

Investiture Ceremony – Philip A Mackowiak, MD '70  
The Carolyn Frenkil and Selvin Passen History of Medicine Scholar  
Davidge Hall Baltimore, Maryland September 26, 2013

### Carolyn Frenkil Remarks

Good afternoon and a thank you to all who have joined us today on this very special occasion.

There are some people who may wonder why this history is so important. Just as our personal history (our ancestry) has influenced who we are, the history and principles upon which the University of Maryland School of Medicine was founded have influenced what it has become – a unique and formidable institution.

Everyone is interested in history. When we meet someone invariably we ask about their family, where they grew up, went to school, etc. For example, in Louisiana, the first question asked upon meeting someone is "Who's your momma?" Within the Jewish community when you're introduced for the first time you're asked: Who's your father? What was your mother's maiden name? Are you related to.....? And, it goes on and on. Although we call this Jewish geography, it really is history.

Invariably, if you're a physician, the first question is: Where did you go to school?

There are many fine medical schools, but there are darn few that can measure up to the rich history of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. It is this history, one that deserves to be told, which established the foundation for us to become one of the outstanding institutions in this country. The History of Medicine Scholar will be charged with the responsibility to preserve and promote our institution's heritage.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the Medical Alumni Association and to Larry Pitrof, Executive Director, for their vision and for facilitating the establishment of this position. I also thank the School of Medicine for its support.

I am grateful for the privilege to join Dr. Selvin Passen and enable the History of Medicine Scholar to come to fruition. Selvin has been a long time friend to me and was a good friend to my late husband, Jim Frenkil.

There could not have been a finer choice than Dr. Phil Mackowiak to serve as our first History of Medicine Scholar. As fate would have it, Phil's father, also a physician, was a classmate of Jim. This day brings honor to Phil and his father. And, I can think of no better present to honor Jim, who would have been 101 this month. I KNOW he's looking down on this day, nodding his approval and a smile on his face – Happy Birthday Jimmy!

Thank you.