



Countdown to MD Graduation 1089 Days

Countdown to arrival of MBS class of 2011 **52 Days**

Countdown to arrival of MD class of 2014

82 Days

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A message from the Dean

It has been an exciting spring at The Commonwealth Medical College. On May 1, we celebrated an important milestone - our first commencement ceremony. On behalf of the faculty and staff at TCMC, I applaud our Master of Biomedical Sciences (MBS) graduates. als and families who have named specific rooms of the Medical Sciences Building We are grate-

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell, Governor of Pennsylvania, was the distinguished keynote speaker and presented the graduates with encouraging words and a handshake. It has been rewarding to help our masters students enhance their credentials for application into medical and health professions schools. Our first graduates are planning careers and bright futures in public health, scientific research, education and biomedical technology.

In preparation for the next incoming classes of MD and MBS students, the Admissions Department has processed applications from more than 3,000 prospective students and has interviewed more than 500 applicants for 65 MD and 40 MBS student placements. We all look forward to welcoming the next students who will help us achieve our mission of educating aspiring physicians and scientists to serve society with a community focus.

Classes will move into the new Medical Sciences Building in 2011 and I'm pleased to report that the construction project is on time and under budget. More detailed information, including environmentally friendly components of the building, can be found on Page 4.

As you'll see in the Development section, we have received several generous gifts from community businesses, individu-

als and families who have named specific rooms of the Medical Sciences Building. We are grateful for all of the community support we've received to date. You can read about



several ways to help TCMC on Page 5.

The northeast Pennsylvania medical community continues to be supportive of TCMC students, faculty and staff. We continue to recruit dedicated volunteer clinical faculty members who help educate our medical students with classroom lectures and provide clinical experience opportunities in their practices.

Lastly, TCMC has garnered excellent national and statewide media exposure this year. Many of my colleagues and our students have had the opportunity to speak with respected media outlets including *The New York Times, FOX News Channel, The News Hour on PBS* and most recently, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. You can find links to the articles on Page 9.

I hope you enjoy reading about our success and I look forward to keeping you informed of our progress. Thank you for your continued interest in and support of TCMC.

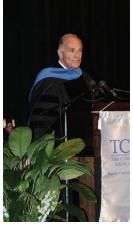
Robert M. D'Alessandri, MD President & Founding Dean

MBS Commencement Page 2

TCMC COMMENCEMENT 2010

Master of Biomedical Sciences

Celebrating a milestone: the first commencement



Our inaugural commencement ceremony at TCMC represented many years of preparation and focus. We made it to this special day because of the commitment of many people in northeast Pennsylvania that supported our dream. The first graduates of the Master of Biomedical Sciences Program were part of this dream and we applaud their achievements.

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell, Governor of Pennsylvania, addressed our first 13 graduates with encouraging remarks. Quoting German theologian and physician Albert Schweitzer several times during his 20-minute address,

Governor Rendell said "Success does not determine happiness, happiness determines success." He added that if the Master of Biomedical Sciences graduates are happy, it almost doesn't matter what they'll be paid because life's riches are found serving others.

Each of the 13 master's students will continue their education in the fall with acceptances to medical schools, dental schools or physician assistant programs. TCMC's Admissions Department is pleased to report that several of our first MBS graduates will remain at TCMC to attend medical school.

Following the ceremony, graduates were welcomed as inaugural members of TCMC's Alumni Society and then celebrated with family and friends with a luncheon in the reception hall with faculty and staff.

Newsletter recipients can view a highlight of the first commencement ceremony online in this <u>5-minute video clip</u>.





MBS Program: looking forward to 2011

The Master of Biomedical Science Program at TCMC is focused on strengthening students' credentials for application to medical school or a health professions school. This unique program offers a very personal educational experience with low student/faculty ratios and a true investment in the success of each student.

Highlights of the MBS Program include workshops on medical school interviewing skills with feedback, application preparation for medical school, Clinical Skills and Simulation Center experiences, shared learning experiences with medical students, and community health projects. New for the 2010 – 2011 academic year is the addition of an intensive MCAT Hyperlearning Program from the Princeton Review which provides students with more than 105 hours of additional instruction.

If you are interested in learning more about this graduate education opportunity, please visit us <u>online</u> or contact our Admissions office at 570-687-9708 or email <u>mbs@tcmedc.org</u>.

The deadline to apply for the 2010—2011 MBS Program is May 30.

Research Day at TCMC

One of the most unique aspects of TCMC's innovative curriculum is the Community Health Research Projects (CHRPs). This program was developed for a greater emphasis on interdisciplinary partnerships and community engagement in medical and graduate student education. The results of these projects were recently presented by MD and MBS students at TCMC's very first Research Day on April 29.

A group of 4-5 students were paired with a community mentor located within TCMC's 16-county service area of northeast and north central Pennsylvania. Together, the students and community mentors devel-



MD and MBS students listen to a CHRP group present their findings.

oped and carried out a research project that not only taught the students how to conduct meaningful community research, but also benefited the partnering community organization.

Faculty and staff members in TCMC's Departments of Family Medicine and Community Health, Basic Sciences and Social Justice & Diversity served as advisors to the projects. Community organizations included:

- Children's Advocacy Center
- C.H.O.I.C.E.S at Nesbitt Memorial Health Center Clinic
- Mercy Hospital
- Mercy Hospital Diabetes Center
- Northeast Branch of the Lupus Foundation of Pennsylvania
- Nurse Family Health Partnership Nesbitt Memorial Medical Center
- Scranton Temple Health Center HIV Clinic
- Susquehanna Health
- Susquehanna Health: Endocrinology Medical Group
- Susquehanna Health: Infectious Disease Medical Group
- Susquehanna Health: Palliative Care Medical Group
- The Commonwealth Medical College Department of Social Justice & Diversity
- The Commonwealth Medical College EAGeR Clinical Trial
- The Friendship House
- Volunteers in Medicine Clinic
- Wyoming Valley Family Medicine Residency Program

Learn more about Research Day and CHRPs from the luncheon program.



Dr. Janet Townsend welcomes guests at the Research Day luncheon.

MBS Softball Game



Celebrating graduation

To celebrate the first commencement, MBS students teamed up for a student vs. faculty/staff softball game and picnic at McDade Park in Scranton on Friday, April 30.

After nine innings on the beautiful spring day, the faculty/staff team was declared the winner in a close 19-18 victory.

Located on a three acre parcel on Pine Street in Scranton, the 188,000 sq. ft. future site of TCMC is set to open in 2011 and will eventually serve more than 500 medical and Master of Biomedical Sciences students and 175 full-time equivalent faculty members, plus support personnel. The permanent location will include administrative offices, classrooms and state-of-the-art research space.

One of the key elements of the new construction is that it's a green, or sustainable, building. By building a sustainable structure, TCMC is investing in the future of our envious to peration costs. The exterior façade of the building is constructed of a granite stone veneer indigenous to Pennsylvania and is quarried within a 500-mile sources radius of the building site. The interior components also have recycled contents such as structural steel, sheet metals and metal studs while the cooling water is produced from recycled storm water which is collected from rain water leaders and storm lines and stored in underground cisterns.



May 2010: Watch the building progress live via our online webcam.

Another significant "green" fact is the on-site recycling program. The goal of the program is to divert more than 50% of the construction project's waste from landfills, at the same or less cost as using a landfill. So far during construction of building, 836.64 tons of material waste has been produced. The program has resulted in great success with recycling of nearly 700 tons of waste material; that's 82 93%.

"Designing and building sustainable structures is important to protect natural resources and reduce maintenance costs over the life of the building," said Jim Ryan, Chief Facility and Public Safety Officer. Once construction is complete, TCMC will pursue LEED certification, a national benchmark in sustainable construction. For tours or information on naming opportunities, call Brian Campbell, Chief Development Officer at 570-504-9650.

Key Green facts

- Nearly 700 tons of dry wall, cardboard, rubble, wood, and non-ferrous metal has been recycled
- Less than 150 tons of nonrecyclable waste produced
- 82.93% of construction waste has been diverted from landfills
- Wood waste is recycled, processed, and dyed to be used as mulch and other yard products
- Rubble from the demolition of tennis courts and basketball courts was reused as a sub-base for temporary roads

News from the Green Committee

TCMC's Go Green initiative explores ways to conserve resources and implement responsible practices for the conservation of energy, natural resources and the reduction of waste for an environmentally friendly workplace.

Here are some updates:

- Recycling programs have been enhanced at each of TCMC's Scranton locations.
- The Purchasing Department routinely researches eco-friendly options when purchasing items from paper towels, cleaning supplies and light bulbs to larger items such as computers and appliances with superior energy efficiency such as those with Energy Star ratings.



In celebration of the 40th annual Earth Day, the Green Committee sponsored a cleanup day at Connell Park in South Scranton. TCMC faculty and staff supported the effort and helped to get the park in tip-top shape and ready for the opening of baseball season.

Development News Page 5

Naming opportunities available

The new Medical Sciences Building has recently received support from community members where spaces have been dedicated to honor and memorialize loved ones. To date, TCMC has received several corporate and individual family gifts to dedicate various components of the Medical Sciences Building such as: classrooms, conference rooms, front courtyard, and lab and research space.

Specific gifts have been received from the family of Joseph J. Gentile, Jr. and from Governor William and Mrs. Scranton, Mr. Alan Goldstein, an anonymous source, and PNC Bank.

There are naming opportunities available that vary by giving level.

Tours of the construction site are available. For tours or information on naming opportunities, call Brian Campbell, Chief Development Officer at 570-504-9650.



The family of Joseph J. Gentile, Jr. recently presented a gift to Robert D'Alessandri, MD, President & Dean of The Commonwealth Medical College (TCMC) to dedicate two classrooms in the new Medical Sciences Building.

Golf tournament—Sept. 24

The Development Team is planning the second annual TCMC golf tournament for Friday, September 24, 2010, at Huntsville Golf Club in Shavertown.

The captain and crew format tournament is limited to only 128 golfers and begins at noon with a shotgun start. Lunch and dinner is included.

For more information, contact Mike Walsh at 570-504-9619. Registration and sponsorship information can also be found online at

www.thecommonwealthmedical.com/golf

Sponsor and Golf packages:

Foursome sponsor \$1,200 Hole sponsor \$500 Single golfer \$300 Dinner only \$75



From left, Dean D'Alessandri, Morris Goldstein, Brian Campbell, Alan Goldstein and Rabbi Mendelsohn. Mr. Alan Goldstein has given a community group room in honor of his parents.

Second annual Gala—Oct. 1

TCMC will host the second annual Gala on Friday, October 1, 2010 at The Woodlands Inn and Resort in Wilkes-Barre. The evening will feature musical entertainment, dinner, dancing and more. Additional information, including the start time, will be available in the coming weeks online at www.thecommonwealthmedical.com/gala.

If you'd like to volunteer on the Gala Committee, please call Brian Campbell at 570-504-9650.





Dr. Schisterman



Dr. Caplan

Director of NIH Center for Scientific Review to speak at TCMC

On Thursday, May 13, internationally recognized speaker Antonio Scarpa, MD, PhD, Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center for Scientific Review (CSR) spoke at TCMC. Dr. Scarpa discussed how NIH research funding is allocated and how priorities are set to meet national healthcare needs with students, faculty, staff and community members. His presentation was titled "Challenges & Opportunities in Peer Review, A Vision for Ensuring Its Strategic National Value."

The CSR is the portal for NIH grant applications and their review for scientific merit. CSR receives nearly 80,000 applications a year and evaluates nearly 70% of them.

TCMC has submitted more than 100 research applications to the NIH and other agencies and has received a total of \$3.7 million in state and federal funding. To date, research has been funded for specific studies such as breast and colorectal cancer research, osteoporosis, and numerous other research studies.

Second visit from EAGeR principal investigator

Enrique Schisterman, PhD, EAGER principal investigator with the National Institutes of Health, will visit TCMC this month to meet with the EAGER Team, local physicians and TCMC representatives to discuss the study. Dr. Schisterman is the principal investigator of the EAGER (Effects of Aspirin in Gestation and Reproduction) Study, which evaluates the effects of low dose aspirin compared to placebo in women who have had a pregnancy loss sometime in the past.

He will be joined by Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD, Professor and Associate Chair, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine and Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives at the University at Buffalo. Dr. Wactawski-Wende is the site principal investigator at Buffalo, which holds the sub-contract for the TCMC EAGER team.

The national multi-centered clinical trial recruits women age 18-40 who have experienced pregnancy loss and would like to become pregnant again. TCMC is partnering with The University of Utah, University of Colorado Denver, University at Buffalo of State University of New York, University of Haifa and The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Medical ethicist, Arthur Caplan, PhD, visits TCMC

On Tuesday, March 23, medical ethicist Art Caplan, PhD, presented "Why Rationing is Inevitable in Health Care Reform" to a crowd of more than 200 community members in Mellow Theater at Lackawanna College. The event, held in conjunction with Penn Alumni Club, Schemel Forum at University of Scranton, Lackawanna College, Moses Taylor and TCMC, was a great success and provided the audience with new perspectives for healthcare reform.

Dr. Caplan is the Emanuel and Robert Hart Professor of Bioethics and the Director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania and a frequent commentator on MSNBC.

EAGeR update: 14 babies and counting...



Since the EAGeR trial opened at TCMC, the team has worked with numerous women which has resulted in 14 EAGeR baby births at the Scranton site to date. More births are expected in the months ahead. All moms and babies are doing well and can be seen in the next edition of our newsletter "EAGeRly Awaiting" due in a couple months.

The EAGeR clinical trial is actively enrolling women between 18 and

40 who have had one or two previous miscarriages and would like to become pregnant again. If you are interested in joining this study, or know a woman who may be interested, please call the EAGeR office at 570-207-1058, <a href="mailto:em

TCMC hosts Lackawanna Trail High School

On April 21, the Department of Social Justice & Diversity organized an educational program for 30 high school juniors and seniors from Lackawanna Trail High School. Several of TCMC's faculty and staff members participated in the event and provided the students with a look at various career options in health, science and medicine.

The students attended a welcome presentation about TCMC and discussed various career options before touring the Clinical Skills & Simulation Center, Gross Anatomy Lab and Research Labs.

Shadowing Day event

On February 24, TCMC's Department of Social Justice & Diversity, in collaboration with Luzerne County Community College's NEPA Tech Prep Consortium, organized an educational event, whereby TCMC hosted 28 high school juniors and seniors from public schools throughout Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties. TCMC provided the students with tours of our research labs and Clinical Skills & Simulation Center, information sessions on the College and careers in health and medicine, as well as a working lunch session with several members of our faculty and MD students.

At the working lunch, TCMC representatives introduced themselves, discussed their lines of work and areas of interest, offered valuable advice and engaged students in a lively Q&A session.

PJAS & TCMC partner for youth scholars

For the first time, TCMC presented Research Fellowship Awards to four top applicants at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (Region 2) Regional Competition on March 6 at an awards ceremony at Genetti's Hotel & Convention Center in Wilkes-Barre. These students received a cash prize from PJAS and will have the opportunity to work with TCMC scientists and gain exposure to the academic medical setting.



At the awards presentation from left: Ida L. Castro, MA, JD, Vice President for Social Justice & Diversity, TCMC; Jessica Minzola, Hazleton Area High School; Charles Puza, Carbondale Area High School; Joanne Gamble, Pocono Mountain East High School; Kristen Lopatofsky, Western Wayne High School; Robert Taylor, Chairman, PJAS Region 2 Advisory Board; and Robert D'Alessandri, MD, President & Dean, TCMC.

Interact with TCMC

Web re-launch coming soon

revisions to accommodate our growth and changing environment.
Coming June 30, the website will feature photography of our students, faculty and staff. In addition, navigation changes will help users find relevant information with more ease. Be sure to check out www.thecommonwealthmedical.com at the end of June to see the changes.

Speakers Bureau

Would you like to learn more about TCMC? Do you belong to a club or group that would like a TCMC spokesperson to present at a future meeting? The Speakers Bureau at TCMC pairs speakers with community clubs and organizations to inform the public on a variety of topics including College objectives, research objectives, volunteer opportunities and much more.

If you'd like to host a TCMC speaker, please call Anne Green, Manager of Marketing Communications at 570-504-9687.



Read the Dean's blog



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TCMC Participates in Interprofessional Education Seminar

TCMC medical students, faculty and staff participated in the first Interprofessional Education Seminar sponsored by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Interprofessional Education Coalition (NEPA-IPEC). More than 350 students from twelve universities and colleges across the region participated in four concurrent seminars to promote collaboration in an effort to improve the delivery of patient care. Cochairs of the NEPA-IPEC Collaborative Summit were Maria Olenick, CRNP, PhD (c), Director, TCMC Clinical Skills and Simulation Center, and Edward Foote,



Students work through a case scenario at Misericordia University.

PharmD, Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice, Nesbitt School of Pharmacy, Wilkes University.

The NEPA-IPEC, founded by TCMC in 2008, is a collaborative effort between local and regional universities and colleges offering healthcare programs in Luzerne, Lackawanna and Lycoming counties. Students enrolled in medical school and in programs such as pharmacy, nursing, physician assistant, physical/occupational therapy, nutrition, social work,

paramedic and radiology technician programs participated in regional group sessions hosted by Misericordia University, Marywood University, University of Scranton and Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Each group observed a patient case scenario and then discussed their individual roles and responsibilities in providing a collaborative approach to patient care. The joint effort is the first in the country to introduce the concept of collaborative education by bringing together students from various institutions and healthcare disciplines to pioneer the advancement of healthcare education that will improve the delivery of patient care.

Research Update

Research at TCMC continues to focus on the healthcare needs of northeast Pennsylvania with emphasis on cancer, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Since January 2010, many of our research faculty have presented their work nationally and internationally and have been published in numerous trade and society journals. Congratulations to the following group on their recent achievements:

- Jess Cunnick, PhD
- Daniel DeJoseph, MD
- Daniel Flynn, PhD
- · Kelly Foster, PhD
- Raj Kumar, PhD
- Gerry Litwack, PhD
- Sonia Planey, PhD
- Olapeju Simoyan, MD, MPH, BDS
- John Szarek, PhD
- Mushfiq Tarafder, PhD, MPH
- Janet Townsend, MD

Admissions Update

MBS Admissions – TCMC has received 126 applications to date. For the 40 spots, 36 students have sent in confirmation deposits. We have recently sent an additional 18 offers to students and have several applications pending. The deadline for MBS applications is May 30 with rolling admissions continuing through June 30.

MD Admissions – TCMC has received 2976 applications for medical school. The Admissions Office has processed all applications and completed more than 500 interviews. For the 65 spots, students have begun to confirm their place in the class and we have a very strong wait list of prospective students. More than 150 prospective medical students and their guests attended re-visit day in April.

Students enrolled in the MD Class of 2014 will celebrate the start of medical school with an oath signing on Saturday, August 14 at 10:30 am in Mellow Theater.

To learn more about TCMC researchers, visit us online.

TCMC in the News Page 9

TCMC makes national headlines

As physician shortages and health care reform take center stage, media across the country are looking at organizations that provide potential solutions to the national crisis. Opening new medical schools offers one solution and TCMC is pleased to be in the forefront and receiving national headlines, including a front page *New York Times* story which ran February 15, Expecting a Surge in US Medical Schools. The article was picked up in major media markets across the country.

FOX News Channel aired multiple stories on TCMC which featured our leadership and students, including an 8-minute roundtable discussion on FOX's The Strategy Room. PBS also ran a story which mentioned TCMC in The News Hour.



Dean D'Alessandri talks with media following MBS Commencement on May 1.

In early March, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* spent a day on campus talking with the Dean, donors, faculty, students and staff for a feature article printed in April, <u>Remedy for region's doctor shortfall</u>. Philadelphia's <u>WHYY</u> also aired radio broadcasts with TCMC faculty.

Other media opportunities have included comments in trade publications including <u>American Academy of Family Physicians</u>, <u>Association of American Medical Colleges</u>, <u>Inside Higher Ed</u>, and <u>The Lancet</u>.

You can read all of TCMC's news articles, including numerous articles by local media, in our online Newsroom.

State of PA hosts Future MDs

WVIA President Bill Kelly hosted faculty, staff and students in late January for an hour-long program titled "Meet the Future MDs." The program, broadcast live on the local PBS affiliate, featured several medical students, Master of Biomedical Science students and a wide range of faculty and staff. You can watch the complete program here.

Community Experience Week 3 – early patient interactions for medical students

Community Health Research Projects were the main focus of the third community experience week for TCMC medical students (see page 3 for Research Day information). In addition, as part of Dr. John McGeehan's course, *The Profession of Medicine*, students spent a day with their Continuity Mentor, completing a full patient interview and most components of a physical exam on a patient they had never met before. The guidance given by many local physicians, who volunteered their time during the one week experiences, laid a solid foundation upon which the medical students were able to build skills learned in the classroom and through standardized patients in the areas of professionalism and interviewing coupled with the art of the



physical exam. These experiences have proven critical to their early understanding of medicine from the patient's perspective.

Information received from this patient encounter was prepared in the classic medical format with a problem list, including a differential diagnosis for each problem. Students completed this assignment by pulling from their course work, personal experience and library research. The documents were sent to Dr. McGeehan for review and then to their Continuity Mentor for comment.

According to Dr. McGeehan, the submitted material was incredibly thorough and resulted in 5-10 page documents. Some physicians commented that the student documentation was "better than a resident would do" and that "my student found out things about my patient I did not know."

Few medical schools produce first year students with this degree of early patient interaction and clinical skills – one of the key differentiating factors at TCMC.

Soon in the classroom the students will learn how to present cases to each other and to a physician – communication skills that will serve TCMC students well throughout their careers.

Photo caption: Continuity mentor Dr. Mary Elizabeth Sokach and Ryan Sugarman recently discussed their experience working together at the Wilkes-Barre and Scranton clinical faculty meeting. Sarah Nystrom and her continuity mentor, Dr. Guy Giordano, presented at the Williamsport meeting.

People in the News Page 10











Castro Stalk Hemak-Thomas D'Alessandri Thompson

Two named to AAMC committees

Ida L. Castro, MA, JD, Vice President for Social Justice and Diversity and Debra Stalk, MPH, Director of Admissions, have been selected to represent TCMC on committees for the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC).

Ms. Castro will serve as the Northeast Region Representative for the AAMC's Group on Diversity and Inclusion (GDI) Steering Committee. During her two-year term, Ms. Castro will work with GDI Steering Committee members to ensure that GDI is responsive to the needs of the medical community and aligned with AAMC mission and strategies.

GDI seeks to assist in the advancement of diversity across the entire professional spectrum; it will also underscore the importance of addressing the issues to those historically underrepresented in medicine and never lose sight of the ultimate goals of providing care to the underserved and eliminating health disparities. For more information about AAMC's GDI please visit www.aamc.org/members/gdi/

Ms. Stalk will serve on the Advisory Committee of the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). Her three-year term will involve working with members of the AMCAS Advisory Committee to ensure that AMCAS is responsive to the needs of the admissions community and aligned with AAMC mission and strategies.

AMCAS is a non-profit, centralized application processing service for first-time applicants applying to participating U.S. medical schools. The AMCAS Advisory Committee seeks to represent the diverse perspectives and expertise of AAMC member medical schools and other stakeholders, such as health professions and advisors and medical school applicants.

Castro & Hemak-Thomas named among Top 25 Women in Business

The Northeastern Pennsylvania chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners, in partnership with the *NEPA Business Journal*, announced the selection of 25 outstanding women in business.

TCMC congratulates Ida L. Castro, JD, Vice President of Social Justice and Diversity, and TCMC Board of Trustees member Linda Thomas-Hemak, MD, Director of the Scranton Temple Residency Program on their recognition. Castro and Thomas-Hemak were selected from among 150 women nominated.

Dr. D'Alessandri receives recognition

Robert M. D'Alessandri, MD, TCMC President and Founding Dean, received the Presidential Recognition Award by the Lackawanna Medical Society on March 21 at the Scranton Cultural Center for this outstanding contributions to the medical community.

Wayne Thompson receives board appointment

The Delaware Valley Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (DVHIMSS) Board announces the appointment of Wayne Thompson, Associate Dean for Technology and CIO at TCMC, as the Chapter HIE Liason to the HIMSS national organization.

Ida Castro receives board appointment

Ida Castro, MA, JD, Vice President of Social Justice and Diversity, has been named to the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.