

but what they found surprised them. “People are more aware of it than you’d think,” Andrew Goodman says. “There was a tremendous amount of interest in learning more.”

**Critical:** Their next step is to disseminate the survey on a large scale. “This is a very critical time for the health-care system,” says Andrew Goodman. “The physicians there are amazing people. . . . But there is a lack of feedback.”

Hoxha, who is now back in Kosovo, plans to develop reports on the health-care system there similar to those issued by TDI, starting by focusing on the care of mothers and infants.

Strickler is glad to see Hoxha working with TDI. “Kosovo desperately needs the kinds of studies of the health-care system that TDI does,” he says. “Those studies should lead to the development of cost-efficient health-care programs.”

Dartmouth continues to develop connections to Kosovo in other areas as well. Dr. Bujar Bukoshi, Kosovo’s minister of health, spent a week in early September at DMS.

And Dr. Michael Zubkoff, chair of DMS’s Department of Community and Family Medicine, was recently named to the board of trustees of American University in Kosovo.

**Rebuild:** “What you want to do,” Zubkoff says, referring to Dartmouth’s role in Kosovo, “is help them rebuild their own infrastructure. You want to help them retool and take control of their own destiny.”

AMOS ESTY

## INVESTIGATOR INSIGHT

In this section, we highlight the human side of biomedical investigation, putting a few questions to a researcher at DMS-DHMC.

**Anikó Náray-Fejes-Tóth, M.D.**

**Professor of Physiology**

*Náray-Fejes-Tóth, a molecular endocrinologist, studies the cellular and molecular mechanisms by which steroid hormones regulate kidney function and blood pressure. She has been at DMS for 20 years.*

**How did you become interested in physiology?**

While I was a medical student at Semmelweis University in Hungary, I interned (evenings, nights, and weekends) in a biochemistry lab and fell in love with science. Thus after obtaining my M.D., I returned to the lab and became a full-time researcher. The term physiology as we think of it today is much broader than most people would assume. It involves all aspects of “how things work,” at the organism level as well as in cells and at the molecular level.

**Can you describe your research?**

My main interest is to find out how hormones—steroid hormones in particular—work at the physiological, cellular, and molecular levels. My latest research is to determine the role of aldosterone in a widespread condition called metabolic syndrome. It includes obesity, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, and dyslipidemia. We are using transgenic and knockout mouse models to try to determine the mechanisms by which steroid hormones contribute to this group of diseases.



**What is the greatest frustration in your work? And the greatest joy?**

Frustration? When I have to spend time dealing with red tape. Joy? When experiments work and my students are becoming good scientists.

**What famous person, living or dead, would you most like to meet?**

Robert E. Lee. Having grown up in Europe, I am fascinated with American history, in particular the Civil War. Lee’s giant and controversial figure stands out. If I could have a second pick, it would be Abraham Lincoln.

**What’s your favorite nonwork activity?**

I love sailing, biking, hiking, skiing, gardening, cooking, baking—I wish I just had more time.

**Do you always have a working hypothesis in the lab?**

I always have hypotheses, but they are not always working out.

**What advice would you offer to someone new in your field?**

Do not do this unless you totally *love* it. The idea that science is a glamorous thing and you just have brilliant ideas and everything else falls in place is not true. It’s hard work, and things work maybe 20 percent of the time, at best—but that 20 percent is *great*.

**Finish this sentence: If I had more time I would . . .**

I would do everything that I do now, except *much* slower, maybe at one third of the speed I am going now. I would also like to do some volunteer work.

**What is a talent you wish you had?**

Just one? Patience. If I could wish for two, I would also include playing the piano.

**When you were very young what did you want to be?**

Archaeologist, doctor, gymnast, doctor, chemist, doctor, in this order, if I remember. Well, at least some of it worked out!

**Who has most inspired your work?**

Géza, my husband. He is terrific.

**What is your most memorable accomplishment?**

My mom would never believe it, but I actually cook well. My friends always demand my Hungarian goulash; that’s a hit no matter what. My colleagues might also mention some of our scientific discoveries, but in those I was lucky.

