Monday Memo – November 17, 2014

Awards and Recognition

· Lisa Gussak has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar Grant from The United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. During her five-month grant from January through May 2015, she will collaborate with community medicine faculty at the Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN), Leon to begin development of a Family Medicine residency. Lisa is one of approximately 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program in 2014-2015. The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program is administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, a division of the Institute of International Education. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide direct and indirect support. The Program operates in over 155 countries worldwide. Since its establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has given over 318,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, scientists and other professionals the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Congratulations Lisa!

· The Medical School held its Annual Employee Appreciation Celebration on Thursday, November 13 in the Albert Sherman Center. Faculty and staff in the Department were recognized for their years of service: Jackie Coghlin-Strom, MD, MPH (35), Melissa McLaughlin (10) and Karen Rayla (15). Chancellor Collins also presented Elaine Martin, Associate Professor in our Department, with the Chancellor’s Award for Advancing the UMMS Mission. This award recognizes an individual “whose actions make a substantial impact in advancing the mission UMMS through; public service, research, teaching, and healthcare delivery.

· Stacy Potts was named President of the Board of the Family Medicine Education Consortium at their annual conference in October.
Kosta Deliginnidis, Dave Rosenfield and Sylvia Los received the degree of fellow at the AAFP Scientific Assembly on October 25.

Medical Student Education

Steve Martin, Rebecca Lubelczyk and Warren Ferguson taught at a student led Symposium on Mass Incarceration and Health Advocacy at Harvard Medical School on Friday, November 14. The Symposium was sponsored by the Center for Primary Care at Harvard and was attended by more than 100 students from schools in New England including UMass Medical School. Steve helped to conceptualize the Symposium and led a panel of correctional health physicians including Dr. Lubelczyk as well as Dr. Sandra Howard from the Federal Bureau of Prisons’ Devens Medical Center. Warren presentation was entitled: Facing our Worst Health Disparity: Why academic primary care should care about mass incarceration.

UMMS was recently approved by the Arnold Gold Foundation to start a school chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS). GHHS students are chosen by their 4th year peers as exemplars of humanism. This honor society celebrates and promotes humanism, much like the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) society recognizes academic achievement. Mike Ennis and Suzana Makowski (Palliative Medicine) spent 2 years spearheading the establishment of the GHHS chapter here, working in collaboration with the Student Body Committee and Dean Flotte’s office.

Presentations

Mike Ennis presented a poster on “Faculty Turnover in Learning Communities” at the annual Learning Communities Institute meeting in Nashville on September 26th.

Hugh Silk was the keynote speaker at the 2014 Oral Health Kansas Conference - Oral Health Across the Lifespan on Nov 7 with a talk entitled “Providing Care for the Whole Person”.

Carole Upshur, Melodie Wenz-Gross and 8 community child care staff delivered a breakout session entitled: “You want us to do what? How to conduct community-engaged research studies from the perspective of the community organizations” on Friday Nov. 7 at the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science 4th annual Community Engagement and Research Symposium held in the Sherman Building.

Publications

Ginny van Duyne was published in the New Faculty Blog STFM is sponsoring every month. Ginny wrote about her experience with “The First Job” out of residency and shared the lessons she learned along the way. [http://blog.stfm.org/2014/11/12/the-first-job/](http://blog.stfm.org/2014/11/12/the-first-job/)
Service

Katharine Barnard recently returned from a week in Honduras, working with a medical team providing primary care and dental services in a remote rural area of the country. The group is coordinated by Cape Cares, a non-profit, non-denominational group based out of Sandwich MA. Katherine would be happy to speak with anyone who might be interested in volunteering their time in the future.