



Photo courtesy of Guy Cali Associates Inc.

eCHECK-UP

An electronic newsletter for clinical faculty of The Commonwealth Medical College

Spring 2016

Addressing Communities' Needs: The Opioid Epidemic

The opioid epidemic was the focus of the 2016 Fall Keystone Symposium. More than 100 healthcare professionals gathered for lectures and a panel discussion with community leaders who battle the opioid crisis every day. The Lackawanna-Susquehanna Office for Drug and Alcohol Programs partnered with TCMC to raise awareness on how prescription pain-killer misuse is leading to a heroin epidemic in our region and throughout the United States.

Margaret Jarvis, M.D., medical director of Marworth Treatment Center, served as keynote speaker addressing *Quality Healthcare for the Opiate Addicted Patient*, followed by John Boll, D.O., Susquehanna Health, addressing *Best Practices in Pain Management* and Kathleen Hugo sharing her story of recovery from opioid addiction. The symposium concluded with a panel discussion with representatives from law enforcement, addiction services, pharmacy and the legal system.

With deaths from prescription medication and heroin reaching epidemic proportions in the U.S. and northeast and central Pennsylvania, recognizing the signs and symptoms of abuse, knowing where to refer addicted patients and understanding current prescribing practices is critical to saving lives and halting this epidemic.

Healthcare providers can learn more about prescribing guidelines from the Pennsylvania Medical Society at: http://www.ddap.pa.gov/Document%20Library/Prescriber_Guidelines_Chronic_Pain.pdf. Additional resources for patients of all ages can be found at www.drugabuse.gov.



Michelle Smith (right) from the Lackawanna Susquehanna Office for Drug and Alcohol Programs shared prevention literature with attendees.

Protecting Our Children: A Medical/Legal Event

Protecting Our Children, a medical/legal partnership, featured experts on child trafficking, pedophilia and victims turned perpetrators. Partners included the Lackawanna and Luzerne County Medical Societies, the Lackawanna and Luzerne Bar Associations and the Children's Advocacy Center/NEPA. Continuing education credits were given for healthcare providers and lawyers.

Speakers and panelists on child sexual abuse topics included Christiana Dominguez and Jamie Chubb, from VAST, (The Valley Against Sex Trafficking), a coalition of professionals and community members dedicated to eliminating human sex trafficking in the Lehigh Valley. From law enforcement, speakers included Michelle Olshefski, assistant US attorney and Justin Leri, PA Office of Attorney General; Jenny Roberts, assistant district attorney, Luzerne County and Robert Klein, district attorney, Susquehanna County. Representatives from social work agencies representing abused children included: Dominick DiSalvo, Kidspeace; Janine Fortney, LSW, Children's Center of Susquehanna and Wyoming Counties; Michael Novinger, M.D., and Michael Rogan, M.D., Children's Advocacy Center and Tara Williams, Office of Youth and Family Services, Lackawanna County.



Students planted pinwheels on the TCMC lawn in honor of Child Abuse Awareness Month.

VAST reports that human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal activity in the world and sexual assault will affect approximately one in six boys and one in four girls before the age of 18, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

For more information go to <http://www.thevast.org/resources/>

The Commonwealth Medical College

Department of Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development



Pictured left to right: Mary Theresa Mazur, Jill Schroth,
Gloria Colosimo and Andrea DiMattia

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The Commonwealth Medical College is committed
to non-discrimination in all employment and
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eCHECK-IN

Updates from the Regional Deans

From Guthrie

Guthrie is pleased to contribute to developing tomorrow's doctors, one student at a time. Almost one year ago, we welcomed the first MD3 TCMC students to Guthrie. As we near the conclusion of this first year affiliated with TCMC, Guthrie would like to give special thanks to everyone who was involved in this endeavor. As we look to next year, we are honored to announce that seven of our current MD3 students are going to be spending part of their MD4 time on our campus. We are enthusiastic to welcome the class of 2018.

~Nancy Pease for the Regional Associate Dean, Guthrie Campus

From the North

Now that the excitement of graduation is over, the North campus is getting ready to welcome our incoming third-year class. We are expecting 37 students in the North campus, including 10 in the Pocono region. The regional team is working hard to ensure a smooth start to the new academic year. We are also working on an improved orientation program to help acquaint the students to the clinical year. I would like to extend my thanks to the entire regional team, especially Ms. Nora Alu and Dr. Elizabeth McGill. Their work is invaluable, and I want to extend my special thanks and gratitude to them. We are looking forward to a great year!

~Dr. Shubhra Shetty, Regional Associate Dean, North Campus

From the South

In an effort to increase awareness of health careers and The Commonwealth Medical College among high school students in our region, the South campus is excited and proud to have been selected to pilot several programs this spring in area high schools. Several of our MD2 and MD3 students have volunteered to participate and are looking forward to being a part of this wonderful initiative. The students have begun working in their groups to develop the student presentation and to create a pre-test/post survey based on the goals of the program. Our first scheduled program for Luzerne County is scheduled to take place at Crestwood High School.

The South campus also extends a warm welcome to Michele Garrison. In Michele's role as regional education specialist (RES), she will work closely with the regional team and primarily focus on the MD3 academic year. We would like to extend our congratulations to Megan Chan and Julie Mercadante, second-year medical students who have been selected as student representatives for the Luzerne County Medical Society. Megan will serve a two-year term on the board of the Luzerne County Medical Society and Julie will serve a two-year term on the board of the Medical Heritage Foundation. We are so proud of our fourth year students and their successful match to their residency programs. We wish them continued success as they begin a new chapter in their life.

~Dr. Michael Ferraro, Regional Associate Dean, South Campus

Introducing FlatLine

FlatLine, TCMC's newest a cappella group, entertained during lunch hour recently for faculty, students and staff, including a guest appearance by Steven Scheinman, M.D., TCMC Dean. Selections ranged from folk songs to rock and roll and is another fine example of our multi-talented community!



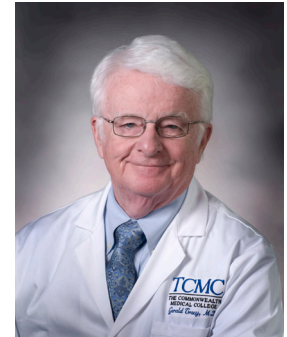
Special Thanks to Our Volunteer Clinical Faculty

by
Gerald P. Tracy, MD

One of my favorite quotes by the inspirational writer William Arthur Ward reads:

***“The mediocre teacher tells.
The good teacher explains.
The superior teacher demonstrates.
The great teacher inspires.”***

No comment could better exemplify the role of our volunteer clinical faculty here at The Commonwealth Medical College. Back in 2004, when the medical college was in its planning stage, it became clear to our founders that our existence would depend on the dedication of volunteer physicians and healthcare institutions that would serve as mentors to our students. An early survey, conducted across the three campuses, of nearly 1,000 healthcare professionals, revealed that these professionals were not motivated by financial gain, faculty appointment or professional edge. Overwhelmingly, the survey showed they would volunteer because it was the right thing to do and it provided an opportunity to give back to the healing profession as so many professionals had mentored them in their formative years as physicians.



Going back to the time of Hippocrates, medicine has always promoted mentoring as the primary method of teaching aspiring physicians. This enabled the transfer of the art and actual practice of healing based on science. Mentoring is different because it is not just teaching, but the application of scientific findings at the bedside. Our volunteer clinical faculty, with the assistance of the various healthcare delivery hospitals and agencies, bring this art and science to TCMC students.

Through the committed and relentless efforts of the regional teams on every campus, we have been able to match students with volunteer clinical faculty throughout their four years of education. Today, volunteer clinical faculty number more than 1,000 men and women who dedicate their time to mentor students on their journeys to becoming physicians. Our attrition rate is less than five percent and our satisfaction rate continues to be above 90 percent in our seventh year.

Thank you to each and every one of you for making our dream of a successful, accredited medical school a reality. There are too many mentors to mention in one article, but without you, we cannot succeed. You are leading committees for admissions, and curriculum development, providing classroom lectures, troubleshooting schedules in hospitals and clinics, assisting with LCME accreditation, writing letters of recommendation and presenting lectures at our Keystone Symposia, to name just a few of your countless contributions. You make our mission possible and you have truly inspired the next generation of physicians, healers, teachers and mentors.

TCMC Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee at TCMC oversees and reviews scholarship awards for doctor of medicine (MD) students. The committee uses this information to award each scholarship provided by the Institutional Advancement Division and selects students who will be offered monetary assistance through approved funds. The Scholarship Committee is committed to collecting as much information as possible to provide funding resources for our students. The committee welcomes your input regarding organizations or associations that offer scholarships to medical students.

Please contact Sue McNamara, smcnamara@tcmc.edu, director of enrollment services, with any questions or information about scholarships.

Members of the Scholarship Committee, pictured right, are: Amanda McIver, assistant to student affairs and admissions; Sue McNamara, BS, director of enrollment services; Julia Kolcharno, MA, director of student affairs; Tanja Adonizio, M.D., associate dean for student affairs; Kristen Greene, MS, director of admissions, MD program; Ellen McGuire, MS, director of financial aid and Michelle Schmude, Ed.D, dean for admissions, enrollment management and financial aid.



Match Results 2016

Grand Rounds

12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

Date Changed to August 11

Allan Schwartz, M.D.
Drexel University School of
Medicine

Diabetic Neuropathy and Hypertension

Sept. 8

Margaret Jarvis, M.D.
Marworth Treatment Center

Quality Healthcare for the Opioid Addicted Patient

Oct. 13

John Boll, D.O.
Susquehanna Health
**Best Practices in Pain
Management**

Nov. 5

Fall Keystone Symposium

TCMC Events

7th Annual Golf Classic June 13

Glenmaura National Golf Club

Regional Meetings

Fall, 2016

South

Sept. 13

6 PM, The Woodlands

North

Sept. 15

6 PM, TCMC Lobby

Guthrie

Oct. 26

6 pm, Patterson Hall

West

TBA

Residency Results 2016

In March, the TCMC class of 2016 participated in the residency match, hosted by the National Resident Matching Program. They competed with 42,370 applicants for 30,750 open residency spaces across the nation. TCMC students successfully matched into competitive residency programs: 37 in primary care and all others in a variety of competitive specialties. On a proud note, 26 students matched into a Pennsylvania-based program.

Dermatology (1)

St. Louis University SOM-MO, MO

Emergency Medicine (5)

St. Luke's, Bethlehem, PA
Hershey Medical Center/Penn State, PA
Icahn SOM Beth Israel, NY
New York-Presbyterian/Queens, NY
York Hospital, PA

Family Medicine (7)

Abington Memorial Hospital, PA
Chestnut Hill Hospital, PA
Naval Hospital Jacksonville, FL
Williamsport Hospital, PA
Providence Hospital, DC
UPMC St. Margaret, PA
UPMC Altoona Hospital, PA

Internal Medicine (16)

Christiana Care, DE
Cooper Hospital-University Medical Center, NJ
Drexel University COM/Hahnemann University Hospital, PA
Lankenau Medical Center, PA
Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, CA
RFUSM/Chicago Medical School, IL
Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University, RI
Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, NJ
NYMC-Westchester Medical Center, NY
Summa Health/NEOMED-OH
Temple University Hospital, PA
Thomas Jefferson University, PA
University of Alabama Medical Center, Birmingham, AL
University of Arizona COM at Tucson, AZ
University of North Carolina Hospitals, NC
York Hospital, PA
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, VA

Medicine-Preliminary (4)

Bassett Medical Center, NY
Lankenau Medical Center, PA
Temple University Hospital, PA
UPMC Medical Education-PA Medicine, PA

Neurology (1)

New York Public Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center, NY

Obstetrics-Gynecology (7)

Aurora Health Care/ASMC-WI
Drexel University COM/Hahnemann University Hospital, PA
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, NH
Geisinger Health System, PA
University of Maryland Medical Center, MD
University of Rochester/Strong Memorial, NY
Winthrop University Hospital, NY

Ophthalmology (2)

Eastern Virginia Medical School, VA
Geisinger Health System, PA

Orthopaedic Surgery (3)

Allegheny General Hospital, PA
San Antonio Military Medical Center, TX
Thomas Jefferson University, PA

Pathology (1)

UCLA Medical Center, CA

Pediatrics (6)

Children's National Medical Center, DC
Hershey Medical Center Center/Penn State, PA
Lehigh Valley Hospital, PA
Winthrop-University Hospital, NY
University of Florida COM-Shands Hospital, FL
University of Maryland Medical Center, MD

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (2)

Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, NJ
Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, MD

Psychiatry (3)

Oregon Health and Science University, OR
University of Arizona COM at Tucson, AZ
University of Maryland Medical Center, MD

Radiology-Diagnostic (3)

St. Barnabas Medical Center, NJ
Ohio State University Medical Center, OH
Temple University Hospital, PA

Radiation Oncology (1)

University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, WI

Surgery-General (4)

Cleveland Clinic Foundation, OH
Temple University Hospital, PA
UC Davis Medical Center, CA
NYP Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center, NY

Transitional (4)

Lehigh Valley Hospital, PA
Providence Sacred heart Medical Center, WA
St. Luke's, Bethlehem, PA
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, MD

Vascular Surgery (1)

University of Massachusetts Medical School, MA

