**VITAL SIGNS**

**GREAT EXPECTATIONS**

You remember the guy with the Great Dane [and] the Harley Davidson,” says Merilee Perkins, an administrative assistant in the Department of Community and Family Medicine. Perkins and others at DMS will surely long remember 2005 graduate Anthony “Rocco” Perrone, M.D., M.B.A.—and not just for his eccentricities, but also as the first graduate of the newly created M.D.-M.B.A program. “It was clear from our early meetings that Rocco would be a leader and champion” of the dual-degree option, says Dr. Michael Zubkoff, codirector of the program, which is offered jointly by DMS and Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business.

In May, Perrone also received the program’s first award, named in honor of Drs. Norman Payson, DMS ’73, and Constantine Hampers, whose philanthropy supports M.D.-M.B.A. students at DMS. “With the award comes recognition, but also great expectations,” notes Zubkoff, who is also chair of community and family medicine, “including the expectation that our M.D.-M.B.A. graduates, particularly Rocco—in addition to delivering the best medical care possible—will find ways to help solve the myriad of problems facing health care today.”

J.D.

**LONG SITE LINES**

At the end of July, DARTMOUTH MEDICINE launched a major redesign of its website. The new site features a fresh graphic presentation, a thorough reworking of the navigational structure, a more sophisticated search engine, and much richer use of links to other institutional sites. In just the first month after it went live, the new site had logged nearly 100,000 hits, compared to an average of 40,000 a month on the magazine’s previous site; by comparison, 27,000 copies of each issue of the paper edition are printed. But while the line of visitors to the new site is long, it features a much shorter URL: http://dartmed.dartmouth.edu.

The development of the new site was a collaborative effort of the magazine’s staff and the DMS web office. And further enhancements to the site are already under discussion—including image galleries, featuring photos beyond those for which there’s room in the print edition, and web-exclusive stories.

A.S.

**NLM acquires papers of Dartmouth’s Dr. Koop**

When you become an officer in the United States government, you take an oath of office,” says Dr. C. Everett Koop, former U.S. surgeon general, in his rugged, commanding voice. “As I pointed out to people many times when they said, ‘Why didn’t you strike out about so and so?’ . . . I was the surgeon general of [everyone] . . . I just can’t pick out people and say, ‘I like what you believe and therefore I’m telling you how to save your life.’”

Public: This was the philosophy that guided America’s best-known surgeon general in his fight against tobacco, his efforts to remove the stigma of AIDS, and his innovative strategies to promote the health of the nation. More than any other surgeon general before or since, Koop (who served in the post from 1981 to 1989) was a public figure. And it’s for the public that his papers were recently welcomed into the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

Occupying 71 linear feet, the collection includes paper documents—lectures, letters, fan mail and hate mail, photographs, and published works—plus hundreds of television interviews, documentaries, and public service announcements. In addition, Koop annotated each of the 960 lectures he gave. “I would try to set the political stage” at the time the lecture was delivered, he explains, “tell what had happened before, try to give a reason why we chose a particular venue or why we chose the subject. And then if there was anything I could say from 25 years out,” he included that, too.

The Koop papers are housed in an exclusive section of the NLM called “Profiles in Science.” The web-accessible archive (http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov) also includes the personal papers of Francis Crick, codiscoverer of DNA; Florence Sabin, the first woman elected to the National Academy of Sciences; and several Nobel laureates.

“It’s nice to be in good company like that,” says Koop, a 1937 Dartmouth College graduate who still, just shy of his 89th birthday, heads the C. Everett Koop Institute at DMS. “It’s also nice to know,” he adds, “that some of the things that I labored on so arduously are available for historians, and especially people in public health.”

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Former Surgeon General Koop—still a fan of bow ties—recently donated 71 linear feet of his papers to the NLM.