and a desire to better their place in life - to be a part of the American dream. Despite what is constantly reported in the media, this dream still lives in the hearts and souls of these students. I know because I see it every day. It is my students' passion to learn that re-energizes and motivates me to wake up every day and continue to teach - to help them to achieve their dreams.

This endowment allows me with the opportunity to select students who we think have strong potential for success in the health professions. Almost all of the students we identify have gone on to medical school, dental school or a prominent graduate program. I feel very fortunate to be a small part in helping them make their dreams a reality. A number of these students have also elected to do research with me and just watching them get enthusiastic about learning new techniques or working with the equipment is just wonderful. I truly feel privileged to teach so many of them and every time I learn that one of them has been accepted to a professional school or to a graduate (continued on the following page)

News from Afar: L. Sciorra

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program, I feel rewarded in ways that are difficult to put into words, but I can tell you that it will never get tiresome to hear of their successes. For me, it is really the right place at the right time.

My personal life continues to grow in new and exciting ways as my four children have started their own adult lives. While I still live in Neshanic Station and I still have the same understanding wife, Vanessa, we are fortunate that all of our children have remained nearby. Vanessa and I see them a great deal and being able to share in their lives has continued to fulfill ours. We feel truly blessed that they have all grown up to be happy, successful, generous, and open-minded. Our oldest daughter teaches autistic children in Somerville and our youngest daughter is a project coordinator in the IT department at Bristol-Myers Souibb and will be getting married in April. Our youngest son is a social worker and our other daughter and her husband are both emergency room physicians at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Somerset. The newest additions to the crew are our two beautiful granddaughters, Emma, who is almost 2 years old and loves to talk and cuddle, and Stella, who will soon be seven months old and is a very good eater. Being a grandparent is everything you hear about and having my family living so close by is a blessing - again the right place at the right time.

I like to stay active and work out a few times each week. I continue to dabble a little in real estate and make sure I get to see a New York Giant game every once in a while. I also enjoy exploring Europe as much as I can. A few years ago my son and I went to see the region of Italy where my Dad had lived before he immigrated to the United States. It was a very special trip for both of us. And last year the family did a mini tour of England, France and Italy, which created a lifetime of special memories. I support Rutgers University to the max and feel that its merger with UMDNJ will elevate the university to new levels of excellence.

All in all, life after RWJMS has been very good. I have always admired Ben Franklin, who is about as far different from Forest Gump as one could imagine, but of all those great quotable quotes old Ben is credited with, the one I like best is that you should try to "do well by doing good". Perhaps, this is one of those sayings that is a lot easier said than done. However, life aspirations are often challenging, but if you are willing to take chances, keep an open-mind, and put in the hard work, it will no doubt improve your ability to achieve them... and of course it doesn't hurt to have a little luck with being in the right place at the right time. So far I have felt very blessed to be "doing good." Retirement is a word that I sometimes use, but in reality, it is not a concept I think about very often because it is something I have no intention of really doing for as long as possible. You just never know what that box of chocolates will have waiting for you.

David Carver, a Personal Reminiscence

By Barbara Ostfeld, PhD

[Editor's Note: The RWJMS RFA invited Dr. Barbara Ostfeld, professor of pediatrics, to write about her friend and colleague, David Carver, MD, who died on June 20, 2015.

Dr. Carver was chair of the Department of Pediatrics (1988 – 2000) and associate dean for faculty affairs (2000 – 2004) at RWJMS. Prior to this, he was the chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine for ten years and had previously served as head of infectious diseases at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Johns Hopkins. He received his A.B. degree magna cum laude from Harvard University and his M.D. from Duke University. He did his residency at Harvard Medical School, Children's Hospital Medical Center. He was an internationally respected infectious disease specialist who was mentored by Nobel laureates of his field. For more information about Dr. Carver, go to http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/bostonherald/obituary.aspx?n=david-carver&pid=175130896&fhid=17127]

In 1987, I got a call from Larry Taft, then RWJMS chair of the Department of Pediatrics, telling me that David Carver was to become the new chair and that his wife Pat, a psychologist, was seeking some guidance on how to obtain supervision and licensure in New Jersey. "Would I help?" he asked. I agreed to do so, and thus began a long and wonderful friendship, initially between Pat and me, and ultimately between our two families. There were shared Passover Seders and worship, vacation trips and many gatherings to celebrate family life. A year after they arrived, during the Bar Mitzvah of one of my sons, I announced all of the happy occasions that we were sharing that day, and I included the first birthday of Cidney, David and Pat's grandchild. Pat later told me how meaningful that was to them because it made them feel truly a part of the community. I realized then how difficult the relocation from Toronto to New Brunswick must have been from a personal perspective. Other than historical family roots connecting David to Passaic through his mother, there were no immediate relatives. Comfortable friendships would have to be built anew. Fortunately, there was shared history with Larry and Odette Taft, a relationship that endured throughout their lives. Fortunately, too, both Pat and David were welcoming hosts who opened their home for many wonderful gatherings that inspired even more friendships.



David Carver, MD

What made our friendship comfortable was our ability to keep work out of it. And because of that, I was able to appreciate the many relaxed and spontaneous dimensions of David. He was a gifted raconteur, and I will cherish the incredible stories he told about medical history. (continued on the following page)

David Carver, a Personal Reminiscence (continued from the previous page)

At the annual Pediatric Academic Societies meetings, he was like a magnet attracting the well-known and the hopeful. He knew the stories behind the early work that contributed to the modern era of practice. Hearing him tell of these adventures from an intimate perspective brought them to life as no journal could. He valued history, and when one of my children graduated from medical school, David gifted him with an array of books that were filled with such stories. I often wished that he would have published his to share with a wider audience.

David's humor was always in evidence, but perhaps even more so out of the office. One day, as our families were waiting to be seated for dinner, I noticed that his tie was full of writing. Latin, as it turned out. "What does it say?" I inquired. David grinned but said nothing. And so I began to translate. I soon burst out laughing, much to David's delight. The words repeated over and over were, "Illegitimi non carborundom." The reader will have to work, as I did, to unravel the often useful message. On occasion, the tie would reappear with David's grin peering out over it.

David's love of family was in evidence always. Now that I am a grandmother, I appreciate even more, his incredible devotion to his grandchildren. When his firstborn granddaughter came to visit from Ohio, he relished their swimming sessions which were inviolate. Time with grandchildren was protected time. He truly enjoyed grandfathering.

The mentoring that he did so successfully at work was evident in this role as well.

David lived a life of great accomplishment. He was an only child from whom much was expected. In turn, he expected much of himself, and he more than fulfilled his destiny. David also appreciated accomplishments in others. One of his favorite phrases when congratulating someone was, "Richly deserved." I really liked that phrase and asked him why he preferred it. He pointed out that it efficiently expressed not only recognition for the immediate accomplishment but also for the fact that diligent effort and earlier successes had preceded it. David also appreciated his family's efforts and achievements and was justifiably proud of Pat and of their children.

Sadly, age brings many losses, of health, independence and, most of all, of loved ones. Then there are the unexpected ones. In 2004, David and Pat's daughter Rebecca "Betsy" Carver, PhD, lost her battle with illness. Pat and David drew comfort and strength from each other. But, within a few years, Pat too lost her battle with illness, and David lost his rock. Larry Taft died soon after. What sustains someone? Is it the satisfaction of knowing that your life's work helped millions of children? Perhaps that is so. But mostly, I feel, it is the love and comfort of family. To the end, David's children and grandchildren were a devoted part of his life, and he lived in the home that Pat had specifically designed to meet his later needs. The Department of Pediatrics dedicates an annual Grand Rounds lecture to David. Richly deserved.

Arthur C. Upton, MD, 1923 - 2015

Arthur C. Upton, MD, who was Professor Emeritus of Environmental and Community Medicine of Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, died on February 14, 2015. During his very productive scientific career, he had been director of the National Cancer Institute (1977 - 1980), an elected fellow of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences (1979), and dean of the School of Basic Health Sciences of the State University of New York at Stony Brook (1970- 1975). He

retired as clinical professor of Environmental and Community Medicine from RWJMS in 1995. He was widely recognized as one of the world's leading experts on health effects of ionizing radiation, and authored the acclaimed volume *Ionizing Radiation and Health* and several other books. He was a superb and compelling lecturer, a patient teacher of health physics and radiation biology, and a warm and encouraging colleague.

(continued on the following page)

Arthur C. Upton, MD, 1923 - 2015 (continued from the previous page)

Dr. Upton played a critical part in the federal government's recognition of smoking as a cause of cancer. As part of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) oral history project, he was interviewed on June 4, 1997. He said, "...shortly after I arrived, I received a call from Mr. Joseph A. Califano, Jr., who was Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, [that he] wanted to see me. NCI at the time had a budget of about \$1 billion a year - it was by far the largest institute, budget-wise. Califano wanted to know what that money was buying. He was an attorney, he didn't know anything about cancer, so he said, [and] didn't understand the cancer program, so it was my task to go down and sell him, if you will; educate him. I'll never forget it. Donald Fredrickson was the Director of NIH - he and I went down in his car to meet the Secretary one afternoon...

"He (Mr. Califano) was an extraordinary person, just hungry for information, wanted to know everything. In the course of our briefing, I showed him a graph that Sir Richard Doll had published relating the risks of lung cancer in British physicians to the number of cigarettes smoked that day. I had explained to the Secretary that cigarettes were generally thought to be the major cause of lung cancer, that most lung cancers were seen in smokers, and that this curve in which the risk of lung cancer rose steeply with the number of cigarettes per day. showing no threshold anywhere, was very powerful evidence [that] this was a cause/effect relationship, a dose response. And the dose response would suggest that it might take only one cigarette a day to double one's risk of lung cancer, or for that matter, the risk to a passive bystander who works in the same office or lives in the same house and inhales cigarette smoke second-hand day-in, day-out, might also experience an increase of cancer. Califano was fascinated! He had been a smoker, he had given up the habit, but this information was just electrifying...

"Califano decided that really something needed to be done, that cigarettes should be public health enemy number one, smoking should be prohibited in all buildings that the department was responsible for except in designated areas, etc. etc. We went to Congress, had to testify before Congressional committees – I had to go along to back him up in his testimony.



Official NIH Portrait of Dr. Upton as NCI Director. Painted in 1979 by Betsy Upton

"The cigarette companies sent their representative to my office, Tobacco Institute. One of them was a biostatistician that I'd worked with at Oak Ridge, a very nice person, and he said, 'Art, you know you can't believe these death-certificate data. Death certificates are unreliable. We really don't know that cigarettes cause cancer.' I looked him in the eye, and I said, 'Marvin, you know better that that. The evidence is overwhelming.' And he sort of cleared his throat and quieted down. But those people told me – they said, 'Dr. Upton, you're playing with dynamite. We have powerful friends on the Hill. If you don't cease and desist, we'll take your budget away from you.'

"Well, I reported this to Mr. Califano. He said, 'You and I have the obligation to the American people to do what is right. We cannot be intimidated.' But the tobacco folks called my house at night with threatening calls, my wife became frightened, we put in an unlisted phone. But Califano, bless his soul, had the courage of his convictions..."

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Retired Faculty Association Global Health Fellowship Fund

The RFA is sponsoring medical students to learn, help, and teach in foreign countries, a potentially life-changing experience under the aegis of the Global Health Initiative of Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. The RFA is helping to support summer programs or international electives for medical students and is asking you to consider adding your support to this effort. All funds go to help the students without any deduction for administrative expense. In calendar year 2014, the RFA members donated \$3,393 for the support of the fellowship fund.

You can submit your donation to support the RFA Global Health Fellowship Fund by sending a check made payable to the "RWJMS Retired Faculty Association" and mail it to Paul Lehrer, Ph.D., Department of Psychiatry, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, 671 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854. All contributions are tax deductible as charitable contributions. The RFA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

The following people have made donations to support this fellowship in the 2014/2015 (**September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015**) cycle:

David Alcid Mercy Kuriyan Leonard Sciorra Norman Sissman **Edward Browning** Paul Lehrer James Chandler Parameswara Malathi Nancy Stevenson Michael Gallo Paul Manowitz Marian Stuart Michael Gochfeld Virginia Mehlenbeck Mary Swigar Norma Greenfield Michael Miller Alan Wilson Frank Wilson **Eckhard Kemmann** Joyce Orenstein Avedis Khachadurian Robert Risimini **Donald Wolff** Philip Schiffman George Krauthamer

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The members listed below have paid their RWJMS RFA dues during the 2014/2015 (**September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015**) cycle.

David Alcid	Stephen Felton	Paul Lehrer	Peter Scholz
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Eric Eikenberry	Mercy Kuriyan	Gordon Schochet	Gail Zeevalk
Ted Eisenstat	Alice Lazzarini		

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Retired Faculty Association

If you have not already done so, please send in your **2015-2016** (September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016) dues. Also, if you like to support medical students to have an opportunity to participate in the Global Health Program, consider donating to the RFA Global Health Fellowship Fund. Please send your check to Paul Lehrer. Both contributions are tax deductible as charitable contributions. Thank you.

RWJMS Retired Faculty Association 2015-2016 (September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2016) Dues

Benefits of RFA Membership:

- Defining, advocating for and publicizing the benefits of retired faculty at RWJMS,
- Fostering ongoing engagement and participation of retired faculty in RWJMS activities,
- Promoting continuing interaction among retirees,
- Providing information and options for faculty considering retirement, and
- Interacting with other academic retired faculty associations (e.g., Rutgers Retired Faculty Association, The Rutgers Retired Faculty and Staff Association).

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Please include any personal information that you wish to share with others. Thank you.

September 2015