



**MEDICAL
FACULTY
ASSOCIATION**

MILLER
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

Celebrating 52 years of service

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Happy New Year or shall I say Kung Hei Fat Choy! Happy Chinese New Year! It is 4704 the Year of the Dog. According to Chinese Astrology, dogs are known for their loyalty, generosity and sensitivity, and the year that bears its name brings increased social awareness, “when self interest is overcome by a widespread sentiment of generosity and selflessness.” This should be a great year for MFA as we continue our service to the UM Medical School community, particularly its students!



We had a very interesting General Meeting in November at Any Muench’s house. Dr. Stephanie Anderson, MFA member, pediatrician, attorney and bioethicist, spoke to us about bioethics and led a discussion of the issues and cases bioethicists handle. Stephanie suggested that to better understand the important role bioethics plays in modern medicine, we check out the book “The Unfit: A History of A Bad Idea” by Elof Axel Carlson. Another book which came up in our discussion is the fascinating story of the life and work of Dr. Paul Farmer entitled “Mountains Beyond Mountains” by Tracy Kidder which describes the dilemma healthcare workers and policy makers grappled with when faced with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis in the most poverty stricken regions of Haiti and Peru. It reminded of the fine work UM medical students do in Haiti. Thank you so much Stephanie and also thanks to Any for hosting the meeting just a few weeks after her house was flooded during the hurricane.

I am so grateful to Mary Francis Irvin for hosting a beautiful Holiday Luncheon and Chinese Auction on December 8. The event raised over \$2,400. and was well attended by 50 of our members. I loved seeing everyone. Thank you all for coming and for making it such a successful event. Mary Francis is always a wonderful hostess. Thank you for your gracious hospitality. I also want to thank Dean Clarkson for underwriting our catered lunch that day as his gift to us for the support MFA has given the Medical School during his tenure. For those of you who didn’t make the luncheon, I thanked Dean Clarkson for his great support of the MFA, but also I thanked Diana Clarkson, longtime MFA member who has done so much to enrich our organization (notably her work on Halisee Hall.) On behalf of MFA, I presented her with a gift of a crystal butterfly as a reminder of the lovely and gentle way she has enhanced our organization.

Our next event will be on February 23 at Jean Jannach’s house. Please try to attend. Eli Compton, director of Transplant House, the residence for UM transplant patients and their families, will be our speaker.

We are working very hard on our Spring Party “An Evening by Sailboat Bay” March 24 at Shake A Leg Miami. This is our major fundraising event of the year and I hope you all will attend and bring friends!

In parting, Gong Xi Fa Cao (May you have wealth and prosper) this year and many more to come. *Valerie Ricordi, MFA President 2005-2006*

2006 CALENDAR

- Spring Party Meeting** **February 13, 2006**
Home of Mary Francis Irvin
1:00 p.m.
- General Meeting** **February 23, 2006**
"The Transplant Experience"
Home of Jean and Joseph Jannach
10:00 a.m.
- Board Meeting** **March 2, 2006**
Home of Linda Fitzpatrick
10:00 a.m.
- MFA Spring Party** **March 24, 2006**
Shake-A-Leg Miami Coconut Grove
7:00 p.m.
- General Meeting** **April 26, 2006**
Tour of Nursing and Health Sciences Bldg
10:00 a.m.
- May Installation Luncheon** **May 24, 2006**
Location to be Announced

Nominating Committee

Brooke Kushner will be chairing the Nominating Committee to compose the slate for next years Board. Please let Brooke know if you would like to be more involved in MFA.

Holiday Luncheon and Auction raises over \$2400

Mary Francis Irvin hosted the 2005 Holiday Luncheon and Chinese Auction this year. It was a beautiful South Florida winter day in a lovely waterside setting with a great turnout. Members were treated to a delicious catered lunch compliments of Dean John Clarkson. MFA President Valerie Ricordi thanked Dean Clarkson for his great support of MFA, and acknowledged the key role his wife Diana has played in our organization for many years. Auctioneers Isabelle Andrews and Nancy Elsas did a rollicking job of auctioning off the festive packages and in the end over \$2400 was raised—an MFA record! Thank you to everyone who attended and thank you again to Mary Francis Irvin and Dean Clarkson.

Sail Into Spring with the MFA Spring Party March 24

Invitations are being printed for our annual fundraiser, the MFA Spring Party "An Evening by Sailboat Bay" to be held on March 24. Nettie Belle Robinson has created a beautiful colorful image for our invitation in a sailboat theme which evokes the view from our party location, Shake A Leg Miami in Coconut Grove. Susana Rajj and Any Muench are putting the finishing touches on the menu. The main course of Sirloin Steak and Mahi Mahi will be complimented by other delectable Caribbean themed dishes. Remember our 'plein aire' locale dictates casual attire—no jackets or ties allowed!

If you would like to invite friends or colleagues, please email Valerie Ricordi names and addresses as soon as possible. Invitations will go in the mail February 13. We have solicited several items for our Silent



Auction, but more would be welcome! If you have any ideas for Silent Auction items, again let Valerie know. We are looking for jewelry, dinners, event tickets and special one-of-a kind items or opportunities. If you supply the contact information, the committee is happy to solicit the item for you. Auction forms and solicitation letters are available. The next Spring Party meeting is February 13 at Mary Francis Irvin's house. Please join us!

Thursday February 23 General Meeting 10 a.m. "The Transplant Experience at UM"

Please attend our General Meeting on February 23 to hear Eli Compton speak about The Transplant House at UM for patients and their families. The meeting will be hosted by Jean Jannach at 4421 Santa Maria Street in Coral Gables.

Santa Maria Street is off of Bird Road between Granada and 57th Avenue. Please RSVP to Jean Jannach or to Valerie Ricordi if you plan to attend.