

2019 | a n n u a l r e p o r t



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



MISSION

*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.*





This “new medical school” is rapidly approaching the 20th anniversary of its June 2000 founding. While the beginning was rocky and met with resistance, it’s a pleasure to see how much we’ve grown since those early years. In 2019, we continued our forward momentum:

- We graduated our 15th M.D. class with 1,367 total graduates to date. We have more alumni in practice than in training programs.
- We also graduated our first class of 37 PA students, awarding them their master’s degrees in December after 15 months on the main campus and 12 months in clinical clerkships at our regional campuses. We welcomed our third class of PA students in late August, our first full-enrollment class of 60.
- We continued to expand our residency sponsorships, announced a new family medicine program at Winter Haven Hospital and recruited our first class of emergency medicine residents at Sarasota Memorial. We’ve also begun a new fellowship in palliative care at Sarasota Memorial and partnered with Lee Health to expand our clinical psychology postdoctoral program.
- Our undergraduate Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences Program continued to grow and graduated our first of many cohorts committed to future health and graduate careers. IMS is becoming one of the most popular majors here at FSU.
- We opened FSU PrimaryHealth in southwest Tallahassee adjacent to Sabal Palm Elementary in May, reflecting years of planning and preparation to build a practice for our new clinical faculty and providing primary care to an underserved local community. With FSU SeniorHealth doing well and FSU BehavioralHealth ready for launch in 2020, we will truly “live our mission” in caring for our communities.

- We’ve had remarkable growth in research funding in the past five years, from new recruits as well as our established faculty. We’re a full partner with the University of Florida in its recent competitive renewal of the CTSA award from the National Institutes of Health. As we’ve matured, we’ve seen increased success in grant submissions and larger awards for our investigators. We’ve contributed greatly to FSU’s remarkable rise in research success.
- Our pipeline programs continue to support us well. We remain one of the most diverse medical schools in the country for both African American and Hispanic student percentages.
- We’ve seen many of the early faculty and staff who created, nurtured and prevailed in establishing this school head to retirement and well-earned rests. For instance, Helen Livingston and Graham Patrick were here from the beginning and left lasting legacies in our student and educational programs. And Myra Hurt stepped down from a senior leadership role this year to concentrate on writing the definitive history of our College of Medicine.

We have greatly enjoyed telling the wonderful stories of the College of Medicine each year in our annual report since our first edition in 2009. We have an outstanding Public Affairs and Communications staff who each year highlight the best of our teaching, research and service accomplishments, our faculty and our staff. I invite you to enjoy our 2019 stories so well told in the following pages and reflect on how far we’ve come in our first 20 years.

John P. Fogarty, M.D.
Dean



HOW WE'RE UNIQUE

- 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 health-care providers 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 2019, more than half of our M.D. 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 rural or other underserved settings, where recruiting new physicians can be a challenge.



ACADEMIC DEGREES

- M.D.
- Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences
- M.S. in Biomedical Sciences–Bridge to Clinical Medicine Major
- M.S. in Physician Assistant Practice
- B.S. in Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences

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.

- A 10,000-square-foot primary-care health center (FSU PrimaryHealth) opened in 2019.

STUDENTS (as of Dec. 31, 2019)

Medical students: 480

- 124 minorities underrepresented in medicine* (73 Hisp/Lat, 51 Black/AA)
- 184 minorities in all (including Asian)* (73 Hisp/Lat, 51 Black/AA, 60 Asian)
- 275 women
- 205 men

Bridge students: 11

- 9 minorities underrepresented in medicine*
- 9 minorities in all (including Asian)*
- 7 women
- 4 men

PA students: 107

- 30 minorities underrepresented in medicine**
- 40 minorities in all (including Asian)**
- 79 women
- 28 men

Ph.D. students: 46

- 17 minorities
- 17 women
- 29 men

Postdoctoral fellows: 21

- 14 minorities
- 8 women
- 13 men

*(AMCAS – AAMC application)

** (CASPA)



CONTACT US

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Tallahassee, FL 32306-4300
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info@med.fsu.edu
med.fsu.edu

M.D. ALUMNI (as of Dec. 31, 2019)

- Total: 1,367. Of those graduates, 768 have completed residency and, in some cases, fellowship training and are now practicing physicians. Of those 768, 56 percent are practicing in Florida, and 54 percent of them are practicing primary care. (See where they're practicing, starting on page 12.)

FACULTY (as of Dec. 31, 2019)

- Full-time: 170
- Part-time: 3,246 (faculty members who teach in more than one program – for example, teaching M.D. students in addition to PA students or residents – are counted more than once)

REGIONAL CAMPUSES & TRAINING SITES

Students spend the first half of their College of Medicine experience at the main campus in Tallahassee. Then they branch out across the state, working alongside and learning from community providers at one of the college's regional campuses or training sites:

- Daytona Beach Regional Campus
- Fort Pierce Regional Campus
- Orlando Regional Campus
- Pensacola Regional Campus
- Sarasota Regional Campus
- Tallahassee Regional Campus

- Marianna Rural Program
- Immokalee Health Education Site
- Thomasville (Georgia) Program

The college partners with more than 200 health-care organizations statewide and thousands of clinicians to provide clinical training to our students.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

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

ACADEMIC CENTERS AND INSTITUTES

- Area Health Education Center
- Autism Institute
- Center for Behavioral Health Integration
- 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

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS (as of Dec. 31, 2019)

The College of Medicine sponsors the following residency programs:

- Dermatology at Dermatology Associates of Tallahassee (DAT) (6 residents).
- Emergency medicine at Sarasota Memorial Health Care System (9 residents).
- Family medicine at Lee Health in Fort Myers (25 residents).
- Family medicine at Winter Haven Hospital (expected to welcome first class of residents in July 2020).

- General surgery at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare (12 residents).
- Internal medicine at Lee Health in Cape Coral (new; seeking program director)
- Internal medicine at Sarasota Memorial (38 residents).
- Internal medicine at Tallahassee Memorial (28 residents).

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS (as of Dec. 31, 2019)

- Family medicine-global health at Lee Health (2 fellows).
- Hospice and palliative medicine at Sarasota Memorial (expected to welcome first class of fellows in July 2020).
- Micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology at DAT (1 fellow).

BRIDGE TO CLINICAL MEDICINE PROGRAM

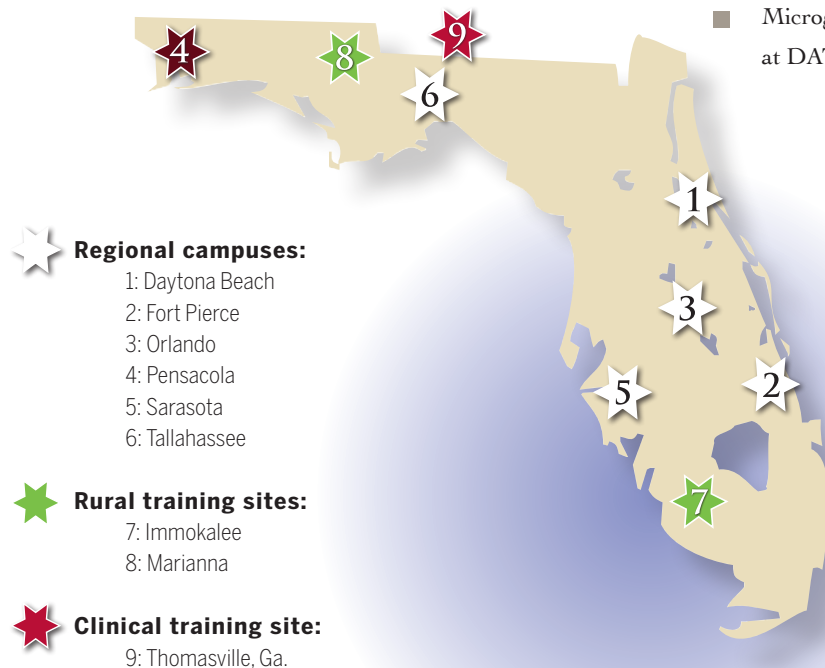
The Bridge Program is designed to expand the pool of successful medical school applicants from medically underserved, rural and inner-city communities. It is a 12-month program that provides both education in medical knowledge and experiences in clinical practice.

SCHOOL OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE

The first class of 40 PA students arrived in 2017, after the program earned provisional accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant. The challenging 27-month program was designed to prepare graduates to practice medicine as part of the physician-PA team. The first class graduated in December 2019. Fifty students joined the second class in 2018. The third class increased to the maximum of 60 students.

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.



SNAPSHOT: M.D. CLASS OF 2023

- Applications for this class totaled 7,313.
- More than half of the students are women.
- Nineteen students are Spanish/Hispanic/Latino, 15 are black, 13 are Asian and five are Asian Indian.
- Twenty-eight come from the Florida Panhandle.
- Ten come from counties classified as rural.
- Twenty percent define themselves as disadvantaged.
- About half did their undergrad work at FSU.
- The top three majors are biology, biomedical science and exercise physiology. One student majored in industrial and systems engineering and minored in business. One got a B.S. in chemistry and B.A. in Japanese. And one got a bachelor's in construction management, with a later master's in pharmacy.
- Among the places where these students were born and/or raised: Cuba, Jamaica, Guatemala, Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil, England, Greece, India, Egypt, Ethiopia, South Korea. One is a first-generation Hungarian-American. And one has Hispanic and Asian roots.
- Many have done research. In fact, one was clinical research coordinator at a center for rare disease research and therapy. Among the topics these students have explored are kids with OCD, kids



with ADHD, Down syndrome, post-partum depression, sexism in STEM fields, obesity, gene therapy, social anxiety disorder, early detection of Alzheimer's, macular degeneration, pancreatic cancer, stroke intervention, sickle-cell disease, the Windover Bog ancient civilization, and (yikes) scorpion and centipede venom.

- As for volunteering? Loads of tutoring, serving in homeless shelters, and benevolent work through sororities and fraternities. Katharyn Lindborg was named the FSU President's Undergraduate

Humanitarian of the Year for the College of Medicine. A quick sampling of other students' volunteering: coaching soccer with disabled young athletes, teaching Boy Scout merit badge classes, interpreting Spanish at a children's hospital, offering an art therapy program for inner-city youth, and working to raise awareness of human trafficking.

- Many pursued service-learning opportunities in the Caribbean, Central America, South America and even Vietnam.

- These students didn't all come to med school straight out of college. One worked nine years for Veterans Affairs. One served in the Army as executive officer for a forward surgical team. One served as a commissioned naval officer for seven years and spent three years teaching at the Naval Academy. One was an amphibious reconnaissance corpsman in Navy Special Ops, then a deputy sheriff. One led large hospital programs in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear exposure preparedness and respiratory protection.

One was a head girls basketball coach in middle school. One was a pharmacy manager but decided he wanted a larger role in his patients' health.

- Apart from careers, they bring a diverse array of other activities: FAMU cheerleader, cellist, neonatal ICU music therapist, swimming/diving team, women's crew team, Ultimate Frisbee Club, saxophone player in Marching Chiefs, personal trainer, professional rescuer instructor. One participated in a 4,000-mile charity run that raised over \$800,000 for a cancer fund.

- Three have the last name Nguyen – but they all pronounce it differently. Also, there are two Laurens, one Lauryn and one Laura. Two Gabrielles and one Gabriella. A Tim, a Timothy and a Valeria Thimothée.
- In their precious free time, favorite pursuits include music, yoga, soccer, volleyball, biking, hiking, fishing, scuba diving, paddle-boarding, lifting weights, traveling, relaxing at the beach and attending church. These were our favorites: “traditional/Bollywood Indian dancing and mixed martial arts”; “endlessly watching ‘The Office’ on repeat”; and “searching for the best macaroni and cheese in town.”
- What drives them? Natalia Correa “aspires to utilize her diversity to promote universal health care and bridge disparities in medicine.” Leigh Jordan’s interest in medicine developed while she witnessed “the desperate need for psychiatric care in underserved and rural communities.” Jacqui Lowell’s “struggles as a patient with language barriers while living abroad have impassioned her to improve the medical experiences of uninsured patients in the U.S.” Born with “brittle bone disease,” Priscilla Morelli “has endured 34 surgeries and over 150 fractures” and “is confident that her background has provided the determination, empathy and optimism necessary to become the ideal physician.”







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MEETING THE MISSION

Fourteen members of the College of Medicine's first class of graduates completed residency training and entered practice in 2008. That class will soon celebrate its 15th-anniversary reunion.

Today, more than 400 of our alumni are practicing in Florida (and nearly 800 nationally) as the College of Medicine continues to fulfill the legislative mandate that created the school when signed into law in June of 2000.

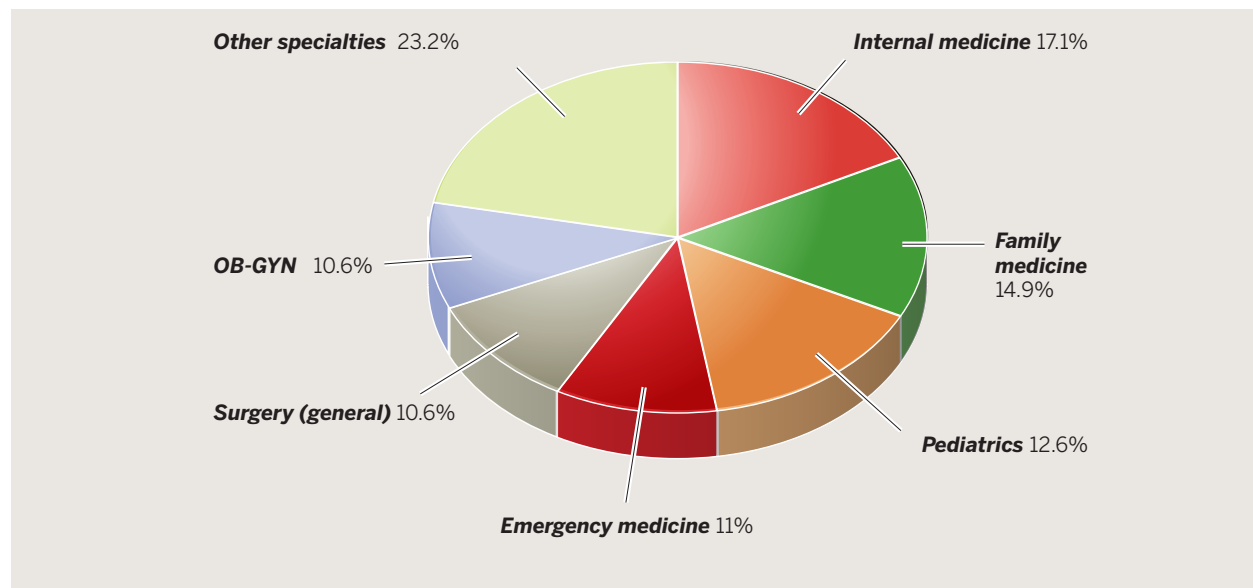
The law describes how FSU's medical school would meet community needs in Florida, providing new physicians to work with the state's elder, rural, minority and underserved populations.

As illustrated on these pages, FSU medical alumni are caring for those patients throughout Florida – many of them practicing in communities where recruiting new doctors has traditionally been a struggle.

And in 2019, the College of Medicine achieved another milestone in its effort to meet Florida's health-care needs: The School of Physician Assistant Practice graduated its first class of 37 students. Those newest members of the FSU medical alumni team are going to work in all parts of the state, adding another layer of health-care access for patients.

The latest about how Florida State is meeting its mission through the practitioners it produces can always be found at med.fsu.edu/alumni.

MATCH DAY RESULTS, 2005-2019

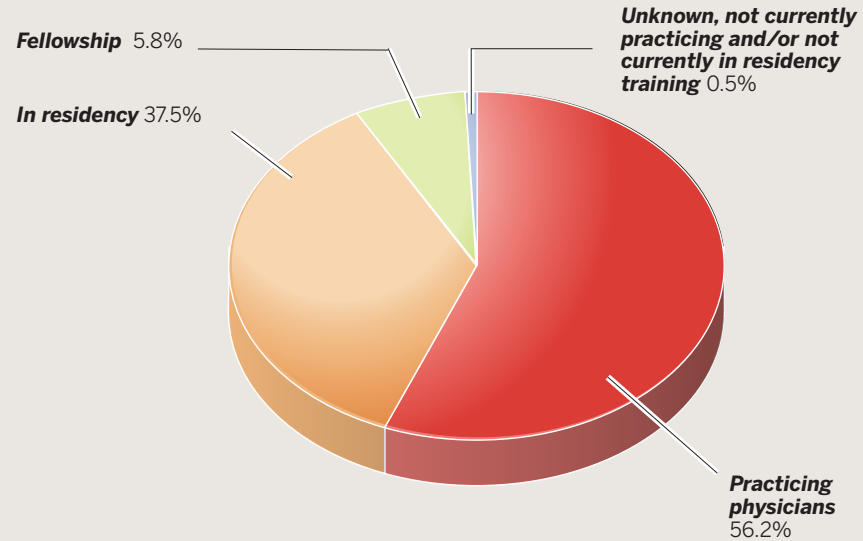


ALUMNI – AT A GLANCE

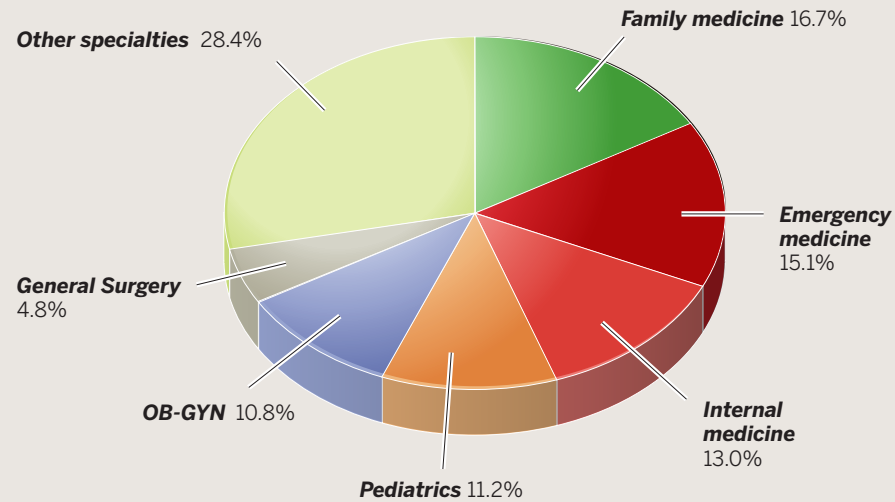
(As of Dec. 31, 2019)

- First class graduated – 2005
- 768 current practicing physicians (of 1,367 alumni)
- 51 percent of those in practice are in primary care specialties (including internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics and OB-GYN).
- 56 percent of the alumni physicians in practice are in Florida or a Florida border county (414 in Florida, 10 in Georgia, and eight in Alabama. Nine of those practicing in Georgia are in or near Thomasville, where the College of Medicine has a clinical training site).
- 54 percent (233 physicians) in Florida or a border county are practicing primary care.
- 218 of our alumni physicians practicing in Florida are in one of our regional campus communities.
- 102 alumni physicians are located in the Florida Panhandle from Perry to Pensacola or in a Georgia or Alabama border county.
- 120 alumni are on the College of Medicine clinical faculty.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI (2005-19)

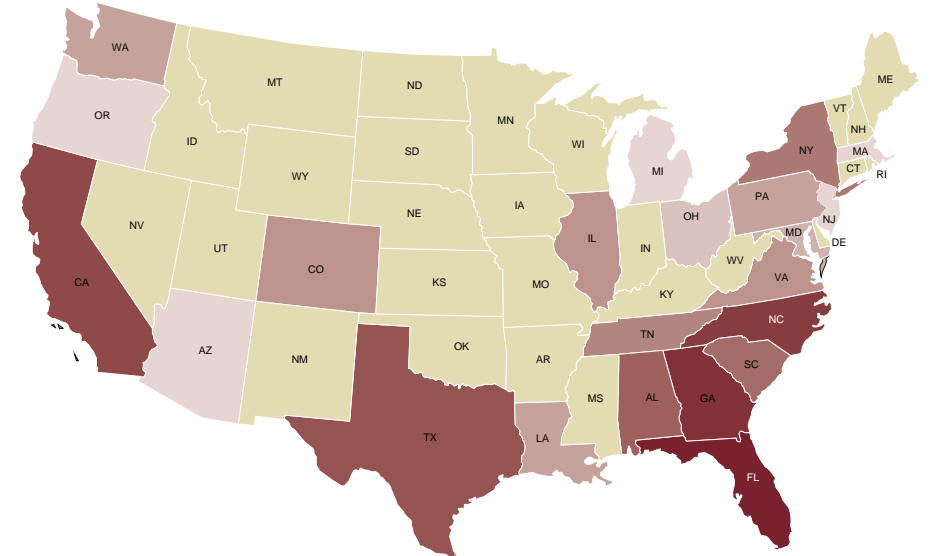


ALUMNI IN PRACTICE (BY SPECIALTY)



STATES WITH THE MOST ALUMNI IN PRACTICE

	STATE	NO:
1:	Florida	414
2:	Georgia	42
3:	North Carolina	41
4:	California	29
5:	Texas	27
6:	Alabama	21
7:	South Carolina	17
8:	New York	15
9:	Tennessee	12
10:	Colorado	11
	Illinois	11
	Virginia	11
13:	Louisiana	10
	Pennsylvania	10
	Washington	10
16:	Maryland	8
17:	Ohio	6
18:	Arizona	5
	Massachusetts	5
	Michigan	5
	New Jersey	5
	Oregon	5



FSU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI PRACTICING IN FLORIDA (OR IN BORDER COUNTIES OF NEIGHBORING STATES)

(As of Dec. 31, 2019)

NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY
Class of '05					
Christie Alexander**	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Tristan Altbuch	Gainesville	Orthopedic surgery
Kerry Bachista	Jacksonville	Emergency medicine	Shazia Aman	Orlando	Cardiovascular disease
Julie Barré	Sarasota	Orthopedic surgery	Jorge Barrero	Fort Lauderdale	Nephrology/hypertension
David Bojan	Lehigh Acres	Emergency medicine	John Beach	Fort Lauderdale	Emergency medicine
Garrett Chumney**	Blountstown /Tallahassee	ER/Family medicine	Christopher Bingham	Tampa	Hospitalist
Shayla Gray**	Tallahassee	Behavioral health/ Family medicine	Sandy Calle	Miami Beach	Pediatrics
Fawn Harrison**	Sarasota	Pediatrics	Shani-Kay Chambers	Pembroke Pines	Pediatrics
Michael Hernandez	Jacksonville	Hospitalist	Erin Connelly	Coral Gables	Pediatrics
Alex Ho**	Tallahassee	Emergency medicine	Robert Crescentini	Tampa	Hematology/oncology
Joda Lynn	Perry	Emergency medicine	Margaret Davis Hovda	Jacksonville	Pulmonary/critical care
Javier Miller**	Oviedo	Urology	Andrew Gamenthaler**	Daytona Beach	General surgery
Jason Rocha	Pensacola	Orthopedic surgery	Rosemary Garcia Getting	Tampa	Anesthesiology
Neil Rodgers	Lakeland	Emergency medicine	Roberto Gonzalez	Miami	Interventional endoscopy
Lorna Stewart	Orlando	Hospitalist	Charles-Eric Hotte	Fort Lauderdale	Gastroenterology
Class of '06			Timothy Kubal	Tampa	Hematology/oncology
Jason Acosta**	Maitland	Anesthesiology	Adam Langley**	Ocoee	Family and sports medicine
Sandra Brafford	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Kyle Moyles**	Melbourne	Hand and wrist surgery
Kara Brooks	Crestview	Family medicine	Pragnesh Parikh	Jacksonville	Cardiology
Scott Brotherton	Palm Harbor	Orthopedic surgery	Nishita Patel **	Daytona Beach	Ophthalmology
David Drossner	Palm Beach Gardens	Pediatric cardiologist	Bina Patel-Elio	Palm Harbor	Family medicine
Zaher Elmir	Mount Dora	General surgery	Josef Plum	Tallahassee	Family medicine
Brian Gibson	Panama City	Otolaryngology	Kristen Shepherd**	Sarasota	OB-GYN
Manny Herrera**	Orlando	OB-GYN	Beau Toskich	Jacksonville	Interventional oncology radiology
Victor Hultstrand**	Pensacola	OB-GYN	Gary Visser**	Ocoee	Family and sports medicine
Luis Izquierdo	Orlando	Otolaryngology	Brandy Willis**	Tallahassee	Family medicine
Melissa Launder	Trinity	Family medicine	Class of '08		
Matthew Lee**	Tallahassee	Orthopedic surgery	George Amyradakis	Winter Park	OB-GYN
Stephanie Lee**	Tallahassee	OB-GYN	Jessica Auffant**	Orlando	OB-GYN
Mark Leyngold	Gainesville	Plastic surgery	Murray Baker	Tallahassee	Emergency medicine
Kevin McLean	Orlando	Diagnostic radiology	Marc Bernstein	Sarasota	Gastroenterology
Aaron Nordgren	Port Charlotte	Diagnostic radiology	Todd Besnoff	Clearwater	Cosmetic services
Stelio Rekkas**	Bradenton	General surgery	Matthew Buckler	Plantation	Diagnostic radiology
Regan Rostorfer**	Orlando	Hematology/oncology	Kristin Caldwell	Jacksonville	OB-GYN
Chris Sundstrom**	Tallahassee	OB-GYN	Ashley Cauthen	Ocala	Dermatology
Luc Tran	New Port Richey	Psychiatry	Paola Dees	St. Petersburg	Pediatrics
Esther Vildor-Dazil	Coral Gables	Internal medicine	Tanya Evers**	Tallahassee	OB-GYN
Class of '07			Griffin Gaines	Bradenton	Cardiology
Robin Albritton**	Marianna	Family medicine	Andrew Galligan	Tampa	Pediatric hematology/oncology
Sady Alpizar	Tampa	Internal medicine	Nathanael Hawkins	Apalachicola et al.	Emergency medicine
			Patrick Hawkins**	Bonifay	Family medicine
			Lindsay Hinson-Knipple	Tampa	OB-GYN
			^Adam Huddleston	^Daphne, Ala.	Radiation oncology
			Kathryn Hunt	Pensacola	Family medicine

NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY
Kristi Killingsworth	Maitland	Family medicine	Stephanie Prada	Melbourne	Internal medicine
Justin Kim	Maitland	Anesthesiology	Shannon Roberts Morrison	Venice	Emergency medicine
Janet McNaughton	Sarasota	Pathology	Richard Rodriguez	Tampa	Emergency medicine
Amy Neal**	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Lauren Ruoss	Gainesville	Neonatology
Michelle Norden**	Lake Mary	Pediatrics	Pace		OB-GYN
Aarti Patel	Tampa	Cardiovascular science	Jacksonville		Ped. Endocrinology
Anjan Patel**	Sarasota	Hematology/oncology	Fort Walton Beach		Endocrinology
Randa Perkins	Tampa	Medical Informatics	Daytona Beach		Emergency medicine
Ivan Porter	Jacksonville	Nephrology/hypertension	Orlando		Critical care
Charles Ritchie	Jacksonville	Radiation oncology	Pembroke Pines		Vascular surgery
Sarah Ritchie	Jacksonville	Pediatrics	^Fairhope, Ala.		Pediatrics
Amanda Shearer	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Blountstown		Emergency medicine
Seth Smith	Gainesville	Family medicine	Tallahassee		Orthopedic surgery
John Streaker**	Tallahassee	Family/Emergency medicine			
Liberty Taylor**	Tallahassee	Anesthesiology			
Marla Trapp**	Jacksonville	Geriatrics			
Cody VanLandingham	Tallahassee	Family medicine			
Johnny Washington	Jacksonville	Orthopedic surgery			
Anne Whitlock**	Santa Rosa Beach	OB-GYN			
Nikita Wilkes	Jacksonville	OB-GYN			
Jeremy Williams	Orlando	Emergency medicine			
Class of '09			Class of '10		
Ellen Abellana	Orange Park	Anesthesiology	Brandon Allen	Gainesville	Emergency medicine
Shawn Agee	Jacksonville	Retina specialist	Allessa Allison**	Pensacola	OB-GYN
Taalibah Ahmed	Miami	OB-GYN	Tanya Anim**	Fort Myers	Family medicine
Ryan Baker**	Bradenton	Family medicine	Thomas Babcock**	Pensacola	Otolaryngology
George Barrio	Panama City	Neurology	Megan Bagwell**	Daytona Beach	OB-GYN
Christina Brennan	St. Augustine	Dermatology	Kristen Barrie Williams	Winter Haven	Anesthesiology
Casey Carrigan	Jacksonville	Neurohospitalist	Marjorie Bhogal**	Daytona Beach	OB-GYN
Maria Castilla	Port Charlotte	General surgery	Adam Branoff	Jacksonville	Emergency medicine
Jeffrey Chiu**	Orlando	General surgery	^Matthew Buck**	^Bainbridge, Ga.	Pediatrics
^Elving Colon**	^Thomasville, Ga.	Family medicine	Elizabeth Dickens**	Quincy	Family medicine
Leslie Davis-Singletary	Jacksonville	Hospitalist	Brian Gadbois	Tampa	Psychiatry
Mark Gallagher**	Stuart	Emergency medicine	Tracy Graham**	Tallahassee	Emergency medicine
Amy Harrison	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Jennifer Gutierrez	Orlando	Anesthesiology
Irmanie Hemphill	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Marc Gutierrez**	Maitland	Anesthesiology
Luis Hernandez	Miami	Colorectal surgery	Shoshana Hacker**	Port St. Lucie	General surgery
Alisa Holland	Tampa	Internal medicine	Michael Hall	Miami	Radiation oncology
Nowoghomwenma Ibie	^Dothan, Ala.	Nephrology	William Hammond**	Jacksonville	Hematology
Jonathan Journey	Gainesville	Emergency medicine	Mariam Hanna	Lakeland	Diagnostic radiology
Steele Lancaster	Tallahassee	Physical pain & rehab	Mary Hilal Quarterman	Orlando	Internal medicine
Jada Leahy**	Pensacola	General surgery	Bernice Hippolyte	St. Petersburg	Family medicine
Erin Mariano	Ocala	Orthopedic surgery	Glenn Hoots	Tampa	Interventional radiology
Jennifer Maziad**	Maitland	Anesthesiology	Noureen Idrees-Asad**	Boca Raton	Pediatrics
Langdon Morrison	Venice	Emergency medicine	Arif Ishmael**	Stuart	Gastroenterology
Natalie Munoz-Sievert**	Orlando	OB-GYN	Matthew Johnston	Orlando	Thoracic surgery
Teresa Nodal	Miami	Pediatrics	Carolyn Johnstone	Naples	Emergency medicine
			Diana Krblich	Sarasota	Family medicine/urgent care
			William Long	St. Augustine	Emergency medicine
			Meghan Martin	St. Petersburg	Pediatrics
			Molly McIntyre	New Port Richey	Emergency medicine
			^Lesley McPeak	^Kings Bay, Ga.	Pediatrics
			Maureen Mendoza	Miami	Pediatrics
			Heidi Neal Kenney	Jacksonville	Emergency medicine
			Chiaka Oparaocha	Orlando	Hospitalist
			Nora Pepper-Horton**	Tallahassee	Pediatrics
			Phung Pham	Plantation	Anesthesiology

NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY
Vanessa Prowler	Lakeland	Breast surgical oncology
Kate Ross**	Sarasota	Dermatology
Christopher Sherman	Clearwater	Urology
Anthony Sochet	St. Petersburg	Pediatrics
Kristin Sochet	St. Petersburg	Family medicine
Ryan Suplee	Sarasota	Vascular surgery
Kelly Unkrich	Jacksonville	Ophthalmology
Vanessa Vasquez	West Palm Beach	Emergency medicine
Jill Ward	Jacksonville	Emergency medicine
Eilene Weibley	St. Petersburg	Family medicine
Tiffany Wells	Jacksonville	OB-GYN
Cortney Whittington**	Crawfordville	Family medicine

Class of '11

Obinna Adigweme	Winter Park	Orthopedic surgery
Brett Armstrong	Lutz	General surgery
Alvaro Bada	Port Charlotte	General surgery
Rachel Bixler	Port St. Joe	Family medicine
Philip Burke	Clermont	Internal medicine
David Cangemi	Jacksonville	Gastroenterology
Rachel Cartechine	Melbourne	OB-GYN
Justin Casey	Fort Myers	Otorhinolaryngology
Ashley Chandler Regnaud**	Pensacola	Plastic surgery
Ethan Cohen**	Daytona Beach	Emergency medicine
Amanda Cooke**	Orlando	Pediatrics
Andrew Cooke**	Tavares	Allergy/Asthma
Matthew Cox	Winter Park	Otology/neurotology
Kathleen Crick	Orlando	Pediatrics
Jeffrey Cummings	Tampa	Internal medicine
Shannon Davis	Naples	Hospitalist
Rafael de la Puente**	Sarasota	Emergency medicine
Jonathan Dean**	Daytona Beach	General surgery
Juline Deen	Gainesville	OB-GYN
Justin Deen	Gainesville	Arthroplasty/joint reconstr.
Christopher Dixon	Orlando	Maternal and fetal medicine
Marlisha Edwards	Tallahassee	Family medicine
Mark Elliott	Pensacola	Orthopedic surgery
Vanessa Escobar	Seffner	Family medicine
Veronica Finnegan Carden	Pensacola	Radiation oncology
Desmond Fitzpatrick	Gainesville/ Lake County	Emergency medicine
Matthew Frankel	Lecanto	Psychiatry
Vaishali Gajera	Miami	Anesthesiology
Miriam Gamble	Tampa	Emergency medicine
Ivey Gayahan	Clearwater	Pediatrics
Jessica Gershen**	Daytona Beach	Emergency medicine
Daniel Gordon	Safety Harbor	Hospitalist
Tashara Gray	Melbourne	Pediatrics
Monique Gray-Jefferson	Jacksonville	Family medicine

NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY
Stacia Groll**	Tallahassee	Family medicine
^Cianna Hatfield	^Thomasville, Ga.	General surgery
^Jackson Hatfield	^Thomasville, Ga.	Family medicine
Danielle Henry	Orlando	General surgery
Roderick Hook	Panama City Beach	Anesthesiology
Sarah Irani	St. Petersburg	Peds/Sports medicine
Joshua James	Panama City	Emergency medicine
Jeremy Jones**	Jacksonville	Hematology/oncology
Jazmin Lesnick	Sarasota	Pediatrics
Brett Lorenzetti	Ocala	Emergency medicine
Layla Lundquist-Smith**	Pensacola	Family medicine
^Zita Magloire**	^Cairo, Ga.	Family medicine
Kim Maguire	Tampa	Internal medicine
Bradford March	Orlando	Interventional radiology
Elizabeth Marquez	Ponte Vedra	Family medicine
Brittany O'Dwyer Newton	Ormond Beach	General surgery
Abby Peters**	Tallahassee	Pediatrics
Gregory Peters**	Tallahassee	Emergency medicine
Joshua Powers	Miami	Anesthesiology
Cara Prier	St. Johns	Internal medicine
Marsha Ramsay	Tampa	Pediatrics
Matthew Ramseyer	Palm Beach Gardens	Trauma/critical care surgery
Amar Raval	Palm Harbor	Urology
Stephanie Reed	Maitland	Anesthesiology
Elinor Rodriguez	Orlando	OB-GYN
Shaila Siraj	St. Petersburg	Pediatric hospitalist
Kendall Steadmon	Gainesville	Pediatrics
Brad Stephan	Tampa	Cosmetic surgery
Alex Thacker	Bradenton	Family medicine
Brian Thomas	Maitland	Dermatology
Tina Tso**	Daytona Beach	Family medicine
Tiffany Vollmer Ramos	Pensacola	Pediatrics
Nathan Weagraff	Maitland	Emergency medicine

Class of '12

Katie Alonso	Stuart	Internal medicine
David Alvarez	Tallahassee	Hand & wrist surgery
Sarah Mike Alvarez	Tallahassee	Pediatrics
Sharon Aroda	Gainesville	Internal medicine
Julio Arrieta**	Sarasota	Emergency medicine
^Jesse Basford	^Dothan, Ala.	Emergency medicine
Lakeema Bruce	Pensacola	OB-GYN
David Castillo	Tallahassee	Hospitalist
Robert Castro**	Fort Myers	Infectious diseases
Brian Cogburn	Gainesville	Preventive medicine
Jason Colizzo	Sarasota	Gastroenterology
Megan Core	Orlando	Emergency medicine
Nicholas Cummings	Gainesville	Anesthesiology

NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY	NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY
Wes Dailey	Naples	General surgery	Class of '13		
Robert Daly**	Daytona Beach	Emergency medicine	Catherine Acob Almazan	Pensacola	Family medicine
Amanda N. Davis	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Ahkeel Allen	Miami	Breast surgical oncology
Maria Diaz	Clermont	OB-GYN	Mary-Margaret Allen	Dunedin	Pathology
Christina Dornshuld Colizzo	Riverview	Pediatrics	Christina Baldwin	Gainesville	Pediatrics
Sareh Dyer**	Maitland	Pediatrics	Emile Barreau	Weston	Family medicine
Allison Poimboeuf Ferrara	Kissimmee	Internal medicine	Gabrielle Boodoo**	Sarasota	Pediatrics
Marco Ferrara**	Orlando	Surgery	Jesse Boodoo	Sarasota	Internal medicine
William Fields	Tampa	Emergency medicine	Erin Carlquist	Tallahassee	Dermatopathology
Micah Gaar	Fort Myers	Anesthesiology	Zeena Bentinganan Cortes**	Winter Park	Family medicine
Belinda Gavino	Winter Park	Family medicine	Aleksandra Clayton**	Winter Park	Family medicine
Martin Giangreco	Tampa	Internal medicine	Brandon Cook	Destin	Orthopedic surgery
Jeannette Herrero	Fort Myers	OB-GYN	Stephen Cooke	Jacksonville	Family medicine
Adam Holers	Apopka	Pediatric hospitalist	Laura Davis**	Blountstown	Family medicine
Brett Howard**	Tallahassee	General surgery	Ashley Dlugokienski	Orlando	Internal medicine
Charlene Hylton	Coral Springs	OB-GYN	Cory Duncan	Jacksonville	Family medicine
Neel Jethwa	Tampa	Cardiothoracic anesthesiology	Kathryn Gard	Sarasota	OB-GYN
Alex Kennon	Sebring	Dermatology	Patrick Gill**	Orlando	Internal medicine
Lindsay Martin Kissane	Orlando	OB-GYN	Amy Haddock**	Tallahassee	OB-GYN
Demetrios Konstas	Tampa	Neurology	Shaun-Pierre Hall	Jacksonville	Family medicine
^Noemi LeFranc Matta**	Cairo, Ga.	OB-GYN	Austin Henkel	Destin	Ophthalmology
Joseph Lesnick**	Sarasota	Emergency medicine	Andrew Hogan	Jacksonville	Family medicine
Maegan Lubbers	Orlando	OB-GYN	Umar Karaman	Panama City	Urology
Amber McClain	Maitland	Pediatrics	Jason Konopack	Old Town	Family medicine
Michelle Miller**	Tallahassee	Family medicine	Wing-Yin Kwan	Orlando	Emergency medicine
Gina Nguyen	Altamonte Springs	Pediatrics	Carlos Leon	Gainesville	Hospitalist
Brian O'Hara	Maitland	Anesthesiology	Jason Lorenzen**	Sarasota	Psychiatry
Jennifer Packing-Ebuen	Brandon	Family medicine	Stephen Lozier	Naples	Emergency medicine
Chandni Patel	Clermont	Hospitalist	Eva Luque	Clermont	Hospitalist
Chetan Patel**	Orlando	Surgery	^Kathryn Nelson	^Thomasville, Ga.	Family medicine
Milin Patel	Tampa	Internal medicine	Mary Norton**	Tallahassee	Pediatrics
Helen Paulson	Tallahassee/Quincy	Family medicine	Raquel Olavarrieta	Miami	Pediatrics
Kenisha Pemberton	Tampa	Family medicine	Sheallah Palmer	New Port Richey	Family medicine
Monica Peña	Melbourne	Pediatrics	Fernando Parra-Ferro**	Tallahassee	Emergency medicine
Carolina Pereira	Jacksonville	Emergency medicine	Kathleen Relihan	Orlando	Surgery
^Jerrid Pippin	^Dothan, Ala.	Emergency medicine	Maria Rucinski	Jacksonville	Emergency medicine
Colby Redfield**	Tallahassee	Emergency medicine	Roxanne Samuels	Tampa	Pediatric hospitalist
Coley Rosenfeld	Boca Raton	Pediatrics	Lisa Sappenfield	Tampa	OB-GYN
Jared Rosenfeld	Atlantis	Hospitalist	Shannon Schellhammer	Orlando	OB-GYN
Michael Silverstein	Winter Park	Orthopedic surgery	Luby Sidoff	St. Petersburg	Interventional radiology
Michael Simpson**	Pensacola	Hospitalist	Kyle Solari	Miami	Pediatrics
Allen Sirizi	Sanford	Anesthesiology	Andrea Taylor**	Pensacola	Dermatology
Aaron Snyder	Jacksonville	Emergency medicine	Dale Taylor	Gainesville	Hospitalist
Mary-Beatrice Squire	Coral Springs	OB-GYN	Collin Tully	Winter Garden	General surgery
Helen Vo	Orlando	Anesthesiology	Zachary Tyser**	Daytona Beach	OB-GYN
Tiffannie Walker	Fort Lauderdale	OB-GYN	Melissa Velarde	Maitland	Pediatrics
Kenneth Winnard	Palm Beach Gardens	Internal medicine	Brittany Warren	Orlando	Trauma surgery/surgical critical care

NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY
Sarah Weaver Natalie Williams Kathryn Winn Mary Woods	Jacksonville Pinellas Park Orlando Tavernier	OB-GYN Family medicine Neonatal-perinatal medicine Family medicine/IM
Class of 2014		
Shawn Akhavan Mohammed Al-Humiari Jose Barquin Thomas Beardsley Samuel Borelli John Byrd** Alrick Drummond Tara Fritze Nathalie Gutierrez Prieto Angela Guzman Lorenzo Hernandez Anthony Herzog Merisa Kaplan Marta Klisinska Alexander Kushnir Kimberly Manek Lexi Mannix Christopher Martin Justin Mauldin Alexander Nguyen Antony Nguyen Mary O'Meara Courtney Paradise Ankita Patel Avani Patel Jason Pesqueira James Pilkington Rachel Russell Alyson Lewis Sanchious Richard Sims Gregory Stepp Brianna Phillips Thompson** Tommy Thompson Mitchell Whitehead**	Tallahassee Orlando Tampa Jacksonville Lake Mary Graceville Riverview Daytona Beach Naples Orlando St. Petersburg Palm Beach Hialeah Jacksonville Atlantis Jacksonville Beach Jacksonville Tallahassee Orlando Tampa Tampa Winter Haven Orlando Tampa Tampa Jacksonville Lake Wales Tallahassee Fort Myers Daytona Beach Fort Walton Beach Tallahassee Crestview Pensacola	Hospitalist Pediatrics Emergency medicine Emergency medicine Internal medicine Internal medicine Pediatrics Hospitalist OB-GYN OB-GYN Family medicine Hospitalist Emergency medicine Primary care medicine Internal medicine OB-GYN Emergency medicine Emergency medicine Emergency medicine Family medicine Hospitalist Family medicine OB-GYN Psychiatry Hospitalist Family medicine Urology Hospitalist Family medicine Pain management Family medicine OB-GYN Emergency medicine Family medicine

NAME	LOCATION	SPECIALTY
Class of 2015		
Neeka Akhavan Blakele Bakker** Justin Beyer Ryan Brosch Raul Castellanos Francesca Cirillo Ryan Dickert Nicole Dillow Elizabeth Giangreco Shermeeka Hogans-Mathews** Kevin Hou Ryan Humphries Evgeny Idrisov** Kyle Iketani Luke McKenna Amanda Murray^ Patrick Murray Rachel Nickels Pratik Pandit Michael Quinif^ John Turner** Day Zayas Maldonado	Gainesville Miramar Beach Ormond Beach Clearwater Loxahatchee Pensacola Crystal River Tampa Tampa Tallahassee Stuart Naples Sarasota Gainesville Fort Myers ^Dothan, Ala. Brandon Gainesville Jacksonville ^Thomasville, Ga. Tallahassee Maitland	Internal medicine OB-GYN Emergency medicine OB-GYN Hospitalist Emergency medicine Family medicine Internal medicine OB-GYN Family medicine Internal medicine Internal medicine Emergency medicine Pediatrics Pediatrics Family medicine Internal medicine Geriatrics Anesthesiology Family medicine Emergency medicine
Class of 2016		
Aarian Afshari Daniel Bernabe Josh Burns Amanda Danley Kristen Dimas** Gregorie Elie Shaun Hoenstine Aruna Khan** Landon Lichtman Brian McDaniel Makandall Saint Eloi Robert Solomon	Jacksonville Tallahassee Tallahassee Cape Coral Fort Myers Tallahassee ^Thomasville, Ga. Fort Myers Orlando Clearwater Miami DeLand	Emergency medicine Family medicine Emergency medicine Family medicine Family medicine Family medicine Hospitalist Family medicine Emergency medicine Family medicine Family medicine Family medicine

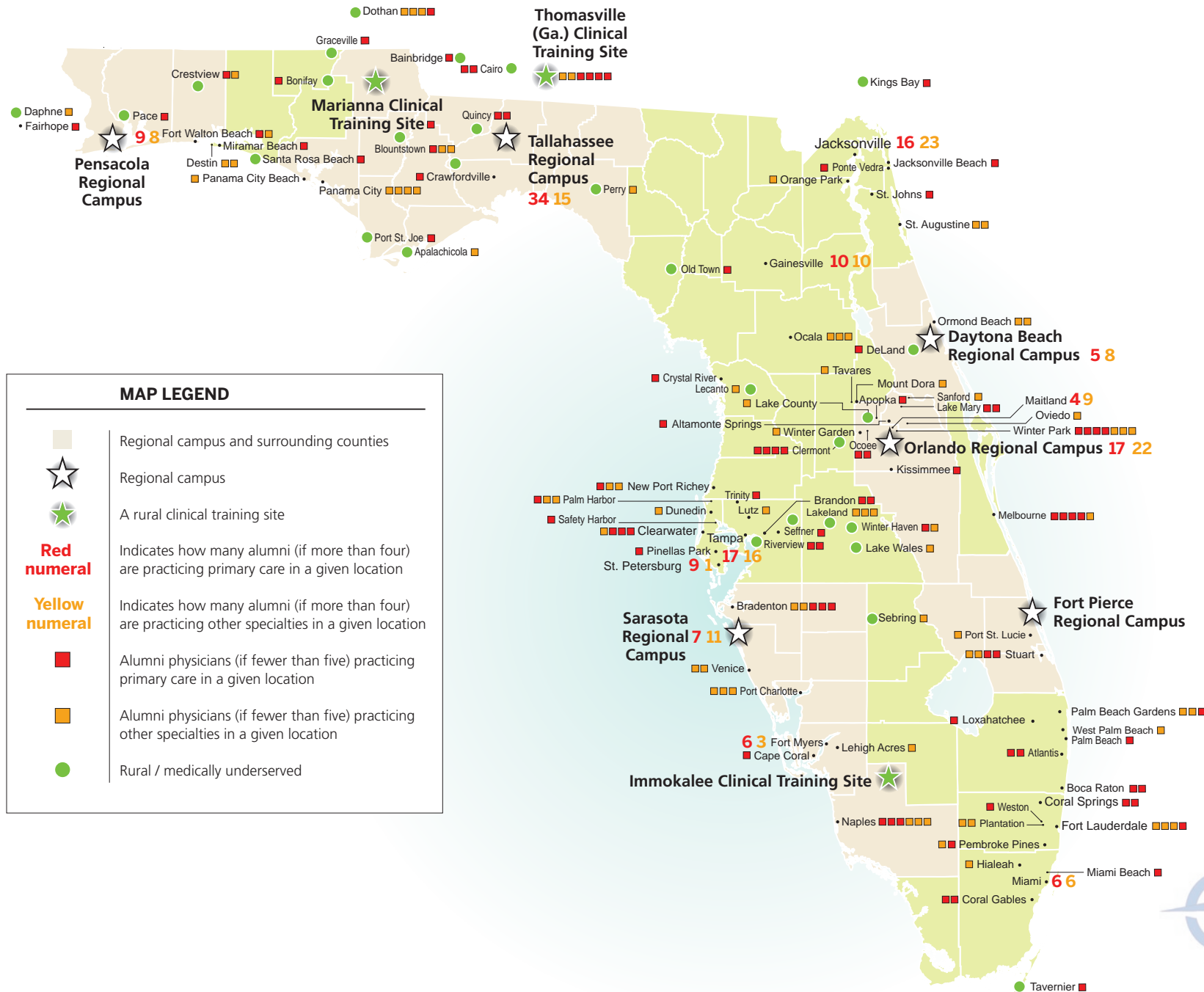
Bold - Primary care

Red - Treats rural or urban underserved patients

^ - Practicing in border county of neighboring state

** - College of Medicine faculty member

MORE OF THE PHYSICIANS FLORIDA NEEDS MOST





PA PROGRAM HELPING TO BUILD FLORIDA'S WORKFORCE

The College of Medicine's halls were abuzz with more students than ever in fall 2019. Joining the first- and second-year medical students at the central campus was the School of Physician Assistant Practice's first full-enrollment class, as well as the 50-member PA Class of 2020.

Meanwhile, members of the Class of 2019 were at their regional campuses – nearing the end of the med school's first PA rotations using the same clerkship model as the M.D. program. Rotations cap off the 27-month PA program after a year of acquiring clinical knowledge at the central campus.

"One reason we started thinking about this six or seven years ago was that, without it, I didn't think we could produce the workforce that the country really needed for primary care," College of Medicine Dean John P. Fogarty said.

The inaugural class of PA students arrived in August 2017. Since then, PA students have found their home within the College of Medicine, said Class of 2019 student Holly Garza-Shaw. "The faculty, med students and community clinicians at my regional campus, Fort Pierce, welcomed us with open arms," she said.

The aspiring PAs now even share learning communities with the medical students at the central campus.

"I think the dean's view and the view of Student Affairs has been to provide similar services to both the PA and med students – not creating an 'us and them' environment, which has been great," said Jim Zedaker, founding director of the School of Physician Assistant Practice. "It reinforces the team concept, not only for the PAs but medical students as well."

Learning the dynamics of the health-care team is key, Fogarty said.

"Patients today have tremendous interventions and other

things to keep them alive longer," he said. "That means more medications, more complications and so on. So, who's going to care for them? The family doc, the nurse practitioner, the PA – working together to manage those patients in the outpatient setting. I think that's really the future."

PAs work under a physician's supervision and in close partnership with nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, behavioral health professionals, administrators and others. The profession was created in the 1960s to help combat a shortage of primary-care physicians.

But not everyone in the medical community had experience working with PAs. Some faculty members initially had doubts about the additional students and workload. After all, adding the program required the coordination and cooperation of hundreds of clerkship faculty spread across the campuses.

Ben Kaplan, internal medicine clerkship director in Orlando, said his M.D. colleagues are impressed with how quickly the PA students have adapted to the regional campus framework.

"When you're giving faculty these students who are hard-working, dedicated and well-trained with a solid knowledge base, they're going to start trusting those students very quickly and get over that initial skepticism," said Kaplan.

Through the med school's clerkship model, PA and M.D. students learn one-on-one with community physicians and other health providers.

"Having an extensive range in clinical preceptors – physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners – has helped me better understand my role and the responsibilities I'll have once I graduate," Garza-Shaw said before her December 2019 graduation. "It also re-emphasized some of

the main reasons why I chose the PA route, one of which was being able to have the flexibility to work in different specialties of medicine."

The collaboration is key, Zedaker said.

"I give a lot of credit to the staff, regional campuses, deans and faculty," he said. "There were a lot of unknowns. They had never trained PAs before, and what they've done has been phenomenal."

The first class of PA students graduated with a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Practice on Dec. 14 and became eligible to sit for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam and apply for state licensure to begin practice. Now that the program has grown to full enrollment, it will accept 60 students into each class.

"This is a great add to our mission of producing ... well, I used to say 'producing the doctors that Florida needs the most,'" Fogarty said. "But now, it's 'producing the workforce that Florida needs the most.'"





IMMERSING PA STUDENTS IN A UNIQUE MODEL: A CAMPUS DEAN'S PERSPECTIVE

(As senior associate dean for regional campuses and the founding dean of the Pensacola Regional Campus, Paul McLeod has been heavily involved in what once was considered to be an experimental approach to medical education. There were many doubts about having community physicians serve as the primary teachers for FSU M.D. students on clinical rotations, but that model has worked exceptionally well. As the College of Medicine prepared to send PA students into the community setting for the first time it raised some familiar concerns. McLeod reflects here on the first year of that effort).

Twenty-nine brave young professionals made their way to our communities in January 2019 as the first class of FSU College of Medicine PA students. Their journey was not without risk. Questions were many and could only be answered based on their performance. Would they be welcomed by the staff, teaching physicians, medical students and medical community? Would the program that has worked so well for our medical students also work for them? Would there be PA faculty members to teach and mentor them? Would they be prepared for the clerkships and to pass the exams? Would they have the time to do all that was required of them? Would they be able to find a job?

No doubt, there was a huge cloud of uncertainty in the air the day they arrived. This scenario is reminiscent of the first

class of medical students who arrived in 2003 under similar scrutiny as a part of our distributed-campus model.

It takes a special group of students to handle this year of firsts. They must be bright, disciplined and possess the grit to push through the tough times. They must be resilient enough to handle the inevitable bumps in the road for a new program. Sometimes the bumps probably felt more like craters, but they persevered. So much was resting on their shoulders. So much was riding on their performance. A few skeptics in the medical community would love to see them fail and say, "I told you so." If they did poorly, the faculty may refuse to take our future PA students. Looking back, it was a very high-stakes year.

It was also a year that could not have turned out better.

These students integrated seamlessly into the campus and the community. They performed at such a high level that more than one of our clerkship directors and faculty commented how they could not tell them apart from the medical students based on the clerkship performance. They managed everything that was required of them with excellence and professionalism.

So here we are, taking this opportunity to say "well done." As we bid them goodbye in their role as students, I hope everyone will join me in thanking and congratulating the FSU COM founding class of PA students.

– Paul McLeod, M.D.





PA STUDENTS AT HOME IN THE COMMUNITY SETTING

When members of the PA Class of 2019 began their year of clinical rotations at the medical school's regional campuses, it was all new. A model of medical education set up for M.D. students nearly two decades ago was tweaked to include PA students.

The community-based approach has always meant that Florida State medical students get extraordinary access to patients. It's unusual, for example, to have medical students

working one-on-one with the senior attending physician in a medical setting.

Would this approach also work with PA students?

"The stakes were definitely high, and we were pretty nervous going from learning in lectures and textbooks to actually seeing patients," said Danielle Burke, who spent her clinical year in Pensacola. "You hear so many different things about how those rotations may go that made it pretty nerve-racking. Since we were part of the first PA class, we wanted to make a good name for ourselves and show that the didactic learning we did over 15 months in Tallahassee prepared us – that we did learn a lot and

were ready to see patients and that this program has done everything it can to prepare its students."

When it was over, Burke was thrilled with her experience. The preceptors who taught PA students in the clinical setting also were happy.

"All of the PA students I've taught are really good; they are academically very astute, and they know how to do an exam thoroughly," said Physician Assistant Mary Ann Crumlish, who is director of Primary Care House Calls, a company with 1,200 patients from DeFuniak Springs in the Panhandle to Baldwin County in southeast Alabama.

One recent morning in Cantonment, Florida – just outside Pensacola – Crumlish arrived with Burke for a geriatrics visit at the home of a 92-year-old patient. Mrs. H lives alone and is in generally good health – and spirits.

"This gives them a chance to be very involved in the patient-care process, and in this setting they really get a chance to get to know the patients," Crumlish said.

Crumlish said house calls with older patients are more cost-effective for Medicare and other types of insurance and lead to better outcomes.

"We're keeping these people out of the hospital," she said. "We visit them once a month. They're housebound, chronically ill and many of them have trouble taking their medicines. It can be very confusing – they might have 15 different medications and they often don't take it properly. They can't go to the doctor, can't get transportation or are just too sick to make it to an appointment.

"We see them and keep them straight about their medications and help them manage their health to keep them from the kinds of things that would lead them back to the

ER and the hospital."

Burke conducts almost the entirety of the hands-on exam, but the visit is a more expansive look at contributing factors to Mrs. H's health.

Mrs. H shows off her original paintings and crochet work. She opens her refrigerator, providing clues about her diet. She brings out a picture taken with her late husband, a World War II veteran, in his Army uniform. It leads to a conversation that reveals something unexpected: Mrs. H is eligible for VA benefits, but didn't know it.

"You really do learn so much more about a patient when you're in their home," Burke said. "I think there's a different level of trust there.

"Seeing her excitement about the paintings she did tells me she has a good outlet, and we know that just having something to look forward to and having a hobby can have a big impact on her health overall. That's something I may not have picked up on if she were to come see me in the office."

Crumlish will continue taking FSU PA students on house calls. Mrs. H was planning to ask her son for help looking into the VA benefits, which might help her with dentures and a hearing aid (two things she said she otherwise could not afford).

Burke, meanwhile, went from a desire to do pediatric emergency medicine to an interest in surgery.

"When I was doing my surgery rotation I found out I could do that as my main career because I loved it so much," Burke said. "And I can moonlight down the road in pediatric emergency medicine."

Less than a month after graduating, Burke accepted a job as a surgical PA in Syracuse, N.Y.



HEADLINES FROM 2019

To read more about these and other milestones, visit med.fsu.edu and click on News of the Week. Read more about research headlines starting on page 46.



- Alumna and Associate Professor **Christie Alexander** (M.D. '05), Department of Family Medicine and Rural Health, was installed as president of the Florida Academy of Family Physicians. Pictured here with Drs. Alma Littles and Joedrecca Brown Speights.
- Pediatric Education Director **Debra Andree**, Orlando Regional Campus, was chosen to be president/CEO of Community Health Centers. She had been the organization's chief medical officer since 2015.



- College and Pre-College Outreach Director **Thesla Berne-Anderson** received FSU's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award.
- Program Coordinator **Carolyn Blue**, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine, received an Outstanding Mentor Award from the Tallahassee Future Leaders Academy for her work with high school students.
- Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences undergraduate **Savannah Calleson** represented the College of Medicine when FSU President John Thrasher recognized one Humanitarian of the Year nominee from each college.
- M.D. student **Shanquell Dixon**, Class of 2022, was honored as a Community Hero by the Tampa Bay Lightning of the National Hockey League for her volunteer work with multiple organizations. She received a \$50,000 donation from the Lightning Foundation, donating half to Florida Medical Clinic and applying half toward her education.
- Community Board member and former OB-GYN Clerkship Director **Washington Hill**, Sarasota Regional Campus, received the Rutgers University-Camden Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Doctoral student **Sara Jones**, Department of Biomedical Sciences, shared first place at FSU's Three-Minute Thesis competition. Jones studies how the artificial sweetener aspartame can cause anxious behavior that fathers may pass down to their offspring.



- **Stephanie Hurwitz** became the first person to earn both an M.D. and Ph.D. from the College of Medicine when she graduated with the (M.D.) Class of 2019 in May. She is now a resident in pathology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She completed her biomedical sciences Ph.D. with Assistant Professor **David Meckes** as her advisor.
- Clerkship faculty member **John Katopodis**, Tallahassee Regional Campus, received the Outstanding Physician Award from Capital Medical Society.
- Alumni **Adam Langley** and **Gary Visser** (M.D. '07) were named to the Seminole 100 for the second year in a row. Their practice, PremierMED Family & Sports Medicine in Ocoee, was one of the 100 fastest-growing businesses owned or managed by FSU alumni.
- Senior Associate Dean **Alma Littles** received the Elizabeth Blackwell Award from the American Medical Women's Association. The annual honor recognizes a woman physician who has made the most outstanding contribution to the cause of women in medicine.
- **Helen Livingston** retired as founding associate dean of the Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences Division. She had been director of admissions for the Program in

Medical Sciences, which morphed into the College of Medicine. She later helped establish both the college's Bridge Program and the IMS program.

- Also retiring in 2019, founding faculty member **Graham Patrick** (below), who taught pharmacology and served as assistant dean for admissions as the number of applications to the M.D. program soared to more than 7,000 a year. Upon arriving at FSU in 2002, Patrick played a key role in developing the (then) new medical school's course materials, curriculum and educational program.
- **Michael Muszynski** retired in May after having served as dean of the college's Orlando Regional Campus since 2004. Since 2010 he held the dual role of associate dean for clinical research and led the FSU Network for Clinical Research and Training, helping to build the framework for the college's research program.
- Clerkship faculty member **Deepak Nair**, Sarasota Regional Campus, was elected president of the Florida Vascular Society.



- Alumnus **Myron Rolle** (M.D. '17), neurosurgery resident at Massachusetts General Hospital, made news when he put his residency training on temporary hold so he could assist the hurricane-shaken residents of his native Bahamas.
- Clinical Associate Professor **Javier Rosado** and Instructional Specialist **Tatiana Fernandez**, Immokalee Health Education Site, wrote an e-book for kids highlighting the unique stresses that young children from migrant families face. The title is "After the Harvest: A Story About Saying Goodbye."
- Clerkship faculty member **Russell Samson**, Sarasota Regional Campus, received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Florida Vascular Society.
- Director of Didactic Education **Benjamin Smith**, School of Physician Assistant Practice, received the University Undergraduate Teaching Award.
- M.D. student **MaKayla Smith**, Class of 2021, rural program, received an Academic Leadership Award from the FSU Division of Student Affairs.
- Professor **Antonio Terracciano**, Department of Geriatrics, was chosen to receive a Fulbright award to Finland as part of the program's goal of increasing mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and those of other countries. The selection committee based the award on Terracciano's "leadership and contributions to society."
- Assistant Professor **Robert Tomko Jr.**, Department of Biomedical Sciences, received the University Graduate



Teaching Award for his work with the School of Physician Assistant Practice.

- Student Support Coordinator **Alicia Weaver**, School of Physician Assistant Practice, received the FSU All-Access Award for providing opportunities for students with disabilities to succeed academically.
- IT Specialist **Austin Wolcott** received FSU's Exemplary Service Award for technology services.
- Clerkship faculty member **Andrew Wong**, Tallahassee Regional Campus, received the I.B. Harrison, M.D., Humanitarian Award from Capital Medical Society.
- M.D. student **Richard Wu**, Class of 2021, Sarasota Regional Campus, received an Academic Leadership Award from the FSU Division of Student Affairs.



IMMOKALEE: IMPROVED BEHAVIORAL CARE FOR KIDS

Six years after a life-changing grant from the Naples Children & Education Foundation, Immokalee's behavioral health is on the upswing, thanks in no small part to the College of Medicine. "The shift to managing behavioral health issues in the primary care setting has been successful," says **Elena Reyes**, the medical school's regional director in Southwest Florida.

NCEF, founders of the Naples Winter Wine Festival, provided \$3.6 million in 2013 to launch the Pediatrics Behavioral Health Initiative in Collier County. The concern was that children's stress, depression and other behavioral health issues were not being adequately addressed. Six years later, Reyes reports these positive results:

- Behavioral health visits increased significantly at the Healthcare Network of SW Florida Immokalee Pediatrics Clinic, the College of Medicine's clinical training partner. The increase was from 319 in 2012 to over 6,000 by September 2018.
- Services expanded at all HCN children's care sites in Collier County.
- The number of children and adolescents receiving mental health services in primary care increased significantly and, in fact, surpassed the number of referrals to specialty care. "Pediatricians are managing more of the medications in-house and referring less," Reyes says. "There is also success in early detection with screenings of risk at well-child visits and same-day interventions. Trajectory for these patients is being monitored by FSU researchers at the Center for Child Stress and Health."

- FSU medical students and residents are being trained on-site so they can experience the interprofessional approach and the role of primary care providers in prevention and management of behavioral health issues.

Reyes notes that FSU's clinical health psychology postdoctoral fellowship program has become a pipeline for bilingual psychologists who can work in primary care and stay in Southwest Florida. A new affiliation agreement with Lee Health resulted in doubling the number of fellows to six.

MARIANNA: PROMOTING RURAL HEALTH

With **Anthony Speights** promoted to a new role, the Rural Program welcomed **Kerwyn Flowers** as the new director of rural medical education. Flowers, who grew up in Quincy, Florida, has spent most of her medical career serving rural and underserved populations. In addition to teaching first- and second-year students, she practices at FSU PrimaryHealth, the newest branch of the FSU Health Care System.

"Every student should have a basic knowledge of what it's like to practice in a rural community," Flowers said, adding that she'd like rural health to be filtered through the entire curriculum, emphasizing the College of Medicine's founding principles.

One of the college's key rural partners is Jackson Hospital in Marianna, and 2019 marked the 14th year of that partnership. With leadership from hospital CEO James Platt and Clerkship Administrator **Steven Spence**, Jackson

once again hosted numerous activities designed to introduce students to the virtues of rural medicine. Among them were the "rural immersion" of first-year students known as Spring Fling; RuLE (the Rural Learning Experience) for PA, Bridge and first-year medical students; and the Summer Institute for high school students.

What continues to make the Rural Program unique is the Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (LIC). Rather than spending six weeks in one clerkship exclusively, rural students engage in all of their required clerkships simultaneously. That curriculum allows them to develop relationships with patients over the course of a year and develop their clinical and professional skills on a deeper level.



FORT PIERCE: SHARPENING THEIR FOCUS

The College of Medicine was built around the idea of community medicine, so much of what happens at each regional campus revolves around the community.

For example, Sheriff Ken Mascara, a former chiropractor, invited the campus to provide pediatric assessments at Bayshore Elementary in Port St. Lucie. M.D. and PA students provided weight and height assessments to over 150 participants. Students also collected donations after Hurricane Dorian and delivered them to Missionary Flights International in Fort Pierce. In addition, students collected school supplies for the PACE Center for Girls in Fort Pierce, answering their questions regarding careers in medicine.

"We also were reminded how much our communities appreciate our students," said Campus Dean **Juliette Lomax-Homier**. "We were invited to the Treasure Coast Indo-American Physicians Annual Meeting, where they presented \$2,000 to two students in need – to defray the costs of interview travel. The Medical Executive Committee of Lawnwood Medical Center directed a similar amount to two students who attended high school here on the Treasure Coast."

Community Board member **Vernon Smith**, who owns a radio station, let the students discuss a health item on the air – and, just like that, "Medical Minute" was born. Morning host Larry McKay coached the students on succinctly presenting information in 55-second sound bites.

DAYTONA BEACH: 'SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE'

One of the highlights of 2019, in addition to welcoming the first physician assistant class, was responding to a significant social problem. The third- and fourth-year students helped the Volusia County Medical Society host an event on physician death by suicide. Among the participants were Pamela Wible, a physician and nationally recognized speaker on the topic; Clay Wittman, whose son **Matt** died by suicide when he was an FSU medical student; **Delicia Haynes**, a family physician on the Daytona Beach clinical faculty with experience in medical student and physician depression; and a nurse whose physician employer died by suicide. The event fostered excellent dialogue.

"We continue to see the fruits of our labors with the addition of our alumni to our medical community," said Campus Dean **Lucky Dunn**. "We now have over 200 alumni who have passed through this campus, and 15 alumni who are practicing in our area."

"We concluded 2019 with the graduation of the PA Class of 2019. We look forward to the arrival of the PA Class of 2020, the graduation of the M.D. Class of 2020 and the arrival of the M.D. Class of 2022. What an honor it is to shape the future of medicine in Volusia County and beyond."

Finally, on a lighter note: The students took a trip to the Backus Museum and Gallery in Fort Pierce and learned how "visual thinking strategies" apply to patient care. "To the roar of their classmates," Lomax-Homier said, "a few brave souls participated in an exercise of musical chairs, to demonstrate the importance of focus. The lesson: 'A wealth of information creates a poverty of attention. Learn to master your attention and you will be in command of where you focus.'"



ORLANDO: NEW LEADERSHIP, NEW EXPANSION

Orlando's new dean, **Joan Meek**, has been part of that regional campus from the start. When it was established in 2002, Meek was selected as the pediatric clerkship director and served until 2014. Five years later, when Campus Dean Michael J. Muszynski announced his retirement, Meek was chosen to step into that role.

Meek – who also continues as associate dean for graduate medical education, having helped establish seven residency programs and two fellowship programs across the state – is excited to be working with the students and regional campus staff. “I have had the opportunity to orient our incoming students and see our first class of PA students graduate and head off to their first jobs,” she said. “We have great support from our community-based faculty and our hospital partners at Orlando Health, AdventHealth and HCA, and their physician group practices.

“Building on past foundations, the Orlando campus continues to expand into Citrus County with new hospital and practice partnerships and a dedicated FSU student living facility that allows our M.D. and PA students to complete clerkships in a region rich with primary care opportunities.”

In addition to their clinical rotations, the Orlando Regional Campus students engage with the local community, volunteering at health fairs, performing school and sports physicals, and working with faculty at the Shepherd's Hope Health Centers. Example: This year they helped sort and package food at the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida to provide almost 6,000 meals for individuals in the community who struggle with food insecurity.



PENSACOLA: PEOPLE LOVE OUR STUDENTS

In its own way, each regional campus forges a partnership with the community. Our students filter throughout the area, learning one-on-one as apprentices from practicing physicians and PAs. It's a hands-on education that many current providers wish they could've had.

Those partnerships are vital to the College of Medicine's success. They're reflected in ways both grand and subtle. As Pensacola Campus Dean **Paul McLeod** looked back on 2019, it was one of the subtle memories that caught his attention.

“While walking through a local skilled nursing facility a few weeks ago,” he recalled in December, “I felt a gentle pull on my sleeve and was greeted by one of the local residents. ‘When are the students coming back?’ she asked.

“Like scores of other patients throughout the area, she remembered the day that an FSU College of Medicine student had come by to see her while on the geriatrics clerkship. What she remembered most were the student's questions about her family, her previous career and her late husband. Our student made *her* the focus of the visit, not her failing heart.

“Under the direction of 300 local physician mentors, this scenario repeats itself day after day at our Pensacola Regional Campus. ‘When are the students coming back?’ This simple question tells us a lot about our model of medical education and the impact we are having on our community, one patient at a time.”





SARASOTA: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY TIES

For Sarasota Campus Dean **Nicole Bentze**, the highlight of every year is strengthening relationships with community agencies that provide care for vulnerable populations outside the walls of traditional hospitals and doctors' offices. During the Community Medicine course, third-year medical students are embedded in a variety of local, nonprofit agencies to experience a different way of promoting health and disease prevention. Working as a member of the agency, instead of merely being an observer, strengthens the medical students' tie to the Sarasota community and helps mold them into better physicians-in-training.

"Another highlight was the teddy bear collection for the student-run Teddy Bear Clinic in Tallahassee," Bentze said. "The M.D. and PA students encouraged donations

from all over the community and proudly sent them back to Tallahassee – but not before posing for a great group picture."

This past year also provided opportunities to increase the visibility of the Sarasota Regional Campus. Information about the College of Medicine mission and unique regional campus model was presented to community boards of local hospitals, the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce and surrounding colleges and universities.

"We look forward to new collaborations with local undergraduate pre-med interest groups," Bentze said.

"Sarasota SSTRIDE continues to promote STEM education and provide a pipeline to FSU for local eighth- through 12th graders."

The College of Medicine in 2019 bade farewell to its iconic pink building in favor of a new campus location closer to medical settings – and with more parking.



TALLAHASSEE: REACHING OUT

For the past five years, the Tallahassee Regional Campus has collected toys, gift cards and gently used clothing for the underserved families of nearby Quincy. "We are grateful to all the students, community faculty members and staff members who donated in 2019," said Campus Dean **Sandeep Rahangdale**. "With the help of our community partners and medical students, we were able to serve 150 children and families."

That was one example of the campus's community connections. Overall, it was a busy year. "We welcomed our first class of PA students," Rahangdale said, "and they worked well alongside our medical students throughout the year. This interdisciplinary education benefited medical and PA students alike – and, as of the end of the year, five of our six PA students had found jobs in Tallahassee immediately benefiting patients in the community. The sixth will be repaying his VA student scholarship by working with a VA medical center. And in 2019 students from our campus started working with the local VA Community-based Outpatient Clinic.

When the M.D. students from the Tallahassee campus matched in 2019, seven of them went into family medicine. Others matched in internal medicine, pediatrics, general surgery, psychiatry, emergency medicine and orthopedic surgery. "Many of these graduates matched locally," Rahangdale said, "and even more hope to return to practice medicine in North Florida."

WINTER HAVEN, FAMILY MEDICINE: TAKING OFF

The College of Medicine's new family medicine residency program with BayCare Health System will bring in its first six residents in summer 2020. That's hardly the beginning point for a program that has been generating excitement throughout the community.

Nathan Falk was hired in 2018 as the program's founding director. He led the recruitment of new faculty and a successful application for accreditation, which was granted in October 2019. The program's new Family Health Center opened in August and already is ahead of projections for patient volume.

"I'm hearing nothing but excellent things for how this residency is going to benefit not only the residents but the community as a whole and the hospital," said Winter Haven



Hospital Chief Medical Officer **Vincent Gatto**.

Gatto, who practiced OB-GYN for nearly 35 years before becoming the hospital's CMO in 2018, recalled Winter Haven having only two restaurants when he arrived in 1984. Today it's a rapidly growing small town midway between Orlando and Tampa with significant appeal for those who like the benefit of nearby big-city offerings and the charm of a close-knit community. Until now, there had not been a medical residency program in Winter Haven.

"We're evolving from a community hospital to a semi-academic hospital, and I believe having this program will help us bring in stronger talent across the board," Gatto said. "I think this is going to elevate the level of education for physicians at the hospital, and every physician I speak to here is looking forward to the possibility of teaching. This program is just a really good fit."

By next year, Falk expects the program to have four or five additional faculty members and to be receiving more than 1,000 applications for the six available resident positions. He's pleased with the initial applicants.

"There are some advantages of a new program over a more established one," he said. "We have an opportunity to build something special and make our mark; we can be creative

about the way we do things; and I think there's a great opportunity here for serving the community.

"Everyone in town would be more than happy to hire one of our graduates, so if you like the community there's a good opportunity to stay and grow with it and to make your mark. Winter Haven is a welcoming area, especially for people who have a mind for service – the kind of people we are recruiting."

SARASOTA: NEW FELLOWSHIP IN PALLIATIVE CARE

The college's partnership with Sarasota Memorial Hospital has expanded to include both a new emergency medicine residency, which welcomed its first nine residents in July 2019, and a new hospice and palliative medicine fellowship.

The fellowship received initial accreditation in September 2019 and will welcome its first two fellows in July 2020.

In addition to focusing on relief from the symptoms and stress of a chronic or progressive illness, hospice and palliative-care physicians address patient and family mental health and social needs with consideration for the influence of cultural, financial and environmental factors.

The fellows will complete rotations in inpatient palliative care, community hospice care and cancer care. They'll learn from founding Program Director **Joelle Vlahakis**, a board-certified internal medicine and palliative care physician, as well as from other SMH faculty and physicians in the College of Medicine-sponsored internal medicine residency program at SMH. They'll also spend time with medical directors in community-based centers providing home hospice, geriatric, pediatric palliative and outpatient oncology care.



FORT MYERS, FAMILY MEDICINE: ESTABLISHING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

In 2018, the American College of Lifestyle Medicine (ACLM) chose four residency programs nationwide to serve as pilot programs for a new lifestyle medicine residency curriculum. One of those selected



is the College of Medicine's Family Medicine Residency Program at Lee Health – in partnership with Loma Linda University.

An ACLM core belief is that a physician's relationship with patients, along with support from family, an interdisciplinary team and the community, is the key to improving healthy behaviors and outcomes.

According to the ACLM, lifestyle medicine is the evidence-based practice of helping individuals and families sustain healthy behaviors affecting their health and quality of life. Examples include eliminating tobacco, improving diet, increasing physical activity and moderating alcohol consumption.

Implementing a new curriculum and serving as a role model for other residency programs across the nation has been a team effort. Program Director **Alfred Gitu**, Associate Director **Christina Cavanagh**, associate professor **James Breen**, **Rose Anne Illes** and assistant professors **Amy Skiff** and **Jennifer Dalrymple** all gained certification with the American Board of Lifestyle Medicine. Dalrymple is leading the development of the lifestyle medicine curriculum. First-year resident **Silvia Caswell** served as vice president for communications on the ACLM trainees executive board.



CAPE CORAL, INTERNAL MEDICINE: EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

The College of Medicine has been widely praised for the success of the Family Medicine Residency Program at Lee Health in Fort Myers. The partnership has led to the development of a new Internal Medicine Residency Program with Lee Health at Cape Coral Hospital.

The residency is seeking a program director to lead the accreditation application process. The plan is to open with eight residents and to grow to a capacity of 24 residents for the three-year program.

Twenty of the first 24 graduates of the family medicine residency program are practicing in Southwest Florida – 13 of those with Lee Health.

IN OTHER GME NEWS...

- The dermatology residency based at Dermatology Associates of Tallahassee had its first cohort complete training this year with outstanding academic and clinical records. One of the graduates, **Christopher Wolfe**, was selected to complete additional fellowship training in micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology, also at Dermatology Associates.

- The general surgery residents have been able to enjoy training in the newly opened M.T. Mustian Center at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare, with state-of-the-art operating rooms and intensive-care rooms.
- The internal medicine residency at Tallahassee Memorial initiated a pilot program in telemedicine. (See related story on page 34.)
- The internal medicine residency at Sarasota Memorial Hospital enrolled its third class and is now at full complement. Program Director **Wilhelmine Wiese-Rometsch** and Associate Director **Karen Hamad** were featured speakers at the annual Women & Medicine Luncheon hosted by the Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation. The residency program and the Newtown Clinic, which serves an underserved population, were recognized there.
- The emergency medicine program at Sarasota Memorial matched its first class of residents, who began training in July. The program received support through a private charitable fund to purchase simulation equipment for training the residents. The program also added **Sagar Galwankar** as its research director.





RESPONSIVE TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

Starting a new health-care center from scratch is never easy, especially one that welcomes patients from every socioeconomic background.

FSU PrimaryHealth launched in May and by Dec. 31 had more than 4,000 patients. Thousands of people who previously had no medical home now have one. By summer 2020, six FSU clinicians are expected to be seeing patients on any given day.

There've been surprises and challenges along the way. For example, the demand for accessible primary care produced many more phone calls than the initial staffing could accommodate. The big story, though, is that a once medically underserved corner of Leon County now has access to care – and is healthier for it.

What's more, FSU M.D. and PA students now have a real-world setting to observe and participate on a medical team involving nurses, PAs, M.D.s, social workers, behavioral therapists and more.

"Care for the underserved is a cornerstone of our mission at the FSU College of Medicine, and this is our opportunity to practice what we teach," said **Daniel Van Durme**, senior associate dean for clinical and community affairs, as well as medical director at FSU PrimaryHealth. "We have truly integrated behavioral health and primary care into a team-based model. There are many aspects that make this a 21st-century, cutting-edge, primary care facility."

The brand-new center sits at Eisenhower Street and Roberts Avenue, in the heart of the Providence, Mabry

Manor, Seminole Manor, and Meadows neighborhoods. It already has formed medical and educational partnerships with those communities. However, the health care is available to anyone in the area – and accepts most insurance.

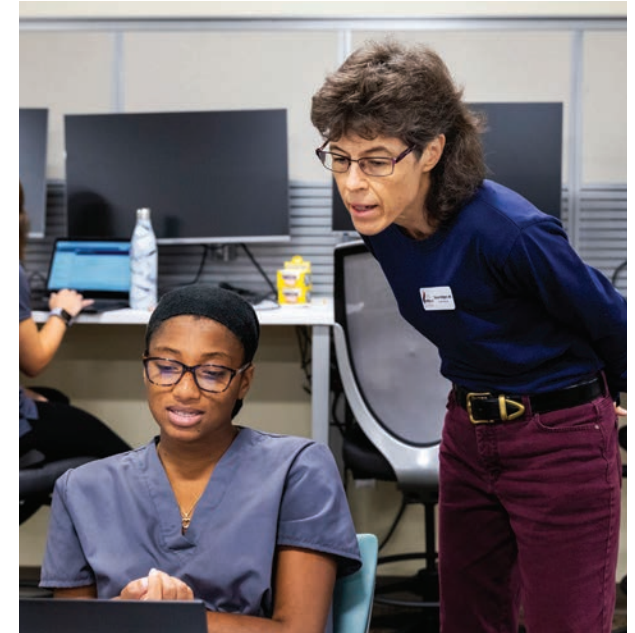
"We've had a lot of people come from the Gulf Coast and Panhandle," said **Sherri Swilley**, director of clinical operations for the college's Florida Medical Practice Plan. "We've had people from all around. I think that speaks to the shortage of primary care in the Tallahassee area. It says that we were much needed here, and people are very thankful that they have an option. Sometimes they're on a managed Medicare plan or a Medicaid plan, and a lot of doctors aren't accepting those plans. It makes it really hard for those people to get the care they need."

Swilley has heard countless patients express gratitude for the health care they're receiving from FSU.

"I had one young single mom with three kids," recalled Swilley, who served as interim practice manager for the center's first seven months. "She just could not express how thankful she was that her doctor listens better than anybody has ever listened to her. She was just overjoyed with how much she felt cared for."

Van Durme said the center has provided a valuable experience for the faculty members who see patients there.

"It adds essential credibility to our teaching back at the College of Medicine when we can draw from patient care that just happened," he said. "It helps the students to better appreciate the relevance of what is being taught."



FSU BEHAVIORALHEALTH: THE NEXT FRONTIER

In late 2019, the College of Medicine announced that FSU BehavioralHealth would be joining its family of clinical practices.

“In a nutshell, FSU BehavioralHealth at Apalachee Center is an outpatient clinical care center for children and adults with depression, anxiety or mood disorders – which are the most common mental health disorders,” said Heather Flynn, vice chair in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine and medical director for the new practice. FSU BehavioralHealth will be situated within the new Depression and Anxiety Center, which integrates behavioral health research, interdisciplinary training and clinical care. “The center will provide evidence-based, state-of-the-art care for these disorders and also serve as an interprofessional training environment.”

Throughout 2019, Flynn worked to coordinate the cross-university partnerships that made the clinical practice possible. It will be staffed by faculty providers and directors from the College of Medicine, College of Social Work, College of Nursing and Department of Psychology.

“The interdisciplinary component creates multiple advantages for training and patient care,” said Flynn. “We’re able to access social work, psychology, psychiatry and nursing, and work together as a team to manage a case together, which is true collaborative care.”

Options for mental and behavioral health care are

difficult to navigate, said Flynn, partly because patients are often unsure what kind of care or provider they need – a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker? The collaboration and integration allow for the practice to be a one-stop shop for patients.

“The theme that emerges from all the different surveys, discussions, focus groups and community meetings is that, in our area, we do not have adequate access to high-quality outpatient mental health services for kids and adults,” said Flynn, who partnered with the Mental Health Council of the Big Bend.

FSU BehavioralHealth at Apalachee Center will provide its services near Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare in a building owned by Whole Child Leon.

In addition to a primary partnership with Apalachee Center, various community partnerships with the Tallahassee Pediatric Behavioral Health Navigation Program, and 2-1-1 Big Bend will further bolster FSU BehavioralHealth’s efforts to increase patient access to behavioral health care. It will also be a part of the National Network of Depression Centers (www.nndc.org) in order to improve access to cutting-edge treatment and research.

The clinical practice joins FSU PrimaryHealth, FSU SeniorHealth and FSU TeleHealth operating under the Florida Medical Practice Plan at the College of Medicine.

CALLING DR. Q:
A GROUNDBREAKING CONNECTION

Stephen Quintero led a class of physician assistant students as they took a full patient history, listened to heart and lung sounds, examined the patient’s ears, evaluated her throat and came up with a differential diagnosis – even though the patient was six miles away. It was a telehealth first for the College of Medicine.

The students and Quintero were at the College of Medicine’s main campus Oct. 30. The patient was at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital’s Transition Center, where Quintero served as founding medical director. The link connecting them was an internal medicine resident at the center, plus the telehealth technology that allows long-distance examination of patients.

It’s just one example of telemedicine creating opportunities and solving problems at the College of Medicine. There are many more:

- In January 2019, **Claudia Kroker-Bode** had a problem. As director of the college’s Internal Medicine Residency Program at TMH, she wanted to send her residents to the Transition Center for training. However, the rulebook says they need to be supervised by a physician board-certified in internal medicine – and Quintero is board-certified in *family* medicine. Eventually, they developed a system where internal medicine residents at either the Transition Center or the Kearney homeless center could be supervised

long-distance by internal medicine physicians at the College of Medicine and TMH – thanks to telehealth. Besides Kroker-Bode, those physicians include **Irene Alexandraki**, **Jonathan Appelbaum**, **Ingrid Jones-Ince**, **Ramiz Kseri**, **Susan Manson** and **Stephen Sandroni**. “I truly love it,” Kroker-Bode said. “While I am in my office and doing the necessary administrative work, I can easily precept in between my residents with cases. I have even directed a very small surgical procedure via telemedicine.”

- In some cases, the technological reach extends far more than a few miles. **Mridul Mazumder**, the geriatrics clerkship director for the Tallahassee Regional Campus, sees geriatric patients half a day per month in a consultant capacity, when they’re referred by their provider. He’s at the central campus, and the patients are at Advent Christian Village in Live Oak. That used to be a 150-mile round trip for College of Medicine faculty members who started filling in when the facility lost its primary-care physician. Now it involves no travel at all.
- **Elena Reyes** is even farther away. As the College of Medicine’s regional director in Southwest Florida, she has been using “tele-psych.” Her Center for Child Stress and Health in Immokalee

provides a telemedicine training and consultation service to make integrated behavioral health expertise available to students in the Gadsden school district who don’t have access to care. Students are identified through the migrant education program and at the school-based clinics with FSU faculty nurse-practitioners **Susan LaJoie** and **Julie Drude**.

- **Shenifa Taite**, director of instructional design and media production, and **Niharika Suchak**, Medicine 1 course co-director, have been exploring how best to incorporate telehealth into the M.D. and PA curricula, faculty development and graduate medical education.

After years of proposals, Florida legislators finally passed a statute that defines telehealth and how it can be used. Congress is slowly working on making Medicare reimbursements for telehealth more reasonable. More and more physicians are coming around for medical, educational and practical reasons.

“In Florida, many employers are already offering telemedicine as a benefit,” said **Michael Smith**, the college’s telemedicine program development director. “That, in turn, makes patients more demanding of their physicians: ‘Why do I have to take four hours off work so that I can sit in your office for two hours to see you for 10 minutes? Something’s wrong with this.’”





PREPARING A PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE REFLECTING FLORIDA'S DIVERSITY

Numerous studies have shown that when patients are able to see themselves in the physicians who care for them, it leads to better health outcomes. Cultural competency, language barriers, relatability. ... all are factors in why it's best to have a physician workforce that reflects a community's diversity.

In one of the nation's most diverse states, the College of Medicine's outreach and pipeline programs are all the more important.

Before the medical school was signed into law in June 2000, a program to attract a more diverse applicant pool had already been created. Science Students Together Reaching Instructional Diversity and Excellence (SSTRIDE), begun in 1994 to support the Program in Medical Sciences, identifies students as early as the seventh grade with an

aptitude for science and math who are from rural and other medically underserved backgrounds.

When the FSU College of Medicine welcomed its first students in 2001, it created another path to increasing diversity: The Bridge Program provides students from medically underserved backgrounds with a yearlong master's track meant to prepare them for the rigors of a medical education. Those who successfully complete the Master of Science degree in Biomedical Sciences – Bridge to Clinical Medicine are welcomed as first-year medical students with the next class.

More than 7 percent of the college's alumni physicians were first introduced to Florida State through SSTRIDE. With Bridge, the outcomes are equally promising.

The College of Medicine received the 2019 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine.

The award recognizes U.S. medical, dental, pharmacy, osteopathic, nursing, veterinary, allied health and other health schools and centers demonstrating an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion. The College of Medicine, one of 43 health-professions programs honored, received the award for a third consecutive year.

HEED Award institutions were selected based on "recruitment and retention of students and employees — and best practices for both; continued leadership support for diversity; and other aspects of campus diversity and inclusion."

In addition, the Bridge Program received a 2019 Inspiring Programs in STEM Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity*. The award goes annually to "programs that encourage and inspire a new generation of young people to consider careers in science, technology, engineering and math."

Black students constitute 64 percent of Bridge participants, and Hispanic students nearly 19 percent. One-fourth of Bridge students come from rural backgrounds, and half that many come from inner-city neighborhoods.

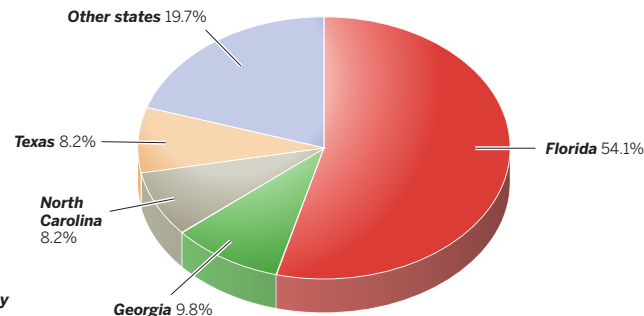
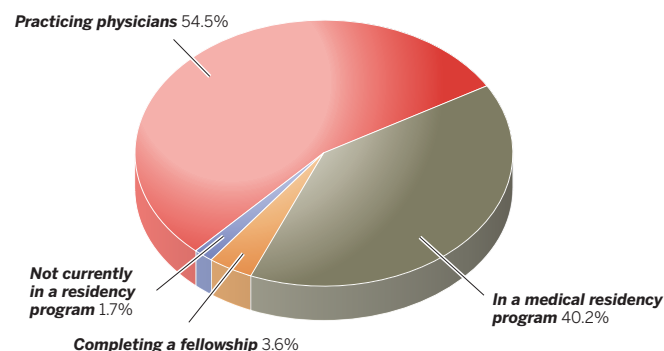
Its retention rate is about 95 percent. More than 96 percent of students who entered medical school through Bridge have earned their medical degrees.

"These are students who initially were pretty much written off by everybody. It's not as if we have some magic elixir that turns them into wonderful students. It's just giving them encouragement, believing in them and teaching them how to believe in themselves."

– Anthony Speights, M.D., associate dean for interdisciplinary sciences and director of the Bridge Program, who says he understands these "kids" because he grew up rural, minority and academically lukewarm until he found a mentor.

112 GRADUATES OF THE BRIDGE PROGRAM (2002-2019)

BRIDGE GRADUATES - WHERE THEY ARE PRACTICING



Susan LaJoie has been named Migrant Health Professional of the Year by the Florida Department of Education's Bureau of Federal Educational Programs. LaJoie, assistant professor in the College of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine and Rural Health, is a nurse practitioner at the Gadsden County school-based clinics.

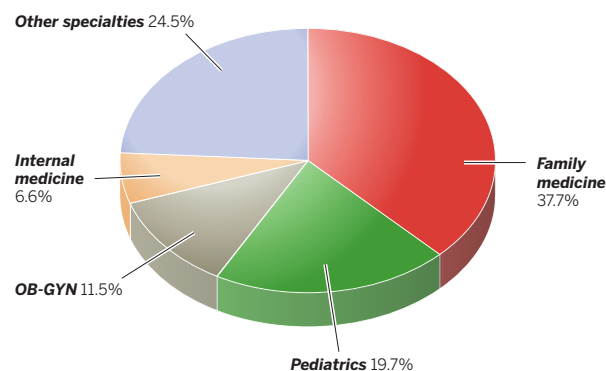
"Thanks to her efforts and passion to serve, migrant students have a community advocate that is changing the lives of students and families as she encourages young men and women alike to become the nurses, doctors, engineers, biologists and more they dream of becoming," the awards program stated.

The College of Medicine partners with the Gadsden Health Department to provide services to students in need. LaJoie has worked in Gadsden since 2007 providing primary-care services to students at George Munroe Elementary School and Shanks Middle School as well as in other schools by request. The school-based clinic program is funded by Dance Marathon at FSU.

Thesla Berne-Anderson, director of college and pre-college outreach and a founder of the SSTRIDE program, received the 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award from Florida State University. She's the fourth College of Medicine faculty or staff member to receive the honor.

"Even before we had a medical school, Ms. Anderson was a driving force in developing very successful outreach programs that would seek out and develop students from early in junior high school who exemplify our mission," said **John P. Fogarty**, dean of the College of Medicine. "She has mentored a generation of students who are not only first in their family to go to college, but certainly the first to go to medical school."

BRIDGE PROGRAM GRADUATES NOW PRACTICING



(other specialties include: cardiology, colorectal surgery, emergency medicine, gastroenterology, neurology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, otolaryngology, plastic surgery, psychiatry, radiology, sports medicine and surgical oncology.)

For four consecutive years, the FSU College of Medicine has been among the most diverse member schools in the Association of American Medical Colleges. Based on AAMC data for more than 140 M.D. programs, Florida State was the only school among the top 10 nationally for enrollment of both black and Hispanic students for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years.

Currently, FSU, UCLA and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley are the only medical schools with a greater-than-10-percent enrollment of both black and Hispanic students.

SSTRIDE includes a week-long, residential summer program on campus for high school students to provide a medical-school experience and motivate them toward a career in health care. The 'Summer Institute' provides students with guidance to excel academically and to prepare for standardized tests including the ACT and SAT. Participants are introduced to a variety of clinical settings, receive mentoring, learn about college life, and gain perspective about the life of a medical student.

During the week, they are exposed to aspects of the medical school curriculum through interaction with faculty and participation in faculty-led presentations about medical topics.

623 Summer Institute participants (2008-2018)

(146 tracked following completion of the program)

- 125 have graduated from a four-year college
- 37 have entered a graduate-level program after completing an undergraduate degree
- 16 have gone on to enroll in a medical school
- 10 enrolled in the FSU College of Medicine



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

DISCOVERY

40



**FSU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

ACCELERATING GROWTH IN RESEARCH SUCCESS

In 2019, the College of Medicine continued to be Florida State's fastest-growing college for research funding through competitive grants and contracts, continuing an upward trend that has accelerated over the last five years.

"We're seeing a clear picture of our ability to compete for larger grants – not only keeping pace with the number of submitted grants, which is an area of emphasis for our medical school," said **Jeffrey Joyce**, senior associate dean for research and graduate programs.

The college has been particularly competitive in awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Two departments (Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine, along with Biomedical Sciences) accounted for a nearly 450-percent increase in federal grants from 2015 to 2019.

The college continues to develop a reputation and strength centered around mental and behavioral health with a growing emphasis on translational science. "One measure of our leadership in this arena is the renewal of the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA)," said Joyce.

In 2019, FSU and the University of Florida's Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) expanded their research partnership, receiving a third cycle of funding from the NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences.

Over the next five years, (CTSA) funding will enable FSU and UF to apply and expand tools, resources, and initiatives to improve health and speed research along the translational pathway. Over the last several years, the College of Medicine has invested in research centers and faculty conducting translational research in mental health, substance

abuse, risky behaviors, and health conditions that have the potential to be treated with behavioral interventions. As the partnership with the UF CTSI enters its next phase, FSU and the College of Medicine will continue to build on investments in translational research; focus on patient-centered health care responsive to community needs – particularly involving underserved, minority, rural and elderly populations – and bring diverse expertise to translational research in areas that present the greatest health needs.

Translational research extends beyond "bench to bedside," connecting biomedical research, clinical studies, and behavioral observations and interventions to changes in clinical practice, the health of communities, and health policy, with the clear objective of having a positive impact on health.

It is patient- and population-oriented, providing a significant return on investment for the general public and Florida's communities.

Each of FSU's CTSA activities and programs is designed to serve the translational research enterprise across FSU under the direction of Joyce, who serves as FSU's principal investigator for the CTSA.

The UF-FSU CTSA hub is one of only two in Florida (and one of 50 nationwide). The College of Medicine serves as FSU's lead institution for the award, which supports:

- Research across the full translational spectrum – from developing treatments to making improvements in clinical practice to implementing and disseminating research discoveries to



changing policy to improve public health. College of Medicine research involves each of those areas.

- The coordination of translational research efforts in rural health, mental health, and behavioral health across multiple colleges at FSU, with leadership from seven colleges including the College of Medicine contributing to the implementation of the award.
- New initiatives for training early-career investigators in translational science through the K Scholar Program, led by Sylvie Naar, Distinguished Endowed Professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine. Among its many activities that support early-career investigators at the College of

Medicine and across FSU, the K Scholar Program provides workshops and training in team science, mentorship, and responsible conduct of research.

- The ongoing work of the College of Medicine's Network for Clinical Research and Training, which assists clinical, translational, and behavioral investigators in conducting research in diverse real-world settings, including medical practices, health systems, school-based clinics, and community health centers.
- Translational pilot projects conducted by teams that include College of Medicine researchers.

- Programs including bioinformatics, epidemiology, and research design; community engagement; network science; and team science.

The CTSA also increases the college's visibility and will help its researchers connect to other health sciences researchers across campus. The new CTSA has already engaged researchers and administrators from FSU colleges including Arts and Sciences, Communication and Information, Education, Human Sciences, Nursing, Social Sciences and Public Policy, and Social Work.



COLLEGE OF MEDICINE RESEARCH FUNDING (2015-2019)

Department	Total (federal, state and other)
Clinical Sciences	32.7
Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine	30.3
Biomedical Sciences	28.3
Geriatrics	4.1
Family Medicine and Rural Health	1.0
Other divisions/regional campuses	11.6
All departments and campuses	108.0
(amount shown in millions)	

TOP FIVE-YEAR GROWTH IN FEDERAL GRANTS

	2015	2019	Five-year total funding
Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine	1.2	9.1	21.3
Biomedical Sciences	2.5	7.4	24.3

CARING FOR OLD FLORIDA

With the addition of a five-year, \$3.75 million grant in June 2019, the federal Health Resources and Services Administration has awarded the Department of Geriatrics \$6.75 million since 2015 to help improve the health of older adults in Florida.

As of 2018, the U.S. had fewer than 3,600 full-time practicing geriatricians and 49.2 million older adults. The demand is especially high in Florida, a state that had only 404 geriatricians in 2017 – or roughly one for every 10,000 people over 65.

The HRSA grants the department has received are part of the national Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program.

The goal of GWEP is to better equip the workforce to address the often-complex health-care needs of older adults. Many efforts focus on preventing falls, reconciling and reducing medications, and communicating effectively with older patients and their families.

Lisa Granville, associate chair of the Department of Geriatrics and co-principal investigator of GWEP, said the program is well positioned to strengthen geriatrics-care knowledge and collaboration across Florida's workforce to improve support within communities as people age.

"Many people talk about the aging population and the concerns coming in the future. However, as the state with the highest percentage of older adults, Florida is already working on solutions," Granville said. "It's a privilege to have the opportunity to broadly explore strategies for enhancing the health of older adults."

The College of Medicine is working to develop training and resources for a wide range of health-care professionals to combat the shortage of geriatricians.

"What's unique about this grant is that it highlights interprofessional care and all the different pieces it takes to holistically care for older adults," said **Nicolette Castagna**, coordinator of North and Central Florida GWEP. "The

workforce is defined very broadly, and we're working with everyone from home health workers to faith-based caregivers, PAs, nurses, physicians, health educators, and assisted-living residents and their families."

GWEP's projects also focus on maximizing patient and family engagement and integrating primary care and geriatrics.



'EQUITY IS ACHIEVABLE'

Cancer screening, treatment and survival rates vary among races and communities. One community might have widespread use of screening tests but poor access to cutting-edge treatments, or vice versa. And the reasons for those disparities can vary as well, so where do you begin?

With a three-year, \$800,500 Bankhead-Coley research grant from the Florida Department of Health, Professor

George Rust is working to give Florida communities the tools and information to find out why their specific gap exists so they can do something about it.



Focusing largely on the gaps between whites and African Americans, the project aims to figure out which cancer

interventions – like improving access to screenings, decreasing lag time in diagnosis, or directing patients to optimal treatment – can have the greatest impact in tackling disparities.

“Inequities in cancer are some of the most poignant,” Rust said in an interview with “FSU Headlines.” “Over 1,000 women in Florida die each year that wouldn’t die if we could make equal the rates between black and white in terms of breast cancer deaths, so trying to understand and change that is important.”

Rust and his team are using big-data analytics to build computer models that can adapt to local communities and provide user-friendly information to fix inequities.

“Let’s say Community A has a big screening gap – we could say, ‘Here’s your most strategic opportunity to save lives – if you could equalize those screening rates, this is how many



lives you could save,” Rust said. “In a different community, where the screening rates are equal, we might be able to say, ‘Here’s where you need to focus your efforts. Maybe it’s in partnership with hospitals and oncologists to really make sure that the new lifesaving treatments are getting equally to everyone who needs them. And that’s how many lives you could save if you did that.’”

He’s also trying to shift the national conversation by pointing out that some communities are actually eliminating some disparities. In other words, they’re not inevitable.

“This is doable,” he said. “Equity is achievable. If we can identify specific mechanisms and specific leverage points or interventions, that could flip the script and change those outcomes.”

MICHAEL'S LASTING IMPACT

Hurricane Michael ravaged the Florida Panhandle, flattening nearly everything in its wake. As communities continue to rebuild for years to come, some of their most vulnerable residents are facing long-lasting health implications that aren't so visible.



Les Beitsch, chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine, is partnering with FSU Associate Professor of Geography Christopher Uejio and researchers from Tulane University to learn more about Hurricane Michael's impacts on pregnant women,

birth outcomes and children in the Florida Panhandle.

The team received a \$400,000 NIH grant in August.

"The project is funded by the National Institute of Environmental Sciences, so environmental factors are very important," said Beitsch.

"One of those is the stress impact from the hurricane and the things you see related to that. With structural damage and difficult living environments, mental health is dramatically affected. And what we're seeing in the Panhandle are some really substantial mental health outcomes for children."

The Florida Mental Health Act, commonly known as the Baker Act, is a law that – among other provisions – allows for people who are impaired because of mental illness to be retained at a facility for up to 72 hours.

"Every state has a Baker Act equivalent to allow the confinement of someone who is a danger to themselves or others. Since the hurricane in Bay County, they're having

elementary students who are being Baker Acted. We've never before addressed those kinds of things," said Beitsch. "It's not what you'd normally think about as environment, but it's part of the study."

Floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters have been found to increase the risk of having a low-birthweight baby due to stress, emotional trauma and decreased access to health care. Beitsch and his team are taking the research a step further, by looking at a combination of environmental factors that compound the stress and trauma and pose further health risks.

For example, exposure to carbon monoxide and respiratory toxins from harmful algae blooms may have major health implications for pregnant women and their babies. During prolonged power outages, many households rely on generators, which require proper ventilation to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide exposure. After Hurricane Irma in 2017, the CDC reported 16 deaths related to carbon monoxide poisoning, accounting for 12.4% of the hurricane-related deaths. Carbon monoxide poisoning during pregnancy has been associated with fetal demise, severe neurological complications, intrauterine growth retardation, preterm delivery and birth defects.

"There's many more people who are exposed than who die, so we're trying to figure out the best way to measure that," said Beitsch. "We're looking into using some kind of proxy, like generator density in certain areas, using satellite imaging and other tools through our partnership with the Department of Geography."

The research team hopes the study's findings can help improve health outcomes after similar catastrophic events in the future.

A LEADER IN AUTISM EARLY INTERVENTION

In her continuing quest to detect signs of autism spectrum disorder before it unfolds as a lifelong disability, Amy



Wetherby is targeting younger children than ever before. With \$3 million from the NIH, she's now validating the effectiveness of a new automated online tool – which will screen children at well-child doctor visits starting at age 9 months.

The tool, developed by Wetherby's team, is the SoCo CheckUp. "SoCo" stands for social communication, which is a core feature of autism.

"This is a very exciting study," said Wetherby, a Distinguished Research Professor at FSU and director of the College of Medicine's Autism Institute. "We will be recruiting a new cohort of babies by 2 months of age, conducting screening and surveillance with our new online Baby Navigator tools, and then looking at outcomes of autism or developmental delay at 24 months."

This is a five-year project. In the 13 years since she joined the College of Medicine faculty, Wetherby has brought in a total of \$68.9 million in 43 contracts and grants. In all, 58.9 percent of that funding came from federal agencies, including the National Institutes of Health. Ten of those projects are ongoing.

Also in 2019, Wetherby and her team received a Florida TaxWatch Productivity Award. Their web-based Autism Navigator and Baby Navigator programs were recognized for making it easier for medical professionals and parents to assess children's communication skills.

MORE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE 2019 RESEARCH HEADLINES



Michael Blaber, professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, was named to the National Academy of Inventors. Blaber's work focuses on protein systems and how they can be engineered as human therapeutics.

He has spent years perfecting an artificial human protein that could stimulate cell growth and provide relief for an incurable eye condition called Fuchs' Dystrophy. Blaber's research has been licensed by Trefoil Therapeutics, a private biotechnology company that, as of July 2019, attracted more than \$28 million from investors.



Heather Flynn, professor and vice chair in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine, was appointed to the statewide Opioid Taskforce. Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody and Gov. Ron DeSantis created the statewide

taskforce to combat opioid abuse in Florida, where an estimated 17 people die every day from opioids.



Research from **Mohamed Kabbaj**, professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, and his team found that the drug ketamine can decrease alcohol consumption in male rats that previously had consumed high amounts

of alcohol when given unrestricted access several times a

week. "What makes ketamine interesting in our study is that it reduced alcohol intake, and the effect was long-lasting even after we stopped ketamine treatment," Kabbaj said. The research is one piece of a larger investigation by Kabbaj's team to learn more about ketamine, a potential depression therapy. The research was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The findings were published in the neuroscience journal *eNeuro*.



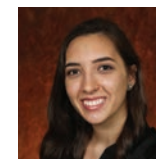
Associate Professor **Choogon Lee** received a four-year, \$1.2 million NIH grant to uncover molecular secrets about circadian rhythms and sleep disorders. "We are just beginning to unravel how inherited genetic variations in clock

genes can disrupt our circadian physiology, including our wake-sleep cycles," said Lee. The causes of circadian sleep disorders are notoriously difficult to pin down. In the study, he plans to use the genome-editing technique CRISPR to generate novel genetic mutations in mice emulating diverse sleep disorders in humans.

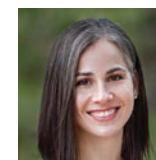


Associate Professor **Jose Pinto** was a co-author on a study about cardiac function in patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. DMD is the most common lethal genetic disorder among children. It's caused by a mutation

preventing the body from producing a protein crucial to the health of skeletal, respiratory and cardiac muscles. Pinto, in



collaboration with scientists across the nation and FSU graduate student **Karissa Dieseldorff Jones**, found that increased levels of the protein sarcospan improve cardiac function in DMD patients by reinforcing cardiac cell membranes.



Research faculty members **Emily Pritchard** and **Cesar Rodriguez** worked with a team of students who won a grand prize of \$10,000 in the annual InNOLEvation Challenge business model competition in April before advancing to the final round of the Atlantic Coast Conference InVenture Prize competition. The students' business, InnoHealth Diagnostics, uses DNA amplification and other advanced technology to improve early diagnosis of the tropical

parasitic disease schistosomiasis, known as snail fever. The entrepreneurs plan to expand services in Nigeria, where 10 million people are at risk of infection and 30 million are suffering from the disease. The company aims to lower the rate of the disease, which is spread by freshwater snails, to less than 1 percent in Kano State, Nigeria.





Yi Ren, professor of biomedical sciences, is making progress in understanding why such significant harm is inflicted in the weeks and months after a spinal injury. In a study published in the journal *Nature Neuroscience*, Ren explained how a natural

immune system response may contribute to additional injury. When spinal cord damage occurs, the endothelial cells that line blood vessels are activated to remove potentially harmful material, like myelin debris, from the site of the injury. However, Ren and her team discovered that this process may be responsible for causing further harm. With a better understanding of the mechanisms at work, Ren hopes that researchers will find new ways for accident victims to regain lost functional ability without many of the unwanted side effects.



Professor **Zucai Suo** and colleagues published research that provides a key understanding of two widely used HIV and hepatitis B drugs. Suo and his team established for the first time the mechanisms responsible for how the

drugs inhibit viruses. A single HIV-1 mutation can inactivate the anti-HIV drugs emtricitabine and lamivudine. The paper, published by *Communications Biology*, suggests new pathways for developing drugs able to avoid specific virus mutations that can render the two blockbuster L-nucleoside drug treatments ineffective for many patients.



Associate Professor **Angelina Sutin** and her team conducted a study showing that there is a link between an individual's personality and his or her beliefs about others' bodies and the way those beliefs are expressed in social

interactions. In the study published in the journal *Personality and Individual Differences*, the team found that an individual's distinct blend of conscientiousness, agreeableness, openness, neuroticism and extraversion had significant bearing on his or her attitude toward obesity, their implicit theories of weight and their willingness to engage in derisive fat talk or weight discrimination. Their surveys pointed to a significant association between conscientiousness and greater fat phobia. "One aspect of conscientiousness is following the norms of society," Sutin said. "Even though two-thirds of the U.S. population is overweight or obese, there are strong social ideals for health and fitness — even if, on average, we do not meet these ideals."



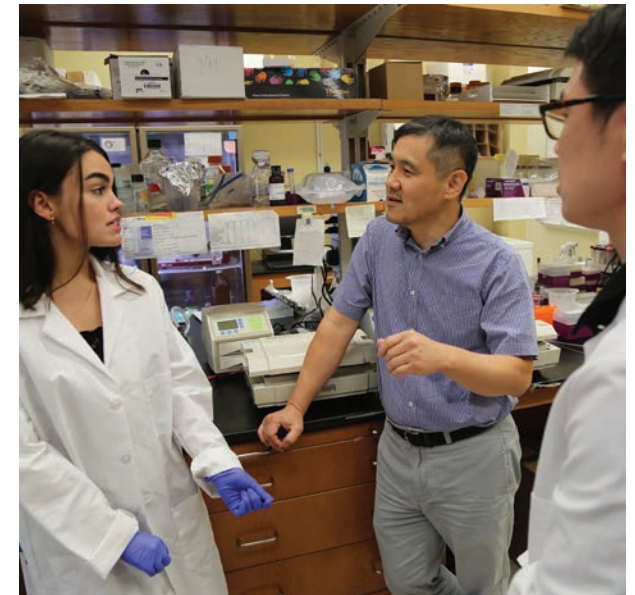
A team of FSU researchers, including College of Medicine Professor **Antonio Terracciano**, received a \$2.9 million grant from the National Institute on Aging to identify new ways to detect and treat age-related cognitive decline and dementia.

The ability to detect that someone is on the cusp of cognitive decline has large implications for how dementia is studied. Treatments and interventions can be tested before potentially irreversible changes in brain structure and function occur



Robert Tomko Jr., assistant professor of biomedical sciences, uncovered a new clue for cancer treatment within the machinery of human cells. Tomko studied the production of proteasomes, tiny structures in a cell that dispose of protein

waste. In doing so, he uncovered a critical missing step and found that carefully targeted manipulation of the step could prove an effective recourse for the treatment of cancer. The findings were published in the journal *Cell Reports*. The research was funded by the College of Medicine and the NIH.



THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

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DANCE MARATHON: THE CHECKS KEEP GROWING

Here's another measure of how successful Dance Marathon at Florida State University has become: These days, at the end of their annual 40-hour danceathon, it takes 21 people just to hold up the signs that reveal how much money the dancers have raised.

In 2019, on one side of the dollar amount, it took three people to hold up signs with "D," "M" and "at." On the other side of the dollar amount, it took five people to hold up signs with "F," "S," "U," "2019" and "!" But, of course, all eyes were on the numbers in the middle. They're always revealed from right to left to increase the suspense. In 2019, first you saw ".21." Then, little by little, you saw "165.21" Then

"210,165.21." Then, at last, "\$2,210,165.21." It took your breath away – especially if you didn't have much breath left after hours and hours of dancing nonstop.

The largest student-run philanthropy on campus is far more than one weekend of dancing. Organizers work year-round to raise this money "For the Kids." About half of it benefits UF Shands Children's Hospital in Gainesville, which is the closest Children's Miracle Network hospital. And Shands Children's Hospital donates about half of the total to the FSU College of Medicine to invest in children's health initiatives locally.

Over the years, the amount coming back to FSU has totaled more than \$6.2 million. Much of it has supported the College of Medicine's year-round primary-care clinics in three Gadsden County schools. But the med school also disburses some proceeds to other organizations that benefit Big Bend kids.

"There's nothing that's better for a dean than receiving nice big checks to help support our programs," Dean **John P. Fogarty** said in an interview after the latest check presentation in September. "What we love the most about this is it isn't just FSU programs – these are community-based programs."

So far, every year, the checks have gotten bigger. So has the feeling of gratitude toward these dedicated dancers.





Alma Littles and the Woodward family: From left, Edward, Daniel, Mary Jane, "Dr. Pat," Fred and Pat Jr.

NAMING A ROOM FOR THE WOODWARDS

One way to honor generous donors and other key people in College of Medicine history is to name a room for them. Latest example: What was formerly known simply as LC 2110 is now The **Pat & Mary Jane Woodward** Learning Community.

The renaming was a complete surprise for the Woodwards, engineered behind the scenes by their four sons.

"The Woodward family has been among the College of Medicine's strongest supporters," Dean **John P. Fogarty** said. "So to spring this surprise honor on Pat and Mary Jane was a pure delight. We want all current and future students

to know what good friends the Woodwards have been to us."

The plaque inside the room tells the story: "Future students will ask: Who were Pat and Mary Jane Woodward? In nearby Quincy, Mary Jane served their church and community alongside her husband, who practiced rural medicine as the beloved 'Dr. Pat.' Well before the College of Medicine existed, he was providing patient-centered care. Senior Associate Dean Alma Littles, who began as Dr. Pat's patient and became his protégé and friend, said 'he embodies everything we attempt to teach our students.'"

In 2014, Pat Jr., Fred, Daniel and Edward Woodward honored their parents by creating an endowed scholarship for prospective Gadsden County pediatricians and family physicians. Now this Learning Community – symbolic of the college's emphasis on student cooperation and compassion – wears the Woodward name.

To find out about other room-naming opportunities, check with Assistant Dean for Development Jim McNeill, (850) 644-4589, jim.mcneill@med.fsu.edu.

A BRUSH WITH GENEROSITY

Two of the strongest supporters of FSU PrimaryHealth live four hours from Tallahassee and have virtually no affiliation with the university. But **Syble and Richard Eads** are close friends of **Sherri Swilley**, the associate director of health and human services in the College of Medicine's Florida Medical Practice Plan. And that's enough.

So in mid-2019, when the med school's new community health center was opening and Swilley was its busy-beyond-belief interim practice manager, they did whatever they could to help.

"I have to be very careful what I ask for or what I say we need to help others – because whatever I ask for, they will supply it," Swilley said. "I mentioned: 'The kids at Sabal Palm [the elementary school by FSU PrimaryHealth] have a lot of dental issues, so maybe we could give them toothbrushes and toothpaste, because they don't always have the money to buy necessities.' Lo and behold, Syble shows up with CASES of toothpaste and toothbrushes. Same with Vaseline – she bought a boatload of it. It's really come in

handy. Anytime I ask for anything that our patients need, they're willing to help in any way they can."

This relationship began several years ago, when a family that they both knew was affected by a loved one's suicide. They worked together to create a University of Florida endowment to fund a scholarship for medical students who were interested in suicide prevention. "The benefit of having an endowed account," Swilley said, "is that it will continue to give long after the donor's lifetime." Later, they created another endowed fund – designed to help people in underserved areas afford such things as prescription drugs and rides to medical appointments.

"Syble had a hard time growing up," Swilley said, "so she really values helping others who are struggling."

Although the Eadses live in New Smyrna Beach, they come to Tallahassee fairly often – whenever there's something they can do to help.

Read more about FSU PrimaryHealth on page 33.



A PLACE TO STAY IN MARIANNA

Just an hour from Tallahassee is the small town of Marianna, with an impressive hospital, an eager-to-teach community and a surprising variety of medical challenges for hungry students. Since 2005, up to four of our third-year students have spent the entire year there.

One thing the Marianna experience didn't offer was customized student housing – until now. Thanks primarily to Jackson Hospital, students will have a four-bedroom, five-bath, fully furnished place to stay.

Sunshine Health contributed \$25,000 to furnish the house. Badcock Furniture donated furnishings and provided a generous discount toward the purchase of additional items from its location in Marianna.

"Gifts like this are so important to us," Dean **John P. Fogarty** said. "They make life much easier for our hard-working students. And they allow us to do worthwhile things that we couldn't afford to do otherwise."

CEO **Jim Platt** said the hospital had bought the house



earlier as part of its long-range plan to expand – a plan that changed when Jackson received other property that was even better for expansion.

“So the hospital board of directors and I thought this would be an outstanding opportunity to use this as housing for our students,” he said. “Actually, we’d been working with the College of Medicine for two years looking at alternatives. But Hurricane Michael a year and a half ago pretty well dried up all the available housing.”

The hurricane also roughed up this house. “We had some damage to the roof and soffits,” Platt said. “While we were at it, we updated the electrical system and HVAC system. We pretty well have gutted it, brought it up to code and made it more of a dormitory-style arrangement.”

Platt said the house, which Jackson still owns, will be ready for the next batch of rural students in June. A plaque will thank Sunshine Health – which offers Medicaid and other health insurance plans and says on its website: “We believe local partnerships enable meaningful, accessible healthcare.”

Platt, who lived previously in South Dakota and Iowa, knows the value of rural health partnerships. He sees College of Medicine students as an important part of Marianna’s medical future. As Fogarty said: “He really believes in our mission.”



CONTINUING SUPPORT FROM CAPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION

Sept. 17 was a memorable evening for 10 College of Medicine students. At a banquet hosted by the Capital Medical Society Foundation, they received scholarships totaling \$50,000. The scholarships went to **Blaire Cote** (Class of 2022), **Laura Davis** (2021), **Shelby De Cardenas** (2022), **Chase Forehand** (2023), **Jacqueline Hanners** (2021), **Laken Johnson** (2022), **Caneisaya Matthews** (2023), **Samantha Mahon** (2020), **Christopher Pope** (2022) and **Lauryn Reid** (2023).

Over the years, the foundation has awarded scholarships

totaling \$590,000 to College of Medicine students. “My fellow physicians are pleased and proud to help support medical students who have not only a financial need but a desire to stay in Florida and practice medicine in Florida,” said David Jones, M.D., who’s on the scholarship committee.

The foundation’s newsletter cited a recent national survey by Weatherby Healthcare, which found that almost two-thirds of active practicing physicians still carry debt from medical school. In fact, a third of that group still owed more than \$250,000. So scholarships like these are a godsend.

ANOTHER YEAR OF CHAPMAN SUCCESSES

Consider food pantries. They're not high-tech. They don't grab headlines. Yet they represent an important part of what the College of Medicine teaches: compassion. As second-year student **Shanquell Dixon** said, there's a lot to learn from the food pantry that M.D. students help maintain at the Maryland Oaks Crossing transitional housing community:

"My favorite part of the food pantry is the ability to build personal relationships with the Maryland Oaks residents, getting to laugh with them, see how life is treating them since I last saw them, learn what foods or brands they like, and what they may be planning to cook that week with the food. I knew who would be getting the food for what family, I knew who would bring their brown paper bags back for us to reuse, I knew who would want the random bag of coffee or box of cookies I happened to find in the pantry while organizing the shelves, and I knew who may need a little extra of a particular food item. Food has this incredible ability to bring people together."

Dixon is a community affairs director for the Chapman Community Health Project – which is the best-known of the growing family of Chapman funds. All of them spring from the Jules B. Chapman, M.D., and Annie Lou Chapman Private Foundation, overseen by Trustee and College of Medicine Professor **Robert Watson**. And all of them celebrate medical humanism – qualities such as compassion and empathy.

CCHP's primary focus is supporting the medical students' many and varied activities at Maryland Oaks. But that's not its only project.

"One of the moments that I most enjoyed was the November 2019 health screening at Grace Mission Episcopal Church," said **Blaire Cote**, CCHP's co-executive director. "Our

quarterly health screenings at this facility are primarily focused on the homeless populations in downtown Tallahassee. The people who attend are always so sweet and appreciative."

There are Chapman Scholarships for Humanism, which reward students for their compassionate care. In fact, the recipients are chosen primarily by the med school's standardized patients – the people who know firsthand how these physicians-in-training treat their patients. The 2019 scholarships went to Dixon and to **Garrett Barr** (Class of '22), **Barry Bradley** ('21), **Beau Billings** ('21), **Elizabeth Hull Dennison** ('21, two-time recipient), **Shelby Hartwell** ('21, two-time recipient), **Brittany Jonap** ('22), **Akshita Madala** ('21), **Shani Peter** ('21), **Abigail Schirmer** ('22) and **Alexis Spangler** ('22).

There's also a Chapman Humanities and Arts in Medicine Program, which is expected to complete work on a Chapman Memorial Garden by summer 2020.

Through 2019, the various Chapman funds have contributed nearly \$700,000 to the College of Medicine. So numerous are the funds and associated projects that, in 2019, an advisory board was created to coordinate the five largest ones and maximize the good they can do.

Also in late 2019, Chapman paid the way for 14 students to attend a Chapman Conference hosted by the University of Central Florida, which has its own Chapman chapter. Said Watson, the Chapman trustee: "To see all these humanistic, enthusiastic, upbeat students from all over the place doing these projects was inspirational."





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 July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019. 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.

Jim McNeill, assistant dean for development
jim.mcneill@med.fsu.edu, 850-644-4389

Amber Saltzman, senior development officer
asaltzman@foundation.fsu.edu, 815-758-3257

Chrys Goodwyne, development officer
chrys.goodwyne@med.fsu.edu, 850-644-3353

Listed below are revenue/donations received during fiscal year 2019

(For a record of lifetime giving to the College of Medicine, visit med.fsu.edu/giving)

\$100,000 OR MORE

Archbold Medical Center
 Jules B. Chapman, M.D., and Annie Lou Chapman
 Private Foundation
 Feng Cong
 Dance Marathon at FSU
 (Southeastern HealthCare Foundation)
 Florida Medical Practice Plan
 W. Russell and Eugenia M. Morcom
 Naples Children & Education Foundation
 Orlando Health

\$25,000-\$99,999.99

Charles and Margery Barancik Foundation
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 First Physicians Group of Sarasota Memorial
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\$5,000-\$24,999.99

Garry D. Adel and Terry L. Cole
 Aesculapian Management Co.
 AMEC Eleventh District
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 People for Florida's Future
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 James B. and Susan S. Tollerton
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 Edward C. and Lisa Woodward
 Frederick M. and Tracey Woodward
 Pat M. and Mary J. Woodward

\$1,000-\$4,999.99

Luz M. Abud
 Glenn D. Adams
 Richard K. and Gail Adkins
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 Gentle and Alma B. Littles
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 Cynthia B. Magrini
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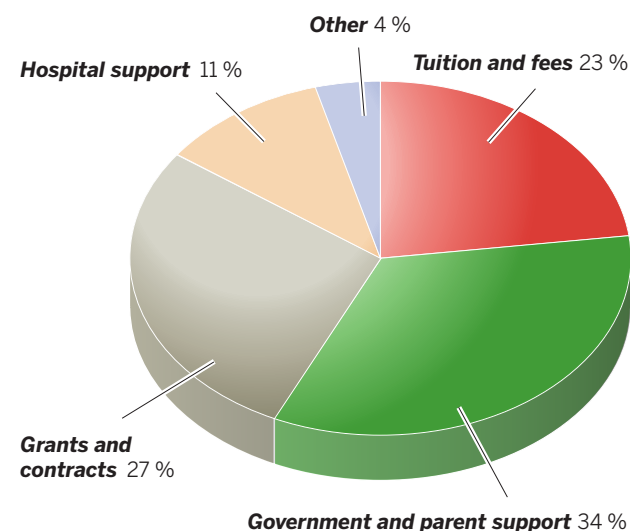
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 William R. Pena
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 Reginald M. Proctor
 Vinayak V. and Vidya Purandare
 Elena Reyes
 Bruce E. and Sandra P. Robinson
 Bruce E. Robinson LLC

Johann L. Santa Eulalia
 Anthony G. and Susan S. Sarna
 Katharina & Joseph Schober Foundation
 Schofield, Hand and Bright Orthopedics
 Kenneth A. and Catherine M. Schepke
 Jeffrey E. and Christine M. Sell
 Stephen A. and Gina M. Seigny
 Richard J. and Maureen N. Sheridan
 Sleep Medicine Specialists
 Charles A. and Kristin W. Smallwood
 Brenda K. and Vernon D. Smith
 Brenda K. and Vernon D. Smith Family Foundation
 George A. and Maxine Smith
 Joshua D. and Wendy I. Somerset
 Heather and Anthony C. Speights
 Richard Taylor
 Dudley Teel
 Sarah R. Temple
 Christine N. and Matthew P. Thomas
 Gregory K. Todd and Don G. Lewis
 Daniel J. and Patricia L. Van Durme
 Lyle E. and Gayle T. Wadsworth
 Julia G. and Steven E. Weeks
 West Florida Medical Associates
 Polly A. White
 Robert K. and Charlie F. Wilson
 Mark A. and Andrea R. Yap
 James C. and Chanda B. Zedaker
 Richard L. and Katherine A. Zorn



**COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY, 2018-19**

PERCENT OF TOTAL REVENUES



ADMINISTRATION

John P. Fogarty, M.D., Dean

Alma Littles, M.D., Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Academic Affairs

Jeffrey Joyce, Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs

Myra Hurt, Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences

Paul McLeod, M.D., Senior Associate Dean for Regional Campuses

Daniel Van Durme, M.D., Senior Associate Dean for Clinical and Community Affairs

Rob Campbell, M.D., Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions

Joan Meek, M.D., Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education

Anthony Speights, M.D., Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences

Gregory Turner, Ed.D., Associate Dean for Faculty Development

Sharon Woodall, M.S., CPA, Associate Dean for Finance and Administration

Suzanne Baker, M.A., Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs and Medical Student Research

Laura Brock, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for External Relations

Scott Dunn, D.P.A., Assistant Dean for Office of Information Technology

Elizabeth Foster, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences

Eric Laywell, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Admissions

Jim McNeill, Assistant Dean for Development

Christopher P. Mulrooney, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Clinical and Community Affairs

Michael Nichols, Ed.D., J.D., Assistant Dean for Research Administration

Donna O'Neal, M.A., Assistant Dean for Research

Doug Carlson, Director of Public Affairs, Communications and Alumni Relations

Cindy Tyler, Director of Campus Clinical Relations

Robert Jurand, J.D., Associate General Counsel





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