

“Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in **education**. The **human mind** is our fundamental resource.”

—John Fitzgerald Kennedy



Members of the Society of Distinguished Educators

Standing from left: M. Judith Tevethia, Ph.D., Barbara E. Ostrov, M.D., Philip A. Masters, M.D., W. Bosseau Murray, M.B., Ch.B., John H. George, Ph.D., society president, Ian S. Zagon, Ph.D., David Spector, Ph.D., Carol F. Whitfield, Ph.D., and Shou Ling Leong, M.D.

Sitting from left: Steven J. Wassner, M.D., Kevin D. Alloway, Ph.D., Anita K. Hopper, Ph.D., and Paul A. Kettl, M.D.

(Not shown: James O. Ballard, M.D., Thomas A. Lloyd, Ph.D., Mark D. Widome, M.D., Richard J. Zaino, M.D., society secretary, and Robert F. Zelis, M.D.)

Please contact us to learn more about our mission and faculty development projects:

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SOCIETY FOR *Distinguished Educators*

Working together as educators to improve learning for the next generation of physicians, scientists, and researchers.



PENNSTATE



Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
College of Medicine

The Society for Distinguished Educators at Penn State College of Medicine promotes **excellence in educating** future physicians, scientists, and researchers.



To achieve its mission, the Society acts as a key resource to all College of Medicine faculty members by providing mentorship, development opportunities, and access to scholarly work and research.

Established in 2004, the Society is comprised of Penn State College of Medicine faculty members who have received Distinguished Educator Awards. These awards honor faculty members demonstrating outstanding commitment to student learning.

Society members model successful teaching strategies in their own classrooms and actively support and encourage the professional growth of other faculty members. They assist in the development and use of new teaching methods that maximize student learning.

The Society also provides important communications links throughout the College of Medicine and Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center by providing forums for faculty to exchange ideas about teaching and curriculum and by increasing opportunities for clinicians and scientists to interact and work together.

Active support of faculty development

Penn State College of Medicine faculty benefits from the Society's commitment to providing mentorship and professional development opportunities. The Society's efforts have resulted in the following:

- Creation of the Resource Room used by faculty to prepare teaching materials (funded through a grant from the Woodward Endowment for Medical Science Education)
- Delivery of a faculty development workshop on bedside teaching (cosponsored with the Office of the Vice Dean for Educational Affairs)
- Sponsorship of the Conversations with Distinguished Educator lecture series

In addition, the Society is proposing a Future of Academic Teaching series, which would include quarterly presentations from the nation's leading education researchers.

Conversations with Distinguished Educators lecture series

Organized and delivered by Distinguished Educator Award recipients, this bi-monthly lecture series covers a wide breadth of topics, from the latest educational theories to practical hands-on techniques to increase classroom learning.

The series, open to all faculty members, is structured to achieve three primary objectives:

- Provide a forum to raise and discuss topics, issues and trends in education
- Increase awareness and recognition of the education mission of the College of Medicine and the unified campus
- Raise the visibility and impact of the Society of Distinguished Educators.

Setting the direction

The Society provides input regarding the College of Medicine's leadership decisions, key faculty and staff presentations, and programmatic growth.

Members' recommendations and insight guided the selection of the College of Medicine's vice dean. The Society expects to provide input at future interviews of applications for leadership positions.

The Society nominates speakers for the Woodward Lecture for Medical Science Education, part of the week-long Education Week that provides learning opportunities for all College of Medicine and Medical Center staff.

In addition, the Society investigates new student learning programs, including development of a master's degree program in medical education to be offered at the College of Medicine.

