Monday Memo – October 9, 2018

Announcements

We recently put together a listing of many of the opportunities available to faculty for professional development. It’s been posted on our web site (under Faculty Resources) at https://www.umassmed.edu/fmch/faculty-resources/professional-development-opportunities/

One of the listings is for the Quality Scholars program, sponsored by the UMass Memorial Center for Innovation and Transformational Change. The program provides training in quality science over an 8-month period. Components include independent study (print and online materials), on-site sessions (two full days and approximately twelve 90-minute sessions), and a mentored Quality Improvement project. Graduates earn a Lean Green Belt and are expected to serve as leaders in quality at their home site. The call for nominations went out last week, with a November 6 deadline. If you would like to be nominated by the Department, please contact Dan Lasser; final selections are made by our Academic Development Committee. Department faculty who have completed this program in the past include Erik Garcia, Dan Mullin, Jen Reidy, Trish Seymour, Saurabh Sharma, and Jillian Joseph.

Departure: After 15 years in the department, Gail Sawosik is retiring from the UMass system. In her “retirement” she has taken a position at Reach Out and Read. Her last day with us will be Oct. 19th. We wish her the best in all of her endeavors. As her request for the Monday Memo, I am including her words to the department.

“I would like to thank the department staff and faculty whom I have had the privilege of working with over the past 15 years. It has been an inspiration to witness the dedication and compassion shown toward colleagues, students and patients. I have learned a great deal and hope to have made a contribution to the department in some small way. “

Wellness

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new website https://umassmed.edu/wellbeing. The site is designed to make it simpler to access counseling, mental health treatment and on-line resources for residents, fellows and medical staff dealing with emotional and psychological concerns. Confidential and discrete, it can link you to the next step with a click or help guide you with some straightforward on-line tools. We hope our colleagues and those of us who are concerned about them will find it helpful--please check it out and feedback welcome.
**Awards & Recognition**

UMass medical student **Supreetha Gubbala**, along with nineteen other US medical students, has been selected for the STFM Conference on Medical Student Education Student Scholarship Award. This award highlights students who have an interest in family medicine and have potential for an academic career. 20 scholars were chosen from a pool of applicants by the STFM Medical Student Education Committee. The scholars were nominated by their faculty member and submitted both a personal statement and an abstract for a poster presentation. They will present their poster and receive recognition at the 2018 STFM Conference on Medical Student Education, January 31-February 3, 2019 in Jacksonville, FL.

**Presentations**

**Hugh Silk** was a panelist for the University of Nevada's Inter-Professional Education Exercise on October 2 with the nurse practitioner and physician assistant students along with dentists, dental hygienists and others covering cases on prenatal oral health and adult oral health.

**Dave Gilchrist** presented at grand rounds at Harrington Hospital on Oct 4th, 2018 entitled “Moving Beyond the Yoga Mat and Mindful Moments to Combat Burnout”.

**Dennis Dimitri** was an invited panelist at the William James College conference in Boston on September 20th, the panel was titled “America is Watching: Response to the Opioid Crisis in New England”. He discussed “Controversial Treatments: Safe Injection Sites, 72-hour Hold, Marijuana, and other non-evidence-based treatment”

**Video Presentation:** **Abhijeet (Abhi) Patil**, a faculty member in Fitchburg and within the Geriatrics Division, has produced a touching video to raise awareness about Alzheimer’s Disease. He did this in conjunction with work he is doing to establish a clinical practice in India. You can see it at https://youtu.be/dEc3Ar396q0

**Phil Bolduc** presented on September 21st, “Health Threats Facing Persons Living With HIV” at the National HIV Over Fifty Conference in Boston, MA.<p>

**Phil Bolduc** presented on September 24th “Preventing HIV in High-Risk Populations” for the Impact on Health Disparities in HIV Prevention Workshop in Montgomery, AL.

**Phil Bolduc** presented on September 27th to the Worcester Parks Commission on behalf of the Park Spirit of Worcester and the Friends of Newton Hill on the receipt of a $30,000 Department of Conservation and Recreation Trails Grant Program award to create a free cross-country ski course in Elm Park and Newton Hill. Anyone interested in joining me in this effort is encouraged to email me at skielmparknewtonhill@gmail.com.
Publications

Melodie Wenz-Gross, Post Doc Yeonsoo Yoo, and Carole Upshur, along with UConn doctoral student Anthony Gambino published a paper on the kindergarten readiness outcomes of the Kidsteps II project. The paper is published in Frontiers in Psychology, in the Developmental Psychology section. It is titled: Pathways to Kindergarten Readiness: The Roles of Second Step Early Learning Curriculum and Social Emotional, Executive Functioning, Preschool Academic and Task Behavior Skills, by Melodie Wenz-Gross, Yeonsoo Yoo, Carole C. Upshur, Anthony J. Gambino. It is an open access article and available at:


Administration Announcements

Need a new headshot for the website?
Employed physicians who need to create or update their profile images for the online Find a Physician directory are encouraged to attend photography sessions on our University and Memorial campuses. Walk-ins are welcome and no appointment is necessary. Email or call Michelle Carrier at 508-334-5173 for more information.

Sessions are offered:
- **Memorial Campus – Memorial One Conference Room**
  - Monday, October 22, 11 am to 12:30 pm
  - Monday, November 29, 11:30 am to 1 pm
  - Monday, December 17, 10 am to 11:30 pm
- **University Campus – Endosurgery Conference Room**
  - Monday September 24, 12 to 1:30 pm
  - Monday, October 1, 1 to 2:30 pm
  - Monday, October 15, 9 to 10:30 am
  - Monday, November 13, 9 to 10:30 am
  - Monday, December 3, 9 to 10:30 am
  - Monday, December 10, 12 to 1:30 pm

Research Study Design and Analysis Series

Session I: Design, Conduct, and Analysis of Observational Studies
In this first session, attendees will learn about the design, conduct, and analysis of case-control (retrospective) and longitudinal (prospective) studies that are commonly utilized in clinical and public health research. This two hour session will cover various topics that pertain to these non-randomized observational studies including when to use which observational design approach, development of study hypotheses, comparison groups to be studied, sample size/power calculations, data collection activities, and data analysis and interpretation.
Session II: Design, Conduct, and Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials
In this second session, attendees will learn about the design, conduct, and analysis of randomized controlled clinical trials (RCTs). This two hour session will cover various topics that pertain to RCTs including the development of study hypotheses, trial design (including sample size/power estimation), patient recruitment and enrollment, reasons for randomization and common randomization approaches, data collection activities, data analysis (including interim and final analyses), and presentation.

Date: October 16, 2018, Time: 3:00 – 5:00 PM Location: Albert Sherman Building, 6th Floor, AS6-2072

Register NOW for the Department’s Annual Retreat: Friday, October 26, 2018
(Registration closes October 12th)

ANOTHER REASON to come to the Department Faculty Retreat: Most of us are familiar with the terrific “Top Ten” summary of the current medical literature that Frank Domino develops each year for the AAFP annual meeting. For our retreat, we’ve asked Frank to develop a companion summary of the top approaches suggested in the literature as ways to make a primary care practice work better. His plenary, The Top Things I Learned This Year to Make Practices Work Better, will start off our morning session at the International in Bolton.

The latest draft of the agenda can be found at https://www.umassmed.edu/globalassets/family-medicine-and-community-health/fmch/faculty-resources/agenda-2018---final.pdf and you can register now by going to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FMCHRetreat