Wolfe Selected by Governor to Serve on Iowa Commission

Steve Wolfe, MD, Clinical Professor Emeritus for the UI Department of Family Medicine, has been selected by Governor Branstad to serve on an Iowa Commission titled “Prevention of Disabilities Policy Council.” The Council is responsible for facilitating policy development and coordinating multiple state agency and public-private activities to prevent disability and improve the health and independence of those with disabilities. It is charged with advising the Governor and the Iowa General Assembly about priorities and policies in preventing disability and secondary conditions.

James Named President-Elect of ADFM

Paul James, MD, Chair and Head of the UI Department of Family Medicine, was recently named president-elect of the Association of Departments of Family Medicine (ADFM). James was elected at the organization’s 2013 meeting in New Orleans, LA. His term extends through 2016. James has previously served as Chair of the Research Development Committee and also served on the Board of Directors. The ADFM is devoted to transforming care, education, and research to promote health equity and improve the health of the nation. It brings together more than 150 institutions from across the nation, representing more than 2,000 faculty members, 11 million patient visits and an aggregate budget exceeding $1 billion.
**Match Day 2013**

On Friday, March 15th, senior medical students from the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine joined graduating medical students from across the country to learn where they would continue their medical education after graduation. The Match, operated annually by the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP), determines where medical students will complete their residency training by aligning student preferences with residency program preferences and available training positions. Carver College of Medicine students gathered for a short ceremony on Match Day where they received their official offer letters from the NRMP.

**2013 Residency Match Results**

The Carver College of Medicine graduates 137 medical students this year. Forty-three percent (59) are entering primary care programs. Fifteen percent of the class chose pediatrics careers, 11% family medicine, and 10% are training in internal medicine. Six percent will become obstetrician-gynecologists. Forty-one members (30%) of the Class of 2013 will train in Iowa while 96 (70%) will enter residencies outside Iowa.

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<tr>
<th>Graduates Entering Primary Care Programs (% of class)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<td>Family Medicine</td>
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<td>Internal Medicine/Family Medicine</td>
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<td><strong>Primary Care Total</strong></td>
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Publications

Steve Craig, MD, Executive Director of the Des Moines Area Medical Education Consortium, and John Yost, MD, Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at Iowa Methodist Medical Center, recently had two education research projects published:

- The Winter 2012 edition of the *Ochsner Journal* included “Evaluation of Patient Handoff Methods on an Inpatient Teaching Service” [Volume 12(4):331-336]. This study was completed with the assistance of Matt Downen, a fourth-year medical student in the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

- The March 2013 edition of the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice* included “Structured Pharmaceutical Representative Interactions and Counterdetailing Sessions as Components of Medical Resident Education” [Volume 26(2):151-156]. This study was completed in conjunction with Geoffrey Wall, PharmD, Des Moines Internal Medicine Residency Program.

Presentations

*James Presents Plenary Address at STFM Conference*

Paul James, MD, Chair and Head for the UI Department of Family Medicine, provided the plenary address “The Gold and Ruler: Did He Mean Golden Rule? – How Applying Rules Challenges and Enlightens Us” at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Annual Spring Conference in Baltimore, May 1 – 5. This conference is the nation’s most energized networking forum for family medicine educators, where 1,500 family medicine colleagues come together to take part in nearly 400 educational and interactive seminars, lecture discussions, papers, and poster presentations. This year’s conference placed special emphasis on early career leadership and advocacy and the development of skills to lead institutional and national change.

*Posters*


Josh Rehmann, DO and Dan Harkness, LMFT, Ph.D., Iowa Lutheran Hospital Family Medicine Residency, presented a poster entitled “Implementing Leadership and Professionalism Training into Residency,” at the STFM Conference in Baltimore, May 1-5, 2013.

Appointments

*Journal Editorial Board Members*

Barcey Levy, MD, Ph.D, and Jeanette Daly, RN, Ph.D, UI Department of Family Medicine, are new board members for the *Journal of Primary Care and Community Health* (JPC). This journal is published quarterly and offers peer-reviewed evidence about the practice, impact, and outcomes of primary care services and community health programs.
Northeast Iowa Medical Education Foundation (NEIMEF) recently gave staff nurses the opportunity to become certified Health Coaches through the Health Sciences Institute. The goal was to train the nurses to serve as Health Coaches in our Patient Centered Medical Home Model of Care. The program is a 40-hour on-line class and subsequent test with a focus on:

- Population health improvement (wellness, disease management and care management)
- Recommended medical care and self-care of chronic conditions
- Motivational interviewing-based coaching skills for engagement, adherence, self-care and lifestyle management.

Population Health Learning Collaborative is an additional component of this program which provides an ongoing learning community for those serving as Certified Health Coaches through the Health Sciences Institute. The goal of this training is to achieve beginning proficiency in brief, evidence-based chronic care, health improvement and motivational interviewing-based strategies. The objectives being to improve patient engagement, self-care, adherence, lifestyle management outcomes and to reduce chronic disease risk, disease complications and avoidable health care costs.

Chronic diseases are responsible for most disability and premature death, as well as 75% of direct health care costs in the U.S. Of avoidable health care spending, 85% is generally attributed to behavioral factors such as lifestyle, adherence and disease self-care. Further, lifestyle factors including poor diet, lack of physical activity and tobacco use are primary risk factors for most of today’s chronic diseases. Yet, the Institute of Medicine and the World Health Organization have emphasized our health care workforce is not well prepared to address modern threats to public health, which are often behavioral, not medical.

This investment into our registered nurses to become health coaches is an attempt to address these concerns and lack of prior education related to chronic diseases. The application of this knowledge will occur during the office visits and telephone calls when there is an opportunity to interact and work with the patient to establish goals and develop appropriate strategies for each patient situation.

The Foundation believes a residency environment is an ideal setting to provide this service. With help from the health coaches, residents will be learning how to utilize team care to address the expectations of patients and purchasers of care. And as we develop better methods of measuring quality, the health coach will help our Foundation improve our quality and our patient outcomes.

Although we are just in the initial stage of this new journey, we are excited about the potential for improving the quality of patient care and patient satisfaction in our setting.
On April 12th, 2013 new officers were elected for the Iowa Family Medicine Residents Council:

**President:** Stacie Salowitz, MD, R2  
Genesis Quad Cities Family Medicine Residency—Davenport

**President Elect:** Melissa Austreim, MD, R1  
Siouxland Medical Education Foundation—Sioux City

**Treasurer:** Meghan Morris, MD, R2  
Northeast Iowa Medical Education Foundation—Waterloo

**Secretary:** Callie Waller, DO, R2  
Iowa Lutheran Hospital Family Medicine Residency—Des Moines

At the meeting, thanks were also given to all outgoing and graduating Residents Council Members and Officers. Appreciation was given for their three years of service to the Council.

**Iowa Family Medicine Residents Council Election**

Residents Council Officers (from left to right): Meghan Morris, MD; Callie Waller, DO; Stacie Salowitz, MD; and Melissa Austreim, MD.

**Residency Coordinator Travels to Abu Dhabi**

**Jeri Paca, C-TAGME,** Residency Coordinator for the Iowa Lutheran Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program, recently returned from Abu Dhabi, UAE where she was invited to consult for a Family Medicine Residency Program at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City. The residencies at Sheikh Khalifa are some of the first international programs seeking accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

Paca and a team of four other program coordinators from around the country were there to advise on preparation of PIFs, ADS, and to guarantee processes were in order for a site visit. Reflecting on the trip, Paca commented, “It was such a privilege to be asked to participate in this process with the medical team at Abu Dhabi. Everyone was so welcoming and truly appreciative of our assistance and input. The opportunity to learn and to be immersed in their culture was amazing.”

**Above:** Paca with Dr. Maha Mohamed Abdul Al Fahim, Program Director for Family Medicine at Sheikh Khalifa.
**Awards**

*Megan M. Mormann, PharmD,* Northeast Iowa Medical Education Foundation Pharmacy Resident, has been recognized for her research poster, “Pharmacist Integration in Pre-Visit Planning in the Medical Home” in a recent College of Pharmacy Research Week poster competition. Mormann was named “most outstanding entry” and received an award at a Research Week banquet on April 17th.

*Katie Imborek, MD,* Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, and *Nicole Nisly, MD,* Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine, were nominated and selected as co-recipients of one of the 2012-2013 Diversity Catalyst Awards. This award honors those individuals, organizations, and departments at the University of Iowa who have engaged in distinctive and innovative initiatives during the past year, which have prompted an inclusive and diverse campus community. Imborek and Nisly were honored at a ceremony on April 18th.

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**Iowa Family Medicine Residency Fair**

Medical students from the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine attended the Iowa Family Medicine Residency Fair at the Coralville Marriott on April 15th, 2013. The annual event is hosted by the Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG), the Iowa Family Medicine Residency Network, and the Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs. Each of the eight programs in the Iowa Family Medicine Residency Network participated. Students had the opportunity to speak with current residents, faculty, and staff to learn what each residency program has to offer residents.

Following the event, one student mentioned, “The residents and doctors that were there were really friendly and interesting and helped [me] see another side of family medicine.” Dr. Donal Gordon, Program Director with the Cedar Rapids Family Medicine Residency also said, “I thought that this was the best fair in years…I enjoyed talking to the students and was so glad that I had plenty of residents and faculty with me who also had the same good experience.”
The University of Iowa Department of Family Medicine annual Refresher Course for the Family Physician was held April 2-5, 2013 at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. This year celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the course which attracts MDs, PAs, and ARNPs from Iowa and surrounding states. John Ely, MD, who will retire in July, was recognized for directing the course for the past 16 years. The 2013 course attendance reached a record high of 215 participants. Forty-two speakers provided a comprehensive overview of clinical issues relevant to contemporary family medicine. The 2014 Refresher Course for the Family Physician will be held April 1-4 at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center.

Linn Community Care Achieves PCMH Accreditation

Linn Community Care (LCC) in Cedar Rapids received notice in early March that it is now accredited by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) as a Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home. LCC is a Federally Qualified Health Center, which serves as the “home” for the continuity patients of the Cedar Rapids Medical Education Foundation’s (CRMEF) Family Medicine Residency. The announcement is the culmination of much work over many months on the part of a small task force of staff from both LCC and CRMEF.

New Faculty

Cedar Rapids

Jody Harmsen, MD, has joined the Cedar Rapids Medical Education Foundation (CRMEF) as a full-time faculty member. She has worked with CRMEF on a part-time basis for the last year, helping with call and OB instruction, as well as precepting in the clinic. Her new position within the residency program will also include inpatient staffing and serving as Recruitment Director. Harmsen earned her MD from the University of Chicago and completed her Family Medicine Residency in Mason City. Prior to joining CRMEF, she was a Clinical Assistant Professor in the University of Iowa’s Department of Family Medicine. She has also worked as a family physician in Muscatine, Iowa and Hayward, Wisconsin.

Des Moines

Holley Bermel, DO, joined the Iowa Lutheran Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program as part-time faculty in March 2013. She is a 2011 graduate of the program and has practiced at UnityPoint Parks Area Clinic on the east side of Des Moines where she will continue to have a part-time continuity clinic. She brings experience in office dermatology and will be facilitating dermatology curriculum in the residency program.
Calendar of Events

June 12  Family Medicine Resident Research Symposium—Iowa City
June 12  Residency Program Directors Meeting—Iowa City
June 26  Faculty Development Workshop, "Helping Learners Use Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Research" – Cedar Rapids
Sept 19-20  Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO) Course—Coralville