

FSU College of Medicine honors faculty physicians

Beth Strack, Special to TCPalm

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(Photo: CONTRIBUTED BY BETH STRACK)

FORT PIERCE — Prestigious awards were presented on Oct. 4 at the Riverwalk Center, when the Fort Pierce Regional Campus of the Florida State University College of Medicine gathered its faculty members for a night of appreciation and academic updates.

Keynote speaker was John P. Fogarty, M.D., dean of the FSU College of Medicine.

More than 300 active Treasure Coast physicians take turns teaching 40 third- and fourth-year medical students.

The students work one-on-one with the physicians and gain clinical experience through seeing patients in local hospitals, surgery centers, physicians' offices and other ambulatory care facilities.

The college recently added a physician assistant program. Those students will start their clinical training here in

January.



From left, back row, Dr. John Fogarty, Dr. John Suen, Dr. Cristian Presutti, Dr. Lawrence Kantor, Dr. Georges Guerrier, Dr. John Petersen, Elliot Cohen, Ph.D., Dr. Stuart Byer, Dr. Hal Brown, and Dr. Juliette Lomax-Homier. Front row, Dr. Ralph Rosato, Dr. Dudley Teel, Dr. Samerah Razuman, Dr. Donato Viggiano, Dr. Howard Voss, Dr. Babar Shareef, and Dr. Chris Mavroides. (Photo: CONTRIBUTED BY BETH STRACK)

Several faculty members received awards from Juliette Lomax-Homier, M.D., dean of the Fort Pierce campus.

The Guardian of the Mission award is for a physician whose activities have furthered the college's mission: to "educate and develop exemplary physicians who practice patient-centered health care, discover and advance knowledge and are responsive to community needs, especially through service to elder, rural, minority and underserved populations."

Tina McCurry presented this award to Ravi Masih, M.D., emergency medicine physician at Sebastian River Medical Center.

Masih has been a Clinical Assistant Professor for the Fort Pierce Regional Campus since 2016. He carries out the college's mission through his selfless contribution of his time to the people of the Dominican Republic and the indigenous villages along the Amazon River, where he travels as a medical missionary.

Often he is the only physician on these trips and works under extreme circumstances.

He also leads the medical advancement team at a clinic in India that cares for abandoned, abused, and sexually assaulted young women, as well as sponsors 10 of them.

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The Outstanding Community Faculty Educator award is for exemplary achievement in meeting student educational needs, working collaboratively, dedication to the curriculum principles and enthusiasm for teaching.

Kharian Burnett-Foster, third-year medical student, presented this award to Carl Zollicoffer, M.D., obstetrics/gynecology physician at Florida Community Health Centers in Fort Pierce.

He has been a Clinical Assistant Professor with the FSU Fort Pierce campus since 2007. He teaches many fourth- and third-year students in their ob/gyn clerkship.

"Dr. Zollicoffer always emphasizes the importance of understanding the mechanism of physiology," said Kharian. "He is the reason I am inspired to consider pursuing a career in obstetrics and gynecology."

Faculty awards were presented to the dedicated clerkship faculty physicians who have taught FSU students since 2008. The 10-year service award was earned by 70 physicians.

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