In an analysis of baboon mandibles, some of which originated from a double blind study of animals which had had their ovaries removed (a post-menopausal model, in which osteoporosis was being evaluated in vertebrae), Dr. Oyen discovered that differences in mandibular bone density between ovarectomized/non-ovarectomized North Carolina-raised animals were smaller than the differences between animals raised in the wilds of East Africa and the North Carolina group. He concluded that the potential is present in studies of osteoporosis to exaggerate or mask the effects of endocrine changes, when there are a number of additional factors that must be taken into account.

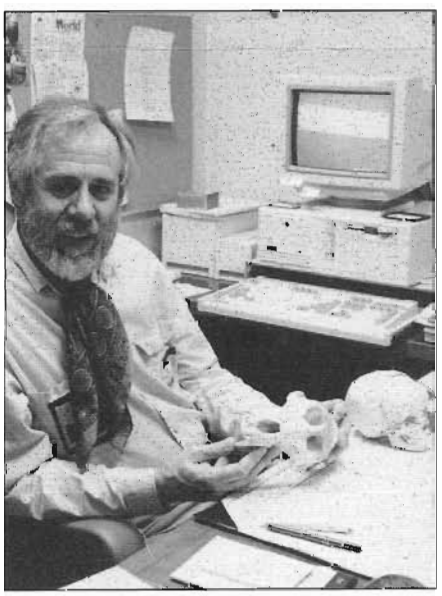
From these efforts, he has begun research toward applying in vivo models for the study of changes in oral bone quality, to design epidemiologic studies of oral bone loss, and to design methods of measuring changes in mechanical properties associated with bone quality changes. As for clinical applications, which he views as vital in such research, he suggests that his work will likely indicate that restoration of the quality of tooth bearing bone, and methods of prevention, are of utmost importance in osteoporosis of the upper and lower jaws.

Additionally, for the past decade or so he has been heavily involved in curriculum, program and faculty development, matters that are closely related to his interest in how scientists think. At Texas A&M University in the mid-1970s, he was the first physical anthropologist in a newly established program in anthropology. He had a joint appointment in anatomy in an equally new school of medicine. In his five years in Texas, he was part of an effort that resulted in the establishment of a Masters Degree program in anthropology, with a sound basis laid for a doctoral program.

At Case Western Reserve University, he initiated an effort to evaluate and revise the graduate program in oral biology. He has also served on several ad hoc committees charged with the responsibility for strategic planning for the school of dentistry.

While he is not a clinician, he readily indicates he is concerned with how clinicians think and form judgments. He says he attaches more significance to knowing HOW people use information than he attaches to knowing WHAT they know. He is convinced that many advances "are yet to be made by persons who generate new ways for thinking about and using already existing facts whose significance we do not fully appreciate, largely because of the manner in which we have been thinking about those facts."

Dr. Oyen states that he is excited about the prospects of his department, primarily because Dr. Thomas Indresano, Chairman of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and the entire faculty are enthusiastic about training leaders, not merely good clinicians.



Ordean J. Oyen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Surgery, Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

National Prostate Cancer Preventation Study to be Conducted at MCW

MCW has been selected to participate in the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) study of a new medication to prevent prostate cancer. Funded by the National Cancer Institute, the study will enroll 18,000 men nationwide. As the only institution participating in Wisconsin and the upper peninsula of Michigan, MCW's goal is to enroll 150. Principle investigator is Robert Donnell, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery (Urology).

Men in good health and over the age of 55 selected to participate will receive a daily medication over a seven-year period. In randomized, double-blind fashion, half of the participants will receive placebos, and half will receive the medication, finasteride. Based on previous studies, it is hoped that finasteride will prove to be an effective cancer preventative.

Men age 55 or over who are interested in participating should call 414/259-2122. Costs associated with the study in eligible participants will be covered by the National Cancer Institute.

Constantine Frantzides, M.D. Recognized for Teaching Efforts in Laparoscopic Surgery

Constantine Frantzides, M.D., PhD., Associate Professor (General Surgery), was recognized in October at the Joint Surgical Meetings of the Greek and Cypriot Surgical Societies for introducing laparoscopic operative techniques to that part of the world. Dr. Frantzides has instructed Greek and Cypriot surgeons in the art of these procedures over the last four years.

Dr. Frantzides also made presentations on laparoscopic nissen fundoplication, laparoscopic colectomy-enterectomy, and laparoscopic highly selective vagotomy at International

(continued)

Surgical Week, at the 35th World Congress of International Society of Surgery, which was held in Hong Kong in August.

Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication is viewed as a suitable surgical alternative to open fundoplication with all of the advantages of minimally invasive surgery. This procedure, for severe gastroesophageal reflux, has resulted in high levels of patient satisfaction, shorter hospital stays, and early returns to work with good control of symptoms off of all medication.

Laparoscopic Colectomy-Enterectomy has demonstrated, through longer follow-up and larger series than previously available, that laparoscopic colon resection in experienced hands may be a suitable alternative to the standard laparotomy. Other colon operations now being successfully completed by the laparoscopic approach include creation of both loop and end colostomies, rectopexy for rectal prolapse, and colostomy closure.

Laparoscopic Highly Selective Vagotomy combines the advantages of highly selective vagotomy with those of minimally invasive surgery in an anti-ulcer operation. The first highly selective vagotomy in the United States was performed by Dr. Frantzides at Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital in February 1992. A total of eight highly selective vagotomies have been performed since then in patients with persistent duodenal ulcer despite medications. Development of an anti-ulcer operation associated with low morbidity, little pain, short hospital stay, rapid return to work, minimal postoperative gastrointestinal complaints, and low recurrence rate may make the operation a more attractive option in the treatment of duodenal ulcer disease.

Dr. Frantzides adds that it is important to remember when performing laparoscopic surgery that the basic tenets of open general surgery not be violated. No operation should be altered simply to be done laparoscopically.

Constantine Frantzides, M.D., Ph.D., with award from the Greek and Cypriot Surgical Societies for his teaching efforts in laparoscopic operative techniques.

James Wallace, M.D., Ph.D. is Recipient of Davis & Geck Scholarship

James R. Wallace, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Trauma and Emergency Surgery, was recently awarded the Davis & Geck Scholarship, a competitive award given by the American Association of Trauma Surgery. This financial support will be used to fund Dr. Wallace's research and academic activities, specifically his study of the causes of edema in patients after resuscitation.

The focus of his efforts, currently, is to evaluate the permeability effects of oxidant stress in capillary function. The overall goal of the research is to try to develop a rational approach to resuscitation during trauma and sepsis. Current approaches are primarily maintenance oriented. Dr. Wallace says his aim is to try to "arrest the problem early with whatever works - vitamins, whatever - to lessen the overall injury." The scholarship, which is for new investigators, will enable Dr. Wallace to pursue his research endeavors at a level previously unavailable to him.

Michael Story, Ph.D. Co-Chairs Symposium in France

Michael T. Story, Ph.D., Associate Professor (Urology) served as co-chairman of a symposium held at Saint Louis Hospital, Paris, France. The symposium, "Growth Factors and Benign Prostatic Hyperplastia," attracted 300 French urologists. Dr. Story also made a presentation on his research, entitled "Positive and Negative Modulators of Prostate Cell Proliferation."

New Faculty

In the last issue, we provided brief biographical information on surgical faculty members who joined our ranks from 1992 through July, 1993. Since then, in September, we are pleased to welcome:

JAMES E. FREIJE, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery (Otolaryngology & Human Communication), received his medical degree from S.U.N.Y. Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, New York, and his residency training at the University of Vermont Medical Center. He completed a fellowship in head and neck surgery at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. Prior to joining the MCW faculty, he was Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, at the Hershey Medical Center, in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Dr. Freije's research interest is oncogene expression in head and neck cancer. He has nine scientific publications and two book chapters to his credit.

Tom Malin Appointed to Position

Tom Malin was appointed Associate Executive Secretary of the Association of Otolaryngology Administrators at the association's annual meeting in October. The association consists of approximately 600 otolaryngology practice administrators.

Prior to this, Tom served three years as a member of the AOA Executive Committee, including the position of President in 1992-93. Additionally, he is editor of the association's national newsletter and a contributor to the monthly bulletin of the American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery. He serves also as chair of the association's finance committee.