

COMMUNITY LINC

*Lincoln Memorial University –
DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine*
VALUES • EDUCATION • SERVICE

FALL 2013 • VOLUME 6 NUMBER 2 | A PUBLICATION FOR THE LMU-DCOM FAMILY



WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Outstanding Students and Faculty Honored - p6
- Local Physician Donates Historic Medical Equipment - p7
- Alumni Notes - p10
- Neal Cross Remembered - p16
- Life Under the Microscope - p34

Lincoln Memorial University -
DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. B. James Dawson, President
Dr. Ray E. Stowers,
Vice President and Dean
O. V. "Pete" DeBusk, Chairman
Sam A. Mars, Jr., First Vice-Chairman
Gary J. Burchett, Second Vice-Chairman
James Jordan, Third Vice-Chairman
Sam A. Mars, III, Secretary

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jerry Burnette <i>Knoxville, Tenn.</i>	Alan Neely <i>New Tazewell, Tenn.</i>
Art Brill <i>Martinsville, Ind.</i>	Dorothy Neely <i>Tazewell, Tenn.</i>
Gary J. Burchett <i>Harrogate, Tenn.</i>	Don Patton <i>Harrogate, Tenn.</i>
George Day <i>Harrogate, Tenn.</i>	Edwin Robertson <i>Harrogate, Tenn.</i>
Brian DeBusk <i>Knoxville, Tenn.</i>	Jay Shoffner <i>Middlesboro, Ky.</i>
O. V. (Pete) DeBusk <i>Powell, Tenn.</i>	Joseph F. Smiddy <i>Kingsport, Tenn.</i>
Frederick S. Fields <i>San Francisco, Calif.</i>	Paul Grayson Smith, Jr. <i>Cleveland, Tenn.</i>
Robert Finley <i>Chicago, Ill.</i>	E. Steven (Steve) Ward <i>Knoxville, Tenn.</i>
Richard Gillespie <i>Knoxville, Tenn.</i>	Robert H. Watson <i>Knoxville, Tenn.</i>
Charles Holland <i>Knoxville, Tenn.</i>	Jerry W. Zillion <i>Germantown, Md.</i>
Kenneth Jones <i>Richmond, Va.</i>	Sherrie Claiborne <i>Harrogate, Tenn.</i>
James Jordan <i>Lauderdale By The Sea, Fla.</i>	Edward Hayes <i>Trustee Emeritus Oak Lawn, Ill.</i>
Pete Maples <i>Sevierville, Tenn.</i>	Joseph C. Smiddy <i>Trustee Emeritus Wise, Va.</i>
Sam A. Mars, Jr. <i>Middlesboro, Ky.</i>	Samuel Spencer <i>Trustee Emeritus Lakeland, Fla.</i>

COMmunity Linc is published by Lincoln Memorial University, Cumberland Gap Parkway, Harrogate, TN 37752. Third-class postage is paid at Harrogate, TN, and additional mailing offices. Address changes and other information should be sent to COMmunity Linc at the above address. You can reach us by phone at 423.869.7108 or 800.325.0900 ext. 7108, by fax at 423.869.7078 or by email at dcom@lmunet.edu. Visit Lincoln Memorial University on the world wide web at www.lmunet.edu. Postmaster: send address changes to COMmunity Linc, Lincoln Memorial University, Gap Parkway, Harrogate, TN 37752.

Lincoln Memorial University is an equal opportunity institution and welcomes applications for employment or admission regardless of race, creed, color, national or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability or religion.

Amy Drittler
Director of Marketing and
Public Relations for Health Sciences
Editor, COMmunity Linc



A Message from the Dean

As you may have noticed from the look of this publication, change is in the air. After six years, we decided it was time to give COMmunity Linc a bit of a makeover. We hope you enjoy the new look and format of the publication.

Change abounds at LMU-DCOM these days. As we enjoy the turn of colors that our beautiful surroundings provide, I am able to reflect on the joys I have experienced the past two years, first as the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) president-elect, and then as president for the 2012-2013 year. My travels on behalf of the AOA and the entire osteopathic profession were fruitful, rewarding, educational and eye-opening. It was a privilege to serve the profession that means so much to me. Yet it is also nice to return to the hills of East Tennessee and be back at LMU-DCOM.

Change continues to come to the LMU campus as well. In July 2013 we announced the newest offering to join the Division of Health Sciences: the College of Veterinary Medicine (LMU-CVM). LMU-CVM is currently recruiting students for its inaugural class, and we look forward to working with our veterinary colleagues as they pursue the One Health approach to their discipline. The health of the animal population can impact the health of the human population, and we hope to tackle these issues together.

We also announced three new Master of Science degree offerings (see page 13). We are very excited to see these new degree programs, an outgrowth of LMU's Post Baccalaureate Medical Science Program. With a degree program offering three distinct tracks, we hope to draw even more students eager to continue their studies and strengthen their skills prior to entering professional school.

In many cases, change is positive. Yet sometimes change can be difficult and even painful. LMU-DCOM has experienced too many of these moments in the last few months. **Dustin Poore, OMS Class of 2013**, passed away in March 2013, and **Alisha Hicks, PA Class of 2013**, passed away in June 2013. Each student was remembered at the graduation ceremonies, and Dustin and Alisha's families were presented with their diplomas. In August 2013 we lost a dear friend and colleague when **Dr. Neal Cross**, professor and chair of anatomy, passed away. Those of us in the LMU-DCOM family have shared many tears, hugs and memories of our loved ones these past few months. Dustin, Alisha and Neal will always be in our hearts. ☹️

Make a gift to LMU-DCOM

By making a gift to the LMU-DCOM Annual Fund, you are making a significant impact on students for years to come. Annual Fund gifts allow LMU-DCOM to place resources where they are most needed or where opportunities are greatest. The LMU-DCOM Annual Fund helps to ensure that each student will have access to scholarships, top notch faculty and staff, a strong educational environment and excellent campus facilities.

Make your gift online at: <http://dcomalumni.LMUnet.edu>

For more information on giving and naming opportunities, please contact Joey Gilbert, director of development and alumni services for health sciences at 423.869.7206 or joey.gilbert@LMUnet.edu.

Teitelbaum Named Distinguished Fellow

Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum, professor and chair of preventive medicine, has been named a Distinguished Fellow of the American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine (AOCOPM).

The Distinguished Fellow of the AOCOPM has the following criteria: continuous participation in the activities of the AOCOPM for a minimum of 20 years; continuous attendance at the annual or mid-year meeting of the AOCOPM for a minimum of 20 years; and continuous membership in the American Osteopathic Association for a minimum of 20 years.

Teitelbaum has served as chair of several committees, vice president and president of the AOCOPM. He received his Fellowship award in 1992. He has also helped design the basic course in occupational and preventive medicine and has presented a session for that activity for over 15 consecutive years. Teitelbaum has presented at least one paper for the AOCOPM for over 20 consecutive years. His presentations have been recorded for College members' use as a source of continuing education.

Teitelbaum was selected to give the W. Kenneth Riland Memorial Lecture in 1995 and the Murray Goldstein Commemorative Lecture for the College in 1992 and 2013. The W. Kenneth Riland Memorial Lecture and medal presentation is a key feature at the annual mid-year conference of the AOCOPM. Established in 1983, this prestigious lecture is presented by an individual, member or nonmember, who has demonstrated a desire to see the practice of occupational and preventive medicine excel for the public good. The Goldstein Lecture is a named

lecture given at the spring convention of the AOCOPM by someone who exemplifies service in the field of public health and preventive medicine.

Teitelbaum is currently the vice chair of the American Osteopathic Board of Preventive Medicine and Chair of the Examination Committee. This committee is responsible for the development and administration of board certification examinations in aerospace medicine, preventive medicine and occupational medicine. Teitelbaum was also appointed to the rank of professor of the AOCOPM. This latter recognition is accorded to those who have demonstrated continuous quality lectures to the AOCOPM for at least ten years.

Teitelbaum has received numerous awards during his career as a medical educator. He received a Clinical Professor of the Year Award from LMU-DCOM students for four consecutive years and received LMU's Houston Award for Teaching Excellence in 2010. In 1995 he was selected for the American Osteopathic Association's Mentor Hall of Fame and received the George W. Northup Educator of the Year Award from the national Student Osteopathic Medical Association in 2011.

Teitelbaum received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Degree from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in East Lansing, Mich. He also holds a Master of Public Health Degree from Harvard University, a PhD and MA from Michigan State University and a BS from California State Polytechnic College in Pomona, Calif. His research interests are preventive medicine, public health and medical education. ❖



Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum

LMU-DCOM Founding Dean Receives Tennessee's Highest Honor

Dean Ray E. Stowers was presented with the Tennessee Colonel Aide de Camp recognition at the annual LMU-DCOM Spring Gala in April.

The Tennessee Colonel Aide de Camp recognition is Tennessee's highest honor. To be selected for the recognition, a recipient must be nominated to the Governor by an elected official. Recipients of the recognition are recorded by the Secretary of State of Tennessee with those who have been commissioned into the State Guard and the National Guard. ❖

*LMU-DCOM Founding Dean and AOA 2012-2013 President **Ray E. Stowers** (center) is presented the Tennessee Colonel Aide de Camp recognition by LMU Chairman of the Board of Trustees **Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk** (L) and LMU-DCOM 2012-2013 Interim Dean **Michael Wieting** (R). Photo credit: Jamie Weiss Photography*



LMU-DCOM Recognizes Outstanding Students and Faculty at Annual Gala

LMU-DCOM awarded its Student of the Year and Faculty Member of the Year awards at its annual Spring Gala in Knoxville, Tenn., in April 2013.

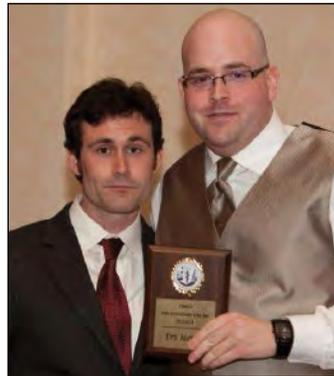
The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2015 went to **Lauren Fox** of Crossville, Tenn., and **Brendan Williams** of Jamestown, Tenn. Fox received her BA in audiology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Williams received his BS in biochemistry and cellular and molecular biology cum laude from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The Class of 2015 selected **Dr. Theresa Campbell**, associate professor of pathology, as Basic Science Faculty Member of the Year and **Dr. John Williamson**, assistant professor and chair of OB/GYN, as Clinical Faculty Member of the Year. Williamson also serves as director of international medicine.

The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2016 went to **Jaclyn Urquiola** of Miami, Fla., and **Dru Morgan** of Wise, Va. Urquiola received her BS in integrative science from the University of Florida.

Morgan received his associate degree in basic sciences from Mountain Empire Community College and his BA in biology magna cum laude from the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

The Class of 2016 selected **Dr. Jonathan Leo**, professor of neuroanatomy as Basic Science Faculty Member of the Year and **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor and chair of preventive medicine, as Clinical Faculty Member of the Year. Leo also serves as associate dean of students for LMU-DCOM and assistant VP for admissions and student services for the division of health sciences.



Dru Morgan (R) receives the LMU-DCOM Student of the Year Award for the Class of 2016 from incoming SGA President Andrew Shelton (L).



Jaclyn Urquiola (R) receives the LMU-DCOM Student of the Year Award for the Class of 2016 from incoming SGA President Andrew Shelton (L).

Photo credits: Jamie Weiss Photography.

Joey Starke of Jackson, Mo., was chosen as Anatomy/Osteopathic Principles and Practice Fellow of the Year. Starke received his BA degree magna cum laude in biology and theological studies from Saint Louis University. The fellowship program is designed to expand the educational opportunities for selected students with guided learning experiences in the areas of medical education, research, osteopathic principles and practices and anatomy while they assist in all phases of the departments' operation. They assist in lecturing, teaching of practical skills and counseling of the first and second year students.

Student of the Year, Faculty Member of the Year and Fellow of the Year awards are chosen by the students of LMU-DCOM.

Chelsea Nickolson, DO '13 of Genoa, Ill., was recognized for being selected as Student Doctor of the Year (SDOY) for LMU-DCOM. SDOY is a program of the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP). The primary focus of the award is to acknowledge students' commitment to their school, their community and the osteopathic profession.

Student DO of the Month 2013

JANUARY

Courtney Laird, OMS 2015
Olga Lutsyk, OMS 2016

SEPTEMBER

Josh Potter, OMS 2016
Joseph Johnson, OMS 2017

FEBRUARY

Kristin Goshorn, OMS 2015
Justin Lukasik, OMS 2016

OCTOBER

Lauren Tehan, OMS 2016
Debra Lai, OMS 2017

MARCH

Danielle Harrell, OMS 2015
Andrew Morgan, OMS 2016

APRIL

Patricia Goodwin, OMS 2015
Bill Lorson, OMS 2016

MAY

Jade Gallimore, OMS 2015
Jeff Simons, OMS 2016



Congratulations to all on your accomplishments!

Budayr Named 2013 LMU-DCOM Preceptor of the Year

Dr. Madhi Budayr, an allopathic surgeon from Maryville, Tenn., was awarded the 2013 Preceptor of the Year Award. The award was announced at LMU-DCOM's annual graduation ceremony on May 11.

The Preceptor of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual who consistently provides outstanding clinical instruction to LMU-DCOM third- and fourth-year students. The award recognizes a preceptor who displays a passion for teaching, a commitment to service and a dedication to the highest ethical standards.

"Dr. Budayr was an exceptional preceptor," said **Morgan Smith, OMS Class of 2014**. "I have gained a vast amount of information from my rotation with him. He was very kind and treated every person including myself with the utmost respect. He really made me feel like a part of the health care team."

"I have a lot of respect for Dr. Budayr both as a person and as a doctor," said **Gunnar Nelson, OMS Class of 2014**. "He challenged me to think of all aspects of patient care. He



Dr. Madhi Budayr

teaches how to be more efficient, practical and ethical in each encounter with a patient in the hospital, which is unique."

Budayr did his residency in general surgery at Conemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital, Temple University program, and completed his fellowship in colon and rectal surgery at Carle Foundation Hospital in Champaign, Ill. He is board certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Colon Rectal Surgeons and is currently a colon/rectal surgeon at Blount Memorial Hospital in Maryville, Tenn.

"Dr. Budayr has set the bar high as a preceptor," said **Dr. Michael Wieting**, LMU-DCOM senior associate dean. "We are grateful for his contributions to our students' education."

"I'm very grateful for this kind honor," Budayr said. "As for my students, I always advise them to be physicians and healers at the same time, and to treat patients as if they are part of your family." ❧

Slaven Receives EMS Educator of the Year Award

Rick Slaven, director of the Center for Simulation and Training at LMU-DCOM, has received the EMS Educator of the Year Award from the Tennessee EMS Education Association (TEMSEA).

To be eligible for the award, the recipient must be in his or her third year of full-time teaching in Tennessee, must maintain high academic achievement standards, must maintain professional and academic rapport with colleagues and students, must maintain a stimulating learning environment, must initialize a creative teaching methodology, must be able to provide evidence of college and community service, must be able to demonstrate use of innovative classroom presentation skills and must be known for a positive, caring and inspiring attitude.

Slaven holds a master's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and is currently pursuing his EdD from LMU.



Rick Slaven

Slaven is a critical care paramedic with over 16 years of field experience and was a member of the critical care test development team for the Tennessee Division of EMS. He has presented at over 30 conferences throughout the southeast and is a respected lecturer. Slaven is a member of the national registry of EMTs, the Tennessee EMS Educators Association and the National Association of EMS Educators.

TEMSEA is a 501(c) (6) non-profit professional association committed to educator development, growth, academic achievement, leadership and professional EMS and EMS Education in Tennessee. TEMSEA works closely with the Tennessee Department of Health EMS Division to provide educator development and advocate legislation and regulations that promote EMS and EMS Education growth and development. ❧

LMU-DCOM Faculty and Staff Honored at Annual Awards Ceremony

Members of the LMU-DCOM faculty and staff were honored during the school's annual awards ceremony on May 10, 2013.

The Bob Jackson Service Award was presented to **Lisa Travis**, medical librarian and instructor of medical library resources. This award is presented to recognize those whose life and community service clearly exemplify a true spirit of love and helpfulness to others, to the community and to LMU-DCOM. It was established by the Inaugural Class of 2011 and is presented annually at the LMU-DCOM Spring Awards Ceremony. The Service Award was established to recognize an outstanding individual who exemplifies a true spirit of love and helpfulness to others by demonstrating qualities such as a significant contribution to public service, gives of themselves regardless of compensation, provides services without expectation of remuneration, going above and beyond a job description, and a member of the community who gives or provides a great service to LMU-DCOM.



Lisa Travis

to a recipient who has dedicated themselves to serving the underserved of rural Appalachia and "Continuing the Legacy" of the institution.

The LMU-DCOM Alumni Association also honored three individuals with honorary alumni association memberships. The honors were presented to LMU Chairman of the Board of Trustees **Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk**, **Dean Ray Stowers** and Travis.



Lisa Travis, Autry O. V. "Pete" DeBusk and Dean Ray Stowers.

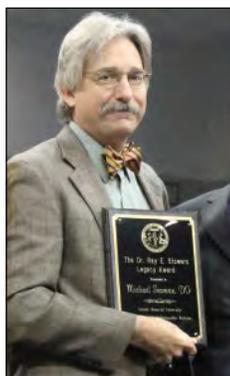
The Inaugural Staff Recognition Award was presented to **Amy Drittler**, director of marketing and public relations



Amy Drittler with Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum

for health sciences. The LMU-DCOM success is dependent on individuals who are dedicated to making people matter. Much of the work of turning ideas and programs into reality falls on the shoulders of the staff of this medical school. This award is an attempt to recognize and show appreciation for those individuals who are vital to the mission of our College.

These individuals are the staff of LMU-DCOM. It is their day-to-day efforts and their positive attitude that encourages students, eases the life of the faculty and creates a positive environment in which to work. 🌟



Dr. Michael Seaman

The Dr. Ray E. Stowers Legacy Award was presented to **Dr. Michael Seaman**, associate professor of emergency medicine and family medicine and director of the LMU-DCOM simulation lab. The Dr. Ray E. Stowers Legacy Award serves to recognize academic teaching excellence in medical education at LMU-DCOM. The award was established by the Inaugural LMU-DCOM Alumni Association and is presented annually

Mark Your Calendar



LMU-DCOM
Class of 2014 Graduation



PA
Class of 2014 Graduation

Local Physician Donates Historic Medical Equipment to LMU

Dr. Charles C. Moore of Middlesboro, Ky., has donated an extensive collection of historic medical equipment to LMU.

The donation consists of a wide variety of medical equipment and journals, including a wheelchair and exam table dating to about 1905. Also included in the collection are antique medicine bottles and surgical equipment. The majority of the collection was given to Moore by his friend and mentor, Dr. William Rogers of Martinsville, Ill. Several small items from the collection are on display on the first floor of LMU-DCOM. Other items are displayed at LMU's Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum (ALLM).

"I am very thrilled to see this medical display, restored and kept for medical students and others to enjoy," said Moore.

Moore was born at Black Mountain, a coal mining community in Harlan County, Ky. He graduated high school at Black Star Mining Camp at Alva, Ky., before attending Cumberland Junior College and Union College. Moore received his medical degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine. Moore completed his internship year at St. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital in Louisville, Ky., before volunteering with the United States Army Medical Corps. After basic training Moore and his family were stationed in Vilsack, Germany.

Upon completion of his military service, Moore and his family relocated to Martinsville, Ill., and pursued family practice in the small farming community. During his time in



(L-R): LMU-DCOM Senior Associate Dean Michael Wieting, Mary Moore, Dr. Charles C. Moore and LMU-DCOM Director of Development and Alumni Joey Gilbert with the historic display inside the LMU-DCOM building. Many of the items inside the display are part of a collection recently donated to LMU by Moore.

Illinois, Moore befriended Rogers, the only other physician in the area. When Rogers passed away, his wife asked Moore to go to Rogers' office to help dispose of the medical equipment and medication that remained. Moore kept the items until this year, when he made the decision to donate them to LMU. 📍

LMU-DCOM Celebrates National Osteopathic Medicine Week

LMU-DCOM celebrated National Osteopathic Medicine (NOM) Week April 14-20, 2013.

NOM Week brings the osteopathic medical profession together to focus on one common goal – increasing awareness of osteopathic medicine and osteopathic physicians, or D.O.s, in communities across the country. NOM Week is an annual event organized by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam issued a proclamation recognizing Osteopathic Medicine Week in the State of Tennessee. The proclamation also recognizes the state's 836 osteopathic physicians for being dedicated to improving the health of their communities through education and awareness-based efforts, as well as by delivering quality health services. The proclamation also recognizes the approximately 700 osteopathic medical students at LMU-DCOM. 📍



Public Health Research Group

In Fall 2012, **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor of preventive medicine, convened a group of OMS Class of 2016 students who all shared a common history: all held the master of public health degree. Together the group coalesced into what is now known as the Public Health Preventive Medicine Research Group (PHPMRG).

The PHPMRG is composed of medical students who are interested in examining delivery issues related to medical services and their impact on the overall health care of the community serviced by the medical school and its associated facilities. The PHPMRG uses the principles of public health, research design, statistical analysis, evidence-based medicine and critical literature review methods to investigate organizational structures, economic issues, treatment strategies and health care patterns to promote preventive medicine and sound health policy.

Their work has resulted in the September 2013 issue of *Disease-a-Month*, in which the publication is dedicated to their contribution, "The epidemiology of hospice and palliative care." Editor-in-chief Dr. Jerry Leikin described the contribution as an "exhaustive overview" of the clinical issues associated with hospice and palliative care in his forward to the issue.



Student members of the PHPMRG include:

Clark Baker, OMS Class of 2016, holds an undergraduate degree in biology and a MPH from East Carolina University.

Alin Gragossian, OMS Class of 2016, holds an undergraduate degree in psychobiology from UCLA and a MPH from the University of Southern California.

Diana L. Heilig, OMS Class of 2016, holds a BA in physiology from the University of Minnesota and a MPH with an emphasis on health planning from A.T. Still University School of Health Management.

Chadd Mays, OMS Class of 2016, holds a BS in biology from Samford University and a MPH in Healthcare Organization and Policy from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Anna Menze, OMS Class of 2016, holds an undergraduate degree in health science and a MPH from Purdue University.

Sarah Neslund, OMS Class of 2016, holds a BS in biology from Lee University and a MPH with an epidemiology concentration from the University of Georgia.

Elizabeth K. Risner, OMS Class of 2016, holds a BS in chemistry and biology from the University of the Cumberlands and a MPH from the University of Louisville.

LMU-DCOM Students Volunteer for Community Health Fair

LMU-DCOM students volunteered at the first Community and Family Appreciation Health Fair on September 21, 2013, at Middlesboro ARH in Middlesboro, Ky. The hospital expressed appreciation for the students' willingness to volunteer outside on a rainy Saturday morning.



Photos courtesy
Middlesboro ARH Hospital.



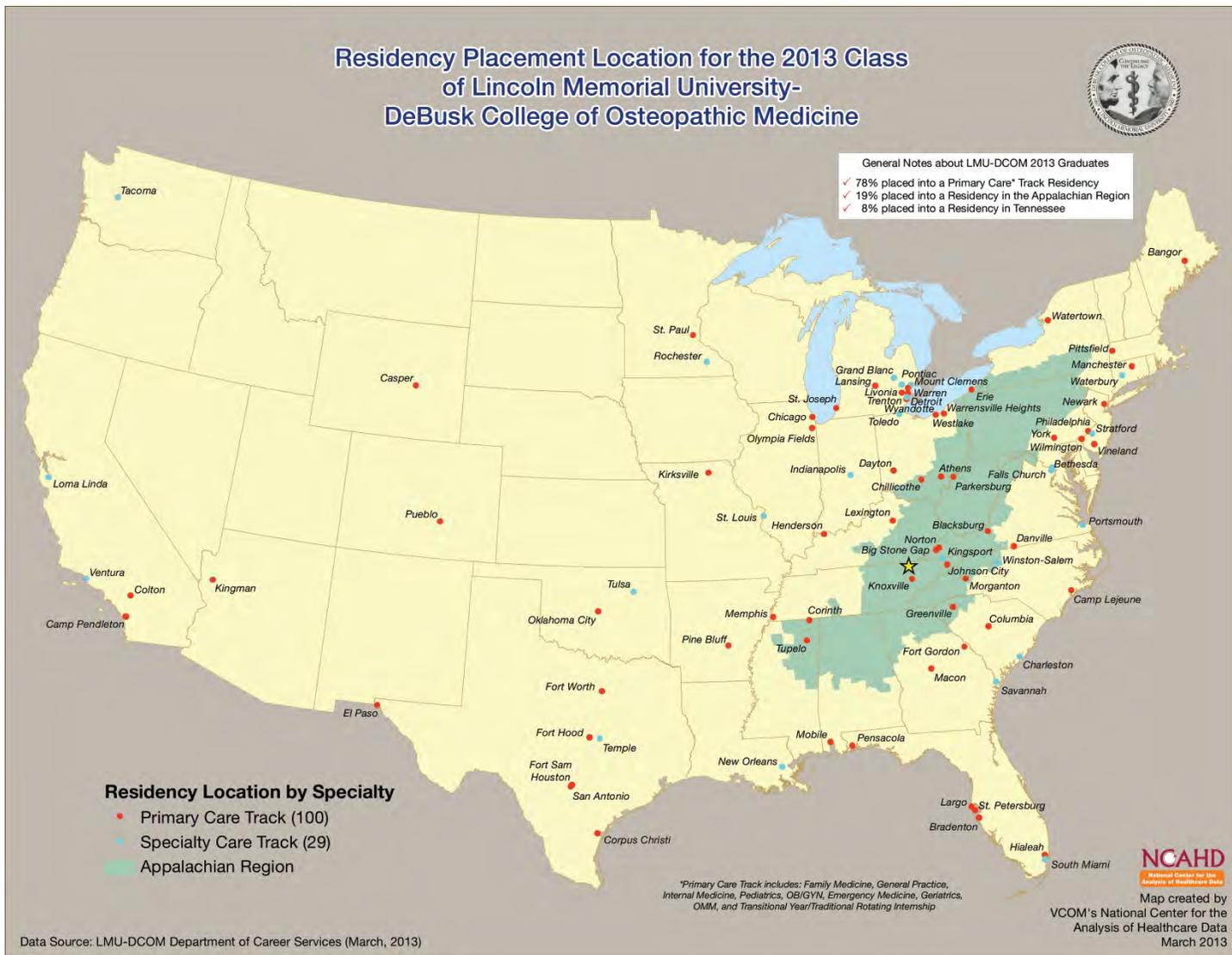
LMU-DCOM Announces Class of 2013 Residency Placements

Approximately 78% of the members of the LMU-DCOM Class of 2013 entered their first year of residency training in a primary care track residency, including family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN, emergency medicine, osteopathic manipulative medicine and transitional year/traditional rotating internship. The members of the Class of 2013 are in 107 different residency programs in 33 states.

LMU-DCOM placed 100% of its graduating class into postgraduate training programs. Of the graduating class,

61% were placed into osteopathic residency programs. Twenty-eight percent accepted residency positions with allopathic programs and 11% are going into military programs.

LMU-DCOM had the fourth highest osteopathic match rate in the country, which is the percentage of a school's seniors and previous graduates that matched in the osteopathic match as compared to the total number of the school's eligible participants (including non-participants).



LMU-DCOM is on Facebook. Join our fan page by searching for "LMU-DCOM." Like us? Follow us!



Follow "Imuamy" on Twitter for updates from Director of Marketing and Public Relations for Health Sciences, Amy Drittler.



Search "Imunetedu" for more than 100 videos from the University, including many from LMU-DCOM faculty.

Dr. Owen Vincent, DO '11 had his paper, "Prevention Curricula Assessment of Osteopathic Medical Schools in the United States" accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Osteopathic Medicine*.

Dr. David Heath, DO '11 received the 2013 Outstanding Resident Award at the Resident Graduation Ceremony for Affinity Medical Center in Massillon, Ohio.



Dr. David Heath (left)

Dr. Asim Ahmed, DO '11 served as chief resident in internal medicine at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, July 2012-June 2013. Ahmed also has served as the hospital's ambulatory clinic liaison, chaired the osteopathic manipulation treatment committee and held several other committee appointments.

Dr. Michelle Pearman, DO '12 was recognized as Intern of the Year within Wellmont Health System in Summer 2013.

Dr. Abigail DeBusk, DO '11 co-authored the article, "The Preparticipation Exam and Screening for Sudden Cardiac Death" in the Spring 2013 issue of *KAFP Journal*. The article can be accessed online at <http://epubs.democratprinting.com/publication/?i=155031&page=1>. She was also selected to give a podium case presentation in May 2013 at the 60th Annual Meeting and 4th World Congress on Exercise in Medicine Conference in Indianapolis, Ind., which is the national conference for the American College of Sports Medicine. The title of the presentation was "Wrist Injury in a Collegiate Basketball Player." The case presentation was also published in the



Dr. David Heath, DO '11 and president of the LMU-DCOM Alumni Association, attended a meet and greet at Pineville (Ky.) High School on September 21, 2013, for Jimmy Rose, third place finisher on the Fall 2013 installation of "America's Got Talent" and a Pineville native. Heath congratulated Rose on his accomplishments on behalf of the LMU-DCOM Alumni Association. Heath says Rose complimented the medical school and its impact on the tri-state region.



The LMU-DCOM Alumni Association held an Ohio Region Alumni Reception at Lindey's in Columbus, Ohio, on August 17, 2013.

Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise Supplement Vol 45:5.

LMU-DCOM alumni **Dr. Nathan Hartgrove, DO '12** and **Dr. Greg Nieckula, DO '11**, taught seminars for the Student Activities Day at the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association convention in May 2013. Hartgrove led a session entitled "Test Taking Skills" and Nieckula led a session entitled "Respiratory Physiology/PFT."

Jamie Sexton, DO '13 passed along this photo summary of his time at LMU-DCOM. The top photo shows Sexton and his daughter Aubrey Jane with **Dean Ray Stowers** at the White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2013 in September 2009, and the bottom photo shows Sexton and Aubrey Jane with Stowers during graduation week 2013.



Dr. Rachael B. Hollifield, DO '12 was voted Intern of the Year in the family medicine program at Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News, Va. Hollifield was also elected social chair.

Dr. William Glen Goncharow, DO '12 and **Brittany Brown Goncharow, LMU '10**, welcomed daughter Reagan Noel on June 17, 2013. Reagan weighed 7 lb. 4 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Reagan was delivered by her father at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss. 🍀

Alumni and his Father Make Mission Trip to Guatemala

By Alan Burdziak; Published June 26, 2013 in The News-Herald (Southgate, Mich.)

Reprinted with permission from The News-Herald

After nearly 32 years as a podiatrist with his own private practice, Aaron Rives decided he wanted to go on a mission trip with his son, **Steven Rives, DO '13** who recently graduated from medical school.

The pair hooked up with DOCARE, a Chicago-based group that sends doctors to impoverished regions to provide treatment for those who otherwise would receive none. The Riveses left June 2, headed for Guatemala City, where they would stay in between days of trekking through jungles and mountains to remote villages.

Aaron, 65, was one of five doctors who oversaw teams of second-year medical students and also had the assistance of a few nurses and physician assistants. The group—all Americans—would leave the city around 6 a.m. and drive about 2 hours to a different village every day. Few, if any Guatemalan doctors helped with the effort, Rives said, which disappointed him.

“When we got to these villages there were already 200 people lined up,” Aaron said. “We ended up seeing over 1,200 patients in three and a half days.”

They were there all week, working 10 to 12 hours a day through Thursday. They took Friday off when the mayor of Guatemala City threw them a beach party and the Riveses returned to Michigan on June 8.

“We just worked our butts off,” Aaron said. “We never stopped.”

He said it would be an interesting experience for them both before his 29-year-old son went on to do his residency at St. Mary Mercy Livonia Hospital. The days were long and hot. There were no fans or air conditioning. It was around 80 or 90 degrees each day and they saw patient after patient, usually in dilapidated schools or in public spaces like basketball courts.

The sheer amount of patients they saw was at times overwhelming, Aaron said. Being a podiatrist, he at first saw people with foot and ankle problems, but there weren't



Aaron Rives (L) and son, Steven Rives (R)

a lot of patients with those types of ailments.

“There were so few cases of it that we helped the pain management doctor because he was swamped,” he said. “I had to relearn how to give injections in the knee and stuff like that.”

Guatemala is a poor country of about 14 million people in Central America. Mexico borders it on the west, Belize on the northeast and El Salvador and Honduras to the east and southeast, respectively. With a gross domestic product per capita of \$5,200, according to the CIA World Factbook, it ranks 154th of 229 countries in that category. In contrast, the U.S.' per capita GDP is \$49,800, or 15th in the world. Even though unemployment is low Guatemala, at 4.1 percent, 54 percent of its population lives below the poverty line, according to 2011 estimates from the CIA.

Many people do not have adequate access to health care, especially in rural areas of this roughly 42,000 square-mile country. Because of that, a handful of people Aaron saw had conditions that were so far gone that an amputation would normally be necessary. But since he knew they would not receive the aftercare they needed, he had to opt to alternatively treat their problem as best he could.

It is common in these remote jungles for the people to work in fields, harvesting crops all day in the hot sun, sometimes for virtually their entire lives.

“What bothered me is I'd see the sheet on them, it'd say 40 years old and I'm looking, I'm going, ‘This person isn't 40, maybe 60,’” Aaron said. “That's how fast they age.”

Rives got the Woodhaven Walmart to donate some Detroit Tigers hats and shirts for him to give to some of the sick children. When he went to give them out, he only had a few, but hundreds of people clamored for them, he said.

“It humbles you,” Aaron said. “I've never seen such poverty.”

He'd donated to mission trips before, he said, but this was the first time he'd gone on one, paying for all of his expenses out of pocket. While he said it was great to give back, he couldn't do it again at his age. If he started doing

Continued on page 13

LMU-DCOM Honors Class of 2013 Members at Awards Ceremony

The faculty and administration of LMU-DCOM handed out several awards to members of the graduating class at its awards day ceremony on May 10, 2013.

The Dean's Award went to **Souleymane Yaya Diallo, DO '13** originally of Fafaya, Guinea. The Dean's Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who displays a strong commitment to academic excellence, embodies empathy and compassion toward others, exemplifies personal integrity and professionalism and has earned the respect and trust of classmates and faculty.

The LMU-DCOM Service Award was presented to **Chelsea Nickolson, DO '13** of Genoa, Ill., and **Edward Wills, DO '13** of Huntsville, Ala. The award is given to students who exemplify the mission statement of LMU-DCOM in the following areas: serving the health and wellness needs of the people within both the Appalachian region and beyond; focusing on enhanced access to comprehensive health care for underserved communities; and embracing compassionate, patient-centered care that values diversity, public service and leadership as an enduring commitment to professionalism and the highest ethical standards.

Nickolson also received the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) Spirit of Excellence Award. The award is presented annually to a graduating student who has achieved distinction among his or her peers through academic superiority, leadership qualities, community service and a commitment to serve the citizens of Tennessee.

The Valedictorian Award, for the graduate deemed to be the highest academically ranked student in the class, was presented to **Zachary Taylor, DO '13** of Morristown, Tenn. The Salutatorian Award, for the graduate deemed to be the second highest academically ranked student in the class, was presented to **Brittany Grady, DO '13** of Saint Augustine, Fla.

Grady also was named an Outstanding Molecular Fundamentals of Medicine Student. This award is presented to the student who displays a mastery of the molecular fundamentals of medicine as evidenced by academic achievement and enthusiasm for the subject matter. Also receiving the award was **Craig Lenz, Jr., DO '13** of Salem, Mass.

Lenz also received the Obstetrics/Gynecology Award, presented in recognition of the student who has displayed an outstanding commitment to assisting women achieve and maintain health and wellness.

Mitchell Oetken, DO '13 of Cloverdale, Ind., received the award for Outstanding Anatomy Student. The award is given to a student who performs in the top 5% of the class

academically and exhibits enthusiasm for the subject matter.

The Outstanding Osteopathic Principles and Practice Student award was given to **Matthew S. Johnson, DO '13** of Richmond, Va. The award is presented to the student who best exemplifies the practical implementation of osteopathic manipulation into the practice of medicine.

Joshua Yeary, DO '13 of Ewing, Va., received the Family Medicine Award, presented to the student who best exemplifies what an osteopathic family physician should be. This individual has provided excellent care to a wide variety of patients with a multitude of clinical problems in a kind, concerned and professional manner, and has matched into a family practice residency.

The Internal Medicine Award went to **Drew Triplett, DO '13** of Carthage, Tenn. The award honors one student who has shown uncommon interest and aptitude in the field of internal medicine.

The Scalpel Award for Excellence in Surgery went to **Elton Taylor, II, DO '13** of Augusta, Ga. The award is presented to a graduating student pursuing a career in surgery and who has demonstrated excellence in the areas of patient care, academic excellence and technical prowess.

Lindsey Presley, DO '13 of Jonesville, Va., received the Pediatrics Award, presented to an outstanding student entering the field of pediatrics.

Phillip Singer, DO '13 of Cumming, Ga., received the Emergency Medicine Award, presented to an outstanding student entering the field of emergency medicine.

The Behavioral Medicine Award was presented to **Derek C. Ayers, DO '13** of Cana, Va. This award is presented to the graduating student who demonstrates excellence in the area of biopsychosocial treatment for patients with mental illness.

The Preventive Medicine and Public Health Award went to **Stanley Marlowe, DO '13** of Evarts, Ky. The award is presented to an outstanding student who has made significant contributions to public health and preventive medicine through leadership, vision, originality and innovation.

The Donna Jones Moritsugu Memorial Award, awarded by the American Osteopathic Foundation, was presented to **Lindsey Rosie**, wife of **David Rosie, DO '13** of Carrsville, Va. The award honors and recognizes the spouse of a graduating osteopathic medical student who best exemplifies the role of a professional's partner by providing immeasurable support of his or her mate, family and the osteopathic profession while being an individual in their own right.

LMU Introduces Three Master of Science Majors

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) has granted LMU approval for the Master of Science (MS) degree program with majors in biomedical professions, anatomical sciences and life science research. Classes began August 19, 2013.

The programs, which are being offered through the School of Mathematics and Sciences in collaboration with LMU-DCOM, are an outgrowth of the post-baccalaureate medical science certificate program which was designed to help students with baccalaureate degrees prepare for their future careers pursuing a doctoral-level education in the health science field. Like the post-bac program, all three MS majors will be offered at the LMU main campus in Harrogate, Tenn., and will utilize face-to-face methodology with lecture, lab and projects.

“This degree program opens the door for more extensive graduate research opportunities for students alongside our highly qualified graduate faculty in math and science, as well as basic medical sciences faculty from LMU-DCOM,” said School of Math and Science Dean Amiel Jarstfer.

Each major requires a minimum of 30 graduate credit hours. All three majors include foundational graduate courses that

will help students understand and use the primary literature of the life sciences. The life science research major requires a thesis and is designed for students seeking to complete master’s level thesis research prior to beginning dissertation research. In addition to graduate level courses, students in the MS program will also work alongside first-year osteopathic medical school students at LMU-DCOM in areas such as medical gross anatomy and histology.

The programs are housed in LMU’s new Math and Science Building. The \$26 million facility houses undergraduate, graduate and professional programs of study at LMU. It is the largest building on campus and includes a 400-seat auditorium, microscopy suite, over 4,600 square feet of research labs, a large anatomy suite with four pods, and advanced biology, chemistry and physics facilities. All of the classrooms are enabled with lecture capture and streaming capabilities and the building features complete wireless internet integration.

For more information about the MS program and majors contact Holly Napier, master of science recruitment and student services coordinator, by phone at 423.869.6027 or email at holly.napier@LMU.net.edu.

Mission Trip to Guatemala

Continued from page 11

this when he was younger, it would be a different story, though.

“I would not have done this without my son,” Aaron said. “This is a young man’s job.”

Two buses would transport the group back and forth through the jungle and mountains. They had 60 suitcases filled with supplies; everything from medicine to gauze and antiseptics. Guatemalans and the people he worked with were nice, he said. Students were nervous at first, he said, but got over it by the end of the second day.

Next month, it will be 32 years since Aaron Rives opened his private practice in Riverview. Born and raised on Detroit’s northwest side, he went to the University of Michigan for his undergraduate degree, the University of California-Berkeley for medical school and then the Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine, affiliated with Northwestern University, in Chicago before doing his residency in Detroit.

The trip was “way beyond” what they expected, Aaron said.

“I’ve been well-trained,” he said, “but I certainly wasn’t prepared for what I got into.”

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Heather Rattenbury,

DO ‘12, a resident at Wilson Memorial Regional Medical Center in Johnson City, N.Y., was named a recipient of the 2013 Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards. The awards recognize residents who excel in humanistic skills, both at the bedside of the patient and with the learners under their supervision. The awards



are sponsored by the Arnold Gold Foundation, and recipients are nominated by students, faculty and/or residents and then chosen by the third year class. Rattenbury was one of seven winners chosen from 90 nominees gathered from a total of 507 residents currently training at Upstate Medical University and its affiliated hospitals throughout the central New York corridor.

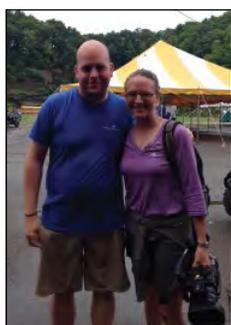
Medical Missions in My Hometown

Editor's Note: The annual Remote Area Medical (RAM) Clinic in Wise, Va., was held during Summer 2013. LMU-DCOM students, led by Dr. Ava Stanczak, associate professor and chair of pediatrics, volunteered during the three-day clinic.

The following is an excerpt from the blog of Dru Morgan, OMS Class of 2016, in which he recounts his experience volunteering as a coordinator for the clinic.

LMU hosts a RAM clinic every other year in which OMS and PA students and faculty, along with other health professions students and faculty, volunteer their services. LMU's next RAM clinic is currently slated for 2014.

This summer I returned to my hometown to work as a coordinator for the Remote Area Medical event in Wise, Va. RAM-Wise is the largest health fair in the United



Dru Morgan, left, with Ely Brown, producer of ABC's Nightline.

States. Annually it provides free care to 2,000+ patients in need at a value in excess of \$1.5 million. A large majority of patients are there to seek dental or vision care services that even those who have health insurance often go without. Another contingent are there to see medical specialists not available in their areas. Physicians are in attendance each year in specialties including endocrinology, cardiology, plastic surgery, dermatology, orthopedics and more. It's a chance for patients to get care at no cost to

the patient and no cost to the taxpayer. The Health Wagon, a local non-profit health outreach, serves as the coordinator for the event. It would serve as my home for the summer.

Each year the event reminds me of my own experiences. Sadly, not many years ago, my mother and I were the ones seeking care.



Dru Morgan, left, speaking with VA Sen. Phillip Puckett (center) and US Sen. Tim Kaine (right) about coordinating RAM, the future of healthcare in America and affordable education for medical students.

Photo copyright Tim C. Cox Photo/Graphics.



Dr. Stanczak and her student volunteers.

In 2004 my mother was diagnosed with cancer. A six letter word with a six-ton impact. Breast cancer to be exact. Prognosis? Hard to say, but they caught it early. Treatment options? Surgery, radiation, maybe chemo. Affordability? No such thing. As a private practice attorney with a significant family and medical history, my mother was not insured. It wasn't a matter of not wanting health insurance or being insurable. It was a matter of being the working poor – those who make too much money for assistance but not enough to cover the burgeoning cost of health care. Simply put – she was priced out of the system, and now she needed the system more than ever.



Bryant Gray (center), OMS Class of 2016 and RN, Dru Morgan (right), RAM-Wise Coordinator and OMS Class of 2016, with friend from undergrad Josh Lee, MS-2 at VCU/MCV in Richmond, Va.

So, faced with life or death, my mother chose life. My family chose to stand and fight with her. After a nearly \$100,000 home equity loan to pay for her care and a chance

opportunity for an experimental cancer treatment, she won the battle. Five years later and over \$100,000 in debt, the doctor said, "Not remission. Cancer free." A sigh of relief filled the room. The financial impacts would linger until today.

This struggle for my mother's health care would prove crucial in both my decision to pursue medicine and to seek out medical mission work in the United States. During this dark period in my family's life, uninsured and teetering on the edge of bankruptcy, my mother and I found ourselves

without health insurance at the RAM event in Wise. Not as volunteers, but as patients. It felt like rock bottom but it was all that we could do.

In 2013, I clocked nearly 350 hours during my time in Wise—our team collectively clocked in thousands. My tasks included everything from recruiting physicians, insurance paperwork, medical licensure verifications, event layout, emergency planning, policy writing, public relations, speaking with patients, governmental relations, working with the media, designing and handing out special passes and more. Yet, as I drove to and from the clinic each day the driving force behind it all were my neighbors. The hardest working folks you could ever know. The people of Appalachia are truly the backbone of this nation and yet, as lucrative as we are, many are without basic medical necessities. The numbers tell the story.

Patient Encounters: 5,193
 Total Patients: 2,442
 Percent of Children: 3.2%
 Value of Care: \$1,954,200
 Total Volunteers: 1,379



Specialty medical tents where dermatology, plastics, orthopedics, ultrasound, and various other medical specialties are housed during the event.



Cars began snaking into the parking lot nine hours before the event began. These folks would sleep in the parking lot that night.

Center for Simulation and Training in Action

The LMU-DCOM Center for Simulation and Training hosted a crew from WINGS Air Rescue in April 2013 to display one of their aircraft and to talk about their role in medical and trauma care. The Center also hosted LifeLine Mobile of Columbus, Ohio, which displayed one of the organization's state-of-the-art mobile simulation labs. Staff members have also been working with other health professions programs at LMU to offer training opportunities to their students. Students in the Athletic Training Program have used the simulation lab facility within the LMU-DCOM building and staff members of the Center conducted their first life-saving skills courses for the associate of science in nursing students at LMU's Corbin, Ky., extended learning site. 🚑



REMEMBERING DR. NEAL CROSS



Students and co-workers share their memories

“I remember back during the first year of DCOM, one morning I came in early and was probably a little grumpy, and saw *FOX News* (which I don’t like) up on the student lounge area TVs with the volume up loud. I was looking for the remote to turn the volume down. When Dr. Cross walked up and saw the look on my face he asked me what was wrong. I told him about not liking *FOX News* and not wanting to hear it first thing in the morning... like I said, I was a bit grumpy. Dr. Cross made some kind of joke (I don’t remember exactly what) that cheered me up a bit and got a chuckle out of both of us.

The next morning he walked into my office first thing and presented me with a big *FOX News* coffee cup, (the tall black one with the spill proof lid) with a red face from barely concealed laughter. We both had a good laugh about it. I still have that coffee mug!

Dr. Cross had a great sense of humor, he will be missed.”

— *Chris Emge, media specialist*



“I will never forget the gait wheel! And Dr. Cross despised high heel shoes because of how they mess up the anatomy...only man that ever truly understood how horrible they are! Also I will never forget the “anatomy fashion show.” I probably learned more and had more fun with new classmates doing that than anything in lab! His response was so great..that’s what I mainly remember...how he laughed and enjoyed the show which made it all that much more fun!”

— *Dr. Tobey Schultz, DO’13*



“Neal and I bonded when he found out my husband and I are Harley Davidson motorcycle riders. We were fast friends thereafter. And he always noticed when I wore any of my Harley gear on casual Friday. Neal lived life and loved those with whom he lived it. He was a giant among men. Godspeed to him!”

— *Dr. Leah Cobb, assistant professor and chair of psychiatry*



“We as a community, class and department are only as good as the pieces that make it up, and when a vital piece is lost, it’s up to everyone to pull together to endure the trying times ahead. No one can ever take the place of someone we care about, respect and appreciate so dearly. We can only grieve, remember the good times, what we have been taught, the opportunities that we have been given, and keep the memory alive by being the persons that he would have envisioned us to be. I was blessed each day to have worked

under him, and I am blessed to work for such an outstanding university and with amazing people, none more influential in such a short time than my beloved boss. There are so many things that I could say about him... but it wouldn’t justify what he has meant to me and will continue to mean to me. I will always fondly remember our time together and never forget. R.I.P. Dr. Neal Cross and GO DUCKS!”

— *Jason A. Haynes, anatomy assistant/lab coordinator*



“Last year I was having a tough time being away from home and was beginning to second guess my decision to attend

DCOM. It was my first time being away from my family in a completely new environment. I was on the brink of returning to Rhode Island, calling it quits and changing my career path. I decided to talk to Dr. Cross about my concerns. He explained to me that this feeling was natural and he felt the same way during the beginning of his studies. He told me that ‘there is something to be said about leaving home to study... I promise, you will be a better man for it.’ I took his advice and stuck it out for another year. He became a very good friend and personal mentor throughout my time at DCOM. If it wasn’t for Dr. Cross I would have returned home and probably never achieved my dream of becoming an osteopathic physician. Any lives I touch or patients I treat will be because he pushed me to realize my potential. Thank you Dr. Cross—my success is due to your guidance.”

— *Michael J. Abadier, OMS Class of 2017*



“I will never forget the first time I met Dr. Cross. I was nervous, being interviewed at LMU-DCOM by the chair of the department. I can still remember sitting down in the chair of his office, my heart beating out of my chest, anticipating the questions to come. What was he going to ask me first, ‘why do I want to come here,’ ‘why medicine,’ or an ethical question that I did not know the answer to. Unexpectedly, the first question he asked was about my name. Being Chinese with a Irish last name, he told me that he expected a ‘green eyed, red headed girl’ when he called me up for the interview. Needless to say, all I could do was chuckle as he quickly put me at ease, and I explained that my name resulted due to a random translation at the immigration office from Chinese characters to alphabetical letters when my family came to the United States. This was my first and best memory here at LMU-DCOM. I will never forget his kindness during this stressful time and allowing me to become a part of the DCOM family. Dr. Cross was an excellent and knowledgeable professor, and he will be greatly missed.”

— *Diana O’Young, OMS Class of 2014*



“This is one of my favorite pictures of Dr. Cross and me. It reminds me of how large his role was for many of us at DCOM. I posted this picture on my Facebook the day I found out he’d passed and put this quote by Henry Adams with it...



‘*A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.*’”

— *Dr. Melanie McClain, DO ‘12*



“I just have a small anecdote I guess. Everyone knows about Dr. Cross’s lecture on high heels. On our white coat ceremony, I wore flats and thought he’d be proud. Once I took my first step onto the stage I tripped, and Dr. Cross didn’t let me forget that I was the only one who tripped AND wasn’t even wearing heels that day. He was a great teacher and person and will be missed.”

— *Madiba Khurshid, OMS Class of 2016*



“I wanted to ask you your opinion on something. I knew you would be straight forward and honest. You always



Photo by Neal Cross

seemed to put away the unimportant and stay with what was at issue. I knew you would be here early in the morning, I think it was before the break of dawn. Interestingly, you changed from the smooth quiet Jimmy Stewart type of guy to a double for the *Sons of Anarchy*. I almost expected you to change your middle name to Harley. I remember when we were discussing the idea of collegiate groups to increase the camaraderie of the student body, you were looking through a Harley

Davison catalogue. I best recall when we laughed about your undergraduate college fraternity. It was a Jewish fraternity and you said the food was better and you got twice the holidays off. I wish I could recall how we got speaking about guns. I know I was told by, probably Mike Seaman, that you had a collection of guns that was extraordinary. I had no interest in owning a weapon—but that was before I spoke with you. On a Saturday you, Stan and I went up to Pineville and you produced an armory that was indescribable. The one I was really amazed at was your Thompson submachine gun. I couldn’t believe the weight of the thing and of course there was no ammunition in it, which would add even more weight. I think the movies used wooden facsimiles. Interesting times indeed. I can’t ask you things anymore. I can’t discuss curriculum design or political positions or the pictures you took and loved to explain the details of nature you saw when you took them. These things will have to wait. I have always believed that people live on in the acts of goodness they perform. While you are no longer here, you still have an exceedingly long life ahead.”

— *Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum, professor and chair of preventive medicine*



“The Dr. Cross I knew best wasn’t the professor or the Harley rider, but the photographer. Dr. Cross fell in love with the craft after moving to East Tennessee and quickly became an accomplished photographer in his own right. He would share photos with me of the local scenery and talked to me about camera equipment and photo opportunities. One year he set up a camera at LMU’s annual RAM clinic to test out his skills taking ‘people photos,’ since most of his photography was scenery rather than portraits. He captured some great images that weekend.

The other Dr. Cross that I worked with most often was the anatomist who held his lab in the highest of esteem. As the LMU-DCOM building’s resident tour guide, I quickly learned that the lab was a place of the utmost respect and sensitivity. Dr. Cross directly influenced our tour protocol,

Continued on page 18

LMU-DCOM Welcomes its Seventh Class

LMU-DCOM welcomed the Class of 2017 on July 30, 2013. The incoming medical school class is the seventh to enroll at LMU-DCOM since it opened its doors in 2007.

Since its founding, LMU-DCOM has had a rigorous and competitive application process. LMU-DCOM received almost 4,000 applications for the Class of 2017, a 15% increase in applications in one year. For the second year in a row, LMU-DCOM had the highest increase in applications of any osteopathic medical school in the country. For the Class of 2017 there were 16 applicants for each seat in the class.

One hundred students in the Class of 2017 hail from the immediate tri-state region of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia.

The remaining class members come from all over the United States. The class is 57% male and 43% female, and the average age is 25.

Eighty-nine percent of students in LMU's former Post-Baccalaureate Medical Science Program who completed applications for LMU-DCOM were accepted into the medical school this year. Beginning in 2013, the post-baccalaureate program has been converted to a Master of Science program offering three concentrations: anatomical sciences, biomedical sciences and life sciences research. Where the previous program was a certificate-granting program, LMU's Master of Science program is a degree-granting program. 



Remembering Dr. Neal Cross

Continued from page 17

and as a result we do not allow laypeople to view the lab when it is in use. When the lab is not in use and I take tour groups inside, the first comments I always make are about the respect that we have for the lab and for anatomical donors who make such a tremendous gift to our educational process. I will continue to see Dr. Cross's smiling face in my mind every time I take groups to visit his lab."

— Amy Drittler, director of marketing and public relations for health sciences



"It was after the White Coat Ceremony and I was anxious to show off Math and Science. My family tries to understand what I am going through, but providing them a visual helped put this journey into more of a perspective. We



all went up to the fourth floor where I then became a little hesitant on if I should show them the anatomy lab. But low and behold, Dr. Cross was there and I think he watched me open the doors because we then made eye contact. I couldn't really tell if he was worried about me taking them in there or if he was excited—you know, he was hard to read as a first year. So I took a chance and asked him for some assistance; he jumped on it! He told them all about the state of the

art surgical lamps, cameras, etc. He laughed when my mom asked if the bodies were in the buffet warmers. He talked about the curriculum, and in such a manner that my family could follow him. You could sense the pride he had for his work and my family has not forgotten that.

I am beyond grateful for that moment we all had with him and am honored to have learned from him."

— Jean Davis, OMS Class of 2016

LMU-DCOM Celebrates the Class of 2017

Students receive white coats to formally mark their entrance into medical school

LMU-DCOM formally welcomed the OMS Class of 2017 into its study of osteopathic medicine at its annual White Coat Ceremony on September 21, 2013. Pictured is **Dr. Chris Yonts (L)**, associate professor of family medicine at LMU-DCOM and



medical director of the University Medical Clinic, coating first-year osteopathic medical student **Cameron Felty (R)** of Greenup, Ky.

The White Coat Ceremony is a special ceremony designed to mark a student's entrance into medical school. The first White Coat Ceremony was held in 1993 at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and is now a standard ritual in medical schools across the country. During the Ceremony, each medical student is presented and "robed" with his or her short white laboratory coat, formalizing and welcoming the student's entrance into the study of medicine.

On the Friday before the White Coat Ceremony, LMU-DCOM held its annual barbeque and student games at the Harrogate City Park. Two Docs BBQ, led by **Dean Ray Stowers** and **Dr. Michael Wieting**, senior associate dean, dean of clinical medicine, assistant VP of program development and professor of physical medicine and

rehabilitation/OPP along with a crew of student volunteers. The overall event was coordinated by **Michael Denz**, OMS Class of 2016. Others providing critical support to the operation included OMS Class of 2016 members **Rodney Steff**, **Caleb Vass**, **Ricky Kalia** and **Olga Lutsyk**. Others involved included OMS Class of 2016 members **Andrew Hodge**, **Bill Lorson**, **Landon Hall** and **Sevan Evren**. Many students provided side dishes for the meal and members of the Student Government Association assisted with purchasing food for the meal. 🍴



Wellmont Health Systems held its annual White Coat Ceremony for its newest residents in the family medicine residency program during Summer 2013. **Sherry Laney Cline, DO '12** and a resident in the program, shared this photo of the entire residency program, which includes many LMU-DCOM graduates. 🍴

Student Club Updates

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS-STUDENT CHAPTER (ACOEP-SC)

On February 13, 2013, the club welcomed guest speaker Dr. Nerseen Kaufman, a medical director of LaFollette (Tenn.) Medical Center and an emergency physician. Kaufman spoke about her experience as a physician, her work with Team Health's organization and other various topics in emergency medicine. The Emergency Medicine Club held a hands-on IV skills lab for its members on February 19, 2013. The event gave club members the opportunity to perform the skill on a real patient.

BUSINESS & MEDICINE INTEREST GROUP

The Business & Medicine Interest Group hosted guest speakers Dr. Mary Dillon and Dr. Miriam Weinstein on April 25. They spoke on the many ways they use the business side of medicine everyday in their practices. Dillon is the medical director of Patricia Neal Rehabilitation Center in Knoxville, Tenn., and Weinstein has her own solo practice and is a pediatric physiatrist and developmental pediatrician in Knoxville. They discussed the pros and cons of being a medical director versus having a solo practice. The group also collected donations for the Cease Women's Shelter in Tazewell, Tenn., in May in time for Mother's Day. Items collected included toothbrush/toothpaste, shampoo/conditioner, soap, hair ties, nail polish and remover, feminine products and makeup. Mother's Day gifts were also made for the residents.

HEALTH EQUITY CLUB

The Health Equity Club hosted speaker Anna Bass on March 21, 2013. Bass works for DLAB which advocates for the rights of Tennesseans with disabilities to ensure that they have equal opportunity. The Health Equity Club, in conjunction with the Social and Gender Equality Club, sold wristbands representing the following pledge: I pledge to honor my colleagues, patients and affiliated members of the health care system with respect; no matter their race, gender, religion, societal status or sexual orientation. As a student doctor, my priorities reside in providing the utmost quality in patient care to everyone, regardless of my own thoughts and beliefs. I accept all as an equal, and shall henceforth serve with this acknowledgement.

INTERNAL MEDICINE CLUB

The Internal Medicine Club hosted Dr. Michael Adornetto on March 21, 2013. He is dual certified in internal medicine and pediatrics. Adornetto is the president of Westshore Primary Care in Cleveland, Ohio, and is also an important member in their residency program. He spoke about

residency options and gave advice to the club members about their upcoming years in the profession. The Internal Medicine Club, along with the Psych/Neuro Club, held a clothing drive to benefit the Salvation Army in early April 2013. The Internal Medicine Club began the fall with plans for a Central Line Skills lab to be conducted by **Dr. Frank Venuti**, associate professor family medicine and **Rick Slaven**, director of the Center for Simulation and Training.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE SOCIETY

In February 2013 the International Medicine Society held a bake sale with proceeds benefitting the Cumberland Valley Health Department. The club also held an AIDS Awareness Event. Guest speakers included **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor and chair of preventive medicine, as well as a representative from Cumberland Valley District Health Department. Entertainment was provided by **Josh Gruber, OMS Class of 2015**. The International Medicine Society began the fall semester by hosting guest speaker **Dean Ray Stowers**, who spoke to the group about international fourth year rotation sites.

MEN'S HEALTH CLUB

The Men's Health Club held their inaugural meeting on September 19, 2015. **Dr. Chris Yonts**, associate professor of family medicine and medical director of the University Medical Clinic, spoke on the state of men's health in the region and in the LMU community.

PEDIATRICS CLUB

The Pediatrics Club held a pediatrics OMT workshop on February 28, 2013. **Dr. Jared Madden**, assistant professor of OPP/family medicine, reviewed pediatric OMT, and students had the opportunity to practice techniques on children.

The Pediatrics Club held its annual Kid's Fair on Saturday, April 13, 2013, at the Harrogate City Park. The event included relay races, face painting, crafts, healthy snacks, dancing and "What's in a Doctor's Bag" information. The event provides children and their parents a variety of entertainment while also providing information on healthy lifestyles. Also in April 2013 the club hosted Union County, Tenn., residents LeAnn Korth and her daughter Hannah Skeens. Korth spoke about her daughter's VACTERL diagnosis and provided advice to club



members about treating children and teenagers with chronic health problems. Pediatrics Club began the Fall 2013 semester by hosting “Kick it for the Kids” on September 27. The walk and 5K raised over \$1,000 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

PLASTICS, OTOLARYNGOLOGY AND DERMATOLOGY CLUB (POD)

The POD Club hosted guest speaker Dr. Ty Prince of The Allergy, Asthma & Sinus Center on April 2, 2013. Prince specializes in adult, adolescent and pediatric allergy, asthma and clinical immunology. He spoke about medicine in the field and the clinical approach and testing for his patients. The POD Club also sold sunglasses as a fundraiser. The club began the fall semester by hosting an excisional biopsy clinic on September 24, 2013. **Dr. Frank Venuti**, associate professor of family medicine supervised the event.

PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION (PM&R)

On April 25, 2013, the PM&R Club hosted a panel discussion of board certified physiatrists about the wide variety of practice opportunities available to PM&R physicians. The panel included Dr. Mary Dillon, medical director of the Patricia Neal Rehab Center in Knoxville, Tenn.; Dr. Miriam Weinstein, pediatric physiatrist at the Patricia Neal Rehab Center; Dr. Donald Lakatos, who specializes in outpatient MSK rehab in Seymour, Tenn., and Dr. Jeremy Wetmore, of Healthstar Physicians in Morristown, Tenn. The PM&R club held its annual “Drive for Muscular Dystrophy” fundraiser on May 10, 2013. The 2013 event had record-breaking attendance. The proceeds from the BBQ went directly to Tennessee Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and will help children that otherwise may not be able to attend their summer camp. The PM&R club began the fall semester by hosting a meeting on September 12, 2013, featuring speaker **Dr. Michael Wieting**, senior associate dean, dean of clinical medicine, associate VP of program development and professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP.



Drive for Muscular Dystrophy BBQ

PSYCH/NEURO

Dr. Leah Cobb, assistant professor and chair of psychiatry, spoke to the Psych/Neuro Club about the field of child and adolescent psychiatry on March 7, 2013.

SIGMA SIGMA PHI (SSP)

Sigma Sigma Phi held its annual induction ceremony in April 2013.

STUDENT AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ACADEMY OF ORTHOPEDICS (SAOAO)

On March 11, 2013, members of the SAAO took over the Pizza Inn in Tazewell, Tenn., to act as servers, hosts, bussers and dishwashers. Pizza Inn allowed the club members to keep their tips and donated a portion of the evening’s proceeds to the club. This fundraiser served the dual purpose of helping send club members to the national conference in Orlando, Fla., as well as supporting Heart to Heart International. On April 29, 2013, the club hosted guest speaker and orthopedic surgeon Dr. Ronald Dubin of Middlesboro, Ky. He discussed the field of orthopedic surgery, its opportunities and challenges, as well as what he perceived are the conditions going forward in 2014 with the ACA. The SAOAO held a meeting on May 10, 2013, on “The 411 of Ortho Residency Placement.” **Justin Head, DO ’13** spoke to members on the residency application process. The club sold the first “Men of DCOM” calendar as a fundraiser. All proceeds were donated to a local thrift store/food pantry.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC FAMILY PHYSICIANS (SAACOFFP)

In February 2013 SAACOFFP members put together personal hygiene kits for Heart to Heart International. The SAACOFFP sponsored a health screening at Horace Maynard Middle School in Union County, Tenn., on April 3, 2013. Club members took blood pressures, heights and weights of the students there. On April 23, 2013, the club hosted a talk by **Dr. Chris Yonts** on the differences between family practice and internal medicine.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF MILITARY OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS (SAMOPS)

SAMOPS sold breakfast on March 11, 2013, in the Math and Science building. All proceeds were donated to the Wounded Warrior Project, a foundation that raises money to help wounded veterans and their families after deployment.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA)

The SGA officers for the 2013-2014 academic year are OMS Class of 2016 members **Andrew Shelton**, president;

Student Club Updates

Fritz Brink, vice president; **Costa Alimonos**, second vice president; **Amy Selwach**, secretary; and **Mehreen Sheikh**, treasurer.

STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (SNMA)

LMU-DCOM's chapter of SNMA was recognized by National Osteopathic Medical Association (NOMA) during Black History Month in February for their extraordinary efforts to serve the African American community of Middlesboro, Ky. The LMU-DCOM chapter established a relationship with the largest African-American church in that area, and approximately once a month LMU-DCOM SNMA members perform blood glucose, blood pressure, height, weight and BMI evaluations of church members. Chapter members then provide individual health counseling sessions with each church member based on their results. The efforts of LMU-DCOM SNMA members have been recognized by the church, community and even a local newspaper. Also in February 2013 the SNMA hosted the 2013 Cultural Dinner. Attendees got to taste signature dishes from other cultures. All proceeds went to the Lighthouse Ministries Save Haven Shelter. The group also sold "Just D.O. It" shirts and hoodies as a fundraiser.

STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (SOMA)

Every spring, LMU-DCOM SOMA actively participates in DO Day on the Hill. DOs and students traveled to Washington, D.C., and lobbied members of Congress and their staff face-to-face. SOMA members took this opportunity to support osteopathic medicine and the political action needed to make a positive difference in health care. Mini-Med School is another SOMA volunteer activity, offered twice a semester, in which medical students spend the afternoon at a local elementary school teaching students about bones, germs, exercise, diet and "What's in a



Doctor's Bag?" Throughout the year, SOMA members take the time to have dinner with prospective students the evening before their interview.



These Meet and

Greet sessions allow prospective students the opportunity to ask current students questions about the academic schedule, housing, finances and any other issues in order to help bring light to the interview and matriculation process. In March 2013, the first year liaisons organized and hosted LMU-DCOM SOMA's Third Annual Doggie Dash 5K. For this event, SOMA teamed up with the Claiborne Animal Shelter to raise funds in order to sustain the shelter's operation. The shelter is non-profit and is run solely by volunteers year round. During National Osteopathic Medicine (NOM) Week, SOMA teamed up with LMU-DCOM's Health Expo to set up a booth at the event. At the booth there was a prize wheel, informational brochures and cards. It was a great opportunity for SOMA to reach out into the community and educate the population on osteopathic medicine and its mission. The medical mission trip to Haiti is a Spring Break favorite. SOMA members travel to the Dominican Republic and Haiti to provide medicine to underserved areas. Ending the academic calendar year, SOMA held a fundraiser selling flowers at the LMU-DCOM graduation. SOMA's general meeting on May 6, 2013, featured guest speaker **Dean Ray Stowers**, who spoke on behalf of the American Osteopathic Association.

STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION (SOSA)

SOSA held an end-of-the year-food-drive to benefit the Servolution Food Pantry in Harrogate.

STUDENT TACTICAL OPERATIONAL AND RESCUE MEDICINE (STORM)

STORM held a meeting on April 30, 2013, featuring guest speaker Adam Williams. Williams is a nationally registered critical care flight paramedic with over 10 years' of police and EMS experience. Williams is currently a rotor wing flight paramedic with Wellmont Health Systems and is also a tactical SWAT paramedic for the Kingsport (Tenn.) Police Department. He is a former lieutenant of the Washington County (Tenn.) EMS and holds certifications in BLS, ACLS and PALS.

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND MEDICAL SOCIETY

On March 12, 2013, the Women's Health and Medical Society held a charity bowling event to raise money for the Casa Materna Foundation. Casa Materna's goal is to prevent infant mortality by providing pre- and post-natal care to mothers in rural Nicaragua. The Women's Health and Medical Society volunteered for the first Women's Health Day on April 27, 2013. Club members helped all age groups from Girl Scouts of America earn specific health related patches. The event was a regional Girl Scout event with approximately 100 girls in attendance. The event was an opportunity to educate young girls on professional women and osteopathic medicine. The Club also hosted a talk by **Brittany Flood, DO '13** who offered tips on rotations, how to get into the residency of your choice and how the Match works.

DR. GEORGE STANLEY THOMPSON PA STUDENT SOCIETY

Members of the PA-S Class of 2015 serving as officers for the PA Student Society for 2013-2014 are:

President: **Matthew Hunt**
Vice-President: **Ellie Leonard**
Secretary: **Lauren Gorman**
Treasurer: **Kevin Tawzer**
Historian: **Kaylee Sims**
External Affairs: **Alexis Rouvelas**
Social Chair: **Brianna Hammer**
Green Chair: **Dennise Staab**
TAPA Representative: **Heather Church**
HOD Representative: **Chris Fenar**
AOR Representative: **Ashley Whitehead**
Diversity Chair: **Angela Lewis**

SOMA Organizes Health and Fitness Expo

by *Ricky Kalia, OMS Class of 2016*

In late December of 2012 medical student **Jeffrey Simon, OMS Class of 2016** wanting to promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle within his local community, began conjuring the idea of holding Claiborne County's first ever Health and Fitness Expo. He approached Eddie Overholt, the owner of Claiborne 24/7 Fitness, about possibly hosting the event at his gym and Eddie gladly agreed, even offering to pay all of the advertising costs. Next, Jeff approached students at LMU-DCOM as well as faculty members about being willing participants at the event. He did not have to try very hard as service such as this is intricately woven into the university's fabric.

According to Jeff, "I wanted to create this event because, as a future physician, I feel it is my job to promote a healthy and sustainable lifestyle any way I can, especially by being an active member of my community and leading by example. Likewise, I am an absolute gym rat and love everything that encompasses the term fitness."

The Claiborne County Fitness Expo took place on April 13, 2013. The event was completely free to everyone in the community. Professionals were on hand to answer questions regarding proper nutrition and dietary guidelines, the availability of outdoor and fitness activities in the region and proper way to perform specific exercises. Additionally, free health checks were provided to the community via several medical students and physician from LMU-DCOM. This included free blood pressure checks, blood glucose checks, information about tobacco cessation and body fat testing. Thousands of dollars of gifts and prizes were also given away during the event, many of which were given by the LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) in an effort to raise Osteopathic awareness with the community.

Other groups/businesses that participated in the event included the National Guard, the Cumberland Gap Forest Rangers, county

dieticians, the fire department, a cross-fit demo and mountain biking demonstrations. Throughout the day we also had several fitness competitions for the community with prizes involved.

Moreover, in addition to the health and fitness component of the event, a few months prior to the event, Jeff had come up with the idea of having the event serve as a fundraiser for Katelyn Norman, a local teenage girl who was dying of cancer.

"I had heard of a group called 50' Closer to a Cure who in the past had helped raise funds for charities in need or people in need, such as Katelyn. I called them up and they immediately jumped on board. It seemed like it was 'meant to be' by having a fitness organization like 50' Closer to a Cure come to the expo and help raise money for a member of our community who was in need."

40 T-shirts were quickly sold to help pay for their travel expenses. Subsequently, four teams of 10 individuals each were formed to compete in a fire truck pull with 50' Closer instructing and cheering us along the way. Likewise, at the end of the event, Justin Sulham, the creator of 50' Closer to a Cure, put on an amazing demonstration of human strength and pulled the fire truck by himself. This was all done in Katelyn's memory as she unfortunately passed away a few weeks prior to the event. In accordance with her mother's wishes, all of the proceeds from the event went to East Tennessee Children's Hospital for all that they had done for her daughter, including hosting a prom for her in the hospital. The event raised a total of \$580. 



Clubs Come Together for a Cause

Editor's Note: The following account of two clubs joining forces for a common good was submitted by Tammetrius Farmer, OMS Class of 2016.

“The idea to have a joint potluck between our school’s Christian Medical and Dental Association (CMDA) and the Social and Gender Equality Club came to me as an opportunity to address concerns of both organizations. As a member of both organizations, I heard members of the CMDA desire to get to know their fellow students who were not necessarily affiliated the CMDA.

Some members of the Social and Gender Equality club were interested in attending the CMDA’s Bible studies but did not feel comfortable doing so until they got to know the members better. Initially, I thought it would be great for the two groups to participate in a community service event together in which they could get to know each other. The event would keep the conversation between the groups light and informal as their main focus would involve being a service to others. The Social and Gender Equality Club also wished to have a roundtable discussion with the CMDA in which sensitive topics involving religion, medicine and lifestyle could be discussed.

As discussion between both groups regarding the details of this potential event took place, the end of the school year was quickly approaching. I really wanted the groups to be able to reach a compromise so that their desire to get to know each other would be fulfilled. Things appeared to be falling apart as Habitat for Humanity had no available projects and both groups were struggling to come to an agreement on exactly what this roundtable discussion would entail. In the midst of this chaos, both groups finally agreed to have a potluck at a nearby park. This would provide an unrestrictive, laid-back environment in which everyone could feel free to socialize with each other. Luckily, around this time, I received a phone call from a representative from Habitat for Humanity. He stated that he had an opportunity for us to come serve; however, the service project would be after our scheduled potluck.



Tammetrius (2nd from right) and OMS II CMDA and Social and Gender members.

Both groups were excited about the opportunity to work with Habitat for Humanity but were a little hesitant as we had originally intended for this event to precede the potluck. Nevertheless, we all decided to move forward and began preparing for both events.

I cannot describe how phenomenal both events were, especially the potluck. Professors came out to support the students, some undergrads who were in the area joined us, “Pastor Bo” and some members from Faith Temple Church attended and both student groups were well represented. Pictures were taken, amazing food was prepared and shared and the beautiful spring day provided the atmosphere for playing games and having great conversation. This event was so relaxing as first years prepared for finals and second years were beginning to prepare for boards. We appeared to be one big happy family, and we cherished each moment together. The experience was so great that one of our classmates wrote a touching post on Facebook:



Habitat for humanity coordinators with DCOM students.

Had an awesome time today with the Gender and Social Equality Club and the Christian Medical and Dental Association picnic. It is refreshing to know that just because people have different views and beliefs that they can still come together have fun and just be human!!! Thank you!

—Katie Gunn, OMS Class of 2015

Each participant in the subsequent Habitat for Humanity volunteer event could not stop talking about how rewarding the experience was for them.



The Habitat for Humanity crew hard at work.

It brought me great joy knowing that so many people from diverse backgrounds could come together not only for a common cause but also to enjoy each other’s company. Since these events, both organizations have agreed to make this a tradition and we look forward to seeing what opportunities this year will bring.”

Student Accolades



Joseph Johnson

Joseph Johnson, OMS Class of 2017, was awarded a renewable rural health scholarship from the state of Georgia in the amount of \$20,000. The awarding agency was the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce.

Nicholas Litwin, OMS Class of 2014, was awarded the A.T. Still Memorial Scholarship from the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA.) The Andrew Taylor Still Memorial Scholarship sponsored by Physician Loans provides a \$500 stipend to select third and fourth year osteopathic medical students who utilize OMT in clinical practice. It is offered to those students who have completed, under the supervision of an Osteopathic Physician, a clinical rotation which included an emphasis on the use of OMT. The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage students to employ OMM as an integral component of patient care. The stipend is awarded at the Spring SOMA Convention. Applicants may describe any clinical experience where they utilized OMT during the current academic year.



Nicholas Litwin



(L-R) **Danielle Harrell, OMS Class of 2015**; **Stanley Iliff**, lab facilities manager; **Joshua Rogers**, MS candidate; **Jeremy McCreary, OMS Class of 2016**; and **Dr. Donna Herme**y, professor of anatomy, recently completed the project “A peer reciprocal teaching experience and development of dissection and fixation techniques for the neonatal cadaver.” Students McCreary, Rogers and Harrell took advantage of one of the many research opportunities in the anatomy department, on a special dissection and a model for student focused learning through peer-to-peer teaching. They presented their research to students in an interactive session in February 2013 in the Math and Science Building both through traditional lecture format and a live presentation in the anatomy lab. The students present provided excellent feedback regarding the

presentation with one student commenting, “This was a fantastic opportunity and I feel like every medical student should have to see this.” The results of their dissection and project were presented in July 2013 at the annual meeting of the American Association of Clinical Anatomist (AACA) in Denver, Colorado. The project was so well received from the conference attendees that the students are now seeking publication in peer reviewed journals. The students are now building upon their research and finding new ways to implement what they have learned within their medical training. Students should contact the LMU-DCOM Department of Anatomy for information on additional research opportunities. The students, faculty and staff involved in the project shared the following message: “Special acknowledgements go out to the donors and families of donors for their unselfish and remarkable gifts that educate, inspire and preserve life and health for future generations. Life does not end after death; it’s only the beginning.”

Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum, professor and chair of preventive medicine, organized a group of student volunteers to provide blood pressure and glucose checks at the first MS Walk Bell County in Middlesboro, Ky., on April 20, 2013.



Dr. Teitelbaum and volunteers



Lucia Noriscat

Lucie Noriscat, OMS Class of 2015, has been named the national osteopathic committee chairperson for the Student National Medical Association.

On April 30, 2013, LMU-DCOM students were honored at the TOUCH award ceremony. LMU-DCOM students honored with TOUCH awards included:

Adam Hughes, Alexa Ryan, Angelia Hall, Anna Menze, Ashley Collins, Ashley Herrmann, Austin Smith, Brennen Puryear, Calandra Quarles, Christian Kurth, Christopher Heberer, Clay Guynn, Courtney Laird, Crystal Carter, Dana Small, Darlene West, Drew Triplett, Elijah Miller, Elizabeth Cunningham, Emelia Soloman, Erica Lampkin, Evan Morgan, Jaime Morris, John Graves, Kaitlin Dewhirst, Kaitlyn Vann, Kate Gardner, Kathleen Clark, Katie Udenberg, Kelly Tunder, Kristin Baker, Lauren Dean, Lauren Fox, Lee Rebecca Ranz, Leisa Walker, Lindsay Cahill, Lucie Noriscat, Maria Akhter, Marty LeJeune, Matthew Huckabee, Mehreen Sheikh, Mitch Sauvageau, Nathan Popham, Nicole Pitts, Nicole Swaney, Nicole Rausch, Patricia Goodwin, Payton

Student Accolades

Kuhlenbeck, Rachel Grisham, Razik Oumeddour, Rebecca Justin, Ricky Kalia, Ryan Griggs, Sarah Neslund, Sarah Hilt, Shannon King, Sharen Kemp, Sunny Tomlinson, Tyler Duncan and Zachary Tomlinson.



Charles Mitchell

The *JAOA* has given a tentative October 2013 publication date for “Medicare Reform and Primary Care Concerns for Future Physicians” by **Charles Mitchell, OMS Class of 2014** and Dr. Robert Spinelli, DBA, MPH.

Hayley Barbato, OMS Class of 2014

has been busy on two fronts: “Upon completing my core rotations in Kingsport, Tenn., I knew I wanted to do most of my electives in Lexington, Ky., so that I could ride and show my horse. Riding is something I grew up doing and did throughout my undergrad. It was put on hold during my first two and a half years at LMU-DCOM due to my studies. I luckily have had a little more time during third and fourth year and have been able to show my paint gelding Talisker in several shows throughout the semesters. I compete him in the sport of Eventing. Eventing could be termed an “equestrian triathlon.” It involves working with a horse both on the flat and over fences. The three phases are: dressage, endurance (or cross-country) and show jumping. Talisker (or “Tali” for short) has done quite well this year! We have received three second places, two thirds and a fourth and are qualified for the American Eventing Championships in Tyler, Texas, this year. I plan to continue to show him until my schedule gets too busy (which I’m sure will be soon) but it sure has been wonderful being able to have time to get back into something that I love!”



Hayley Barbato and Tali



Aswin Kumar

Aswin Kumar, OMS Class of 2015 has been accepted into the Pediatric Oncology Education Program (POE) at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. The experience is in the diagnostic imaging department and runs for 9 weeks. This will involve Computer Tomography (CT) imaging research and the results will go to many departments engaging in research. This will involve musculoskeletal imaging as well as some neurological imaging.



Jaime Morris



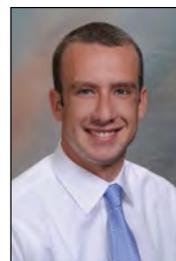
Lauren Macedonia



Justin Pruitt

Jaime Morris, OMS Class of 2014 was elected the student president of the national American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Student Chapter. **Lauren Macedonia, OMS Class of 2014** was appointed chair of the National Student Planning Committee, and **Justin Pruitt, OMS Class of 2015** was elected co-chair of the Student Research Committee.

Brendan Williams, OMS Class of 2015 was appointed as the national research representative for the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents.



Kevin Cope

Kevin Cope, OMS Class of 2014

was appointed to the AOA Council of Student Affairs. The Council of Student Affairs (CSA) is the representative body and advocate for all osteopathic medical students and helps guide the AOA’s initiatives for osteopathic medical students. The CSA produces communications to students at all of the Colleges of

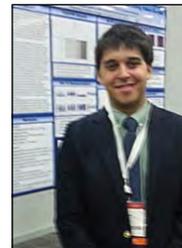
Osteopathic Medicine, connects students with AOA leaders, and serves as a resource for materials and information as students progress through their osteopathic medical educations.”

Jaime Morton, OMS Class of 2017 is the co-author of an article currently in press entitled “Multiple Lineages of Avian Malaria Parasites (*Plasmodium*) in the Galapagos Island and Evidence for Arrival via Migratory Birds” in *Conservation Biology*. The article abstract states: Haemosporidian parasites belonging to the genus *Plasmodium* were recently detected in the Galapagos Islands, where they had been recovered from Galapagos Penguin (*Spheniscus mendiculus*) samples by molecular screening techniques. The research presented here summarizes results from an archipelago-wide *Plasmodium* spp. screen of 3,726 endemic birds representing 22 species, and uncovers three additional *Plasmodium* lineages present in Galapagos. Lineage A, found infecting penguins, Yellow Warblers (*Setophaga petechia aureola*) and one Medium Ground Finch (*Geospiza fortis*) was detected at multiple sites in multiple years, while the remaining three lineages were each detected at one site and at one time, apparently

transient infections of parasites not established on the archipelago. We found no evidence of gametocytes in blood smears of infected birds; endemic Galapagos birds may be dead-end hosts these Plasmodium lineages. Determining when and how parasites and pathogens arrive in Galapagos is a key component in developing conservation strategies to prevent and mitigate the effects of introduced diseases. To assess the potential for Plasmodium parasites to arrive via migratory birds, we included in our screen samples from 438 North American breeding Bobolinks (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), the only songbird that regularly migrates through Galapagos. Two of the ephemeral Plasmodium lineages (B and C) found in Galapagos birds matched parasite sequences from Bobolinks. While this is not confirmation that Bobolinks are responsible for introducing these lineages, evidence points to higher potential arrival rates of avian pathogens than we may have previously thought.

Morton says, "My own emphasis for the overall project was to investigate the prevalence of the parasites within Bobolinks to determine if sex, age, sampling year and sampling location affect the prevalence (the proportion of birds containing parasites) of the parasites. Prevalence was found to vary significantly across years, suggesting that yearly variation (e.g., weather, vector abundance) influences the dynamics of this system."

Michael Kopstein, OMS Class of 2016 is the first author on a poster entitled "Measuring Balance in Children with Cerebral Palsy Using Video Games." The research was conducted with other



Michael Kopstein



Derek Goff

authors from Northwestern University's Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

Derek Goff, OMS Class of 2015 won the Man vs. Bacon Contest at the 2013 Tricities Bacon Fest.

DO/MBA Program Presents Business Models

Students in the DO/MBA Program made business model presentations to LMU-DCOM and School of Business faculty during Summer 2013. The DO/MBA inaugural class graduated in May 2013. The DO/MBA Program is designed for LMU-DCOM students who desire a thorough understanding of business principles useful to a physician participating in the business of medicine. The program equips students with a broad foundation in management, marketing, finance, economics and accounting. The LMU MBA Program focuses on the application of knowledge to real business situations, while always stressing the role of leadership and being managers in an ever changing business climate.



ACOFP Recognizes Student Accomplishments

The American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians recognized 23 LMU-DCOM students for their work as table trainers during two OMM sessions at AOA OMED 2012. The students were praised for their OMM skills and professionalism during the labs. The LMU-DCOM students involved received certificates of recognition from ACOFP, which were presented during a LMU-DCOM SAACOPF meeting in April 2013. Students receiving recognition included **Stanley Grover, Chad Cozart, Courtney Laird, Sunny Tomlinson, Zachary Tomlinson, Becca Ranz, Patricia Goodwin, Ashley Herrmann, Charles Mitchell, Jennifer Kim, Bobby Lawrence, Cassandra Renfro, Donna Cota, Jessie Barton, Jessica Orick, Brendan Williams, Danielle Harrell, Courtney Allen, Ricky Kalia, Clayton Boykin, Monte Ketchum, Adam Hughes and Kelsey Allen.**



Physician Assistant Program

Light the Night 5K Raises More Than \$9,000 for Servolution

The Physician Assistant Program Class of 2014 at LMU-DCOM hosted the Light the Night 5K Race on May 17, 2013. The students donated \$9,200 to the Servolution Health Clinic, an upcoming and comprehensive free health service aiming to provide medical care to the underserved members of the local community. Pictured left to right are PA students **Mike Stephens, Brad Thompson, Brad Maxwell** and Servolution representatives Alicia Metcalf, Deborah Chumley and Edwin Robertson. Race organizers hope this will become an annual event.



PA Program at LMU-DCOM Welcomes Class of 2015

The Physician Assistant Program at LMU-DCOM welcomed its fifth class of students on May 13, 2013.

The students in the PA Class of 2015 will pursue a full-time, 27-month program that leads to the Master of Medical Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies. The program is housed and administered by LMU-DCOM and is now in the top 5% of PA programs in the nation in terms of class size.

The PA Class of 2015 is 63% female and 36% male. The average age is 26, and the average GPA is 3.4. Approximately 66% of the class hails from the Appalachian region, with the majority of those coming from Tennessee, Kentucky or Virginia.

Ten students in the PA Class of 2015 have been selected to receive a portion of a \$1.9 million federal grant awarded to LMU by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The grant was awarded under the “Affordable Care Act: Expansion of Physician Assistant Training Program” project, and will allow the 10 chosen students to



receive a stipend to support them through the 27-month program. The recipients were chosen based on their commitment to becoming primary health care providers.

Physician Assistant Program Holds White Coat Ceremony

LMU-DCOM held the White Coat Ceremony for the Physician Assistant Program Class of 2014 on June 15, 2013. Dr. Ryan Stanton, president of the Kentucky Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, was the keynote speaker. The White Coat Ceremony is an important, public demonstration of a student’s commitment to patient care and professionalism. The Ceremony is considered to be a rite of passage, in that an individual has demonstrated the qualities and abilities to provide competent care and can move on to the next phase of his or her training.



The members of the LMU-DCOM PA Program Class of 2014 recite the Physician Assistant oath after receiving their white coats during the ceremony.



Dr. George Stanley Thompson PA Student Society President Matthew Williams speaks during the White Coat Ceremony.

LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program Celebrates Class of 2013 Graduation

The Class of 2013 of the Physician Assistant Program at LMU-DCOM celebrated its commencement on August 3, 2013, at the Tex Turner Arena on the LMU main campus in Harrogate, Tenn. **Rex Hobbs**, associate program director for the Physician Assistant Department at Mississippi College in Clinton, Miss., and immediate past program director of the LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program, served as keynote speaker.

Prior to his current position Hobbs was part of the team that helped to establish the LMU-DCOM PA Program, acting first as the didactic director and then program director until June 2013. Over Hobbs’ 20-year career as a physician assistant, he worked extensively in rural family medicine before transitioning into academia. Hobbs is an active member of state and national professional organizations in which he has served on numerous committees and boards of directors. He has been active in aiding the development of the physician assistant profession



Rex Hobbs (L), associate program director for the Physician Assistant Department at Mississippi College in Clinton, Miss., and immediate past program director of the LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program is greeted by current LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program Director **Mark Moran** (R).

in Australia where he is a current member in the Australian Society of Physician Assistants.

The physician assistant profession is one of the fastest growing in the country and has been repeatedly named by *Forbes* magazine as the best master's degree for jobs in the United States. A physician assistant is educated in the medical model. PAs are nationally certified and work side by side with both osteopathic and allopathic physicians in every medical specialty. PAs are licensed to diagnose illness, prescribe medications and assist in surgery. They conduct physical exams, order and interpret medical tests and provide counseling on preventive health care. A PA has at least six years of education: a four-year undergraduate degree and the physician assistant degree. PA students complete more than 2,400 hours of clinical rotations prior to graduation.



The LMU-DCOM PA Program Class of 2013 celebrates their graduation with the traditional hat toss.



PA-S Class of 2014 members (L-R) **Lindsey Keenum, Courtney Henderson and Abigail Martin** in May 2013 at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. The three were members of the LMU-DCOM PA Program delegation at the annual American Academy of Physician Assistants IMPACT conference.

PA Student Day on the Hill

LMU-DCOM PA Program students participated in the March 13, 2013, PA Student Day on the Hill state legislative event in Nashville, Tenn. Students reviewed legislative initiatives with Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants staff prior to meeting with their state legislators to advocate for designated pieces of legislation.



Free Water Safety Workshop Held at LMU Pool

Members from the Physician Assistant Program Class of 2015 held a Water Safety Workshop on Sunday, June 30, at the LMU Pool. The event provided an opportunity for children and their parents to learn both in-water and out-of-water safety techniques.

PA Program Hosts Health Fair in Morristown

by *Matthew Williams, PA-S Class of 2014*

The LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program has partnered with First Love on Main and Dr. Michael Dillard of Morristown, Tenn., to host a monthly health fair, providing free care for hypertension, diabetes and hyperlipidemia.

The monthly health fair first took place on April 16, 2013, with over 20 students from the PA Class of 2014 working together with their professors and other health care providers to treat approximately 40 patients from around the area. The students performed numerous components of the health care experience with the supervision of their faculty, including initial triage, history and physical exam, oral presentation of the cases to their supervising clinician, patient education and dispensing of medications.

Since then, the PA Program has continued to provide follow-up care for initial patients, as well as take on new patients when the schedule permits. On August 10, 2013, students completed their fourth consecutive health fair.

In the coming months, the PA Program is planning to assist with the opening of Servolution Health Ministries, an



Physician Assistant Program

upcoming free health clinic in Harrogate, Tenn. Similarly to their current service in Morristown, students will be able to assist local clinicians in providing free care while honing their skills with the assistance of doctors and physician assistants from around the community. They will continue their partnership with First Love on Main as well.

Alisha Jane Hicks Memorial Scholarship Initiated by LMU-DCOM PA Class of 2013

by *Kaitlin Jasmon, PA '13*

The Alisha Jane Hicks Memorial Scholarship was established in 2013 by her classmates in loving memory of an exceptional young woman. She exemplified a selfless nature, a positive attitude, integrity, love and compassion for others. The purpose of this scholarship is to recognize an outstanding PA student entering his or her clinical year, and to encourage others to emulate the qualities Alisha demonstrated so effortlessly in her life. It is particularly dedicated to those individuals with a passion for the PA program and the PA profession. The \$1,000 scholarship will be given yearly at the Physician Assistant White Coat Ceremony. All donations can be made out to LMU-DCOM with Alisha Jane Hicks Memorial Scholarship in the memo and sent c/o Joey Gilbert at LMU-DCOM.

May Alisha's willingness to serve the underserved, and faith in the greater good continue to inspire us all.

The PA Rotations Experience

Amy Knissel, PA-S '14, shared this update from her rotations:

"Just when I thought Harrogate, Tenn., was rural, I landed in King Cove, Alaska, for my first clinical rotation: family medicine. Alaska is unique from the lower 48 with its large native population spread across villages all over the state. King Cove is a village within the Aleutian Island chain, home to approximately 950 people, most of which are native Alaskan. Travel to King Cove requires two flights from Anchorage, with the second flight being one that only takes place during daylight with clear skies. With Alaskan winters leaving the village in darkness for up to 20 hours per day, and the weather being foggy, overcast and rainy for most of the year, travel to and from King Cove is often very unreliable. The level of isolation leaves this village relying on the medical knowledge of the health care providers at the clinic. The nurse practitioner, PA and few community health aides practice medicine in a way that differs from their colleagues in other states. These providers don't have the luxury of ordering a CT scan or other studies when the gold standard suggests it or referring a complicated

patient to a specialist. These providers will treat your cold symptoms or injuries so you can get back to your career of fishing for weeks on end, or handle your prenatal visits up until it is time for you to travel to Anchorage to deliver. They will follow the course of your liver failure in town because they know that King Cove is your home and they understand that having to uproot and relocate to Anchorage for further care would be inconceivable for you. These providers are trained to recognize an emergency that would require Medevac to fly the patient the three hours to Anchorage. And when there are times that planes just cannot get into town, these providers are the ones who will ride a fishing boat for hours with a patient attached to a monitor, traveling the tumultuous seas on the journey to Anchorage. They utilize their resources at the clinic to care for the community at the best of their ability, and the village natives have the ultimate trust and respect for these providers. Having my first rotation in this location has been an incredible experience. This opportunity has allowed me to work with health care providers that are so knowledgeable when they have to treat patients without all of the amenities of a hospital environment. The health of this entire village relies on the contents within the walls of this clinic. There have been several patient cases where I revert back to the treatment plan I learned while in school, only to realize that those resources are unavailable in King Cove. It is an experience that is further solidifying the importance of treating the patient, not the disease. The providers here have become extended family to the members of this community and truly understand how to individualize and treat each patient. I hope to incorporate the deep concepts and ideals that I've learned here into my career as a PA."

PA Program Mission to Haiti

by *Erin Flanagan, PA Class of 2014*

In March 2013, LMU-DCOM's PA Program had the opportunity to send 17 first-year PA students on a medical mission trip to Les Cayes, Haiti. We spent several months planning, organizing and fundraising. We received overwhelming support from our school, families, friends and community. The trip was an unbelievable success, and we feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to serve such wonderful people. The Haitians in Les Cayes welcomed



us with open arms and allowed us the chance to be exposed to clinical medicine for the first time.

We treated 300 patients in our clinic throughout the week and saw many interesting cases, including malaria, pneumonia and a variety of gynecological pathologies. The physicians and scrub tech who accompanied us did 10 surgeries in the operating room at a local hospital and many of us had the chance to scrub in and assist them.

We observed and participated in hernia repairs, lipoma removals and fibrocystic breast mass excisions. Working in the clinic allowed us to experience our first real patient encounters. We presented each case to one of the licensed providers working with us to ensure our diagnosis and treatment plan were appropriate. We realized how much we have learned over the past year, as well as how much more we have to learn in the years to come. We were blessed



to be a part of such an amazing and diverse team of doctors, PAs, nurses, professors, surgical techs and students.

The clinic was located on the campus of an orphanage that housed over 180 beautiful girls and boys. Our patients and the children at the orphanage stole our hearts and changed our lives. Many of the children were perfectly content sitting in your lap or simply holding your hand. We experienced

a Haitian church service and had team Bible studies and reflections after our days in the clinic and at the hospital. We saw God at work throughout the course of our trip through delayed flights, flat tires, bumpy bus rides, Haitian customs, baggage claim, understanding patients, smiling children, sunrises and sunsets. We are so grateful and cannot say thank you enough to those who supported us and made this trip possible. ❧

IN MEMORIAM



ALISHA JANE HICKS

PA Class of 2013

January 16, 1989 - June 7, 2013



DUSTIN W. POORE

OMS Class of 2013

January 19, 1987 - March 28, 2013

Faculty/Staff Happenings



Dr. Gina DeFranco



Amy Drittler



Dr. Jared Madden



Dr. Patricia Stubenberg



Dr. Nicole Shields



Dr. Michael Wieting

Dr. Gina DeFranco, associate professor of family medicine, is the president-elect of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medicine Association.

Amy Drittler, director of marketing and public relations for health sciences, is the 2013-2014 chair of the LMU Staff Senate.

Dr. Jared Madden, assistant professor of OPP and family medicine, presented an OMM Grand Rounds Presentation on June 20, 2013.

Dr. Nicole Shields, assistant professor of family medicine, began writing a women's health blog in September 2013 entitled "Deciphering Venus." The blog is available online at <http://lmuwomenshealth.wordpress.com/>.

Dr. Patricia Stubenberg, director of CME and preceptor development, received her PhD from the University of South Florida on August 10, 2013.

Dr. Zachary Throckmorton, assistant professor of anatomy, published the chapter "The relevance of archaic genomes to modern human origins" in the edited volume *The Origins of Modern Humans: Biology Reconsidered*, which was released on August 19, 2013. The chapter is available online at <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470894091.html>.

Dr. Michael Wieting, senior associate dean, dean of clinical medicine, assistant VP of program development and professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP and **Dr. Jared Madden**, assistant professor of OPP and family medicine, co-authored "Olecranon Bursitis" in the April 1, 2013, issue of *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*.

A Family Physician Goes Abroad

by Blair Combs, LMU-DCOM summer 2013 public relations intern

Dr. Burt Routman, professor and chairman emeritus of family medicine, recently took a rewarding trip to Shenzhen, China. Shenzhen is the most populous city in China with over 15 million people, a higher population than Beijing or Hong Kong. The area is one of the first and most successful special economic zones in history. There are six clinics and three hospitals located in the area. Doctors in Shenzhen can start their schooling as soon as they finish high school if they wish.



Dr. Burt Routman with some of his Chinese host physicians.

The trip was made possible through a partnership with International Classification of Primary Care (ICPC). Routman, along with two other American doctors, were there to take part in a program created by a retired urologist. This program was designed in hopes to better the primary care in China. Dr. Routman stayed in Shenzhen for five days, with four of them being clinical work days. "It was an absolutely wonderful experience," Routman said. "Everyone was so nice and anxious to learn."

The American physicians worked with 20 Chinese physicians in two clinics in which they each saw five to six patients per day, opposed to the usual 60 to 70 that are seen daily. A small patient load allowed Routman and the rest of the "American experts" (as the Chinese called them) to give each patient the intimate care they deserved.

Routman explained the goal of the trip was to teach Chinese doctors and students how to be a true family physician. "I wanted to teach them how to better relate to their patients, deliver news to family members appropriately, and how to communicate in ways that every patient could understand," Routman said. "China has always been on my 'bucket list,'

and I learned as much from the Chinese physicians as they did from me.”

Going forward, three osteopathic family physicians will travel to China one week of every month in 2013, one week every two months in 2014 and one month every three years after that. Routman would love to return. “They couldn’t have done anything more for us if they tried,” Routman said.

LMU-DCOM’s Wieting Among Mentor of the Year Finalists at Annual Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition

Dr. Michael Wieting, senior associate dean, was recently named as a finalist in the American Osteopathic Association’s (AOA) Mentor of the Year recognition program. The recognition program was conducted by the AOA in association with Pfizer Inc.

Wieting was selected as one of five finalists for the Mentor of the Year award from more than 175 nominated mentors. “I am proud to have been nominated by one of my students and to be a finalist among many deserving nominees,” said Wieting. “Mentorship is critical for physicians and medical students and should be comprised of a dynamic, evolving personal and professional relationship. Research shows mentorship to be the greatest influence on ultimate career selection of the mentee in medicine. I believe we all stand on the shoulders of someone and, as a mentor, I am glad to offer a chance to stand on mine. I see that as part of the legacy I will leave to the profession.”

Wieting was nominated for the recognition by Charles Fisher, a member of the LMU-DCOM Class of 2014. In his nomination, Fisher said, “Dr. Wieting has a highly unique quality that distinguishes him as a physician and professor. He intuitively recognizes what aspects of teaching, communication and personal interests will benefit his students, patients and colleagues... His willingness to be actively involved with the absolute success of his students goes above and beyond what is expected of any physician, professor and colleague. It is his pure ambitious perception of life and the strong desire to educate his students that has made his mentees so successful.”

As one of the Mentor of the Year finalists, Wieting was honored during a breakfast reception on Sept. 30 at the AOA’s OMED 2013, the Osteopathic Medical Conference & Exposition in Las Vegas.

At LMU-DCOM Wieting also serves as dean of clinical medicine, vice president for program development and professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation and osteopathic principles and practice. Wieting is board certified

in physical medicine and rehabilitation and is a fellow in the American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, as well as the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Oklahoma State University-College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Minnesota Hospital and Clinics. He completed fellowship programs in electrodiagnostic medicine/primary care sports medicine at Michigan State University-College of Osteopathic Medicine and in health policy at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine and the New York Institute of Technology.

The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) proudly represents its professional family of more than 104,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students; promotes public health; encourages scientific research; serves as the primary certifying body for DOs; is the accrediting agency for osteopathic medical schools; and has federal authority to accredit hospitals and other health care facilities. More information on DOs/osteopathic medicine can be found at www.osteopathic.org.

LMU-DCOM and AOA



The Tennessee delegation to the annual American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates in July 2013 included several from LMU-DCOM. Included in the group were (front row, L-R), **Dr. Michael Wieting**, senior associate dean, dean of clinical medicine, assistant VP of program development and professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP; **Dr. Kenneth Heiles**, associate dean of graduate medical education; **Ricky Kalia**, OMS Class of 2016; **Andrew Shelton**, OMS Class of 2016 and **Dr. Gina DeFranco**, associate professor of family medicine.

Life Under the Microscope

by Blair Combs, LMU-DCOM summer 2013 public relations intern

LMU-DCOM students and faculty did more than just the typical classroom work in Summer 2013. **Dr. Stan Kunigelis**, director of the Math and Sciences Imaging Center and professor of physiology, and three LMU-DCOM students took part in hands-on research with some help from the Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) located on LMU's main campus in the Math and Science building.

An SEM is a type of electron microscope that produces images of a sample by scanning it with a focused beam of electrons. The electrons interact with atoms in the sample, producing various signals that can be detected and that contain information about the sample's surface topography and composition. The SEM helps Kunigelis and OMS Class of 2016 students **Sarah Richardson**, **Clare Bajamundi** and **Brennen Puryear** better identify each of their projects (species) by having this tool.

Kunigelis has been doing research for almost 20 years, and has been pursuing his current course of research for the last eight years. His research project involves surveying estuaries (a body of water partially closed with one or more rivers flowing into it with an open connection to the sea) and studying them as a potential food source as the global population increases and agricultural lands are transformed into residential properties. Kunigelis also studies the plankton population that reside in estuaries. Kunigelis said he is pursuing this line of research to "protect the estuaries, feed future generations, educate the next generation and look at plankton for appreciation."

Kunigelis stressed that in order to be able to feed future generations estuaries had to be monitored. He said that



Dr. Kunigelis and students

"with these three students, I have learned more about my project than I have in eight years." The three students have found substantial changes in the plankton population throughout their research time and have formed their own questions along with their particular interests.

Sarah Richardson, OMS Class of 2015 and a Summer 2013 DeBusk Research Fellow, conducted research focusing on the use of scanning electron microscopy to define taxonomically significant morphology of dominant zooplankton species in the Apalachicola estuary of the northern Gulf of Mexico, along the Florida panhandle. Sarah concluded that the two dominant species are *Labidocera aestiva* and *Acartia tonsa*. Richardson will present her findings in poster format at the mid-November combined meeting of the Appalachian Regional Microscopy Society, American Vacuum Society, American Society for Metals and the Materials Research Society.

Brennan Puryear, OMS Class of 2015 and a Summer 2013 DeBusk Research Fellow, conducted research focusing on the use of scanning electron microscopy to elucidate the components of the Frontal Organ (sensory) System. Distinct structural differences were found between species and during development within a single species. Brennan will present his findings in poster format at the mid-November combined meeting of the Appalachian Regional Microscopy Society, American Vacuum Society, American Society for Metals and the Materials Research Society.

Clare Bajamundi, OMS Class of 2015 conducted research on the use of the scanning electron microscope to distinguish between larval and adult stages of calanoid copepods. Typical development patterns go from egg, through six naupliar larvae stages followed by six copepodid larval stages to yield breeding adults. It is often difficult



Clare Bajamundi, OMS Class of 2015, works at the SEM.

to distinguish between a late stage copepodid larva of one species and the adult of another. Bajamundi focused on the elucidation of developmental stages of Labidocera and Acartia. Bajamundi will present her findings in poster format at the mid-November combined meeting of the Appalachian Regional Microscopy Society, American Vacuum Society, American Society for Metals and the Materials Research Society.

“It’s interesting to see how there is no separation from sciences...it’s all connected,” Richardson said. “There are no images on Google like the ones that can be found thru the SEM. How wonderful for LMU to be on top of research.”



Students review SEM images

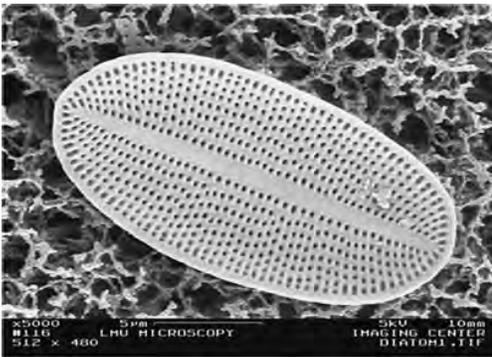
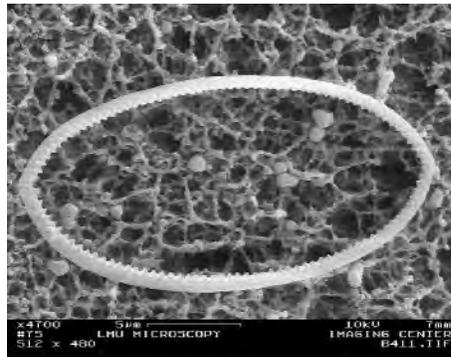
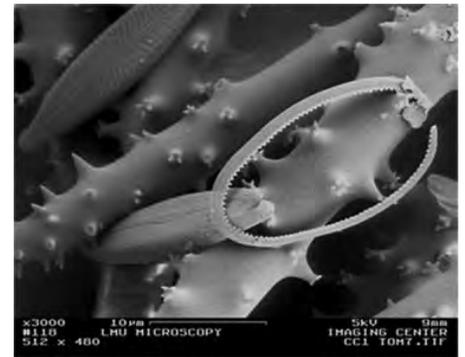


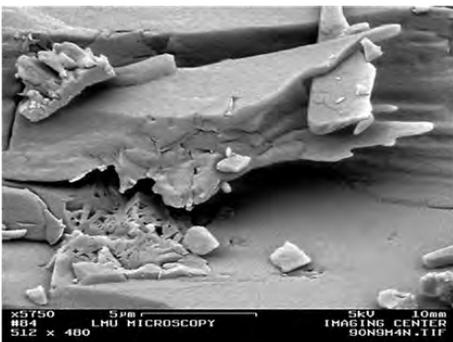
Image is of a centric freshwater diatom. Is the number of pores constant, each getting larger as the diatom grows or does it simply add more pores? (5,000x magnification)



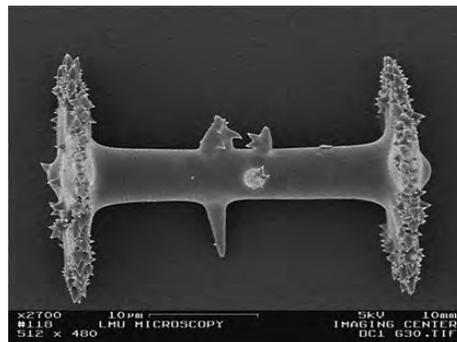
Most unusual, a circular spicule (TN freshwater sponge). (4,700x magnification)



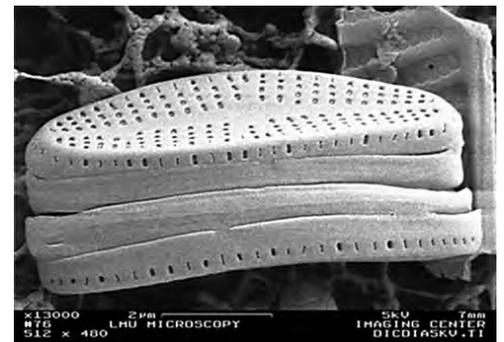
Diatoms snared on sponge spicules (tri-cusped barbed siliceous rods). Scale bar is 1/20th diameter of a human hair. (3,000x magnification)



Not an alien landscape but a lab synthesized acetaminophen crystal! (5,750x magnification)



Freshwater Sponge Gemmoscleres - Sponge tissues are very soft requiring spicules to have numerous anchoring points. Spicules do not articulate. (2,700x magnification)



Can you see the four layers? The top (epitheca) and bottom (hypotheca) layers are parental. The second layer will form the filial hypotheca for the parental epitheca. The third layer will form the filial epitheca for the parental hypotheca. Once they separate, each new diatom will be half parental and half filial. (13,000x magnification)

**Lincoln Memorial University –
DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine**

6965 Cumberland Gap Parkway
Harrogate, TN 37752

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Knoxville, TN
Permit No. 309



Know someone who should be on our mailing list?

Visit <http://alumni.LMUnet.edu/DCOMNEWS>
to place a name on our mailing list for
COMMunity Linc and other publications.

Electronic copies of this and all editions of
COMMunity Linc are available via the
“News and Events” tab on the LMU-DCOM
website: www.LMUnet.edu/dcom.

Visit our Alumni information page at
<http://dcomalumni.lmunet.edu/> to keep
up with Alumni events, make a donation,
view the Job Bank, and much more! You can
also find more on our Alumni Facebook page
at www.facebook.com/LMUDCOMalumni.