



PLUMBING AND PATHOLOGY

I was tickled to read your story about Dr. Bernard Klionsky. I was intrigued enough with the field of pathology to accept Dr. Klionsky's offer to spend a year as a post-sophomore fellow. During that year, I was bombarded with all types of "Klionsky-isms," e.g., "If you know the plumbing of the body, you know a helluva lot of pathology." I am not alone. Every medical student he knew remembers them because Dr. Klionsky was passionate not only about teaching us the details of pathology but about how to critically solve problems. Those were some of the most important lessons we learned.

Bruce Gomberg (MD '96)
Augusta, Maine

HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE

I wanted to pass along my thanks for the article "What Matters Most" that appeared in the February issue. It was a terrific portrait of what being a healthcare provider is all about. It is critical that we, as students, learn early the lessons of empathy and compassion that our colleagues and mentors can show us. May we never forget what it is like to be a patient and that our every word and action makes a difference.

Alexander C. Krach
Pittsburgh, Pa.

PEKRUHN REMEMBERED

It was with great sadness that I read my classmate William "Trey" Pekruhn (MD '75) died last year. I had both the privilege and misfortune to spend a lot of clinical clerkships with Trey. I say it was a privilege because Trey was always a personable guy, easy to talk to, always wanting to be helpful to his fellow students. On the other side of the coin, it was difficult being in clerkships with him because he was so good. He was such a smart guy that he always made the



Klionsky (left) is known for his evangelical stance on pathology.

rest of us look bad. I remember a time when he and I were at St. Margaret's Hospital. We were third-year medical students, and he was debating a case with another former Pitt stalwart, Dr. James Ferrante, who was a formidable, brilliant, and intimidating professor. Trey held his own. He had a phenomenal memory, too. We would take turns at Scaife Hall during lunch, coming up with obscure medical problems, and he would quote the page and text of where each problem could be found in Robbins' textbook of pathology. The faculty and administration were aghast when he told them he was not planning to go into academics, which is what everyone assumed. He wanted to go into family practice because he wanted to use his skills to help people. Although I had not seen Trey since we graduated, I know that his passing is a great loss to mankind, and I am sure he is sorely missed.

George M. Orr (MD '75)
Greensboro, N.C.

READABLE

The February issue of the magazine is just spectacular, from the obituary by our dean for Dr. Katherine Detre to the article on the summer enrichment program for the medical students. Thanks for doing such a superb job.

Beth Piraino, MD
Professor of Medicine
Associate Dean of Admissions
University of Pittsburgh

COULDN'T CARE LESS

I don't have time for your magazine. I couldn't care less about *Pitt Med*. I read the sucker cover to cover.

Heck of a magazine.

Brian Doyle
Portland, Ore.

Brian Doyle edits Portland, the University of Portland's magazine.

We gladly receive letters (which we may edit for length, style, and clarity).

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