

*Six*

# THE LAST QUARTER CENTURY



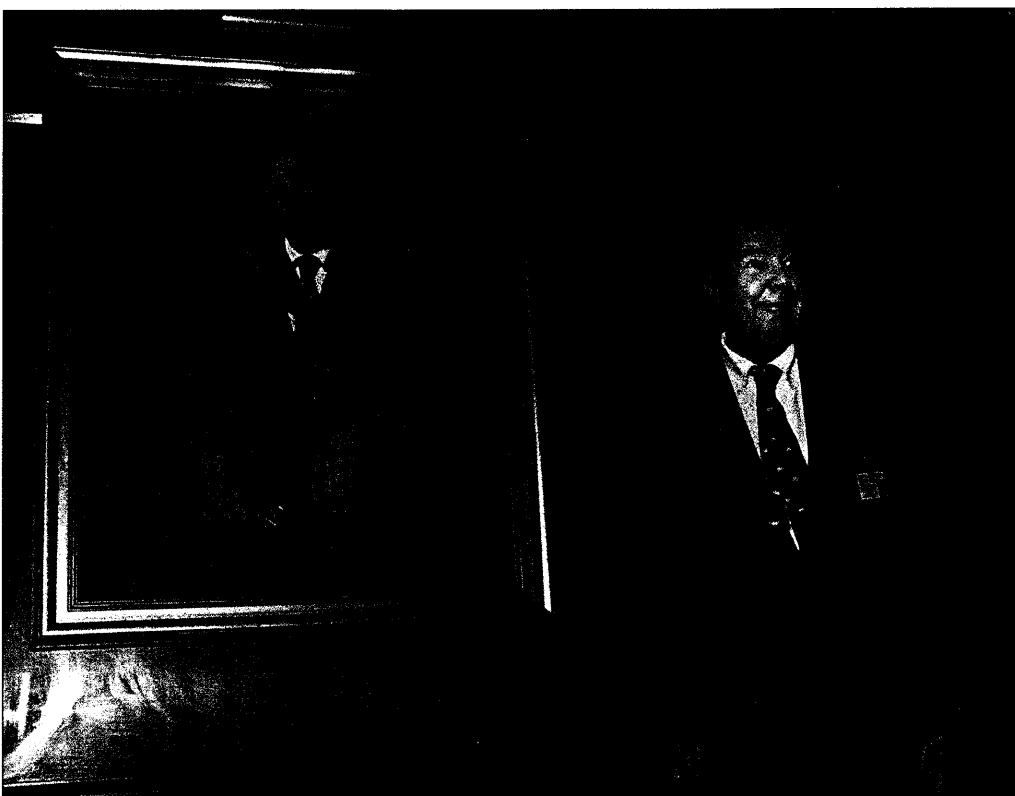
Commencement activities are always happy occasions. Seen at commencement in 1978 are, from left to right, Dr. Albert Kaufman, assistant professor of physiology; Dr. Mimi Halpern, an associate professor of anatomy and cell biology; Dr. Lucy F. Squire, a professor of radiology; and Dr. Francis D. Moore, an Elliott Carr Cutler professor of surgery at the Howard Medical School.

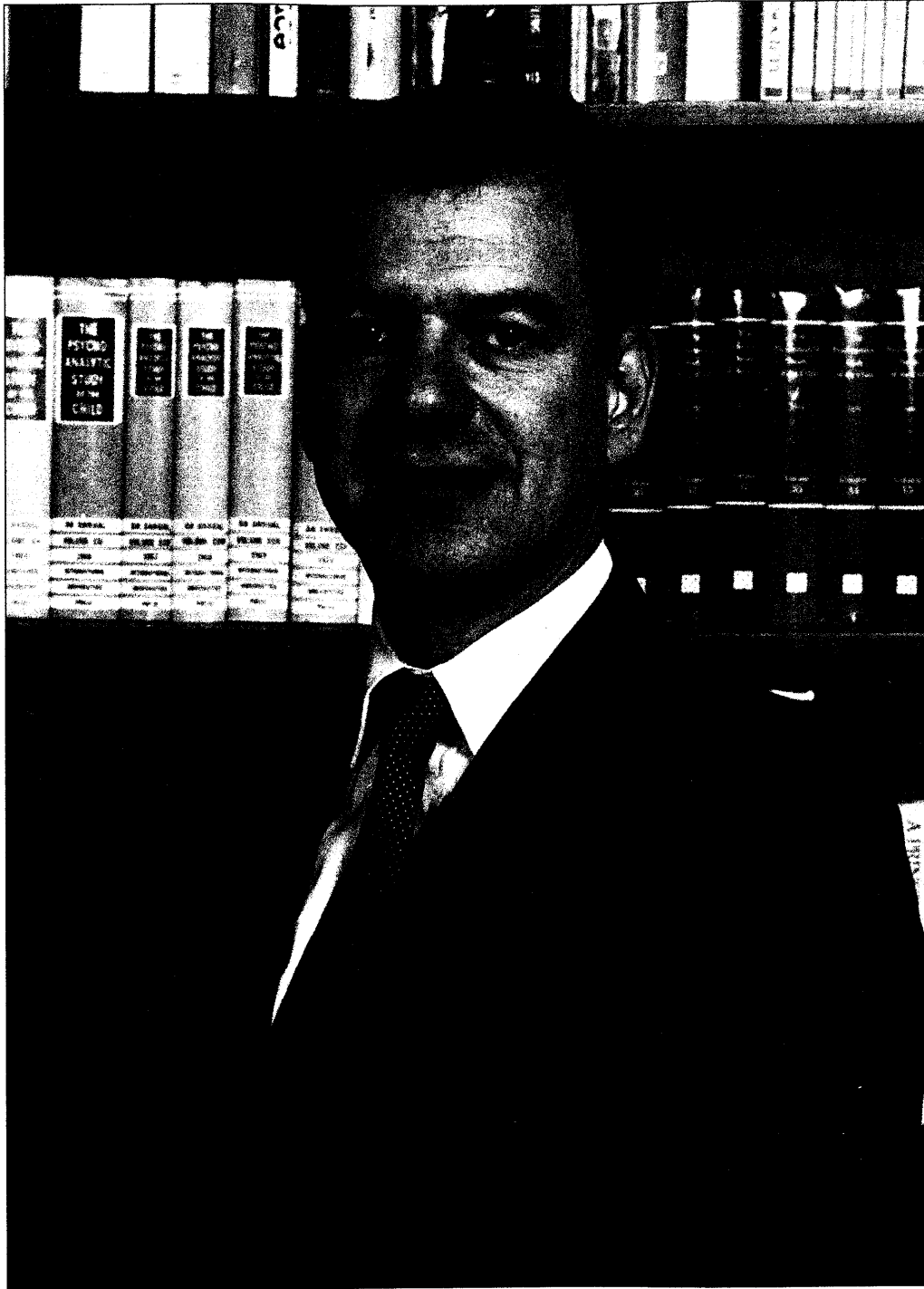
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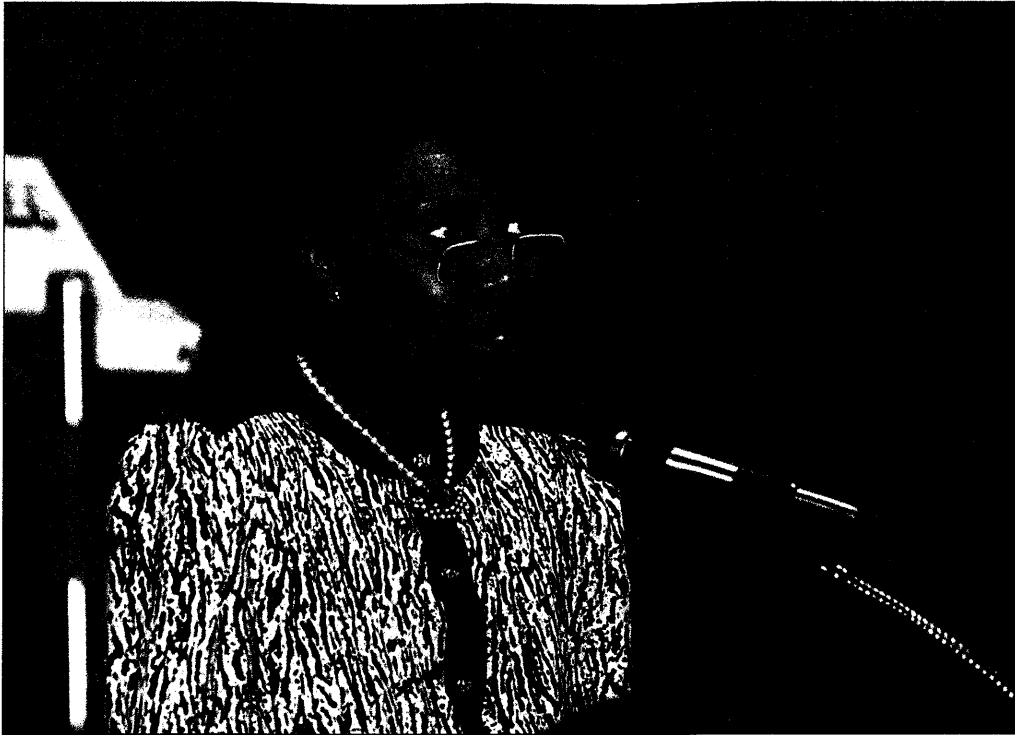
Dr. Calvin H. Plimpton, president of SUNY Downstate Medical Center, congratulates Geoffrey H. Patrice upon receiving his degree in 1978.

Plimpton served as president of SUNY Downstate Medical Center from 1971 to 1979. His official portrait was presented to the SUNY Downstate community on February 11, 1981. The ceremony was held in the President's Board Room before an enthusiastic group of Downstaters, including President-Designate Donald J. Scherl, M.D., and members of the Plimpton family.





Donald J. Scherl, M.D., assumed the presidency of SUNY Downstate Medical Center in May 1981. He assumed the post from Acting President Stanley L. Lee, M.D. Scherl welcomed the opportunity to become associated with a medical center with so long a history of contributions to the nation in the areas of medical service, research, and health sciences education.



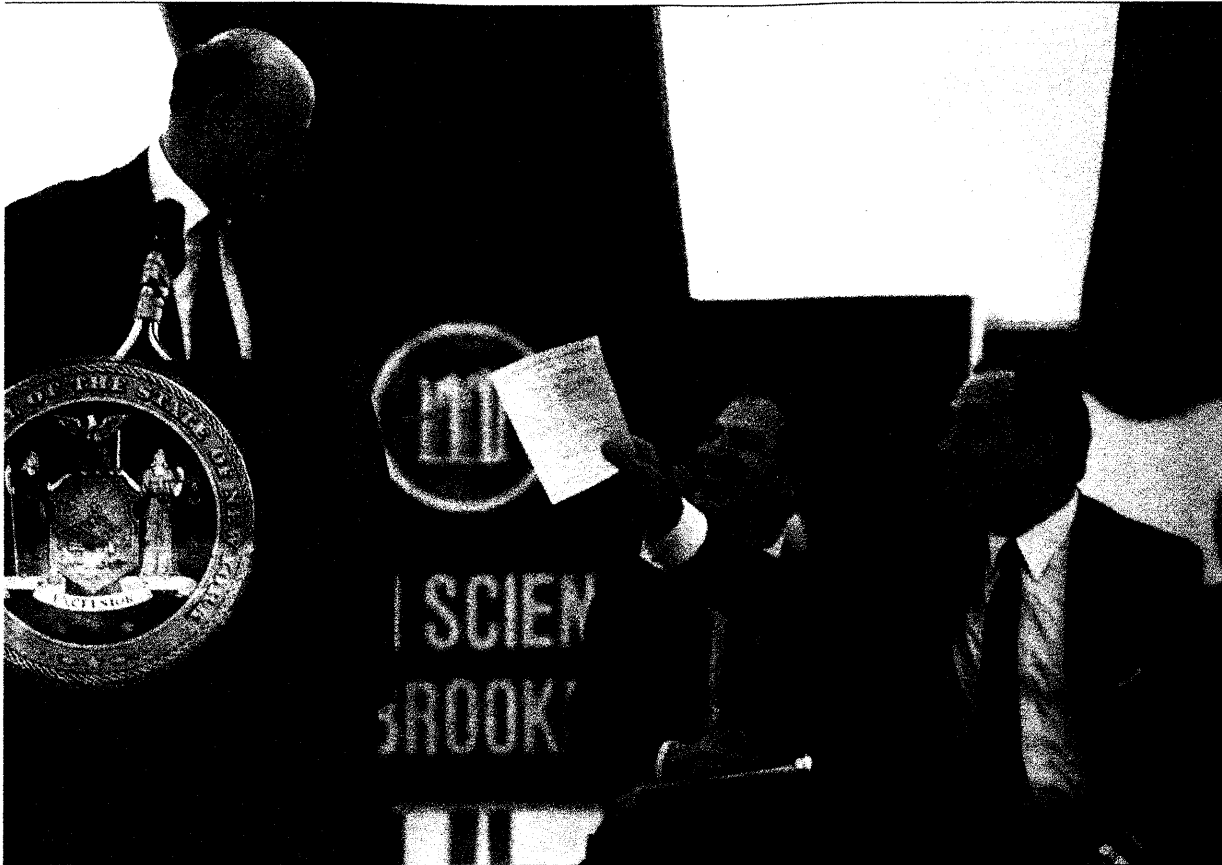
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Executive Dean of Allied Health and Nursing, Jo Ann Bradley, Ed.D., has been with the medical center for nearly 30 years. Her experience with several components of the campus has made her a valuable asset to the administrative body of the campus. She has been unyielding in her commitment and support of the mission of the campus, with particular emphasis on the student body.



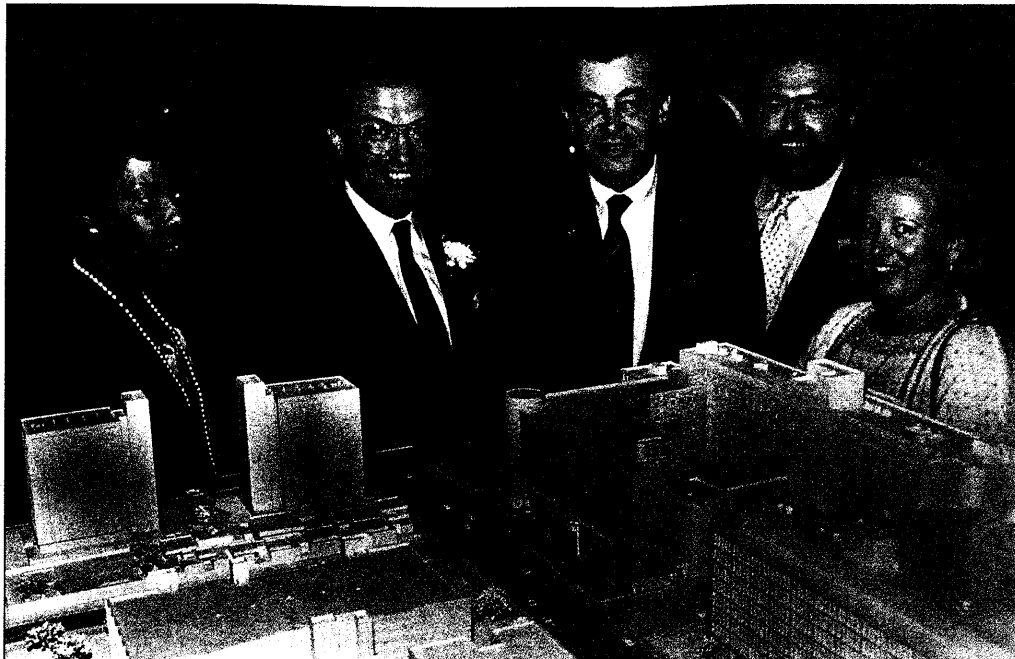
Dr. Paul Dreizen, professor of medicine at the College of Medicine and dean of the School of Graduate Studies, has presided over the School of Graduate Studies for most of its existence.



A milestone in medical education in Brooklyn, SUNY Downstate Medical Center celebrated the 125th anniversary of the College of Medicine in grand style with a dinner dance at the Brooklyn Museum in 1985.



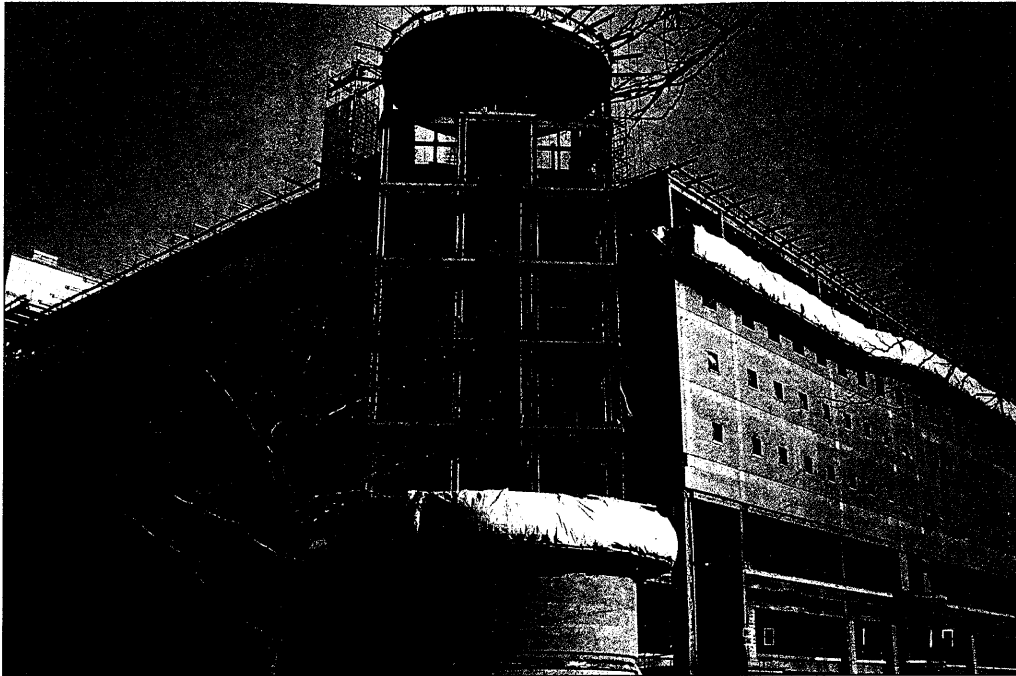
The 1980s saw further campus expansion with the planning and building of the Health Science Education Building. At groundbreaking ceremonies for the new building in 1987, New York City mayor Edward I. Koch (at the podium) chides with New York State governor Mario M. Cuomo while Dr. Donald Scherl, president of the Medical Center, looks on.



The new Health Science Education Building would provide a permanent space for the College of Nursing and the College of Health Related Professions. It would also give laboratory space for first and second year medical students and a new medical library. The Brooklyn Borough president Howard Golden (center) looks over a model with campus representatives. Golden is flanked by Dr. Jo Ann Bradley, dean of the College of Health Related Professions (left), and Dr. Rita Reis Wizorek, dean of the College of Nursing.



Pres. Donald Scherl (right) looks over a model of the proposed building with student representatives from the College of Health Related Professions and the College of Nursing.



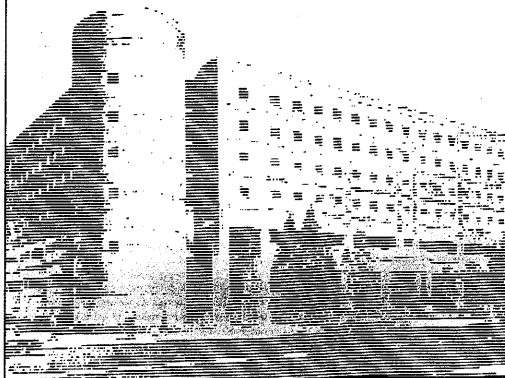
The \$54 million Health Science Education Building nears completion on the corner of Lenox Road and New York Avenue.

**Opening New Doors  
for Health Science Education**

Opening Ceremonies  
The Health Science Education Building

The State University of New York  
Health Science Center at Brooklyn

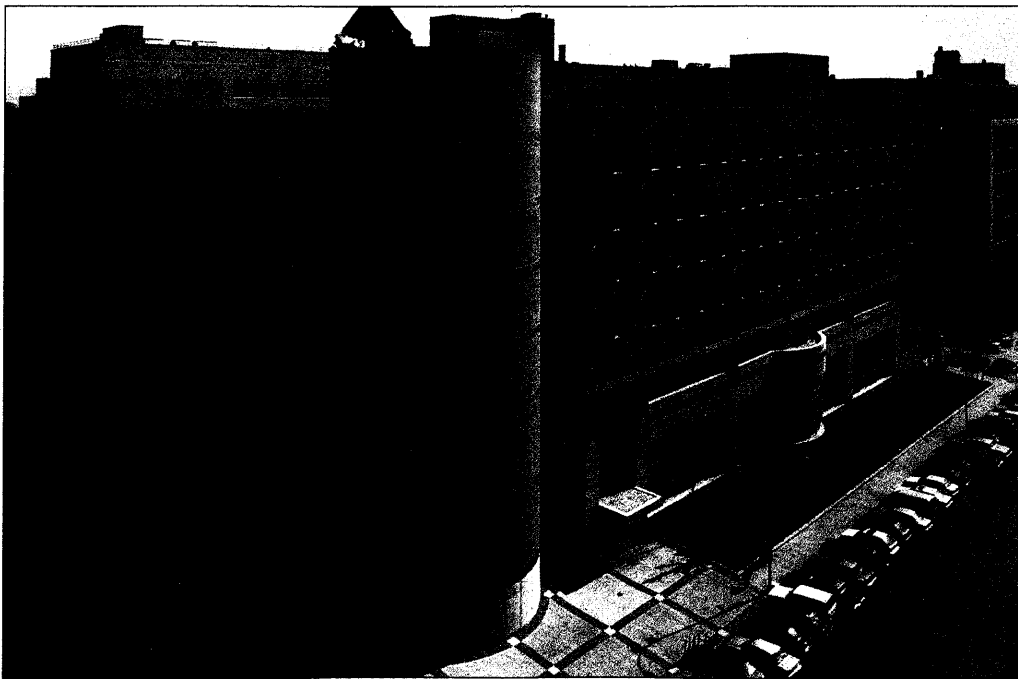
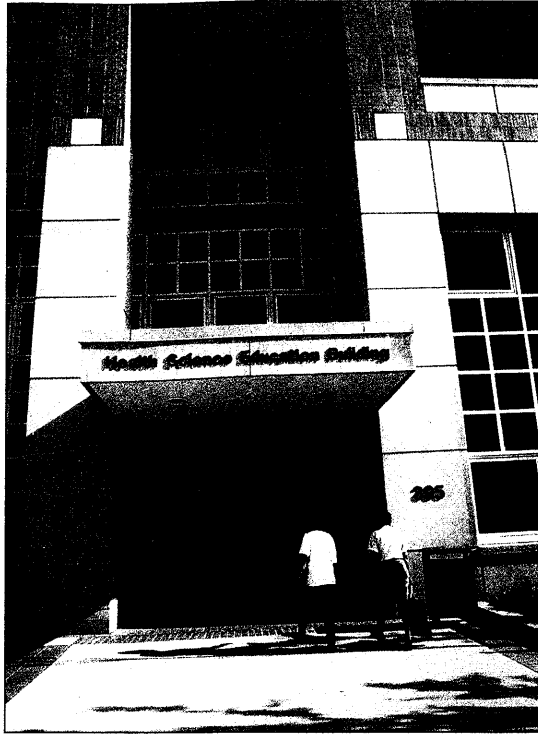
Wednesday, January 29, 1992  
Health Science Education Building Auditorium



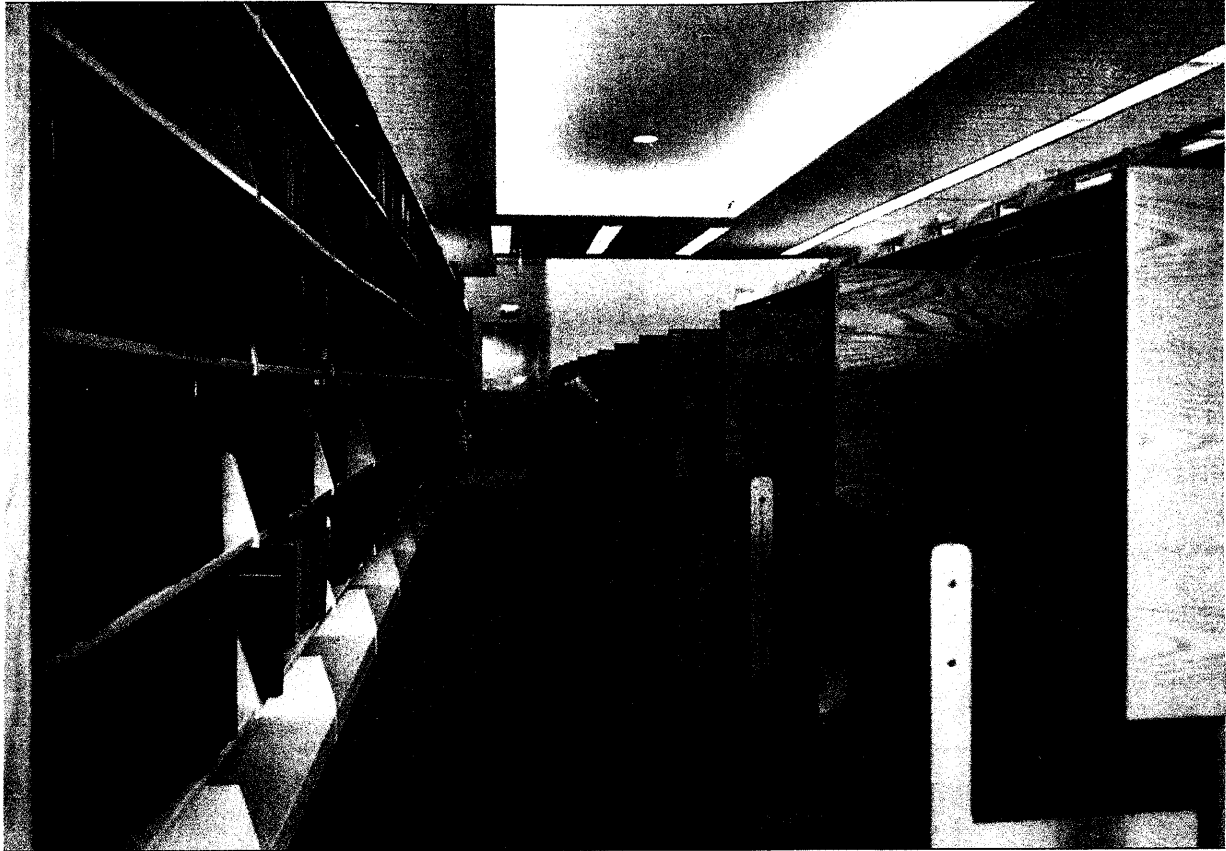
Opening ceremonies for the new building took place on January 29, 1992. It took several months for the various constituents to move into the new facility. The College of Nursing and the College of Health Related Professions would leave the "T" building on the grounds of the Kings County Hospital Center for their first permanent location since being established in the 1960s.



An additional portal to the Health Science Center campus, the “395” entrance is used by many students and staff. The new building is connected to the older Basic Sciences Building on several levels, allowing greater access to the new facilities. It is also directly across the street from the student center and residence halls.



The Health Science Education Building has become a modern-day icon representing the SUNY Downstate Medical Center campus. The Health Science Center community associates the new building with the evolving campus' mission and commitment to progress in medical and allied health education, research, and health care.



The Medical Research Library of Brooklyn was the first to move into the new facility. Having moved its collections from several locations, it took almost two months to complete the relocation. The library now enjoys modern amenities such as air conditioning, a new learning resource center, movable shelving in its storage area, adequate seating for the student body, and an integrated computerized library system.



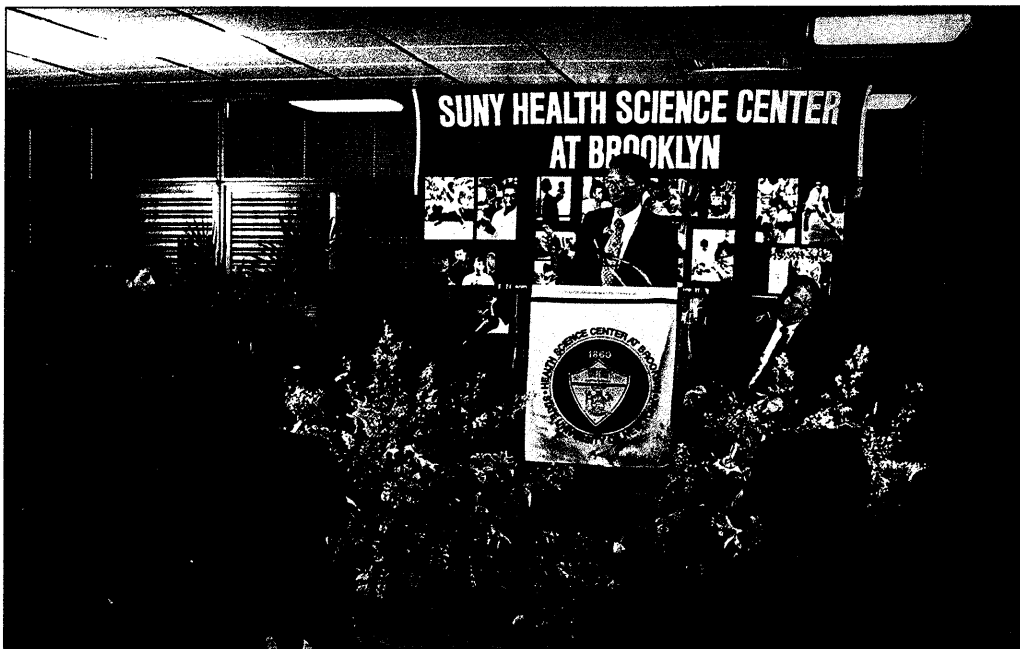
In 1988, Dr. Donald Scherl (center) accepted a \$1 million pledge and a \$200,000 gift from Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Dennis in fulfillment of their promise to provide an endowment for a chair in the Department of Surgery. A past chair of the Department of Surgery, Dennis performed the first successful open-heart operation in New York State on June 30, 1955.



Dr. Jo Ann Bradley (left) acknowledges Dr. and Mrs. Dennis's gift at a reception in their honor held in the atrium of the Health Science Education Building.



Dr. Donald Scherl appears at a panel discussion with civil rights activist and former mayor of Atlanta, Andrew Young.



Tennis great and champion of civil liberties, Arthur Ashe inaugurated the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health at the Health Science Center on December 3, 1992. It was one of his last public appearances. With the formation of the the institute, the Health Science Center entered a new era. The institute is a focus for the study of urban health care issues and an enduring tribute to the late Mr. Ashe and to his belief that equal access to health care is a civil right.



On August 24, 1993, the Health Science Center was visited by the Okyenhene, Osagyefo Nana Kuntukununku II, and his entourage. Pictured here, they are observing assistant professor and clinical coordinator Adrian Anthony of the Diagnostic Medical Imaging Program as he demonstrates imaging techniques in the DMI laboratory. Students take on the role of patients in the program's teaching laboratory. The DMI program at SUNY Downstate Medical Center was the first program in the United States to offer a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in diagnostic medical sonography.



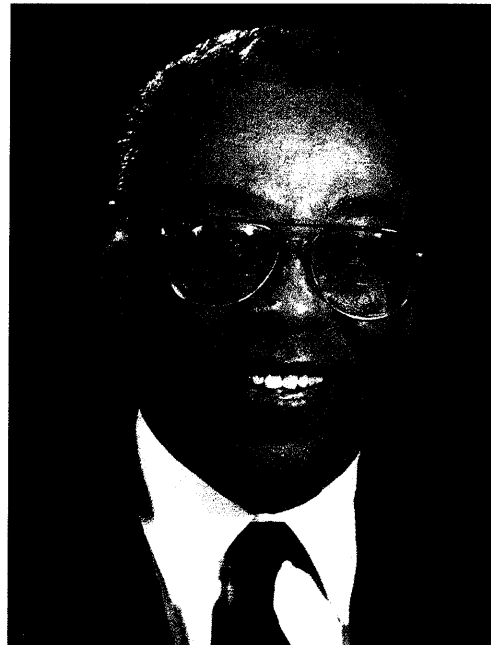
Dr. Richard H. Schwarz (left) enjoys mingling with students at orientation activities. Schwarz, the former chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was also provost and vice president for clinical affairs of the College of Medicine. He also assumed the post of acting president upon Dr. Donald J. Scherl's retirement.




Orientation activities include informative lectures, get-togethers, luncheons, barbeques, and the annual Circle Line boat ride around Manhattan. Pictured here on the 1993 boat ride, Meg O'Sullivan (right), director of student life, surrounds herself with members of the Class of 1997. Included among them are Jennifer K. Wright (left) and Andrew P. MacKenzie (second from left).



Students from the Class of 1997 enjoy outdoor orientation activities in the courtyard of the student center.



Russell L. Miller, M.D., assumed the post of president from Dr. Schwarz in August 1994. Schwarz had held the post of acting president from the time of Scherl's retirement.

  
The State University of New York  
Health Science Center at Brooklyn

College of Medicine

First Annual

**White Coat Ceremony**

Presenting the  
Class of 1999

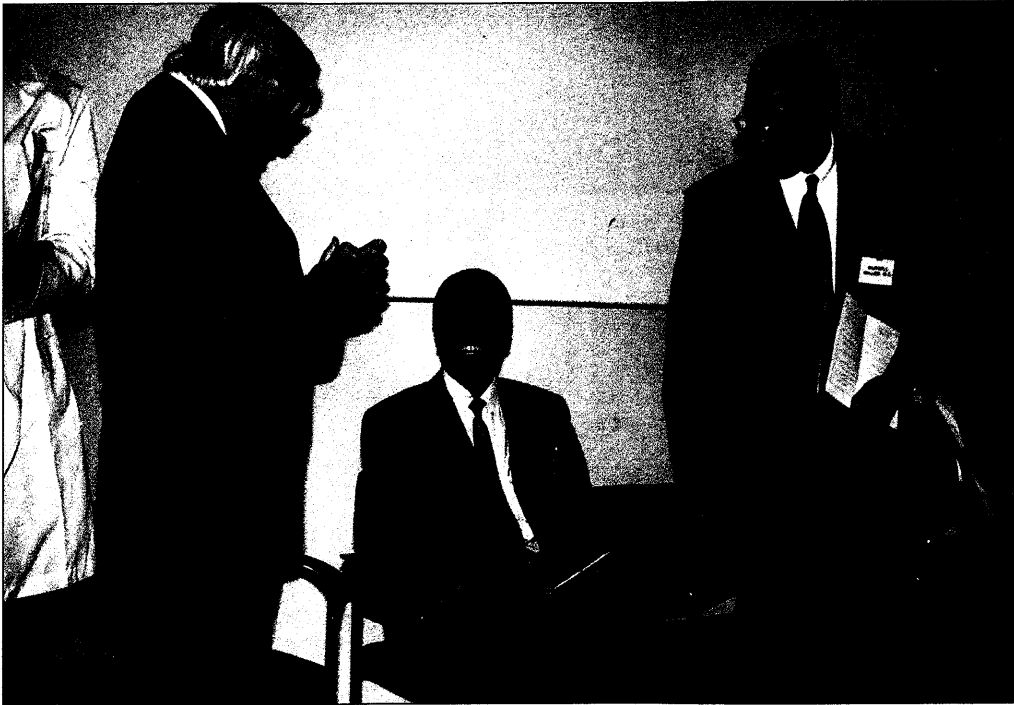
Sponsored by

**The Arnold P. Gold Foundation**  
Dedicated to Fostering Humanism in Medicine

Thursday, August 17, 1995  
1:30 p.m.

Alumni Auditorium  
Health Science Education Building  
SUNY Health Science Center  
Brooklyn, New York

The College of Medicine held its first annual White Coat Ceremony on August 17, 1995, while presenting the Class of 1999. The White Coat Ceremony, a special program for students entering medical school, is designed to inspire a psychological contract for empathy and professionalism in medicine from the first day of medical training.



Ben Carson, M.D. (center), renowned pediatric neurosurgeon at John Hopkins University Medical Center, was guest speaker at the College of Medicine's inaugural White Coat Ceremony. On the left is Dr. Arnold P. Gold, the president of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation and the initiator and supporter of white coat ceremonies at medical schools across the country. Standing on the right is Dr. Russell I. Miller, president of SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

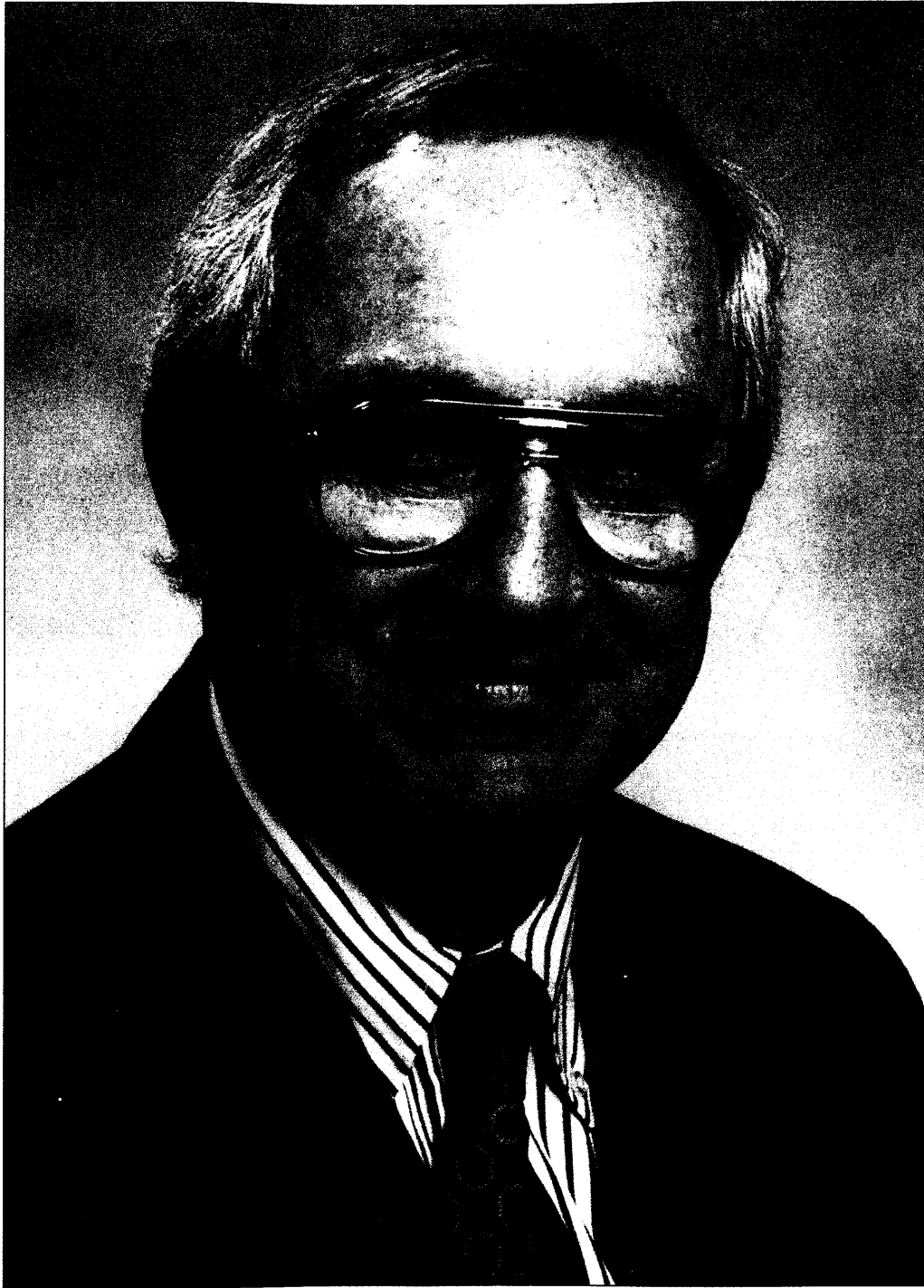




Students from the Class of 1999 don their white coats.



Students from the Class of 1999 take the Hippocratic oath.



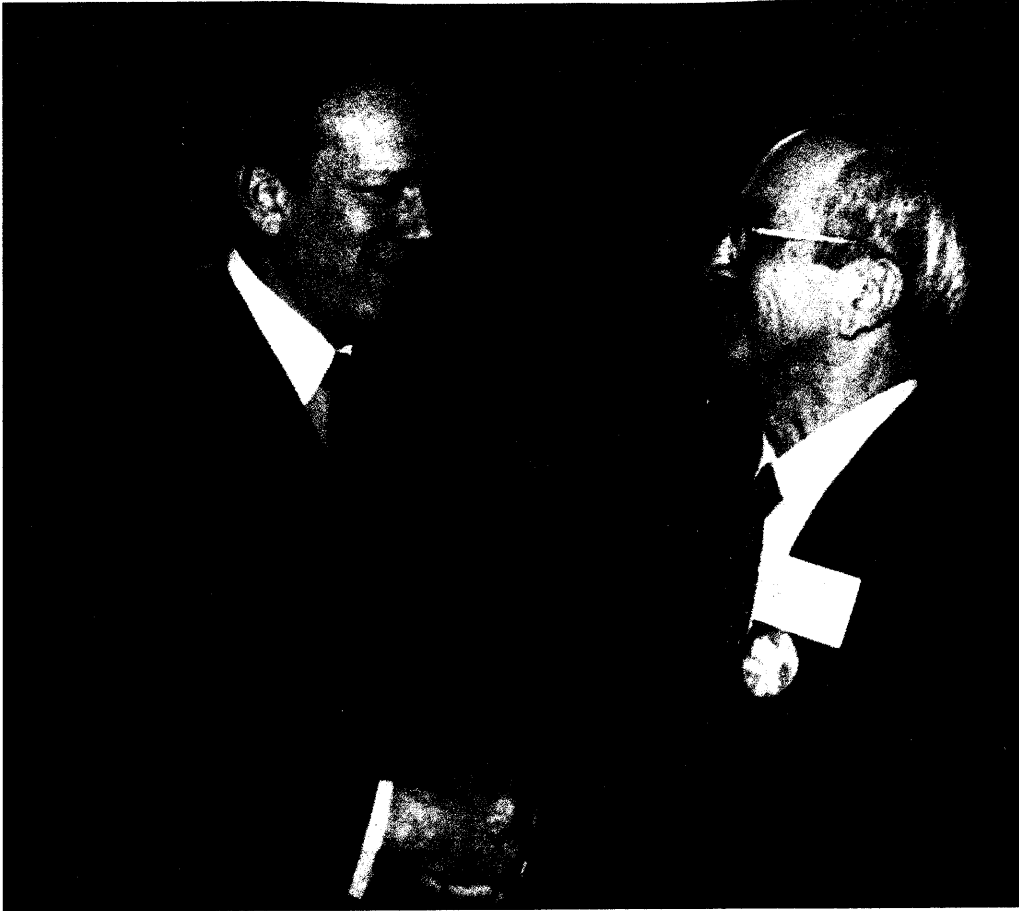
Eugene B. Feigelson, M.D., assumed the post of interim president upon Dr. Russell I. Miller's retirement. Carrying out the duties of the top office of the medical center, he also retained the post of chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, the duties of senior vice president for biomedical education and research, and the responsibilities of dean of the College of Medicine.



The faculty of the School of Graduate Studies celebrates student achievements at their annual Research Day. Seen here, from left to right, are Alan R. Gintzler, Ph.D., professor of biochemistry and psychiatry in the College of Medicine and of Biochemistry and Neural and Behavioral Sciences, School of Graduate Studies; Susan Schwartz-Giblin, Ph.D., dean of the School of Graduate Studies and professor of Neurology; and William McAllister, Ph.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.



This photograph was taken at the School of Graduate Studies annual Research Day in 1990. Graduate students explain their research by presenting poster exhibits to colleagues, faculty, and interested staff members. Awards are also given for several categories of excellence.



Dignitaries have always visited the Health Science Center and supported special event programs. The campus also holds an annual legislative forum to inform members of the New York State Legislature of the accomplishments and future needs of the facility. Here, Interim President Dr. Feigelson greets New York State Gov. George Pataki at a SUNY Downstate event.



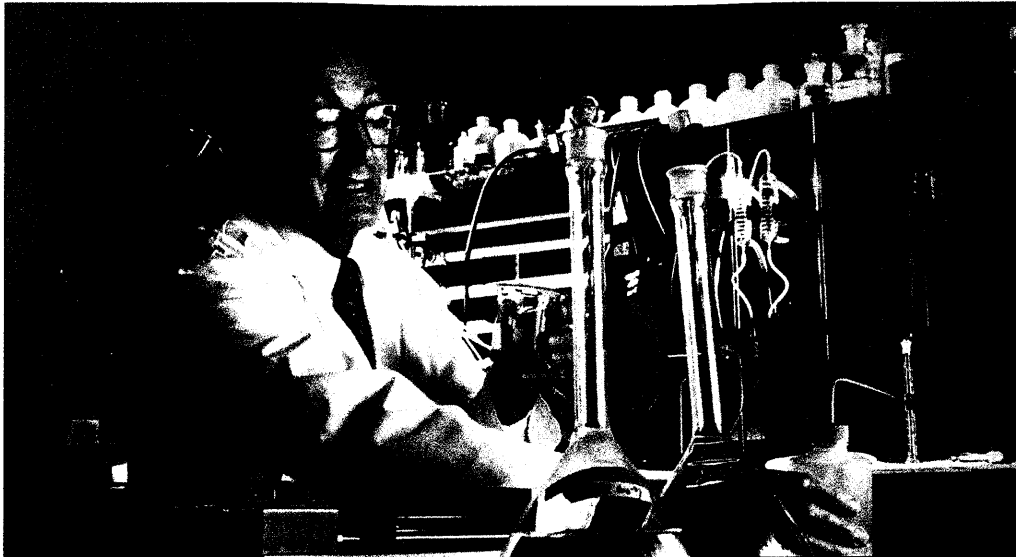
Dr. Eli Friedman (right) appears with Dr. Lawrence Altman, who was a guest lecturer at the Health Science Center's 1996 Alpha Omega Alpha lecture series.



Match Day, an annual event held in March, is when fourth-year students in medical schools across the country learn where they have been placed to intern and carry out their residency programs. Here, three happy seniors celebrate Match Day in 1999. Special souvenir champagne glasses are presented to students for the event.



With only weeks left in their undergraduate education, students celebrate with champagne during a past Match Day. Held in ceremonial fashion, students nervously open their envelopes to reveal where they will spend their next phase of medical education.

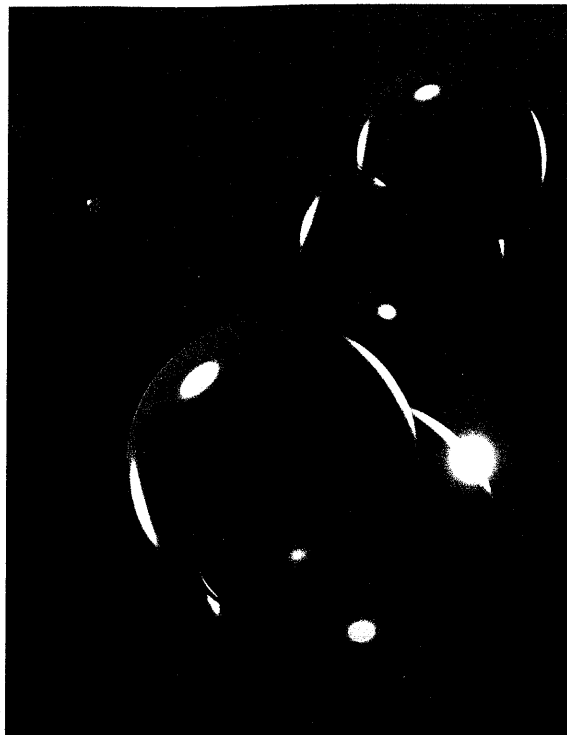


On October 12, 1998, Dr. Robert Furchgott was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine for his discovery of the role that nitric oxide plays as a signaling molecule in the cardiovascular system. Furchgott shared the prize with two other researchers: Ferid Murad of Houston and Louis J. Ignarro of Los Angeles. Furchgott, a distinguished professor emeritus of pharmacology and former chairman of the Department of Pharmacology, is SUNY Downstate Medical Center's first Nobel Laureate as well as the first Nobel Laureate within the SUNY system to have conducted research on a SUNY campus.

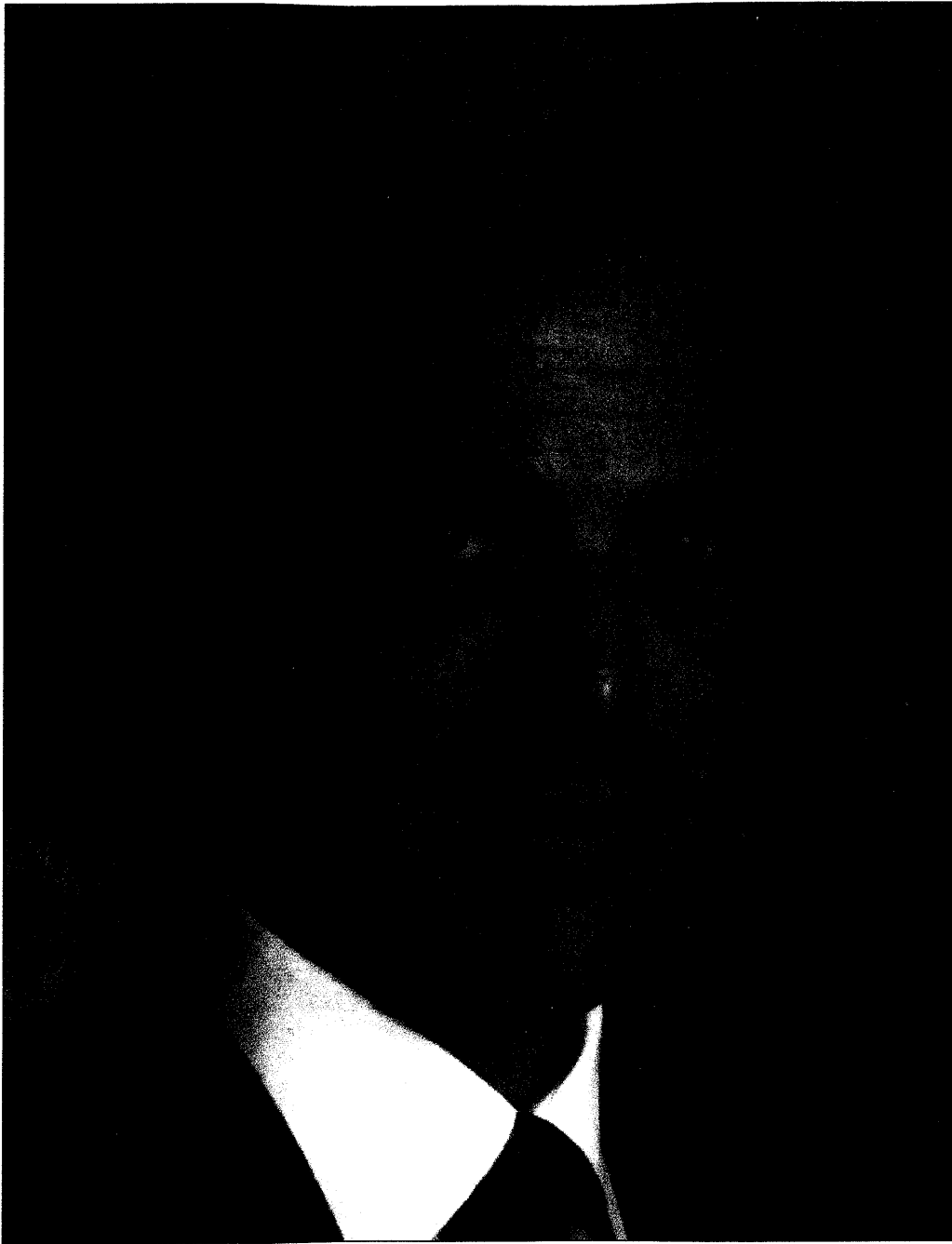


In 1980, Furchgott reported his discovery of the obligatory role of endothelial cells in the relaxation (vasodilation) of arteries by acetylcholine and related muscarinic agonists. He demonstrated that the relaxation resulted from release of a labile factor (later called endothelium-derived relaxing factor, or EDRF) from the stimulated endothelial cells. This novel finding was followed by the discovery in his own and other laboratories that many vasodilators, both endogenous substances and drugs, act by stimulating release of EDRF.

Dr. Robert Furchgott independently showed that EDRF acts by stimulating the enzyme guanylate cyclase in the vascular smooth muscle cells, leading to an increase in cyclic GMP, which mediates relaxation. He also found that photorelaxation of blood vessels is mediated by an increase in cyclic GMP. In 1986, he presented evidence for his independent proposal that EDRF is nitric oxide, and that the neurotransmitters released by NANC nerves may also be nitric oxide. It was for this body of work that Furchgott received the Nobel Prize. Shown is a model of the nitric oxide molecule rendered in a computer graphic by John Zubrovich of the Department of Biomedical Communications.



These dignitaries, from left to right, are Thomas F. Egan, chairman of the State University of New York Board of Trustees; Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden; Dr. Furchgott; and Eugene B. Feigelson, M.D., interim president of SUNY Downstate Medical Center.



John C. LaRosa, M.D., was appointed SUNY Health Science Center's new leader on September 1, 1999. LaRosa was previously the chancellor of the Tulane University Medical Center. He will guide SUNY Downstate Medical Center into the 21st century with its medical school (now the 15th largest in the United States), its university hospital, its College of Nursing, its College of Health Related Professions, and its School of Graduate Studies. He has set new goals in technology and challenging curriculum-related issues, as well as developing new trends in health care for the people of Brooklyn and New York State.





With 140 years of experience, SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn will surely continue to grow and contribute to the advancement of medicine, while recognizing the needs of Brooklyn's varied population. To quote the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* of July 25, 1860, "We chronicled in March last the opening of the Long Island College Hospital. From the well-known ability and energy, and more than all from the self-sacrificing spirit of those at its head, we anticipated the most favorable results. [We now feel that] we are justified in saying . . . that Brooklyn can boast of having a medical college within its borders second to none in the ability of its faculty and its opportunities for imparting a thorough education."