



The Best Medicine

SUMMER 2003

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Med School 2003

The Florida State University College of Medicine hit three major milestones this summer, beginning with the enrollment of the college's third class of students in May.

Third class arrives

The members of the Class of 2007, who come from all over Florida, say they were attracted to the FSU College of Medicine because of the school's emphasis on cooperative learning, its advanced medical information technology, and its mission of educating doctors to care for the medically underserved.

First-year student Courtney Nall comes from Auburndale and wants to become a doctor to help "the 43 million people in the United States who do not have health insurance or access to proper medical care." She is excited by FSU's mission to create doctors willing to serve in rural, minority or other underserved communities, which she calls "a refreshing, energizing idea."

Shani-Kay Chambers of Lauderhill says her decision to attend FSU's medical school was based on the "small class sizes, early

anatomy in the summer and patient interaction from the first year."

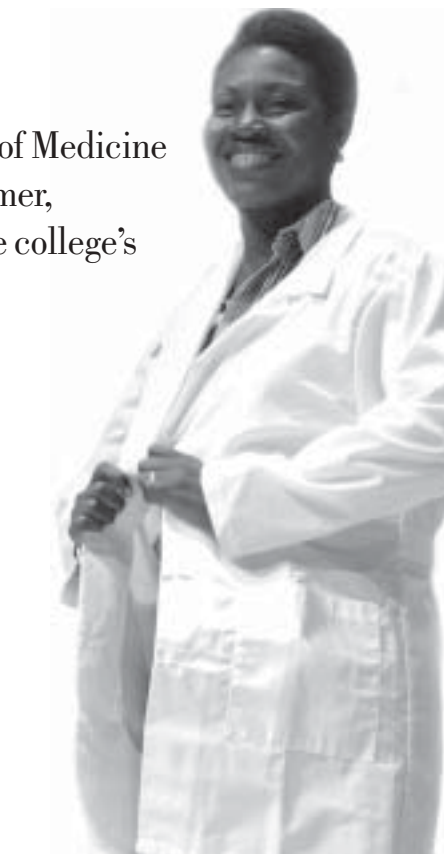
Chris Bingham of Lakeland put it more simply: "How could you not choose this school?"

With 46 students, the new class is the largest to date. Read more about the members of new class at: www.med.fsu.edu/students/2007profiles.asp

Three regional campuses open

The medical school has opened its first three regional medical school campuses in Tallahassee, Orlando and Pensacola, where students will complete the third and fourth years of their medical education. Future campuses are planned for Jacksonville, Sarasota and Ft. Myers.

Each campus is based at a 5,000-square-foot facility, which houses the administra-



MARIE JEBOAM
CLASS OF 2007
WHITE COAT CEREMONY

tion and provides a place for students to meet with faculty, participate in videoconferences and access the medical school's online medical library resources.

Students will meet at the campus facilities once a week for their Doctoring course, while their clinical rotations will take place in doctors' offices, hospitals and outpa-

MESSAGE FROM DEAN J. OCIE HARRIS, M.D.



DEAN J. OCIE HARRIS, M.D.

Entering its third academic year, the FSU College of Medicine is now seeing the realization of the distributed, community-based model on which the college was founded.

The inaugural class has begun third-year clinical rotations at the college's first three regional medical school campuses in Tallahassee, Pensacola and Orlando. The third year will include not only six required clinical rotations of six to eight weeks, but also a three-week community medicine rotation and a longitudinal experience at a primary care clinical site.

Meanwhile, the college's second class has spread out around the state to work with community physicians through a new preceptorship program designed to provide students with three weeks of intensive clinical experience as well as insight into the opportunities and challenges of working with medically underserved populations.

The preceptorships, which are coordinated by the Florida Area Health Educa-

tion Centers (AHEC) Network, place students with primary-care physicians whose practices include rural, inner-city, culturally diverse or geriatric patient populations. Students with an interest in a specific underserved population are matched with relevant experiences in an effort to reinforce their career goals.

From ethnically diverse patients in Miami-Dade County to migrant farmworkers and low-income families in Gadsden County to retirees in Duval County, students encounter the sorts of populations the FSU College of Medicine was founded to serve.

Also in keeping with the college's mission, the medical school is developing its rural health program. With a \$750,000 corporate gift, the college has launched the Blue

Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health, which is pursuing research aimed at improving health-care delivery in rural Florida.

In addition, a search is underway for a director of rural health, whose initial focus will be the development of a rural health track that will enable interested students to complete the majority of their third-year clinical rotations in rural communities.

Looking back, it was only three years ago that the Florida Legislature created the FSU College of Medicine and assigned the college its mission. It is exciting and gratifying to see the great plans for the school becoming a reality thanks to a shared vision and the hard work of many dedicated people.

MED SCHOOL, from p. 1

tient facilities throughout each region.

The list of affiliated hospitals, health plans and outpatient facilities continues to grow. In March, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital joined the list of affiliated institutions for the Tallahassee campus.

To find out more about each regional campus or see a complete list of affiliated institutions, go to: www.med.fsu.edu/education/Regional

Third-year clinical rotations begin

After taking Step 1 of the U.S. Medical Licensing Exam, the 30 members of the inaugural class began their third-year clinical rotations July 7 at the

medical school's regional campuses in Orlando, Pensacola and Tallahassee.

In all, more than 250 practicing physicians will be serving as clerkship faculty for the three regional campuses. Each student is assigned to an individual physician for a six- to eight-week clerkship in that physician's specialty.

Clerkship directors oversee the students' clinical education in each of eight clinical specialties – family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, geriatrics, emergency medicine, psychiatry, obstetrics/gynecology and surgery. Elective clerkships in many other clinical disciplines will be offered in the fourth year.

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education, which accredits programs leading to the M.D. degree in the United States and Canada, has reviewed the medical school's third- and fourth-year program and voted to continue the medical school's provisional accreditation.

According to LCME procedures, a new medical school is first eligible for full accreditation during the graduation year of the inaugural class, which for FSU would be the 2004-2005 academic year.

To find out more about the medical school's curriculum, go to: www.med.fsu.edu/education/Curriculum.asp

Faculty development program ensures quality clinical teaching

FSU has selected more than 250 of the best physicians in Tallahassee, Pensacola and Orlando to teach third- and fourth-year medical students about their specialty areas.

But being an excellent doctor is not the only prerequisite for teaching FSU's medical students.

"Prior to the beginning of the clerkship, the physicians who serve as our clerkship faculty are going to have about 16 hours of formal instruction on teaching," said Dennis Baker, Ph.D., assistant dean for faculty development.

"These workshops are focusing on basic teaching skills such as giving feedback and asking questions that facilitate clinical reasoning," Baker said. "We're also familiarizing the clerkship faculty with our curriculum and the goals of each clerkship, so that they can focus their teaching accordingly."

The sessions are facilitated by Baker and Ed Shahady, M.D., who joined the

faculty this spring as director of community professional development and research.

Shahady is former chairman of the department of family medicine at the University of North Carolina and past president of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. He also has taught at the University of Miami and the University of Florida.

Baker, who holds a doctorate in curriculum and instruction, has more than 20 years of experience in the area of faculty and curriculum development at both allopathic and osteopathic medical schools. Prior to coming to the FSU College of Medicine in May of 2002, he was director of the Office of Faculty Development at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

"An advantage to having a physician and a non-physician working together to present the workshops is that we combine to give them theory and application," Baker said. "Dr. Shahady can give



(L-R) FACULTY MEMBERS JULIO NÚÑEZ, M.D., HAROLD BLAND, M.D., EDWARD SHAHADY, M.D., ANDREA KING, M.D., AND DENNIS BAKER, PH.D., DISCUSS A CASE SCENARIO AT A TALLAHASSEE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP ON GIVING FEEDBACK.

them clinical examples of how to apply certain teaching strategies, which helps them remember, plus he's been a clinical teacher for a long time."

Bob Wilson, M.D., pediatrics clerkship director at the Pensacola campus, said Shahady and Baker have "figured large" in helping clerkship faculty develop their teaching skills.

"We're ready because of their superlative workshops and sessions," Wilson said. "And when the smoke clears I'd put our clinical faculty right up there next to the very best."

Faculty can find teaching tips and a bulletin on clinical teaching topics online at www.med.fsu.edu/education/FacultyDevelopment/

Fling scholarship targets returning students

When James Fling passed away recently, he left \$444,597 to the FSU College of Medicine to fund scholarships for students returning to medical school from other careers, with an emphasis on those who have worked in the allied health fields.

The scholarships will help the medical school attract students who are more likely to become primary-care physicians willing to work in underserved areas.

"Returning students bring with them a wide range of professional and life experiences, helping to enrich the learning environment for classmates

coming straight out of college," said College of Medicine Dean J. Ocie Harris, M.D. "Research shows that they are more likely to choose primary care, which is in keeping with the medical school's mission."

According to Helen Livingston, Ed.D., assistant dean for student affairs and admissions, 28.6 percent of the college's students are over the age of 24 and have entered the medical school after having pursued another career.

"These students are of particular interest to the admissions committee," Livingston said. "The level of maturity of

these students adds a productive dimension to the diversity of the medical school class."

Harris said the average U.S. medical student graduates roughly \$100,000 in debt, which means the deck is generally stacked against choosing to practice in less lucrative primary-care specialties.

"These scholarships will help reduce the students' debt and make it easier for them to enter primary care," he said. "We are deeply grateful that the late James H. Fling and his family chose to endow this scholarship fund."

—Mark Riordan

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida funds Center for Rural Health

“Most rural hospitals operate on very limited margins, but still must respond to demands for better technology and continuously improving systems of care. This new center will offer hospitals important tools for meeting this challenge.”

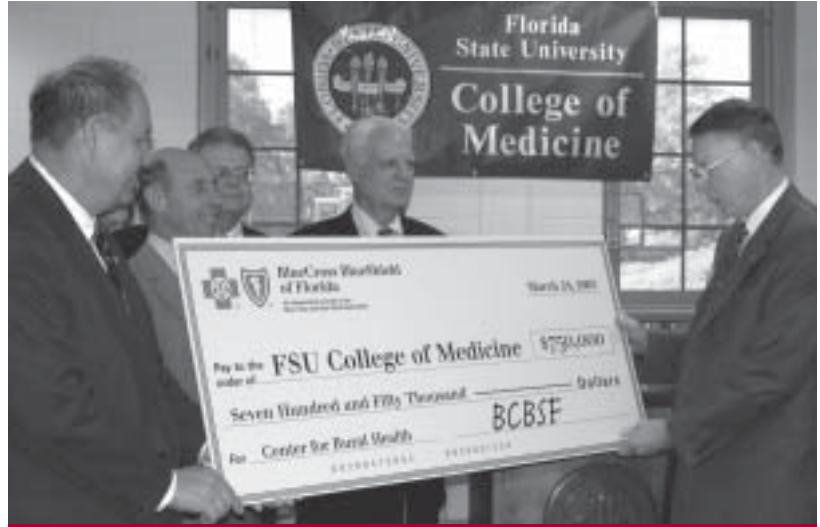
WAYNE NESMITH, PRESIDENT
FLORIDA HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

The College of Medicine announced in March the establishment of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health with a \$750,000 gift from the Jacksonville-based health plan.

The gift, which is eligible for a \$490,000 state match, will fund research projects designed to assess and improve health services for Floridians living in rural areas.

“Rural health is one of the priority areas identified in the mission of the FSU College of Medicine,” said College of Medicine Dean J. Ocie Harris, M.D. “In addition to graduating a significant number of physicians who will serve in rural areas, we want to generate solutions to many of the health issues that are unique to rural communities. This center will help guide that collegewide effort.”

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health will address the special needs of the more than 1 million Floridians living in the state’s 33 rural counties, 19 of which are federally designated as medically underserved.



MICHAEL CASCONO JR., CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF FLORIDA, LEFT, PRESENTS A \$750,000 CHECK TO DEAN J. OCIE HARRIS, M.D., RIGHT. CASCONO IS ACCOMPANIED BY THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Robert Brooks, M.D., associate dean for health affairs, said the center will help the medical school achieve its goal of becoming a national leader in rural health policy and research.

“With these funds we are able to launch our rural health research program immediately, while having a basis on which to operate for years to come,” Brooks said.

The center’s first research project is an analysis of the information technology capabilities of Florida’s 29 statutory rural hospitals. Over the next year, researchers will examine the hospitals’ use of tools such as electronic medical records, computerized prescribing systems and computer-based infection tracking, all of which can

help reduce medical errors and improve patient safety. Researchers from the college’s Center on Patient Safety, the FSU School of Information Studies and the Center for Rural Health will collaborate on the project.

Wayne NeSmith, president of the Florida Hospital Association, said Florida’s rural hospitals provide critically needed services and face special challenges.

“Most rural hospitals operate on very limited margins, but still must respond to demands for better technology and continuously improving systems of care,” NeSmith said. “This new center will offer hospitals important tools for meeting this challenge.”

see RURAL HEALTH, p. 5

Art Clawson directs BCBSF Center for Rural Health

Rural health has been the focus of Art Clawson's career for 17 years, much of which he has spent getting to know the people and issues of rural Florida.

Clawson came to the FSU College of Medicine from the Florida Department of Health, where he served as director of the Division of Emergency Medical Services and Community Health Resources. His responsibilities at the Department of Health included overseeing the state's Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)

program, Office of Rural Health, Critical Access Hospital program, Health Professions Shortage Area program, and Community Health Centers, as well as EMS and trauma services.

Prior to joining the Department of Health, Clawson was director of Big Bend AHEC in Tallahassee, which serves a 14-county area. Like the FSU College of Medicine, AHEC has a goal of addressing the health-care needs of medically underserved populations, including those living in rural

areas. During his many years with AHEC, Clawson traveled extensively throughout the rural communities of the Big Bend region, learning about and addressing residents' health-care needs.

Clawson earned a master's degree in higher education administration at Florida State University in 1980 and went on to do community development work in rural villages of Haiti from 1986-90. He later earned a second master's degree from FSU in international intercultural development education and is



ART CLAWSON, M.S.

currently pursuing a Ph.D. in education.

As director of health affairs for the College of Medicine, Clawson also works with the Center on Terrorism and Public Health and the AHEC program.

RURAL HEALTH, from p. 4

Michael Cascone Jr., chairman and CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, said the company is honored to work with the FSU College of Medicine to create the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health.

"Our support is one way we fulfill our mission to advance the health and well-being of Florida's citizens, especially the uninsured and underserved," Cascone said. "We believe programs aimed at health-care awareness and training, research and policy initiatives and workforce preparation can make a positive difference in our communities. We look forward to our partnership with Florida State University."

Medical student called to duty in Persian Gulf

In the last issue of *The Best Medicine*, Abby Cruz profiled Master Sgt. Kevin Raville, a member of the inaugural class of the FSU College of Medicine and a U.S. Air Force Reservist with the 920th Rescue Group.

In that story, Raville talked about being torn between the desire to serve alongside the other members of his unit in what later became Operation Iraqi Freedom and the desire to stay in medical school and graduate with his class.

If all goes as planned, he may now be able to do both. Raville has been called to active duty in the Persian

Gulf, where he is serving with other Pararescue Jumpers from Patrick Air Force Base who are on standby for rescue missions.

"If we get a mission, then that's bad news because that means somebody got hurt or a pilot got shot down," Raville said.

Raville, a third-year student, was activated in late June and hopes to return in early September. He will likely miss his first two clinical rotations, which he plans to make up during his fourth year so that he can still graduate on time in 2005.

"This was really the only time that I could go over



MASTER SGT. KEVIN RAVILLE

there and not get set back in medical school," Raville said, adding that he is glad for the chance to serve. "With me going over there, somebody else can come back, and our guys started going over there a year and a half ago."

Scholarships bring future

Known mostly for raising timber, the town of Perry, Fla., population 7,000, is proving that with the right approach, rural communities can also grow their own doctors.

“If you’re in hospital administration, you have to solve your problems today and make the bottom line come out, but we took a more long-term approach to solving those problems, and that was to recruit our own, train our own, and bring them back here.”

**JIM MCKNIGHT, CEO
DOCTORS’ MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL**



DOCTORS’ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CEO JIM MCKNIGHT STANDS IN THE NEW HOSPITAL’S INTENSIVE CARE UNIT WITH PERRY NATIVES AND FSU MEDICAL STUDENTS (L-R) JOSEF PLUM, SHANNON PRICE AND JODA LYNN.

With full scholarships from Doctors’ Memorial Hospital in Perry, three Florida State University medical students are setting out to do something no one else from their hometown has done in 50 years – earn a medical degree and return to Perry to practice. Joda Lynn, a third-generation Perry native, was the first student admitted to the FSU College of Medicine. Lynn will graduate in 2005, followed in 2006 by Shannon Price and

in 2007 by Josef Plum, who recently began his first semester.

Doctors’ Memorial Hospital CEO Jim McKnight said the hospital is investing about \$60,000 per student over four years of medical school. In return, the students will be obligated to practice in Perry for at least four years.

Perry is located in Taylor County, one of 21 Florida counties that are federally designated as medically underserved, primarily due to

a lack of physicians. Local voters passed a 1-cent sales tax in 1999 to build a state-of-the-art 48-bed replacement hospital, which opened in May.

“If you’re in hospital administration, you have to solve your problems today and make the bottom line come out, but we took a more long-term approach to solving those problems, and that was to recruit our own, train our own, and bring them back here,” McKnight said.

doctors home to practice

“It makes a lot of sense because currently we spend anywhere from \$200,000 to \$300,000 to recruit a physician, and in some cases they stay three or four years and they leave. We can educate four medical students for that amount of dollars.”

For Lynn, the scholarship will make it easier for him to pursue the goal he’d already set out for himself – to practice medicine in his hometown.

“I think it’s going to be like a domino effect for other hospitals in the state in small towns and rural communities to start up similar programs,” Lynn said.

“What can be better than helping the people in your community, and then in return for doing that, they’re going to come back and help make that community better? I think it’s a good investment for the hospital to bring in good physicians, and a good investment for the community to ensure the quality of their health care in the future.”

J. Ocie Harris, M.D., dean of the FSU College of Medicine, hopes more rural hospitals around the state recognize the cost-effectiveness of funding local medical students, as

opposed to paying dearly to recruit doctors who may or may not like the small-town lifestyle.

“Our mission is to educate physicians who will work with rural and medically underserved populations,” Harris said. “That’s why partnerships with institutions like Doctors’ Memorial Hospital are so important to us, and why we’d like to see others follow their lead.”

Perry native and retired physician John H. Parker, M.D., who celebrated his 50th medical school reunion recently at Tulane, and who was Lynn’s childhood doctor, set up his practice in Perry in 1954. Every other physician who has practiced there since then has come from somewhere else.

Parker knows first-hand how hard it is to recruit young physicians, having participated in efforts to bring doctors to Perry in the 1960s and ‘70s.

“We’ve had (medical students) go, but not come back,” Parker said. He thinks it’s about time local medical students followed in his footsteps.

“It was overdue, you could modestly put it,” Parker said.



RETIRED FAMILY PHYSICIAN JOHN H. PARKER, M.D., THE LAST PERRY NATIVE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN TAYLOR COUNTY, TALKS WITH MEDICAL STUDENT JODA LYNN, WHO IN A FEW YEARS WILL BE THE FIRST PERSON IN 50 YEARS TO FOLLOW IN PARKER’S FOOTSTEPS.

EDITOR’S NOTE

Raised in towns like Apalachicola, Concord, Crestview, LaBelle, Marianna, Medart and Perry, a number of FSU’s medical students aspire to practice in rural areas because they want to maintain the type of lifestyle they experienced while growing up, or because they feel that is where the greatest needs are.

While most of FSU’s medical students are from urban or suburban areas, about 20 percent come from small towns and share a commitment to improving the quality and availability of health care in rural Florida.

For some of these students, scholarships

provided by their local rural hospitals are making it easier for them to pursue their goal of having a rural practice.

Others are financing their education on student loans and will have to balance their decisions about where to practice with their ability to pay off their debt. By offering them scholarships now, rural communities can solve their long-term recruitment needs while helping these students pay for their education.

To find out about students from your part of the state, go to www.med.fsu.edu/students/ and click on your region.

Rural physicians in

Medical student attends FSU on scholarship from Jackson Hospital

“Having the opportunity to treat an entire family and watch the kids grow up is something that’s very appealing, and that’s something you may not get in an urban setting.”

ROBIN ALBRITTON
FIRST-YEAR MEDICAL
STUDENT

Although he’s only in his first semester of medical school, Robin Albritton already knows exactly where he’ll practice medicine when he completes his residency training years from now.

Albritton is attending the FSU College of Medicine on a full tuition scholarship from Jackson Hospital in his hometown of Marianna. The scholarship is in the form of a loan that Albritton can pay off by practicing medicine in Jackson County upon completion of his residency training.

Jackson Hospital CEO John West said the hospital now has 12 local people under medical school scholarship agreements.

“Our scholarship program, which began in 1995, will benefit greatly from the proximity and rural focus of FSU,” West said. “We view Robin as a great beginning to a long relationship between the school, its students and Jackson Hospital.”

Albritton, who did a lot of hunting and fishing as a youth in Jackson County, looks forward to moving back there with his wife Katie when he finishes his residency.

“Growing up in Marianna was a great experience,” Albritton said. “The small-town atmosphere, knowing



JACKSON HOSPITAL CEO JOHN WEST, LEFT, RECENTLY VISITED WITH FIRST-YEAR FSU MEDICAL STUDENT ROBIN ALBRITTON, WHO IS ON A SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE HOSPITAL.

everyone, I really grew to love the community and the people in it.”

Besides the rural lifestyle, Albritton likes the nature of a small-town medical practice, which he experienced while shadowing Marianna general surgeon Richard Brunner, M.D., during high school.

“Having the opportunity to treat an entire family and watch the kids grow up is something that’s very appealing, and that’s something you may not get in an urban setting,” Albritton said.

A member of the FSU medical student chapter of the Florida Rural Health Association, Albritton sees Jackson Hospital’s scholarship not only as a major plus for him, but also as a wise recruitment strategy for the hospital.

“This is an economic no-brainer for the hospital, because they can invest \$48,000 in someone who grew up there and is more likely to go back and actually stay,” Albritton said.

His scholarship, and those of three FSU medical students on scholarship from Doctors’ Memorial Hospital in Perry, generated a lot of interest from rural hospital administrators at a recent FRHA conference in Gainesville.

“Many of them were mentioning difficulties they have in recruiting physicians to their towns,” Albritton said. “They wanted to discuss our scholarships and how they worked in hopes that maybe they could find medical students to put on scholarship from their areas.”

the making

In sixth grade Natosha Canty was asked to write an essay on what she wanted to be when she grew up. Canty, now a third-year medical student at FSU, distinctly remembers writing about wanting to become a physician, and looking back, she thinks she knows why.

Growing up in rural Concord, Fla., Canty was aware that, like her mother and grandfather, most people from her community worked in agriculture for a living and didn't have health insurance.

"Even though there were programs available to people, such as Medicaid and Medicare, a lot of people didn't take advantage of them," Canty said. "It was just not one of their priorities."

As a result, a lot of people in her town went without adequate care.

"I saw a lot of conditions that could've been treated, but there were other things that were more important than taking off work to go to the doctor," Canty said.

In spite of the obstacles, Canty's mother insisted that Natosha visit a dentist every six months and a doctor once a year. In addition to teaching her daughter good health habits, her mother always encouraged her to go on field trips and become involved with after-school programs.

"My mother, I think, sacrificed a lot so that I could experience things outside of my community, and I think

that's what makes me different than a lot of the people I grew up with," Canty said.

During the summer after her junior year at Florida A&M University, Canty worked at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Public Health. That experience led her to develop an interest in epidemiology and public health, and she went on to earn a master's of public health at FAMU.

Canty chose to attend the FSU College of Medicine because of its mission to address the needs of the underserved, including rural Floridians, and she has faith that the college will be successful at fulfilling it. She believes FSU's medical school will better prepare her for her future than any other medical school could have.

"My main focus will be in the community, and having already trained in the community, I have a step up on people who have trained primarily in a hospital," Canty said.

Canty will complete her third- and fourth-year training at the medical school's regional campus in

Pensacola, but says she would be interested in coming back to Tallahassee to complete her residency training at the Tallahassee Memorial Family Practice Residency Program. She aspires to be a family physician in a rural community.

She feels her background and her master's degree in public health have helped her understand the values and cultural differences that distinguish rural populations.

"Most people aren't lying in a hospital bed. Most people are suffering from things that are silent, like hypertension or diabetes, that don't affect them until years down the road," Canty said.

"But if these health conditions are discovered and treated early and communities are educated about them, then you can save some people, or at least improve their quality of life. And I think that's important. That's what I want to do. I can't see myself doing anything else."



NATOSHA CANTY GREW UP IN CONCORD, FLA., AND PLANS TO PRACTICE FAMILY MEDICINE IN A RURAL COMMUNITY.

"My main focus will be in the community, and having already trained in the community, I have a step up on people who have trained primarily in a hospital."

NATOSHA CANTY
THIRD-YEAR MEDICAL
STUDENT

—Abby Cruz

Student Activities

AMA

Kimberly Ruscher-Rogers

won a national election to be the medical student representative on the American Medical Association Women Physicians Congress Governing Council.

Stephen Patrick has been elected Vice Chair of the AMA Medical Student Section Region IV.

FSU medical students attended the American Medical Association-Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) 25th Annual Meeting in Chicago June 12-19. Conference topics included the AMA's anti-tobacco national service project and the future of America's health care.

Students attended open discussions on key MSS advocacy issues including resident work hours, the Clinical Skills Assessment Exam and student debt. They discussed leadership opportunities within the MSS and ways to increase membership at FSU. AMA President Yank Coble, M.D., was among the conference speakers.

The conference was packed with educational programs and policy-making sessions and provided the opportunity to learn about and contribute to the strategies that the AMA-MSS will develop and enact regarding medical student issues.

Members of the FSU chapter of the AMA were present in their white coats at the state Capitol to register their

concerns during the special legislative session on medical liability reform. The students were able to sit in on Senate debate and received a briefing on the issue by FMA representatives.

AMSA

American Medical Student Association members attended the AMSA national conference in Washington, D.C., in March. Students attended workshops on everything from lobbying for universal health care to learning how to suture a wound to health-care issues in the Third World. They also took part in a rally for universal health care on the steps of Capitol Hill with Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.

Honors & Awards

Adam Ouimet and **Matt Henry** were inducted into the FSU Circle of the national leadership honor society Omicron Delta Kappa in April. ODK recognizes those who have exhibited a high standard of leadership and efficiency in collegiate activities.

The **Family Medicine Interest Group**, led by **Karen Miles** under faculty advisor **Steven Grossman, M.D.**, won the American Academy of Family Physicians award for Outstanding Community Outreach and Patient Advocacy. The award recognizes the organization's work through-

End-of-Year Banquet



FORMER MEDICAL COLLEGE COUNCIL PRESIDENT JAVIER MILLER, LEFT, AND FORMER FSUCARES PRESIDENT SACHIN PARIKH WERE AMONG THE AWARD RECIPIENTS.

Members of the Class of 2005 were honored at an End-of-Year Banquet held April 25. Award recipients were as follows:

College of Medicine Awards

Students:

Outstanding Leadership Award – **Javier Miller**
 Distinguished Service Award – **Adam Ouimet**
 Golden Caduceus Award – **Michael Hernandez**
 (greatest willingness to help fellow colleagues succeed)
 Excellence in Academics Award – **Michael Hernandez**
 Torch Award – **Natosha Canty**
 (outstanding contributions toward the college's vision and mission)

Faculty:

Excellence in Teaching Award
 Year One Basic Sciences – **Charles Ouimet, Ph.D.**
 Excellence in Teaching Award
 Year Two Basic Sciences – **Edward Klatt, M.D.**
 Outstanding Clinical Professor Award – **Tom Serio, M.D.**

Medical College Council Awards

Organization of the Year – **FSU Cares**
 Organizational President of the Year – **Sachin Parikh**
 MCC Student of the Year – **Nari Heshmati**

out the year, including a Health Fair held at the Tallahassee Mall in March. The award will be presented at the National Conference for Family Practice Residents and Medical Students in Kansas City in August.

Publications

Kimberly Ruscher-Rogers co-authored a letter to the editor on the Clinical Skills Assessment Exam that appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

First-year medical students train under primary care physicians throughout Florida

First-year medical students from the Florida State University College of Medicine are training under the supervision of local physicians in communities all over Florida this summer as part of a new program designed to give them three weeks of intensive hands-on clinical experience.

The FSU College of Medicine uses a model in which community physicians do the clinical teaching, rather than physicians based at academic health centers, where usually the rarest and most complex cases are treated.

“The types of health conditions community doctors see every day are the most common situations our students will encounter when they go into practice,” said Alma Littles, M.D., associate dean for academic affairs. “It makes sense for medical

students to learn in an environment like the one in which they’ll actually work.”

The FSU College of Medicine provides extensive clinical experience beginning in the first year, during which students spend a half day every other week working with physicians in the Tallahassee area, and a half day on alternate weeks working with paid actors who play the role of patients at a simulated clinic on the FSU campus.

In these settings, students learn how to take a medical history, perform a basic clinical exam and report their findings. They also learn about the art of good doctor-patient communication.

“The three-week program gives students the opportunity to put into practice the clinical skills they learn in the first year,” Littles said. “It also exposes them to the



AARON NORDGREN VISITS NEWBORNS AT JACKSON HOSPITAL WITH MARIANNA PEDIATRICIAN DOYLE BOSSE, M.D.

local medical community. In many cases, students choose to do their clinical experience in or near their home town because they think that’s where they want to practice.”

The program has been developed in cooperation with the state’s Area Health Education Centers, which

coordinate community-based training for health professions students around the state.

In keeping with the mission of the FSU College of Medicine, the majority of the students will be working with geriatric, rural or inner-city patient populations.

Interest Groups

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of its members and generous donations from physicians and businesses throughout Florida, **FSUCares** was able to send 16 medical students to Panama, Central America, over spring break. Students worked alongside four medical school faculty members to provide care to rural Panamanians. They also toured hospitals in Panama

City, where they were given a brief glimpse of urban tropical medicine. **FSUCares** also continues to serve the local community with monthly blood pressure and blood glucose screenings at the Tallahassee homeless shelter, and through patient education projects in the city’s Apalachee Ridge neighborhood.

FSUCares will hold its second annual 5k and 1mile fun run Oct. 18 on the FSU campus. The 5k is the organization’s primary fund-raiser.

The FSU Medical Student Chapter of the **Florida Rural Health Association** received its official charter at the annual FRHA conference held in Gainesville in May. This is the first student chapter of FRHA. **Paul Payne**, chapter president, represents the chapter on the FRHA Board of Directors.

Paul Payne, Shannon Price, Robin Albritton, and Art Clawson presented at the FRHA Annual Conference on “How to Start a Student Chapter.”

Paul Payne and **Zach Elmir** also attended the National Rural Health Association meeting May 17-20 in Salt Lake City. Payne and Elmir joined a committee that will work on establishing a NRHA student constituency group to increase student membership in the National Rural Health Association.

The FSU **Emergency Medicine Student Association** has launched a new Web site. Visit www.med.fsu.edu/students/EMSA/default.asp

Outreach Programs

Pre-med students guided by MAPS

On a big college campus like FSU, many students turn to MAPS to find their way, and Marla Mickel is no exception.

"MAPS has given me an outline and direction of where I needed to go in order to achieve my goals," says the 22-year-old FSU graduate.

Mickel is not referring to the kind of maps freshmen use to find the student union, but rather an outreach program that helps guide under-represented minority students into health-care fields. MAPS stands for Minority Association of Pre-Health Students.

Led by Thesla Berne-Anderson, director of college and pre-college outreach at the College of Medicine, MAPS is open to people of all ethnicities and backgrounds. It has helped 75 students along the way to a health career since 2000. Among this year's 18 MAPS graduates, 11 were accepted to medical schools, four were accepted to graduate programs, and three will pursue post-baccalaureate studies.

Besides receiving counseling about what pre-med courses to take, MAPS members receive help with study, test-taking and interviewing skills and are directed to opportunities for gaining medical experience.

Mickel, who wants to be a pediatrician, participated in the Physician Partnership Program, which pairs students with local physicians.

"I worked with a pediatrician who let me know what to expect, what to look for on a chart and how to assess a baby's growth and develop-

ment," Mickel said. "MAPS is the only organization that has that type of partnership with doctors. If you weren't a member of MAPS you would have to pull out a phone book and call around to different physicians' offices."

For Mickel, participating in the medical school's Outreach Programs was not only about finding her own way, it was also about helping direct younger students on their journey to a medical career.

In fact, MAPS is just one component of the college's comprehensive Outreach Programs, which are designed to expand the pool of successful medical school applicants from medically underserved, rural and inner-city communities.

The programs begin in seventh grade and continue through the post-baccalaureate level, functioning as a continuous pipeline toward medical school. At the middle, high school and college level, the programs are collectively known as SSTRIDE, or Science Students Together Reaching Instructional Diversity and Excellence.

As an undergraduate, Mickel was a SSTRIDE mentor and tutor who helped many high school students realize their own potential. She hopes they will follow her example and end up in medical school.

"This program is very important because it is at a critical age for teenagers," Mickel said. "They can either decide to be focused, or they can veer off and go another route. As a mentor, it is up to us to show them that it doesn't



MARLA MICKEL, LEFT, TUTORED STUDENTS IN THE MEDICAL SCHOOL'S SSTRIDE LAB AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE'S OUTREACH PROGRAMS. NOW ENROLLED IN THE POST-BACCALAUREATE BRIDGE PROGRAM, MICKEL PLANS TO BEGIN MEDICAL SCHOOL AT FSU NEXT YEAR.

matter what kind of upbringing you had or what your environment is, you are still able to obtain any dream you can think of."

Having earned her biology degree, Mickel now is enrolled in the College of Medicine's post-baccalaureate Bridge Program, which is the final component of the outreach pipeline.

After successfully completing the one-year Bridge Program, Mickel will be able to start her first year as an FSU medical student.

"It is actually what I prayed for," Mickel said. "After scoring lower than I expected on the MCAT, I got very scared. But after being accepted into the Bridge Program, where I will be able to pace myself and strengthen the areas where I was weak, I am very thankful."

—Eboney Rudolph

Beginning in middle school and continuing through the post-baccalaureate level, the College of Medicine's Outreach Programs serve as a career pipeline that channels students from underserved, rural and inner-city communities toward medical school.

For more information go to:
www.med.fsu.edu/outreach.asp

Brummel-Smith leads geriatrics department

As an academic geriatrician, Ken Brummel-Smith, M.D., is facing a one-of-a-kind opportunity as the founding chair of the department of geriatrics at the FSU College of Medicine.

“Although older people make up only about 13 percent of the U.S. population, and 18 percent of Florida’s, they consume 30-40 percent of all health care services and use 36 percent of all drugs prescribed,” Brummel-Smith said.

“Many physicians spend the majority of time with older patients, and yet still in most medical schools all students have required pediatric rotations but no required geriatric rotation. None has mandated geriatrics to be woven into all four years – FSU will be the first in the world to ever do that.”

Because of the crying need for geriatricians in Florida, geriatrics is one of the priority areas identified in the mission of the FSU College of Medicine – one of only four M.D. programs in the country to have a full-fledged department of geriatrics.

Past-president and past-chairman of the board of the American Geriatrics Society, Brummel-Smith is one of the nation’s leading geriatrics experts. He comes to FSU from Portland, Ore., where he was the medical director of the PACE Elderplace program, Bain Chair of the Providence Center on Aging and professor of family medicine at the Oregon Health Sciences University.

His vision for the department of geriatrics at FSU involves a multidisciplinary and collaborative approach to teaching, research and service.

“We want to integrate geriatric clinicians into the

basic science teaching so that there are always opportunities for making geriatric clinical correlations,” Brummel-Smith said, citing the recommendations of the Millennium Report, published by the Association of American Medical Colleges.

As an example, he described a potential fourth-year advanced geriatrics elective.

“On a memory disorders elective, the students will not only be able to examine, diagnose and treat patients with Alzheimer’s disease, but also work with our basic scientists in their research on Alzheimer’s disease,” Brummel-Smith said. “So, they’ll be looking at brain tissue and the biochemistry and pharmacology of Alzheimer’s disease.”

The department eventually will have six full-time geriatricians. Besides Brummel-Smith, the faculty so far includes Jacqueline Lloyd, M.D., education director for geriatrics, and Anne Gunderson, R.N., M.S.N., A.P.N., assistant professor.

Having a nurse practitioner on the faculty is part of the overall approach.

“We believe we ought to practice what we preach, and geriatrics is always multidisciplinary, so we thought that our faculty ought to be multidisciplinary,” Brummel-Smith said.

In addition to building a multidisciplinary faculty, Brummel-Smith hopes to develop multidisciplinary partnerships with other colleges, schools and programs, both at FSU and at nearby Florida A&M University. Among the disciplines that would be well suited for collaboration in teaching, research and service,



KEN BRUMMEL-SMITH, MD., CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GERIATRICS, SECOND FROM LEFT, REVIEWS PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT SKILLS WITH THIRD-YEAR STUDENT AJAY MHATRE, WHO IS EXAMINING HARRIET PORTZ AS CRAIG PORTZ LOOKS ON.

Brummel-Smith says, are allied health, nursing, pharmacy, public policy, social work, and speech and language pathology.

When it comes to service, Brummel-Smith believes FSU is at a great advantage in that it doesn’t operate its own faculty practice plan and therefore won’t be stymied by a problem inherent in the practice of geriatrics – the failure of most public and private insurance programs to reimburse geriatricians for the coordination of services such as home health, and occupational and physical therapy.

“We could collaborate with a health plan or a hospital or a medical group to provide geriatric expertise and not have to worry so much about the reimbursement part because we don’t have the practice plan,” Brummel-Smith said. “It could enhance the care outcomes, and it gives the faculty an opportunity to remain involved in clinical practice.”

“We want to integrate geriatric clinicians into the basic science teaching so that there are always opportunities for making geriatric clinical correlations.”

KEN BRUMMEL-SMITH, CHAIR DEPARTMENT OF GERIATRICS

Faculty Achievements

Publications

Jay Falk, M.D., wrote an article on misplaced endotracheal tubes in the *Annals of Emergency Medicine* in 2001 that was cited in an editorial in the May issue of *Academic Emergency Medicine* as one of the five articles in the past 10 years that “fundamentally and rapidly changed the practice of many of us.”

Adam Golden, M.D., co-authored a letter to the editor titled “The Use of Oral Nutritional Supplements and Anorexic Medications in Homebound Older Adults” in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.

Ashley Hill, M.D., co-authored the article, “Use of over-the-counter medications during pregnancy,” with R. Black in *American Family Physician*.

Ashley Hill, M.D., wrote the text chapter “Abnormal uterine bleeding” in *Essentials of Sonography* (In press), and co-authored the article “Severe hypokalemia in pregnancy due to clay ingestion” with C. Ukaonu and F. Christensen in the *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* (In press).

Robert K. Oldham, M.D., edited the fourth edition of *Principles of Cancer Biotherapy*.

Philip Posner, Ph.D., served as an academic reviewer for the Lifetime Health project.

David Steele, Ph.D., co-authored the article, “Experi-

ence with a program in faculty development,” in *Medical Teacher*.

Curtis Stine, M.D., co-authored a new high school health text, *Lifetime Health*, recently released by Holt, Rinehart and Winston of Austin, Texas. He also authored the textbook supplement *Risks of Sexual Activity*.

Service

Ken Brummel-Smith, M.D., has been appointed by the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to the Florida At-Risk Driver Council. As a council member, he will assist the division in creating a strategic plan to address the issue of aging and the effect it has on driving.

Art Clawson, M.S., has been elected to a three-year term on the Florida Rural Health Association’s Board of Directors.

Arthur Clements, M.D., Ph.D., was appointed to the Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Association (NICA Board) as the obstetrics/gynecology representative from the state of Florida. He also was elected to the Florida Obstetrics/Gynecology Society Board of Directors.

Anthony Costa, M.D., has been appointed as a peer reviewer for the *Annals of Family Medicine*.

Donna J. Jacobi, M.D., will complete her term as president of the Florida Geriatrics Society in July. The state

chapter was the recipient of the state affiliate’s award of the American Geriatrics Society for 2002.

Morton H. Levitt, M.D., has been reappointed as vice-chair of the informatics committee of the College of American Pathologists for 2003. The committee works to gather, evaluate and disseminate information about medical and pathology informatics and health-care delivery in general.

Terry McCoy, M.D., has been elected to the board of FPIC Insurance Group, Inc., whose insurance subsidiaries include First Professionals Insurance Company, Inc. (formerly Florida Physicians Insurance Company, Inc.), Anesthesiologists Professional Assurance Company, Intermed Insurance Company and Interlex Insurance Company.

Philip Posner, Ph.D., was chosen as panel chair for the Homeland Security Undergraduate Scholarship and Graduate Fellowship awarded by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Engineering. He also was chosen to serve on the VA Merit Review Subcommittee for Cardiology.

Eugene Trowers, M.D., has been appointed as a peer reviewer for the *Southern Medical Journal*.

Carol Van Hartesveldt, Ph. D., served on a review panel in the Biology Directorate of the National Science Foundation in May.

Carol Van Hartesveldt, Ph. D., served on the Department of Homeland Security Fellowship and Scholarship Program review panel of the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Engineering.

Presentations

Ken Brummel-Smith, M.D., presented a Meet the Expert session on “The Use of PDAs in Geriatric Medicine,” and gave a symposium presentation on “The Role of Pharmaceutical Support to Medical Societies,” at the American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting in Baltimore in May.

Jeff P. Chicola, M.D., gave a presentation on sinusitis for Pediatric Grand Rounds at Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola May 13.

Nancy Clark, M.Ed, presented a workshop titled, “What is this Medical Informatics, Anyway?” to the North Florida Library Association in May.

Ariel Cole, M.D., presented “Rapid Recidivism in Patients Newly Admitted to a Skilled Nursing Facility” as a poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Florida Geriatrics Society in Kissimmee, Fla., July 11-13. John Fleming, M.D., co-authored the paper.

Morton H. Levitt, M.D., is faculty coordinator for the upcoming scientific program, CR100: “Round Table Discussions on Computer Utilization I and II,” to be held at the College of American Pathologists 2003 Annual Meeting in San Diego Sept. 10-14.

Santiago Martinez, M.D., representing the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, presented on urticaria and food allergies at the 13th International Meeting on Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in May.

Joan Meek, M.D., gave several presentations this spring, including “Human Milk and Nutrition Support: Benefits

of Breastmilk for Premature and Ill Infants” at the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition annual meeting in San Antonio in February; “Practical Points for Breastfeeding Success” at the Hernando County Department of Health in April; “The New Ingredients in Infant Formula” at the American Academy of Pediatrics SuperCME in Chicago in May; and “DHA in the Infant’s Diet” at Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center, also in May.

Nir Menachemi, Ph.D., presented the poster, “Hospital Based Physicians’ Attitudes Regarding Medical Errors,” with co-authors R. Shewchuk, and S. O’Connor at the Academy of University Programs in Health Administration annual meeting in Nashville, Tenn.

Nir Menachemi, Ph.D., chaired a paper session titled “The Impact of Organizational Context on Good and Bad Patient Outcomes” at the Health Care Management Division of the Academy of Management meeting in Seattle.

Karen Myers, A.R.N.P. and Sarah Sherraden, R.N., M.S.N., participated in a seminar for the Bryan Hall student group on “The Role of the Nurse Practitioner and the Advanced Practice Nurse in the U.S. Health System” in March.

Edward Shahady, M.D., served as program chair and presented on “Social Accountability in Medical Education and Health Care” at the First International Congress for International Consultants sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians in Squaw Valley, Calif., in May.

Edward Shahady, M.D., gave seven presentations at the Panama Society of Family Medicine in June 2003. Topics included “Exercise and Health Promotion,” “Comprehensive Care of Diabetes and Syndrome X,” and “Exercise and Sports Injuries.”

Edward Shahady, M.D., gave a presentation on “Low Back Pain Treatment in Primary Care” at the Florida Academy of Family Physicians 89th Family Practice weekend in Miami in May.

Honors & Awards

Elizabeth Foster, Ph.D., won the University Advising award, one of two advising awards presented this spring by FSU. Foster was nominated by her students for her work as the academic advisor in the psychology department.

Steven David Grossman, M.D., was honored by being selected Hooder to the graduating class of 2003 at the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine in Rootstown, Ohio, May 23-24. He also received an award at Class Day from the students for his clinical contributions to the class during his former tenure as assistant predoctoral director at the school.

Two FSU College of Medicine faculty members were recognized at FSU’s Celebration of Service awards banquet this spring for their work with FSUCares, a medical student organization dedicated to medical outreach.

Elena Reyes, Ph.D., received the Service Organization Advisor of the Year Award. Among the student projects Reyes has supervised are a flu vaccine project for migrant workers, a sex education, STD, and birth control mobile clinic focused on aiding young migrant mothers, and the annual FSUCares spring break medical mission to Panama.

Eric Handler, M.D., received the Faculty and Staff Service Leadership Award. Handler has twice accompanied medical students on their spring break mission to Panama and has won praise from participating students, who regard him as an excellent physician role model.

The banquet is organized by the Center for Civic Education and Service to honor students, student organizations, advisors, and faculty and staff throughout the FSU community for outstanding achievements in their commitment to service.

Friends of the COM

The FSU College of Medicine represents the first opportunity in more than 20 years to build an entirely new medical school from the ground up.

FSU is taking advantage of decades of advances in information technology, instructional design and facilities planning to create the first new medical school of the 21st century.

While the Florida Legislature has provided a solid foundation on which to build this state-of-the-art medical school, your support is needed to help create the kind of first-class institution that Florida deserves.

Watch the construction of the new medical school building at www.med.fsu.edu/webcam/webcam_live.asp.

Please consider a gift to the FSU College of Medicine. Use the envelope in this newsletter to send in your contribution, or learn about other ways to give by visiting www.med.fsu.edu/campaign/

Thank you for your support.



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Calendar/Events

CLERKSHIP DIRECTORS CASE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

August 1
Tallahassee Regional Campus

FLORIDA GERIATRIC EDUCATION CONSORTIUM MEETING

August 5
Tampa

FMA ANNUAL MEETING

Aug. 28-31
Hollywood, Fla.

PARENTS' WEEKEND TAILGATE

September 6

FSUCARES 5K & 1MILE FUN RUN

October 18

DEADLINE FOR 2004 APPLICATIONS

Dec. 1, 2003



MEDICAL STUDENTS NICK SEELIGER (GRAPES), DANIELLE STEWART (COW) AND SCOTT BROTHERTON (BANANA) WERE A BIG HIT AT THE HEALTH FAIR HELD THIS SPRING AT THE TALLAHASSEE MALL. THE FAIR WAS COORDINATED BY THE FSU FAMILY MEDICINE INTEREST GROUP, WHICH WON A NATIONAL AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS FOR OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ADVOCACY.

MADE YOU LOOK!

The FSU College of Medicine now participates in AMCAS, the national application service of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Visit our Web site at www.med.fsu.edu/applicants.asp or go straight to www.aamc.org/students/start.htm to apply. The deadline is Dec. 1, 2003. The school code for FSU is 811.

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