

NEWS RELEASE



Public Relations Office
Savitt Medical Sciences Building / 356
Reno, Nevada 89557-0046
(702) 784-6003
FAX: (702) 784-6096

Public Relations Office
2040 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite #503
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102-2386
(702) 383-2638
FAX: (702) 486-3582

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

FOR THE GOOD HEALTH OF NEVADA

Medical School Commended for Maternal-Child Health Training

Lynette Boggs, medical school information
October 19, 1993

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The University of Nevada School of Medicine was recently commended, in company with Harvard and the University of Massachusetts, for its innovated approach to training medical students in the areas of pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology. The editors of *The Pediatric Educator*, the quarterly publication of the Council of Medical Student Education in Pediatrics, cited the three medical schools for identifying "the continuity between infants and families by developing a maternal-child health clerkship."

What makes this training innovative is that third-year medical students spend 12 weeks learning both pediatrics and obstetrics concurrently. Most medical schools teach these topics independently of each other, says Dr. Jack Lazerson, chairman of the Department of Pediatrics.

"This approach allows the student to gain a perspective on the continuum of care for both mothers and their children," says Dr. Lazerson. "Care of children affects not only the child but the whole family, and what affects the mother may also affect the child. Therefore, this method teaches our medical students that what a mother does to herself -- and what we do to her -- will also affect the offspring she produces."

Dr. Lazerson co-coordinates the maternal-child clerkship with Andrew Levy, M.D., and Harrison Sheld, M.D., clinical assistant professors in the medical school's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

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