

## Class Notes

70s ]



**William Shaffer** (M.D. 1976), became the new medical director of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) on December 2, 2013. He oversees the Office of Government Relations and the Department of Research and Scientific Affairs in Washington, D.C. An experienced spine surgeon with a passion for science and evidence-based medicine, Shaffer has served in leadership roles with the AAOS and other organizations such as the North American Spine Society.

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**Karl A. Poterack** (M.D. 1985), was among fewer than 450 physicians who passed the first Board Certification examination in Clinical Informatics, administered by the American Board of Preventive Medicine in October 2013. Poterack is an assistant professor in the anesthesiology department at Mayo Clinic Arizona, where he has practiced since 1997.

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**Brett Kissela**, M.D. (Residency 1999), began his appointment as the Albert Barnes Voorheis Chair of Neurology and Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Cincinnati on



**Andrew Pasternak** (M.D. 1993), was recognized as the Family Physician of the Year in Northern Nevada by the Nevada Academy of Family Physicians. In addition to being on staff at the Silver Sage Center for Family Medicine in Reno, Pasternak is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Nevada School of Medicine.



**Myles Spar** (M.D. 1993), was recently honored by the Bravewell Collaborative, a foundation dedicated to bringing about optimal health and healing for individuals and society. On November 7, he received a 2013 Leadership Award for his pioneering work in integrative healthcare. Spar directs the nation's first health, wellness and integrative medicine program offered at a free clinic just outside of Los Angeles.

**Joel L. Young**, M.D. (Medical Residency 1993), recently authored a book entitled *When Your Adult Child Breaks Your Heart*:

January 1, 2014. On the UC faculty since 2000, Kissela is a renowned stroke researcher.



*Coping with Mental Illness, Substance Abuse and Other Issues*, published by Globe Pequot. In 1999 Young founded the Rochester Center for Behavioral Medicine, a multidisciplinary research and treatment clinic with 30 professionals located in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

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**Jason Dykstra** (M.D. 2004), is a diagnostic radiologist from Western Michigan whose first book, *Healing Hereafter: Finding Rational and Refreshing Answers for Why We're Here and Where We're Headed*, was recently published by Samizdat Creative. Dykstra has chosen to live on the U.S. median income and will donate all proceeds from the book to charity.

### MEDICAL SCHOOL REUNION SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 1, 2014

Alumni from class years ending in 4 or 9, and those who graduated before 1964, are invited to attend Reunion 2014!

For more information, visit: [medicineatmichigan.org/reunion](http://medicineatmichigan.org/reunion) or contact us at [medevents@umich.edu](mailto:medevents@umich.edu) or 734-998-7970

## Alumni Profile ] Michael M.E. Johns Comes Home

IN THE YEARS SINCE HE GRADUATED FROM the University of Michigan Medical School, Michael M.E. Johns, M.D., has led departments, medical schools, a health center and served as chancellor of a major university. By any measure, his has been a successful career in academic leadership. That road now circles back home, as Johns (M.D. 1969, Residency 1975) becomes interim executive vice president for medical affairs for the U-M.

Johns began his role on June 2. He succeeds Ora Pescovitz, M.D., who led the Health System for five years, a time of growth across the organization. Hospitals — C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and Von Voigtlander Women's — opened and clinical reach extended further. Together, the clinics and hospitals received their highest ever patient satisfaction scores. And, looking to the future, UMHS launched its \$1 billion Victors for Michigan campaign.

Johns will fill the position on an interim basis, during a search for a long-term replacement. A Detroit native, he graduated with distinction from the Medical School, and completed his internship and residency at the U-M. After Michigan, Johns worked in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Army as assistant chief of the Otolaryngology Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center from 1975 to 1977. He then joined the Department of Otolaryngology and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Virginia Medical Center, where he rose to the rank of professor.

"The U-M has a great legacy of producing leaders," Johns says. "By the time you leave the program, you are prepared to ask questions, get more responsibility and lead."

In 1984, Johns became professor and chair of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He was dean of the School of Medicine and vice president of the medical faculty at Johns Hopkins from 1990 to 1996.

Johns led the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center at Emory University from 1996 to 2007 as executive vice president for health affairs. The center includes Emory Healthcare, the schools of Medicine, Nursing and Public Health, as well as the Yerkes Primate Center. From 2007 to 2012, he was Emory University's fifth chancellor.



Michael Johns

"As I transitioned more and more into administrative roles, I learned that no one — well, almost no one — comes to you and tells you everything is great," Johns says. "The best way to get people to embrace your solutions is to clearly identify ways to fix problems on a departmental level, while at the same time bringing benefit to the entire institution."

Elected to the Institute of Medicine in 1993, Johns has served with several other medical organizations and with the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the Advisory Council to the Congressional Taskforce on Biomedical Research and Innovation, and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences Board of Regents.

As he returns to the U-M, Johns is grateful for the opportunity — even as an interim leader — to lead the institution that prepared him for the challenges he faced throughout his career.

"I recognize that I am here for only a short time, but I know that I can have a positive impact by asking questions, seizing opportunities and helping to bring people together to create real and lasting solutions," Johns says. "I believe that the University of Michigan is one of the most important universities in the world. It set the path for my life and career in the most positive way, and I am eager to pitch in and give back to a place that has meant so much to me."

— Dan Thomas