



Monday Memo – September 22, 2014

Awards

At the Convocation ceremony on Thursday, Michele Pugnaire, Senior Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health, was awarded the Chancellor's Medal for Distinguished Service, recognizing her many contributions in service to the medical school and its students (and we might add to our Department). Congratulations Michele!

Publications

Christopher Chang had his poem, "End Stage," published in *Families, Systems & Health*, 2014, Vol 32, No.3, p. 349.

Presentations

Sandy Blount delivered the plenary address on behavioral health integration at an all day conference in Boston sponsored by the Department of Psychiatry at Boston University.
<http://bit.ly/1r4PJBj>

Faculty Appointments and Promotions

Congratulations to the following faculty with recently completed academic promotions:

Phillip Fournier, MD has been promoted to Clinical Professor. A 1986 Tufts University Medical School graduate and 1989 Brown University/Memorial Hospital Family Medicine Program graduate, Dr. Fournier joined the Department in 1992, appointed as an Assistant Professor. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2001. Dr. Fournier is a highly dedicated clinician-educator who has consistently worked to improve clinical services for patients, students and our own employees, serving in clinical leadership roles for both the medical school and the

hospital system. In addition, he has provided outstanding service as a leader for several of the medical school's educational programs. Upon completion of his family medicine residency, Dr. Fournier was a solo family physician in Bolton, MA from 1989-1992 where he operated a clinical practice for three years before joining the faculty in the Benedict Family Medicine practice located on the University campus. In addition to maintaining his busy clinical practice, he advanced as a leader, serving as the practice's Medical Director (1997-2006), as Medical Director for Employee Health Services for UMassMemorial Healthcare (2001-2010), and as Director of Student Health for UMass Medical School, a position he has maintained since 2002.

Dr. Fournier has provided leadership to many medical school programs. He served as course director for the PPS I course for five years, and as interim director of the Department's Third Year Clerkship. He currently serves as course director for the Longitudinal Preceptorship Program, required of all first and second year students. Since 2010, he has been a faculty leader in the School's Learning Community Program, appointed as one of five faculty named Head of House. In this role he oversees four other faculty mentors, and directs the Physical Diagnosis course.

Barry Saver, MD, MPH has been promoted to Professor in the Department. A graduate of Yale (BS 1976), Harvard (AM 1979), Columbia (MD 1983) and the University of Washington (MPH 1991), Dr. Saver completed his clinical training in Family Medicine at UCLA (1986) and in Preventive Medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle (1991), during which he also completed a National Research Award Fellowship in Primary Care Research sponsored by the Department of Family Medicine. He joined the faculty at the University of Washington appointed as a Clinical Assistant Professor (1991), Acting Assistant Professor (1996), and Assistant Professor (1996), with promotion to Associate Professor in 2001. Dr. Saver was recruited to our faculty in 2006 as an Associate Professor. Dr. Saver is a nationally recognized researcher who has dedicated his career to the care of vulnerable and underserved populations. His work has been well funded by the NIH as a PI and co-investigator. He also received one of the first cohort of grants awarded by the Patient Care Outcomes Research Initiative (PCORI), newly created under the Affordable care Act. He has collaborated with investigators across our campus, across disciplines, and with highly recognized Family Medicine researchers from across the country. Some of the priority issues he has addressed include access, cost containment, cancer screening, health disparities, chronic disease management (diabetes and hypertension), and quality improvement. He has published original papers, editorials, letters and blogs. His paper *Predicting Diabetic Complications for Patients: Do We Feel Lucky?* received a Distinguished Paper Award at the 2010 meeting of the North American Primary Care Research Group. He has served as a research mentor, as an expert consultant, as a member on review panels, and as an invited speaker. Dr. Saver has delivered patient care for almost 20 years primarily in safety net settings. He has maintained a continuity clinical practice at the Family Health Center of Worcester (FHCW), a federally qualified health center and a residency training site for residents in the Worcester Family Medicine Residency Program. Dr. Saver's teaching has also been publically recognized by residents in the Worcester Family Medicine

program, who have chosen him as “Teacher of the Year” twice (2009 and 2010) and as recipient of their “Sam Pickens Award (2012).

Congratulations to the following faculty with recently completed academic appointments:

Rebecca Blumhofer, MD was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. Dr. Blumhofer is a 2010 graduate of Boston University School of Medicine and received a Masters of Public Health degree from Boston University School of Public Health in 2006. A graduate of the Worcester Family Medicine Residency program based at the Barre Family Health Center (2013), we were fortunate to recruit Dr. Blumhofer to stay on as a member of our core Residency faculty, based at FHCW. A National Health Service Corps Scholar, she is committed to serving the underserved in an urban community. She is dedicated to teaching medical students, residents and other learners rotating through the health center. She practices full spectrum family medicine, providing prenatal care to patients and covers the labor and delivery and postpartum service at UMassMemorial.

Christina Dorell, MD, MPH was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. She is currently the Associate Medical Director in the Office of Clinical Affairs (OCA) for the Center for Health Policy and Research, a division of Commonwealth Medicine, a senior leadership role within the Commonwealth’s MassHealth program. In 2002 Dr. Dorell received her medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and in 2009 she completed a Masters of Public Health degree, with a concentration in Health Administration and Policy from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA. She is double boarded, having completed residency programs in Pediatrics at Maimonides Medical Center (2005) as well as Public Health and Preventive Medicine at Morehouse School of Medicine (2007). A former United States Public Health Service officer based at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Dorell has experience with epidemiological research in her work at the CDC Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (2007-09) and the Immunization Division (2007-13). Dr. Dorell and her colleagues in the OCA have developed a new health policy rotation which will expose UMMS students and residents to policy development related to clinical and pharmaceutical issues, utilization management, program measurement and analysis. Additionally, Dr. Dorell will be serving as a lecturer the Department’s Preventive Medicine Residency Program beginning in this Fall.

Laura Eurich, MD was recently appointed as an Instructor in the Department. Dr. Eurich is a 2010 graduate of the University of Massachusetts Medical School and a 2013 Worcester Family Medicine Residency graduate, based at the Hahnemann Family Health Center. This past year, we were fortunate to recruit Dr. Eurich to the faculty, joining a UMass Memorial Community Medical Group practice located in Shrewsbury. As a full-time primary care clinician she continues to teach UMass medical students rotating through the office-based practice. In 2013

Dr. Eurich was recognized with the Resident Teacher of the Year Award by the Society of Teachers in Family Medicine.

Shelby Freed, NP was recently appointed as an Instructor in the Department. Ms. Freed is a 2011 graduate of the MGH Institute of Health Professions School of Nursing in Boston where she completed a Family Nurse Practitioner Program. She went on to complete a FNP Residency Program coordinated and offered locally at the Family Health Center of Worcester (FHCW), where she has continued on as a member of the faculty, precepting, mentoring and advising FNP residents. She also assists other learners, including medical students and residents. She recently co-lead a procedure station at our Family Medicine Interest Group's annual Hands on Night event. In 2013 she presented *Teenage pregnancy and the Student Nurse Practitioner*, as part of the Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy Symposium.

Amber Sarkar, MD was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. Dr. Sarkar is a 2010 graduate of Ben Gurion University Medical School in Israel and a 2013 graduate of the Worcester Family Medicine Residency program based at the Family Health Center of Worcester. We were fortunate to recruit Dr. Sarkar to stay on as a member of our core Residency faculty, based at FHCW where she currently provides patient care in the outpatient setting at the health center as well as inpatient care on the maternal child health service located at UMassMemorial. Dr. Sarkar teaches medical students and precepts residents in both locations and assists the variety of learners rotating through the site. While in residency she participated in the Global health track, traveled to Nicaragua and conducted a 2 month long needs assessment of diabetic care in the city of El Sauce. After graduation she was selected as a participant in the Kraft Practitioner Program, a two-year program designed to recruit and retain motivated physicians and to equip them to take on leadership roles within their organizations. As part of the Kraft program, she is completing a quality improvement project entitled, *Improving care for the diabetic population at the Family Health Center of Worcester*, which is focused on a team-based approach. She hopes to observe increased patient participation in self-care, increased satisfaction of providers involved in the care of diabetic patients and create a clinically useful diabetic registry.

Joshua Twomey, PhD was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. He is currently a Project Director in the Office of Clinical Affairs (OCA), a division of Commonwealth Medicine, providing research and analysis expertise to a number of public health initiatives associated with the Commonwealth's Medicaid program, such as *Patient Centered Medical Home*, *Primary Care Payment Reform* and *Children's Behavioral Health Initiatives*. Dr. Twomey received a Master of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology in 2005 from Assumption College and went on to receive his Doctorate degree in Education Psychology from the University of Connecticut in 2009. He is an experienced Research Analyst who worked for two years at UMass Medical School in the Division of Research, Evaluation and Assessment (2009-11) and for one year at Bridgewater State University in the Office of Assessment (2011-12). He is experienced in working with teams of faculty and staff to compile and analyze

statistical data for a variety of large scale initiatives. Dr. Twomey and his colleagues in the OCA have developed a new health policy rotation which will expose students and residents to policy development related to clinical and pharmaceutical issues, utilization management, program measurement and analysis. Dr. Twomey will serve as a preceptor for the rotation, providing instruction on statistical analysis and clinical meaningfulness. Additionally, Dr. Twomey completed the Certificate Program in Primary Care Behavioral Health, offered by the Center for Integrated Primary Care through the Department, in order to further educate himself on the clinical meaningfulness of the data being examined related to the integration of behavioral health into primary care settings.

Events

Please reserve the evening of Oct. 22 for the 4th annual **Primary Care Story Telling: Readings from the Thursday Morning Memo** in honor of National Primary Care Month at UMMS/UMMHC. The event, organized by Hugh Silk, will be in the Library's Rare Book Room with a reception at 5:30 and the readings beginning at 6pm.