



THE  
FLORIDA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

# COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

## REGIONAL CAMPUS REVIEW

### SARASOTA

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#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN	1
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT	1
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT	2-3
DR. BENTZE WINS STATE ASSOCIATION AWARD	2
DR. ROBINSON TO CHAIR NATIONAL BOARD	2
NEW EMERGENCY MEDICINE CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR	2
FACULTY RECEIVES ANNUAL CAMPUS AWARDS	3
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT	3-4
CLASS OF 2012 STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS	3
CLASS OF 2013 STUDENT'S ART ON COVER OF <i>ACADEMIC MEDICINE</i>	4
CAMPUS NEWS	4
DEAN FOGARTY GIVES "STATE OF THE COLLEGE" ADDRESS	4
A SPECIAL THANK YOU	4

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



**BRUCE BERG, MD, MBA**

The first phase of development for the Sarasota Campus of the FSU College of Medicine is now complete. Over the last seven years we have gradually increased our third year class size from nine students in the Class of 2007 to twenty students in the Class of 2012. We have correspondingly increased the number of clinical faculty and community partners for our students' medical training. Our students now have access to 332 board certified clinical physician faculty, six partner hospitals and over twenty community organizations.

The hard work of our students, the teaching by our excellent clinical faculty and the wonderful cooperation of our partner organizations have provided our students with an unparalleled curriculum experience that has fostered professional and personal growth thus allowing our graduates to match in exceptional residency programs. And as proof of our success and long term return on investment, Kristen Shepherd, a student from our first Class of 2007, has returned to Sarasota to practice obstetrics.

Successful medical training, of course, requires the diligent efforts of our clerkship directors, administrative staff, physician faculty, students and partner organizations to reach this level of achievement. Despite our success, we cannot rest on our accomplishments. The art and science of medical education continue to evolve and we must prepare for the future.

One of our next goals is to create a scholarship program for those students who face a large debt burden upon graduation. To curtail debt will help more students choose a primary care field for their residency training, which is our mission. The second goal is to implement translational research at each of our regional campuses in partnership with the central campus in Tallahassee and other partner organizations. The power of our distributed regional campus model can truly be brought to bear on clinical research. The third goal is to begin a curriculum redesign program so we will be

ready to train our students for an increasingly complex future in health care.

These combined goals represent the next phase of our regional campus development. I am confident that with the help of our community partners we can accomplish these goals. We have come a long way, but we have far to go. Together we will prepare our students and our community for the future.

## ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**KRISTEN SHEPHERD, MD**  
(Class of 2007, OB/GYN)

**Dr. Kristen Shepherd** (left) was welcomed back to Sarasota at the All Faculty Appreciation Celebration. She practices at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, PSI Women's Care Specialists and has already begun to teach 3<sup>rd</sup> Year FSU medical students.

**Dr. Paola Dees** (right) returned to give the Doctoring 3 Pediatrics lecture entitled: "**Cough in Children.**" She enjoys her work as a Pediatric Hospitalist at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg. She works with pediatric residents and medical students on a daily basis and says "**Teaching is one of the best parts of my job!**"



**PAOLA DEES, MD**  
(Class of 2008, Pediatrics)

## FACULTY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### DR. BENTZE IS PART-TIME EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



NICOLE BENTZE, DO

The Florida Academy of Family Physicians is proud to recognize family physician, **Dr. Nicole Bentze**, as the 2011 recipient of the “**Part-Time Educator of the Year Award.**”

Dr. Bentze serves as Clerkship Director and Clinical Assistant Professor of Family Medicine for the Florida State University College of Medicine regional campus in Sarasota, Florida. In addition, she is a full-time

family physician at Intercoastal Medical Group, a multispecialty practice providing office and hospital medical care. Her commitment to the education of others and passion for family medicine is extremely visible on and off campus. Dr. Bentze says that her mission as Clerkship Director is to expose medical students to the full spectrum of what family medicine really is.

After graduating from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, she went on to complete her residency through the Harrisburg Family Practice Residency Program. She then completed a faculty development fellowship through the Michigan State University College of Medicine.

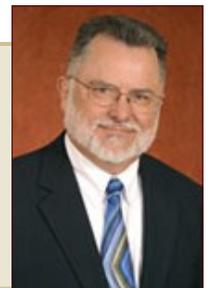
This is an outstanding achievement and is conferred in recognition of dedication, expertise and ability to provide the highest quality instruction to physicians in all phases of their medical training and practice in a part-time capacity.

Congratulations, Dr. Bentze!

“I chose family medicine during my first year of medical school when I began learning about caring for the whole patient ... I loved how family medicine focused on prevention and took a patient’s medical and family history into account then applied it to their health.”  
~ Dr. Bentze

### DR. ROBINSON TO SERVE ON STATE AND NATIONAL BOARDS

**Dr. Bruce Robinson**, Geriatrics Clerkship Director for the Sarasota Campus, has been appointed to the Governor’s Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative committee for a second term and is the Chairman Elect of the Board of the American Medical Directors Association Certifying Program, which determines eligibility and oversees certification policy for Certified Medical Directors in the United States. Dr. Robinson will become Chair this October.



BRUCE ROBINSON, MD

### NEW CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR FOR EMERGENCY MEDICINE



JOEL GERBER, MD



T. ELIJAH BENIONI, MD

**Dr. Joel Gerber** has been Clerkship Director for Emergency Medicine in Sarasota since 2008 and has taught many students who have appreciated his knowledge and experience. Asked by Sarasota Memorial Hospital to play a greater leadership role in emergency services, he felt he needed to step down from his clerkship director responsibilities. He continues to teach and prepare our students; however, and for that and his years of service as clerkship director, we thank him.

**Dr. Elijah Benioni** received his MD from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 2007. Interestingly, as an undergraduate, he concurrently earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Chemistry and a Bachelor of Arts in music, both from the University of Miami. He completed an emergency medicine residency at Strong Memorial Hospital and was chief resident there from 2009—2010. Dr. Benioni has been Associate Medical Director for EMS in Sarasota County since 2010. Among his professional activities, he serves as Chief of Education for Sarasota Emergency Associates and is on a number of committees at Sarasota Memorial Hospital including the Education Committee, the Quality Improvement Committee, the Core Measures Committee, and is the Neurology/Stroke Liaison. At the Sarasota Campus, we appreciate all of Dr. Benioni’s talents and welcome him as Clerkship Director for Emergency Medicine.

**FACULTY RECEIVE CAMPUS AWARDS FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE**



(L-R) DR. BRUCE BERG, DR. JENNIFER MAYER, AND DR. RUSSELL NOVAK

**Jennifer Mayer, MD**, received the **Sarasota Campus Mission Model Award** having distinguished herself by participating in activities that model the Mission of the FSU College of Medicine. Dr. Mayer was instrumental in developing the All Children’s Pediatric Program at Sarasota Memorial Hospital where she currently serves as its director. This program is vital to the community as it allows very sick children to be hospitalized locally. Most importantly, the program serves both insured and uninsured patients, filling a critical gap in the care of our most vulnerable citizens. Students who have studied with Dr. Mayer have noted their skills improvement as a result of her ability to identify each student’s needs by being in tune with where they are in their progress. Dr. Mayer encourages students to probe their knowledge and experience before giving a diagnosis and demonstrates patient-centered healthcare. Her

enthusiasm for teaching is obvious and contagious

**Russell Novak, MD**, received the **Sarasota Campus Outstanding Educator Award**. Dr. Novak was one of our first physician faculty members. He is considered by students to be both respectful and compassionate. His strengths as an educator include a genuine enthusiasm for teaching, the ability to assess each student’s needs, allowing participation in the operating room to the extent of their abilities. He encourages students to develop skills at differential diagnosis and to learn pre, peri, and post-operative patient management. Dr. Novak is a great role model for students because he exemplifies competence and professionalism, as well as being highly accomplished and well respected.

**STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

**CLASS OF 2012 STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS**



JOSEPH LESNICK



MAEGAN MCCARTHY

**Joseph Lesnick** and **Maegan M. McCarthy** have been elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society signifying a commitment to scholarship, leadership, professionalism and service.

Often referred to as “Phi Beta Kappa for medical schools,” AQA is the only national medical honor society whose mission recognizes and enhances professionalism, academic excellence, service and leadership within the profession. Since its founding in 1902, Alpha Omega Alpha has added more than 100,000 members to its rolls and has over 124 chapters in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. One basic premise of the Society is that election to AQA is not only a capstone of a student’s medical school

career, but an obligation, both in his or her own personal life as a physician, to support the principled ideals set forth so effectively and lastingly by the founders throughout life. Joseph and Maegan will be honored at a ceremony prior to the medical school graduation in May.

Congratulations to Joseph and Maegan!

Congratulations to **Demetrios “Jimmy” Konstas**, who has been inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. In 2007, a Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) chapter was established at the Florida State University College of Medicine. This newest initiative from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation honors senior medical students, residents, role-model physician teachers and other exemplars recognized for “demonstrated excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion and dedication to service.” Between 10-15% of the graduating class is selected through a process including nominations from both peers and faculty.



JIMMY KONSTAS

## CLASS OF 2013 STUDENT'S ART GRACES THE COVER OF *ACADEMIC MEDICINE*



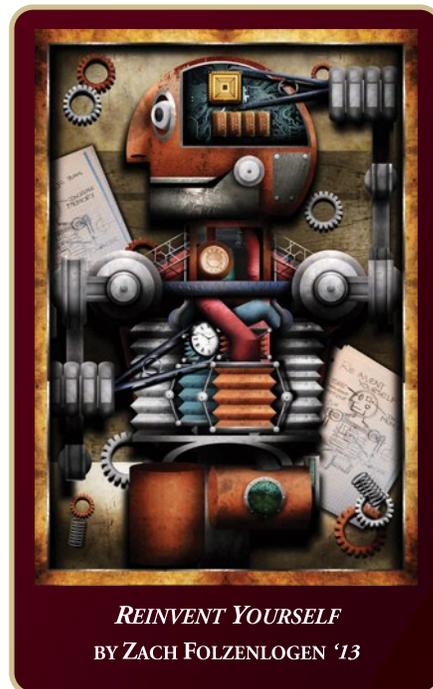
ZACH FOLZENLOGEN

Congratulations to Class of 2013 student, **Zach Folzenlogen**, whose graphic design was published on the November 2011 cover of *Academic Medicine*.

Zach wrote about his work for the publication:

"Prior to my application to medical school in 2009, I was an artist for the Miami Herald. Despite my rather dramatic career change, art has and will forever be an important part of my life. It is my outlet of expression. I created this work for our school's academic advisory office during my second year of medical school, and it is titled *Reinvent Yourself*. My transition into medical school and the medical profession has been challenging and fascinating, especially coming from an untraditional professional background. Not only have I had to become a more efficient and thorough scholar, but I have also had to develop my character. I have learned, though, that medicine is an art in itself. It is the art of gathering, analyzing, and utilizing a tremendous amount of information in a compassionate way to better people's lives.

With this piece I hoped to reflect the complex nature of a simple term: self-improvement. Continuing forward in my education and eventual practice, I and my fellow trainees will constantly need to reinvent ourselves for the better. I feel it is the process of continual reflection and revamping that will allow me to become a better physician."



*REINVENT YOURSELF*  
BY ZACH FOLZENLOGEN '13



## CAMPUS NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

### DEAN FOGARTY GIVES "STATE OF THE COLLEGE" ADDRESS



JOHN FOGARTY, MD

**Dr. John Fogarty**, Dean of the College of Medicine, had an upbeat message during the annual All Faculty Appreciation Celebration held at Michael's on East, on September 9th. Confident in our success with the recent visit by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education, he reviewed the many milestones achieved in the 10 years since the College's founding.

"These All Faculty events allow me the opportunity to highlight all the great things going on at the College of Medicine, to talk about the success of our students, but mostly to thank all of the wonderful community faculty who take the students in to the offices and practices and provide an incredible experience for them. The students are thriving in these settings and I enjoy sharing the good news with each of our regional campuses."

Over 150 attendees listened to the annual State of the College address then enjoyed a well-deserved celebration for a job well done.

### A SPECIAL THANK YOU...

To **M&I Bank** for hosting the 2011 All Faculty Appreciation Reception at Michael's on East last September. Your continued generosity and thoughtfulness makes a significant difference in the lives of our students.



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### CONGRATULATIONS!

**Chip Orth**, IT Coordinator, and wife, Nikki, welcomed their first child, daughter Bridget Nicole, on June 21, 2011.



CHIP ORTH WITH DAUGHTER, BRIDGET