“As the trusted leader in chiropractic education, Palmer College is committed to student learning, patient health and the advancement of both through research activities.”

— Dennis Marchiori, D.C., Ph.D., inaugurated fourth chancellor of Palmer College on March 11, 2010
Spring 2010

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on the cover
Palmer Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Trevor Ireland congratulates Dr. Dennis Marchiori on his investiture as chancellor in Vickie Anne Palmer Hall on the Davenport Campus.

Find travel dates for Alumni, Development and Enrollment at www.palmer.edu/calendar
a message from Dr. Burt

Above, down, inside out—and Down Under

Welcome Dr. Marchiori as Chancellor

To paraphrase B.J. Palmer, Chancellor Marchiori knows this College above, down and inside out. He’s gone from being a student to a faculty member, a research scientist, an administrator and now, the chancellor. Credentials like that make Dr. Marchiori uniquely qualified to be our chancellor. Full coverage of his inauguration begins on page 14.

Alumni Down Under show overwhelming support

Last year, the Alumni Office was asked if someone from the College would be able to attend the Palmer Alumni Reunion Dinner in Canberra, Australia. The request came from Donald McDowall, D.C., Davenport ’75, who, along with Davenport Campus alumni John Waterhouse, D.C., ’66, and Joe Ierano, D.C., ’97, were organizing the dinner to coincide with the annual Chiropractors’ Association of Australia conference in October.

Whether it was Dr. McDowall’s enthusiasm or his ability to keep more than 450 Australian alumni connected to each other and to Palmer, I gladly accepted the invitation. Our office then used Canberra’s close proximity to Australia’s two largest cities, Melbourne and Sydney, to schedule as many individual visits with alumni as possible.

The first person I met at the conference was Jerry Power, D.C., Davenport ’74, who I hadn’t seen since college. He introduced me to other fellow classmates and treated us like royalty. Jerry was, like so many other alumni we met over the next two weeks, so proud to be a Palmer graduate and so pleased to be able to meet somebody from Palmer. It made me realize how important it is for us to stay in touch with our international alumni.

I also attended the Palmer Alumni Reunion Dinner, which drew many appreciative alumni. All told, between the conference, the dinner and the road trips—where I was welcomed into the offices and homes of Palmer alumni—I spoke to close to a quarter of all Palmer graduates in Australia.

While we knew that we were going to meet a lot of people Down Under, we weren’t prepared for the quality of relationships that we would build. That’s one of the things I love about my job, that I have the ability to travel for the College and meet and interact with alumni who are passionate about Palmer—no matter where they live. It’s not a job. It’s really a privilege.

At the CAA conference, Palmer was the only chiropractic college to have a booth. Here I’m with, from left, Ed Devereaux, D.C., Keith McDowall, D.C., Davenport ’65, and, to the right of me, Dr. Donald McDowall.
Large-scale study on chiropractic and high blood pressure underway

An important, collaborative research project studying the effect of upper cervical chiropractic care on 165 people with high blood pressure in the Quad Cities is underway at Palmer. Researchers at the Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research (PCCR) clinic facility and collaborating institutions are conducting the clinical study, which has the potential to significantly impact the treatment of hypertension.

The study, called Chiropractic for Hypertension in Patients (CHiP), involves the Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Miami, Fla., and Terrace Park Family Practice Clinic at the Trinity Bettendorf Campus, Bettendorf, Iowa.

CHiP is being directed by project co-leaders Palmer’s Vice Chancellor for Research and Health Policy, Christine Goertz, D.C., Ph.D., and Gervasio Lamas, M.D., a cardiovascular scientist at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami. In addition, Joseph Bergstrom, D.O., Trinity’s director of medical education in its family practice residency program, is performing the blood pressure screenings and physical examinations for eligibility. Quad-City cardiologist Michael Giudici, M.D., FACP, FACC, FHRS, serves on the study’s Data and Safety Monitoring Committee.

According to Dr. Goertz, high blood pressure has been diagnosed in approximately 73 million Americans. Of those who receive medical treatment for the disease, only about 30 percent of them achieve desired blood pressure goals.

“This should be an interesting trial,” added Dr. Giudici. “Work to date has shown that blood pressure responds to other non-pharmacologic interventions such as diet, weight loss, exercise, stress reduction and yoga. There is also some interesting early data on blood pressure response to slowing respiratory rate. Palmer has put together an impressive team of researchers and the infrastructure needed to perform this and other studies.”

According to Dr. Lamas, “The concept that manipulation of the upper cervical spine could reduce blood pressure is both novel and appealing at the same time. It is novel because of its originality of thought, and because it is backed up by preliminary data. It is appealing because any treatment for high blood pressure that does not expose patients to drugs and their side effects should be investigated. I really look forward to … seeing the results.”
Palmer and University of Iowa conduct TMD study

Working in collaboration with the University of Iowa’s College of Dentistry and Institute for Clinical and Translational Sciences in Iowa City, researchers at the Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research (PCCR) on Palmer’s Davenport Campus are exploring the feasibility of using chiropractic care to treat people with chronic pain in their face and jaw, classified as temporomandibular disorder (TMD). The TMD study is co-led by Palmer’s James DeVocht, D.C., Davenport ‘86, Ph.D., and the University of Iowa’s Clark Stanford, D.D.S., Ph.D.

“More than 10 million Americans suffer from head and neck pain related to TMD, with a lifetime prevalence of 45 percent and a direct care cost of $2 billion,” said Dr. DeVocht. “This makes it one of the most common forms of chronic debilitating pain in the United States. Although many medical and dental treatments for TMD are available, few if any have shown any sustained efficacy.”

One approach to relieving TMD pain is for chiropractors to provide a specific form of treatment, Activator Methods technique, using an Activator adjusting instrument to deliver a quick, gentle adjustment in a precise manner to areas of the head and neck. The TMD component of the Activator approach was developed by Wally Schaeffer, D.C., Davenport ’86, Coralville, Iowa, and has shown promise in an earlier case series.

In this TMD study, potential participants will be interviewed by phone and given a dental examination at the Dental Clinical Research Center at the University of Iowa to determine if they qualify. A total of 80 participants are being enrolled and randomly assigned to one of four different treatment groups, all of which will include an intensive self-care program for TMD pain management.

Many people with TMD rely on medications to relieve their pain. Research such as Palmer’s current study may provide alternative treatment options and reduce the need for prescription pain medications.

Participants are being equally assigned to either: 1) Activator chiropractic care; 2) a conventional dental splint used for TMD management; 3) a placebo treatment; or 4) the intensive self care program alone. All participants will receive examinations and treatment at the Dental Clinical Research Center in Iowa City and patients assigned to chiropractic care are referred to a private practice in Coralville, Iowa. Examinations and treatment are provided at no charge to participants. Anyone interested in participating in the study should contact the Dental Clinical Research Center at the University of Iowa at (319) 335-7414.
“The Internet? We are not interested in it.”
—attributed to Bill Gates, 1993

“The Internet is becoming the town square for the global village of tomorrow.”
—Bill Gates, 2003

The Internet has seemingly unlimited possibilities—e-mail, blogging, podcasting, video conferencing, social media, wikis, site sharing and beyond. But can they work for you? A number of Palmer alumni say, yes.

“In today’s society of technology and information, I think it is extremely important for a chiropractor to have a website,” says Julie (Meyer) Howard, D.C., Davenport ’04. “Posting timely information, newsletters, events, etc., on the site can help spread positive information about chiropractic and the benefits of chiropractic care.”

Dr. Howard designed her own site, www.lifesarts.8k.com, on a low-cost Web hosting service, allowing her to control her site and keep costs minimal. The site offers 24-hour access to her practice and services, including patient forms, testimonials, frequently asked questions, what to expect on the first visit and online payments.

Facebook, too, has become an asset for Dr. Howard. Along with her personal profile page, she has a fan page for her practice, LifeArts - Howard Chiropractic, PC, where she posts information and articles on chiropractic and health. Facebook has become a patient referral tool, as well.

“A current patient will post something positive about her care on Facebook, and a friend of hers will reply. I’ve actually watched referrals to my office happen on Facebook!” she says.

According to Webopedia.com, the term “Web 2.0” is being used to describe “a second generation of the World Wide Web that is focused on the ability for people to collaborate and share information online.”

Matthew Loop, D.C., CEO of DCincome.com, a site that focuses on Web 2.0 chiropractic marketing, says that if you think social media is big now, it’s only going to get “bigger and badder” in the coming years.

Chad Rohlfsen, D.C., Davenport, ’98, was the first Clinic student on the Davenport Campus to not only list his e-mail address on his student clinic business cards, but the first to list his website. He designed his site in 1995 in the days when it was necessary to know HTML coding in order to create one. Then, in 1997, half a million people visited his site to read his article, “Antibiotics Now and Then.”

“Social media is an emerging main form of communication in our society today,” says Dr. Rohlfsen. “It will give the chiropractic profession a level playing field to share common sense ideas with the general public.”

Dr. Rohlfsen is very active online, posting updates on Facebook and Twitter, hosting live Web talks and podcasting. His site, www.rohlfsen.com, features a new patient center, chiropractic videos, links to social media, and a link for e-mailing patient appointment requests.

“I have chiropractic friends who have 200-350 friends in common with me. So when I send a news article out, it has ripple effects that chiropractic has never experienced before. It allows the chiropractic profession to come together and have a unified voice in healthcare matters,” says Dr. Rohlfsen.

How can you take advantage of what Web 2.0 has to offer? “Do a little bit to build your brand each day,” says Dr. Loop. “Most doctors are on their computers daily, but typically don’t use it as a productive time to market their office. Get in the habit of meeting 20 people from your local community each day on Facebook. Get to know your audience and build trust, likeability and credibility.”
New Facebook page is as good as GOLD

With the popularity of social media on the rise, many departments at Palmer College have made their own forays into this vital form of communication. One of those departments, the Development Office, has created the “Jess at Palmer” Facebook page, administered by Development Officer Jessica Malcheff.

To reach this new page, simply search Facebook for “Jess at Palmer.” The page also has a link to the “Palmer College of Chiropractic” Facebook page. Together, they provide an opportunity for Graduates Of the Last Decade (GOLD) to connect with each other, get the most up-to-date Palmer news from Palmer College, and for the Development Office to know what’s on the minds of its GOLD members.

“I really believe this is another way I will be able to reach out to our GOLD alumni and receive their feedback on their lives and practices, and their interests at Palmer College,” said Ms. Malcheff. For information on how you can give at the President’s Club GOLD level, please contact Jessica Malcheff at (800) 722-2586, Ext. 3, then Ext. 4, or jessica.malcheff@palmer.edu.

Senior Development officer brings vision and experience to Palmer

Shelley Hammill, M.A., has joined the Development Office staff as senior development officer. Originally from California, she relocated to the Quad Cities from Louisville, Colo., to work at Palmer. She has extensive experience in development, having served as director of development and executive director for a number of organizations.

Ms. Hammill has led successful annual and capital campaigns as well as created new and increased constituencies, funding, membership and volunteers for organizations such as the Girl Scouts and San Francisco Film Festival. She also has facilitated corporate and government relations and support for organizations as diverse as social services, education and the arts.

“It is very exciting to be here because Palmer’s values mirror my own in so many ways,” she said. “Primary among them is a commitment to humanity, a passion for education, and my deeply held belief that chiropractic has a major role to play in global wellness.”

Ms. Hammill is working closely with the Development Office team, including Senior Development Officer Lois Kundel, C.T., CFRE, and Development Officer Jessica Malcheff, in enhancing Palmer’s fundraising efforts. Initially she has focused on meeting people in the Palmer community and listening to what they have to say.

“Over the short term I have been getting to know people, finding out what is in their hearts and minds and how I might be of service,” she added. “My long-term goal is to join in with the rest of the Development team as we work to increase our role as a revenue center of the College. And it is a great team with each individual bringing something special to the fundraising table.”

Her educational background includes earning a Master of Arts in Organizational Management degree in 2009 from Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa.
Collaboration continues in geriatric education

In 1995, the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) Bureau of Health Professions contracted with Palmer College to assess the status of geriatrics training in chiropractic colleges. As HRSA collaboration continued, Palmer entered into a partnership with the University of Iowa in 1996 when the Iowa City school asked Palmer to become an official site of the Iowa Geriatric Education Center (GEC).

According to Davenport Campus Director of Diagnosis and Radiology Lisa Z. Killinger, D.C., Davenport ’83, who has been at the forefront of geriatrics education/research, “GEC activity has continued to grow at Palmer. In 2008, Palmer introduced a student clinical rotation focusing on comprehensive geriatric assessment, providing students an interdisciplinary experience and training alongside geriatricians, social workers and pharmacists.”

Additional funding from GEC aided Dr. Killinger in the development of an online continuing education module for field doctors. Palmer CE now offers an intensive four-hour course focused on Healthy Aging/Geriatrics.

“We. Killinger’s work has been tireless and remarkable,” stated Senior Director of Continuing Education Laurie Mueller, D.C., Davenport ’97. “The Continuing Education Department has been honored to be able to aid in this effort of collaboration and bringing this important information to doctors in the field.”

You can register for Healthy Aging online, among more than 20 online course offerings, at www.palmeronline.com.

Palmer Cruise 2010

This winter, more than a hundred Palmer alumni and friends took an invigorating cruise to the eastern Caribbean. With ports of call in Belize City, Belize, and Costa Maya and Cozumel, Mexico, the Palmer group of travelers enjoyed various activities both on- and off-ship. The event also offered a meet-and-greet for spouses and guests of D.C.s, an alumni reception, and 12 hours of continuing education.

According to CE Events Coordinator Tricia Jestel, “You just can’t beat our travel events for a way to combine professional camaraderie, continuing education, and a family vacation; there is always something for everybody.”

The Palmer Travel Event is becoming an annual tradition with 2011 marking the fourth year running. Spring 2011 will feature a land-based resort on the Riviera Maya coast of Mexico from late February to early March.

“Our events attract alums from every generation,” added Ms. Jestel. “We hope the time is coming soon when Palmer has to reserve the entire ship or resort just for our travelers. It would be a great venue for class reunions!”

You can find out more about the 2011 Palmer Travel Event at www.palmer.edu/ce.
Dr. Paul VanDuyne is president of KJWW Engineering, headquartered in Rock Island, Ill., where he serves as project director. His more than 30 years of engineering experience includes projects involving healthcare, educational and computer facilities, as well as laboratories and power plants. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1974 at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pa., followed by his Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 1978 at Palmer College’s Davenport Campus. A licensed professional engineer in 18 states, Dr. VanDuyne is a member of a number of industrial associations including the Association of Energy Engineers, the Iowa Engineering Society and the Society of American Military Engineers. He has served either as president or a member of various Quad Cities community organizations such as the Family Museum, Ballet Quad Cities, and the Illinois Quad City Chamber of Commerce. Dr. VanDuyne is an avid marathoner who has completed the Boston Marathon five times. He was appointed to the Palmer Board of Trustees in 2010.

What strengths do you bring to the Board?
Having attended Palmer, I have a true appreciation for both the education process and the profession. Operating an engineering business and working closely with expanding healthcare organizations has broadened my horizons. I have also served on boards for both non-profit and private educational organizations. Hopefully these experiences will allow me to offer value to the Palmer Board of Trustees as the organization moves forward in providing educational and research support to chiropractic care.

What issues in the chiropractic profession concern you most?
As we see healthcare changing in the United States, chiropractic needs to be positioned to take on a major role in being a health-care provider for our population. Chiropractic also needs to be made available to more individuals on a global basis. I believe the Board is doing their best to assure that Palmer College and chiropractic will be well positioned for future growth and broader acceptance in the healthcare marketplace.

What is your vision of the three Palmer campuses in 25 years?
I certainly see chiropractic being a major resource for healthcare, not only in the United States, but throughout the world. With this increased demand, there will be a need to educate more chiropractors, with the three campuses needing to expand and possibly additional campuses being required, again both in the U.S. and worldwide.

What have you enjoyed most about being a member of the Board?
The ability to provide input and help to guide the course and growth of the College is exciting to me. Palmer means a great deal to our family and has provided me with an education that has allowed me to advance both my career and my company’s growth. I would like to be able to give something back. Hopefully I will be able to contribute using some of the knowledge I have accumulated through the years.

What are your favorite memories from your days as a Palmer student?
Two items come to mind. First would be meeting my wife, Donna, who is also a graduate, during my first semester waiting for a physiology class to begin. The second would be attending Dr. Price’s lectures on philosophy. I feel fortunate that I was able to listen to someone that had spent his life in the chiropractic profession when the profession was first growing. His stories and memories of past events were very insightful.
U.S. Army Brigadier General (retired) Becky Halstead spoke to an enthusiastic crowd March 12 in Lyceum Auditorium in Vickie Anne Palmer Hall on the Davenport Campus. Though National Boards exams were a mere week away, many students made it a priority to attend the event.

Brig. Gen. Halstead had a 27-year career in the Army, was the first female graduate of West Point promoted to Brigadier General, and the first female in U.S. history to command in combat at the strategic level as part of the Combat Theater of Iraq. Now she heads the leadership consulting company Steadfast Leadership, and is a staunch chiropractic advocate and spokesperson for the Foundation for Chiropractic Progress.

“I am a patient of chiropractic care,” she said. “A satisfied patient. I know first-hand how chiropractic can impact our military.”

Though she suffered chronic fibromyalgia and had been placed on 15 different medications over a four-year period, Brig. Gen. Halstead decided to go “cold turkey” when she was assigned to go to Iraq. She felt she owed the 20,000 soldiers under her command to have a clear head, untainted by the effects of her medication. Though she was in near constant pain, she refused to let it bring her down. Prior to leaving for Iraq she had begun chiropractic care, and when asked what she missed most about being away from home, along with family and friends, she said “my chiropractor.”

After dealing with chronic pain for years, chiropractic changed the Brigadier General’s life. “And I believe it can make the difference to our military,” she said. “I also believe chiropractic can help our soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder. When I leave my chiropractor’s office, I feel better, physically and mentally. I really think chiropractic can help people with PTSD.”

While walking down the halls of Palmer’s Davenport Campus, the Brigadier General noted that it reminded her of West Point.

“At West Point, I walked the same halls as the greats—Patton, McArthur and so many others,” she said. “You here are experiencing the same thing in chiropractic history. This is The Fountainhead.”

It is with tenacity, she said, that students at Palmer can advance the dream, vision and legacy of chiropractic. As with the military, chiropractic is about life-long learning and holding yourself accountable.

Brig. Gen. Halstead’s overall message was about leadership and service. She encouraged the crowd—especially the students—to professionally and personally be dedicated, serve selflessly and lead by example.
New honors and appointments for administrators and alumni

Dr. Percuoco appointed VCA and elected as CCE Councilor

Robert “Bucky” Percuoco, D.C., has been appointed Vice Chancellor for Academics (VCA) for the College. Dr. Percuoco was identified from a pool of 12 local and national candidates for the position. As VCA, he oversees all matters of academic affairs on each of the three campuses, and also serves as a member of the College’s Administrative Team. A 1983 Davenport Campus graduate, he has been in faculty and administrative roles on that campus for the past 25 years, most recently serving as Vice President for Academic Affairs for Assessment and then Senior Director for Assessment.

“Dr. Percuoco has proven his leadership in numerous ways for both the Davenport Campus and the College as a whole,” said Chancellor Dennis Marchiori, D.C., Ph.D. “His efforts in the areas of academic and institutional assessment have been invaluable to Palmer, especially his contributions toward obtaining regional accreditation for all three campuses through the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.”

Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Percuoco was recently elected as a Councilor of the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE). Of the 24 Councilors, only seven are elected by the presidents of CCE-accredited colleges. The CCE Council serves as the policy and decision-making body of the CCE and performs all of the functions of a board of directors. In addition, it is responsible for all matters pertaining to the accreditation status of Doctor of Chiropractic programs, institutions housing D.C. programs or solitary purpose chiropractic institutions.

Dr. Weinert named Interim VPAA

Dan Weinert, D.C., M.S., DACRB, has been appointed to the position of Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs. In this role, he is serving as the lead academic administrator on the Davenport Campus. He is responsible for developing and managing the educational programs and academic support activities on the Davenport Campus, including the D.C., graduate and undergraduate programs.

A magna cum laude graduate from Palmer’s Davenport Campus in 1996, Dr. Weinert earned his Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Rehabilitation Board in 2000. He is currently working on a Ph.D. in higher education, policy and leadership at the University of Iowa. He served as Dean of Academic Programs on the Davenport Campus from 2006 to the present, and was the Diagnosis and Radiology Department chair prior to that. In addition to his administrative role, Dr. Weinert is a professor in the Life Sciences Department and has taught Biochemistry since 2001.

Dr. Killinger named Academic of the Year by ACA

Lisa Killinger, D.C., Davenport ’83, director of Diagnosis and Radiology and professor on the Davenport Campus, was honored last fall by the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) with its Academic of the Year award. Dr. Killinger was presented the award during the ACA’s annual House of Delegates Meeting in Dallas, Texas, Sept. 23-26. The Academic of the Year award recognizes an individual for his or her efforts in advancing the profession through academic or educational excellence.

ACA names Dr. Haldeman Researcher of the Year

Scott Haldeman, D.C., Davenport ’64, M.D., Ph.D., is the recipient of the American Chiropractic Association’s (ACA) 2009 Researcher of the Year award. Dr. Haldeman received the award during the ACA’s annual House of Delegates Meeting. The national award recognizes those individuals who are leading the profession in chiropractic research.
In 2009, Dr. Bill Moreau became the director of the U.S. Olympic Committee’s (USOC) Sports Medicine Clinics. He continues to serve as coordinator of DConline, a continuing education website he founded. For more than 28 years, he has worked with Olympic, collegiate, high school and recreational athletes.

**How did you become the USOC’s director of Sports Medicine Clinics?**

The USOC learned that I was looking for a clinical position in a multiple disciplinary setting and encouraged me to apply for a clinic manager position. Since joining the USOC, I have been promoted from clinic manager in Colorado Springs, Colo., to director of the USOC Sports Medicine Clinics. There are clinics at each of the three U.S. Olympic Training Centers – Colorado Springs, Colo.; Chula Vista, Calif.; and Lake Placid, N.Y.

**What does your position entail?**

The clinics are an unusual environment where more than one provider is typically engaged during the course of a clinic encounter. The team includes a wide range of healthcare professionals including chiropractors, athletic trainers, physical therapists, family practice doctors, sports nutritionists and massage therapists, just to name a few. These professionals work together for the good of the athlete, and I am privileged to coordinate the overall care of an athlete along with the sports medicine team.

**Are there any other chiropractors at these clinics?**

There are a total of four D.C.s employed by the USOC, including Dr. Dustin Nabhan in Colorado Springs and Dr. Chad Barrylski in Chula Vista. Both have sports specialty certifications. We also use contracted chiropractors to assist at the Lake Placid clinic.

**What role do chiropractors now play in the health and success of U.S. Olympic athletes?**

It is great to see chiropractors working side-by-side with other healthcare providers. Many of the healthcare providers who’ve not worked with a chiropractor before are pleased with what we do and how we do it.

**How significant was it for chiropractic to be included in the Polyclinics at this year’s Winter Games?**

At the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, chiropractors were, for the first time, included in the Polyclinics. Countries that did not have the ability to bring large sports medicine teams, along with athletes seeking special services like MRI, musculoskeletal ultrasound or CT, accessed these clinics for additional services or primary care. It was great to see chiropractic recognized as a part of the sports medicine team!

**What are some of the rewards of your job?**

I’ve found that each day—and each athlete—is inspiring. The athletes are some of the finest individuals I have encountered. From gold medalists to hopefuls, they are gracious and always express gratitude when we are done with their care. Paralympians also have taught me so much more about life. A doctor of chiropractic can be successful in a multiple disciplinary setting at the highest level, provided they receive proper training and understand their role on the team.
“Letters from Vietnam: A Love Story”

A book by Bob Steele, D.C., Davenport ’70

When Robert Steele was called to serve in Vietnam, he and his girlfriend, Debbie, kept in touch by letter. While their relationship didn’t last long after the war, Debbie held onto the letters she’d received. Eventually, she married someone else and decided to share the letters with her children who saw them as a piece of history. That prompted Debbie to contact Dr. Steele and share those treasured letters with him.

“I had not seen her or heard her name in 45 years,” said Robert Steele, D.C., Davenport ’70, who runs a practice in the Alabama town of Lineville. “The meeting and the letters brought back memories of both heartbreak and the decision I made to become a chiropractor.”

Those memories were so strong that Dr. Steele decided to write about them in a new book, “Letters from Vietnam: A Love Story.” Along with addressing his relationship with Debbie, he tells of his goal of one day attending Palmer College. The book is available at amazon.com.

His early interest in chiropractic was sparked by the chiropractors he’d met growing up—all Palmer graduates with recollections of B.J. and stories of the patients they’d helped with chiropractic care. He was also influenced by a book his stepfather gave him, “Healing Hands: The Story of the Palmer Family, Discoverers and Developers of Chiropractic.”

But Dr. Steele’s desire to become a chiropractor was complicated by the fact that he’d always had difficulty in school, which is what led him to join the Air Force. His career goals took a U-turn, however, after his tour of duty ended in Vietnam.

“It was while I was at the University of Tampa, through an Air Force program, that I learned that I had dyslexia and I just needed a different way to learn,” he said. “At last I realized I was not dumb and could go for my dream of becoming a chiropractor.”

As a student on Palmer’s Davenport Campus, Dr. Steele had to acclimate to the cold winters and the fact that all single students had to live in a dorm—even those who’d just fought for their country. He also learned it was best to keep quiet about having fought in a war that was increasingly becoming unpopular.

Four decades later, on the day former-girlfriend Debbie approached him with his letters from Vietnam, she had a chance to observe Dr. Steele at his practice as he cared for and laughed with his patients. Of the meeting, Dr. Steele recalls, “She told me, ‘You know, I was really hurt when we parted, but today I can see you made the right decision.’
Bringing hope to Haiti

When Charles Baxter, D.C., headed to Haiti following that country’s catastrophic earthquake on January 12, he was returning to a place his heart had never left.

“I was in Haiti over 10 years ago in Les Cayes on a missionary trip performing chiropractic,” he recalls. “On the trip I was told a famous Haitian quote by the priest I stayed with, ‘Many people come to change Haiti, however, it will change you first.’”

After watching news coverage of the earthquake, Dr. Baxter called one of his Haitian patients in the U.S., Gama Parayson, to see if his family back in Haiti was okay and to offer to pay for a flight to Haiti. Dr. Baxter also offered to accompany Mr. Parayson so that he could provide his services for free, which the Haitian was happy to accept.

Once in Haiti, the two headed to Grand Goave, where Mr. Parayson’s family runs a mission church and orphanage called the Mission of Hope Grand Goave. Although the mission’s orphanage had been destroyed by the earthquake, miraculously, no children were hurt.

The first patient Dr. Baxter saw in a nearby town had a compound fracture of his femur and infected open wounds. As the day went on, the 1995 Davenport Campus graduate saw many more people with fractures, dislocations and spinal injuries—most caused by cement walls that had fallen on them during the earthquake.

One four-year-old girl had a 4½ by 1½ inch gash on her occiput after a cement block fell eight feet and struck her on the head. The girl’s injuries deeply affected Dr. Baxter as earlier that day he had called his wife and learned that their four-year-old daughter was having a difficult time with him being gone.

“At the clinic, a doctor and I spent 45 minutes cleaning her wound,” said Dr. Baxter of the young patient. “This little girl sat there and never moved, never flinched, and never shed a tear. I did get several hugs later, though.”

Back at the orphanage, Dr. Baxter’s first patient was a woman with a neck injury. After he adjusted her, she shared her positive experience with others. This led to even more patients coming to Dr. Baxter for relief.

“I was received very well by the people I saw and by the people I adjusted,” said Dr. Baxter. “Because chiropractic has a minimal at best history in Haiti, the people had no idea what I was doing or what to expect. Thankfully, chiropractic works and it transcends language and race.”

“We as a profession must come to terms with the idea that we can be and are primary healthcare providers,” he said. “We need to be in the forefront of disasters like Haiti, Katrina and Chile—not as idle observers but willing participants.”

Dr. Baxter will be returning to Haiti this summer in hopes of establishing a permanent location for chiropractic care. If you’d like to assist Dr. Baxter with his work, you may contact him at P.O. Box 363, Athol, MA 01331.
Planning begins on chiropractic museum

Davenport Campus

Davenport Campus President Donald P. Kern, D.C., ’58, left, talks with local business leader Mark Schwab, as they view mockup displays of the future Palmer Museum of Chiropractic. The exhibit was part of a special preview of the College’s latest venue. The museum is on the first floor of 300 Brady Street in downtown Davenport, which was purchased by the Vickie Anne Palmer Foundation and subsequently donated to the College. The museum also will recognize the city’s banking history.

The power to help those in need is in your hands

Tom Rexroth, D.C., of Burlington, Iowa, has plenty of experience lending a hand to those in need and recommends other alumni consider doing the same. “It’s a good way to give back,” he suggests, and a sure way of providing chiropractic health and healing.

The 1989 Davenport Campus grad has participated in several different outreach programs since his days as a student. On a recent trip to Jamaica, he and nine other chiropractors adjusted 1,100 very grateful schoolchildren in the week they were there.

According to Senior Development Officer Shelley Hammill, if you participate in one of Palmer’s Clinic Abroad Program trips as a student, it’s easy for you to feel that spirit of giving once again. Opportunities abound in both the U.S. and abroad to donate your care. You can jump on board with an existing outreach organization or get together with a group of friends and create your own.

Dr. Rexroth works with the Remote Area Medical Volunteer Corps (RAM), a non-profit organization that provides free health care to people living in remote areas of the world, including the U.S. It’s noteworthy that while RAM has been providing care for more than 25 years, Dr. Rexroth was their first volunteer chiropractor. He recalls the tremendous gratification of introducing both healthcare professionals and patients to the wonders of the chiropractic model.

Information on RAM is available at www.ramusa.org.

Whether you help people close to home or offer care in an underdeveloped country, your volunteer efforts can do a world of good.

Find the latest graduation stories and photos at www.palmer.edu/graduations
March 11, 2010, marked the inauguration of Dennis Marchiori, D.C., Davenport ’90, Ph.D., as the fourth chancellor of Palmer College of Chiropractic. Hundreds of faculty, staff, students, alumni and guests witnessed this historic event in Lyceum Auditorium in Vickie Anne Palmer Hall.

The three Palmer campus presidents were present, as well as presidents and representatives from fellow chiropractic and undergraduate colleges. Distinguished delegates included Davenport Mayor Bill Gluba, Davenport Third Ward Alderman William Boom, Pete De Kock (representing Iowa United States Congressman Bruce Braley), and Executive Director of the Iowa Chiropractic Society Daniel Garrett.

Chairman of the Palmer College of Chiropractic Board of Trustees Trevor Ireland, D.C., Davenport ’70, spoke of how he has known Dr. Marchiori since Dr. Marchiori was a student. “I’ve great respect and admiration for our new chancellor. He listens, he learns, and he leads.”

Board Trustee, and great granddaughter of D.D. Palmer, Vickie Anne Palmer said, “With his Doctorate of Higher Education, Dr. Marchiori bridges both chiropractic and higher education. He knows Palmer’s strengths and ways to make it better. I am so proud to see you advance in the vision of the College.”

Speakers also included Davenport Campus President Donald Kern, D.C., Davenport, ’58; West Campus President William Meeker, D.C., West ’82; Florida Campus President Peter Martin, D.C., Davenport ’68; Davenport Mayor Bill Gluba; Association of Chiropractic Colleges President Frank Nicchi, D.C.; Palmer Alumni Advisory Council representative Jeff Gehlsen, D.C., Davenport, ’83, who spoke on behalf of the alumni; faculty clinician and AHC Assistant Director Ron Boesch, D.C., Davenport, ’91, on behalf of the Palmer faculty; and 2009 Outstanding Davenport Campus Staff of the Year Laura Martin, on behalf of the Palmer staff.

Said Dr. Gehlsen, “We’ve all benefited from the vision that the Palmer family advanced. Dr. Marchiori, I know that your vision for Palmer will be one that unifies. I’m confident that under your leadership, we will all advance the purpose of Palmer and chiropractic.”

After the speeches, Dr. Marchiori took the oath of office for chancellor, administered by Dr. Ireland. Then Dr. Marchiori shared his message.

He opened by noting how honored he was by the tributes paid to him, but said that the day’s ceremony was about more than him becoming chancellor. “We are all here as a college community to celebrate our past, live in our present, and prepare for the future,” he said.

Dr. Marchiori also stated that Palmer’s mission is essentially about students, patients and research. “It’s essential to improve education and health care … care that does not focus on the chiropractor but on the benefits of chiropractic to society.” He added, “we need to instill in our students a norm of commitment to their alma mater and invite all of our alumni to join our efforts at the College whenever possible.”
“Sacred Trust”

of Leadership

Excerpts from Dr. Marchiori’s inauguration speech

In his inauguration speech, Palmer’s new chancellor, Dr. Dennis Marchiori, reminded those gathered in Vickie Anne Palmer Hall for the occasion that, “The words of B.J. Palmer continue to remind us that our leadership … our membership in this College, is a ‘sacred trust’ that we need to guard well.”

Certainly Dr. Marchiori does not take the mantle of leadership lightly. Having spent 20 years at Palmer College, from his days as a student, to a faculty member, to a renowned textbook author and trusted administrator, he knows the institution inside and out, and he understands the opportunities and challenges of leading it.

“Palmer College is comprised of individuals and groups, of diverse perspectives, various needs and assorted contributions,” Dr. Marchiori remarked. “At the intersection of our individual strengths and commitment, we find our College mission. Succinctly stated, Palmer’s mission combines student learning and patient health, advancing both through research. This is the Palmer mission that connects us all—a dedication to students, patients and research.”

Focusing on high-quality, patient-centered care provided through the Palmer Academic Health Center and all of our clinics, is an important component of Palmer’s mission, Dr. Marchiori continued. “As chiropractors, we have helped create a world where comfort and quality of life are integral within health care, where the chiropractic philosophies of conservatism and vitalism are broadly endorsed.”

Education, patient care and research are complementary, Dr. Marchiori added. “Research is essential for improving our education and our healthcare mission. Let’s continue to advance our research efforts to better inform our mission of education and patient care.”

“As chancellor, I will facilitate and pace our advancement,” Dr. Marchiori promised. “My vision for Palmer is still evolving. And of course, any successful vision must come from the entire College community, not just me. As our collaborative vision for the College continues to develop, I’d like to share a few of my dreams for Palmer.”

Four dreams for Palmer

The first of Dr. Marchiori’s dreams is that Palmer fully embraces the traits of a successful college and advances the legacies of the Palmers, specifically the work of Dr. David Palmer in this direction. Palmer needs to provide its students with life-long learning capabilities, critical thinking skills, as well as communication and social skills, he said.

Recognizing that the lack of a clear identity for chiropractic confuses the public, he noted that “we must define ourselves internally and externally in terms that are clear and credible.”

His second dream is that Palmer remains a place of great opportunity, where each individual—whether students or employees—can realize his or her highest potential. “Our collective work is transactional, but our result is transformational,” he added.

Dr. Marchiori’s third dream is that everyone at Palmer embraces the value of College service. “The vitalistic paradigm that we chiropractors live by, ‘above, down, inside, out,’ might well also be a mantra for us characterizing how we participate in our College community—that is by giving, not taking.”

The fourth dream is that Palmer commit, even more deeply, to being a stable, predictable and accountable organization. Palmer must be a good steward of its resources, both human and capital, he said. “We will be accountable to outcomes, use data to inform our decisions, adopt best practices and assess the associated risks and benefits of our actions.”

But in the end, grand dreams and forward-looking visions are inadequate to ensure success. Every successful institution must be willing and able to translate its dreams into action. “Dreams and visions are not enough,” Dr. Marchiori concluded. “We must act.”
residential endorsements

DONALD KERN, D.C., Davenport ’58
Dr. Kern first met Dr. Marchiori when the new chancellor joined the Davenport Campus faculty. “My first impressions of him were that he was intelligent, enthusiastic, professional and articulate,” he says.

“Then, when I was president of the Davenport Campus in 1992, he presented a poster at the World Federation of Chiropractic Congress in London,” he recalls. “It was an excellent presentation and an indication of his interest in research.”

Dr. Kern adds, “Dr. Marchiori has a passion for excellence, is evidence based-driven and maintains a collaborative management philosophy. I believe he will be very good for Palmer in his new position.”

BILL MEEKER, D.C., West ’82, M.P.H.
It was in July of 1995, when Dr. Marchiori became a faculty member at the Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research (PCCR), where Dr. Meeker was its director. From his days as a colleague, Dr. Meeker has been impressed with Dr. Marchiori's work ethic.

“He not only says but also practices what he preaches,” he says. “He seeks expert opinion, listens very carefully and attempts to arrive at consensus conclusions that the team can support. This makes him an outstanding leader.”

Dr. Meeker also recalls fondly the personal side of Dr. Marchiori that others may not be aware of. “I have had many memorable moments with Denny, and laughing out of control has been a part of most of them,” he says. “He could be a standup comic. Folks should know that he has a great sense of humor and a great wit.”

PETER MARTIN, D.C., Davenport ’68
Dr. Martin is particularly impressed with Dr. Marchiori’s background, not just in chiropractic but at Palmer. “Dr. Marchiori first and foremost is a product of Palmer and he will bring that perspective to his leadership of the College,” he says.

Dr. Marchiori’s leadership qualities first became apparent to Dr. Martin during the early 1990s when Dr. Martin was president of the West Campus and Dr. Marchiori was a faculty member in the Davenport Campus Radiology Department. Recalls Dr. Martin, “I thought he was very intelligent and would go far, and he certainly didn’t disappoint me.”

For the Florida Campus president, his support of Dr Marchiori is very tangible. “In 2005 at a Board of Trustees meeting he presented a copy of his book on radiology to all in attendance, which I still have on my desk to this day,” he says.
Speaking of Dr. Marchiori …

Randy McCall, D.C., Davenport ’77, Reynoldsville Chiropractic Life Center, Reynoldsville, Pa.

While Dr. Marchiori was attending Penn State, Dr. McCall was his chiropractor.

He is a thinker, progressive learner, and genuinely loves what he does and the people he works with. I think he looks at Palmer as home and treats it as such.

Ian McLean, D.C., Davenport ’79, Diplomate of the American Chiropractic Board of Radiology

He was Dr. Marchiori’s instructor during his radiology residency.

His textbook “Clinical Imaging: With Skeletal, Chest, And Abdomen Pattern Differentials,” is widely used in chiropractic education. It is unique in that it is the only text of its kind covering the entire range of radiology topics expected of a graduate chiropractor, inclusive of musculoskeletal, chest and abdominal imaging.

Cyndy Long, Ph.D., Professor and Director, Office of Data Management and Biostatistics, Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research, Davenport Campus

While interviewing Dr. Long for a research position, Dr. Marchiori mentioned he was using some sophisticated statistical methods for the first time to analyze data for a research article he was writing, but was not clear on what the results were indicating.

I suggested we look at some graphics to give us insight and we spent the rest of the interview inspecting all of the graphics he hung on the viewboxes in his office. That positive first interaction with Dr. Marchiori played largely on my decision to join the research faculty.

Colleen Fier, Academic Affairs Administrative Assistant

Ms. Fier worked with Dr. Marchiori while he was Vice President for Academic Affairs and Vice Chancellor for Academics.

When I would help Dr. Marchiori proctor an exam he would mention to his students that although I may look mild mannered, my son was a Blackhawk helicopter pilot and that I would not be afraid to take them down if they were caught looking around. It always made his students laugh and I would just stand there and pray that no one would make a move.

Vashtie Ryan, Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Academic Affairs

Ms. Ryan worked with Dr. Marchiori when he held the position of Dean of Academic Affairs.

One thing is for sure, he definitely has a way of making you feel “equal.” I remember when being offered the position to assist him, he stressed that he wasn’t looking for someone to work “for him” but with him…his colleague. Now how about them apples!

Robert Percuoco, D.C., Davenport ’83, Vice Chancellor for Academics

Dr. Percuoco has been Dr. Marchiori’s professor, supervisor and administrative colleague.

Dr. Marchiori has an organic understanding of the workings of our institution from the student, faculty, and administrative perspectives. He is absolutely the right person for this job.

On a side note:
Try as he might, using the exact same recipe and ingredients, Dr. Marchiori cannot match the quality of my pizza!

Drs. Marchiori and Percuoco have worked together in various capacities since the early 1990s.
Providing care for athletes at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games would be a thrilling experience for any sports-focused chiropractor. But West Campus alumni Richard Robinson, D.C., ’96, and Gregory Uchacz, D.C., ’92, have enjoyed this experience multiple times for Canadian teams at Winter and Summer games. So, with Vancouver, B.C., hosting this year’s Winter Games, it was the thrill of a lifetime for both doctors.

“Nothing can match being a member of a team competing in your own country; what a once-in-a-lifetime experience,” said Dr. Uchacz, director of the Chiropractic Performance & Sports Therapy Centre in Calgary, Alta., who has been a member of the Canadian team sports care staff for previous Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah (2002), and Turin, Italy (2006).

For the first time in Olympic history, chiropractic was included with Host Health Care services under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Host Health Care is the entire medical support network for the Olympic Games, and is accessible by all athletes, support staff and volunteers involved in the competition.

“Chiropractic is certainly gaining acclaim with athletes. There were four chiropractors on the Canadian medical team alone,” said Dr. Uchacz, who worked closely with the Canadian skeleton and bobsleigh teams.

“Our involvement has evolved for many reasons,” he said. “With more and more athletes accessing sports chiropractic, there are greater requests for our services. A total of 22 chiropractors participated in the Host Health Care services. This was monumental for chiropractic.”

For Dr. Robinson, who provided care for Canadian athletes at the 2006 Winter Olympics and the Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics, this year’s Olympics was a particularly exhilarating experience, as he is a native of Vancouver.

“My goal upon graduating from Palmer was to one day be a chiropractor providing care for athletes at the Olympics,” said Dr. Robinson, who also practices in Calgary and has worked with the Canadian freestyle skiing, speed skating, women’s hockey and alpine ski teams.

“The Torino and Beijing Games were amazing experiences. But to be a chiropractor for the host country, in my hometown? It doesn’t get much better than that!”

Both Dr. Robinson, who founded the West Campus Sports Council in 1994, and Dr. Uchacz credit their West Campus experience for helping them achieve their Olympic goals.

“Palmer was my foundation; it shaped me as a practitioner,” said Dr. Uchacz, who is serving his fourth term as president of the College of Chiropractic Sports Sciences of Canada, the national governing body of sports chiropractic.

“What a legacy Palmer continues through its Sports Council program. To see a full contingent of West Campus Sport Council members attend last year’s International Sports Symposium at the WFC in Montreal was amazing.”
“Lighting the Way,” was the theme for the 2009 West Campus Homecoming—a weekend full of great programs as well as opportunities for graduates to reconnect that ignited alumni with passion and pride. The annual event drew twice as many alumni to San Jose in 2009 as it did in 2008.

“The momentum we’ve built through alumni participation in the West Campus Homecoming programs of the last couple of years is setting the stage for our new alumni association and for building more effective community and professional relationships that will benefit the profession’s practitioners,” said West Campus President Bill Meeker, D.C., West ’82, M.P.H.

One of Homecoming’s noteworthy events was the 25-year reunion dinner at the Hyatt Regency. Class of ’84 alumni included Richard Ehret, D.C., William Haley, D.C., William Hroziencik, D.C., Mary Johnson, D.C., Shawn Karimi, D.C., Eric Lundberg, D.C., Thomas Smith, D.C., and Susan St. Claire, D.C.

Dr. Meeker on the road with alumni

As part of a collective effort by the presidents of each Palmer campus to reconnect with alumni through small, informal meetings, West Campus President Dr. Bill Meeker has hosted lunch meetings on the West Campus, as well as in San Francisco, at right, and Santa Cruz, Calif. The meetings allow each of the presidents to share news and developments at Palmer and their respective campuses, and to learn more about the issues and trends affecting doctors in practice.

Future plans for Dr. Meeker include meetings with alumni in California, Washington, Arizona and parts of Canada. For additional information regarding the Palmer alumni lunch meetings, contact the Palmer Alumni Office at (800) 722-2586 or the West Campus President’s Office at (800) 442-4476 or (408) 944-6005.

Homecoming featured a special panel presentation, “Opportunities and Challenges for Chiropractic in the Veterans’ Health Administration and Other Multidisciplinary Settings.” Presenters included West Campus graduates Terence Kearney, D.C., ’89, second from left, Kevin Fogard, D.C., ’86, second from right, and David Paris, D.C., ’01. The three provide chiropractic care either for active duty personnel or for veterans. They are shown here with West Campus Dean of Clinics Gregory Snow, D.C., West ’90, far left, and Dr. Meeker, center.

Find the latest graduation stories and photos at www.palmer.edu/graduations
West Campus student Michael Lord has served as president of the Sports Council, national student liaison of the ACA Sports Council, and medical coordinator for the Sea Otter Classic—the largest bicycling festival in the United States.

Mr. Lord’s involvement with sports chiropractic went international when he was a featured speaker at the 2009 Brazilian Chiropractic Association’s National Congress in Sao Paulo. He addressed students from Brazil’s two university-based chiropractic programs, the University Anhemi Morumbi in Sao Paulo and Feevale Central University in Novo Hamburgo.

He also spoke about the important role of sports chiropractic education, the West Campus Sports Council, and how to start similar programs in Brazil. Other speakers included West Campus alumni Drs. Eduardo Bracher, ’93, Gabriel Quintero, ’91, and Kevin Wong, ’97.

“It was such an honor to be invited to speak at the Congress, and I want to thank Palmer’s West Campus for their support, which was instrumental in making this opportunity possible,” said Mr. Lord.

“The students in Brazil really have an incredible opportunity to advance their profession through the sports arena,” Mr. Lord added. “I think with some hard work from the students, and help from the faculty, they will develop great programs. I have met some really amazing people while in Brazil, and know they have already put in a significant amount of work.”

Students lobby for more access to chiropractic

More than a dozen members of the West Campus student chapter of the American Chiropractic Association (SACA) ventured to Washington, D.C., Feb. 24-27, to lobby on behalf of the chiropractic profession at the 2010 ACA National Chiropractic Legislative Conference (NCLC).

Accompanied by West Campus President Dr. Bill Meeker, fourth from left, the students joined nearly 600 doctors of chiropractic, other students (including groups from Palmer’s Davenport and Florida campuses) and supporters. All had converged on the nation’s capital to hear speeches from government leaders, receive advocacy training and to urge officials to support pro-chiropractic measures that provide patients, veterans and active-duty military personnel with direct access to chiropractic care. Standard Process presented four $2,500 scholarships, two of which were presented to West Campus student delegates Stephanie Johnson and Darci Robertson.
Some came to escape harsh winter weather or to take the latest continuing education courses. Still others came as potential students thinking about a chiropractic career. For more than 130 field doctors and 90-plus students, Palmer’s Florida Campus was the place to be during Homecoming 2010, Feb. 19-20.

“With a reunion of our first graduating class and a record number of D.C.s in attendance, I think Homecoming and the Florida Campus have finally come of age,” said Florida Campus President Peter Martin, D.C., Davenport ’68.

Spizz Night kicked off Homecoming weekend with students being treated to all the pizza they could eat prior to participating in a presentation titled “Marketing Chiropractic to Medical Practices.” It was organized by the Palmer Student Alumni Foundation and presented by Aligned Methods’ Christina Acampora, D.C., and Nicole Ingrando, D.C., a 2009 graduate of the Florida Campus.

The first day of the Homecoming Continuing Education (CE) track for chiropractors featured sessions on ethical issues, state laws and regulations, risk management and the prevention of medical errors. The student track gave future chiropractors a chance to learn about how today’s economy may affect their future, results-driven communication, and building and achieving chiropractic success. Tom Minkalis of the Center for Business Development organized and led the student track, which included a presentation by Dale Carnegie’s Nicole Martin.

The day’s CE program also included a general session titled “Health and Fitness is Everyone’s Business” which was presented by Olympic Gold Medal Winner Brooke Bennett. Now a personal fitness and nutrition trainer, and a journalist for the Brighthouse Sports Network, Ms. Bennett spoke to a standing-room only audience, inspiring the group with her story about becoming an Olympic swimmer.

The second day of CE sessions covered topics such as the Blair Technique, the Gonstead System and documenting Medicare compliance. Interest in sports chiropractic on the Florida Campus is at an all-time high as evidenced by the number of people attending sessions on sports chiropractic treatment methods, and how to establish and maintain a sports chiropractic practice. The courses were followed by the Standard Process-sponsored session, “Ten Super Foods That Can Change Your Life.”

Speakers during the two days of CE included West Campus Dean of Clinics Greg Snow, D.C., West ’90; Davenport Campus graduates Tom Forest, D.C., ’74; Richard Thornton, D.C., ’64; John Davila, D.C., ’94; Alan Sokoloff, D.C., ’85; and Susan Brown, D.C., ’87; as well as Jeremy Rodgers, D.C.; Dave Hogsed, D.O.M.; Steve Savoie, D.C., Davenport ’78; and Anna Allen, R.N.

The first five-year reunion

Following a full day of CE sessions, the pioneer class of the Florida Campus held their five-year reunion in Daytona Beach while the rest of those at Homecoming enjoyed a hoe-down in the west lawn tent, sponsored by the Student Council.
Prospective Student Event

This year’s Prospective Student Event (PSE) began with the session “Becoming a Successful Chiropractor.” It was presented by Florida Campus alumni Brett Compton, D.C., ’06; Brian Froehly, D.C., ’07; and Melissa Ferranti-Afghani, D.C., ’07.

Prospective students also took part in interactive sessions that showed them what the classroom experience is all about. Faculty members William Sherrier, D.C.; Teri Payton, D.C., Davenport ’86; Donald Dishman, D.C.; and John Lockenour, D.C., Davenport ’77; all participated in the sessions and a faculty Q&A panel at Friday’s lunch. Instructor Jeryl Ellett, R.T., then gave a demonstration of digital radiography. It was followed by a tour of the new research lab by Florida Campus Director of Research Liang Zhang, M.D., Ph.D. The program ended with the first-ever Palmer Carnival.

“This is my favorite event of the year!” said Florida Campus Enrollment Director Kim Amendola about the PSE. “It gets our prospective students excited about becoming a part of the Palmer chiropractic family. We even had an application waiting for us when we arrived in the office on Monday morning.”

In the days following the event, a number of prospective students gave very positive feedback. One attendee wrote in an e-mail, “I wanted to express my gratitude for all that you and the Palmer staff did last weekend. I know you really put a lot into it. I had a great time and met some great people.”

President’s Reception

Highlights of the reception included a “State of the Campus” presentation by Dr. Martin and the recognition of student scholarship recipients. Afterward, the group joined the crowd gathered at the west lawn tent to enjoy a casual and relaxed Finale Celebration.

Palmer Chiropractic Clinics Healthy Heart Run a big success

The first Healthy Heart Run to have Palmer Chiropractic Clinics as the title sponsor was an overwhelming success. It set a record with more than 400 runners and walkers taking part in the Healthy Heart 1 mile, 5K and 10K. Filling the City Center Complex in Port Orange with participants, families and friends, the event was a nice complement to the Florida Campus Homecoming activities occurring right next door.

Now in its seventh year, the run is designed to bring about awareness of heart disease and its prevention. Beneficiaries of the event are the YMCA and Run For a Cause, a non-profit fundraising organization. The race also enables people of all ages and fitness levels to participate, such as a man in his late eighties at this year’s run who used a walker and a mother of three who pushed her children in a stroller over the one-mile course.

Palmer’s Florida Campus Sports Council provided care to many of the runners before and after the event. Not only was Palmer a proud sponsor, but one of its own students, Craig Henry, at left, finished first overall in the 5K. In 2011, the Palmer Clinics will continue in their role as title sponsor for the Healthy Heart Run.
Connecting and communicating are key to president’s mission

With the enthusiasm usually reserved for a newly graduated D.C., Florida Campus President Dr. Peter Martin hit the road in the fall of 2009 on a mission to share his upbeat message. “I enjoy the heck out of it!” he said. “It’s a different dynamic. Unlike larger conferences, we can engage in meaningful dialogue and focused conversations with small groups of alumni and others in the field.”

Sounding like the Johnny Cash song, “I’ve Been Everywhere,” already, Dr. Martin’s been to Atlanta, Jacksonville, Altamonte, Ormond Beach, Lake City, Gainesville, Lakeland, Ocala—well, you get the picture. In every locale, Palmer graduates from the Davenport and Florida campuses have turned out to meet with Dr. Martin and hear first-hand about the exciting things happening at Palmer and on the Florida Campus. This experience also serves as a kind of barometer for the state of the profession and the College. “The conversations lead to what is most important to those in the field and for us as a college,” said Dr. Martin.

In addition to the meetings held in more than a dozen cities, Dr. Martin attended Parker Seminars, the “Chiro Summit” conferences and meetings with six state chiropractic associations. While his focus is on alumni in the southeast, Dr. Martin has found Palmer alumni everywhere he’s been.

“It’s an opportunity to gain valuable insight and be a conduit for information in critical areas such as healthcare reform,” added Dr. Martin. He credits Assistant to the President Peggy Quinn for coordinating the logistics of his meetings as well as for “holding down the fort” during his visits.

Doctors in the field have reacted enthusiastically to the visits, particularly because the president of a leading chiropractic college has made himself available to share and exchange information without asking for anything in return. In a letter to Dr. Martin, John O. Tucker, D.C., Davenport ’67, P.A., of Lakeland, Fla., said, “Thank you for the opportunity to sit down with you. I hope you will continue to do these luncheons around the state and wherever you travel. This personal touch will do nothing but improve relations between Palmer and those of us in the field.”

Some of the comments Dr. Martin has heard during his travels are concerns about chiropractic’s position in healthcare reform, support for the Palmer Center for Business Development, an interest in the Clinic’s mentorship model, and an appreciation for the College elevating the profession by being proactive politically and in governmental affairs.

“I approach this initiative with no set expectations or agenda. Instead I allow the process to develop. I want to show our alumni that the school is still there for them,” added Dr. Martin.

Find the latest graduation stories and photos at www.palmer.edu/graduations
Dr. Elaine Falak, ’46, Warragul, Australia, who retired at age 75, recently turned 95 years old. Phone: (61) 3 5611 1126.

Dr. Stanley Bolton, ’48, Sydney, Australia, is excited to have five generations of Palmer College graduates in his family. More than 25 of his family members have entered the chiropractic profession. E-mail: boltsyd@bigpond.com.au.

Dr. Willard Smith, ’60, top left, was joined by fellow alumni, clockwise, Drs. Mark Ford, ’82, Laura Murphy, ’05, Larry Hirschy, ’74, Thomas Rexroth, ’70, and Fred Vliestra, ’65, as part of a team of 19 chiropractors who participated in the Christian Chiropractors Association’s short-term mission to Montego Bay, Jamaica, Nov. 14-21, 2009.

Dr. Keith McDowall, ’65, Warrambool, Australia, announces the death of his wife, Lesley McDowall, retired in December 2009. Dr. Young’s daughter, Dr. Elaine Falak, ’46, Warragul, Australia, who retired at age 75, recently turned 95 years old. Phone: (61) 3 5611 1126.

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Dr. Keith McDowall, ’65, Warrambool, Australia, announces the death of his wife, Lesley McDowall, retired after more than 24 years in practice.

Dr. Robert B. Young, ’72, New Washington, Ohio, retired in December 2009. Dr. Young’s daughter, Dr. Theresa, ’90, took over his practice, Young Chiropractic Inc. Phone: (419) 492-2129, e-mail: rbydct1@verizon.net.

Dr. Nicholas Kiss Von Soly, ’73, Edithvale, Vict., Australia, is pleased to have his daughter, Suzanne Kiss Von Soly, enrolled in the D.C. program at Palmer College’s Davenport Campus. Suzanne is currently the only student from Australia enrolled. Phone: (61) 3 9772 3700, e-mail: solychiro@gmail.com.

Dr. Gerald Zelm, ’73, Oconomowoc, Wis., has put together a display of chiropractic artifacts in his practice. Among the items featured is a reproduction of the first adjustment ever made, similar to the exhibit on the Davenport Campus. Phone: (262) 567-4999, e-mail: zelmchiro@netwux.net.

Dr. Frank Kollins, ’74, Beloit, Wis., celebrated 35 years in practice in August 2009. Phone: (608) 365-9636, e-mail: phr8nk@aol.com.

Dr. James Burt, ’75, Rotorua, New Zealand, currently serves as the president of the New Zealand Chiropractors’ Association. Phone: (64) 7 348 5894, e-mail: burt_jamesanddenise@xtra.co.nz.

Dr. Steve D. Sandersen, ’75, recently opened a new clinic, Sandersen Chiropractic Care, at 22811 Meridian Ave., E., Graham, WA 98338. Phone: (253) 847-7557, e-mail: dcspine24@centerytel.net.

Dr. Kathleen Clark, ’80, Hartland, Maine, opened a satellite office in 2009. Phone: (207) 938-4880, e-mail: kathieclark@tds.net.

Dr. Nicholas Virgilio, ’82, New Hyde Park, N.Y., was appointed by the mayor of Sea Cliff, N.Y., to serve on the city’s planning board. Phone: (516) 354-3651, e-mail: nvdc@optonline.net.

Dr. Steven Fischer, ’83, Paradise, Calif., completed his Masters in Physician Assistant Training at State University of New York at Stony Brook in June 2009. E-mail: fischerstevenjoseph@sbgbglobal.net.

Dr. Dianne Fratto Swella, ’83, recently earned certification in Death and Grief Studies from the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colo. She is the volunteer Bereavement Program coordinator at Hospice of Morongo Basin, in Joshua Tree, Calif. Phone: (760) 365-1933, e-mail: 2swell.mjs@verizon.net.

In September 2009, Brian Bronk, D.C., released his book “Advanced Muscle Reconditioning: The Groundbreaking guide to solving back and body pain (Volume 1).” According to the 1984 graduate, “The source of pain so often attributed to joints and discs is actually coming from your muscles, we just haven’t been treating them correctly.” The book stems from two decades of research Dr. Bronk has conducted in muscle reconditioning and is available through amazon.com.

Dr. Darryl Joe Homback, ’84, has a new practice location, HealthSource Chiropractic & Progressive Rehab, 13050 W. Rancho Santa Fe Blvd., 92019 Avondale, AZ 85323. Phone: (623) 535-8984, e-mail: joehomback@gmail.com.

Dr. Thomas Potisk, ’84, Franksville, Wis., has retired from practice to teach and coach other chiropractors. Phone: (262) 835-1767, e-mail: tpotisk@aol.com.

Dr. James A. Clark, ’85, has moved his clinic, Clark Chiropractic Care, to 12 Elston Rd., Lafayette, IN 47909. Phone: (765) 477-7707.

Dr. Ron Short, D.C., published the reference manual “Medicare for Chiropractors” in the Fall of 2009. He’s currently writing a five-part series titled “How to Retain More of Your Medicare Money” for Dynamic Chiropractic magazine, which is available at www.dynamicchiropractic.com. Dr. Short is a 1985 graduate who also is a certified insurance consultant, peer-review specialist and Medicare compliance specialist.

Dr. Jeffrey Cappuccio, ’86, recently moved his practice to 1635 Brodhead Rd., Moon Township, PA 15108. Phone: (724) 457-1900, e-mail: dr.spine1@verizon.net.

Dr. Denise Conner, ’88, College Park, Md., has retired after more than 24 years in practice. E-mail: drdc@covad.net.

Dr. Susan (Collins) Anderson, ’89, recently expanded and relocated her office, Anderson Chiropractic, to 1395 Jordan St., Suite D, North Liberty, Iowa 52317. Phone: (319) 625-2225, e-mail: andersonchiro1@southslope.net.

Dr. Patrick Smith, ’89, Berkeley Heights, is the Director of Smith Chiropractic Foundation. Phone: (908) 464-8899, e-mail: smithgalaxy@msn.com.

Dr. David B. Anderson, ’91, Royal Palm Beach, Fla., is serving a second term as president of the Palm Beach County Chiropractic Society. Phone: (561) 683-4971, e-mail: drdba@bellsouth.net.

Dr. Roger Brisbane, ’91, opened a new practice in Folsom, Calif. E-mail: docbris@sbcglobal.net.

Dr. Jeffrey Shaw, ’91, Traverse City, Mich., competed in the Bud Light National Ping Pong Championship in Las Vegas in June 2009. He finished in third place.
place out of more than 500 players. Phone: (231) 947-0755, e-mail: docshaw@charterinternet.com.

Dr. Lawrence Bennett, ’92, and his wife, Karen, Lititz, Pa., had a boy, Dylan Gabriel, on Nov. 21, 2009. E-mail: bncn95@deja.zzz.com.

Dr. Camilla Ferguson, ’92, Beavercreek, Ohio, welcomed a grandson, Owen Michael, in May 2009. Phone: (937) 429-4445, e-mail: drcamilla@earthlink.net.

Dr. Paul Bunkers, ’93, Sioux Falls, S.D., was recently voted a Local Best Chiropractor by the public for the fourth year in a row. Phone: (605) 335-7744.

Dr. Tyler S. Nelson, ’93, Fayetteville, N.C., was elected the 92nd president of the North Carolina Chiropractic Association in October 2009. Dr. Nelson has served 14 years in a NCCA leadership role beginning as an assistant to the district president. E-mail: tlnesson11@ncrr.com.

Dr. Terry Magee, ’94, has a new office, Dublin Chiropractic, 5194 Blazer Parkway, Dublin, OH 43007. Phone: (614) 889-7499.

Dr. Randy Provick, ’94, recently moved from Chaffe County and the San Luis Valley to Colorado Springs, Colo., to be close to his son who is in the Special Forces at Ft. Carson. Phone: (719) 392-2006, e-mail: randy.provick@yahoo.com.

Dr. Mark Redwine, ’94, has retired from practice so that he and his wife, Marilyn, could become missionaries in Rosarito, Baja, Mexico. All mail should be addressed to 641 E. San Ysidro Blvd., B-3 PMB 220, San Ysidro, CA 92173. E-mail: mtmasal@aol.com.

Dr. Sean Reif, ’94, Thornton, Colo., completed a four-day mission of Chiropractic First Aid at the Aspen Ruggerfest in Fall 2009. Phone: (303) 452-2678, e-mail: tffchiro@earthlink.net.

Dr. Lori Watterson, ’94, opened her second practice, Watterson Chiropractic, at 71 Main St., Taunton, MA 02780. Dr. Watterson’s other practice is in Onset, Watterson Chiropractic, at 71 Main St., Taunton, MA 02780. Dr. Lori Watterson, ’94, opened her second practice, Watterson Chiropractic, at 71 Main St., Taunton, MA 02780. Dr. Watterson’s other practice is in Onset, Watterson Chiropractic, at 71 Main St., Taunton, MA 02780. Dr. Lori Watterson has been elected for the President’s Who’s Who Among Business and Professional Achievers for 2010. Phone: (508) 273-0002, e-mail: wattersonchiro@comcast.net.

Dr. Greg Stokes, ’95, was elected mayor of his hometown, Riegelsville, Pa. Phone: (610) 749-0611, e-mail: dr.gpstokes@verizon.net.

Dr. Francine Lajoie-Walsh, ’96, and her husband, Jay Walsh, North Adams, Mass., had a daughter, Jenna Frances, on March 22, 2009. Phone: (413) 663-5500, e-mail: dr.lajoie@usa.net.

Dr. Jason Christensen, ’97, Bellevue, Neb., is currently working at Offutt Air Force Base (AFB), Neb. He has worked in the Department of Defense healthcare program since 2003. Previously, he has been at Keesler AFB, Neb., and Eglin AFB, Fla. Phone: (402) 408-2225, e-mail: jccctc@ymail.com.

Dr. Joe Ierano, ’97, opened a new Atlas Orthogonal Clinic in Belconnen, Canberra, on Oct. 1, 2009. Dr. Ierano is a member of the Australasian College of Chiropractors. Phone: (61) 2 4655 4010, e-mail: joe@ieroano.com.

Dr. April Marie (Roybal) Viera, ’97, Spokane, Wash., married Gary Viera, on Aug. 15, 2009. Phone: (509) 465-8400, e-mail: drviera@gmail.com.

Dr. Hans Tofteland, ’98, and Grethe Flatjord, ’99, Ørsta, Norway, had a daughter, Pia Flatjord Tofteland, on Feb. 25, 2009. Phone: (47) 70-06-68-00, e-mail: grethe_dc@hotmail.com.

2000s

Dr. Robert Boivin, ’00, and his wife, Stephanie, Baldwinville, N.Y., had their second child, a girl, Mallory Claire, on Sept. 10, 2009. Phone: (315) 635-2333, e-mail: randyboivin@yahoo.com.

Dr. Paul Bunkers, ’93, Sioux Falls, S.D., was recently elected to the Oklahaven Children’s Chiropractic Center. Phone: (402) 408-2225, e-mail: jccctc@ymail.com.

Dr. Erika Grushon, ’05, has moved Yellow Springs Chiropractic to 233 Cory Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387. Phone: (937) 767-7251.

Dr. Melanie Cook, ’06, and her husband, Thad, Beaver Creek, Ohio, had a son, Owen Michael, on May 17, 2009. Phone: (937) 429-4445, e-mail: tcok09m@prodigy.net.

Dr. Michelle Head, ’06, and her husband, Travis, Honesdale, Pa., had a son, Benjamin Lewis, on Jan. 18, 2010. Phone: (570) 672-1500, e-mail: dmichellehead@gmail.com.

Dr. Alaina McAuliffe-Ferry, and Michael Ferry, both ’06, Orchard Park, N.Y., were married on Dec. 12, 2008. They opened Infinite Health Chiropractic & Wellness Center in Orchard Park, N.Y. They had a son, Luke Michael, on Jan. 18, 2010. Phone: (716) 667-2200, e-mail: laniee@aol.com.

Dr. Craig Howenstine, ’08, Chattanooga, Tenn., had a son on May 31, 2009. Phone: (423) 475-6464, e-mail: chowenstine@yahoo.com.

Dr. Craig Howenstine, ’08, Chattanooga, Tenn., had a son on May 31, 2009. Phone: (423) 475-6464, e-mail: chowenstine@yahoo.com.


Dr. Ken Gabriel, ’01, and his wife, Jamie, Salem, N.H., recently had a boy, William Wallace. Phone: (603) 893-1013, e-mail: jg235@aol.com.

Dr. Andrew Harris, ’01, has opened a new practice, Balanced Healing Center, at 2 Worth Circle, Ste. 3, Johnson City, TN 37601. Phone: (423) 262-0339, e-mail: drharris@balancedhealingcenter.com.

Dr. Michael Orr, ’01, opened Beacon Health System Inc., at 2112 Cherry Valley Rd., Ste. 1, Newark, OH 43055. Phone: (740) 527-5483, e-mail: beaconhealth@hotmail.com.

Dr. Magdalena Reist Leder, ’02, and her husband, Lukas, Basel, Switzerland, had a daughter, Nadine, on July 7, 2009. E-mail: reist_m@hotmail.com.

Dr. Dave Chamey, ’03, and Leah (Kuk) Chamey, ’04, Mill Hall, Pa., had their second daughter, Brooke Michelle, on July 10, 2009. Phone: (570) 893-1808, e-mail: leahmchamey@yahoo.com.

Dr. Erin (Davis) McLaughlin, ’04, and her husband, Erik, Kanata, Ont., Canada, had a daughter, Reese Marie, on Oct. 19, 2009. Phone: (613) 831-9665, e-mail: dr.erindavis@gmail.com.

Dr. Roma Mow-Westra, ’04, and her husband, Kevin, had a daughter, Pétrea Lois, on Aug. 5, 2009. Phone: (214) 662-5312, e-mail: rwwestra@yahoo.com.

Drs. Nicole (Scheirer) Stordy, and Sean Stordy, both ’04, Strathmore, Alta., Canada, had a girl, Malaya Hope, on Oct. 21, 2009. Phone: (403) 934-5633, e-mail: nscheirer@hotmail.com.

Dr. Michael Eekhoff, ’05, and his wife, Melissa, had a daughter, Lauren Grace, on Feb. 21, 2007. They had another daughter, Harper Faith, on Aug. 18, 2009. E-mail: mikeekhoffso@hotmail.com.

Dr. Erika Grushon, ’05, has moved Yellow Springs Chiropractic to 233 Cory Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387. Phone: (937) 767-7251.

Dr. Alaina McAuliffe-Ferry, and Michael Ferry, both ’06, Orchard Park, N.Y., were married on Dec. 12, 2008. They opened Infinite Health Chiropractic & Wellness Center in Orchard Park, N.Y. They had a son, Luke Michael, on Jan. 18, 2010. Phone: (716) 667-2200, e-mail: laniee@aol.com.

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Dr. Craig Howenstine, ’08, Chattanooga, Tenn., had a son on May 31, 2009. Phone: (423) 475-6464, e-mail: chowenstine@yahoo.com.
West Campus

1980s

Dr. Terence Kearney, ’89, Bethesda, Md., was selected to serve at the David Grant Medical Center, Travis AFB, Calif. He initiated guidelines for clinical practice that are widely used presently in Department of Defense chiropractic clinics. Phone: (301) 295-6595, e-mail: Terence.Keamey@med.navy.mil.

1990s

Dr. Shannon Wandler, ’95, has moved his clinic, Wandler Chiropractic Clinic, to #304–200 Carnegie Dr., St. Albert, AB T8N 5A8, Canada. Phone: (780) 460-8030, e-mail: nwandler@telus.net.

2000s

“People spend more time planning a vacation than they do their own lives,” said Lance Casazza, D.C., in the forward to his book, “Be the Hammer Not the Nail.” In the book, the 2001 graduate shares his process for achieving success that includes a system he calls “SANE”—self, affirmations, nutrition and exercise.

Florida Campus

2000s

Dr. Joanne Eash, ’07, has been appointed to full-time mentor clinician at the Florida Campus Outpatient Clinic. Phone: (386) 763-2718, e-mail: joanne.eash@palmer.edu.

Dr. Beth Anne Flack, ’07, Dalton, Ga., and her husband, Kenny, had a daughter Mary Elizabeth Grace. Dr. Flack is currently working at Chiro Choice. Phone: (706) 279-9295, e-mail: docbeth33@gmail.com.

Dr. Teresa Jackson, ’07, Lawrenceville, Ga., opened Advanced Health & Spine Center in July 2007. Phone: (770) 817-0833, e-mail: teresadco7@yahoo.com.

Made any “adjustments” lately?

Keep your College and fellow classmates up-to-date with what’s going on in your life. Simply fill out this form and mail it to Insights, Palmer College of Chiropractic, 1000 Brady Street, Davenport, IA 52803, or fax it to (563) 884-5103. You can also e-mail your information to marketing@palmer.edu.

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Business or Home Address _____________________________________________________________

City, State/Province __________________________________________ Country __________________ ZIP/Postal Code __________

E-mail Address ________________________________________________________________

Work Phone _______________________________ Home Phone __________________________

Information (practice openings, address changes, births, marriages, appointments, current military service, honors, etc.)

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Davenport Campus

1930s
Joseph F. Radel, D.C., ’36
Oklahoma City, Ok.

1940s
Odean G. Askland, D.C., ’49
Fargo, N.D.
Samuel B. Crum, D.C., ’49
Naples, Fla.
Leonard W. Ross, D.C., ’49
Rock Island, Ill.
George D. Stephenson, D.C., ’49
Augusta, Ga.

1950s
Coy W. Summers, D.C., ’50
Wenatchee, Wash.
Raymond E. Thirolf, D.C., ’50
Saint Louis, Mo.
Joseph A. Allen, D.C., ’51
Greenville, S.C.
Richard A. Scofield, D.C., ’51
Henderson, Nev.
James D. Shown, D.C., ’51
Athens, Ala.
Merwyn V. Zarbuck, D.C., ’51
Champaign, Ill.
Andrew P. Restivo, D.C., ’52
East Hanover, N.J.
Gerald W. Sharp, D.C., ’52
Salt Lake City, Utah
Frederick E. Witek, D.C., ’54
Port Chester, N.Y.

Allen R. Konsler, D.C., ’57
Prattville, Ala.
Robert L. Campbell, D.C., ’58
Traverse City, Mich.
Jay P. Snyder, D.C., ’58
Zolfo Springs, Fla.
Fletcher G. Keith Jr., D.C., ’59
Charlotte, N.C.
R. Duane Marshall, D.C., ’59
Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

1960s
Bobby L. Belcher, D.C., ’60
Marietta, Ga.
Walter P. Culpepper, D.C., ’60
Douglasville, Ga.
I. Paul Stoner, D.C., ’61
Cocoa Beach, Fla.
Dennis L. Luebbe, D.C., ’63
Taylor Ridge, Ill.
George L. Sabo, D.C., ’63
Douglassville, Pa.
Joseph W. Hover, D.C., ’64
Norwich, N.Y.

1970s
Vernon J. Adlfinger, D.C., ’71
Riverdale, Iowa
Harvey G. Krant, D.C., ’71
Colfax, Wash.
John L. Black, D.C., ’73
Prescott Valley, Ariz.
Ronald V. Free, D.C., ’73
Cleveland, Tenn.

1980s
Christopher Weston, D.C., ’73
La Jolla, Calif.
Warren E. Wickert, D.C., ’73
Evansdale, Ird.
Michael L. Wilhelm, D.C., ’73
Uniontown, Pa.
Terry A. Bernard, D.C., ’77
Davenport, Iowa
George E. Roy Jr., D.C., ’77
Scarborough, Maine

1990s
James K. Hensel, D.C., ’81
San Diego, Calif.
James D. Murphy, D.C., ’88
Mexico, Mo.

2000s
Joshua D. Casteel, D.C., ’03
Punxsutawney, Pa.

West Campus

1980s
William E. Pratt, D.C., ’86
Sacramento, Calif.
A randomized controlled trial comparing two types of spinal manipulation and minimal conservative medical care for adults 55 years and older with subacute or chronic low back pain

AUTHORS: Maria A. Hondras, D.C., M.P.H., Cynthia R. Long, Ph.D., Ying Cao, M.S., Robert M. Rowell, D.C., M.S., and William C. Meeker, D.C., West ’82, M.P.H.

Chiropractic care is used by many older patients for low back pain (LBP), but there are no published results of randomized trials examining spinal manipulation (SM) for older adults. The purpose of this study was to compare the effects of two biomechanically distinct forms of SM and minimal conservative medical care (MCMC) for participants at least 55 years old with subacute or chronic nonradicular LBP. The primary outcome variable of this randomized controlled trial was low back-related disability assessed with the 24-item Roland Morris Disability questionnaire at 3, 6, 12, and 24 weeks. Participants were randomly allocated to six weeks of care including 12 visits of either high-velocity, low-amplitude (HVLA)-SM, low-velocity, variable-amplitude (LVVA)-SM, or three visits of MCMC.

The results of this study can be found in the Journal of Manipulative and Physiological Therapeutics article: J Manipulative Physiol Ther 2009;32:330-343. Read it at: www.jmptonline.org

Characteristics of Veterans Health Administration chiropractors and chiropractic clinics


Chiropractic services have been delivered on-station at select Veterans Health Administration (VHA) medical facilities since late 2004. No published data describing the characteristics of VHA chiropractic physicians (chiropractors) and chiropractic clinics exist at a national level. This study was designed to examine elements of the structures of chiropractic services in VHA settings. Web-based survey methods were used to question all chiropractors in VHA facilities (N = 36). Data were obtained from 33 providers, yielding a 91.6 percent response rate. Most respondents were full-time VHA employees, while others were part-time employees or contractors. Differences were found in prior training, integrated practice, and academic or research experience.

Of the respondents, 88 percent ranked low back pain as the most common patient complaint seen in practice and 79 percent ranked cervical pain the second most common complaint. Of the new patient consultations, 67.6 percent originated from primary care, 9.4 percent from pain management, and 6.2 percent from physiatry. Most respondents were similar in their reported use of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, but their reported rates of participation in various facility activities were different. Further work is needed for researchers and policy makers to more fully understand the integration and delivery of chiropractic services in VHA settings.

The full article can be found in Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development: Rehab Res Dev 2009;46(8):997-1002. Read it at: www.research.va.gov/programs/rrd.cfm

Researchers in bold are graduates and/or faculty members of Palmer College. ●
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FEATURING KEYNOTE SESSIONS WITH:

John Demartini, D.C., one of the most inspirational speakers in the chiropractic profession, presenting the “Art, Science and Philosophy of Chiropractic.”

Mr. Mark Sanborn, author of the international bestseller “The Fred Factor: How Passion in Your Work and Life Can Make the Ordinary Extraordinary.”

Yvonne Villanueva-Russell, Ph.D., after rave reviews from her Homecoming 2009 breakout session, will return to present “Transforming the Profession towards Cultural Authority.”

Chancellor Dennis Marchiori, D.C., Ph.D., with a thought-provoking presentation on the milestones you accomplish along your chiropractic career path.

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Florida Campus Homecoming
February 25-27 • Port Orange, Fla.

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