EDUCATION NEWS

Four Year Track Expansion Progress

As mentioned in the January Dean’s Update, Dr. Crow, Dr. Davison, Kim Johnson and I want to provide updates on progress towards the four year track expansion. We are only months away from the inaugural class arriving.

Facility Update from Kim Johnson, Project Manager

In January, several medical and physician assistant students along with faculty joined Flintco’s construction crew for a “topping off” ceremony at the Tandy Education Center. A topping off is a builder’s custom, usually held when the last beam is placed on top of the structure. Attendees signed one of the beams during this activity. The building is scheduled to open this summer.

Curriculum Update by Sheila Crow, Ph.D.

Several years ago, the OU College of Medicine adopted six core competencies: medical knowledge, patient care, communication, professionalism, practice-based learning and improvement, and systems-based practice. In 2013, the SCM medical education program added a seventh competency in community medicine.

The community medicine competency provides an organizational framework to support the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes of students enrolled in the School of Community Medicine (SCM) track. The competency focuses on: 1) quality of care, 2) health education, 3) health literacy, and 4) preventive health initiatives across the Tulsa community. The objectives for the community medicine competency align with one of four domains: 1) public health, 2) community engagement, 3) critical thinking, and 4) team skills. With the expansion of the SCM track and addition of the community medicine competency, it is now incumbent upon the SCM academic leadership to expand teaching and assessment of students in these areas. It is this approach that primarily separates students enrolled in the SCM track from those enrolled in the core OUCOM curriculum.

Student Services by Meredith Davison, Ph.D.

Madison (Mattie) Lewis joined the Student Services Office as an Administrative Assistant January 1. Mattie comes to OU with a background as a legal assistant and is proving to be a strong member of our student services team. She will be the first face you see when you enter the Student Services Office. Mattie will be offering clerical assistance to the
other student services staff, especially in the areas of admission and data keeping.

Team members and contact information for the Student Services staff include:

- Meredith Talley, Director of Student Services, 918/660-3092, meredith-talley@ouhsc.edu
- Tammy Kuykendall, Clinical Students Coordinator, 918/660-3502, tammy-kuykendall@ouhsc.edu
- Michael Conrad, Pre-clinical Students Coordinator, 918/660-3447, michael-s-conrad@ouhsc.edu
- Delene Wallace, Scholarship/Business Coordinator, 918/660-3498, delene-wallace@ouhsc.edu
- Mattie Lewis, Administrative Assistant, 918/660-3500, madison-lewis@ouhsc.edu
- Meredith Davison, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Academic Services, 918/660-3096, meredith-davison@ouhsc.edu

You’re invited to also check out our updated website at http://www.ou.edu/content/tulsa/community_medicine/community-medicine-student-services.html. Please let us know if we can better serve you in any way.

PATIENT CARE

Measles Policy Reminder from Employee Health

OU-Tulsa Employee Health wishes to reiterate the importance of healthcare workers being properly vaccinated and remind you that the OUHSC Infectious Diseases Policy requires that proof of immunity to measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella be documented for all healthcare workers and other workers who perform duties in patient care settings.

Employees who do not show proof of previous vaccination/immunity to measles should be titered for immunity and/or be offered the vaccination at no cost to the employee. Employees who lack documented immunity and who are subsequently exposed or who exhibit signs or symptoms of these communicable diseases will be restricted from duty (on leave with pay if available, or, if not available, on leave without pay) for the incubation period of the exposure or disease. (Source: OUHSC/OU-Tulsa Infectious Diseases Policy at http://www.ouhsc.edu/ehso/policies/IDPolicy2010.pdf, retrieved February 11, 2015)

Prompted by the 2013 measles outbreak in Texas, OU-Tulsa Employee Health conducted a comprehensive review of all employee health files. If documentation of immunity was not found, staff born prior to 1957 were asked to have a titer drawn for immunity or sign a declination form; those born after 1957 were asked to provide proof of immunity. If you are unsure about your measles immunity status, you may request a review of your immunization records in your employee health file and discuss with the nurse whether a booster or titer is recommended. Please contact via e-mail either Kim-Copeland@ouhsc.edu or Janet-StClair@ouhsc.edu if you have questions about your status.

Please feel free to e-mail any questions regarding this issue to either of the Employee Health nurses listed above. (Source: http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/measles/vacc-in-short.htm, retrieved February 11, 2015)
Press Ganey – Patient Satisfaction Survey

We continue to capture the voices of our patients by using Press Ganey’s Patient Satisfaction survey. Please encourage your patients to complete and return the surveys they receive in the mail. The feedback allows us to work toward improving our patient experience.

You may have noticed these signs, showing our survey results, in the primary care clinics. Several patients even took time to write comments, such as:

Primary Care:
“Each time I come to Internal Medicine, I am amazed at the cheerfulness and genuine care I receive from the receptionist to the exam room.”

Specialty Care:
“Dr. Garfinkel is extremely kind and caring. He is very thorough and makes sure you understand what he is telling you. Elaine is awesome!”

Internal Medicine’s Patient Satisfaction Results

FACULTY UPDATES
Department of Emergency Medicine
Dr. Stephen Thomas, George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Emergency Medicine, recently announced his resignation as Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine. We are grateful to Dr. Thomas for his dedicated service to the Department of Emergency Medicine and the Oklahoma Center for Prehospital & Disaster Medicine. Under Dr. Thomas’s leadership, the department has enjoyed much success in terms of publishing in academic literature, obtaining and maintaining grant funding, and in supporting a very strong and competitive emergency medicine residency program. We wish Dr. Thomas the best as he moves on to the next phase of his career.
I have appointed Dr. Boyd “Bo” Burns, Director of Residency Training in the Department of Emergency Medicine, to serve as Interim Chair, effective March 2nd. I am grateful to Dr. Burns for agreeing to take on this additional responsibility. He is board certified in Emergency Medicine and brings a wealth of clinical and hospital experience. He joined the department in 2007 and has served as Vice Chair for Academic Affairs since 2013. I look forward to working with Dr. Burns during this time of transition.

Lamiaa Ali, M.D., ABOM, assistant professor in pediatrics, recently received certification as a Diplomate of the American Board of Obesity Medicine. Dr. Ali is one of only 14 physicians in Oklahoma and one of only two in Northeastern Oklahoma with this distinction. Obesity has been officially labeled as a disease. Physicians receiving his certification require a competency in and thorough understanding of the treatment of obesity and genetic, biologic, environmental, social and behavioral factors that contribute to obesity. (See: http://abom.org/wp-content/uploads/Obesity-Medicine-Physician-Definition.pdf)

NEW EMPLOYEES

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<tr>
<th>Jessica Cannon, MSW</th>
<th>Samantha Cook, LPN</th>
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<td>Float Pool/Call Center</td>
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<td>OU Physicians</td>
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<td>Internal Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<th>Lindsey James</th>
<th>Shaun Lesser, APRN-CNM, WHNP</th>
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<td>Sr. Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>OU Physicians</td>
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<td>Department of Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<th>Rebecca Roberston, LMSW</th>
<th>Victoria Washington, LPN</th>
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<td>Social Services Specialist</td>
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Ondria C. Gleason, M.D.
Interim Dean
Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry
OU School of Community Medicine