

# ALUMNI UPDATE

Winter 2008

*The Lahey Clinic Alumni Association was established in 1968 to encourage a close and continuing relationship between the members of the Association and Lahey Clinic and to further the charitable and educational purposes of Lahey Clinic.*



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Laurence Arnold

## Doctor on a Mission

Laurence Arnold, MD, remembers that his 1986-88 residency at Lahey, “was a very good experience that prepared me well for a clinical practice in plastic surgery; I have always appreciated my Lahey training.” Arnold went on to have a private practice in Florida for 15 years.

Arnold and his wife, Linda, recently moved to North Carolina to make a lifestyle change when he joined the plastic surgery staff at Mission Hospital in Asheville. The couple just completed a course in foster parenting and they look forward to building a family through adoption.

Arnold and his wife, who is a nurse, go on medical missions to Central America. He co-founded the nonprofit Small World Foundation to support these missions, which provide reconstructive surgery and medical aid throughout the developing world.

“There is no specialized burn care in all of Central America,” Arnold reported. “There is a much higher rate of burns in this society, where open fires are common for heating and cooking, and most of the victims are children. The best mode of care available is limited to adult hospital ward care, without the benefit of isolation tents for infection control or of skin grafts for repair.” Many of the children who are burned do not survive, and those who do, are most often left with permanent disabilities. The Small World Foundation hopes to help the hospital in San Salvador create a specialized burn center which would make all the difference for victims’ survival rates and subsequent quality of life.



*Arnold (Left) on mission to Ecuador with a team performing a skin graft for a burn scar contracture. Pictured: Surgeon from Ecuador in middle, surgeon from El Salvador on the right, students watching.*

Alumni and staff interested in finding out more about Arnold’s work with the Small World Foundation may visit the Web site [www.smallworld.org](http://www.smallworld.org) or contact him at [info@smallworld.org](mailto:info@smallworld.org).

Lahey Clinic Medical Center  
41 Mall Road  
Burlington, MA 01805

*If you have news about Lahey Alumni, contact the Philanthropy Office at 781-744-3333.*