

# Vision

Newsletter of Philanthropy

Volume 3 Spring 2007

Loyola University Medical Center ~ Part of Loyola University Health System

## Ryan Family Shows Support for Loyola's Heart and Vascular Program

**W**illiam G. and Mary A. Ryan, of Hinsdale, Ill., recently illustrated their support for Loyola University Health System's (Loyola) top-rated cardiovascular program by pledging \$5 million to the Center for Heart & Vascular Medicine. Mr. Ryan is a grateful patient of David Wilber, MD, George M. Eisenberg Professor of Cardiovascular Sciences, and director of the division of cardiology and the Cardiovascular Institute. "We have been impressed with the quality of care and the devotion of the medical staff and wanted to contribute to the outstanding program," said Mr. Ryan.

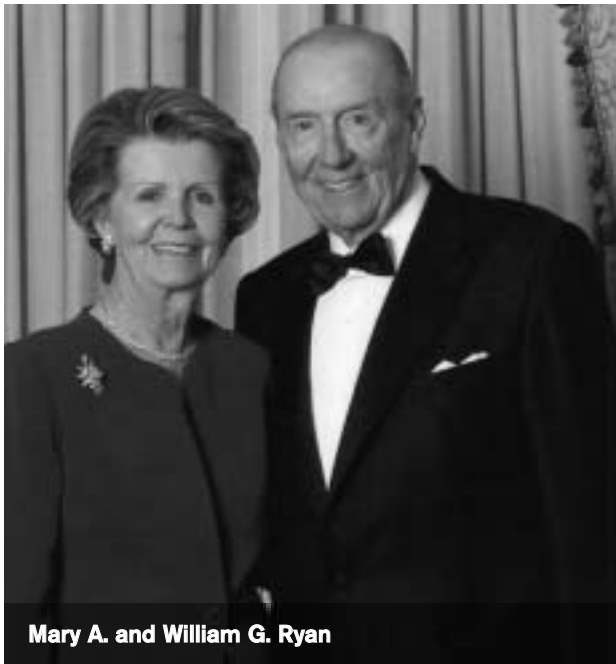
A portion of their gift will fund a new imaging and robotic guidance system that will be used for complex cardiac interventions to treat conditions ranging from arrhythmias to heart failure to coronary artery disease.

Another portion of the pledge will be used toward the general construction of the center expansion. In recognition of the gift, the center will be named the William G. & Mary A. Ryan Center for Heart & Vascular Medicine. "The gift from Mr. and Mrs. Ryan will be used for improving our physical facilities and expanding our therapeutic options for a broad spectrum of cardiac problems including atrial fibrillation," said Dr. Wilber.

After the expansion, patients will have a more formal, convenient entrance and easier access to cardiac testing areas including eight interventional suites for electrophysiologic procedures, cardiac catheterization and vascular interventions. The center is just one physical representation of Loyola's multidisciplinary approach to treatment, bringing our national heart and vascular medicine experts together in one location. The close proximity of specialists, including general cardiologists, interventionalists, electrophysiologists, radiologists and surgeons, allows for collaborative review of patients' tests, diagnoses and treatment options. The center also will facilitate lifestyle and genetic counseling for family members who are at risk for heart and vascular disease.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryan feel strongly about contributing toward the success of Loyola. "There is no way in the world that hospitals could expand and continue to give patients the very best care without philanthropic giving," said Mrs. Ryan.

With demand for inpatient and outpatient services growing, Loyola is expanding to not only meet but surpass this current demand. To grow, however, the health system cannot rely solely on reimbursements and revenue. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan's generous contribution is helping fund the resources needed for Loyola to provide the best, high-quality and innovative health care that patients have come to expect.



Mary A. and William G. Ryan



Artist's rendering of the medical center expansion entrance.

"The Ryan gift helped us secure some of the latest technologies to treat cardiac patients. This donation helps solidify our position as a leader in cardiology," said Dr. Wilber.

The Ryans feel great satisfaction knowing that they are helping other patients with their donation. "We are strongly supportive of the Center for Heart & Vascular Medicine expansion, and pleased with the way Loyola has built the heart and vascular program," said Mr. Ryan. "We know that Loyola will continue providing superior heart and vascular care for all patients."

To learn more about the Center for Heart & Vascular Medicine, visit [www.LoyolaMedicine.org](http://www.LoyolaMedicine.org) and click on the cardiology link. For more information about making a contribution to the center, contact Robert Barto, Office of Development, [rbarto@lumc.edu](mailto:rbarto@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-3203. ~

### Loyola Named Top Cardiovascular Hospital

Loyola University Health System (Loyola) is one of the 100 Top Hospitals® for cardiovascular care in the nation, according to a study by Solucient, a health-care information company.

The 2006 study included Loyola as one of only six health-care providers in Illinois and one of only two teaching hospitals in the state that offer residency programs in cardiovascular care. This is the third time Loyola has been named to Solucient's list.

The study found that both medical and cardiovascular patients experienced markedly higher survivor rates and fewer complications

at hospitals on the list. For example, Loyola and the other top hospitals had 21 percent fewer deaths than expected for coronary artery bypass graft patients. Hospitals not on the list had only 1 percent fewer deaths than expected with this procedure. If all hospitals provided the same quality of cardiovascular care as Loyola and the

other top-rated hospitals, survival rates could increase by more than 8,000 patients each year and an additional 575 patients could be complication-free after treatment.

The study looked at the nation's highest performers in eight key performance areas: risk-adjusted medical mortality, risk-adjusted surgical mortality, risk-adjusted complications, core measures score, percentage of coronary artery bypass graft patients with internal mammary artery use, procedure volume, severity-adjusted length of stay, and wage- and severity-adjusted average cost. ~

# Paul Whelton, MD, MSc, Named New CEO of Loyola

Paul K. Whelton, MD, MSc, was appointed the new president and chief executive officer of Loyola University Health System (Loyola). He officially joined Loyola on Feb. 1.

Dr. Whelton was both a professor of epidemiology at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and a professor of medicine at the Tulane University School of Medicine. He joined the faculty at Tulane in January 1997, following 26 years at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and its School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore. Dr. Whelton filled the vacancy left by Anthony L. Barbato, MD, who retired after more than 30 years of service to the health system including 18 years as its leader.



Paul Whelton, MD, MSc

A native of Cork City, Ireland, Dr. Whelton received his medical degree from the National University of Ireland, University College Cork, and a master of science degree in epidemiology from the University of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He completed residency training in internal medicine, a nephrology fellowship at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, and a post-doctoral fellowship in epidemiology at the Medical Research Council Epidemiology and Clinical Care Unit, Northwick Park Hospital, Middlesex, England.

Dr. Whelton served as senior vice president for health sciences at Tulane University since 1999. In that role, he was responsible for the overall administrative and academic

leadership of the health sciences at Tulane University including senior oversight for the Tulane University School of Medicine and the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. He also served as dean of the school from 1997 to 2000 and dean of the Tulane University School of Medicine from 2000 to 2001 and since 2005. During his tenure as senior vice president at

“Paul Whelton is a strong leader who has the experience and the vision to help Loyola University Health System advance as a world-class Catholic health sciences center,” said Dan Walsh, chair of Loyola’s board of directors. “We believe that Dr. Whelton is a great fit for Loyola, with his proven leadership in both the administrative arena and in the world of academic medicine,” he added.

Tulane, Dr. Whelton helped strengthen the health sciences center’s clinical, educational and research programs including a three-fold increase in funding from the National Institutes of Health. He also helped the medical school withstand the effects of Hurricane Katrina, ensuring maintenance of its mission-critical functions throughout the catastrophe and a vibrant renewal over the course of the last 15 months.

As a physician-researcher, Dr. Whelton has ascended to a level of international prominence. He has conducted a series of ground-breaking studies on the prevention and treatment of hypertension for the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases and the National Institute on Aging. Well-published and a frequent presenter and lecturer at scientific meetings, Whelton has served as a consultant to numerous national and international health agencies and governments.

“Beyond being a strong administrator and academic leader, Dr. Whelton is a national and international authority on the epidemiology, prevention and treatment of cardiovascular and renal disease. His reputation as a physician and researcher extends far beyond the boundaries of Tulane. We know that his exceptional skills and knowledge will help to inspire our health system administration and faculty and more firmly position Loyola as a leader in the world of academic medicine,” Mr. Walsh said. ~

## New Cardiology Professorship Funded

Gifts totaling \$2.75 million to create a new professorship in Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine’s (Stritch) Department of Medicine will honor a retired cardiologist who was instrumental in guiding the department to its top-rated status.

The Rolf & Merian Gunnar Professor of Medicine (Cardiology), named in honor of the cardiologist and his late wife, was made possible by donations from The Arthur Foundation and Rolf Gunnar, MD, himself. “Loyola has developed an excellent cardiology division, and I want to see it continue to grow. A named professorship will attract more high-caliber physicians in the division,” Dr. Gunnar said.

Dr. Gunnar joined Loyola in 1972 as chief of the division of cardiology and a professor in the Department of Medicine. He headed cardiology for 10 years and served as chair of the Department of Medicine for nine years. He retired in 1991.

“During Dr. Gunnar’s tenure, Loyola’s cardiology program became a model of excellent patient care with state-of-the-art basic, translational and clinical research,” said Anthony L. Barbato, MD, former president and CEO of Loyola University Health System (Loyola) from 1995 to 2007. “The professorship will contribute to Loyola’s culture of excellence in the training of physicians and in the medical practices in clinical cardiology.”

Established in 1999, The Arthur Foundation supports high-quality, leading-edge programs in education, health care and medical research. The foundation chose to make this gift in support of Loyola’s service to the community. “We like what Loyola is doing for health care and the community,

and its commitment to educating physicians and nurses who treat the whole patient,” said Luke McGuinness, chair of The Arthur Foundation.

The foundation also considers the donation a fitting tribute to Dr. Gunnar. “We respect Dr. Gunnar and honor him for what he’s accomplished as a cardiologist and as former chair of the Department of Medicine,” Mr. McGuinness said.

Mr. McGuinness has known Dr. Gunnar professionally since 1979. “He’s one of the great teachers and physician executives in Chicago,” he said. “He was quick to make a donation toward the new professorship, and we’re following his lead.”

Although he is retired from medicine, Dr. Gunnar remains committed to Loyola. In 1975 he created the Geoffrey Gunnar Memorial Scholarship for third-year Stritch students in honor of his late son. “Stritch is a marvelous school, and I’m glad to remain active with the students,” he said. “One of Loyola’s missions is the clinical teaching of physicians. Many of the cardiologists in the area are trained at Loyola, through the medical school and residency and fellowship programs.”

In addition to his contributions to Loyola, Dr. Gunnar has received numerous recognitions from organizations such as the American College of Physicians, where he was the chair of the Board of Regents. He has served as a member and officer of many professional organizations including the

American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology. He received a Bronze Star for valor for his volunteer medical service in the Korean War.



Rolf Gunnar, MD

The future Rolf & Merian Gunnar Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) will be influential in the training of fellows, medicine residents and medical students and will be expected to have a vibrant clinical cardiac research program. “To honor Dr. Gunnar, the foundation expects the physician who holds this professorship to have a keen interest in clinical cardiac

research and to be highly skilled in translating the results of scientific research into treatment,” said Mr. McGuinness.

In honor of Dr. Gunnar and the Arthur Foundation’s commitment to establishing the new professorship, Loyola University Chicago (LUC) is adding \$1 million to bring the fund total to \$3.75 million. “The addition of a new cardiology professorship will benefit the university, the health system and, ultimately, the patients,” said Rev. Michael J. Garanzini, SJ, president, LUC. “The university is proud to have a part in establishing the Rolf & Merian Gunnar Professor of Medicine (Cardiology).”

For more information on giving a gift to create a named professorship, contact the Office of Development, [development@lumc.edu](mailto:development@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-3201. ~

## Patient Gift Will Create New Nursing Position for Cancer Center

A generous donation will provide a helping hand — literally — to a busy cancer specialist at Loyola University Health System's (Loyola) Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center. Peter and Heidi Huizenga's \$500,000 gift will fund a clinical oncology and translational research nurse to assist Kathy Albain, MD, with patient care and cancer research. A portion of the Oak Brook couple's funding also will be used toward Dr. Albain's cancer research.

As a breast cancer survivor and patient of Dr. Albain, Mrs. Huizenga has seen first hand all the physician involvement that goes into complete patient care at Loyola. Her work with the cancer center's Visiting Committee, and many of the center's activities, also have helped her realize the financial limitations that prevent hiring a staff member to manage the daily administrative, research and patient-care activities.

The clinical oncology and translational research nurse will report directly to Dr. Albain, but also will assist other medical oncologists at the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center as they enroll and follow their patients on cancer clinical trials. Some of the nurse's responsibilities will include: providing chemotherapy training for patients, conducting phone checks on patients who have a change in regimen or major medications, monitoring physician action plans for each patient visit and overseeing tasks for post-clinic patient care.

The nurse also will attend clinical research program and continuing medical education meetings, assist in conducting in-house translational projects, track participants on clinical trials and monitor the status of new research proposals.



Heidi and Peter Huizenga

"The nurse will work hand-in-glove with me to enhance both day-to-day breast and lung cancer patient care and research endeavors," said Dr. Albain.


The Huizengas are pleased to augment care at a cancer center that is already renowned for providing the latest in technology without neglecting the personal and spiritual needs of patients. "At some of the larger health-care institutions the personal aspect of patient care sometimes gets lost, but you can feel the personal care at Loyola," Mr. Huizenga

said. "Loyola is a wonderful hospital that provides excellent patient care, and we support it because we want that excellence to continue."

By providing assistance with administrative tasks and patient care, the new nurse position will allow Dr. Albain to devote more time to research. "She does wonderful work, and we would like our gift to give her the tools she needs to further her practice," said Mrs. Huizenga.

Dr. Albain is touched that a patient would make a donation to help existing cancer patients receive personalized care and fund research that could provide new treatments for future patients. "I was excited and extremely grateful that the Huizengas could see this real need and respond to it in a very generous way," she said.

The Huizengas support several organizations and causes financially because they strongly believe in sharing their good fortune. "We don't look at it as philanthropy, we look at it as stewardship," said Mr. Huizenga. "We have been gifted and entrusted by God with financial resources, and we have an obligation to use these gifts not just for our benefit, but for the benefit of others in the community."

For more information on giving opportunities for the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, contact Barbra Luce-Turner, Office of Development, [bluce@lumc.edu](mailto:bluce@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-1051. 

## Alumnus Provides One of the Largest Endowed Scholarships

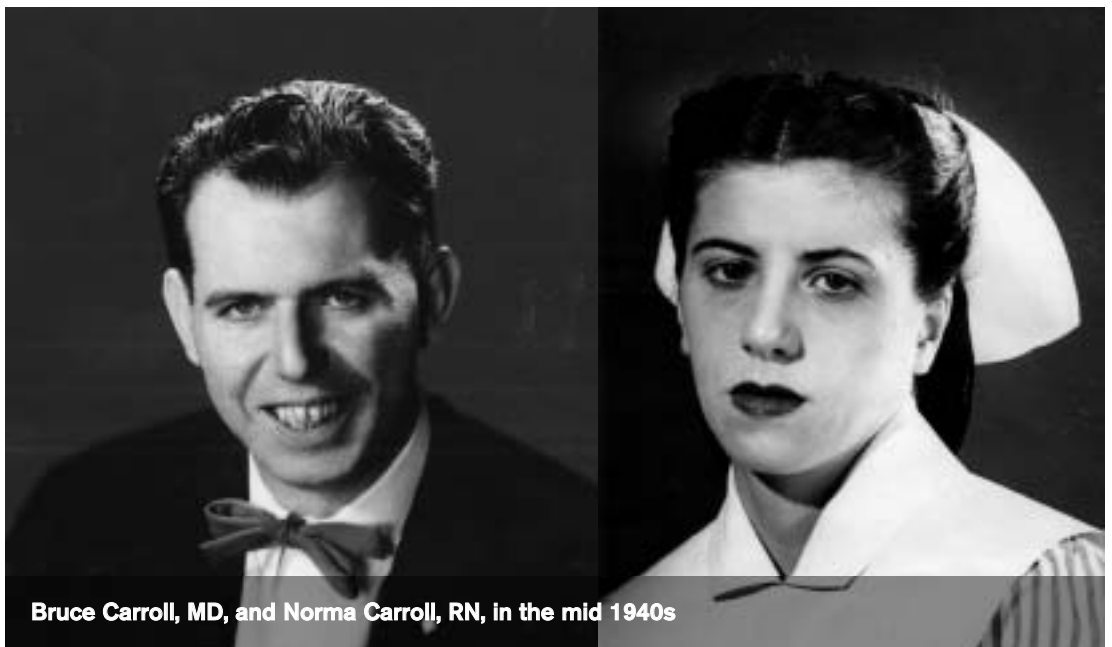
A \$2.47 million scholarship gift from a 1944 alumnus of Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (Stritch) will ensure more students have access to tuition funds and may potentially create more diversity within the student body.

The Bruce J. Carroll, MD, Endowed Scholarship is one of the largest endowed scholarships provided to Stritch to date. The scholarship will make up about 5 percent of Stritch's available scholarship funds for fiscal year 2008 and will grow to provide approximately 7 percent to 8 percent of the fund for fiscal year 2009, according to John M. Lee, MD, PhD, dean of Stritch.

The scholarship comes from the estate of Bruce J. Carroll, MD, who died in 2002, and his wife, Norma Carroll, RN, who died in 2004.

"It was Bruce's desire, and Norma's as well, for the money to go toward scholarships for students with financial need," said Barbara Eodice, executrix of the Carrolls' estate and second cousin of Mrs. Carroll. "Bruce grew up in a working class family and had to work very hard to get through medical school financially. His background inspired him to start the scholarship so that future doctors could receive more assistance and not have to struggle as hard as he did."

Dr. Carroll specialized in vascular surgery and served as a medic in the Korean War. During his entire medical career he was a vascular surgeon at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield, N.J., where he was born and raised. Mrs. Carroll was the head nurse of the surgical wing at the same hospital.



Bruce Carroll, MD, and Norma Carroll, RN, in the mid 1940s

The couple did not have children and dedicated their lives to serving people through medicine. "Bruce worked at the hospital from early morning to late at night in his prime. He played golf occasionally, but his passion was medicine," Mrs. Eodice recalled. "Norma was just as dedicated to her nursing career. She also was active with charitable causes including those involving animals."


The scholarship could not have come at a better time; in July 2008 Stritch is due for accreditation with the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the American Medical Association. At Stritch's last accreditation in 2001 the LCME advised the school to increase scholarships to help reduce student debt.

"Our student debt is high, and the cost of living in Chicago contributes to the problem," said Dr. Lee.

"This scholarship is a wonderful gift because it will help us offset these costs and attract a more diverse student body."

The majority of Stritch students — 80 percent — have financial need, Dr. Lee said. Stritch will use \$470,000 of the Carroll gift during the next four years for scholarships. The remaining \$2 million will be used to create an endowed scholarship, with the interest to be made available for additional scholarships in the near future.

"Bruce was so happy to plan for his hard-earned money to be used to help future physicians studying at his alma mater," Mrs. Eodice said.

For more information on endowed scholarships or other types of scholarship funds, contact Arnaud Buttin, Office of Development, [abuttin@lumc.edu](mailto:abuttin@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-6576. 

# Alumnus Relives his Stritch Days Through Scholarship Program

Nourished by his memories of academics and spiritual awareness at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (Stritch) in the 1940s, Seymour Alban, MD, shared the inspiration behind his scholarships for students attending his alma mater.

“My senior year of medical school was the best year of my life,” he said. “By my senior year I felt blessed because I had gained so much information, not only in practical medical knowledge but also in the spiritual needs of patients and the importance of the patient-physician relationship.”

One of just two Jewish students in the graduating class of 1946, Dr.

Alban provides scholarships to Jewish students each year. Since the Alban Medical Scholarship Fund began in 1991, 25 students have received scholarships totaling \$86,649.

“I know federal scholarships are getting more difficult to obtain, so I wanted to do something for those who followed me and might have the need for a stipend,” said Dr. Alban.

Three of the six students currently receiving the scholarships were on hand to thank Dr. Alban during the 2006 Stritch reunion weekend: Danielle Goss, Karen Hoffman and Nora Joseph, all fourth-year students.

“The scholarship alleviated some stress about my student debt and finances,” said Ms. Joseph. “It’s an honor to receive a scholarship from a physician; it’s like a sign that you’ve been accepted as a future physician.”

## School Day Memories

As a member of the military, Dr. Alban received money for books and a uniform, which he wore to class every day, as well as full tuition. His tuition was \$450 a year, compared to \$35,500 for the 2006 – 2007 school year.

Dr. Alban served two years of active duty in the U.S. Air Force after attending medical school. After graduation he was in the U.S. Army Reserve as a flight surgeon, retiring as a full colonel 30 years later.

## Life After Stritch

Following an internship at Cook County Hospital and a two-year residency at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, Dr. Alban decided to live in California.

He completed a two-year residency at the Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center in Los Angeles: one year as the senior orthopaedic resident followed by one year as a neurosurgical resident. After working at the VA he joined his brother’s orthopaedic practice in Long Beach, Calif., where he specialized in spine surgery. At age 81 he is still working part-time. His son, Joseph Alban, MD, graduated from Stritch in 1982. Dr. Alban’s brother also attended Stritch; the late Harry Alban, MD, was a graduate of the Class of 1934. “It’s a family legacy to go to Stritch,” Dr. Alban said.

Dr. Alban always put patient care first. “I never asked patients if they had insurance before I treated them,” he said. “So I never thought I’d make money practicing medicine. When I did make money, I wanted to give back to the school that made it all possible.”

Log onto [www.LoyolaMedicine.org/giving](http://www.LoyolaMedicine.org/giving) to read more about Alban Medical Scholarship Fund. For more information on Stritch scholarship funds, contact Arnaud Buttin, Office of Development, [abuttin@lumc.edu](mailto:abuttin@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-6576.



At the 2006 Stritch Reunion, Seymour Alban, MD, visited with Stritch students Nora Joseph (seated), Karen Hoffman (standing, left) and Danielle Goss (standing, right).

# Couple Honors Late Cardinal with \$1 Million Gift to Cancer Center

Devoted Catholics Michael and Katherine (Kay) Birck are gratified that their \$1 million gift to Loyola University Health System’s (Loyola) Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center will be a fitting tribute to the late cardinal while providing funding for a variety of programs offered by the center.

“We always respected Cardinal Bernardin, so we are honored to give money to an institution that carries his name,” said Mrs. Birck. “There are a lot of different causes to fund in health care,” added Mr. Birck. “As Catholics, we are happy to give to Catholic organizations. I think that of all the institutions in the area that treat cancer, Loyola does so in a complete way, treating the mind, body and spirit: the whole person.”

As members of the cancer center’s Visiting Committee, the Bircks assist the center in exploring methods to raise funds. Mr. Birck’s work on the committee reinforces his belief in the importance of health-care philanthropy. “I think those who can afford to give have an obligation to give back to the community,” he said. “Kay and I focus on three areas: education, the environment and health and wellness.”

The Birck’s \$1 million gift is especially valuable because it is unrestricted, allowing it to be used wherever there is the greatest need. The Bircks are pleased their gift will be put to good use in several different projects and will touch so many people in the community. “We’ve been blessed many times over,” said Mrs. Birck, a retired nurse. “My husband and I both came from lower middle class families, and because we both received good educations we’ve done quite well. We feel we should share our good fortune with the community.”

Patrick J. Stiff, MD, Coleman Professor of Oncology, and cancer center director, plans to distribute the money throughout the cancer center to fund several projects.

Dr. Stiff explained that as funding for federal research grants has diminished, there is subsequently even more competition for foundation support. Medical centers that have preliminary data to support innovative research concepts are much more likely to receive federal and foundation grants.

The Birck’s gift will be distributed to the following areas.

**Survivorship Clinic** – Little attention has been given to the long-term medical issues of the approximately 10 million U.S. cancer survivors. A portion of the Birck gift will be directed to the development and start-up costs of a Long-Term Survivorship Clinic to support the Chicago area. The clinic will provide follow-up care and screenings for cancer survivors. Patricia Robinson, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Medicine, will run the program in coordination with faculty at Loyola University Chicago’s Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing. The gift also supported a survivorship workshop in February that offered continuing education to nurses, social workers and respiratory therapists.

**Regional Clinical Trials Group** – The cancer center plans to initiate a regional Clinical Trials Group to develop innovative concepts generated by Loyola physicians into clinical trials that would impact the practice of medicine. The cancer center will partner with selected community oncology

practices to conduct the trials. The funds will be used to provide faculty and nursing staff, as well as the data management and statistical analyses required to accurately report results.

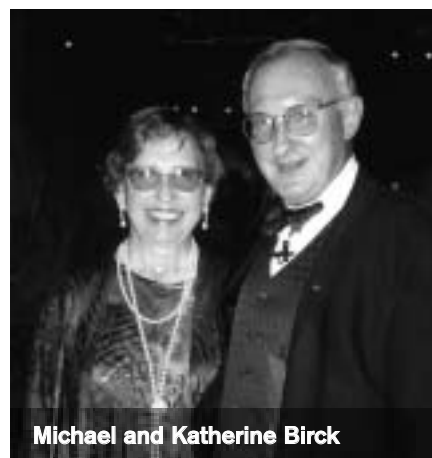
**Vaccine Trials** – Loyola’s unique Dendritic Cell-based Vaccine Trials Program creates new vaccines designed to treat conditions such as prostate and ovarian cancers and pediatric solid tumors. Extensive laboratory testing is being performed to evaluate responses to the vaccine therapy and to better select patients for whom this therapy will be successful. The gift money will be used for conducting these experiments within the laboratory.

**Cancer Prevention and Screening** – The cancer center is dedicated to its mission of providing community education and screening for high-risk populations. This portion of the gift will be used to expand Loyola’s prevention and screening programs for the community, particularly underserved populations.

**New Faculty Translational Projects** – The cancer center will provide new faculty with funds to help stimulate interactions between basic science faculty and clinical faculty, promoting translational research.

**Clinical Trials Office Funding** – Currently government agencies fund only about 50 percent of the costs for enrolling participants in clinical trials. This gift will help cover the expense of clinical trial nurses who ensure that all participants are knowledgeable about the therapy, report any toxicity or side effects and assist in the management of trial results with the physicians.

*See Couple, page 5*



Michael and Katherine Birck

## Medical Schools, Teaching Hospitals Vital to Economy

Medical schools and teaching hospitals had a combined economic impact of \$451 billion on their states and the nation in 2005, according to a report by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). Loyola University Health System (Loyola) and other Illinois AAMC members had a combined economic impact of \$23.9 billion on the state.

Nationally, the 125 accredited U.S. medical schools and more than 400 major teaching hospitals represented by the AAMC employ nearly 1.6 million individuals and are directly and indirectly responsible for more than 3 million full-time jobs — one out of every 48 wage earners in the United States. Illinois' medical schools and major teaching hospitals are directly and indirectly responsible for more than 144,000 full-time jobs. Loyola employs 6,090 employees including 4,981 at its Maywood, Ill., campus. These Maywood workers created 7,222 additional jobs in the region, generating more than \$344 million in personal income for Loyola employees and additional income of more than \$440 million for residents in the region.

The overall impact of institutions such as Loyola on the Illinois and national economies takes into account the direct and indirect business volume generated by medical schools and teaching hospitals including institutional spending; employee spending; and spending by patients, their families and visitors. Every dollar spent by a medical school or teaching hospital indirectly generates an additional \$1.30 when it is "re-spent" on other businesses or individuals, resulting in a total impact of \$2.30 per dollar.

Illinois' medical schools and teaching hospitals also generated more than \$757 million in state tax revenue in 2005 through income and sales taxes, corporate income taxes and capital stock/franchise taxes paid by businesses that collect revenue from state institutions.

### Couple, from page 4

#### Cancer Center Clinical Research Database –

The gift also will go toward initiating a cancer center database for managing and coordinating participants in clinical trials, as well as for reporting results and accessing data for future research initiatives. This database will be critical for Loyola's involvement in the development of a national database for clinical trial reporting, and would be critical for obtaining a National Cancer Institute (NCI) cancer center designation. "Our goal is to join the 61 NCI designated cancer centers in the United States," said Dr. Stiff. "This would not only be a testament to the quality of our clinical and research programs, but also would open the door for other funding opportunities to further expand our cancer research."

Previously, the Bircks gave a \$2 million gift to the Cancer Center to establish the Birck Family Endowment for Cancer Research.

For more information on giving opportunities for the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center, contact Barbra Luce-Turner, Office of Development, [bluce@lumc.edu](mailto:bluce@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-1051.

## McCormick Tribune Foundation Gift

Loyola University Health System's (Loyola) dedication to providing top-rated medical care in a community setting has resulted in a \$2 million gift from the McCormick Tribune Foundation for research at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (Stritch) to benefit cardiac patients.

"We've had a long relationship with Loyola and given the health center more than \$8 million in grants," said Donald A. Cooke, senior vice president of philanthropy at the McCormick Tribune Foundation. "We enjoy our partnership with Loyola because the health system has done a wonderful job of using our grants to benefit the region."

The McCormick Tribune Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to making life better for children and communities through its charitable grant-making programs, Cantigny Park and Golf, Cantigny First Division Museum and the McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum. In the past, the foundation has provided grants to Loyola to be used toward nursing, vaccine and therapy development and early learning for children, among other projects, Mr. Cooke said.

Mr. Cooke said that Loyola stands out among other medical institutions in the Chicago area because of the quality of care it provides in the heart of a community. "Clearly Loyola is an important medical resource for the community," he said. "It's unique to have such high-quality care in a neighborhood setting."

As the medical center began discussions on several important projects with the foundation, Loyola was able to present what was most needed. Cardiology specialists told of the need to conduct more research on cardiac remodeling in order to enhance its already top-rated cardiovascular program.

Cardiac remodeling refers to the changes a heart goes through due to cardiac disease, heart attacks, arrhythmias (abnormal heart rhythms) and other conditions. Cardiac remodeling researchers are working to understand how the heart adapts to diseases and to learn how to reverse some of the adverse changes that may occur, explained David Wilber, MD, director of the Cardiovascular Institute and George M. Eisenberg Professor of Cardiovascular Sciences.

"The gift will be used to recruit additional cardiac research faculty," said Richard Kennedy, PhD, senior associate dean of research, Stritch. "We can use a few more strategic players to complete our team," he said.

The cardiac remodeling research team will proceed using the advice of a steering committee to identify research projects and strategies. Its goal is to bring basic science researchers and clinical researchers together to obtain the most complete research results. "This will enable us to build bridges between basic science and clinical medicine," Dr. Wilber said.

The McCormick Tribune Foundation is the steward of the funds left by Col. Robert McCormick when he died 51 years ago. Col. McCormick, the publisher and editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, gave many grants to community and civic causes. The foundation continues his philanthropic work under his name.

"We're excited about this gift and will use the money to make a significant mark on cardiac care," said Dr. Kennedy. "You can never thank donors like the McCormick Tribune Foundation enough. They are vital to the growth of our research."

For more information on corporate and foundation giving, contact Heather Snyder, Office of Development, [hsnyder@lumc.edu](mailto:hsnyder@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-4607.

## Save The Date

Future of Research Breakfast Series  
Featuring the Burn & Shock Trauma Institute  
May 3, 7:30 to 9 a.m., John & Herta Cuneo Center

Severe trauma is the major cause of death for people aged 40 and younger, overtaking heart disease and cancer. Guests at the upcoming Future of Research Breakfast will learn about the efforts of clinicians and basic scientists at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine's Burn & Shock Trauma Institute to prevent and treat trauma injuries.

The breakfast will be held Thursday, May 3, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the John & Herta Cuneo Center, in Maywood, Ill. Speakers include Richard L. Gamelli, MD, chair, Department of Surgery, director of the institute; Elizabeth J.

Kovacs, PhD, director of research; and Carol R. Schermer, MD, MPH, associate professor, Department of Surgery. These speakers will highlight the groundbreaking research and community outreach programs being conducted at the institute. Current research includes the effects of alcohol on the immune system and the causes of virus mutations leading to antibiotic-resistant super germs.

For more information about the breakfast, contact the Office of Development at (708) 216-9634.

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events. E-mail the Office of Development at [development@lumc.edu](mailto:development@lumc.edu) for more information.

May 5 - Ralph P Leischner Jr., MD, Golf Outing, Silver Lake Country Club, Orland Park, Ill.

June 3 - Stritch School of Medicine Graduation

# What a Difference a Gift Makes

The following article appeared in the Winter 2006/2007 issue of *Vision*. Due to the overwhelming response of donors who chose to make IRA distributions to fund gifts at the end of the calendar year, and the limited timeframe that the IRS has approved this giving vehicle, we have included this information again for you.

## New IRA Law Offers Tax Advantages When Giving to Loyola


Donors who are age 70 or older now can make gifts to Loyola University Health System (Loyola) and other charities directly from their IRAs without including the IRA withdrawal in their taxable income. This provision, signed into law on Aug. 17, 2006, is available through Dec. 31, 2007, and was passed as part of the Pension Protection Act of 2006.

Giving directly to Loyola from your IRA is as simple as withdrawing the amounts to be contributed, paying income tax on them and contributing them to Loyola. Donors will save more taxes through giving a qualified IRA donation

because such a gift avoids the following: the phase out of itemized deductions for income more than \$150,000; restrictions on deductions for taxpayers subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax; and restrictions imposed by some states on income deductions for charitable gifts.

IRA gifts under the new law are most appropriate for donors who:

- Do not need the income from their Minimum Required Distribution
- Have a taxable estate and wish to avoid the double taxation of inherited IRAs
- Do not itemize their deductions on tax returns
- Are subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax, or whose other deductions or exemptions are phased out because of high income

Contact the Office of Development, [development@lumc.edu](mailto:development@lumc.edu) or (708) 216-3201 if you are interested in exploring further whether an IRA gift may be right for you. 

## For More Information

Loyola is committed to disciplined research and planning concerning both the purposes for which a gift will be used and the impact a gift makes on your personal and financial goals. The Office of Development will be happy to formulate a plan with you and/or your financial advisor that takes full advantage of the available tax benefits, while at the same time fulfills your desire to benefit Loyola.

We understand that your charitable gift intentions are a personal matter. We encourage you to contact us for help with answering or researching any questions about clinical or academic activities or for more information on making your gift to our institution. All discussions will be treated confidentially.

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*Vision*

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For more information on gift giving, please contact us at (708) 216-3201; fax (708) 216-5980.

[www.LoyolaMedicine.org/giving](http://www.LoyolaMedicine.org/giving)

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The editorial staff apologizes for an error that appeared in the Winter issue of *Vision*. The amount of the Mullins Food Products' pledges to the Robert C. Flanigan, MD, Endowed Professorship in Urology and the James Del and Ruth Shea Resident Research Endowment in Neurological Surgery was \$50,000 for each endowment.

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Ryan Family Shows Support for Loyola's Heart and Vascular Program

Paul Whelton, MD, MSc, Named New CEO of Loyola

Carroll Estate Provides Endowment to Stritch  
Alban Gift Supports Jewish Students

Huizenga Gift Creates New Position at Cancer Center  
Bircks Honor Cardinal With Gift to Cancer Center



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