The Florida State University College of Medicine will 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.
Over New Year’s weekend, I was messaging with my sister about how time continues to accelerate as we get older. Well, the time here at the FSU College of Medicine passed equally quickly in 2016. I suspect one reason is the multitude of events and activities we experienced. As you’ll discover when you read this annual report:

• We continue to expand residency program opportunities for our graduates here in Florida. Our new general surgery program in Tallahassee started its first class in July; our internal medicine program in Sarasota received initial accreditation, and our family medicine program in Fort Myers received full accreditation and permission to expand its class size. We started a micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology fellowship and a dermatology residency in Tallahassee and are in conversation with several hospitals in the state to develop new programs.

• It has been a busy year for our new Physician Assistant Program’s development, from hiring the founding director in January to preparing for an accreditation site visit in December. In between, we hired many new PA faculty members, made numerous site visits to campuses to recruit clinical preceptors, and prepared the accreditation packet of materials for the visit. We were rewarded in those efforts by having “no observations” identified by the site surveyors, putting us (we hope) in great shape as we await the accreditation decision in March. We received more than 800 applications for the 40 initial positions to start in August.

• In spite of diminished and highly competitive research funding since the recession, our investigators have taken our total research funding to record levels. We continue to develop research partnerships with the University of Florida’s clinical translational science initiative and are developing a One Florida Data Trust with UF to link hospitals and networks into a statewide research repository of 10 million patients. We continue to be a valuable resource for the state to address the way health care is delivered to patients in Florida, and installed a state-of-the-art functional MRI research unit to support behavioral, neuroscience and clinical psychology research for the university. We completed our search for the new senior associate dean for research and graduate programs, allowing our incredible Myra Hurt to focus full time on her newest brainchild, the Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences initiative, before she finally retires in 2017.

• It was a pleasure to see our 1,000th graduate, Beth Coughlin, hooded by the first member of our inaugural Class of 2005, Dr. Joda Lynn. For the first time in our history, we have more alumni physicians in practice than still in residencies. Yet even as we pass this milestone, our percentage remains steady at over 53 percent working in primary care practices.

• Consistent with our mission, ours has emerged as one of the most diverse medical schools in the country, with an enrollment percentage for black/African-American students that is double the national average. Our pipeline programs have played a huge role in attracting mission-focused students, and our success in Panhandle counties has led several communities around the state to provide support for similar programs in their locales. The Naples Children & Education Foundation, our loyal partner in Southwest Florida for many years, has made a large grant this year in support of a new SSTRIDE program in Immokalee.

Enjoy all that this annual report has to offer. I am pleased to work for an outstanding organization committed to producing the next generation of outstanding physicians for Florida.

Happy 2017!

John P. Fogarty, M.D.
Dean
Florida State University College of Medicine
We’re community-based. Instead of learning in an academic medical center, seeing only the sickest patients and learning largely from residents, our students learn one-on-one from community physicians in their offices, clinics and other outpatient settings as well as in area hospitals. Those communities are all over the state, near our six regional campuses and our rural/clinical training sites.

We’re mission-driven. A large part of our mission (see inside front cover) is to serve the underserved. That starts with choosing the right students. Test scores matter, but so do other factors, such as where they grew up, what motivates them and how they’ve already served the community. We immerse them in a culture that values diversity, mutual respect, teamwork and open communication — and prepares them to become lifelong learners.

We’re focused on primary care. Through 2016, more than half of our alumni matched in one of these primary-care specialties: internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics or obstetrics-gynecology. Most of our alumni now practicing in Florida are in primary care, and a good percentage of those are in a rural area, where recruiting new physicians can be a challenge.

ACADEMIC DEGREES

- M.D.
- Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences
- Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences—Bridge to Clinical Medicine Major
- Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences B.S.
- Master of Science in Physician Assistant Practice
  
  (see page 31 for details)
FACILITIES
- On the main campus, the College of Medicine's two buildings (including a research building) total 300,000 gross square feet.
- Adding in the leased or owned buildings at the regional campuses and the Immokalee rural training site brings the total to more than 376,000 square feet.

STUDENTS (as of Dec. 31, 2016)
- Medical students: 476
  - 138 minorities underrepresented in medicine*
  - 190 minorities in all (including Asian)*
  - 465 Florida residents
  - 235 men
  - 241 women
- Bridge students: 11
- Ph.D. students: 38
- Postdoctoral fellows: 4
*(AMCAS – AAMC application)

ALUMNI (as of Dec. 31, 2016)
Total: 1,029. Of those graduates, 494 have completed residency and, in some cases, fellowship training and are now practicing physicians. Of those 494, 57 percent are practicing in Florida or in a bordering county, and 56 percent of them are practicing primary care. (See where they're practicing, page 20)

FACULTY (as of Dec. 31, 2016)
- Full-time: 153
- Part-time: 2,380
REGIONAL CAMPUSES
- Medical students spend their first two years at the main campus in Tallahassee. For Years 3 and 4, they work with community physicians at one of six regional campuses.
- The college partners with more than 100 healthcare organizations statewide and more than 2,500 physicians to provide clinical training to our students.
- See contact information on page 35.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS
- Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine
- Biomedical Sciences
- Clinical Sciences
- Family Medicine and Rural Health
- Geriatrics

ACADEMIC CENTERS AND INSTITUTES
- Area Health and Education Center
- Autism Institute
- Center for Brain Repair
- Center for Child Stress & Health
- Center on Global Health
- Center for Innovative Collaboration in Medicine and Law
- Center for Medicine and Public Health
- Center on Patient Safety
- Center for Rural Health Research and Policy
- Center for Strategic Public Health Preparedness
- Center for Integrated Healthcare

QUICK FACTS

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS
The College of Medicine sponsors the following residency programs:
- Dermatology at Dermatology Associates (DA) in Tallahassee (2 residents).
- Family medicine at Lee Memorial Hospital in Fort Myers (19 residents).
- General surgery at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (6 residents).
- Internal medicine at Sarasota Memorial Hospital (expects to accept first residents in 2017).
- Internal medicine at Tallahassee Memorial (25 residents).
The college also sponsors a dermatology fellowship position at DA (2 fellows).
BRIDGE TO CLINICAL MEDICINE PROGRAM
The Bridge Program is designed to expand the pool of successful medical school applicants from medically underserved, rural and inner-city communities. It is a 12-month program that provides both education in medical knowledge and experiences in clinical practice.

INTERDISCIPLINARY MEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM
This program, established in 2016 with the cooperation of six other FSU colleges, is designed for undergraduates interested in health-related careers. A rigorous science curriculum serves as its foundation, and students may select one of three interdisciplinary majors that fits their developing career goals.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM
The FSU PA Program anticipates admitting its first class in August 2017, pending provisional accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant.
Total applications received for admission to this class of 121 students: 6,503.

In the Class of 2020, women outnumber men 68-53.

Nineteen students are Asian/Pacific Islander, 17 are African-American or black, and 11 are Hispanic, in addition to 74 who are white.

More than half majored in biology or exercise science. Among the other majors were biochemistry, psychology, history, classical studies, business administration and music. (Sana Azam double-majored in biomedical sciences and English literature “to write poetry, most of which pertains to health-centered experiences.”)

Well over half (71) did their undergraduate work at FSU, versus 11 at the University of Florida and 11 at the University of South Florida.

Among the other undergrad schools represented in this class are Auburn, Brown, Emory, Johns Hopkins, Ohio State and UC-Santa Barbara.

Thirty students came from the Florida Panhandle.

Five students came from Florida counties classified as rural.

Most of these students have been Floridians for years – but some grew up in such varied countries as the Philippines, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

Some have already had jobs serving others, such as being an emergency medical responder, or teaching science through the SSTRIDE pipeline program.

These students have volunteered for years – in schools, after Hurricane Katrina, by teaching English in faraway lands, with Habitat for Humanity, in prisons, with homeless people, with desperately ill children, with veterans and ailing elders.

They’ve shadowed doctors in every specialty, worked as scribes taking notes for harried physicians, transported patients, cleaned up emergency rooms, helped with physical therapy and much more.

They’ve been active in more student and community groups, and been invited into more honor societies, than you can imagine. (You may read all of our students’ biographies. Visit med.fsu.edu and search for “student profiles.”)

They’ve seen the world, taking medical outreach or education trips to more than 20 countries, including Haiti, Peru, Senegal and South Africa.

They’ve spent hours researching such conditions as breast cancer, HIV, Alzheimer’s disease, cystic fibrosis and malaria.

They’ve played as hard as they’ve worked: water polo, tennis, swimming, soccer, beach volleyball, bodybuilding and more.
Alexander Baradei worked as a math tutor for grades 6-12. Worked overseas as a civilian liaison, cultural advisor and interpreter for the U.S. Department of Defense. Worked with the U.S. Army National Guard on a humanitarian mission in Jordan to facilitate the safety of refugees across the border. Decided to pursue a career in medicine and take additional upper-division science courses while working as a genetics supplemental instruction leader at a university and a patient transporter at a hospital.

Hana Bui volunteered for Shepherd’s Hope, educating uninsured patients on low- or no-cost medical resources available. Was inspired to seek out more opportunities helping the underserved: as an art instructor for children attending schools lacking an art department and as a reproductive health educator for students. Went on to become an HIV counselor, then a medical assistant for Planned Parenthood.

Kharian Burnett-Foster was a member of Undergraduate Science Students Together Reaching Instructional Diversity & Excellence (USSTRIDE), where she served as a mentor to elementary, middle and high school kids in Leon and Gadsden counties. Received a scholarship to become a certified clinical medical assistant and later worked at Wakulla Urgent Care, where she was exposed to rural and minority health. Traveled to Ecuador with the organization MEDLIFE, which increased her desire to serve underserved communities and be involved in global health.

Nick Casler began his freshman year as a member of the FSU Circus, performing in double trapeze and Russian bar. Joined the FSU coed cheerleading team. Discovered that student-athlete experience developed his leadership and teamwork skills and stimulated his interest in sports medicine. Realized he had a passion for global health, becoming involved in Noles for Haiti, through which he participated in two missions serving in an orphanage in Port-au-Prince.

Joseph Chen was a saxophonist in the FSU Marching Chiefs, the public relations officer for the Health and Educational Relief Organization and the student coordinator for USSTRIDE. Traveled to Guyana on a medical mission trip to provide underserved communities with health screenings and medications. Played classical guitar for patients in the diabetes, internal medicine and pediatric units of Tallahassee Memorial Hospital.

Efe Cudjoe was active in various diversity initiatives and was a student body representative on Brown University’s Diversity Advisory Board. Worked as a minority peer counselor. Co-founded the Social Justice Peer Education Program, created to expand knowledge of social justice, inclusion and contemporary systems of oppression. Conducted research on maternal-fetal medicine (in rural vs. urban spaces) in Vietnam, South Africa and Brazil.

Shelby Jones worked at Thomasville High School, where she taught physical science and anatomy and physiology. Was head coach for the boys’ middle school soccer team and assisted with the men’s varsity team. Has grown up, volunteered and worked in a rural, underserved population, and is passionate about continuing that work and practicing in a similar area.

Robyn Tobillo, at a young age, started performing in her Orlando community, including nursing homes and assisted-living facilities. Co-founded MADE to Heal (MADE = music, arts, dance and entertainment) with her younger sister with the goal of continuing to enrich the lives of facility-bound residents.

After her brother was diagnosed with leukemia in 2005, Ariana Trautmann became inspired to pursue medicine. Became involved in the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life and has headed her own Siblings of Survivors team for the past seven years. Has also worked with Dance Marathon at FSU, helping raise money for kids in this area. Sits on the Committee of Advisors for Hang Tough, which helps families affected by pediatric illness.

Chris Williams dreamed of traveling, so he set out for the University of Hawaii and earned a degree in business administration. Taught sailing to high-school age kids during his college summers. Became a yacht captain. Trained in shipboard medicine and dealt with medical emergencies at sea. Had an opportunity to develop a clinic on a remote island in the Bahamas, where he found his passion for medicine and serving others in rural communities.
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- THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS
In the 1990s, momentum started to build for a new medical school at Florida State University to address critical areas of need in the state’s physician workforce. The vision led to a focused effort that has now reached a tipping point.

In 2016 – 15 years after the arrival of our first class – the number of our alumni in practice surpassed the number in residency training.

If that doesn’t sound like much, consider that it takes a minimum of seven years from the first day of medical school to produce one new physician.

It’s not just the number of our alumni now caring for patients – it’s where they are and what they are doing that is especially rewarding. As the information on the following pages illustrates, FSU alumni physicians are primarily practicing in Florida, are providing primary care services, and are filling needs in both rural and urban medically underserved communities – all of the things the Legislature had in mind when establishing this medical school.

As Dean John P. Fogarty noted in his commencement address to the Class of 2016,
those students arrived at a time when the College of Medicine had only 133 alumni in practice. Seventy-seven percent of our alumni were in residency or fellowship training at that time.

Fogarty later welcomed our 1,000th graduate with plenty of fanfare. With far less notice, we’ll soon have our 500th graduate in practice. Please forgive us, we’re proud of these accomplishments – and, yes, we’re keeping tabs.
MATCH DAY RESULTS, 2005-2016

- Internal medicine: 17.2%
- Family medicine: 14.3%
- Pediatrics: 12.4%
- Emergency medicine: 11.8%
- Surgery (general): 10.4%
- OB-GYN: 10.8%
- Psychiatry: 2.7%
- Other specialties: 20.4%

MATCH DAY RESULTS – ALL OTHER U.S. MEDICAL SCHOOLS, 2005-2016

- Internal medicine: 18.9%
- Other specialties: 37.1%
- Pediatrics: 11.4%
- Family medicine: 8.1%
- Psychiatry: 4.9%
- OB-GYN: 5.8%
- Emergency medicine: 7.9%
- Surgery (general): 5.9%
ALUMNI – AT A GLANCE

• First class graduated – 2005
• 494 current practicing physicians (of 1,029 alumni)
• 2016 marked the first time with more alumni physicians than residents
• 52 percent of those are in primary care specialties
• 283 are practicing in Florida or a Florida border county (58 percent)
• 158 of those are practicing primary care in Florida or border county (56 percent)
• 63 alumni physicians are located in the Florida Panhandle from Perry to Pensacola
• 60 alumni are on the College of Medicine clinical faculty
• 49 percent of alumni (classes of 2005-16) are in residency or fellowship training

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI (2005-16)

- Practicing physicians 47.5%
- Current residents 41.2%
- Working on a fellowship 7.5%
- Unknown, not currently practicing and/or not currently in residency 3.8%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SPECIALTY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christie Alexander**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Family medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Barré</td>
<td>Orange Park</td>
<td>Orthopedic surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bojan</td>
<td>Plantation</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natasha Canty</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Family medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrett Chumney**</td>
<td>Blountstown/Tallahassee</td>
<td>ER/family medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shayla Gray**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Behavioral health/family medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fawn Harrison**</td>
<td>Arcadia</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Hernandez</td>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>Hospitalist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Ho**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joda Lynn</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ajay Mhatre**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Cardiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Javier Miller**</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>Urology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Rocha</td>
<td>Pensacola</td>
<td>Orthopedic surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neil Rodgers</td>
<td>Lakeland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lorna Stewart</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Hospitalist</td>
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**Class of '06**

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<tr>
<td>Jason Acosta**</td>
<td>Maitland</td>
<td>Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandra Brafford</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Family medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kara Brooks</td>
<td>Crestview</td>
<td>Family medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Brotherton</td>
<td>Palm Harbor</td>
<td>Orthopedic surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Drossner</td>
<td>Palm Beach Gardens</td>
<td>Pediatric cardiologist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason Farrah</td>
<td>Ocala</td>
<td>General surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Gibson</td>
<td>Panama City</td>
<td>Otolaryngology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manny Herrera</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victor Hultstrand</td>
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<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luis Izquierdo</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>General ENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Launder</td>
<td>Port Richey</td>
<td>Family medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Lee**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Orthopedic surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Lee**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Leygold</td>
<td>Gainesville</td>
<td>Plastic surgery</td>
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<td>Kevin McLean</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>Diagnostic radiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Nordgren</td>
<td>Sunrise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stefio Rekkas**</td>
<td>Bradenton</td>
<td>General surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regan Rostorfer**</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>Hematology/oncology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Sundstrom**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luc Tran</td>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Esther Vildor-Dazil</td>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>Internal medicine</td>
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**Class of '07**

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<tr>
<td>Robin Albritton**</td>
<td>Marianna</td>
<td>Family medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sady Alpizar</td>
<td>Clearwater</td>
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<td>Tristan Altbuch</td>
<td>Gainesville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shazia Aman</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>Cardiovascular/hypertension</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jorge Barrero</td>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>Nephrology/hypertension</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Beach</td>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Bingham</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
<td>Internal medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Calle</td>
<td>North Miami</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shani-Kay Chambers</td>
<td>Winter Haven</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erin Connelly</td>
<td>West Palm Beach</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Crescentini</td>
<td>Plant City</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Davis Hovda</td>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>Hematology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Gamenthaler**</td>
<td>Daytona Beach</td>
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<td>Rosemarie Garcia Getting</td>
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<td>Roberto Gonzalez</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>Interventional endoscopy</td>
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<td>Charles-Eric Hotte</td>
<td>Oakland Park</td>
<td>Gastroenterology</td>
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<td>Timothy Kubal</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
<td>Oncology/hematology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Langley**</td>
<td>Ocoee</td>
<td>Family and sports medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>^Hope McLean</td>
<td>Mobile, Ala.</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyle Moyles**</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Orthopedic surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pragnesh Parikh</td>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>Cardiologist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nishita Patel **</td>
<td>Daytona Beach</td>
<td>Ophthalmology</td>
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<td>Bina Patel-Elio</td>
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<td>Josef Plum</td>
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<td>Kristen Shepherd**</td>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>Diagnostic radiology</td>
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<td>Beau Toskich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Visser**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandy Willis**</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
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**Class of ’08**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George Amyradakis</td>
<td>Winter Park</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Auffant**</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murray Baker</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Todd Besnoff</td>
<td>Clearwater</td>
<td>Cosmetic services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Buckler</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>Diagnostic radiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristen Caldow</td>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Cauthen</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Dermatology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Clark III</td>
<td>St. Petersburg</td>
<td>Retina specialty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paola Dees</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<td>Tanya Evers**</td>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Fox</td>
<td>Bradenton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Griffin Gaines</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
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<td>Andrew Galligan</td>
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<td>Pediatric hematology/oncology</td>
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<td>Nathanael Hawkins</td>
<td>Bonifay</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Hawkins**</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
<td>OB-GYN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lindsay Hinson-Knipple</td>
<td>Daphne, Ala.</td>
<td>Radiation oncology</td>
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<td>^Adam Huddleston</td>
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**Class of ’11**

- Brett Armstrong
- Rachel Bixler
- Philip Burke
- Rachel Cartechine
- Ethan Cohen**
- Amanda Cooke
- Andrew Cooke
- Kathleen Crick
- Jeffrey Cummings
- Komal D’Souza
- Shannon Davis
- Rafael de la Puente**
- Jonathan Dean**
- Juline Deen
- Marlisha Edwards**
- Vanessa Escobar
- Veronica Finnegan Carden
- Desmond Fitzpatrick
- Matthew Frankel
- Ivey Gayahan
- Jessica Gershon**
- Daniel Gordon
- Tasbha Gray
- Monique Gray-Jefferson
- Stacia Groll
- "Cianna Hatfield
- "Jackson Hatfield
- Roderick Hook
- Sarah Irani
- Joshua James
- Brett Lorenzetti
- Layla Lundquist-Smith**
- "Zita Magloire**
- Kim Maguire
- Elizabeth Marquez
- Brittany O'Dwyer
- Lutz
- Port St. Joe
- Clermont
- Orlando
- Daytona Beach
- St. Petersburg
- Altamonte Springs
- Orlando
- Tampa
- Tallahassee
- Seffner
- Pensacola
- Seffner
- Gainesville/Lake County
- Lecanto
- Clearwater
- Daytona Beach
- Safety Harbor
- Melbourne
- Jacksonville
- Tallahassee
- Thomasville, Ga.
- Thomasville, Ga.
- Panama City Beach
- St. Petersburg
- Panama City
- Ocala
- Pensacola
- Cairo, Ga.
- Tampa
- Jacksonville
- Port Orange
- General surgery
- Family medicine
- Internal medicine
- OB-GYN
- Emergency medicine
- Pediatrics
- Allergy/asthma
- Pediatrics
- Internal medicine
- Family medicine
- Emergency medicine
- General surgery
- OB-GYN
- Family medicine
- Family medicine
- Radiation oncology
- Emergency medicine
- Psychiatry
- Pediatrics
- Emergency medicine
- Family medicine
- Pediatrics
- Family medicine
- General surgery
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- Emergency medicine
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- Family medicine
- General surgery
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<td>’Kathryn Nelson</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raquel Olavarrieta</td>
<td>Tallahassee</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fernando Parra-Ferro</td>
<td>Tampa</td>
<td>Emergency medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxanne Samuels</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyle Solari</td>
<td>Gainesville</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale Taylor</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>Family medicine/IM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Velarde</td>
<td>Gainesville</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalie Williams</td>
<td>Maitland</td>
<td>Family medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Woods</td>
<td>Pinellas Park</td>
<td>Family medicine/IM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL ALUMNI IN FLORIDA/NEIGHBORING COUNTIES: 283**

**Bold** - Primary care
**Red** - Practicing in rural or urban underserved area
^ - Practicing in border county of neighboring state
** - College of Medicine faculty member
+* - National Health Service Corps site
Alumni physicians in the Florida Panhandle and surrounding counties. Seventy-two percent of those providing primary care.
FSU College of Medicine students make significant gains – traditionally much better than those of students at other medical schools – on the increase in score between Step 1 and Step 2 of the USMLE.

FSU medical students have a consistently higher-than-expected (based on MCAT scores) performance on National Board of Medical Examiners subject exams.

The same students perform exceedingly well on the clinical skills portion of USMLE Step 2 (given during the fourth year of school).

FSU’s pass rate of 98 percent for first-time takers of the Step 2 clinical skills exam is better than the average for all other U.S. and Canadian medical students.

Our thanks to Professor Lynn Romrell, director of evaluation and assessment, for providing the USMLE data found on pages 24-25.
U.S. MEDICAL LICENSING EXAM

MEAN OVERALL SCORE FOR FIRST-TIME TAKERS

USMLE Step 1
- Given at the end of the second year of medical school
Pass rate: FSU (average, classes of 2005-17): 93 percent
- All other U.S. and Canadian: 94 percent

USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge
- Given early in the fourth year of medical school
Pass rate: FSU (average, classes of 2005-16): 98 percent
- All other U.S. and Canadian: 96 percent

COMPARING USMLE Step 1 vs 2 — CLINICAL KNOWLEDGE
“The waters of human relations are turbulent and treacherous as we glide through the rough and narrow channel that separates the old world of yesterday from the new world born of advanced technology and recent scientific developments. We can set up the most elaborate machinery for good health the world has ever known with the mobilization of such forces as the law to legislate wisely and religion to improve men to seek peace in their souls.”

— National Medical Association President Edward Mazique, M.D., explaining in 1959 why physicians and attorneys need to work together in addressing the health of the nation.

The intersection between medicine and law has long been an accepted force in shaping the human condition. Yet few medical schools devote a significant amount of time to understanding the connection.

The FSU colleges of medicine and law are among only a handful of interprofessional partnerships across the U.S. devoting significant resources to in-depth study of how legal matters influence health. Marshall Kapp, director of the Center for Innovative Collaboration in Medicine and Law, is one of the medical school’s most widely published authors of scholarly research articles.

He also teaches students of both medicine and law. Along with advanced clerkships, the College of Medicine provides opportunities for electives to address “knowledge gaps” and allow students to broaden their professional education experiences.

“Special Topics in Medicine and Law,” taught by Kapp throughout the year and available to a maximum of five fourth-year medical students per elective block, includes an individualized syllabus designed to reflect each medical
student's particular specialty plans, and educational and personal background.

Students are assigned several articles drawn from the medical, legal and health-policy literature each week, to be discussed during a weekly hourlong individual teleconference. The format recognizes that most fourth-year med students at Florida State are not based in Tallahassee, and may be busy traveling for residency interviews and other electives.

“The most commonly requested content includes discussions of professional liability, liability insurance and the medical malpractice system,” said Kapp. “There also is a lot of interest in shared decision making; confidentiality; impact of electronic health records on clinical practice and risk management; legal issues raised by clinical practice guidelines; and potential implications of health reform initiatives for the professional lives of physicians.”

Kapp, a professor in the Department of Geriatrics and the FSU College of Law, holds a degree in social and behavioral sciences (Johns Hopkins), a law degree (George Washington) and a master's in public health (Harvard). He spent seven years as editor (and was named editor emeritus) of the Journal of Legal Medicine – the scholarly publication of the American College of Legal Medicine.

Ethical questions are commonly part of the conversation with students taking the course. For example, those planning to pursue obstetrics-gynecology read an article exploring the question of requiring informed consent before a medical student can perform a pelvic exam while a patient is anesthetized for a different procedure.

“For most medical students and physicians, the legal system is a strange and scary abstraction,” Kapp said. “My hope is that students will leave the course with a somewhat better understanding and appreciation of the legal environment within which they will practice medicine, and therefore with a more manageable level of unease and anxiety.”

All students are required to write a paper at course’s end discussing what they’ve learned. Some excerpts from various College of Medicine students and alumni:

- “It was very interesting to see how informed consent and patient satisfaction is shaping the business model for physicians.” (2016 graduate who is a first-year family medicine resident in Charleston, S.C.)
- “The one thing I’ve been concerned about as a future OB-GYN is liability claims. This issue was heavily considered as I was deciding which specialty I wanted to pursue. … Defensive medicine is concerning to me because I don’t want to practice medicine in fear. I think this will take the joy out of something I love, and I did not attend school this long for that to happen. … This course has not only reiterated the significance of consent from patients, but the simple lesson of being the best physician you can. … I will take great confidence, great judgment and compassion with me as I enter into residency knowing that FSU College of Medicine has equipped me with all the tools I need to be successful.” (2016 graduate who is a first-year OB-GYN resident in Mobile, Ala.)
- “My readings suggest that generalizations about how a health-care policy will uniformly affect the country are incorrect. … I found the impact of the Affordable Care Act on the nation’s emergency departments very interesting. The discussion has sparked my curiosity to follow health-care reforms more closely in the future.” (Current fourth-year medical student)
- “Many students graduate medical school without the slightest clue of what lies ahead in terms of the effect of law on medicine. … This course has made this clear: the law is intricate and complex, and its reach on the practice of medicine is far and influential. … I have been inspired to know more about medicine outside of the patient encounter. I’ve learned about the necessity and difficulty of conducting pediatric research, as well as the importance of patient/family education about the disease process and how that influences healing.” (Current fourth-year medical student)
We seek out students with both good scores and good hearts. So physicians, patients and others regularly tell us that our students are not only capable learners but nice people. One of those is fourth-year student Nicole Brunner, who was doing an "audition" month at Children's Hospital in Oakland last fall when she encountered Melissa Jett and her hospitalized son. In her email below, Melissa refers to Nicole as "Dr." Brunner. Technically that's not quite true yet — but it seemed true for this family.

Dr. Brunner came down while we were in the emergency room to get information about Bobby, while we waited to get him admitted and moved to a room upstairs. We had no clue what was going on. Since Bobby has had chronic migraines since he was 5, we assumed this was one of those. This one wasn’t going away, so the plan was to admit him for a 48-hour steroid treatment. Dr. Brunner stayed with us and walked up to the fourth floor to his room.

The nurse taking vitals noticed Bobby had a very high fever. The doctors did a lumbar puncture, and he tested positive for meningitis. He was immediately put into total isolation. We’d have to wait 48 hours to find out if it was bacterial or viral and also the cause. During the entire time, Dr. Brunner was in and out, checking to make sure he was comfortable. And once he was, she would ask what she could do for me.

Finally we found out he had viral meningitis and varicella (chickenpox), which was challenging for his team of eight doctors and two infectious disease doctors.

I felt like I was in a different country and didn’t know the language. Dr. Brunner was always happy to sit with me, even when Bobby was sleeping, and explain everything in terms I would understand. She did the same for Bobby, who was scared that he was going to die. She would also talk to him about “Star Wars” and “Mrs. Doubtfire” — trying to get his mind off the needles and tests. I was so thankful for her. For easing my son’s pain but also being there for me, when I felt like I was going to burst.

Through the 14 days he was there, Bobby had complications including vomiting (even vomiting blood), a full-body rash, incorrectly functioning kidneys, fever, pain and a fungal infection, just to name a few. They believe a lot of these were caused by the strong medications.

This was the sickest any of my kids have ever been. I was very scared. It helped so much that we had Dr. Brunner constantly checking on Bobby. You can tell she is truly passionate about what she does and genuinely cares about her patients.

I can’t put into words how appreciative I am for all the doctors at Children’s Hospital. My son got, and continues to get, top-notch care with all the follow-up appointments. He still has times where he deals with vertigo, vomiting and just being tired. But every day he is getting better. He is scheduled to see an immunologist at UCSF, since in the hospital they found out that the “NK” cells were low. Bobby is happy to be home and eager to return to school once we find out his immune system is strong enough.

Dr. Brunner is phenomenal, and any hospital would be lucky to have her on their team.

Melissa

(Update: Melissa reported in late December that Bobby is doing well while continuing to see pediatric immunologists at the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. In fact, he made the Honor Roll at school, and he said he wants to work in the medical field. “Dr.” Brunner, meanwhile, has been inducted into the FSU Chapman Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society for “demonstrated excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service.” She will graduate in May.)
While the College of Medicine selectively looks to admit students who identify with its mission statement, Florida State has become a preferred destination for medical education. Twice in the past year U.S. News and World Report has cited admissions data of U.S. and Canadian M.D. programs to include Florida State on a pair of Top 10 lists:

- “10 Med Schools Students Are Eager to Attend”
- “The Most Competitive Medical Schools for Admissions”

Each of the lists was based on admissions data for the Class of 2019, for which the College of Medicine received more than 6,200 applicants and issued 151 offer letters. Only 120 students were admitted.

Nearly 80 percent of the students who received an offer accepted. According to U.S. News, that puts Florida State at No. 5 on the list of schools students are eager to attend. Florida State and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill are the only medical schools in the Southeast to make the list.

Previously, U.S. News rated the FSU College of Medicine No. 2 on its list of the most competitive medical schools for admissions.

Florida State is the only medical school to be named on both Top 10 lists.

“The most important thing for us in looking at how we will achieve our mission is to focus on finding the right fit. We want students who identify with our mission and who are choosing the medical profession as a way of helping others,” said John P. Fogarty, dean of the FSU College of Medicine.

“These [Top 10] lists are just one reflection of how well the admissions process is working, and of how our medical school has developed a reputation in a short amount of time for being a place where you can receive a unique and wonderful medical education.”

THE 10 MOST COMPETITIVE MEDICAL SCHOOLS FOR ADMISSIONS

- Mayo Medical School (Rochester, Minn.)
- Florida State University
- Stanford University
- George Washington University
- Brown University
- Georgetown University
- University of California – Davis
- Wake Forest University
- University of California – Los Angeles
- University of California – San Diego

TEN MED SCHOOLS STUDENTS ARE EAGER TO ATTEND
(List produced by U.S. News and World Report)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical school</th>
<th>(Students accepted /students enrolled)</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Washington</td>
<td>291/245</td>
<td>84.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of New Mexico</td>
<td>124/103</td>
<td>83.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Oklahoma</td>
<td>199/161</td>
<td>80.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Kansas</td>
<td>262/211</td>
<td>80.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State University</td>
<td>151/120</td>
<td>79.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
<td>216/171</td>
<td>79.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Northstate University</td>
<td>77/60</td>
<td>77.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina</td>
<td>234/181</td>
<td>77.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma State University</td>
<td>144/111</td>
<td>77.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Utah</td>
<td>160/122</td>
<td>76.3</td>
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In 2016, the College of Medicine received continued accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). It’s an endorsement of Florida State’s role as institutional sponsor for each of the following:

• An internal medicine residency program at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH).
• A general surgery residency program at TMH.
• A family medicine residency program at Lee Health in Fort Myers.
• An internal medicine residency program at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.
• A dermatology residency program and micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology fellowship at Dermatology Associates of Tallahassee.

ACGME approval also impacts the College of Medicine’s ability to continue discussions with hospitals interested in additional residency programs. Florida State’s effort to produce more physicians in Florida, especially in primary care specialties, includes a desire to provide more graduate medical education in the state.

Florida recently passed New York as the nation’s third-most populous state (behind California and Texas), but ranks 42nd in the number of residency slots per capita. That’s one reason more than half of all Florida medical school graduates leave the state for residency training.

“As the number of medical school graduates increases across the state, we need to increase residency positions proportionately,” said Joan Meek, associate dean for graduate medical education. “We know that a majority of physicians practice in the geographic areas in which they complete their residency training. We’re working with established and newly identified clinical partners to expand residency training opportunities within our state, especially in the primary care fields and areas of greatest need.”

At present, nearly 60 percent of FSU medical alumni who have completed graduate medical education are practicing in Florida (a small percentage of those are in a border county in Alabama or Georgia).

In addition to continued accreditation for the College of Medicine, several of its GME programs received good news from the ACGME in 2016:

• In April, the ACGME granted initial accreditation to the new internal medicine residency program, allowing for the first cohort of residents to begin training July 1, 2017. The three-year program is approved to accept 13 residents a year (with a capacity of 39).
• Sarasota Memorial Hospital also broke ground on a new clinic in the medically underserved community of Newtown. Internal medicine residents will be able to receive training in an ambulatory setting at Newtown, in addition to providing much-needed access to care for local residents.
• The family medicine residency program at Lee Health received ACGME continued accreditation status and approval for a permanent increase from 18 to 24 residents. The increase is a reflection of Lee Health’s commitment to the program and to a partnership meant to produce more primary care physicians for one of the fastest-growing regions of the state.
• The internal medicine residency program at TMH also received continued accreditation from the ACGME, ending its initial accreditation phase.
• The ACGME granted the new general surgery residency at TMH initial accreditation, and the program participated in Match Day for the first time. One of the greatest needs in Florida’s physician workforce, at present, is for more general surgeons. TMH now has four first-year residents in the program (two who are in preliminary years and two who are categorical matches), plus two second-year residents.
• The dermatology residency program participated in Match Day 2016, bringing in a pair of second-year residents (who completed their required preliminary year elsewhere). They began training in July of 2016.
Approved by the FSU Board of Trustees and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 2015, the College of Medicine’s new PA program got a promotion in 2016. That’s when it became the School of Physician Assistant Practice.

That was possibly the easiest part of a busy year for Program Director Jim Zedaker, who busily prepared the program for a site visit in December from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA).

The program expects a decision in March on its application for provisional accreditation. Meantime, Zedaker hired the founding faculty members and led a concerted effort to also recruit the first class of students.

The faculty include assistant professors John P. Bastin, Jeffrey Nash, Brigitta Nuccio and Susan Salahshor; associate professor Michael Johnson (who will be based in Pensacola); academic coordinator Benjamin Smith; and research faculty member Katelyn Graves.

More than 800 people applied to be part of the initial class of 40 students that is expected to begin in August, pending a favorable decision from ARC-PA. Around 100 of those applicants were invited to the College of Medicine in January to take part in interviews.

In November, the PA School participated in a groundbreaking ceremony in Pensacola for a new education building on the University of West Florida campus. It will serve as the home base for FSU PA students who are doing a clinical training year in Pensacola, and Johnson will teach a course introducing UWF students to the PA profession. The partnership with UWF is part of an effort to identify students from Northwest Florida who would make good candidates for the FSU PA program.

Students will spend 15 months at the College of Medicine’s main campus in Tallahassee, followed by 12 months in one of the communities where FSU medical students spend their clinical training years. The program expects to admit 60 students in 2018 and each year thereafter. Graduates will receive the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Practice.
The College of Medicine’s six regional campuses all thrive thanks to their unique blend of students, staff and community support. But if there’s one indispensable ingredient in their recipe for success, it has to be the faculty. In addition to seeing patients, constantly updating their medical knowledge and mastering the details of operating a medical practice, these physicians agree to take on one of our students the way a master craftsman takes on an apprentice. It’s one-on-one instruction from professionals – an enormous commitment of time, energy and enthusiasm as students rotate through clerkships in various medical specialties.

As you might imagine, the campus deans prize their clerkship faculty members. Each year, as part of an all-faculty celebration, they single out at least two faculty physicians for extra praise.

On these pages, we’ve listed the most recent honorees from each regional campus. Also we’ve zoomed in on three of them to underscore the diversity, range and dedication of the college’s roughly 2,500 faculty members.

Orlando Campus’ Choice for Guardian of the Mission:
Alric Simmonds, M.D.
Tribute from Dwight Kemp, fourth-year student and member of team he describes below

“Dr. Simmonds and his employer, Florida Hospital, are spearheading an initiative to answer the [Association of American Medical Colleges’] call to address the staggering decline of black male representation in medicine – because, according to their 2015 report, more black males applied to medical school in 1978 than in 2014, while black females and other minority groups have increased.

“For this initiative, he assembled an interdisciplinary and multi-institutional team including the Florida State University and University of Central Florida colleges of medicine. Well into its developmental stages, the initiative’s blueprint includes a multifaceted approach engaging public schools, hospitals and medical institutions with community engagement at its core.

“Dr. Simmonds recognizes the value of diversifying our health-care delivery system. He understands that when the physician workforce reflects the elegant diversity of our great nation, patient care, trust and adherence improve as evidenced by recent clinical data. And that when we work together to promote equity in the face of disparity, we all as a people get a little better and as a nation become a little greater.”
Prison of Azkaban, the fictional prison filled with unstable and psychotic witches and wizards from the Harry Potter series – [Dr. Ketchum] teaches every student on their inpatient portion of the psychiatry rotation. Despite being a relatively new member of the FSU faculty, she has already proved to be an invaluable addition to our education, providing a comprehensive yet entertaining crash course in high-acuity mental illness treatment. …

“She takes the time to make a teaching point about each case that is presented and cares deeply enough about her students to tailor their experience to their interests. She allows opportunities for students to be more autonomous with medical decisions for their patients than with other rotations, while still making them feel prepared. … Every student has enjoyed the time they’ve spent sitting on her heavily Tennessee Volunteer-themed couch. …

“Dr. Ketchum, to thank you for your superior teaching, we would like to present you with this award and a special thank-you gift direct from Hogwarts (and not Orlando): a wand. The description for this wand reads as follows: Wood from Holly trees has magical healing properties and is thought to repel evil. Holly people make good leaders and thoughtful, loving and effective counselors. Holly people should use their understanding of the dark, hidden side of humanity to guide others in their time of need. …

“Such an apt description of psychiatry in general and of Dr. Ketchum in particular. So, Dr. Ketchum … we hope you know that the students of Pensacola campus can’t thank you enough for all that you do.”

Fort Pierce Campus’ Outstanding Community Faculty Educator: Lawrence Kantor, M.D.
Tribute from Tamara Marryshow Granados, fourth-year student

“From day one, [Dr. Kantor] welcomed me into his office as part of his [family medicine] team and engaged me at every level of patient care. He met with me before office hours every single day to go over questions and discuss concepts and also stayed late to do the same.

“His patients, staff, colleagues and students adore him for this very same reason; going above and beyond comes naturally to him. I will be a better physician one day for having had his kind and gentle mentorship.”
The Tallahassee Regional Campus marked a special anniversary in 2016: 10 years since the campus began offering clinical training opportunities in Thomasville, Georgia. The result of that partnership with Archbold Memorial: Nearly 50 College of Medicine students have completed their third and fourth years of clinical training in Thomasville. And, as you’ll see from the map on page 20, an increasing number of alumni are settling down to practice on both sides of the state line. The latest is Liberty Taylor (M.D., ’08), one of the first three FSU med students to train in Thomasville. She went all the way to Maine for her anesthesiology residency and practiced several years in Vermont – but late in 2016 she began working for Anesthesiology Associates in Tallahassee, and joined the College of Medicine faculty.

**ARCHBOLD ANNIVERSARY**

**Daytona Beach:**
- Anunporn “Tui” Srisawat, M.D., Guardian of the Mission Award.
- Joe Bianchi, M.D., Mike Fabian, M.D., David Ramshaw, M.D., and Mark White, M.D., co-honorees, Faculty of the Year Award.

*Daytona Beach Regional Campus, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Building 600, Suite 101, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, 386-252-0601, med.fsu.edu/daytona, Campus Dean Larry Dunn, M.D.*

**Fort Pierce:**
- Gary Silverman, M.D., Guardian of the Mission.
- Lawrence Kantor, M.D., Outstanding Community Faculty Educator.

*Fort Pierce Regional Campus, 2498 S. 35th St., Fort Pierce, FL 34981, 772-464-0034, med.fsu.edu/ftpierce, Campus Dean Juliette Lomax-Homier, M.D.*

**Orlando:**
- Alric Simmonds, M.D., Guardian of the Mission.
- Mario Madruga, M.D., Outstanding Clinical Faculty Educator.

*Orlando Regional Campus, 250 E. Colonial Drive, Suite 200, Orlando, FL 32801, 407-835-4103 x 411, med.fsu.edu/orlando, Campus Dean Michael Muszynski, M.D.*

**Pensacola:**
- Christopher Rush, M.D., Outstanding Community Educator.
- Michelle Brandhorst, M.D., Mission Model.
- Timothy Sammell, M.D., Outstanding Doctoring 3 Facilitator.
- Georgia Ketchum, M.D., Students’ Choice.
- David Tenniswood, M.D., Distinguished Junior Educator.

*Pensacola Regional Campus, 8880 University Parkway, Suite A, Pensacola, FL 32514-4911, 850-494-5939, med.fsu.edu/pensacola, Campus Dean Paul McLeod, M.D.*

**Sarasota:**
- Barbara Fleener, M.D., Mission Model.
- Harold Kulman, M.D., Community Faculty Educator.

*Sarasota Regional Campus, 201 Coconut Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236-4917, 941-316-8120, med.fsu.edu/sarasota, Campus Dean Bruce Berg, M.D.*

**Tallahassee:**
- Javier Escobar, M.D., clerkship director in emergency medicine, Outstanding Clinical Faculty.

*Tallahassee Regional Campus, 3331 Capital Oaks Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32308-4513, 850-645-1232, med.fsu.edu/tallahassee, Campus Dean Ronald Hartsfield, M.D.*
INVESTMENT KEEPS PIPELINE PROGRAM GROWING

The College of Medicine’s best-known pipeline program got a major boost in 2016 when 50 fresh-faced Immokalee students were inducted – thanks to a five-year, $500,000 commitment from the Naples Children and Education Foundation the previous year.

The program is SSTRIDE (Science Students Together Reaching Instructional Diversity and Excellence). Its track record reaches back to 1994, when it was established to diversify Florida State University’s Program in Medical Sciences, forerunner of the College of Medicine.

At the moment, SSTRIDE serves Florida communities in Collier, Gadsden, Leon, Madison, Okaloosa, Orange and Walton counties. As word of its success spreads, more communities are considering an investment in SSTRIDE for their own future health care.

“To date,” she said, “100 percent of SSTRIDE participants (1,078) have graduated from high school. Of the 63 percent tracked, 98 percent have enrolled in college and 65 percent have majored in a STEM-related field.”

In SSTRIDE’s college program, she said, 88 percent of participants have gone on to medical and graduate programs. An increasing number of them are now practicing physicians.

SSTRIDE alumni credit Berne-Anderson and her staff with the program’s effectiveness.

“Ms. Anderson is the reason that I got involved in SSTRIDE,” said Kharian Burnett-Foster, who grew up in a single-parent, underserved family and now is a first-year med student at FSU. “But she’s also the reason why I applied to medical school in the first place. I got my MCAT score back and wasn’t quite sure if I was going to apply or was going to take a gap year. She’s the one who encouraged me.”

Collier County is the latest addition to the SSTRIDE family. In September, those 50 Immokalee students in grades 8-10 were inducted.

NCEF, founder of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, supports charitable programs that improve the physical, emotional and educational lives of Collier’s underprivileged and at-risk children. Immokalee, an agricultural hub, has an abundance of Hispanic families whose livelihood often requires them to follow the crops. Their frequent traveling makes health care and education a challenge. Programs such as SSTRIDE – in connection with the partnership between the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida, Collier County schools and the College of Medicine’s Immokalee Health Education Site – are making a difference.

The goal, besides increasing the opportunities for all of Florida’s children, is a state in which patients and physicians look more like each other. At the moment, about 40 percent of Florida’s population is black or Hispanic – compared with only 20 percent of the physician workforce. A medical student who grows up in Immokalee, for example, is more likely to practice in Immokalee.

Which is where those 50 new inductees come in. They won’t all pursue health care, and they won’t all remain in Immokalee … but the odds just got better.

To find out more about SSTRIDE, visit med.fsu.edu/outreach
Whether in ideas coming from its biomedical sciences laboratories, or the sharing of knowledge through published articles, College of Medicine research is promoting advancements in health care. Sometimes, through impacting health-care policy.

Medicaid, the U.S. health-insurance program for low-income patients, represents about $1 of every $6 in health-care spending in this country. Understanding how Medicaid works is important to the way care is delivered to patients in Florida, where nearly 4 million people are enrolled or participate in its Children's Health Insurance Program.

Yet, few medical schools or other health-care-related organizations in the U.S. place a great deal of emphasis on Medicaid-related research. The reason, not surprisingly, is related to funding, or a lack thereof.

Meeting those challenges is part of what distinguishes the FSU College of Medicine.

“We are mission-centric in everything we do, and that certainly goes for our research,” said Les Beitsch, chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine, and a past deputy secretary of health in Florida. “I think it’s fair to say that Medicaid is what our mission is.”

While many people connect the College of Medicine’s mission to the types of physicians it is producing, few realize the impact it has on the research focus.

“There might only be a handful of places in the country that do more Medicaid work than we do,” Beitsch said. “Medicaid work is difficult, and I just don’t know that – in relation to how important it is for our population and for our economy – that there are enough people who care about doing that work.”

The college has at least 10 faculty members who devote a significant portion of their time to Medicaid-related research. That would include looking at things like disparities in health outcomes by socioeconomic standing and race, understanding disparities in infant mortality rates, or examining the cost and health benefits of managed-care programs.

Some of the 2016 Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine research aimed at improving Medicaid outcomes:
Assistant Professor Henry Carretta is evaluating what happens when pharmacists give feedback and input to clinicians about their patients’ medications. It’s part of a long-term Florida Agency for Health Care Administration demonstration project seeking to show that access to health-care services and voluntary pharmacy case reviews result in measurably improved health outcomes for older Medicaid patients. For example, some patients might avoid a medication that increases their side-effects profile, but fail to tell their physician.

Beitsch (1), as principal investigator, is working with a five-year contract to evaluate the Florida Long-Term Care Managed Care Program, through which Medicaid recipients receive long-term care services. He leads a team looking at patient access to the program’s services, and the quality and cost of the services to both quantify and qualify potential benefits.

Professor Jeffrey Harman (2) is examining a Medicaid program granting a family-planning waiver to see if it leads to better care, improved outcomes and improved (or neutral) cost associations for the state and federal governments. The waiver program seeks to decrease infant mortality, help individuals avoid unwanted pregnancy, and increase the amount of time between pregnancies to lead to better outcomes.

Harman also leads the study of a Medicaid managed-care program that began as a pilot project in a handful of Florida counties several years ago. The program places most Medicaid recipients in managed care with the goal of improving health outcomes, and lowering or better controlling costs. Harman’s research will help the state and federal government understand if the program is working.

With a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant, faculty member Tyra Dark is examining cardiovascular outcome disparities and the association with mental health for Florida Medicaid patients.

Other examples of mission-related behavioral sciences research at the College of Medicine in 2016:

- Associate Professor Heather Flynn (3) received a significant grant from the Florida Institute for Child Welfare in collaboration with the FSU College of Social Work to study “enhancing parental behavioral health services integration in child welfare.”

- Postdoctoral researcher Samantha Goldfarb (4) is performing a health-needs assessment focusing on access to mental-health services for children. She’s funded through a grant from Family Voices, a national nonprofit organization promoting quality health care for children, particularly those with special needs.

- Assistant Professor Charles Saunders (5), utilizing the Florida Youth Tobacco Survey, completed a longitudinal survey examining e-cigarette use, and whether it leads to increased likelihood of smoking.

- A team of researchers including Gail Bellamy (6), Naomi Brownstein (7), Karen Geletko (8) and Karen Myers (9) surveyed medical residents and attending physicians in FSU College of Medicine residency programs to learn more about advice being given on the health effects of e-cigarettes. What they found is that there is no consistency in the message, a clear indication that not enough is known about the health effects of e-cigarette use.

- Saunders, Geletko and Katelyn Graves evaluate the Florida Department of Health’s cancer-control program to identify data that may help improve the effort to reduce cancer mortality rates, with a focus on the programs aimed at breast and colorectal cancers.

- Professor George Rust (10), Family Medicine and Rural Health Associate Professor Joedrecka Brown Speights (11), Goldfarb and postdoctoral researcher Brittny Wells are conducting several studies as part of a health disparities project. Among the projects they are working on is one comparing the progress that states across the U.S. have made against disparities in health-care outcomes.
As the examples above attest, not all College of Medicine research takes place in the lab.

“Our mission statement talks about being responsive to community needs, and that’s how our research program has evolved, particularly over the last 10 years,” said Myra Hurt (12), formerly senior associate dean for research and graduate programs at the College of Medicine.

“We are making discoveries that improve quality of life, whether in shaping and influencing how health care is delivered in Florida, or in sharing new knowledge about the molecular basis of disease. Our Clinical Research Network (CRN) will allow us to involve millions of patients representing the true diversity of our state, leading to discoveries that aren’t likely to happen in a more traditional approach relying more heavily on clinical trials.”

Hurt also made news in 2016. She and her research partner, Raed Rizkallah, were issued a patent for the development of new antibody biomarkers specific to rapidly dividing cells. And she prepared to take on a new role after a national search produced a respected choice to assume her duties overseeing and directing the medical school’s evolving research program.

Jeffrey Joyce (13), previously vice president for research at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, replaced Hurt as of Feb. 1. In addition to continuing with her scientific research, Hurt now is overseeing a new division thanks to the development of a new academic major she envisioned for Florida State University.

The Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences degree program – the first of its kind in the nation – provides students interested in health care with numerous advantages. The program, involving seven FSU colleges (including the medical school), opened in fall 2016 with more than 100 students. The division also includes all of the outreach programs associated with each of those seven colleges.

Under Hurt’s direction, the college’s research program has experienced significant growth that led to numerous accomplishments in 2016. Some notable examples of research growth since she began overseeing the program in 2004:

- The CRN, potentially including millions of patients involved in the FSU College of Medicine’s unique community-based medical education model, made Florida State an attractive partner for

Research, ingenuity and entrepreneurship made 2016 a memorable year for Biomedical Sciences Professor James Olcese. His start-up company – KynderMed – has developed a light-emitting sleep mask to help at-risk pregnant women avoid the onset of premature labor. The invention came after years of researching the link between melatonin, a naturally occurring protein in the brain, and childbirth.

Olcese’s medical device won the $50,000 Cade Museum Prize for Innovation, created to provide seed money “for great ideas with market potential.” The prize competition, in its seventh year and named after Gatorade inventor Robert Cade, attracted more than 100 entries.

KynderMed also received a $300,000 investment from the Florida Institute for Commercialization of Public Research (FICPR) to assist in bringing the product to market. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration will need to approve the device before it is ready to be made available for use to the general public.
initiatives such as the OneFlorida Clinical Research Consortium. Central to the consortium’s goals is a data trust involving the FSU College of Medicine, the University of Florida, Capital Health Plan and Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare. The trust already includes de-identified health information for more than 10 million Florida patients. The data will provide countless opportunities to learn more about disease and to research from a data set reflecting Florida’s rich patient demographics.

☁ Contract and grant funding totaled slightly more than $7 million in 2004. During a difficult funding environment nationally, the total grew in 2016 to exceed $50 million.

☁ The College of Medicine accounts for nearly a quarter of FSU’s overall research portfolio and expanded by more than $15 million over the last five years at a time when the university’s research funding was otherwise decreasing.

☁ A new biomedical sciences Ph.D. program, begun by Hurt in 2006, has produced more than 40 graduates with around 40 currently enrolled.

☁ An annual research fair, also begun by Hurt in 2006, has grown from its humble roots to an annual event showcasing work spanning a wide variety of subjects and including the work of more than 100 research faculty and grad and medical students.

Some additional examples of the college’s research growth under Hurt from the past year:

☁ The medical school received more than $3.5 million in grants and contracts as part of two significant collaborative research programs in which it was asked to participate. The first is a National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award to the University of Florida Clinical and Translational Science Institute, for which FSU’s Clinical Research Network offered countless opportunities to include a broad and diverse mix of patients. The second is the OneFlorida Clinical Research Consortium with UF, the University of Miami and other partners. FSU is sharing in funding awarded to OneFlorida by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI),
Angelina Sutin, assistant professor of behavioral sciences and social medicine, in 2016 was named a fellow of the Association for Psychological Science, an organization dedicated to the advancement of scientific psychology. She was recognized for sustained and outstanding contributions to the advancement of psychological science, or to a scientific understanding of normal psychological processes, such as perception, memory, learning, motivation and psychobiology.

Sutin’s research addresses how personality traits are associated with physical and mental health in adulthood and how personality shapes the psychological understanding of experiences that people find meaningful.
grant for his work on a more effective treatment for temporal lobe epilepsy.

- Co-author Ruth Didier (23) and Professor Tim Megraw (24) from Biomedical Sciences contributed confocal imaging for a paper with FSU biological sciences professor and lead author Hengli Tang. The research provided the first major finding by scientists to show human cells are a target of the Zika virus and are negatively affected by it. The study was published in *Cell Stem Cell* as a collaborative paper from Florida State, Johns Hopkins and Emory universities. The paper was selected by NIH Director Francis Collins to be featured on the NIH Director’s Blog.

- Biomedical Sciences Professor Yoichi Kato (25) received a $365,000 NIH grant to study the “transition zone” of the cilium, a small cellular organelle that broadly exists throughout the human body.

- Department of Geriatrics Associate Professor Antonio Terracciano (26) received a $250,000 Florida Department of Health grant to examine the effectiveness and advance translational research of a caregiver-centered program for improving outcomes in caregivers and care recipients with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.

- Biomedical Sciences associate professors Akash Gunjan (27) and Eric Laywell (28) received $100,000 from the Florida Center for Brain Tumor Research to study novel therapeutic strategies for childhood brain tumors.

- Marshall Kapp (29), director of the Center for Innovative Collaboration in Medicine and Law, collaborating with Associate Dean Gregory Turner, received a Retirement Research Foundation grant to develop continuing professional education modules for physicians and attorneys on the topic of interprofessional cooperation on behalf of older patients and clients.

- The Binational Science Foundation awarded Biomedical Sciences Professor Yuan Wang $135,000 to study a protein whose absence in the brain is considered the leading heritable cause of autism.

- The PLAID Journal, a diabetes research publication created by Maguire Medical Library Director Martin Wood (30), sponsored its second World
Florida State now has the most advanced MRI machine in the state as part of a focus on neuroscience. The new functional magnetic resonance imaging machine, located at the College of Medicine, is giving FSU researchers a powerful new way to advance discoveries about everything from psychological disorders and memory and cognitive control to changes associated with aging.

“At’s analogous to upgrading from an old Polaroid instant camera to one of today’s high-end digital offerings,” said FSU Vice President for Research Gary Ostrander.

Diabetes Day Research Symposium. Among other things, the event highlighted diabetes research taking place at FSU.

- Biomedical Sciences graduate student Lataisia Jones (31) was awarded the 2016 Graduate Student Leadership Award by the Graduate School and Congress of Graduate Students (COGS). She also was awarded the 2016-17 Leslie N. Wilson-Delores Auzenne Graduate Assistantship for Minorities.

- Biomedical Sciences Professor Michael Blaber (32) and his former postdoctoral associate, Jihun Lee, were awarded a patent related to the development of fibroblast growth factor mutants.

- Researcher Diego Zorio received a private grant from Genentech to study advanced neurodegenerative disease.

Several College of Medicine researchers won GAP and/or Council on Research and Creativity awards from Florida State University to encourage and promote continued work on promising discoveries:

- Daniel Kaplan (33), an associate professor of biomedical sciences, identified a protein that could be an early indication for colorectal cancer, which affects almost 1.2 million people. If this cancer is caught early, the survival rate is high. Unfortunately, it is often not caught at the early stages.

- Pradeep Bhide (34), professor of biomedical sciences, is developing a new drug to treat cognitive inflexibility. Cognitive inflexibility hampers a child’s ability to learn by making it difficult to switch between thinking about one concept to another or multiple concepts simultaneously. Aspects of cognitive inflexibility are found in autism, obsessive compulsive disorder, schizophrenia and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. It affects roughly 25 million people, but no drug has been developed specifically to treat the condition.

- Biomedical Sciences Associate Professor Michelle Arbeitman (35) is working on a genomic analysis of the mammalian maternal brain.

- Antonia Nemec, a Biomedical Sciences research faculty member, is studying DNA repair gene mutations as biomarkers for breast cancer.

- Angelina Sutin, assistant professor of behavioral sciences, is examining links between parent perceptions and child weight gain.

- Yanchang Wang (36), associate professor of biomedical sciences, is looking at the link to various diseases related to the degradation of misfolded proteins.
Among the College of Medicine's dozens of excellent hospital partners, Orlando Health stands out for at least two reasons:

1. More College of Medicine alumni have pursued residency training at Orlando Health than anywhere else in the country.
2. Orlando Health recently cemented its FSU friendship with an attention-getting gift of $500,000.

The gift announcement took place Dec. 9 in Orlando, where the College of Medicine has a regional campus for third- and fourth-year students.

"Orlando Health has been an incredible partner with a superb teaching environment," FSU President John Thrasher said at the ceremony. "This gift will be invested locally to support the kind of medical education that leads many of our students to become practicing physicians caring for patients throughout the Orlando community and, in many cases, to work for Orlando Health as part of its next generation of physicians."

College of Medicine students at all six statewide campuses have taken notice, said Michael Muszynski, dean of the Orlando campus.

"From our first graduating class in 2005 to the present, by percentage and total number, more College of Medicine graduates have chosen to do their residency training at Orlando Health than any other teaching institution," he said. Thrasher noted that nearly 50 College of Medicine alumni physicians are now practicing in the Orlando area, with 12 of them on the medical school's faculty.

"Orlando Health’s teachers are our teachers,” College of Medicine Dean John P. Fogarty said at the presentation. "They are critical to the success of our fourth-year curriculum in particular, since the advanced internal medicine rotation is hospital-based.”

Orlando Health is a $2.6 billion not-for-profit health-care organization and a community-based network of physician practices, hospitals and outpatient care centers throughout Central Florida. It’s home to the area’s only Level One Trauma Centers for adults and pediatrics, and it’s a statutory teaching hospital system that offers both specialty and community hospitals. Additionally, Orlando Health provides more than $204 million in support of community health needs.

Chief Operating Officer Jamal Hakim said Orlando Health is proud of its partnership with FSU.

"Medical education is critically important in the training of tomorrow’s physicians,” he said. “Teaching medical school students and residents who have already graduated from medical school has been, and will continue to be, one of our core missions.”
The world of Dance Marathon at FSU used to be divided into three fairly distinct camps: those who danced in FSU’s largest student-run philanthropy, those who gratefully accepted and disbursed the proceeds, and those who converted that money into hands-on services for local kids. But in 2016, the gaps between those groups noticeably shrank. The hundreds of mostly undergrads who dance are more interested than ever in seeing where their money goes. The College of Medicine is more willing than ever to show them. And a growing number of medical students are finding the time to dance themselves.

Take PIG, for example. Students in the Pediatric Interest Group always were in the atrium when Dance Marathon at FSU presented its jumbo check each fall. After all, DM’s motto of “For the kids” could be PIG’s motto as well. In 2016, though, PIG was much more hands-on. In addition to recruiting med students to dance, it also recruited them to take dancers’ vital signs during the big weekend. (The marathon is actually a yearlong effort that culminates in a 40-hour event, where students and faculty stand on their feet for one of two 20-hour shifts to benefit Children’s Miracle Network and the College of Medicine.)

Next, consider Susan LaJoie. She’s an assistant professor/nurse practitioner who rotates among three schools in Gadsden County, providing the medical care that DM dancers pay for. The school clinics represent a partnership among the College of Medicine, the Gadsden Health Department and Gadsden schools. LaJoie welcomes Dance Marathon organizers to tour her schools anytime – and in 2016 at least 100 did. She also reminds the med students that, if they want hands-on experience with underserved communities, they can do a medical rotation with her.

Now, let’s talk dollar amounts. DM’s checks to the med school over the past 14 years now total about $3.7 million. The 2016 check, officially from Dance Marathon at FSU and Children’s Miracle Network at UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital, totaled $715,368.37 and will benefit children throughout Gadsden and Leon counties. This year, the College of Medicine also shared proceeds with Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare to support pediatric services, including potentially lifesaving genetic screening for a few adolescents. Also this year, some of the proceeds supported pediatric services at Bond Community Health Center; Big Bend Hospice; and the Young Parents Project at Early Head Start. Every year, the check gets bigger.

Finally, in case you’re wondering why one student was momentarily sitting in the dark, staring at her laptop: That’s Lex Kimmel, one of seven med students who danced in the 2016 Marathon. The photographer caught her in the dark, doing what med students are famous for: studying. She was at the Civic Center on Sunday, Feb. 28, and a big exam was scheduled for the following Thursday. It’s called multitasking … for the kids.

DANCERS WITH STETHOSCOPES
The SPs appreciate that Danforth doesn’t take them for granted. “She leads, supports and serves the SPs in equal measure, providing clear and cogent explanations through in-depth training on each case as well as debriefings as necessary,” said Propst, an SP since 2001. “Few understand the difficulty inherent in training for encounters in which only one of the parties has a script, but Deb is amazingly adept at covering virtually every contingency.”

At the Nov. 4 naming ceremony, the room was packed with SPs, faculty members, staff members and students. Dean John P. Fogarty praised the Danforths’ generosity and Deb’s dedication. But when the spotlight moved to her, suddenly this woman who’s never at a loss for words couldn’t find a single one. “I felt like I was going to start crying,” she said later. Before the redesigned wall was unveiled, she expected just a plaque. But in addition were two framed photos of CLC activity, plus large gold letters spelling out ‘THE DANFORTH SUN-ROOM.’”

“It was a nice surprise,” she said. “The other thing that surprised me was how many people were here.” After all, she had never planned anything like this. All she did was develop a habit of quietly, steadily contributing modest amounts out of each paycheck. “As director, you can’t ask people to give you money unless you’re giving also,” she said. “I guess it added up!”

Years ago, a mentor at the University of South Florida introduced her to the idea of small-but-constant giving – perfect for people who don’t consider themselves wealthy but want to support programs that are meaningful to them. She and the college’s development officers hope other potential donors are inspired by The Danforth Sunroom. A number of other rooms in the College of Medicine are available. So are roughly two dozen manikins. They’d love to take your name.

Want to donate to the CLC? Contact Assistant Dean Jim McNeill at jim.mcneill@med.fsu.edu or 850-644-4389.

Want to become a standardized patient? Visit www.med.fsu.edu and click on Key Links.
Meet Bill Leseman, one of the College of Medicine’s standardized patients. A few years ago, he and his brother decided to sell a piece of lake property that had been in the family since the 1930s. Leseman (pronounced LESS-man) told Deb Danforth that if the property sold, he’d hand her a check. In 2016 he made good on his promise. “No one’s ever done this before,” she told him. “Just walked in the door and handed me such a large check!”

In addition, Leseman and his tolerant Florida Gator wife, Susan, have set up an endowment – and a certain percentage of their estate will go toward ongoing support of the CLC. He’s been an SP for eight years. “I love working here,” said Leseman, who graduated from FSU in 1972 with a bachelor’s in chemistry – then worked for 31 years supervising the city of Tallahassee’s water-quality lab. “I enjoy the people I work with. I think that my life is enriched anytime I can learn something new, and every time I get a chance to portray a new case, I learn something new.”

When a student asked why he became an SP, he replied: “Because one of you may have to take care of me in the future. I want to make sure you’ve had an opportunity to learn as much as you possibly can.”

He treasures the look of discovery on a student’s face. “Let’s say, for example, they’ve already learned how to do pulses,” Leseman said, “but there are certain pulses that are difficult to feel. The ones in your feet, for example. On occasion you’re given an opportunity as an SP to say, ‘No, you need to go here,’ because you know where it is. And they find it and you see this. ‘Ah, THAT’S what it feels like!’”

Clearly he has confidence in what the College of Medicine is teaching – because his current doctor (Amanda Shearer) and her predecessor (Christie Alexander) are both alumni.

With its $500,000 gift, the Naples Children and Education Foundation is providing five years’ worth of support for a College of Medicine pipeline program that introduces promising Collier County students to careers in health care. STORY: page 37
Medical school is tough. So is parenthood. Tackling them at the same time? Unimaginable for most of us. Yet every year on Match Day, a handful of fourth-year students trudge across the stage with a child wrapped around them. Somehow, they manage.

But what if both parents are in med school or residency? What if they have multiple children?

Other than constant prayer, is there any support available for those intrepid parents?

There is now. Two active College of Medicine alumni, Matt and Stephanie Lee (M.D., both Class of ’06), have created an endowment specifically for medical students with children. Certainly no one knows the joys and challenges better than they do. The Lees’ first two daughters were born during medical school. Their third daughter was born during residency at UF Health in Jacksonville. Their son was born in 2011, after Stephanie had completed her OB-GYN residency but when Matt was beginning an orthopedic spine surgery fellowship at Johns Hopkins.

The Lees are quick to point out that their relatives provided enormous assistance.

“Both of our parents have been great,” said Matt, who practices at Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic. “Whenever we need anything, they’re always there.”

And they both think that raising a family, even during the stress-packed years of medical training, was a blessing rather than a curse.

“Having children WAS challenging,” said Stephanie, a physician at Elite Women’s Health. “There were several weeks when one of us would work days and the other one would work nights, and we wouldn’t see each other—but we still made it work out.

“Not only that, I think having a family gave us an advantage, a different perspective in residency. A lot of my colleagues would think, ‘Oh, work-work-work-work,’ and then they would get home and sleep, and there was no balance—there was nothing outside of work that they had to turn to if they needed support. Whereas when we got home—yes, we worked very hard when we were at work, but then when we got home, our attention was turned to our children.”

By the way, those remarks are from an interview in 2011—before they had settled into their Tallahassee practices and when Stephanie was pregnant with No. 4. Now that they’re 10 years past graduation, they’re more convinced than ever that babies and med school can mix—as long as the parents can find help when they need it.

That’s where their new endowment comes in. The first scholarship will be awarded in 2017.

Their gift agreement with the College of Medicine states: “This fund will reward deserving students … who are academically in the top 25% of their class, have financial need and have demonstrated meritorious service or clinical performance…. Preference will be given to medical students who, as students, are also parents of children.”

These days, the Lees are both College of Medicine faculty members. They’re both members of the FSU Medical Alumni Board. They never say “No” when the med school asks them to help publicize upcoming events—such as the time they cooked breakfast live on a morning TV show. A couple of times, they’ve also extended an open invitation to fellow alumni to come to their home to watch FSU football games.

“We love each and every one of our alumni,” said Dean John P. Fogarty. “But I’m not sure any med school in the country has a couple as devoted to their school as Matt and Stephanie Lee are. We greatly appreciate them.”
Last year’s annual report mentioned how Grace Dansby’s donations to the College of Medicine were providing scholarships for numerous students. Since then, she has received a rare honor: In August, at a special ceremony, FSU President John Thrasher conferred upon her the degree of honorary doctor of humane letters. Below are excerpts from the official citation for this “engaged civic leader, generous community philanthropist and loyal alumna of Florida State University.”

“A native of Dunnellon, Florida, you were one of the first students to attend the new Florida State University. In the decades that followed, you grew to local prominence in your adopted hometown of Tallahassee by exercising astute entrepreneurial acumen and by modeling servant-leadership.

“… [Y]ou demonstrated yourself to be a champion of [FSU’s] goals and growth and were an enduring presence at its events.

“You joined the Seminole Boosters as one of the original Golden Chiefs and continued to actively and generously support Florida State Athletics through the years.

“You befriended the university’s presidents, supporting them with your counsel and your distinguished standing in the community. To underscore your friendship with President Bernard F. Sliger, you and your husband, Sherrill Dansby, made a significant gift to the Sliger Endowment in Economics in 1984.

“You participated in the leadership committee that raised seed money to launch the University Center initiative, and you played a major role in the funding and placement of the landmark Unconquered Statue.

“You served on the boards of the FSU Foundation and WFSU, made significant contributions to the university’s capital campaigns and showed a deep commitment to the university’s capital campaigns and showed a deep commitment to the College of Medicine by establishing the Sherrill and Grace Dansby Scholarship Endowment for Medical Education in 2013.

“Your grace, strength of character and untiring resolve have made you the quintessential example of what a good and decent citizen ought to be: generous with your time, talents and treasure for the benefit of others.

“It is therefore fitting and appropriate to bestow upon you the high recognition designated by an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Florida State University.”
Medical scholarships typically go to students because of their financial need or excellent test scores. Last summer, for the first time, the Jules B. Chapman, M.D., and Annie Lou Chapman Private Foundation awarded $2,000 scholarships to 10 College of Medicine students for a different reason: their ability to communicate with patients in a sincere and humanistic way.

They were selected largely on recommendations from so-called “standardized patients,” the people who portray various illnesses for the students’ benefit in the Clinical Learning Center. “Many of us believe the ‘art’ of medicine remains at the heart of becoming a great physician,” Robert Watson, M.D., foundation trustee, wrote in a note to each recipient. “This scholarship validates that you are already practicing the ‘art.’ I hope you receive this scholarship with the pride it deserves.”

Half of the recipients are from the Class of 2018: Arnold Abud (1), Kelly Hensley (2), Brittany Kalbac (3), Bradford McGuire (4) and Savannah Williams (5). The other half are from the Class of 2019: Shelbi Brown (6), Sam Cook (7), Stefano Leitner (8), Rachel Pelt (9) and Clayton Rooks (10).

What is humanism? The national Gold Humanism Honor Society defines it as “the link between compassion and scientific competence. When practiced, humanism in medicine fosters relationships with patients and other caregivers that are compassionate and empathetic.” Patient-centered health care is spelled out in the College of Medicine’s mission statement and reinforced throughout the curriculum.

But at many medical schools, Watson said, there’s a disconnect.

“Deans solicit funds for scholarships to attract the ‘best and brightest,’” Watson, a neurologist and College of Medicine professor, wrote in Academic Medicine. “The ‘best’ goes undefined. [Medical schools] don’t know how to measure these qualities in the admissions process and generally utilize volunteer activities as a proxy…. At Florida State University College of Medicine we developed another way to recognize and reward students who best demonstrate humanism early in medical school.”

The Chapman Humanism Scholars Fund was established in 2015, and these 10 students are the first recipients of the Humanism Scholarships. To the best of Watson’s knowledge, this is the only scholarship explicitly awarded based on humanistic qualities – and the only one that relies so heavily on assessment by patients.

“Ideally, expertise should be paired with humanistic sincerity – the ‘how’ of the delivery is almost as important as the ‘what’ – and only those on the receiving end can really speak to how the student made us feel,” said veteran standardized patient Pat Propst. “Only if we’re comfortable in the belief that the student is seeing us as a person do we want him/her as our doctor.”
The financial burden of medical school got a little lighter in 2016 for eight College of Medicine students thanks to the Capital Medical Society Foundation, which has been awarding scholarships for more than 30 years. The latest scholarships totaled $47,000. They went to Brianna Baker, Gabriella Edington, Elizabeth Ichite, Meghan McCallister, David Powers, Marvin Rhodes, Jarrod Robertson and Clayton Rooks.

Baker, Ichite, McCallister, Powers, Rhodes and Rooks, like all first- and second-year students, attend classes at the College of Medicine’s main campus. Edington and Robertson are based at the Tallahassee Regional Campus, one of six campuses where FSU med students spend their third and fourth years.

The scholarship recipients were chosen by a committee comprising Capital Medical Society members and Myra Hurt, now senior associate dean for interdisciplinary medical sciences. Frank Walker, the Tallahassee pediatrician who led the committee, is an alumnus of FSU’s Program in Medical Sciences, the forerunner of the College of Medicine.

The foundation always chooses students who have both a financial need and a desire to practice medicine here in Florida.

“Nearly 30 percent of all physicians are graduating with more than $200,000 in student loans, and more than half are $100,000 in debt,” Walker said. “My fellow physicians believe it is important to award scholarships to local Florida medical students, especially to those who are considering less lucrative practices in primary care.”

In a thank-you note to the committee, Baker described herself as a formerly frightened and frantic freshman who had discovered countless sources of encouragement and support at FSU.

“I was worried that when I entered medical school, this help would disappear,” she wrote. “You hear about how strenuous and difficult medical school is for its students, and you imagine the worst.” Instead, she said, she’d been “awestruck” by the ways in which the faculty put students first – and by the many scholarship and volunteer opportunities. “Thank you,” she wrote, “for believing in all of us.”

Executive Director Pam Wilson said the Capital Medical Society Foundation has provided a total of $481,489 in scholarships to medical students. Even though the College of Medicine wasn’t established until 2000, its students have received the majority of those scholarships – $454,000 worth.

Some past recipients now practice in Tallahassee, and a few serve on the Scholarship Committee.

The Capital Medical Society Foundation hosted its annual Holiday Auction in December. That fundraiser is what keeps these generous medical scholarships flowing.
Categories for College of Medicine people are often fluid. For example, sometimes doctors are patients. Sometimes patients are donors. Sometimes donors are students.

On the last day of September, in fact, some of the university’s top donors sat exactly where students sit and got a glimpse of what students learn.

It was the FSU Foundation’s second Presidents Club College. The daylong event allows FSU’s most generous donors to sample a curriculum based on several of the university’s big ideas.

Here at the College of Medicine, the participating faculty members were the wife-husband team of Nancy Hayes (associate professor, Office of Medical Education) and Richard Nowakowski (chair, Department of Biomedical Sciences). Topic: “Brain Function Across the Lifespan: A User’s Guide for the Sandwich Generation.” Mission: “Explore the development and decline of higher cognitive functions including memory, decision-making and bias.”

How did they do? Here’s a sampling of responses from participants: “Great program on how the brain works!” “Terrific presenters who taught an informative and interactive session.” “Interesting and informative session about the brain and very relevant for my age group.”

After the first Presidents Club College in 2014, when Department of Geriatrics Professor Ken Brummel-Smith (along with Neil Charness, psychology professor) explored successful longevity, the evaluations were equally glowing.

“Faculty members have the opportunity to showcase their talent while donors learn about the amazing research that is being done at Florida State,” said Emily Fulton, director of donor relations and stewardship in the foundation’s Office of Advancement Relations. “Honorees in the Presidents Club provide the backbone of critical private support that makes Florida State a leader in teaching, research and public service. This event is one way faculty members can engage and assure these donors that they have made a great investment.”

Like many other faculty members, Hayes, Nowakowski and Brummel-Smith don’t just teach at the College of Medicine. They also invest in it. Sometimes teachers are donors.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS

The friends of the College of Medicine have been generous again this past year. With our sincere appreciation, here is a partial listing of gift-makers and pledgers from fiscal year 2015 (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016). Donors help provide support for student tuition, for pipeline programs that increase the diversity of our student body, for essential research that leads to a healthier community, for our six regional campuses, and for various programs that enrich our students’ experience. We are grateful for all gifts, large and small.

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$50,000-$99,999
Aesculapian Management Co.
Frank J. and Lucia A. Castagna
Nona J. Rawls & H. Taylor Jones Foundation
Renaissance Charitable Foundation

$25,000-$49,999
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Dance Marathon at Florida State University
Grace H. Dansby
Charlotte E. Maguire
Naples Children & Education Foundation

$100,000-$499,999
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PERCENT OF TOTAL REVENUES

- Tuition and Fees: 18%
- Government & Parent Support: 42%
- Grants & Contracts: 18%
- Hospital Support: 10%
- Practice Plan: 1%
- Other: 5%

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