

**A. T. Still University of Health Sciences**



*A. T. Still*

**2003 Annual Report**

# A. T. Still University of Health Sciences

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## Mission Statement

Consistent with the University's heritage, as the founding school of osteopathic medicine, the mission of A. T. Still University of Health Sciences is to educate students to become competent health care professionals who continuously develop and demonstrate compassion, integrity, and ability, while advancing osteopathic principles and philosophy. The institution is committed to scholarly inquiry that anticipates and addresses society's health care needs. The University encourages all its constituencies to become leaders in improving community health and wellness with a comprehensive appreciation of the interaction of mind, body, and spirit.

## On the Cover

Portrait in oils of founder Andrew Taylor Still, M.D., D.O., by Floyd W. Horton, circa 1892. Courtesy of Still National Osteopathic Museum.

## Annual Report 2003

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## Letter from the Board Chair

*Each year our Annual Report suggests that we had an exceptional year. However, this past year has been extraordinary even by our own high standards. The University enjoyed unprecedented national exposure and recognition from its exhibit The Healer Within® which was at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. from May to September. The interactive exhibit illustrated the osteopathic principles first developed in Kirksville by our founder,*



Andrew Taylor Still, M.D., D.O. A companion book, *Your Healer Within*, authored by our current president and his scholarly wife, was published in time for the exhibit and outlined the historic, philosophic, and recent research bases of osteopathic principles.

The University opened the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health at its Mesa Campus last August and it is being praised by dental educators and practitioners around the country for its innovative and high-technology approaches. It has received grants from dental software and equipment companies to pilot their products and procedures in dental education.

This year also saw the opening of the Senior-Living (Independent Living)

Center at ATSU in Kirksville, which received a tax-credit grant of \$5 million from the state and a designation as one of four Aging-In-Place model sites. Several state and national meetings on healthy aging have occurred at this Center during the past year. This is an important new training and research site for students from all four of our schools.

Last summer, the University introduced a new magazine, *The Still University Review*, which contains feature articles on healthy aging and rural healthcare. Besides internal groups, it has a large, external distribution to foundations, government agencies, medical schools, and healthcare associations across the nation.

During the last year, the Board of Trustees refocused its Mission Statement; developed several steps to integrate the research and teaching of geriatric subjects in and among its four schools; and undertook several strategic planning exercises to determine further programs and initiatives.

With the great heritage of A. T. Still as our first president and the pace shown last year, the future of A. T. Still University promises to be extraordinary.

Please consider how you might join and support our efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marian Osterweis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marian Osterweis, Ph.D.  
Chair, Board of Trustees

## Letter from the President

*I am so proud to share these pages with Dr. Marian Osterweis, the Chairperson of the Board, other Board Members, alumni, faculty, staff, and students of A. T. Still University of Health Sciences. An institution is successful to the extent the parts work together. The many achievements listed on the opposite page and on the following pages testify to people pulling together.*



One of the most significant accomplishments this year was the University being named to coordinate the \$1.5 million Multi-Center Osteopathic Pneumonia Study of the Elderly (MOPSE) funded by several foundations. This is the largest osteopathic study ever undertaken and will involve coordinating clinical research developments in Texas, New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio, and Missouri.

Indicative of recognition beyond the osteopathic profession, our Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCOM) was ranked in the "top ten" among *all* medical schools for the teaching of *rural medicine* by this year's Best Graduate Schools edition of the *U.S. News & World Report*. In this same area, our \$1.7 million Elderlynk Project is now being used as a national model by federal agencies for rural mental healthcare.

This year also marked the first Masters of Public Health, Masters of Geriatric Health, and Masters of Health Administration graduates of our totally on-line School of Health Management. The M.S. in Biomedical Science students have helped write a number of articles and are significantly augmenting our faculty in Kirksville.

I am especially proud of the Native American Physician Assistant Program, which has been adding 6 to 8 Native Americans each year on our Arizona Campus. A. T. Still, M.D., D.O., spent much time among Native Americans and talked of their sense of a pervading "spirit" across all of nature, including people. During the year, the Arizona School of Health Sciences and Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health alumni and friends raised over a million dollars in pledges and gifts. KCOM alumni and friends' fundraising for the proposed Information Technologies Center (ITC) doubled from \$1 million to \$2 million in the first six months and doubled again from \$2 million to \$4 million in pledges and received gifts in the next six months. (We still need another \$1 million.) All this was done during an unstable time in the Stock Market and is a high tribute to the *thanks* that graduates have for their education.

Please read these pages and perhaps find further ways of pulling together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "James J. McGovern". The signature is written in a cursive style.

James J. McGovern, Ph.D.  
President

# Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine

## Improving clinical competency is a high priority

IMPROVING THE CLINICAL competency of KCOM students was a major objective for the school during the past year.

“We have made great strides in the clinical integration of basic science and clinical science for our first- and second-year students,” said Gerald G. Osborn, D.O., M.Phil., FACN, FAPA, '73, vice president for medical affairs and dean. “We have also made great strides in curriculum reform for our third- and fourth-year students.”

He cited the leadership of Philip C. Slocum, D.O., FACOI, FCCM, FCCP, '76, associate dean for academic affairs; Stephen D. Laird, D.O., FACOP, chair and professor, surgery; and William Sexton, Ph.D., professor, physiology, for the progress made for first- and second-year students, and G. Barry Robbins Jr., D.O., '70, associate dean for regional affairs, for the progress made for third- and fourth-year students.

“All of the strides that we’ve been able to make in the improvement for third- and fourth-year students has been directly related to the expansion of the OPTIK (Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institute of Kirksville),” Dr. Osborn said.

Increasing the clinical competency of KCOM students is important because of changes in evaluating clinical skills in the COMLEX-USA (Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination) and USMLE (U.S. Medical Licensing Examination) exams.



Akiko Inoue, a graduate of the University of California-Berkeley from Tokyo, Japan, is one of the 168 students KCOM accepted for the class of 2007.

In recent years the COMLEX has emphasized exams on standardized patients in order to more accurately measure the knowledge of today’s physicians. The three-part COMLEX test is also used by residency programs to make selections of whom they will interview and accept for their program.

In the past year the OPTIK, the second largest osteopathic postdoctoral training institute, increased from 15 different membership sites to 26 membership sites. In addition to expanding the choices available to graduates, the goal is to provide quality osteopathic postgraduate training opportunities for all KCOM graduates.

One of the newest OPTIK members is the Medical College of Wisconsin—Milwaukee Residency Programs, which Dr. Osborn said has “simply one of the finest family practice residency programs that I have ever seen. What I

was really excited about is that they also have an international program.”

A program of “core competencies” has been introduced at the OPTI sites and has been fully implemented at Northeast Regional Medical Center.

“What we are hoping to have as a firm policy in the future is that all of our third and fourth years of training will occur in a forum of ‘full scope’ medical education,” he said, “which means there are all levels of training going on—from the third year of medical school all the way to subspecialty fellowships. Everybody learns from everybody else.

“I think we’re going to see our board scores improve,” he added, “and more and more of our students getting into very competitive programs. The emphasis in the past couple of years has been to broaden the vision of what the students can do with their careers.”



The College is ranked No. 10 in Rural Medicine programs in the 2004 Edition of America’s Best Graduate Schools published by U. S. News & World Report. The specialty ranking in medicine was based on the ratings by presidents, deans, and senior faculty of peer schools.

## Research and grants have productive year

THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH, Grants, and Information Systems continues to excel in its University-wide support of sponsored/grant programs, interdisciplinary research, and technological advancement.

It should be noted that in fiscal year 2002, the Northeast Missouri Health Council (NMHC) officially separated its business affiliation with the University; therefore, as of fiscal year 2003, no further NMHC grant funds are included within the University's numbers.

The Division has been working to expand the output and influence of the recently established Still Research Institute (SRI). To this end, SRI grants are made available for "seed research projects" each year, which then can be used as a basis for requesting funds for a larger federal grant. Additionally, the

Division and the SRI continue key interactions with an External Board of Scientific Counselors (EBSC) made up of nationally-recognized experts/advisors in clinical research. This board provides valuable input into the future direction and development of the SRI as well as with ATSU's evolving interdisciplinary research environment.

The Division also focuses heavily on providing ongoing support and assistance to the faculty, staff, and administration of the Arizona School of Health Sciences and the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health.

Recent site visits have been made by Division staff to the Mesa campus to support further development of research, sponsored programs, and manuscript preparation. Additional site visits have been conducted to monitor ongoing grant programs and to advise/assist the Mesa campus with information technology and multi-media applications.

Donald R. Noll, D.O., FACOI, '87, chair and associate professor, internal medicine, is working with his research team to finalize the details of launching the prospective, randomized clinical trial to examine



NOLL

the efficacy of osteopathic manipulative medicine in treating elderly patients hospitalized with pneumonia.

This is the first multi-

center clinical trial of its kind and involves sites in Missouri, Michigan, Ohio, New Jersey, and Texas.

Funding of \$1,504,871 over two years is being provided by the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and a consortium of osteopathic-supportive foundations through the efforts of the Foundation of Osteopathic Health Services.

Funds have been contributed by nine osteopathic foundations located in several different states, including Maryland, Ohio, Iowa, Michigan, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Colorado.

This is the first such collaborative funding effort in the osteopathic profession. The primary hypothesis of this study states that osteopathic manipulative treatment, in



The A. T. Still Research Institute supports two research centers in Kirksville.

## A.T. Still University of Health Sciences

combination with conventional care, will provide efficacy and reduce costs of treatment in the elderly hospitalized with pneumonia, relative to a light-touch (sham) treatment plus conventional care, or conventional care alone.

Rene McGovern, Ph.D., associate professor, neurobehavioral sciences, continues the implementation of an innovative program entitled ElderLynk, which is currently funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. ElderLynk consists of a rural consortium/partnership of six diverse health care education and service providers who are coordinating efforts to implement evidence-based rural services.

The basic intent behind ElderLynk is to provide an accessible and high quality continuum of mental health

services to an underserved, rural elderly population in northeastern Missouri. ElderLynk was originally funded by a Federal Rural Health Outreach Grant in 2000 and then by a Community Initiative state grant in 2001. To date, ElderLynk has been awarded about \$1.7 million in federal and state grant awards.

Randy Danielsen, Ph.D., PA-C, chair, physician assistant studies, Arizona School of Health Sciences, currently is in the eighth year of funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, through the Physician Assistant (PA) Training grant program. The long-term goal of this PA program grant is to improve health care in medically underserved American Indian communities by increasing the number of American Indians in the health professions workforce who are uniquely qualified/trained to provide culturally

competent primary care services within underserved settings.

The PA program recruits and retains American Indian PAs by educating them in their own environment and cultural setting.

### University Highlights

▶ Student applications were up over the previous year at all University schools. KCOM's applications were up 11 percent; 168 students were accepted. ASHDOH had 1,220 applications and accepted 54 students in its inaugural class. At ASHS, the physical therapy and occupational therapy applications were up strongly in both applications and enrolled students, and SHM enrollments registered about 100 students, which was a 56 percent increase over last fall.

▶ The ASHS physician assistant studies program is ranked No. 25 in the Health Disciplines category by the *U.S. News & World Report* in its America's Best Graduate Schools 2004 edition.



Mathew Severidt, class of 2007, interviews Verdun Cupp in her apartment at the St. Andrew's Apartments on the Senior Living Campus as part of the House Call program. The program introduces students to working with geriatric patients.



▶▶ KCOM's master of biomedical science program, which began two years ago with three students, now has 19 students, including nine students who also enrolled in the D.O. program. So far, five research abstracts have been co-authored by these M.S. students, which suggests that the program will help research in Kirksville and in the osteopathic profession.

▶▶ About a half-million people viewed The Healer Within®, the University's traveling wellness exhibit, while it was at the Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building in Washington, D.C., from May 28 through September 5. The exhibit has been displayed at Roanoke, Va., since then and is currently in Wichita, Kan. It will be in Oklahoma City, Okla., in April, and in June it will appear in a new museum, HealthSpace, in Cleveland, Ohio.

▶▶ Jason Haxton, director of the A. T. Still National Osteopathic Museum, reported that a companion book, *Your Healer Within: A Unified Field Theory for Healthcare*, written by President James J. McGovern, Ph.D., and his wife, Rene McGovern, Ph.D., has been translated into German by a German publisher that paid for the royalties up front.



Class of 2007 students Zeph Wylie (center) and Samantha Zeise meet with William A. Jorgensen, D.O., during KCOM's Annual Hospital Day. Dr. Jorgensen is the director of medical education at the St. Elizabeth Family Medicine Residency Program in Utica, N.Y. Approximately 130 representatives from 75 institutions met with students to discuss postgraduate internship and residency opportunities.

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# School of Health Management

## Increases in enrollment and programs show success

THE 2002-03 ACADEMIC YEAR was a very good year for the School of Health Management.

The school graduated its first class in June 2003 and awarded its first honorary degree to M. Keith Weikel, Ph.D., of Toledo, Ohio, who helped develop the curriculum for the school's three master degree programs—geriatric health management (M.G.H), public health (M.P.H.), and health administration (M.H.A). Dr. Weikel was awarded an honorary degree of doctor of humane letters.

"Last year was not only our first graduation ceremony, it was our first opportunity for someone to graduate," said SHM dean D. Kent Mulford, D.O., M.B.A., '73. "Typically, online



Dual degree recipient Charlene Schambach McWilliams, D.O., M.P.H., '03, celebrates graduation with her husband, Grant D. McWilliams, D.O., '03.

education takes longer than four years because adults don't usually take the program full-time. But we had some pretty outstanding individuals that actually completed it in four years. They took their first class in December 1999 and graduated in June 2003. That's about as fast as you can earn a masters degree."

He was also pleased that the school was able to retain the entire faculty, which includes KCOM's Robert Baer, Ph.D., associate professor, physiology, and an adjunct associate professor in the master of public health program who received the Excellence in Online Teaching Award for 2003 that is sponsored by eCollege.

Also receiving national acclaim was Charles Austin, Ph.D., an adjunct associate professor who lives in Hilton Head Island, S.C., and teaches health care information systems. He was awarded the 2003 Filerman Prize for Innovation in Health Services Management Education from the Association of University Programs in Health Administration, the highest award the association gives, and was recognized for his distinguished career of over 35 years in health administration education.

In October, the Charles J. Austin Industrial Engineering and Technology Building on the campus of Texas A & M University-Commerce, was dedicated in his honor. Dr. Austin was the president and CEO of the school from 1982

through 1986. "His dedication to excellence in all aspects of the academic endeavor greatly enhanced the reputation and effectiveness of the University," officials reported.

"We're somewhat untraditional for an online school in that about 85 percent of our faculty are doctoral trained, which is very, very high for an online school," Dr. Mulford said. "All of our faculty will be teaching additional sections as our enrollment grows."

Currently, the school has 217 students from 37 states, two foreign countries, and 8 time zones. The students have an average GPA of 3.26 at entry; their average age is 36; and 51 percent are females and 49 percent are males.

SHM also provides clinical research courses to all other A. T. Still University schools and the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians. The particular courses at each of our schools are:

Kirkville College of Osteopathic Medicine—Principles of Clinical Research provided to 40 KCOM students in the spring 2004 quarter and 80 students for the next academic year.

Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health—Graduate certificate courses (6) beginning in students' third year at ASDOH.

Arizona School of Health Sciences—Graduate courses (number per individual student need). Currently, three ASHS students are taking SHM research courses.

American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians—A pilot program, SHM’s Basic Clinical Research course, is provided to 100 students.

To help the enrollment to continue to grow, the school hired Marcia Arbizu last year as a graduate enrollment counselor that is located on the Mesa campus. Her main task is to recruit students for SHM.

Prior to joining the University, she was a student recruiter at the University of Phoenix, which has nearly 100,000 students and is the largest private school in the world.



Although Marcia Arbizu is based in Mesa, she is helping recruit students to SHM and support those already enrolled.

“Getting the word out about SHM is what we’re all about,” said Arbizu, who earned a master in business education with an emphasis on global

management at the University of Phoenix, and a bachelor’s degree in communications from Arizona State University.

“Online education is very competitive, so my job is to stay in touch with students, meet their needs, identify and address all their issues, and make them feel comfortable that they are going to be supported throughout the program.”

She said most of the students she contacts are full-time working adults that have been out of school from five to ten years, many have families, and cannot afford to take time to also be a full-time student. “So, they’re contacting me,” she said, “and I need to ensure that this program is going to meet their needs in every way possible.”

“One of the school’s biggest strengths is the fact that it is associated with the founding school of osteopathic medicine (KCOM) and the first and only dental school in Arizona (the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health), a school that is being highly recognized because of its innovative use of technology. That is a major marketing tool for us.

“I am very happy to be here and I am fortunate to be in a position where I am going to be a part of helping a program grow, helping it be innovative, and helping it succeed,” she said. “I am very excited to be able to work with people in both Kirksville and Mesa.”

## Aftab seeking academic career in medicine

Macksood A. Aftab, D.O., '03, thinks that pursuing a master of health administration will greatly enhance his goal of an academic career in medicine.



AFTAB

“My goal is to enhance my management and administrative skills,” said Dr. Aftab, who is the president of the SHM’s Student Council.

He said he is very pleased with the “superb quality” of the SHM faculty and how accessible they are to the students. “I have enjoyed the classes immensely,” he said. “Dr. Mulford and the administrative staff have been very helpful in addressing student concerns promptly.”

Dr. Aftab, an intern at Genesys Health Systems in Grand Blanc, Mich., who this summer begins a residency in diagnostic radiology at Tufts University’s New England Medical Center in Boston, Mass., said, “I hope to use my M.H.A. degree in the future for development-level administration or in medical research administration at an academic center.”

# Arizona School of Health Sciences

## Excellence, innovation continues at Mesa campus

A CONTINUED COMMITMENT to excellence and innovative technology highlighted the past academic year at the Arizona School of Health Sciences (ASHS) and the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH).

“Our graduates continue to perform well on their certification and licensure exams,” said Provost Craig M. Phelps, D.O., FAOASM, '84. He said last year's occupational therapy and physical therapy classes had a 100 percent pass rate, and that the physician assistant studies class had a 93 percent pass rate. “In each case,” he said, “our students exceeded the national average.”

He said the quality of faculty and staff at both schools is high. “Our faculty and staff work hard to continue to innovate and apply technology in the classroom. Our deans, program

chairs, and directors have done an excellent job.”

ASDOH received accreditation status from the Commission on Dental Accreditation in February 2003. The next accreditation visit will be in 2005. Dr. Phelps said the occupational therapy, physical therapy, and physician assistant studies programs were reaccredited last year with very strong commendations.

The Mesa campus is home to the country's newest dental school, which includes a state-of-the-art dental techniques laboratory. The laboratory boasts the latest in dental simulation technology. ASDOH faculty embrace the laboratory's advanced technology as an excellent educational platform to provide hands-on experience. Simulation patient laboratories provide critical, unique learning environments helping students master difficult techniques and concepts early in the educational process.

The entry-level doctor of audiology

program is a candidate for accreditation by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

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The Mesa campus provides a state-of-the-art learning environment for students and the community. The building is used seven days a week by students, professional societies, and community organizations. The signature academic building continues to attract praise from visitors and was featured in the publication, *American Schools and Universities*, with an Outstanding Postsecondary Education Citation awarded for architectural design.

# Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health

## ASDOH celebrates opening of the first dental school in Arizona

DIGNITARIES FROM national, state, and local dental associations helped ASDOH celebrate its opening day of classes on July 21 at Arizona's first and only dental school.

Speakers included President McGovern, the chief dental officer for the U.S. Public Health Service, the president-elect of the American Dental Association, and the president of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association.

"The opening of the school is an

historic and important event for the University and for health care education in Arizona," said Provost Craig M. Phelps, D.O., FAOASM, '84.

There are 54 students in the inaugural class of 2007.

The school, which is already gaining a reputation for its curriculum, its faculty, its state-of-the-art laboratory, and its innovative use of technology in education, is the third dental school to open in the U.S. in the last 25 years.

ASDOH Dean Jack Dillenberg, D.D.S., M.P.H., said the school's goal is to develop not only competent dentists, but also dentists with a

sense of civic responsibility that will serve underserved populations in Arizona and the Southwest.

Health care is needed in the Southwest, he said, especially for American Indians. The school actively recruits American Indian students (there are four in the inaugural class), and Dr. Dillenberg said ASDOH has the highest percentage of American Indian tribal member students than any dental school in the nation.

"We have made a commitment to educate American Indian dentists who will work in American Indian communities."



© Simonsen

Students in the inaugural class are in their white coats on the first day of classes. Also shown are Dr. Dillenberg, front row far left; George Blue Spruce Jr., D.D.S., M.P.H., assistant dean for ASDOH's American Indian affairs, front row in shirt and tie; and Richard J. Simonsen, D.D.S., M.S., associate dean for preclinical affairs and research, front row far right.

# Financial Report 2002-2003

## Income

Tuition .....	62.8 %
Grants and gifts to the University .....	22.2 %
Interest from investments and student loan programs .....	8.3 %
Patient care services from the Gutensohn Osteopathic Health & Wellness Clinic .....	3.6 %
Miscellaneous.....	3.1 %

## Expenditures

Salaries, wages, and benefits .....	60.8 %
Supplies and services .....	17.9 %
Plant-related costs and interest .....	14.0 %
Miscellaneous costs (travel, scholarships, postage, telephone, and advertising) .....	7.3 %

Educational expenditures accounted for 89.1 % of total expenditures, while development and auxiliary expenditures accounted for 9.6 % and 1.3 %, respectively.

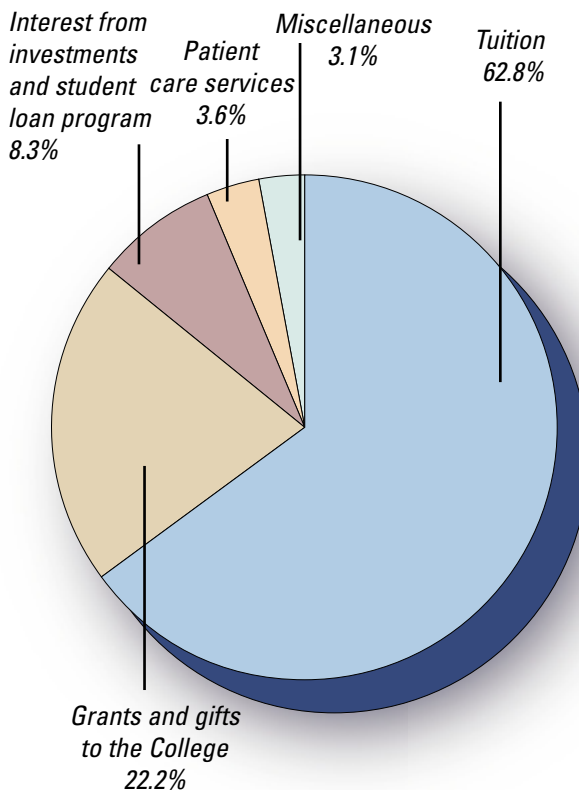
As the University enters its 112th year of osteopathic medical education, the following is a summary of major capital improvements and growth in endowments during the past decade. It does not include deferred gifts, such as unitrusts, life annuities, life insurance policies, or long-term leases.

Increase in property, plant, and equipment .....\$42,900,000

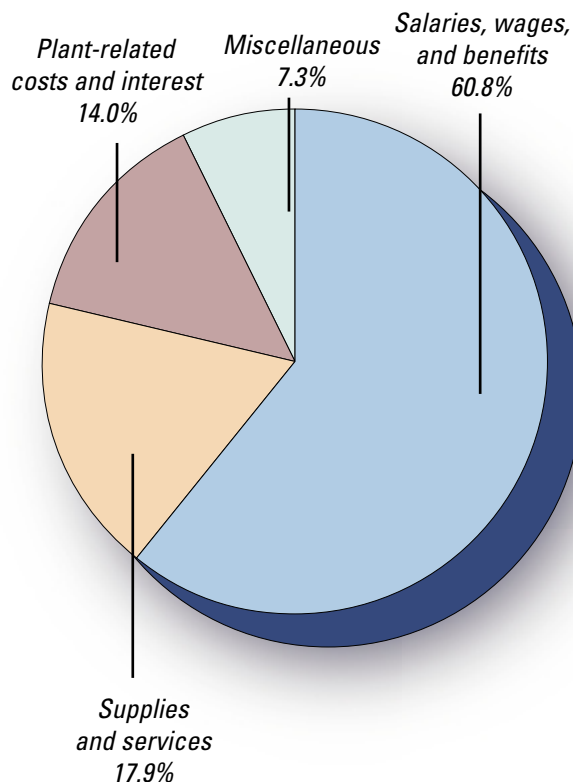
Increase in endowments, including quasi-endowments .....\$23,400,000

Ten-year total .....\$66,300,000

## Income



## Expenditures



# A. T. Still University of Health Sciences

December 31, 2003

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Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine

**Toni R. Smith, D.O., FAOCA, '79**

Surgery

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Biochemistry

**Neil J. Sargentini, Ph.D.**

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Public Health and Health Administration

# **A. T. Still University of Health Sciences**

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