



University of Michigan
Trauma Burn Center

University of Michigan Burn Center 50th Anniversary Celebration 1959 • 2009

Thursday, October 8, 2009
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Towsley Center



MARY SUE COLEMAN
PRESIDENT



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October 8, 2009

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I am thrilled to welcome you to this celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Burn Center at the University of Michigan. Due to a prior commitment I am unable to attend, but I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for all you have done and continue to do toward our mission of providing the finest care for our patients and their families.

As one of the nation's first dedicated burn units, we are a pioneer in medical research, education, and treatment for the most severely injured patients. It is our innovative, multidisciplinary care and services—from admission through rehabilitation—that ensures the University's leadership in burn care and injury prevention. I applaud your dedication, work, and compassionate support for those who turn to us for help.

To the Burn Center team, staff, donors, and our growing network of partners, I offer my congratulations, as we expand and enhance the future of burn care at the UM.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mary Sue Coleman'.

Mary Sue Coleman
President



U-M Burn Center 50th Anniversary Celebration

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Welcome and Opening Remarks

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean, U-M Medical School

Michael W. Mulholland, M.D., Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Surgery

Lena M. Napolitano, M.D.
Division Chief, Acute Care Surgery

Stewart C. Wang, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Burn Center

Multimedia Presentation

50 Years of Caring

The U-M Trauma Burn Center

Remarks

Revolutionizing Burn Care

Irving Feller, M.D.
Professor Emeritus of Surgery

The Burn Team

Stewart C. Wang, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Burn Center

Remarks *(continued)*

Advancing Burn Care Through Outreach and Partnerships

Jim Graham
*Community Relations Manager,
Ford Motor Company Fund and
Community Services*

Reflections on a Nigerian Disaster

Richard Stewart, M.D.
*Corporate Medical Director of S.C.
Johnson and Son Co., USA; retired*

Philosophy of Equal Access to Healthcare

Kevin McCabe, MD
*Director of Corporate Medical Affairs,
SC Johnson, Inc.*

The Next 50 Years

Stewart C. Wang, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Burn Center

Reception, Exhibit Viewing, and Burn Center Tours



Pioneers and Leaders

The University of Michigan Burn Center has an amazing history of contributions to the people of Michigan, and in fact, the world. Today we celebrate its 50th Anniversary with great joy.

In the 1950s, there was no specialized program or lead physician for managing burn injuries. Burn patients were scattered throughout the U-M hospital. If a patient survived, there was no formal aftercare follow-up. The brutal reality was that most patients with burns greater than 25 percent total body surface area did not live. In the summer of 1957, two children died from burns involving only a small area of their bodies. This case inspired a third-year U-M surgical resident, Irving Feller, M.D. to begin an inquiry into improving the care of burn patients. Through investigation he discovered that severe burn injuries could produce life-threatening complications, including systemic infections and organ systems failure. These accounted for most in-hospital deaths of burn victims. Dr. Feller also determined that a formalized protocol for the treatment of burn injuries and a dedicated “burn team” could drastically improve patient outcomes.

4

In 1959, therefore, the University of Michigan Burn Center was founded by Dr. Irving Feller, under the leadership of Dr. Frederick A. Collier and with the help of Dr. Marion S. DeWeese, Dr. George H. Koepke, Dr. George H. Lowrey, and Dr. Reed O. Dingman. It was one of the first dedicated burn units in the United States and the first of its kind in Michigan.

Tremendous strides have been made since Dr. Feller first demonstrated that an organized, systematic multidisciplinary approach to burn patient care could save lives. The burn team was expanded to include not only doctors, but a dedicated nursing staff, social work, PT, OT, plastic surgery, physiatrist, pediatrician, dietician, microbiologist, respiratory therapist, pharmacist, injury prevention, psychiatrist, and infection control.



This team recognized that collecting patient data for trend analysis was essential in identifying new methods of treatment. Therefore, patient flowsheet charts and burn forms were implemented to support earlier detection of changes in a patient's condition. Seeking expanded knowledge from around the country, the U-M team began gathering experts from other burn facilities to review patient cases and share research findings. Hence, the National Burn Seminars and National Burn Information Exchange (NBIE) database were created. These landmark innovations grew into the modern American Burn Association, National Burn Repository, and NTRACS Burn Registry database. Knowing that the best treatment for burn injuries is prevention, the U-M Burn Center also promoted education and intervention in the community. As a result, a vast number of educational and training publications, films and materials were produced. All of these revolutionary burn care "firsts" were achieved by the amazing group of people at the U-M Burn Center.

As the burn program continued to grow and expand, the need for a specialized facility arose. In 1986, a new Burn Center (our current unit) was established and dedicated. It was designed based on research findings and the Burn Center's 27-year experience in the care of burn patients. In 1991, the trauma patient population was added and the center was renamed the University of Michigan Trauma Burn Center.

5

As we reflect over the past 50 years, we see that the U-M Burn Center was established around a core of remarkably gifted individuals. Their legacy endures through continual recruitment of other dedicated, talented people to the team. Our center thrives as we carry on the tradition of making pioneering strides in burn care treatment, research, education, injury prevention, and rehabilitation.



University of Michigan Burn Center—Our Future

Dr. Stewart Wang *Director, Burn Center*

From its inception, the U-M Burn Center has established a rich tradition of exceptional patient care, multidisciplinary collaboration, injury prevention, community outreach and research. We have also transformed from a local burn unit to an internationally recognized leader in burn care and research, through the generous philanthropic support of donors including the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the SC Johnson Fund, the Ford Motor Company Fund, FRIENDS of UMHS, the Jaycees, dedicated fire departments across the state, and numerous individuals and organizations that have supported our mission.

In reflecting on the key elements of our tradition that have helped make the institution so effective in the past, I am struck by how relevant they are for the challenges of the future. Recruit great people, then challenge them and empower them to do their very best for burn patients and their families.

Using new insights from clinical as well as basic science research, our entire multidisciplinary team continually works to expand our efforts to improve the efficacy, safety, cost and long-term outcome of our care for the burn-injured patient. The Burn Center has been remarkably successful in nurturing a culture of innovation through the diversity and breadth of its clinical, research and educational contributions. It has also been noteworthy in its social commitment, which, from its inception, has been not only to improve burn care but also to reduce the need for burn care through injury prevention.



As we move into the next fifty years, we look forward to expanding our collaborations utilizing the new capabilities afforded to us through the Internet. We will enhance our partnership with firefighters to increase injury prevention education efforts throughout our communities in Michigan and beyond. We will work closely with schools and communities to facilitate the full re-integration of our burn survivors back into society. While we strive to reduce burn injuries, we will join forces with government agencies and other medical centers to improve our region's preparedness to face burn mass casualty disasters.

It is an exciting time to be affiliated with the Burn Center and I am convinced that our center's noble historic traditions and talented team, combined with its growing network of partners and supporters, will combine to make it one of the most powerful forces to advance burn care in the 21st century.

Partners in Our Success

We wish to extend our sincerest gratitude to all who have generously provided assistance and support for the University of Michigan Burn Center. We are moved each day by the commitment that these unsung heroes have shown. Our corporate supporters, civic groups, patients, families and friends, and the firefighting community have been vital partners in making our success possible. Their dedication has been invaluable in enabling us to provide the care that our patients and their families need to return to their lives. It has also been a driving force behind innovative injury prevention and outreach efforts that we have delivered to mitigate burn injuries. The U-M Trauma Burn Center is indeed a team—within the hospital, in the greater community, and across the globe—that has made a difference in countless lives. Thank you!

The Multidisciplinary Burn Team

The heart and soul of a great institution are its people. Over our 50-year history, there have been a multitude of individuals who have contributed to the excellence of our center. The Burn Team consists of the following multidisciplinary roles. While the individuals filling these roles have changed, what remains constant is a team of experts who embody a shared passion and dedication to the care of burn patients.

Administrative Staff
Burn Research Investigators
Burn Surgeons
Chaplains
Clerical Staff
Emergency Room House Staff
Fellows
Housekeeping
Infection Control Specialists
Injury Prevention
Intensivists
Laboratory Personnel
Medical Assistants
Nurses
 Staff ICU/Acute Care
 Case Managers
 Outpatient Clinic
 Rehabilitation

Nurse Managers
Nutritionists
Occupational Therapists
Operating Room Personnel
Patient Care Technicians/Assistants
Pediatricians
Pharmacists
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Physical Therapists
Physician Assistants
Plastic Surgeons
Psychologists/Psychiatrists
Respiratory Therapists
Social Workers
Surgical House Staff



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