



Monday Memo – March 28, 2016

Presentations

· The Ninth Academic and Health Policy Conference took place from March 16-18, 2016 in Baltimore, MD. Warren Ferguson is the founder and director of the conference and chair of the Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health www.accjh.org. The conference included 236 participants, three countries, 28 states and 84 organizations. The conference is unique in its interdisciplinary design with tracks in mental health, community reentry, addictions, women's health, juvenile justice, infectious disease, public health and health policy being predominant. This year, an Implementation Science Track was added to the conference with grant support from both NIDA and AHRQ. Four jail and prison systems are participating to expand and sustain medication assisted treatment for individuals with opioid addiction during the transition to release including Barnstable and Middlesex Counties in MA, and Rhode Island and Connecticut Departments of Corrections.

· At the March 18-19, 2016 meeting of the Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians (in Boston), Fred Baker, MD was inaugurated as President of the Academy. Presentations by faculty and students included:

· Ron Adler and Wayne Altman: *Care That Matters: Working Toward a New Generation of Primary Care Quality Measures*

· Phil Bolduc: *Teaching Hepatitis B: How to Make Sense of the Alphabet Soup*

· Jennifer Buckley: *Medication and Vaccines in Pregnancy and Lactation*

· Dennis Dimitri: *The Public Health Epidemic of Opioid Misuse*

· Leonard Finn: *Mindfulness and Mindful Eating for Patients with Obesity, Coronary Artery Disease, and Hypertension*

· Mary Flynn and Stephanie Carter-Henry: *Breast May be Best, But it's Not Easy: Supporting Moms and Providers to Promote Breastfeeding Success*

- Melanie Gnazzo, Elizabeth Rosen (MSIII), Blair Robinson (MSII): *Food Insecurity: Using an Interactive Tool to Recognize and Address Food Needs in Your Primary Care Practice*
- Patricia Seymour: *C. diff. Colitis*

Also at the MAFP, the following poster presentations were made by faculty and residents in our Worcester and Fitchburg residencies:

- Abhijeet Patil, *Barriers in Discussion to Implantation of Advanced Care Directives in a Family Medicine Residency Program*
- Nora Lamartine, Pamela Sansoucy, Ivonne McLean, Jessica Bosse, *A Multifaceted Approach to Improve Sexual Health Education and Access for Adolescents in a Rural Community*
- Kim Sikule, Ivonne McLean, *Reaching Educational Milestones Through Participation in Empowerment-based Sexual Education Groups in a Rural Community*
- Neha Weeks, Sherrilyn Sethi, *Promoting Resiliency and Decreasing Physician Burnout: Implementation of a Wellness Curriculum for Family Medicine Interns*

· Hugh Silk organized and presented a national webinar on Wednesday March 16 with other pediatricians and oral health advocates on the topic of Meeting MOC Part IV Requirements with Oral Health. Hugh also lectured at Tufts Dental School on March 24 as part of a medical-dental collaboration. The first year dental students reviewed all 8 on-line modules of the Smiles for Life curriculum followed by an interactive lecture by Dr. Silk entitled: Oral Health Promotion - An Interprofessional and Metaprofessional Approach

· At the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research's annual meeting in Albuquerque, NM, Suzanne Cashman was a participating author on a student led poster entitled: *Where are the Determinants of Health? Student-Led Curriculum Change* and presenter of an oral session entitled, *From Seed to Tree: Anticipated and Unanticipated Benefits from APTR's IPE Training Initiative.*

Professional Service

· The Institute for Clinical and Economic Review has appointed Kimberly Lenz, PharmD, a Department faculty member and a clinical pharmacy manager in UMass Medical School's Commonwealth Medicine division, an ex-officio member of its New England Comparative Effectiveness Public Advisory Council. As part of her role, Kim will be working with the rest of the advisory board to discuss clinical therapeutic areas, and the value of the medications/interventions. The New England Comparative Effectiveness Public Advisory Council (CEPAC), ICER's Eastern division, will publish a report on the topic, expert opinion, advisory board discussion and voting. The goal of ICER is to make the evidence and value of an intervention part of the health care system's process.

Faculty Appointments and Promotions

· Congratulations to the following faculty with recently completed academic appointments or promotions:

David Ammerman, MD was recently promoted to Assistant Professor in the Department. Dr. Ammerman is a 1980 graduate of Case Western Reserve University where he completed his medical degree. He went on to complete a Family Practice Residency program (1983) at University Hospitals of Cleveland in Ohio. In 2008 he was hired to be the Medical Director for the Adult Hospitalist Program at HealthAlliance Hospital in Leominster and soon after joined the Fitchburg Family Medicine Residency faculty as an Instructor (2009). Over the years Dr. Ammerman's involvement with the Fitchburg residents on the inpatient service has expanded and he continues to be a valuable educational and clinical resource to all learners rotating through this site. Dr. Ammerman is a seasoned clinician having practiced in both the inpatient and outpatient settings over the last 32 years and has served as Medical Director for four practices. Outside of his clinical activities he has assumed leadership positions on various committees and currently sits on the Board of Directors for CentMass Association of Physicians (since 2013). He is an active member of a number of professional membership organizations within his areas of expertise; family medicine and hospital medicine. Additionally, Dr. Ammerman has made significant contributions to the development of our residents. Last year he was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the 2015 graduating residents.

Thomas Byrne, MD was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. Dr. Byrne is a board certified family physician who completed his medical degree at the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD and trained at the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, FL where he completed his family medicine residency program in 1989. He is currently working towards completion of a Masters degree in Population Health at Thomas Jefferson University. Dr. Byrne is an experienced leader having served as a Chair of Family Medicine for the Central Maine Medical Center (2003-05) and Southern New Hampshire Medical Center (2009-

12). Additionally, he was the Medical Director for Hallmark Health Medical Associates in Woburn, MA (2012-15). In his current role as Chief Medical Officer at FHCW he is responsible for the strategic oversight of the medical services provided at the health center including the work of the staff, clinicians and faculty. Upon his arrival last fall he was invited to become a member of the Department's Leadership Team, which is responsible for implementation of our strategic plan. His years of experience in and out of academic medicine will bring a fresh perspective to the table. Over the years he has demonstrated a strong commitment to service through efforts like medical mission work in India and Nicaragua as well as service to committees such as the Outpatient Care Council he co-chaired while at Southern New Hampshire Medical Center. He maintains membership with multiple professional organizations such as the Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians and the American Association of Physician Leadership.

Jillian Joseph, MPAS, PA-C was recently appointed as an Instructor in the Department. In 2014 we recruited her as a Physician Assistant practicing at the Barre Family Health Center. Ms. Joseph is a graduate of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (MCPHS), completing the Master of Physician Studies program in 2012. In addition to her work at the Barre Health Center she also provides clinical care in the Emergency Department at Harrington Memorial (since 2013) and for Wachusett Emergency Physicians urgent Care in Leominster (since 2015). Prior to her work as a Physician Assistant she contributed to the Worcester community as a paramedic, 911 emergency dispatcher and as a patient care associate for UMassMemorial. As a member of the faculty in Barre, Ms. Joseph serves as a co-preceptor for UMass medical students as well as physician studies students from MCPHS. She is currently participating in the Quality Scholars Program and enjoys contributing to QI projects within the health center. She has been actively engaged in a community service initiative entitled "*Girl Talk*", a 12-week sexual education curriculum for teenage girls in the Barre community. She has contributed to the curriculum design and also serves as a weekly facilitator for the program.

Monica Le, MD, MPH was recently promoted to Assistant Professor in the Department. She is currently an Associate Medical Director (since 2010) in the Office of Clinical Affairs (OCA), a division of Commonwealth Medicine, overseeing clinical initiatives, coordinating multidisciplinary workgroups for various disease states, and serving as a liaison between the MassHealth Pharmacy Program and other agencies. She is also the Medical Director, MassHealth Primary Care Clinician Plan (since 2013) which aims at improving provider and member satisfaction. Dr. Le received her medical degree in 2002 from New York Medical College and went on to complete a family medicine residency program in 2006 at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles. Her additional educational achievements are impressive and include completion of two Fellowships in faculty development (2006) and women's health (2007), an Masters in Public Health degree Minority Health Policy Fellowship from Harvard (2008) and acupuncture certification also at Harvard (2009). She joined Commonwealth Medicine in 2010 as an Associate Medical Director and has participated as part of a committee in

the development, updating and publishing of clinical guidelines for MassHealth across many different service lines. She also serves as a grant reviewer for the NIH and as an external consultant for MAXIMUS Federal which addresses health priorities for the Ugandan Ministry of Health. She and her colleagues in the OCA have developed a new health policy rotation which exposes medical students and residents to policy development related to clinical and pharmaceutical issues, utilization management, program measurement and analysis. She has developed curricula for the rotations and have found ways to integrate teaching with projects that provide real-world applications in health policy.