The Campaign.
transforming medicine

Endowed chairs help to sustain research, advances in clinical care, and teaching of the next generation.

1 Dr. Elmer Pfefferkorn, known to generations of Dartmouth medical students as “Pfeff,” has won 35 teaching awards during his career.
2 Pfefferkorn is also internationally known for his research on Toxoplasma gondii. Here, right, he discusses a lab finding with fellow faculty member Joe Schwartzman, DMS ’72.
3 Paul and Yvonne Hendricks, state watch as their grandchildren Ian and Sarah (left, Lauren, not pictured) unveil a new plaque marking Molly’s Place.
4 Dr. Leslie Fall, left, and Bill Boyle, right, wore instrumental in starting CHaD.
5 The entire Hendricks family was on hand for the naming ceremony in October.
6 This new plaque now serves as a reminder of the family’s generosity to CHaD.

Kate Villars is assistant director of development communications for DMS-DMSC.

New chair honors “Pfeff” By Kate Villars

Dartmouth Medical School has honored one of its most beloved and respected faculty members with the creation of a professorship in his name. The Elmer R. Pfefferkorn, Ph.D. Professorship in Microbiology and Immunology recognizes Pfefferkorn’s outstanding contributions to DMS as a teacher and scientist over the course of more than 40 years.

“Dr. Pfefferkorn is truly a legend at DMS and an icon in the teaching of medical students,” says DMS Dean Dr. William Green. “Of significant note is the fact that this chair is the direct result of faculty, student, and alumni requesting that this honor be bestowed upon this truly outstanding educator, scientist, and friend of DMS.”

“Pfeff,” as he has been fondly called by generations of students, is now a professor emeritus of microbiology and immunology. His gift for teaching and his intellectual curiosity, compassion, and dry humor have made him an unforgettable and formative instructor for several generations of DMS alumni. He is also internationally recognized as a creative, forward-thinking scientist who has made fundamental contributions in the areas of parasitology and virology. His leadership was also critical to the development of the Immunology and Molecular Pathogenesis Programs at DMS (see dartmed.dartmouth.edu/08/01 for more on his career).

At last count, over 400 former students and past and present colleagues had helped to fund the Pfefferkorn Chair. A comment from donor Matthew Dolan, DMS ’85, speaks to the motivations of many alumni contributors: “Dr. Pfefferkorn was undoubtedly the educator who had the most influence on my choice of my subsequent career and on my approach to medical education,” wrote Dolan. “I came into his class interested in immunology and infectious diseases. I have spent most of my life following his class focused on it.”

The Pfefferkorn Chair will be awarded to an outstanding microbiologist or immunologist who exemplifies Pfefferkorn’s dedication and excellence in both teaching and research.

Endowed professorships are a vital tool in attracting and retaining the most talented faculty members, who will further strengthen DMS’s position as a leader in academic medicine.

In today’s climate of shrinking funds for federal research, these endowments help to sustain pioneering research and its translation into advances in clinical care, as well as allow faculty members to dedicate more of their time to the important work of teaching the next generation of physicians and scientists.

Currently, DMS has 25 fully funded endowed chairs. The funding of additional endowed professorships is a priority of the Transforming Medicine Campaign, and to date the Campaign has received commitments to fund five new chairs, as well as significant gifts towards the eventual establishment of several others.

ChAxD marks Hendricks family’s generosity By Kate Villars

The Family Center provides a bright and welcoming place within the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth (CHaD) for children and their families to unwind between appointments or during long hospitalizations. Its play area features a play structure and is stocked with toys, books, and games for children of all ages, while for parents it offers information about community and health resources as well as simply a place to relax with a cup of coffee or to breast-feed a baby.

Since its inception six years ago, the CHaD Family Center has been supported by generous gifts from the Hendricks—Felton Family Foundation. Now, the Family Center has a new name—Molly’s Place—in recognition of that support. A ceremony in October marked the naming of the Family Center in honor of Amalia “Molly” Zacharias Felton, the loving grandmother of Dr. Leslie Hendricks Fall, chair of Pediatrics at Dartmouth and a member of the Hendricks-Felton Foundation.

Three generations of the Hendricks family were at CHaD for the event, which included a naming ceremony and a series of talks by Fall and others on “The Joy of Giving Back.” The sounds of children playing could be heard in the background as CHaD leaders—including MHHH President Nancy Formella; Dr. John Modlin, chair of pediatrics; and Dr. Bill Boyle, chair of the

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