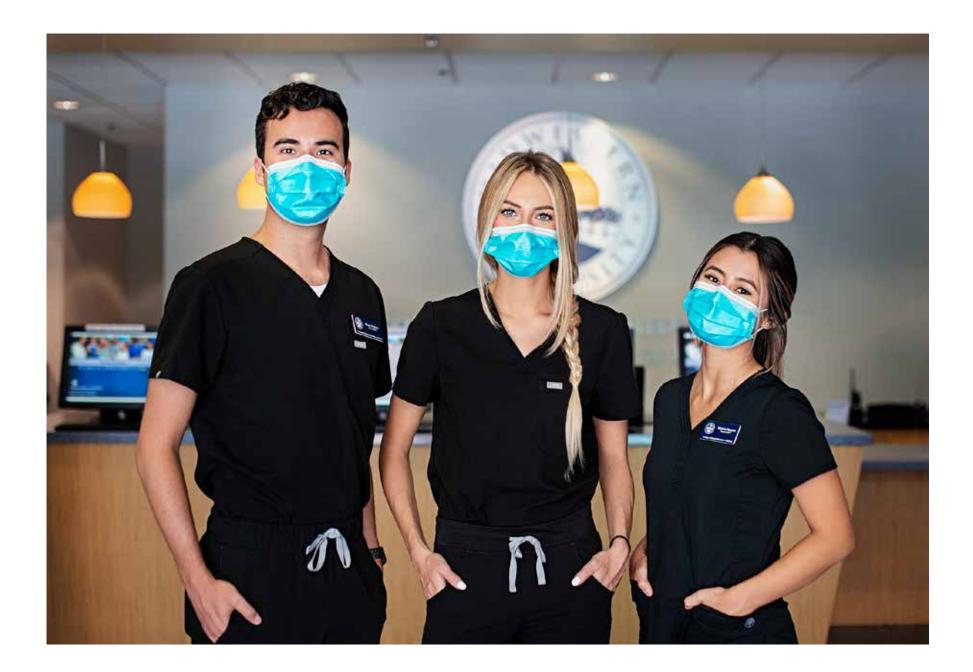


# MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY Tomorrow's Healthcare Team

### President's Report 2020



Downers Grove, Illinois , Glendale, Arizona , www.midwestern.edu





# MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY Tomorrow's Healthcare Team

# President's Report

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### From the President



Dear Alumni, Donors and Friends of Midwestern University,

This annual President's Report provides an opportunity for all of us to look back on a particularly busy and challenging year, reflect on the University's response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, and appreciate the many generous contributions that continue to have an important effect in supporting our mission of educational excellence.

Even amid a public health crisis, our remarkable faculty, staff, students, and alumni found ways to show leadership, strength, and the caring spirit that distinguishes the Midwestern University academic family. While the pandemic required some members of our community to observe stay-at-home executive orders and social distancing practices, and to temporarily transition to a hybrid learning or work from home model, many others continued to perform their essential duties in person and maintained our beautiful campuses in operation. I am proud and impressed to know everyone in our academic family showed remarkable resilience and willingness to succeed while facing unprecedented challenges.

The 2020 Year in Review section of this Report, containing a summary timeline of the University's response to COVID-19, showcases our academic community's unwavering dedication to selfless service, cutting-edge research, and high educational standards. We are proud to be a healthy, professional campus community, and our uniting mission is one of educational excellence for all our students as they learn the healing arts with true respect and understanding of everyone they encounter.

In 2020, Midwestern University once again graduated a new class of wonderful healthcare professionals, many of whom directly benefited from your generous and heartfelt contributions towards scholarship funds. Every gift we receive in support of our University's mission is cherished, and we are truly grateful for your continued confidence in our ability to maintain the highest standards of academic excellence. More than ever, I am inspired by the unwavering support we have received. I remain hopeful and focused on the future.

With sincere thanks,

Kathlein H. Cocpringer, Ph.D.

Kathleen H. Goeppinger, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer, Midwestern University

### Donor Profile: Anil Gulati, M.D., Ph.D.



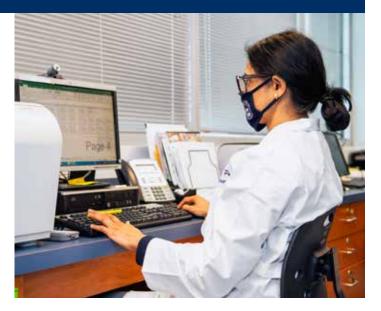
Anil Gulati, M.D., Ph.D., is a Professor Emeritus, College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove, and the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Pharmazz, Inc.

# New Scholarships Support Student Research

Encouraging an interest in medical research, discovering innovative therapies to benefit patients, and mentoring the next generation of healthcare professionals are just some of the hallmarks of the long and successful academic and professional career of Anil Gulati, M.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove Campus.

While a member of the faculty, Dr. Gulati spearheaded several research projects and had the opportunity to teach and collaborate with students from the College of Pharmacy and the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Gulati's research eventually led to him receiving 54 patents for the discovery of drugs for the treatment of cerebral stroke, Alzheimer's disease, and a resuscitative agent for shock. Several of these drugs were initially developed during his time as a faculty member at Midwestern University. Now, he is working on bringing those discoveries to market as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Pharmazz, Inc., an innovative biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering, acquiring, developing, and commercializing therapeutics that target critical care medicine.

"Midwestern University provided a platform that could be used by faculty to progress in research activities and serve humanity," Dr. Gulati said. "In order to bring what we discovered at Midwestern forward, I needed to form a



company. My discoveries would have been incomplete had they not been made into a product available to patients. I have enjoyed my tenure at Midwestern University, and I appreciate what they enabled me to accomplish," he added.

Dr. Gulati expressed his gratitude by recently creating two scholarships that benefit Midwestern University students on the Downers Grove Campus. The Professor Anil Gulati, M.D., Ph.D. Scholarships are available to students of the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine and the College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove Campus . The requirements are the same for both scholarships and focus on students who are conducting research at Midwestern University and who have submitted a scientific manuscript to a peerreviewed journal. The scholarship will also consider the students' overall grade point average and will be awarded annually.

The scholarships' focus on research was an essential element for Dr. Gulati. "I found that without research, education is incomplete," he stated. "If students are able to conduct research, they gain valuable skills that add more dimension to their education. All research is a team effort. Students gain the benefit of working on a team under the guidance of a faculty member. They also need to communicate the results, so their writing skills and communication skills become better. Most importantly, the research they do has the potential to be useful to humanity."

Dr. Gulati joined Midwestern University in 2007, earning the ranks of Professor, Associate Dean for Research, and now, Professor Emeritus. He is also a consultant at Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital. Dr. Gulati is a recipient of several awards for teaching, research, and service. He is a United States Fulbright Scholar, and recipient of Paul R Dawson Biotechnology Award, the Midwestern University Littlejohn Award, and the International Ranbaxy Research Award. He has authored more than 300 peer-reviewed publications and has guided research projects for more than 150 graduate students, medical residents, and research fellows.

"Discovering new ideas, communicating with other colleagues, and educating students are some of the things that I really enjoy. Innovation is my passion," he said. "If I can inculcate those ideas in some younger generation, then they can, in turn, innovate and discover new things and bring new ideas to healthcare." The two named scholarships created by Dr. Gulati allow him to express his appreciation to Midwestern University in addition to rewarding the industrious students who are conducting research. "For me and other faculty members as well, the whole idea is to give students opportunities, so that they can make use of those opportunities to grow bigger and better than what their predecessors were able to do."

Although he technically retired from Midwestern, Dr. Gulati shows no signs of slowing down. His current schedule is full, developing new medicines for critically ill patients, conducting clinical trials, and managing a pharmaceutical company that employs nearly 100 people. In addition, he hopes to continue to make a positive impact on students through these scholarships and by extending his support and guidance to his former colleagues at Midwestern.

"My association with Midwestern University and my status as an Emeritus Professor is very important to me. Whenever I'm communicating with anyone, such as my investors, or professional organizations, or colleagues, I make it known that I'm associated with Midwestern University. I have enjoyed my tenure at the University so much and I will always be grateful for the opportunities they gave me," Dr. Gulati remarked.





# Midwestern University: Leadership, Learning and Legacy in a Pandemic

It should not take a global pandemic to remind us all about the value of relationships. That said, COVID-19, and the necessity of adapting to life with the virus and how to curb its transmission, provided a microscope for all of us to examine how important our relationships are. The upheaval in everyone's lives brought about by the pandemic has reinforced in the strongest possible terms how much we rely on others in all areas of life.

For Midwestern University, the COVID-19 pandemic's challenges shined an even brighter light upon the generosity offered by the University's donors. As the economy was hampered by the need to quarantine and distance, many businesses and institutions found themselves tightening their belts, eliminating expenditures, furloughing employees, and adopting a wait-and-see approach to planned initiatives.

Midwestern, on the other hand, continues to proceed with initiatives such as high school outreach, veterinary shelter medicine, healthcare services and education for the underserved, and much more, thanks in part to the continuing commitments from our valued donors. University students continue to benefit from and thrive with scholarships and educational programs funded by donor gifts.





# Midwestern University Leaders Reflect on **Responding to the Global Pandemic**

### Leaders Meeting the COVID-19 Challenge



Joshua C. Baker, M.S., O.D. Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, Optometry, Pharmacy, and Veterinary Education



Alice S. Chapman, D.V.M., M.P.H., DACVPM Program Director, Master of Public Health Program, College of Graduate Studies

The global response to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic required people in all walks of life to comply with and adapt to quarantines, masks, social distancing, material shortages, cancelled plans, and home restrictions. It was a "new normal" that presented a significant challenge to the status quo.

Midwestern University was busily planning for graduations, starting new programs, providing clinical care in a dozen specialty areas, and managing the education of seven thousand aspiring professional health workers when the pandemic forced Midwestern leadership to rapidly implement a "new normal" for its campus communities. Beyond the basic requirements of curricula, didactic and clinical instruction, arranging for residency placements, processing new applicants, and everything else that attends the operation of a multidisciplinary educational institution, University faculty and staff had to create an entirely new way of delivering these



Harold J. Haering, D.M.D. Dean, College of Dental Medicine-Illinois



**Angela Marty, M.A., PHR** Vice President, Human Resources and Administration

resources to students while remaining in compliance with multiple national and professional accreditation requirements. Students, meanwhile, had to relearn how to learn in what was already the biggest educational challenge of their lives.

The task was staggering, and it demanded an almost superhuman response in very short order. The Midwestern University community sized up the challenge, and then met it – at every level, from administration to faculty, from staff to students, the University community rallied and responded to reimagine their educational lives from the ground up.

Now, as vaccination and public health measures begin to lessen the impact of the pandemic on society, four members of Midwestern University's leadership team look back over the past year's tumult and assess how the Midwestern family survived and thrived during an unprecedented global challenge.

**Dr. Baker:** I think the most pressing challenge we had at the onset was how to keep our students, our patients, our faculty, and our staff safe while working to keep our students moving forward in their professional academic careers. The unique nature of the COVID-19 crisis meant that solutions and counter measures were being developed, implemented, and adjusted in real time, in response to a steady stream of new information. There were weeks at a time where it felt like the situation on the ground was changing almost hourly, and each new data point required a reassessment of the plan, course corrections where necessary, and then communication of changes to our community. Our ability to continue to move forward successfully was dependent upon teamwork, candid communication, and, most importantly, the flexibility to respond to an everchanging situation.

**Dr. Chapman:** We already had an ambitious task before us to get the Master of Public Health Program launched by June 1, 2020, and the pandemic certainly added another layer of complexity. At the same time that the global pandemic stimulated increased interest in public health, I was pulled in as a key contributor to the University's Response Team to advise on the immediate health threat and help develop plans to sustain operations. Our very small faculty team adapted to the evolving situation the way any public health professional does in these circumstances - we redistributed workload and increased communication by holding daily virtual team huddles, and we built the curriculum in time for a June 1 launch.

We were also still building our faculty team during the height of the pandemic and that presented another challenge: interviewing virtually since faculty candidates could not visit the campus. The absence of the in-person interaction and other aspects of an in-person interview process were missed. So we got creative – we included all of the M.P.H. faculty team members in every virtual interview, conducted several meetings with candidates, and asked them to provide recorded lectures. Ultimately, we added two additional faculty to our team who are a great fit, round out the team well, and have the creativity and skills to effectively teach in an online environment. • **Dr. Haering:** Being in Illinois, we were in the first wave of dental schools to experience some of the restrictions put into place because of the pandemic. The University responded very well, and they let us have the tools to immediately modify our schedules and curriculum. We were on the phone every night in the beginning, trying to figure out how to revamp the curriculum to make sure our students had everything they needed to make progress, because in dental medicine there are a lot of procedures and skills that were never taught remotely before.

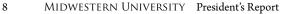
In the clinic, we immediately cut back to treating only urgent care emergencies – situations where irreversible procedures were already in progress, or urgent care pain. New patient exams were postponed. When the state issued its second stayat-home order, we implemented plans to provide students with handpieces to use at home so they could keep up essential hand skills. We also adapted very quickly to virtual learning, breaking students into small groups to keep them on track with their curriculum.

Our flexibility allowed us to do what very few dental schools in the country were able to do, and the College of Dental Medicine-Arizona did the same thing – we graduated our students on time. That was only possible because of our faculty and our staff and their can-do attitude. • **Ms. Marty:** Human Resources very quickly had to develop new policies, procedures, and introduce new benefits to assist faculty and staff with the challenges of the pandemic and the transition to remote work. This included additional paid time off, quarantine benefits, temporary work from home applications, daily health screening, and temporary job modifications. Additionally, the HR staff has been managing all COVID-19 cases incurred by faculty and staff.

The Safety and Security staff were deemed essential workers and continued to operate on campus throughout the entire pandemic. The staff was also called upon to provide additional assistance to both the academic campuses and clinics to ensure and enforce COVID-19 safety measures and policies.

The libraries on both campuses provide essential resources to students and critical study space. Throughout the pandemic, the libraries have remained open and implemented needed safety modifications and changes to operations to ensure resources and safe study space remained available.









# How did the pandemic change what your department will do going forward?

**Dr. Haering:** The pandemic made us look at ways to be even more efficient with our time, including using meeting tools such as Microsoft Teams. Nothing can replace in-person learning, but in certain instances, being able to meet online and work on projects virtually has been very effective. Advances in clinical technology have also made an impact. For instance, we increased using digital impressions because there is less aerosol when you scan and take a picture of a tooth, compared to a traditional impression. The industry was already going in this direction, and the pandemic just made us adopt this new technology faster.

 Ms. Marty: So many of the departments had to adjust and adapt very quickly to functioning in a virtual environment. Critical functions and processes such as recruiting, training, and onboarding had to be adjusted and transitioned in a very short period. Additionally, many workspace and study space safety modifications were implemented across both campuses to ensure social distancing. Going forward, many of these new policies, procedures, and protocols will have an impact for years to come.



• **Dr. Chapman:** We were lucky in that we already planned to deliver the Master of Public Health Program online, so we didn't suffer the scramble of an overnight transition to online delivery as many of other schools did; we were already very in tune with public health, but the pandemic provided lots of examples to draw from to teach public health concepts.

I do think that this experience helped us bond more quickly as a team and trust each other to get the job done even when we aren't sitting across the hall from each other. It also spurred us to try new tools like Microsoft Teams and we will likely continue using tools like this.







### How did specific adaptations to the pandemic integrate into the larger MWU community?

• **Dr. Baker:** I feel that all of the programs I work for have developed streamlined processes for gathering and disseminating information, both within their programs and between programs. This has allowed us to have coordinated, interdisciplinary responses to University-wide problems. Programs can learn from the successes and setbacks of another department and take that information into consideration when developing responses. The interdisciplinary nature of all our programs have made this coordination easy because the infrastructure and the scaffolding for interdisciplinary collaboration was already there.

**Dr. Haering:** One thing we didn't realize was how much personal protective equipment (PPE) all the clinics use. We worked with the other clinics to obtain high-level masks that could be disinfected, sterilized, and reused according to guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control.

Also, we realized how much we could learn from our colleagues at the other clinics. Our students and faculty were reporting increased temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pain due to the increased stress created by the pandemic. We stepped outside of dentistry to look for answers and were able to benefit from the experience of our Physical Therapy clinical faculty. They gave a terrific presentation to our students and faculty and we will continue to incorporate physical therapy into our facial pain curriculum. • **Dr. Chapman:** The M.P.H. Program seems to frequently find itself doing things in a new way and the Midwestern University community as a whole has been extraordinarily supportive and adaptive to help us find solutions to unusual or new requests for programmatic development and delivery. When other faculty needed to move to online learning, we were able to share our experience with online curricula development. The exchange and collaboration between in-person and online programs at Midwestern has helped us learn from one another and create unparalleled learning opportunities for our students.

Likewise, public health is inherently interdisciplinary in its focus, and I think the pandemic gave us an opportunity to share our expertise with others across the University. Without the pandemic it may have taken a lot longer for this trust and knowledge sharing to happen organically. What will you remember most about the University's response to the pandemic?

• **Dr. Baker:** Without question, I will remember the dedication and resiliency of this community. Facing the most serious public health crisis in any of our lifetimes, our faculty and students remained committed and determined; to care for our patients, to moving forward in their academic careers, to caring for this community. I could not be more proud.

• **Ms. Marty:** Overwhelmingly, what stands out the most to me is the emphasis on taking care of the students, faculty, and staff. The pandemic has also highlighted how strong and resilient our academic community is when faced with adversity. Additionally, the University has responded to the pandemic with a strong team and interdisciplinary approach and capitalized on the expertise of many individuals. It has been so impressive to see difficult decisions handled and difficult transitions accomplished through collaboration and teamwork. • **Dr. Chapman:** I think the positive effects resulting from the transparency and proactive communication the University demonstrated cannot be underestimated. The University leadership listened to people with relevant expertise and made sound, thoughtful decisions, and then communicated early and often about what was happening within the Midwestern community and explained new and changing policies.

We as faculty felt fully supported and were given both the flexibility and the tools to effectively telework when necessary. This was in large part due to the exceptional and tireless contributions of the Midwestern IT team. They made working from home almost seamless.

And from our standpoint in the M.P.H. Program, we will remember the way that the pandemic made public health center stage and bolstered the University's dedication to our program and increased our application numbers.

















# What were some of the silver linings or positive things that surprised you during this time?

• **Ms. Marty:** The pandemic and the inability to interact in person has forced us all to become stronger communicators in a virtual environment. We are making the effort to reach out to friends, colleagues, and family members more often and staying in touch without physically seeing one another. Additionally, the virtual meeting environment provides a great platform with improved ease of information sharing. • **Dr. Haering:** I think one silver lining was learning how we are all interconnected. We need other people; it's an essential part of human nature. Now as I walk through the clinic, I see how much we all appreciate that we can be back together. I think we all have a greater appreciation for each other and the work we do at Midwestern University.

• **Dr. Chapman:** The pandemic has helped us connect more with each other using different modalities – both at work and in our personal lives with family and friends we couldn't visit with in person. College of Graduate Studies faculty meetings in Microsoft Teams started because of the pandemic. I think this is a great thing and I hope it continues as a way for us to build even more cohesiveness and share information within our college. I have also experienced tremendous teamwork at every level of our organization.

This past year has been challenging – but we have built an incredible team of talented and creative faculty who love teaching public health, and the overwhelmingly positive feedback from students in the first M.P.H. cohort makes all the hard work worth it.

 Dr. Baker: I was very impressed with some of the key leaders in our organization. I believe that moments of strife and crisis or turbulent waters are when we learn the most about the character of an individual. Several individuals within the University continued to go above and beyond, day in and day out throughout this entire pandemic, to make sure the University succeeded, that our students succeeded, that our clinics succeeded. They provided an excellent example of strength for the rest of the University.

I was impressed, but not surprised, by the resiliency of our students. Professional education is likely the one of the most challenging endeavors they will ever undertake and to do so in the backdrop of a global pandemic is nothing short of herculean.

I was impressed by the family members of our team. The global pandemic required long hours, relentless work, and regular emergency meetings to address sudden changes in situations. All of this meant lost time with family, missed dinners at the family table, missed celebrations, and fewer hugs and laughs. But overwhelmingly the response has been some version of: "What we are doing is important," "Your students need you," "Your patients need you," and "I love you". That alone can sustain us.



### **Donor Spotlight: The Partnership with Native Americans (PWNA)**

# Allies in Animal Health

Midwestern University Veterinary Resources Help Shoulder Animal Welfare Burden in Native Communities



When the COVID-19 global pandemic reached Arizona reservation lands, it quickly became clear that the response would require all hands on deck to meet the hugely magnified need for services in Indigenous communities.

As COVID-19 swept across the world, Partnership with Native Americans (PWNA), which for the past 30 years has been working with Arizona tribal communities to provide material services and long-term solutions for shortfalls in emergency services, education, food supply, and human and animal health, quickly moved to pivot their efforts and respond. PWNA leaders knew that existing shortages – particularly in remote areas – would be exacerbated by supply deficits, stay-at-home orders and other restrictions, not to mention the enormous demand placed on healthcare infrastructure by the virus.

"COVID-19 magnified pre-existing disparities in Indigenous communities, increased the vulnerabilities, and made Native communities ripe for the virus," says Rafael Tapia, Jr., Vice President of Programs for PWNA. "Since COVID-19 has devastated Native Americans on reservations, our priority is to keep communities as healthy and safe as possible to reduce additional spread of the virus." Mr. Tapia, who is a citizen of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, has been working for PWNA since 2014 and has spent 25 years in public service through his work with nonprofits, tribal and state government, and as a small business owner. Growing up in a Yaqui village called Old Pascua in Tucson, Mr. Tapia understands how razor-thin the margins for health and security can be, especially in farther-flung rural areas far from city centers. With those already-thin margins rapidly being wiped out by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, he and his PWNA colleagues swiftly took action to help.

While PWNA has been doing their utmost to help meet the increased requests for their services, they have been relying more and more on collaborative partners to help close the gap. One of those partners is Midwestern University, with whom PWNA has partnered since 2016 via the College of Veterinary Medicine's (CVM) Mobile Clinic and shelter medicine program.

"PWNA's Reservation Animal Rescue (RAR) program focuses on improving quality of life for injured and orphaned animals on reservations," Mr. Tapia explains. "One of our staff had a key connection to Midwestern University's veterinary services and saw the potential of creating a partnership. Once introduced, Midwestern offered resources that could help us address the lack of veterinary services and the overpopulation of stray dogs in reservations across the Southwest." Midwestern University's remote veterinary healthcare programs have closed the gap between Southwest reservation communities and access to veterinary healthcare. CVM faculty and students have ventured out to remote sites to offer healthcare services via the Mobile Clinic, which provides onsite services of all types, from well-checks to disease care to surgeries.





Long before the pandemic came along to complicate matters, Native reservations have struggled with scarcity of veterinary healthcare services. Along with a shortage of veterinary professionals to service disparate, widespread remote communities, reservations also must deal with large populations of stray animals venturing into community areas. "Specific to animal welfare, healthy animals are critical to a healthy community," says Mr. Tapia. "Overpopulation of stray animals can lead to hunger and injury, and also pose human health risks such as animal bites, rabies, and the spread of diseases."

Midwestern University's remote veterinary healthcare programs have closed the gap between Southwest reservation communities and access to veterinary healthcare. CVM faculty and students have ventured out to remote sites to offer healthcare services via the Mobile Clinic, which provides onsite services of all types, from well-checks to disease care to surgeries. Along with helping to care for pet populations via vaccinations, spays, and neuters, University volunteers also perform trap-and-release services to spay and neuter stray animals to help bring those populations under better control. "The support of Midwestern is invaluable in that it has allowed our reservation partners to better care for more animals on reservations that otherwise might not have had a chance," says Mr. Tapia. He also adds that PWNA is exploring an expansion of services with the University to include remote large animal care to help protect and care for cattle, horses, and other livestock that are so critical to reservation families and communities.

COVID-19 continues to represent a challenge for reservation communities, and Mr. Tapia believes that PWNA's success in meeting that challenge is bolstered significantly thanks to help from outside allies. "Resources to keep reservation communities safe from COVID-19 are scarce, let alone to assist animal care groups, but injured and stray animals are still hungry and still in need of care. PWNA receives ongoing requests from our RAR partners for food, shelter, and medical resources, as well as spaying and neutering services for dogs and cats. Support from partners like Midwestern is more crucial than ever."

# 2020 Honor Roll of Donors



# MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Tomorrow's Healthcare Team

# Midwestern University Giving Societies

The academic community of Midwestern University has been fortunate to have many donors and supporters whose financial contributions have made a significant impact on our students and faculty, our campuses, and our degree programs. Each year, we recognize and thank these valued benefactors by listing them in our Honor Roll of Donors. All members of our annual giving societies are listed, as well as members of the lifetime giving societies. Our financial strength is enhanced by the annual gifts you provide in needed unrestricted and program-designated funds, as well as lifetime gifts that demonstrate the long-time support of so many special people.

#### **Annual Giving Societies**

Blue and Gold Society	Up to \$999
Millennium Society	\$1,000 and above

#### Lifetime Giving Societies - Individual

MWU Society	\$10,000 to \$24,999
President's Society	\$25,000 to \$99,999
Littlejohn Society	\$100,000 and above

#### Lifetime Giving Societies - Corporate/Foundation

Investor Society	\$10,000 - \$99,999
Benefactor Society	
Diamond Society	\$1,000,000 and above

The philanthropic spirit of the dedicated alumni, friends, corporate, and foundation partners in these giving societies reflect their investment and commitment in a bright future for MWU. Your unrestricted gift allows Midwestern University the flexibility to use the funds where the need or potential return is the greatest for our students and the life of the University. Whether your motivation is seeking to advance your specialty; memorializing a colleague, teacher, mentor, or loved one; or supporting a program that strikes a chord within you, your contribution to MWU is a means of strengthening the future of healthcare. We thank you for your continued support.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2020, 2019, 2018

#### **Operating Revenues**

(in thousands)			
Tuition and Fees	427,284 .	411,024.	
Grant Revenues		2,730.	3,540
Educational Affiliations	6,381 .		
Campus-Based Revenue		5,550.	5,549
Contributions	2,770 .	1,916.	2,626
Investment Income	13,584 .		
Clinic Revenue			
Other	4,116 .	4,613.	4,557
Total Revenue	485,721 .	\$483,568 .	\$466,052

Other Financial Indicators

(in thousands)

Cash and Investments	730,952	715,666	611,095
Land, Buildings, and Equipment (net)	760,108		
Net Assets	1,260,188	1,139,212	1,029,970

Annual Honor Roll of Donors

Listed in this section are all contributions to Midwestern University and its colleges at the Downers Grove, Illinois and Glendale, Arizona campuses from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

#### If you would like more information about making a donation to MWU, please contact the Office of **Development and Alumni Relations at:**

555 31st Street Downers Grove, IL 60515

19555 North 59th Avenue Glendale, AZ 85308

800-962-3053 • development@midwestern.edu

#### Littlejohn Society | Lifetime Gifts of \$100,000 and above

- Angie Athens Rebecca Caleel Stanley D. Christianson Joan DeByle Gregory Gaus Louis Gierke, D.O. '57, and Nicole Gierke Kathleen H. Goeppinger, Ph.D.\*\* Robert M. Goldman, D.O. '85
- Anil Gulati, M.D., Ph.D. Lawrence U. Haspel, D.O. '67 Don L. Hollandsworth, D.O., FACOI George D. Hubacher Jeffrey L. Jensen, D.P.M., and Cecelia Jensen Jerald and Charlotte Johnson Karen D. Johnson, Ph.D. Mary W.L. Lee, Pharm.D., BCPS, FCCP
- Gregory Z. Mavian, D.O. '80 The Osborn Family Virginia Reter Devinder Singh, M.D., and Randeep Singh Pui L. Tsang, D.O. '60, and Audrey Tsang David and Twila Woods

#### ■ The President's Society | Lifetime Gifts of \$25,000 to \$99,999

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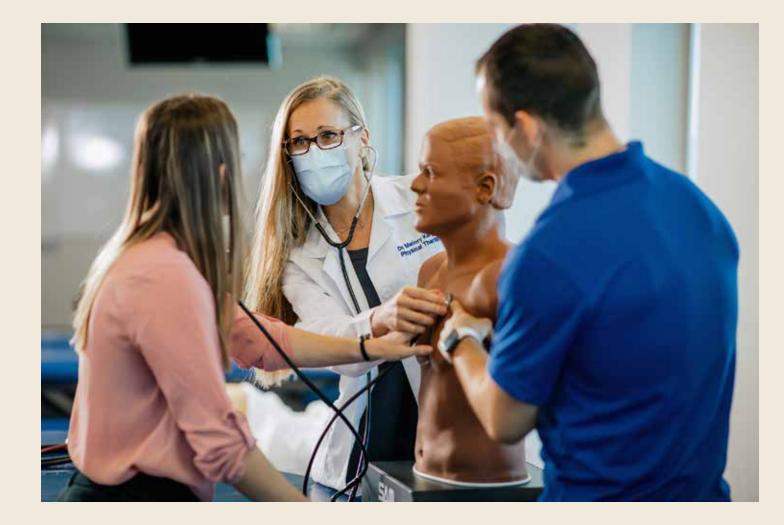
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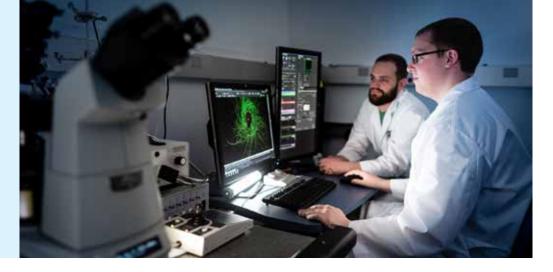
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# Midwestern University Public Health Faculty Provide **Teaching and Guidance for Pandemic Response**

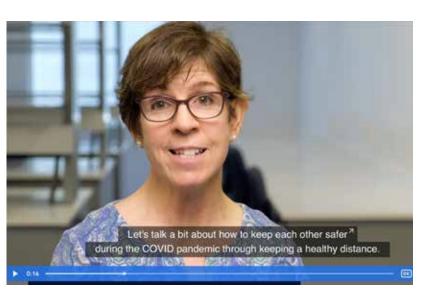


As the Midwestern University community came together to respond quickly to COVID-19, one resource has been especially helpful: its public health faculty.

The new Master of Public Health Program is housed on the Glendale Campus, and currently offers flexible online dual degrees for students on both campuses, with a stand-alone two-year degree available for 2022 enrollment. One of the program's great strengths is its focus on hiring faculty with extensive hands-on public health experience, including preparing for and responding to public health emergencies such as disease outbreaks.

With its first class matriculated in Summer 2020, the timing of the new program could not have been more relevant. "The counties are pretty tapped out right now." says

Alice Chapman, DV.M., M.P.H., DACVPM, Program Director, Master of Public Health, shares her expertise in a series of videos to educate the Midwestern University community and the public about the pandemic and COVID-19 vaccines.



Felicia Trembath, Ph.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor of Public Health, College of Graduate Studies. "In many ways, businesses and groups haven't been able to get individual guidance like they normally would when there is a disease outbreak. We had our own in-house expertise to provide knowledge that was needed to make the best decisions for our students."

This included many facets of keeping the campus safe and operating smoothly during the pandemic, such as contact investigations, safe social distancing, and proper mask use for patient contact as well as academic use. It also included guidance on working with local health experts, and assistance in preparing Midwestern clinical faculty to safely help their patients.

"Public health is about getting all different groups to work together," notes Dr. Trembath, who holds a Ph.D. in Epidemiology. "You're not just a pharmacist or doctor anymore. People are now asking their doctors about the pandemic. Because we already had a One Health interdisciplinary approach at Midwestern, we were ahead of other universities."

Early in the M.P.H. Program, students learn the distinctions between healthcare and public health, which Dr. Trembath says are basically the differences between treating individual patients versus assessing entire populations. "At the population level, we look at "herds' and we look for patterns in those herds," says Dr. Trembath. "Veterinarians have already had that mindset for a while. It's a very different way of thinking."

According to Dr. Trembath, in the public health field, there are a set of specific core principles and functions that are applied to populations depending on each situation. These include assessment, policy advancement, and assurance. Each process can take a long time, an experience with which public health faculty are all very familiar.



Adaora Ogbuefi (CPDG 2021) is one of several pharmacy students who had the opportunity to administer the COVID-19 vaccine as part of her clinical experience.

"For example, people keep asking why the vaccine rollout took so long," says Spencer Harpe, Ph.D., M.P.H., Professor of Pharmacy Practice, College of Pharmacy, Downers Grove, who teaches a Healthcare Systems Course that includes an overview of public health. "But you have to look at all of the processes, how they're connected, and how they do and don't work together."

Looking for connections is something Midwestern students have been learning about for many years as part of the University's One Health Initiative, which recognizes that the health of humans is connected to the health of animals and the environment. One goal of the Initiative is to unite physicians, veterinarians, research scientists, and others to work together to gain insights into the complex interrelationships between global biodiversity, sustainability, and public health.

Over this past year, the pandemic has provided many firsthand examples of these complex interrelationships for Midwestern students across all disciplines.

"That is the silver lining of this pandemic," says Dr. Harpe "The importance of public health management is front and center to the students right now. Discussions have been COVID-centric about what is going on in people's lives – it really hit home for pharmacists."

Another potential silver lining is the availability of new technology, born out of the necessity of suddenly teaching in virtual and hybrid environments. Dr. Trembath and Dr. Harpe credit Midwestern's Information Technology Department with helping faculty to pivot more quickly to new virtual teaching resources than at larger universities.

"Every public health emergency is different," says Dr. Trembath. "Therefore, it is crucial to invest in proper infrastructure to be able to quickly scale up a response to meet any new challenges."

New technology has been a big part of that infrastructure for the Public Health Program. For example, the program started using online discussion boards and plans to continue offering it in more courses this year and into the future. In addition, faculty now embed interactive activities into live lectures and can also add embedded knowledge checks in lectures. These technology advances have not only become more accessible, but also more affordable. And in some cases, more efficient than the tools faculty were already using to teach prior to the pandemic.

"We also added new tools for pharmacy students," says Dr. Harpe. "Going forward, we will definitely keep using online faculty office hours, student breakout rooms, and case studies. We are currently trying to identify what we can reasonably keep online and asynchronous. This process has forced us to think about the things we've done just because that is how we've always done it."

What will these public health experts take overall from this past year's experiences going forward?

"I think we realized overall that there is a greater need to include mental health services into planning for public health emergencies," emphasizes Dr. Trembath. "I don't think anyone ever anticipated a crisis lasting this long."

Most importantly, says Dr. Harpe, "students knew we were all in this together. We really appreciate that."

# Timeline of University's Response to COVID-19

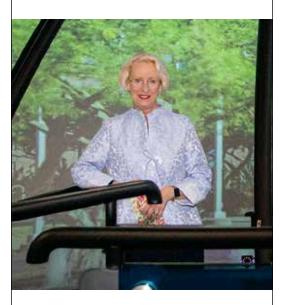
COVID-19 Response Team established to educate and serve during crisis

■ As news of a novel coronavirus begins to circulate, Kathleen H. Goeppinger, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer, establishes the Midwestern University COVID-19 Response Team. They begin to meet daily to review releases from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), monitor University processes, and discuss best practices. The team's goal is to continue to educate our students and serve the many patients who depend on our clinics during the emerging public health crisis.



■ All University special events, community events, student group events, and student off-campus parties are postponed until further notice.





Dr. Goeppinger begins her daily email updates

■ Dr. Goeppinger begins her daily email updates offering critical information about the University's COVID-19 response and plans, as well as hope and inspiration for the entire Midwestern community. "During these stressful days, I have been overwhelmed by the amount of your kind outreach and support. We will get through this together... one day at a time. Stay well," she wrote.



Midwestern University 2020 Emergency Action Plan goes into effect to further protect our faculty and staff

■ On March 18th, Midwestern University 2020 Emergency Action Plan goes into effect to further protect our faculty and staff employment while maintaining our mission to educate our students. The plan includes enhanced employee benefits with additional time off for faculty and staff to care for themselves or their family members, a temporary workfrom-home plan, and additional online learning technology and opportunities for students.





■ In early March, there are no identified cases of COVID-19 in the Midwestern University community. Both the Glendale and Downers Grove Campuses authorize special cleaning crews to sanitize public areas, clinics, classrooms, labs, and testing centers. The University also enhances its weekday cleaning practices, provides sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizer stations in lobby areas, and increases outside airflow in all buildings to 100%. Modifications put in place to ensure safety for all at Midwestern University Clinics

■ The Midwestern University Clinics establish a drive-up check-in for patients. The Dental Institutes proceed with emergency-only services with modifications to finish cases in progress. Other clinics remain open with limited patient appointments. All faculty, staff, students, and patients entering any of the Clinics complete a health screening and have their temperature checked.

Hospital partners notify Midwestern University that students are being asked to leave clinical sites so they can focus all their efforts toward caring for COVID-19 patients. A shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) and new policies limiting visitors and all personnel who are not full-time hospital staff members also impacts the availability of student rotations.

#### ATTENTION: PATIENTS & GUESTS HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

### WEAR A MASK TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE ANSWER THE COVID-19 SCREENING QUESTIONS

If you have a temperature greater than 100.4, or answer yes to any of the COVID-19 screening questions, please return to your vehicle, call 623-537-6000, and press option 4 for further instructions.



■ Human Resources sets up a confidential reporting of COVID-19 test results and policies for self-quarantine for Midwestern University faculty, staff, or students who may have been exposed to the virus. A contact tracing system is also put into place to mitigate the spread of the disease.



■ The governors of Illinois and Arizona issue executive orders to help flatten the curve and slow the spread of the virus. The University takes additional precautions to ensure the safety of our community, with faculty and staff who are able to are directed to work from home. The Clinics continue to provide care on an emergency basis and begin to offer telehealth appointments. Many employees, who are considered essential to the operations for our students, continue to safely work on campus.





■ Dr. Goeppinger, with support of the Midwestern University Board of Trustees, announces a tuition rate freeze for the 2020-2021 academic year.



■ Midwestern University announces its first case of COVID-19, while reassuring the campus community that the student who contracted the disease had been participating in a clinical rotation and had not been on campus in recent months. Virtual Spring 2020 Commencement Ceremonies

■ To ensure the safety of our community, Midwestern University makes the difficult decision to move all Spring 2020 Commencement Ceremonies to a meaningful virtual format to safely celebrate the Class of 2020 accomplishments.

> Information Technology and Media Resources Departments rapid deployment of new software programs

■ Midwestern University's Information Technology and Media Resources Departments continue to work tirelessly on the rapid deployment of new software programs and other technologies to support distance learning and enhance students' educational experiences.

# April



■ Illinois and Arizona state governments extend stay-at-home policies designed to prevent the spread of the disease.



Faculty and staff start production on reusable plastic face shields

■ Faculty and staff on both campuses use their technology skills to produce reusable plastic face shields to help first responder organizations and other healthcare professionals build up their stock of personal protective equipment (PPE).



■ #MaskUpMidwestern trends on social media as the University develops new protocols requiring facial coverings on the academic campus and clinics.

> All Service Departments transition to work either on campus or at home

■ The University continues to adapt to the challenges posed by the pandemic. The Information Technology Team rapidly deploys tools that enhance online learning and contribute to our students' progress during the spring quarter. Key Business Services, Financial Aid, Admissions, and Payroll departments successfully transition to work either on campus or at home to ensure all functions are still operational to all our faculty, staff, and students. The Counseling Centers continue to provide student support and advising online via WebEx.



Programs are designed to assist employees who have challenges working from home

■ Dr. Goeppinger announces the Midwestern University COVID-19 Emergency Fund and the Midwestern University Public Emergency Salary Continuation Plan. These programs are designed to assist employees who are not eligible to work from home or can only work part-time from home. It can also be utilized for employees working on campus who are facing reduced hours due to limited operations.



Healthcare plans for faculty and staff enhanced to cover 100% of COVID related treatment

■ Midwestern University announces enhancements to the healthcare plans for faculty and staff. Now, COVID-19 related treatment will be paid at 100% including all medical claims, pharmacy prescriptions, professional services, imaging, emergency room service, inpatient hospital services, intensive care services, and any other necessary supportive services.



Midwestern students to receive 100% of the University's federal relief fund

■ Midwestern University announces that it is earmarking 100% of an estimated \$2.25 million in relief funds apportioned to the University by Federal legislation to support the nearly 7,000 healthcare professions students enrolled at its campuses.

> Installation of plexiglass shields protect those on campus and clinics

Plexiglass shields are installed at the check-in desks at the Clinics and other areas around campus that have check-in desks, such as libraries and other reception areas.





Stories are shared on how Alumni are impacting the health and well-being of others

■ Midwestern University spotlights alumni who are working diligently to save lives and care for families impacted by COVID-19. The University shares stories online of some of our alumni who are making a significant difference in the health and well-being of others. May



■ The University announces a loan deferment option for student borrowers of the Midwestern University Foundation Loan Program. This period of interest and principal payment relief provides student borrowers the opportunity to focus on their immediate needs and not be concerned with loan payments coming due.

> Formal request sent to the Department of Education to allow for continued online and distance learning

■ Midwestern University submits a formal request to the Department of Education to allow for continued online and distance learning. This is a necessary step to safeguard Midwestern University students' ability to remain on track to complete their degrees. Daily health questionnaire and social distancing signage implemented

■ The University implements a daily health questionnaire and posts signage announcing policies for social distancing in elevators, academic buildings, workspaces, clinics, and other facilities.



### May

Online training program is implemented to keep campus community safe

■ A new required online training program is implemented Universitywide to remind everyone of the new safety standards and new procedures and expectations that will assist the University in meeting the CDC and public health department goals. The training includes guidance on the steps individuals will need to take each day to keep our campus community safe.

> Classes of 2020 celebrates graduation with Virtual Commencement Ceremonies

Midwestern University celebrates the Class of 2020 in Virtual Commencement Ceremonies. Nearly 1,500 graduates from Midwestern's Illinois and Arizona campuses participate in online commencement ceremonies featuring video addresses from University administration and representatives from the Classes of 2020.

Admissions hosts virtual information sessions and tours for prospective students





Q&A

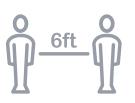
Using social distancing and safety policies, laboratory classes and clinical experiences resume in small groups

■ Students are able to return to campus to participate in laboratory classes and clinical experiences in small groups provided they agree to wear a mask, keep six feet away from others, and follow the University's health and safety policies.





■ The Office of Admissions begins conducting small in-person prospective student tours on both campuses that adhere to state mandates and best practices to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus.



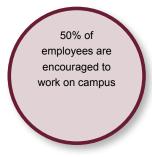


■ The University makes plans to welcome new students for the fall quarter and adopts a hybrid learning model with many courses taught online along with offering some in-person labs and educational experiences.



Clinics start offering expanded care and start strategically increasing the opening of campuses

■ The University enacts a purposedriven strategy to open our campuses and clinics more fully. The Midwestern University Clinics have remained open for emergency care since last March and now start offering expanded care to more patients.



Departments are encouraged to set the number of employees working on campus at 50%.

# July

Staff merit increases are carefully evaluated and maintained

■ The University makes the decision to maintain faculty and staff merit increases after careful evaluation of a number of important factors, including the decision to freeze all student tuition increases for the 2020-2021 academic year, as well as provide the full \$2.25 million in federal relief dollars to our students. High School students attend Midwestern University virtual summer program

■ In Downers Grove, nearly 60 high school sophomores and juniors participate in a virtual summer program to learn more about a variety of pharmacy career options. The week-long Virtual PharmAcademy provides students with a fun and comprehensive learning experience about the diverse career paths in pharmacy from expert faculty, researchers, practicing pharmacists, alumni, and current pharmacy students.



Mobile-friendly improvements made to the electronic health screening process

■ The University improves the electronic health screening process by making it mobile-friendly and allowing each person to complete the process by clicking a link in their daily reminder email or adding an icon to the home screen of their phone.



■ Midwestern University faculty lead a three-part virtual lecture series called "Coping with COVID-19," for residents in Arizona at the Glendale Public Library-Foothills Branch.



Clinical Specialist position is created to review all new COVID-19 cases and contact tracing

■ Midwestern University creates a new position in the Department of Risk Management for a Clinical Specialist who will review all new positive COVID-19 cases and be responsible for all contact tracing.



■ The Chicago College of Optometry virtually hosts their 2nd annual Summer Eye Experience (SEE), allowing undergraduate students to immerse themselves in the Doctor of Optometry program.





■ The University creates "teaching studios" to provide high-level technology for presenting lectures and delivering course materials. By using on-campus classrooms for lectures, faculty members can utilize unique, licensed software that provides students with higher-quality video, closed captioning, and high-fidelity recording. All lecture halls and classrooms are equipped with this new and improved technology.

### September

Hybrid learning model in place for Fall classes

■ The fall quarter begins for most programs, and all incoming and returning students start the new academic year learning online as well as on campus. Classrooms have new configurations, laboratories contain plexiglass dividers, and new directional and safety signage is found in every building and in the classrooms.



■ The University announces additional enhancements that will make the daily health screening requirement even simpler and more user friendly. All faculty, staff, and students will now be able to opt in to receiving their daily health screen reminders by text message.



October

Prospective students participate in Instagram Live Q&A event

■ The Office of Admissions premiers an Instagram Live Q&A event to provide information about the admissions process, scholarships, and student and campus life, and to answer any other questions from prospective students. MWU offers new and expanded employee benefits for the COVID-19 pandemic

■ Midwestern University continues to address the challenges resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic by offering new and expanded employee benefits. The Temporary Job Modification Process assists faculty and staff when they or one of their household members has a serious health condition, or when they are facing other challenges such as involuntary school closures, hybrid school schedules, or remote learning support for dependent children. Community Drive-Thru Trick-or-Treat event

■ Midwestern University hosts a Halloween Drive-Thru Trick-or-Treat event were students and staff welcome more than 250 children who remain in their cars while individually wrapped treats are distributed throughout the Downers Grove Campus by volunteers in masks and gloves. A canned food donation benefits the People's Resource Center.





## November



■ In anticipation of a COVID-19 vaccine being available soon, the Midwestern University Clinics take the necessary steps to apply to become vaccine distribution sites for our patients and our campus communities.

> MWU celebrates Thanksgiving with socially distant special communications

■ As part of a socially distant Thanksgiving celebration, the Midwestern University community shares what they are thankful for and enjoys a special holiday boxed gift from the President's Office.





■ The Arizona College of Optometry offers a pre-optometry program (AZ-POP) for college students and recent graduates interested in pursuing an optometry career. The rescheduled program was offered virtually over the course of three days.

# Pharmacy students on clinical rotations begin vaccinating frontline

workers

December

■ The University's College of Pharmacy students are among the first in the nation to begin vaccinating frontline workers battling the COVID-19 pandemic. Pharmacy students on clinical rotations provide vaccinations to hundreds of fellow healthcare workers.



■ The Midwestern University tradition of celebrating the holidays together continues when Dr. Goeppinger announces a virtual 14 Days of Midwestern University Holiday Cheer. As part of the event, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in various activities that build community, highlight our cultural diversity, and bring joy to the holiday season. MWU follows CDC guidelines for quarantine

■ The University implements the new CDC guidelines for those faculty, staff, and students who are quarantined due to exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual but have no symptoms.

# 2021 Update

Midwestern University opens its first COVID-19, Vaccination Center as part of *Operation Hope* 

■ On February 15, 2021, Midwestern University opens its first COVID-19 Vaccination Center on the Glendale Campus as part of *Operation Hope* and registered patients over the age of 75, as well as our faculty, staff, and students. Several members of the Midwestern University community were intensely focused on the planning, coordination, and execution of the operational logistics needed to open Vaccination Centers on both campuses. The Downers Grove Campus Vaccination Center opens on March 9, 2020.



# MISSION

Midwestern University's historical and sustaining philosophy dedicates the institution and its resources to the highest standards of academic excellence to meet the educational needs of the healthcare community.

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# Editorial Staff

**Dana Fay** Director of Communications

Jill Blair-Smith Assistant Director of Communications

**Karen Mattox** *Assistant Director of Communications* 

**Tony Johns** *Writer, Office of Communications* 

Joanne Davidauskas Senior Graphic Designer, Office of Communications

**Chad Worth** *Graphic Designer, Office of Communications* 

DOWNERS GROVE CAMPUS 555 31st Street Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

GLENDALE CAMPUS 19555 North 59th Avenue Glendale, Arizona 85308

800-962-3053 WWW.MIDWESTERN.EDU



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WWW.MIDWESTERN.EDU

DOWNERS GROVE CAMPUS 555 31st Street | Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

GLENDALE CAMPUS 19555 North 59th Avenue | Glendale, Arizona 85308

