

WINTER 2014-2015

The Journal



TCMC[®]
THE COMMONWEALTH
MEDICAL COLLEGE

WHERE A Residency Story are they now?

Kevin Musto, MD '14

The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education Residency Program

The Wright Center, Scranton, PA

Specialty: Internal Medicine

Hometown: Pittston, PA



PHOTOS BY SALLY ROBERTSON/COMMONWEALTH HEALTH: Kevin Musto, MD '14, pictured with Arthur Price, RN, in the Intensive Care Unit at Moses Taylor Hospital, an affiliate of Commonwealth Health.

Kevin Musto, MD '14, joined The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education Residency Program in Internal Medicine. Dr. Musto has quickly transitioned from medical student to resident. According to Kevin, "In residency, you need to put all of the information you learned to use. In medical school, the worst case scenario was that you got a question wrong, but in the hospital your knowledge has real life implications. While this is a daunting proposition, it also leads to residency being extremely rewarding. Each day you get to actually make decisions that will positively affect your patients.

"TCMC really excels at preparing its students in the gathering of information and the presentation of this information to attending physicians."

Although the hours are long, the time spent with patients and hearing them thank you for helping them makes it all worth it."

Kevin said, "I feel that I am miles ahead of other residents in my interaction with patients and my presentation skills. Because we started from day one at TCMC interacting with patients and learning how to do a history and physical, I feel like I am much

more efficient at my job and I can spend my extra time developing a connection with my patients." He is learning to put his knowledge to the test.

Kevin's advice for graduating medical students: "Take advantage of the opportunities you are given in the third and fourth years. During this time you are given a lot of leeway in your education and it is important to maximize this. Take these years seriously even though you won't always have someone watching over your shoulder to make sure you are doing what you should be doing."

A Message from the President and Dean



Six years ago, 65 aspiring physicians took a chance on a startup independent medical school in northeast Pennsylvania opening in temporary classrooms.

Today, The Commonwealth Medical College (TCMC) has much to celebrate.

This year, we welcomed our second class of 100 MD students and our sixth class of 66 MBS students. Eighteen of our MBS alumni are now in the MD Class of 2018. Four of our new medical students are graduates of Regional Education Academy for Careers in Health – Higher Education Initiative (REACH-HEI), our pipeline program to bring underrepresented minorities and disadvantaged students from the region into medical careers.

In July, TCMC received the much anticipated news that both the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) and Middle States Commission for Higher Education granted TCMC full accreditation. A mere "thank you" does not begin to express my gratitude for the years of hard work by faculty, staff, volunteer clinical faculty and students.

Both the LCME and Middle States acknowledged our improved finances and deemed TCMC sustainable. For an independent medical college, especially as new as TCMC, this is outstanding. We thank Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania and many other donors for their unwavering generosity.

Even before accreditation, TCMC's Board of Trustees had decided to stop seeking affiliation with another university or hospital. As an independent medical college, we are raising money successfully and growing our endowment. In 2015, we will launch an ambitious scholarship campaign to help ease the burden of debt faced by our students.

TCMC has a unique advantage in educating future physicians because our students gain hands-on experience from over 1,000 volunteer clinical faculty throughout 17 counties in northeast and north central Pennsylvania. Students are required to perform community service and pursue research projects in quality improvement and community health.

Full accreditation is a huge achievement and it speaks to all of TCMC's enormous accomplishments. Students and faculty are publishing their work in prestigious journals and speaking at international conferences. Our students pass the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 and Step 2 exams at high rates. Most importantly, through a very competitive process, the members of both of our MD graduating classes have matched with residencies at some of the best teaching hospitals and community-based residencies around the country.

Accreditation is only the beginning. In this issue of *The Journal*, you will read about many exciting activities and initiatives in pursuit of our mission. In subsequent issues, we will highlight even more. TCMC's impact will continue to grow, through our students, our alumni, our dedicated faculty and staff, our corps of volunteer clinical faculty and through the patients our students will eventually serve. Together, we have changed the future, but our work is just beginning.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Scheinman, MD

Dr. Scheinman appointed to Committee

The General Assembly of Pennsylvania has appointed Steven J. Scheinman, MD, President and Dean of TCMC, to the Joint State Government Commission's Advisory Committee on Physician Shortages in Pennsylvania. The group will study physician shortages, propose strategies for eliminating them, and report its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives.

Dr. Scheinman said, "Physician shortages in many specialties plague most areas of the state. I applaud the legislature for creating the commission and charging it to recommend strategies to address this, and I am honored to be part of the process."

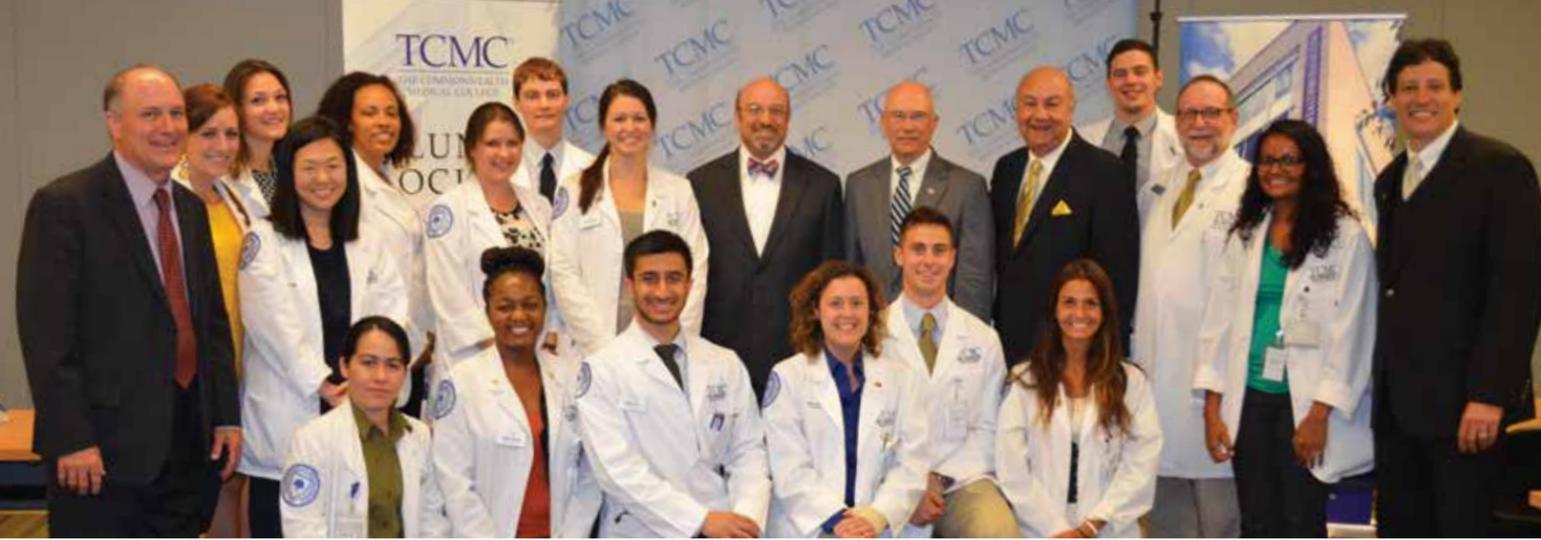
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ON THE COVER:

Keith Shenberger, MD, Associate Dean for West Regional Campus, cloaks Mary Meadowcroft, MBS '14, with her white coat at the MD Class of 2018 White Coat Ceremony.



Local dignitaries with faculty, staff, and students at TCMC's West Regional Campus located in Williamsport Regional Medical Center

A DREAM COME TRUE: TCMC Earns Full Accreditation

The Liaison Committee for Medical Education and Middle States Commission on Higher Education grant TCMC full accreditation

Everyone at TCMC was delighted to learn in Summer 2014 that we had been awarded full accreditation by both the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

The LCME is the council that accredits programs leading to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree in the United States and Canada. Though it is a non-governmental entity, the LCME is recognized as the reliable accreditation authority by the US Department of Education, by Congress in health-related laws, and by state and territorial medical licensing boards. Middle States is a non-governmental membership association that accredits institutions of higher education in this mid-Atlantic portion of the country, and is dedicated to quality assurance through peer evaluation.



Denise S. Cesare, President and CEO of Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and Cor Catena, CEO of Commonwealth Health and Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, at TCMC's South Regional Campus in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital

detailed self-studies and both made week-long site visits earlier this year. The reviewers examined all aspects of the College's programs and functions.

Both agencies praised TCMC's innovative curriculum. The LCME reported, "The curriculum is structured to provide longitudinal patient care experiences that emphasize continuity of care, the psychosocial environment in which care is provided, and interactions with patients and their families. These experiences occur in primary care settings and span the full curriculum."

Both accrediting agencies concluded that the College's finances are sustainable.

The TCMC community celebrated full accreditation with press conferences at all of our campuses in July. In August, the occasion was marked at the "Williamsport Welcomes the World" festival that is part of the Little League World Series and with TCMC Day at a Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders double-header.

"We are incredibly proud of both of these accomplishments," said Steven J. Scheinman, MD, President and Dean of TCMC. "It shows the faith that this entire region has had in our College was justified."

Earning full accreditation by both the LCME and Middle States involved significant efforts over several years. Both agencies required



Students at the Medical Sciences Building, the site of TCMC's North Regional Campus in Scranton



L to R: Jakob Saidman, MD; Melissa Saidman; William F. Iobst, MD, FACP; Sheila Saidman, Esq.; Steven R. Kafriksen, MD



L to R: Carolyn Sciblo, MD; Brian Pinkosky, MD; Alan G. Goldstein; Dylan Degol, MD; Geetika Gupta, MD

Compassion AND Professionalism

White Coat Ceremonies are a rite of passage that welcome new medical students into the profession and emphasize the importance of compassion and professionalism. On August 8, family, friends, and members of TCMC's community joined the Class of 2018 for this tradition.

One hundred medical students admitted to TCMC's sixth Doctor of Medicine (MD)

class received their white coats - the mantle of the medical profession - in a hands-on experience that symbolizes the bonding process between physician and patient. Students then recited an oath, which represents their public acknowledgment of their responsibilities as future physicians and their obligations to their future patients.

Each year, The Dr. Lester Saidman Memorial Lecture will be the keynote address at TCMC's White Coat Ceremony in honor of Dr. Lester Saidman, a well-respected physician and educator in Luzerne County. The children of Dr. Saidman hope these lectures will honor his life by emphasizing the student's obligation in the doctor-patient relationship.



William F. Iobst, MD, FACP, Vice President for Academic and Clinical Affairs and Vice Dean at TCMC, presented the inaugural Dr. Lester Saidman Memorial Lecture.

This year also marked the establishment of The Stanley J. Dudrick, MD and Alan G. Goldstein Endowment Fund, which serves to defray the cost of white coats for TCMC students. It was established through the generosity of Alan G. Goldstein, donor and strong supporter, in appreciation of his friendship with TCMC Professor of Surgery, Stanley Dudrick, MD, FACS.

"At the heart of today's white coat ceremony is the belief that humanism is a foundational pillar of our profession. As you don your white coats for the first time, I challenge each of you to begin a thoughtful and reflective career in medicine."

WILLIAM F. IOBST, MD, FACP



A FOCUS ON BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

In August, TCMC enrolled 66 students from around the country into its accelerated Master of Biomedical Sciences (MBS) Class of 2015. The MBS program is heavily focused on biomedical sciences and enhances leadership growth.

TCMC'S MD CLASS OF 2018:

Number of Applicants	5,971
Class Size	100
Pennsylvania Residents	78
Northeast and North Central Pennsylvania Residents	36
Men	50
Women	50
Under-represented Minorities	11
First Generation College Students	23
Average Overall GPA	3.53
Average MCAT	30

TCMC'S MBS CLASS OF 2015:

Class Size	66
Pennsylvania Residents	23
Northeast and North Central Pennsylvania Residents	13
Men	38
Women	28
Under-represented Minorities	9
First Generation College Students	37
Average Overall GPA	3.23
Average MCAT	27

Student Spotlight: Abdul Hussain Azizi, MD Class of 2018

First-year medical student Hussain Azizi is well on his way to achieving his dreams. His recently widowed mother brought her seven young children from Afghanistan to America two weeks after the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The Azizi family bravely built a new life in Scranton.



Hussain and his sisters have all participated in REACH-HEI at TCMC. Farzana is studying Nursing at Penn State University's Worthington Scranton campus and Farah is a senior at Scranton High School. All of Hussain's six siblings are either in school or succeeding in health-related professions.

Hussain said, "We found out very fast we were coming to America. My mom had to uproot us and start over from scratch. She didn't speak English or have any friends here, but she knew her children would get the education they couldn't have in Afghanistan and reach their potential."

Hussain wanted to become a doctor after helping his mother with medical appointments and seeing firsthand how she improved from receiving quality health care.

As a college sophomore, Hussain participated in TCMC's REACH-HEI program. He learned how to apply to medical school and did a research internship with cardiologist Samir Pancholy, MD, Clinical Professor of Medicine.

His own pediatrician, TCMC's Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics Paul Tomcykoski, DO, has also been a powerful mentor. "He is so passionate and cares so much," Hussain said. "No matter what specialty I choose, I want to emulate him to the best of my ability."

Hussain chose TCMC because of its location and culture. He said, "I'm blessed that such a great medical school opened 2 miles from my house. I interviewed at many med schools and never saw this close-knit of a community anywhere else. TCMC is the perfect fit for me."

TCMC Receives \$3.2 MILLION GRANT

On October 14, The Northeastern Pennsylvania Health Care Foundation (NEPA HCF) announced a \$3.2 million grant to TCMC. The grant will be awarded over an 11 year period and will fund four-year scholarships for incoming students from northeast Pennsylvania who are enrolled in TCMC's MD program.

Candidates will be screened through TCMC's admissions process, beginning with the 2015-2016 academic year. These need-based scholarships, up to \$40,000 per year, will be awarded to students with prior community service from Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Wyoming counties who want to practice medicine in northeast Pennsylvania.

James Clemente, Chair of the Board of Directors of NEPA HCF, said, "There is a synergy of goals between TCMC and NEPA HCF in that we are both committed to working towards reducing the physician shortage in our region. The Foundation's Board of Governors feels that supporting TCMC will have a positive impact on community health in northeast Pennsylvania for many years to come."

Steven J. Scheinman, MD, President and Dean of TCMC, said, "I applaud and thank NEPA HCF for this very significant commitment to our students and the health of the region. It will make a substantial difference for at least 20 medical students over the next decade. These scholarships will help us recruit bright



L to R: First Row: Steven J. Scheinman, MD, President and Dean; James Clemente, NEPA HCF Board Chairman. Second Row: Marise Garofalo, Vice President for Institutional Advancement; Linda Berardi-Demo, EdD, Associate Dean for Admissions & Student Affairs; Natalie Gelb, NEPA HCF Board; Kerry O'Grady, NEPA HCF Board; Michele McGowan, NEPA HCF Board; Laura Ducceschi, President & CEO Scranton Area Foundation/ NEPA HCF Administrator; Andrea Mulrine, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations. Third Row: Robert Naismith, PhD, TCMC Board; Robert Wright, MD, TCMC Board; Jeremiah Eagen, MD, NEPA HCF Board; Honorable Terrence Nealon, NEPA HCF Board. Fourth Row: Robert Knowles, NEPA HCF Board; Jim Mileski, NEPA HCF Board; Christopher Dressel, MD, NEPA HCF Board.

students from this region who are economically disadvantaged but aspire to be doctors. Our mission and the goals of the Foundation in creating these scholarships are completely congruent."

REACH-HEI to Continue in SCRANTON AND HAZLETON

In 2010, TCMC launched the Regional Education Academy for Careers in Health - Higher Education Initiative (REACH-HEI) to provide academic and career support from high school through college to the health professions. A federal grant for \$2.5 million originally supported REACH-HEI. Over 400 students participated, five of whom are now at TCMC.

REACH-HEI's federal grant has concluded, but Ida Castro continues to seek new funding. The Hazleton Area School District has earmarked \$111,000 to deliver programming to 75 students over the next three years.

In addition, with \$38,000 from the Scranton Area Foundation, Ms. Castro has also developed the REACH-HEI Health Education Leadership Program (HELP) between TCMC, The Women's Resource Center and the Center for Independent Living. REACH-HEI HELP will provide 25 high school sophomores with courses and projects linked to behavioral health careers.



PHOTO BY ERIC CONOVER/HAZLETON STANDARD SPEAKER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

L to R: Ida Castro, JD, Vice President of Government and Community Relations and Chief Diversity Officer at TCMC; Dr. Francis Antonelli, Hazleton Area School District Superintendent; Steven J. Scheinman, MD, President and Dean at TCMC; Marie Ernst, Principal of the Hazleton Area Academy of Sciences. In back are some of the students who will be enrolled in the REACH-HEI program.

Jeffrey Holt, MD, Professor of Pathology,
with Monique Monard, MD2



Breast Cancer Prevention

ITALIAN HERITAGE MAY PROVIDE THE KEY

Rose Cassetti* was born in 1941 at home in Jessup, PA. Her parents immigrated from Italy to Lackawanna County around the turn of the century. During this era, the men worked in the coal mines and the women raised large families. Their children grew up, married the children of Italian immigrants from their neighborhoods and churches, and remained in their communities. More than a century after Rose's parents' arrival, this tradition continues. "Living here is so firmly entrenched in my family," Rose said. "It's in our DNA."

Unfortunately, Rose's family might have something darker in their DNA: her mother died of breast cancer. Her sister and several nieces and cousins have had breast or ovarian cancer. "Many of my friends have had breast or ovarian cancers, and not all have survived," she said. "I am always worried I'm next."

Jeffrey Holt, MD, Professor of Pathology at TCMC, wants to put Rose's mind at ease. He has been an active breast cancer researcher since the early 1980's and was among the first to study BRCA1 and BRCA2 in the mid 1990's. He and TCMC colleagues Mark White, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, and Betsy Mead, RN, BSN, Clinical Research Associate, are conducting a study with local Italian-Americans to identify their risk of genetic breast and ovarian cancer with the goal of developing a diagnostic blood test. If the blood test shows the mutation, women can take preventive measures.

The population they're studying has what's known as the founder effect, which is gene magnification that occurs when a small group from the same community breaks off and establishes a new population. In this case, a small group of Italians immigrated to America, established themselves here, and cultivated distinct and

relatively homogenous neighborhoods and enclaves.

Dr. White explains that people in such tightly-knit communities tend to meet, marry, and have children with persons from the same or adjacent social circles. This means in a small gene pool, inherited traits show up more frequently. "If the odds of breast cancer are 1 in 10,000 in a general population, but two people with the same genetic mutation meet and have children, the odds go way, way up in the following generations. The mutation becomes more prevalent in that population from which persons are choosing spouses and with whom they are having children. Each generation of pairing and procreating within the same gene pool increases or magnifies the mutation."

Dr. Holt is examining a breast cancer mutation that occurs in descendants from the original Italian immigrants who settled in small towns in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties. Dr. Holt and Dr. White are interested in these microcosms of very well preserved founder effects within the past four generations. People whose ancestors came to northeast Pennsylvania over a century ago have stayed here. "There's been surprisingly little migration out of the area," remarked Dr. Holt.

Rose explained that no one in her culture ever moved away, because a century ago, coming to America was a one-way trip. "When my parents left Italy, they never saw their own parents and relatives again. Everyone I knew heard stories like that and equated moving away with loss of family," she said.

Therefore, the Italian-Americans have given TCMC researchers a rare opportunity for scientists to study a small, well-preserved gene pool.

"Figuring out who's going to get cancer can be like looking for a needle in a haystack. The number of people you have to screen is so big that it's impossible," Holt said.

"Genetic mutations occur in .02% of the population. So instead of screening everyone for cancer, you screen for the mutation, which is easy, fast, and inexpensive. You shrink the haystack that way. Because then you only look for cancer in the people who have the mutation."

Dr. Holt's research isn't new. Scientists discovered the so-called "breast cancer genes" BRCA1 and BRCA2 over 20 years ago, but Dr. Holt is putting a local twist on it.

Local Italian-Americans provide the perfect scenario to study a founder effect: A small, ethnically homogenous community, with high rates of breast and ovarian cancers.

Dr. Holt says normally, the problem with finding genetic mutations is that you have to wait until someone gets cancer, and then you have to screen the family. "It's a kind of cancer prevention that is after the fact. We call that secondary prevention. It's not the ideal situation." Dr. Holt and Dr. White want to figure out preemptively who's at risk so they can be screened and take preventive measures.

Dr. Holt's goal is to develop a blood test for the Italian-American women in this



Kelvin Monroe, MD2, and Michelle Mitchell, MD2, with Mark White, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Epidemiology

region. "We don't want to wait until someone has a tumor removed, and then look for genetic mutations in the tumor. We want to screen the women before they get tumors and prevent cancer altogether," he said.

Dr. White helped Dr. Holt with the study design and methodology to make sure they are asking the right questions, measuring the data appropriately, and drawing the right conclusions.

Holt and other colleagues have previously published a way to determine who exactly has mutations based on samples of their breast tumors – but that's secondary prevention. Two TCMC students and a REACH-HEI student have been involved with this research. They separated the DNA by size to find the mutations in the breast tumors.

First, Dr. Holt and his colleagues have to get a statistically significant number of this Italian mutation from the breast and ovarian samples. They are looking for a high frequency of the same mutation. Dr. White will then add his epidemiological and public health expertise to help the research team determine the value of doing the screening, as well as decide on an effective methodology and approach.

Dr. Holt said The National Cancer Institute was surprised that northeast Pennsylvania really does still have ethnic neighborhoods and zip codes. So he has developed a survey to ask people if their parents and grandparents are Italian.

Betsy Mead will serve as research coordinator, getting consent from subjects who may be at risk.

Dr. Holt decided to screen by ethnicity because he saw his colleagues in Europe and Canada draw sample sizes by ethnicity. America prides itself on being a melting pot, and therefore does not split up sample sizes by ethnicity. However, he noticed when moving here that the ethnic groups are still very exclusive; but, it's only true for one more generation. This is probably the very last generation in our community where both parents are the same ethnicity.

Rose Cassetti is excited about this research. "It's great there's a medical college in my own community and where there's research that might save the lives of my family and friends. I worry all the time. This gives me hope."

*Name has been changed to protect privacy



ADVOCATES for the COMMUNITY

In recognition of National Primary Care Week, students of TCMC partnered with Scranton Primary Health Care Center and National Health Service Corps scholars to host the third annual Steamtown Health Fair on October 11 at TCMC's Medical Sciences Building in Scranton.

This free, family-friendly health fair offered the public access to several local organizations that promote well-being and healthy behaviors in the community. Over 150 attendees were able to receive free screenings, donate blood, and learn valuable health, nutrition, and counseling information. Other highlights included Zumba demonstrations, children's activities, raffles, a bake sale to benefit the ThinkBIG Pediatric Cancer Fund, and much more.

"It was so wonderful to see members of the community taking an active role in their health."

SHANNON LANZO, MD2



SAVE THE DATES!

Friday, March 20, 2015: MD Class of 2015 Match Day • Sunday, May 10, 2015: Commencement 2015



L to R: Laura Anderson, MD2; Steven Aussenberg, MD4; Morgan Rogers, MD3

Champions of FAMILY MEDICINE

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) awarded TCMC's Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) the 2014 Program of Excellence Award for being the most improved FMIG in the nation at their annual conference in Kansas City, MO on August 8.

FMIGs are medical school-sponsored, student- and faculty-run organizations that give students a chance to learn more about family medicine through regular meetings, workshops, leadership development opportunities, and community and clinical experiences. The Program of Excellence Awards recognize FMIGs for their outstanding performance in organizational operation, community service, promoting the value of family medicine as primary care, promoting the scope of family medicine, exposure to family physicians, professional development, and measures of success.

The goal of TCMC's FMIG, which is only in its third year, is to increase students' awareness and knowledge of family medicine and other primary care specialties through a diversified and patient-centered lens. The group engages students in community service projects and offers clinical skill workshops. It has been extremely active in northeast Pennsylvania. Most notably, in January and March, they collaborated with other students and organizations to offer several workshops on enrolling in the Affordable Care Act exchanges. Nearly 200 previously uninsured people signed up, earning TCMC students personal recognition from Vice President Joe Biden.

LEADER IN PRIMARY CARE

In August, Kristina Zimmerman, fourth-year medical student at TCMC, was named a student representative to the board of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). In this role, Zimmerman will share in the responsibility for the overall control and administration of the AAFP and for the development of its policies. Over her one-year term, she will represent the interests of a membership with diverse backgrounds, practice settings, and professional interests both as a spokesperson working with the media and the public and through interactions with individual members and constituent chapters. She will also participate in organizational strategic planning and the development of goals and metrics.



NEW FACULTY MEMBERS



Carmine Cerra, MD

Associate Professor
of Pathology
Department
of Basic Sciences



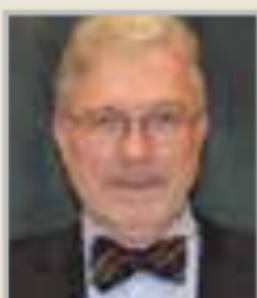
Glen Digwood, DO

Assistant Professor
of Medicine
Department of Clinical
Sciences



Deborah Hocko, RN, MS

Instructor of Medicine
Department of Clinical
Sciences



Samuel Lesko, MD, MPH

Professor of Family
Medicine and Epidemiology
Department of Family,
Community and Rural Health



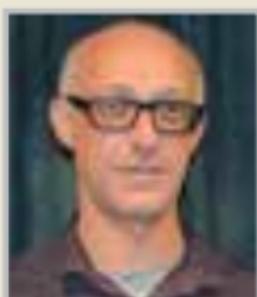
William Miller, PhD, MHA

Assistant Professor
of Family Medicine
Department of Family,
Community and Rural Health



April Troy, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor
of Pediatrics
Regional Education
Coordinator of Pediatrics,
North Campus
Department of Family,
Community and Rural Health



Kalman Winston, PhD

Assistant Professor
of Family Medicine
Department of Family,
Community and Rural Health



**Abhishek Yadav,
MBBS, MSc**

Associate Professor
of Anatomy
Department of Basic
Sciences



Stanley Dudrick, MD, FACS, at the Polish hospital named in his honor.

High Honors for Dr. Dudrick

In Skawina, Poland, a hospital stands in honor of Stanley Dudrick, MD, FACS. Dr. Dudrick, Professor of Surgery at TCMC, traveled to “The Stanley Dudrick, MD, Memorial Hospital” in June 2014 for a dedication and to see the new construction. Administrators chose to name the hospital after Dr. Dudrick because of his invention, development, and clinical application of total intravenous feeding. When he returned from Poland, Dr. Dudrick received the Excellence in Nutrition Science, Excellence in Medical Research, and Excellence in Integrative Medicine Awards at the Sacred Fire of Liberty Gala in Cambridge, MA in September 2014. Most recently, the American College of Surgeons honored Dr. Dudrick as a “Hero of American Surgery” during their Clinical Congress in October 2014 in San Francisco. He is hailed as “The Father of Intravenous Feeding,” for his development of total parenteral nutrition which has saved millions of lives. Most extremely low-weight babies would not have survived infancy without Dr. Dudrick’s work.

Administrators conduct a tour of “The Stanley Dudrick, MD, Memorial Hospital.”



Dr. Martin receiving the award from William Cotton, MD, FAAP, Nationwide Children’s Hospital (left), and Joel Brenner, MD, FAAP, Chair of the Council on Sports Medicine and Fitness (right).

DR. MARTIN RECEIVES AWARD

Thomas Martin, MD, Professor and Education Director of Pediatrics, received the Thomas E. Shaffer MD Award for Pediatric Sports Medicine at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics on October 11 in San Diego, CA. The American Academy of Pediatrics’ Council on Sports Medicine nominated Dr. Martin because of his lifetime contributions to the field of pediatric sports medicine.

DR. IOBST HONORED



William F. Iobst, MD, FACP, Vice President for Academic and Clinical Affairs and Vice Dean at TCMC, received the 2014 Special

Recognition Award from the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) on September 12 in Washington, DC.

The AAIM selected Dr. Iobst for his work advancing competency-based medical education within the internal medicine community.

Steven J. Scheinman, MD, President and Dean of TCMC, said, “This national recognition highlights that Dr. Iobst is a respected and visionary leader in the world of medical education and training.”



TCMC® *Gala* 2014

TCMC's 6th Annual Scholarship Gala grossed over \$378,380 to benefit student scholarships. At the event on October 18 at Mohegan Sun in Wilkes-Barre, the College honored Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania for their unwavering support and for their continued commitment to improving the health of our region.



Julie Mercadante, MD1

TCMC Scholarships Awarded

The TCMC Scholarship was established as part of the annual Employee Giving Campaign. Last year, TCMC staff and faculty members demonstrated a remarkable spirit with 64% participation. We are proud to announce this year's scholar:

Julie Mercadante is a graduate of E.L. Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre, and graduated from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia with a Bachelor's Degree in biochemistry. She was a member of two national honor societies: Alpha Chi, for the top 10% of juniors and seniors, and Alpha Lambda Delta, a freshman honor society.

"I am so thankful for the scholarship that was made possible through the generosity and support of the faculty and staff at TCMC. I feel very empowered knowing that so many people believe that I could one day become a great physician. Thank you!"

JULIE MERCADANTE, MD1

Greg Mendez is the first recipient of the newly established TCMC Alumni Scholarship, formed by the Charter Class and increased by the generous support of the Class of 2014 as their Senior Class Gift. Alumni have the opportunity to engage in truly making a difference in the lives of current and future TCMC students.

"Thank you so much to the TCMC alumni and community for awarding me the TCMC Alumni Scholarship. The idea of creating this scholarship is in and of itself a great testament to the character of all those who learn, work and serve at TCMC. I am truly honored to be this year's recipient. I take much pride in our school and am inspired by the efforts taken to mold TCMC into what we, as students, and the community need it to be. The recent accreditation status is a prime example of our vast potential and I look forward to the future of TCMC."

GREG MENDEZ, MD3



To make a donation or for more information, please contact the Office of Annual Giving at 570.504.9619 or visit www.tcmc.edu/donate.



L to R: Pat Atkins; John Atkins; Kathleen Graff; Phil Stevens

MOST SUCCESSFUL GOLF CLASSIC TO DATE

Held on June 9 at Glenmaura National Golf Club in Moosic, TCMC's Golf Classic grossed over \$81,000 to benefit student scholarships. 132 golfers participated in the 6th annual event.



L to R: Bruce Sichel; Pete Danchak

DONOR REPORT

[This report recognizes gifts received in fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014), including any matching gifts.]

\$50,000+

Anonymous
Sondra and Morey Myers, Esq.
Taylor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
Health & Wellness Fund of The Luzerne Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

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Steven Kafrisen, MD and Sheila Saidman, Esq.
Thomas F. and Flora K. Karam
Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Inc.
Carol and David Greenwald, MD
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S. R. Wojdak & Associates, LP
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Melissa and Bruce Saidman, MD
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Scholarship Feature:

Abbigail Woll Receives The Dr. Thomas J. Martin and Rev. Dr. Lois D. Martin Annual Scholarship

Abbigail Woll is a first-year medical student at TCMC and the first person to receive The Dr. Thomas J. Martin and Rev. Dr. Lois D. Martin Annual Scholarship. Dr. Thomas Martin, Professor of Pediatrics at TCMC, along with his wife, established the merit-based scholarship in 2014 to ease the financial burden of an incoming MD1 student from the region.

"I was not expecting a scholarship but in receiving it, I immediately felt supported, as if I were already a member of the TCMC community," said Abbi.

"Having the academic and emotional support given by TCMC and the financial support given by the Martins really has made the College a new home to me — a place where I know I'll accomplish great things," she added.

Abbi will be able to extend the impact of being a scholarship recipient: "I hope that one day I can give another TCMC student the opportunity of receiving a scholarship and help fund their dreams of becoming a physician," she stated.

Abbigail Woll

Class Year:
MD '18

Hometown:
Danville, PA

Regional Campus:
North



That feeling is mutual. "Lois and I have received so much from so many people. We have always believed in giving back in any way we can. Medicine is a wonderful profession and we want to encourage excellent people to enter this field," said Dr. Martin. "I look forward to watching Abbi grow and become an excellent physician," he added.

To make a donation or for more information, please contact the Office of Annual Giving at 570.504.9619 or visit www.tcmc.edu/donate.