The Samuel MerriTT University Community Culminates
its Centennial Year with A Magical Transformation

“A Magical Transformation” is the theme for the Samuel MerriTT University Centennial Gala on October 10, 2009 at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Oakland.

The Gala promises to be a memorable evening full of surprises featuring a sumptuous dinner and entertainment including strolling magicians who will amaze and astound. Featured will be the mind-boggling talents of Gregg Fox, presenting his “Magic of the Mind”. Do you believe in ESP? Do you think it is possible to read another person’s mind? Gregg Fox will demonstrate the practically unlimited potential of the human mind as he invites members of the audience to participate in mind-boggling demonstrations involving non-verbal communication, mathematical impossibilities, intuition and mind control. Gregg’s presentation will leave you with the feeling that you have experienced something unique and truly extraordinary!

Proceeds from the event may be directed to a specific program at SMU or the John A. Graziano Memorial Library Renovation project. All gifts to the Library will be matched by Sutter Health if we meet our goal of $500,000 by December 31, 2009. Tickets to A Magical Transformation are $200 each; sponsorship opportunities are available starting at $1,000. For more information, or to reserve your tickets, please call the Development and Alumni Affairs Department at SMU at 510.869.8628. Please join us to celebrate the last Centennial event of the year!

Gifts of Property: Opportunities and Benefits

Over the years, every sort of property has been given to charity. Tobacco, animals, crops, and rum were common gifts in the pioneer days of our country. Today, the most popular gifts are stocks, bonds, life insurance, and real estate, but the philanthropic spirit is the same. In this issue, we highlight ways to give real estate and some of the opportunities and benefits that result.

Gifts of real estate
In recent years, gifts of real estate to charitable institutions have become quite popular. When real estate is given to Samuel MerriTT University, capital gains taxes (if applicable) are completely avoided and the full fair market value of the property is deductible as a charitable contribution. (We are assuming that the real estate qualifies as a long-term appreciated property, that it has no mortgage debt against it, and that the donor is not in the business of buying and selling real estate.)

Example: Paul owns a 30-acre plot of unimproved land that he bought for $30,000 and that it’s now worth $400,000. If he sells that property, he could incur state and federal capital gains tax and selling costs that might consume up to 25 percent of his potential profit.

A gift of the property to a qualified charitable institution will avoid the capital gains tax and selling costs. Moreover, the $400,000 charitable deduction will produce an income tax savings of $140,000 in Paul’s 35 percent tax bracket. (A portion of Paul’s large deduction might not be deductible in the current year but would carry over for up to five years.)

Continued on page 3...
SMU STUDENTS FIND ECONOMICAL WAYS TO GET TO CLASS IN OAKLAND
By Elizabeth Valente, Associate Director of Publications & Media Relations

Baron was doing her preceptorship at Alameda County Medical Center when the first call came in about an Oakland officer being brought in due to gun shot wounds. “When they called the code I went down to the emergency room and you can feel everyone felt the pain and the tragedy of the situation,” recalls Baron. “The ER was full of police officers, nurses, and doctors. Everyone was crying.”

So it was no surprise to Baron to find out on the day of her Pinning Ceremony, April 12, (in the presence of faculty, staff, family and friends) that the BSN class of 2009 decided to donate the class fund to the surviving family members of the officers who died that day and forgo having a party celebrating their graduation success.

“When the announcement was made that more than $1,100 would go in honor of the officers, everyone clapped, crying and smiling,” says Baron. “I think everyone was in support of this decision because these men died protecting the community where we all go to school, shop, and where several of us live. We wanted to give back to show our appreciation for their courage and protection.”

Nursing graduate Michael Davidson, who proposed the idea to his BSN class, agrees. As a former firefighter/EMT in South Central Los Angeles, he understands and values the role police officers perform on a daily basis.

“Like nursing, law enforcement is a helping profession, and police officers are partnered with us to ensure public safety and health,” says Davidson. “Every day police officers contribute to the health of our communities by reporting cases of abuse, responding to mental health emergencies, combating violent crimes, providing scene safety for EMT’s and paramedics in the field, and ensuring the security of many hospital emergency departments.”

Davidson and Baron, along with BSN graduate Ashley Brewster, presented the class check to Oakland Police Officer’s Association (OPAO) President and Oakland Police Sargent, Dominque Arotzarena on May 19 at the Oakland Police Department on Fifth Street. The money will be divided evenly between trust funds for the families of slain Oakland Police Sergeants Dunakin, Romans, and Sakai. All together they left behind two widows and ten children.

“We are truly honored and grateful for this generous donation,” says Sgt. Arotzarena. “We work closely with nurses everyday and to see these future nurses giving up their time and money to give to the officer’s families is admirable. We know how demanding their schedules must be along with debts from their studies, so we really appreciate this generous gift.”

Margaret Early, PhD, RN, Chair, BSN Associate Professor, also attended the OPOA meeting and told the officers that the $7,500 BSN students generous donation is consistent with the University’s mission to educate students to become highly skilled and compassionate healthcare professionals and that their behavior is consistent with what the faculty tries to teach them about nursing.

“We do talk about the fact that nurses do work with a lot of different disciplines and have a strong collaboration with public safety,” says Dr. Early. “There is a very close relationship between the police and staff in the trauma department. The students rely and have contact with police all the time.”

“When working at Highland Hospital’s emergency room, Baron says Oakland police have a great presence there and it is always comforting. “Officers are there with me in situations where I do not feel safe, for example drawing blood from an incarcerated patient. They are an integrated part of health care.”

To donate directly to the slain officers’ families or other designated charities, go to www.opoa.org/trustfunds.htm.
Celebration of Dr. Samuel Merritt’s Birthday

On March 30, 2009, over 100 Samuel Merritt University students, regents, faculty, staff, and administration gathered in the Bechtel Room of the Health Education Center to celebrate the birthday of the University’s namesake, Dr. Samuel Merritt. Dr. Merritt, a former Oakland mayor, was once hailed by the Oakland Tribune as “the man most prominent in the establishment and building of the City of Oakland.” Born in 1822 in Harpswell, Maine, Dr. Merritt joined the great migration of 1849 to California where he made his fortune as a businessman. In his will, he left $2 million to fund Samuel Merritt Hospital, and a nursing school which has evolved into what is now known as Samuel Merritt University.

The festivities began with a special appearance by “Dr. Samuel Merritt” played by Dr. Craig Elliott, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services, who was presented with a Samuel Merritt University white coat in honor of his birthday. Following a funny, yet educational University trivia contest led by “Dr. Merritt” and event emcee, John Garten-Shuman, Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services, attendees were given the opportunity to view some of the University’s collection of antique medical instruments and other historical memorabilia while enjoying some birthday cake, ice cream, and camaraderie.

“We have grown into a highly accomplished, nationally acclaimed university, graduating practitioners who become part of cutting-edge primary care teams,” says event co-chair, Kathie McWilliams. “We can only imagine the pride and gratification that Dr. Merritt would feel around these extraordinary accomplishments.”

The event was coordinated by a committee of 22 University faculty and staff members who spent months preparing for the celebration: Kenneth Boston, Gena Caya, Nandini Dasgupta, Dawn Eaglin, John Garten-Shuman, Peggy Griffith, Tanya Grigg, Pam Harrison, Kathrynne Henderson, Mary Heang, Kristi Kindberg, LaTorri Johnson, Elaine Lemay, Lily Marquez, Gladys Paragas, Margrette Peterson, Mary Robinson, Anne Scher, Jan Stamos, Irma Walker-Adamé, and Kimya Williams and co-chairs, Karrie Henry-Cherry and Kathie McWilliams.

Gift of fractional interest in vacation homes

Our federal tax laws permit a charitable deduction from gifts of fractional interests in real estate. This type of gift can be especially rewarding if you own a vacation home that you use only part of the year.

Example: Mary and Jim own a vacation home that they use for only a few months of the year. They can gift a 50 percent interest in the property, gain a tax deduction, and still have a right to use and occupy the property for six months every year.

Gift of a remainder interest in a residence

A provision of the tax law allows an immediate income tax charitable deduction for an outright gift of a remainder interest in your home. You may retain an absolute right to occupy the home for your life (or you can give family members a right of lifetime occupancy). The property passes to us only after those lifetimes.

The immediate charitable deduction allowable for this future gift is the present value of our right to receive the property at some later date. The age of the life tenants is the primary factor in determining the present value of our deferred interest and the resulting allowable charitable deduction.

We will be pleased to provide an approximate charitable deduction and to discuss with you the other financial factors involved in this form of a gift.

For more information on gifts of real estate or to learn more about making a planned gift, please call Sue Sylvester at 510.869.1507.

2009 DR. MILTON WOLFSON MEMORIAL SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR NAMED

By Dr. John Venson, Dean and Professor, California School of Podiatric Medicine

In the field of medical education, it is rare to find a physician who feels such passion for education. Paul Scherer is one of those rare finds. He has a long track record of educational excellence. He is innovative and eager to be on the cutting edge of progress. During the majority of his professional life, he has maintained a presence in the educational world. Whether speaking about a biomechanical deformity or a new method of testing, he continues to expect excellence from himself, his peers, and his students. He has and will continue to be a strong force in podiatric education. Paul’s casual, easygoing attitude is always mixed with a genuine enthusiasm for learning. His dedication to the exploration of learning is a shining example for all of us.

CONGRATULATIONS DR. SCHERER! 🎉
Corneilius L. Hopper, MD, Chair

Dr. Hopper has served on the Samuel Merritt University Board of Regents since 1998, and as chair of the Board since 2001. He is the Emeritus System-wide Vice President for Health Affairs for the University of California, Office of the President. For 20 years, he was the senior administrative officer for the nation’s largest university health sciences system, encompassing 14 health professions schools on six campuses and their related medical centers, with an aggregate enrollment of over 13,000 students and a budget of over $3 billion. Additional current board service includes Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, Sutter Health East Bay Hospital and Medical Foundation Board, and Meharry Medical College in Nashville Tennessee. He has served on numerous national, regional, and state advisory committees and councils. A graduate of Ohio University and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Dr. Hopper, a neurologist, is married to Barbara Johnson Hopper, a Prudential real estate agent. Their three children include a deputy city attorney for San Jose, California, a community college counselor, and an executive producer of a nationally syndicated television program.

Marilyn M. Snider, MSN, Vice Chair

Marilyn Snider, MSN, has been a member of the Samuel Merritt University Board of Regents since 1996. She has a master’s degree in Psychiatric Nursing from the University of Washington, Seattle. She taught medical, surgical, and psychiatric nursing at San Francisco State University. She also taught in the UCSF Masters in Medical/Surgical Nursing Program regarding ‘Meeting the Psychology Needs of Patients.’ She graduated from the Coro Foundation’s Public Affairs Training Program for Women in San Francisco. In January 1986, she began her current business, Snider and Associates, which provides facilitation for corporations, governmental agencies, educational institutions, and community organizations. She specializes in facilitating strategic planning, team building, conflict resolution, and community consensus. In addition to serving on community boards, Marilyn was appointed by the Governor of California to the California Library Services Board where she served as president for three years. Marilyn is married, has two daughters, a son-in-law and a six-year-old grandson, Zack.

Mary Gallagher Brown

Mary Brown has served on the Samuel Merritt University Board of Regents since 1996. She is a former chair of the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Board of Trustees and currently serves as a director for Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, Holy Names University, and Sutter Health. Mary is the former owner and publisher of Hills Newspapers, Inc. For more than 20 years, she and her husband, Chip, owned and operated newspapers and magazines throughout the greater Bay Area, Monterey Peninsula, and South San Joaquin Valley. She attended Maryville College of the Sacred Heart in St. Louis and San Francisco College for Women. She lives in Oakland with her husband, Warren “Chip” Brown. Together they have three grown children and six grandchildren.

Sharon C. Diaz, PhD (HC), (Ex-Officio)

Sharon Diaz started her career with Samuel Merritt as an instructor in 1976 after having been a faculty member at San Jose State University and Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing and a staff nurse both for the San Mateo County Health Department and Kaiser Foundation Hospital. She has led the University through transition from a hospital school of nursing to a fully accredited, nationally recognized health sciences university. Dr. Diaz received her bachelor's degree in nursing from San Jose State University, a master of science in nursing from the University of California, San Francisco, and an honorary doctoral degree in philosophy and educational leadership from Saint Mary’s College of California. She has served on a variety of non-profit boards including George Mark Children’s House, Ethnic Health Institute, Ladies’ Home Society, and Head-Royce School. Sharon is married to Dr. Luis Diaz, and has two grown sons, Daniel and David.

Thomas G. Drese

Tom Drese joined the Samuel Merritt University Board of Regents in 2001. He has served as chairman of the Board of Directors for the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Board, chair of the Alta Bates Summit Foundation, and vice chair of the Sutter VNA and Hospice Foundation. He was recently selected to serve as a member of the new Sutter Health East Bay Hospital and Medical Foundation Board and represents that board on the Sutter Finance and Planning Committee. Tom was employed for 30 years at the San Francisco advertising agency, McCann Erickson, working on such accounts as the National Dairy Board, Chevron, PG&E, and Coca Cola. His favorite quote is “Good judgment comes from experience and experience comes from bad judgment.” Born in St. Louis, Missouri, he attended the University of Missouri, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in history and a master’s degree in journalism. Tom has two children and two grandchildren.

David Foulkes, CPA

David Foulkes retired in January 2006 as a shareholder in RINA Accountancy Corporation after 43 years of public accounting practice. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Economics and Business Administration at St. Mary’s College and a Master of Business Administration (Tax) from Golden Gate University. He was a licensed CPA and held a Community College Instructor Credential. In addition to state and national CPA organizations, David serves as a member of the Oakland Rotary Club, the Free Arbitration Panel of the Alameda County Bar Association and is currently chair of the Finance Board of Regent’s Spotlight

In large part, Samuel Merritt University owes its success to the ongoing efforts of its dedicated Board of Regents. Here’s a brief introduction to our distinguished Regents.

You Did What in Bechtel Hall????!!!

Do you have a great story about a time you had in Bechtel Hall? Did you meet your future partner or spouse at a party or social held in Bechtel Hall? Were you caught throwing water balloons off the roof after a final? How many all-nighters did you pull in the Living Room? Were you able to “meet” the Bechtel Hall ghost? We want to hear your special stories (and your not-so-special ones) as we celebrate the closing of Bechtel Hall. For almost 45 years, Bechtel Hall had been the home to many students, as well as the workplace for faculty, staff, and administration.

Please share your stories with us, and we will print the best of them in an upcoming issue of The Reporter. And if your story is quite juicy, you may submit it anonymously. Please send your stories To Whom it May Concern: Craig Elliott at cellott@samuelmerritt.edu, and indicate your name, your program of study, the year you graduated, the year(s) you lived in Bechtel Hall (if applicable), and whether you wish your submission to remain anonymous.
This text presents the pathomechanics and evaluation of the most common lesser forefoot pathologies in a problem-specific manner which can not be found in any currently published textbook. It also presents in a “cookbook” format the indications and contraindications for the common surgical procedures utilized to correct lesser forefoot pathology along with a detailed description of the surgical techniques. Each chapter involving surgical procedures also discusses the recommended postoperative management and the inherent complications associated with the procedure.

“We believe that a textbook of this type is long overdue, and we sincerely hope that podiatric medical students, residents, and members of our profession find it both educational and practical,” states Jenkin.
From the Ranks

California College of Podiatric Medicine

GRADUATES

1939 Karen Ormond writes, “I am writing to inform you that Dr. Charles S. Ormond, a member of the 1939 California College of Podiatric Medicine, passed away at the age of 98 on March 21, 2009. Charles was an active member of the podiatric community in Oakland for approximately 50 years. Upon his retirement, at which time he sold his practice to Dr. Michael Diliacomo, he continued to assist in surgery. He and his wife moved to the Sierra foothills in the mid 1990s. Charles was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Elizabeth M. Ormond. He is survived by his sons, William, of Cool, California and Robert, of Angels Camp, California, five grandchildren, four great grandchildren and a great great granddaughter.”

1979 See note regarding Dr. Martha Unger under 1978! 1986 Dr. Andrew Schink writes, “Dr. Gilbert Shapiro has a degree in herpetology and now raises rattlesnakes and sells the venom.” Dr. Alan Rothstein and his wife, Dr. Martha Unger ’79 won the Oregon State square dancing contest in 2009.

1978 Dr. Andrew Schink writes, “Dr. Gilbert Shapiro has a degree in herpetology and now raises rattlesnakes and sells the venom.” Dr. Alan Rothstein and his wife, Dr. Martha Unger ’79 won the Oregon State square dancing contest in 2009.

1994 On March 6, 2009, Dr. Glenn M. Weintraub, was officially named as the secretary-treasurer of the 4,000-member American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons. Dr. Weintraub practices with Kaiser Permanente, Department of Orthopedic Surgery in Hayward, California and Fremont, California with a focus on reconstructive surgery and trauma of the foot and ankle. Congratulations Dr. Weintraub!

From the Ranks

Samuel Merritt University

GRADUATES

1952 Sister Shirley M. Smith writes, “I am writing to notify you of the death of one of my classmates, Marian ‘Jackie’ Hendriksen Carroll, who was born July 27, 1931, and died on March 18, 2009.”

1957 Geraldine Walls Evans writes, “After 52 plus years, I finally retired from nursing this past December. I am now a volunteer for the I abach Literacy Council and work as an English as a Second Language tutor. I am working with Iraqi immigrants who speak no English but are eager students—what an interesting role I have begun. Very rewarding!”

1958 Carol Coleman Wilson writes, “I am still facilitating parenting classes on a volunteer basis with my husband—for over thirty years now!”

1959 Darci Rector and Rose Eden Hooks write, “The January Class of 1959 held their first reunion in 49 years at the home of Diane Hollinger Morrison at Lake Tahoe on February 10th and 2nd. Out of the original ten members of this class, six were able to attend, Rose Edens Hooks, Kay Silver, Raenell Kirkes Muzio, Marjorie Bechuch Gross, and Darci Rector, in addition to our hostess, Donna Harrington Minnoli, was unable to attend at this time. We were unable to find Gertrude “Betty” Walker Johnson, even though we had an address and phone number. Two of our members have passed away, Jan Luck O’Sullivan and Toni Christensen Hawkins. Rose Edens Hooks and her husband, Bill, came from Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Darci Rector and her husband, Gene, came from Bonanza, Oregon. Raenell Kirkes Muzio came from her home in Turlock, California, and Kay Silver from Citrus Heights, California. It was a fun time all around talking about our nursing careers, places we have lived, and families. We were afraid we might not recognize each other but that wasn’t a problem. Even the husbands stayed around to listen to our tales. Diane and Jim Morrison outdid themselves to make us comfortable and cooked some great meals. We have been invited to San Antonio, Texas for the next get-together.”

1962 Betty Jane Anderson Preuss writes, “I have been retired for five years now and am truly enjoying gardening, scrap booking, traveling, and spending time with my husband, Bill.” Constance Hays von Berges writes, “My husband of 66 years, Richard, and I love to travel. We just returned from Ireland looking up ancestors and enjoying the gorgeous countryside. Next, is a cruise on Holland America: Venice, Croatia, Greece, and Turkey. Also travel in our fifth wheel trailer — have been all the way down to Baja, just joined a research program on genes, environment, and health through Kaiser—400,000 participants!”

1964 Misaya Kay Imoto Hoover writes, “I’ve been enjoying retirement but really miss working at Queen’s outpatient area. I help my eldest daughter with her bathing suit business Honey Girl Water Wear, occasionally baby-sit my granddaughter, and occasionally volunteer at Honolulu Theater for Youth. We’re still on our boat—with 35 years!”

1967 Effie Wong writes, “My husband, Arnold, and I are relocating to Singapore. He has accepted a position as Senior Pastor of the English Congregation at Grace Baptist Church. We also welcomed our first granddaughter, Faith Leung, after eight grandsons.”

1975 Alison Smith Holman writes, “My husband and I retired two years ago and moved to central Oregon. I still keep in touch with my room (and John) mates Janice, Danielle, and Patty. My two sons have given me four lovely grandchildren.”

1976 Laura Madrid Hoban writes, “I am so thankful for my education at SMU! I have always worked since graduation. I worked part time while our daughters were growing up. Now I am full time in an emergency department. I love nursing!”

Althea Solano writes, “I regret to inform you that my friend and your former classmate, Kathy Regina Huebner passed away on December 10, 2008 after a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. She was employed at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center and is survived by her cats Chat and Split.”

1983 Anne Ellison Seaman writes, “I am proud to be a SMU grad twice now! My career as an RN and NP has been very rewarding and I know I got a great foundation from SMU. Hats Off to SMU!”

1984 Marcie Hunkins-Flores writes, “I am still working at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, California. I manage the Access Unit and a National Services Program. My children are 13 and 14 years old now. I would love to hear from my classmates.”

1985 Kathie Whalen West writes, “After graduating from Samuel Merritt I went to work at John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek on an ortho/trauma floor. I stayed there for 12 years and left in 2001. I am now working as an esthetician, running my own skin care studio. I’ve been married for 24 years this August and have a 19 year old daughter at UCLA and a 16 year old son at De La Salle High School. I have lived in Concord for the past 15 years.”

in memoriam...

Irene Lagomarsino Stout ’30
Dr. Charles S. Ormond ’39
Lorene Behrend Stoye ’44
Barbara Jackson Langer ’49
Marian “Jackie” Hendriksen Carroll P’52
Donna Stannard Miner ’52
Amalia Gutierrez D’Acanguejo ’54
Nadine Zens Bednorz P’56
Donna McElwain Welte P’56
Gail Reinhardt ’57
Kathy Huebner ’76

providence

College of Nursing

GRADUATES

1936 Marie Katri Stone writes, “I walk each day with my special “Chihuahua” dog Sunny. I will be celebrating my 95th birthday on September 7th, 2009 (Labor Day). I enjoy keeping up with Samuel Merritt University news.”

1944 Mary Jane Johnson Little writes, “Lorene Behrend Stoye passed away on February 10, 2009. The class of 1944 is slowly departing to a better place. Lorene and I started school together at the rite old age of four or five. We went to junior high school together, different high schools, then connected at Samuel Merritt. Daryle Kendall Matranga, Patricia Goodman Borsul, Carol Olson Falgout and I have kept in touch. How about news from any other classmates?”

1945 Gloria Garrison Ohlson writes, “I am actively volunteering in the church senior program taking blood pressures. I am proud of my nursing background since my husband of 65 years is now an invalid and home bound!”

1949 Gloria Giorgi Galeotti writes, “There are 12 of us left now after losing Barbara Jackson Langner in December 2006. Seventeen of us graduated, so things aren’t too bad being we are all in our eighties. Several classmates drove to Oregon for Barbara’s services, and the priest gave a blessing for the class of 1949. Barbara was very active at her church.”

1953 Barbara White Wardrip, writes, “I retired. I quit my job and has a

Cesnna at Reid Hill View Airport and we are still flying. Happy and very healthy. Wish the government would leave my money alone!”

continue on page 7...

The Reporter

SUMMER 2009

5
The clinic will also gain from the increase in absolute sustained good health 2000

Northern California’s Tenth Rota Care Clinic

SMU GRADUATE OPENS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA’S TENTH ROTA CARE CLINIC

This summer Desirée Allyn, a 2008 Samuel Merritt University Entry-level Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program graduate, will open Northern California’s tenth Rota Care Clinic (RCC) in the Monument Condom in Concord. The RCC is a Rotary-based healthcare clinic which addresses health-related needs of underserved communities and provides relief to overburdened emergency departments and urgent health care clinics.

“The clinic will also gain from the increase in absolute sustained good health in this population as a result of receiving timely health preventative and promotional care,” says Allyn, a former SMU Laboratory Manager for the anatomy labs. “My clinic’s premise is underpinned by Health People 2010’s goals, which are to increase the quality and years of healthy life and to eliminate health disparities.”

RCC’s are run by volunteers made up of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists in addition to a registrar, and translator/registration clerks. Each clinic has its own Administrative Council. That council oversees the day-to-day operation of the clinic and consists of: a chairperson, board representative, site administrator, medical coordinator, volunteer coordinator, fundraising coordinator, multiple members for social service agencies, and many interested community members.

“The focus on health prevention and health promotion at this clinic will provide continuum healthcare rather than simply addressing acute care. Short-term goals of the clinic will be patient education on health promotion topics such as smoking, alcohol, substance abuse education or cessation, responsible sexual behavior, and birth control,” says Allyn. “Our long-term goals are to provide primary care for physical and mental health, and immunizations.”

Rota Care Free Clinics have been in existence since 1989, when the first homeless patient was treated in Santa Clara, California. Since then Rota Care has expanded to include clinics around the San Francisco Bay Area, Seattle, Washington, and New York. Rota Care is a nonprofit corporation with a coalition of over 1,500 Rotarians, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, interpreters and other volunteers who provide free medical care to the medically underserved in a collaborative effort with hospitals, clinics, community and social service organizations and service groups.

To learn more about Rota Care or for more information on their clinics please visit their website at www.rotacare.org.

THE SAMMY’S CIRCLE FACEBOOK application is now available! Starting today, you can receive Samuel Merritt University exclusive announcements, and browse career and networking opportunities without ever leaving Facebook.

WHAT IS SAMMY’S CIRCLE?
Sammy’s Circle is Samuel Merritt University’s online social network. It allows Samuel Merritt University alumni and students to connect/reconnect with other SMU alumni and students, research career opportunities not available anywhere else on the web, share information, or seek advice by messaging your network, join official chapters, regional, and specialty groups, and obtain information on upcoming alumni and student events. It also is a powerful network of ideas, member-blogs, photos, and more!

Not a member of Sammy’s Circle? Registering is easy and it’s free! What are you waiting for? To register or for more information go to www.samuelmerritt.affinitycircles.com. Need assistance, call the Office of Alumni Affairs at 510.869.6618 or email cross@samuelmerritt.edu.

Already a member of Facebook and ready to add the application? Here’s what to do:
1. Have your Sammy’s Circle login information ready
2. Login to Sammy’s Circle
3. Log into Facebook (if necessary)
4. Click “Allow” to add the application
5. Enter your Sammy’s Circle login email and password and click “Login”
6. Enjoy!

If you are not already on Facebook, you’ll need to create an account before you can add the application. You can do that by visiting www.facebook.com. See you online!

THE SUMMER HITS OFF TO SMU!!

1997
Anne Ellison Seaman writes, “I am proud to be a SMU grad times two! My career as an RN and NP has been very rewarding and I know I got a great foundation from SMU. Hats Off to SMU!”

2000
Michelle (Mimi) Clark Cammack writes, “I work in the operating room, specializing in orthopedics and spine. I married my college sweetheart who I met at Saint Mary’s College. We have a son, Anthony, who turned two in April.”

Lisa DeSanto Wempe writes, “After two years in the NICU at UCSF after finishing the MSN, I have lived in Boston since 2000. I’ve worked at the VNA of Boston with the maternal child team working with high-risk infants and complicated antepartum and postpartum mothers. I’ve also taught Community Health Nursing at Boston College for four years. My family is returning to the Bay Area in the summer of 2009. I hope to find a similar career path there.”

2002
Alejandrino “Jon” Lola, II writes, “I was working as a clinical nurse educator for the last three years at Castle Medical Center in Kahului, Hawaii on the island of Gauh. I recently accepted a position (January 2009) to teach full time at Hawaii Pacific University School of Nursing. I finished my first semester teaching critical care clinical and med/surg clinicals at two area hospitals. This new appointment as Assistant Professor allows me to pursue my goal of enroling and achieving a doctoral degree in nursing practice.”

I will continue to teach clinicals in the summer and fall of this year. I will enroll in a doctoral program sometime soon after making a decision of which school to attend. My biggest reward in nursing is giving back to my students by sharing my experience as an ICU nurse and watching their critical thinking develop.”

2003
Marilou Ecat Sibbaluca writes, “I am currently working in the post-open heart unit at Summit Medical Center. One of the best in this nation for open heart... Very happy to be a part of the team!”

2008
In addition to graduating from Samuel Merritt University’s Entry-level Master of Science Family Nurse Practitioner program in 2008, Desirée Allyn, was invited for inclusion in the Cambridge Who’s Who Among Executive and Professional Women in Nursing and Healthcare Honors Edition in 2008, and was accepted into the University of California, Los Angeles’ RNFA (Registered Nurse First Assistant) Program, and was one of ten Albert Schweitzer Finalists.

PHYSICAL THERAPY
1996
Ann Frost writes, “Aloha! Marty Jewell, Patti Evans and other illustrious Who’s Who Among Executive and Professional Women in Nursing and Healthcare Honors Edition in 2008, and was accepted into the University of California, Los Angeles’ RNFA (Registered Nurse First Assistant) Program, and was one of ten Albert Schweitzer Finalists.

2001
Jill Johnson writes, “I am currently focusing on women’s health and lymphedema treatment — using Pilates-based exercise interventions to address dysfunction.”

2002
Deanne Smith writes, “I am working part time at Advance Physical Therapy, Inc. in San Carlos — a small outpatient practice. I received COMT (Certification in Orthopedic Manual Therapist) last year. My preparation at SMU was the best!”

SMU GRADUATE OPENS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA’S TENTH ROTA CARE CLINIC

This summer Desirée Allyn, a 2008 Samuel Merritt University Entry-level Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program graduate, will open Northern California’s tenth Rota Care Clinic (RCC) in the Monument Condom in Concord. The RCC is a Rotary-based healthcare clinic which addresses health-related needs of underserved communities and provides relief to overburdened emergency departments and urgent health care clinics.

“...continued from page 6 ...
Giving back to the community is one reason why Kene Ofili decided to enroll in the Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) program. Other considerations also led Ofili to choose Samuel Merritt University (SMU) over other prominent health sciences schools across the country. "I chose to come to the University because of the location, the early clinical rotation, the faculty, and the community involvement," said the second-year podiatric student.

Ofili and 20 of his classmates attended the African American Health Summit 2009 and health expo, where they performed more than 40 free foot and ankle examinations. The event, at the Oakland Marriott Convention Center in February, was organized by the Bay Area Black United Fund, Inc. (BABUF), a nonprofit organization that addresses health issues and disparities among African Americans and other communities of color.

The team was led by Dr. Eric Stamps (DPM), associate dean for clinical affairs and assistant professor for the Department of Medicine, California School of Podiatric Medicine.

For many of the DPM students, the health and wellness expo was their first clinical volunteer experience. Since they are not yet licensed podiatrists, they must be supervised by a licensed podiatric physician when examining and treating patients. Though the students did not provide treatment at the expo, they did examine attendees with diabetes mellitus and, under supervision, formulate foot risk assessments and treatment recommendations.

Student Cindy Peng said the experience was both humbling and educational.

"We always identified ourselves as podiatry students and everyone was receptive to what we said and happy we were there volunteering."

For Ofili, it was an opportunity to brush up on his communication and teaching skills.

"I learned that the patient can really tell you a lot about their own disease or ailment. We have learned in class that it is important to listen to the patients and this was an opportunity to put that into practice."

In addition to helping the Oakland community, Dr. Stamps says it was an opportunity for him to evaluate how much his students know and a way to interact with them in a clinical setting.

"I find it rewarding to allow the students to work independently, and then provide feedback on their clinical performance. This will leave a strong, lasting impression of how they can get involved in the community and gain hands-on experience with patients," he says.

"The free health-screening services were a huge draw for the community," said Bev Wilmore, spokesperson for the BABUF. "It was wonderful to have had the opportunity to offer a forum for the students of Samuel Merritt University to receive exposure in the field of their interest while giving of their time and knowledge for the day."

According to the American Podiatric Medical Association, research shows that on average people spend four hours on their feet and take up to 10,000 steps daily with about 75 percent of Americans experiencing foot pain at some point in their lives.