Worthy of note:

Honors, awards, appointments, etc.

Robert Gougelet, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine, was named vice chair of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s National Advisory Council. The group advises the administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency on preparedness and emergency management.

Richard Comi, M.D., an associate professor of medicine, was recognized by Men’s Health magazine as one of America’s top doctors in endocrinology.

Alan Rozyczki, M.D., a professor of pediatrics (and a 1963 graduate of DMS), was honored with the creation of the Alan A. Rozyczki Commitment to Excellence Award. The annual award will highlight an individual whose extraordinary work has had an impact on the quality of the patient experience in general pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth.

Claudine Bartels, Ph.D., a research associate in pathology, was one of 31 scientists named a “Top Young Investigator” by Genome Technology Magazine.

Kristine Karlson, M.D., an assistant professor of community and family medicine, was chosen as a team physician for the rowing, canoe/kayak, and triathlon teams at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

Lynn Butterly, M.D., an associate professor of medicine, received the Singer Family Award for achievements in furthering the mission of the American Cancer Society in New Hampshire.

Lisabeth Maloney, M.D., an associate professor of anesthesiology, was re-elected to the board of the Northeast Health Care Quality Foundation.

David Axelrod, M.D., an assistant professor of surgery, received the 2007 American College of Surgeons Health Policy Scholarship for General Surgeons.

William A. Nelson, Ph.D., an associate professor of psychiatry, was recently selected by the National Rural Health Association as a fellow in the Rural Health Fellows Program.

Linda von Reyn, R.N., Ph.D., senior nurse executive for DHMC, received the 2007 New Hampshire Nurse Leader Award from the New Hampshire Organization of Nurse Leaders.

Guiseppe Raviola, M.D., a resident in child and adolescent psychiatry, was one of 10 residents nationwide to receive a Lauglin Fellowship from the American College of Psychiatrists.

Lucinda Leung and Leslie Morris, second-year M.D. students, won an award for best poster presentation from the Northeast Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. (See page 12 for more about the project they presented.)

Richard Showalter, senior vice president of finance for DHMC, was recently elected to the board of directors of the Endowment for Health, New Hampshire’s largest health foundation.

Dennis Yobin, administrative director of rehabilitation services at DHMC, received the 2007 Regent Award for his volunteer efforts on behalf of the Northern New England Association of Healthcare Executives. The New Hampshire Occupational Therapy Association also honored him with its 2007 Occupational Therapy Practitioner of the Year Award.

Polly Campion, R.N., M.S., director of clinical improvement and director of the Office of Patient Safety at DHMC, received the 2007 New Hampshire Foundation for Healthy Communities’ Innovators Award, which recognizes leadership and creativity in improving health-care access, delivery, and quality.

The Norris Cotton Cancer Center was a recipient of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies’ Blue Distinction recognition in the Complex and Rare Cancers category. It was the first year this category was included in the program, which uses evidence-based selection criteria.

DHMC received three other recent awards for clinical excellence. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services presented the Medical Center with its Medal of Honor for Organ Donation in recognition of an organ donation rate of 75% or more of eligible donors. The American Stroke Association chose DHMC for its Get With The Guidelines—Stroke Initial Performance Achievement Award. And DHMC was ranked among the top 100 hospitals nationwide for clinical outcomes in cardiovascular care by Thomson Healthcare.

DHMC also received recognition in four other arenas. The Medical Center was inducted for the second time into the Hall of Fame of Best Companies to Work for in New Hampshire by Business NH Magazine; induction, for a two-year period, requires being chosen for the “Best Companies” list in four of the five preceding years.

DHMC was also the recipient of three eHealthcare Leadership Awards—platinum for its Quality Reports website, gold for its Out-of-Pocket Estimator, and silver for its Patient Online site. DHMC was selected by Hospitals & Health Networks magazine for its annual “Most Wired” ranking, in the Small and Rural Hospital category. And DHMC was named one of the top 50 hospitals in the U.S. for complete and compliant medical coding.

Erratum: The cover article in our Winter 2007 issue, about Dr. Jack Wennberg’s work on variations in health-care delivery, contained a quotation with an error. Health-care blogger Matthew Holt commented that “it’s become impossible to argue with Jack on the evidence—even though his findings are tilting at a $2-billion industry with good reason to ignore them.” There’s a “b” in that passage that should have been a “tr”—health care in the United States is a $2-trillion industry. We extend a billion apologies . . . no, make that a trillion . . . for the error.

THE DAILY DISH: The food service program at DHMC, which turns out 4,500 meals daily, has a new, energy-efficient dishwasher that pulverizes and compacts waste; it’s projected to reduce waste volume by 85%.