We’re Making Quite an Impact

**Filling needs and boosting the economy**

To help us capture the data that outline our progress toward achieving the goals the Florida Legislature has given us, the College of Medicine recently hired an independent firm to assess our socioeconomic impact on the state. The detailed study, completed in August by MGT of America Inc., is revealing. Among the key findings:

- The College of Medicine has had an economic impact of more than $1 billion in Florida despite coming of age during a difficult economic period. The college’s annual impact in Florida currently exceeds $161 million. That amount is expected to increase with the continuing growth of our burgeoning research program and with our recent arrival (June 2010) at full enrollment.
- At the same time, the College of Medicine is outperforming its state and national peers on most measures related to primary care, elder care and attention to the needs of medically underserved populations.
- The college’s research program has grown its grant funding by more than 700 percent since inception in 2002. Eighty-eight percent of the funding is from federal or private sources and approximately 80 percent of each grant goes toward personnel costs. That means job creation. In Tallahassee alone, the College of Medicine has created more than 600 jobs over a 10-year period, including faculty, research and support staff positions.
- All of the information reported in this newsletter is contained in the complete socioeconomic impact study, which can be read online at med.fsu.edu. Copies of the study, with a detailed explanation of its methodology, are available by request. Contact Dr. Randall Bertolette at (772) 464-0034.

**Spreading the care (and wealth)**

The College of Medicine is community-based, meaning that outstanding physicians in cities across Florida provide the teaching for our third- and fourth-year medical students. More than 1,700 physicians have joined our faculty at regional campuses in Daytona Beach, Fort Pierce, Orlando, Pensacola, Sarasota and Tallahassee. Others work with our students at rural clinical training sites in Marianna and Immokalee. Instead of owning and operating a teaching hospital, the College of Medicine partners with more than 90 health-care organizations statewide, including hospitals, county health departments, clinics, surgery centers and similar organizations. Collectively, these organizations encompass more than 8,000 acute-care beds. Based on its most recent expenditures (approaching $73 million), the college can be expected to contribute more than $100 million a year to the Tallahassee-area economy and more than $5 million a year in each of our regional campus markets.

Additionally, as our graduates continue to bolster Florida’s physician work force, substantial economic impact benefits will be experienced by the state and regional campus communities. The additional contingent of highly skilled professionals working throughout the state increases personal income levels and allows for more dollars to be retained as patients are able to seek treatment locally rather than outside the region or state. Furthermore, the locales become more attractive options for health care and related research businesses, as well as individuals and businesses from broader industries, based on quality-of-life enhancements resulting from the improved health-care infrastructures.
Fort Pierce Community Board

We are so thankful to our community board for the support they provide.

Chair: Randall Bertolette, M.D.
Fort Pierce Regional Campus Dean

Gary Cantrell
CEO, St. Lucie Medical Center

Mollie Hill
Director, Community Clinical Relations, FSU College of Medicine

Alastair Kennedy, M.D.
Past President, Indian River Medical Society

Alma Littles, M.D.
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Academic Affairs, FSU College of Medicine

Edwin Massey, Ph.D.
President, Indian River State College

Edwin “Ted” Mortell
Peterson Bernard Law Firm

Mark Robitaille
CEO, Martin Memorial Health Systems

Rodney Smith
CEO, Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and Heart Institute

Vernon Smith
Retired President and CEO, Riverside Bank

Jeffrey Susi
CEO, Indian River Medical Center

Fort Pierce Clerkship Directors

Nancy Baker, M.D.
Family Medicine

Kenneth Bridges, M.D.
Surgery

Michael Gilels, M.D.
Geriatrics

William Hood, M.D.
Internal Medicine

Michael Jampol, M.D.
Pediatrics

Juliette Lomax-Homier, M.D.
Obstetrics/Gynecology

Jay Samander, M.D.
Psychiatry

Dudley Teel, M.D.
Emergency Medicine

Our Affiliated Partners

Florida Community Health Centers Inc.
Florida Dept. of Health, Children’s Medical Services
Grove Place Surgery Center
HealthSouth Treasure Coast Rehabilitation Hospital
Indian River Medical Center
Indian River Medical Society
Lawnwood Regional Medical Center
Martin Memorial Health Systems
Port St. Lucie Hospital Treatment Center
Raulerson Hospital

Sebastian River Medical Center
Sheridan Healthcorp
St. Lucie Medical Center
St. Lucie Surgery Center
Surgery Center of Fort Pierce
Surgery Center of Jensen Beach
Surgery Center of Okeechobee
Surgical Center of the Treasure Coast
Treasure Coast Center for Surgery
University of Florida Center for Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine
University of Miami School of Medicine
Heading into the Match…. 

Match Day is one of the most momentous occasions in our students’ medical school career. It’s the day they find out where they will be going for their residency training. The National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) provides a uniform system by which residency candidates simultaneously “match” to accredited postgraduate training positions. The NRMP is not an application processing service; rather, it provides an impartial venue for matching applicants’ and programs’ preferences. Each year, approximately 16,000 U.S. medical school students participate in the residency match. In addition, another 20,000 "independent" applicants compete for the approximately 25,000 available residency positions. Independent applicants include former graduates of U.S. medical schools, U.S. osteopathic students, Canadian students, and graduates of foreign medical schools.

This year, the specialties that our Fort Pierce students are hoping to match into include internal medicine, pediatrics, family medicine, emergency medicine, general surgery, pathology and anesthesiology. On Feb. 23, each student had to rank his or her top choices for residency training. A nerve-racking experience for some, the moment served to solidify in their minds how very soon they will be able to call themselves “doctors.” Our dean and staff are so proud of our students, and we will be celebrating their accomplishments with them at the Match Day ceremony in Tallahassee. You will be able to view the Match Day ceremony, live via webcast, on Thursday, March 17, at noon. Log on to our website, www.med.fsu.edu, and look for the MATCH link to view the ceremony.

Fourth-Year Elective in Dermatology

A popular elective among fourth-year students, the dermatology rotation is completed with our faculty from Vero Beach to Stuart. One of our students, Steven Moore, recently worked with FSU clerkship faculty Dr. John McDonald of the Indian River Skin and Cancer Center. They were both featured in the health section of the publication Vero Beach 32963 (see photo). The article focused on the FSU College of Medicine’s unique educational model and how it benefits the students, patients and physician faculty. Moore plans on becoming a primary care doctor like his father, who practiced in a small town in Alabama.

Used by permission © 2011 by Vero Beach 32963, photo by Tom McCarthy Jr.
Randall Bertolette, M.D., FSU Fort Pierce Campus Dean, spoke to a group of Florida Institute of Technology pre-med undergraduate students in February at Indian River Medical Center (IRMC). Invited by Alastair Kennedy, M.D., FSU Community Board member and clerkship faculty for rheumatology, the students toured IRMC and learned more about careers as physicians. Dr. Bertolette gave them insight into applying to medical school and the benefits of the innovative educational model offered by the Florida State University College of Medicine.
Michael Jampol, M.D., FSU clerkship director for pediatrics, gave a presentation to the public in January at a seminar sponsored by the Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute and Martin Memorial Health Systems. He spoke on the topic for the evening, “Do Vaccines Cause Autism or Just Fear?”

Greg MacKay, M.D., clerkship faculty member in internal medicine, was featured in a TCPalm retrospective on the ways in which Southeast Florida residents reached out to Haiti after the 2010 earthquake. He is a member of a Vero Beach group called the Haiti Clinic, which since 2007 has been providing free medical care in a huge shantytown outside Port-au-Prince. TCPalm reported that MacKay organized a total of seven volunteers to run the monthly weekend clinic on Oct. 15-17. He also narrated a short video on the TCPalm website.

Berjan Collin, M.D., FSU clerkship faculty for infectious disease, gave a presentation to the public in February at a seminar sponsored by the Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute and Martin Memorial Health Systems. He spoke on the topic for the evening, “Emerging Diseases & Pandemics: Threat or Fear-Mongering?”
Abraham Flexner was right. It IS better to learn from the bottom up, the simple to the complex, the outpatient first and then the inpatient. It IS better to integrate basic science with the clinical science. It IS okay to teach and to learn using community-based physicians, the LMDs (local medical doctors) of our campuses. This experiment IS working and may be the real future of medicine. The light illuminating our way is glowing brightly and getting brighter all the time. Hip, hip, hooray for the Florida State University College of Medicine. Welcome aboard!

**Message from the Dean**

Randall Bertolette, M.D.

As we move down the tracks toward Match Day, awards ceremonies, graduation dinners, and graduation itself, there’s one extra challenge this academic year. We are preparing for a visit from the LCME (Liaison Committee on Medical Education) as we seek a re-credentialing of our school. The first medical school of the 21st century is now old enough to re-certify. Our train of progress and success is churning along nicely. We are ready. There are no glaring deficiencies. As a matter of fact, there are enormous positives, which will prove beyond a shadow of doubt that we belong in an elite category.

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**Pipeline to Diversity**

Racial and ethnic minorities have long been underrepresented in the state and national physician workforce. This disparity not only is a concern for social equity, but also has a direct impact on the capacity to provide needed care to medically underserved populations. Finding the physicians who will work in medically underserved communities in Florida – both urban and rural – doesn’t happen by chance.

The College of Medicine’s success in producing a diverse student body stems from a carefully orchestrated outreach program. The FSU Area Health Education Center plays a key role in the effort, which has produced remarkable results.

With its focus on improving the health of rural and medically underserved communities, the AHEC Program supports rural training experiences for College of Medicine students and – through a partnership with the college’s SSTRIDE Program – academic enrichment and mentoring for youth from disadvantaged backgrounds.

SSTRIDE is an important pipeline for developing young health professionals to enter our underserved and minority communities. Numerous studies have demonstrated that minority physicians have a greater propensity to practice in underserved areas. Consider the College of Medicine’s 2010 graduating class as an example of the influence AHEC-sponsored outreach efforts are having:
- Nine of the 94 graduates (10 percent) got their introduction to medical school through one of our outreach programs.
- The class includes 12 African-American graduates (13 percent of the total), compared with a Florida workforce where fewer than 5 percent of practicing physicians are African-American. African-Americans make up 14 percent of Florida’s population.
- Overall, 19 percent of the Class of 2010 is from a background considered to be underrepresented in medicine.
Class of 2012 News

Community Medicine Rotation
The third-year Community Medicine Clerkship is required for all students at the College of Medicine regional campus sites. The three-week clerkship is designed to broaden students’ understanding of the role played by community agencies in health promotion and disease prevention. Students work as a member of a community agency team to assist in fulfilling its goals of maintaining the health of the community and to share and discuss their observations with agency members, faculty and other students. The goals published in Healthy People 2010 serve as a template for inquiry and analysis of the agency’s place in the health care of the community. The course involves experiential, service and reflective learning, including online e-Portfolio assignments. At the end of the clerkship students must prepare and deliver a presentation of their experiences to the entire class, the regional campus dean and invited guests from the agencies. Thus, every student learns about the roles played by multiple service organizations within the health-care matrix of the community. We thank our community agency partners who taught this important clerkship this year:
- American Cancer Society
- Child Protection Team
- Children’s Home Society
- Council on Aging of Martin County
- Council on Aging of St. Lucie County
- Exchange Club CASTLE
- Healthy Start of St. Lucie County
- Helping People Succeed
- PACE Center for Girls
- Project Response AIDS Center
- St. Lucie County Health Department
- United for Families

While working on her Community Medicine rotation at the Council on Aging of St. Lucie County, third-year student Jessica Gondela was featured in the Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers. The article focused on several aspects of the FSU College of Medicine structure and curriculum, in particular the Community Medicine rotation. In this photo, Jessica plays dominoes with a client at the Council on Aging’s adult day care center in Port St. Lucie.

FOSCE Testing
The Formative Objective Structured Clinical Examination (FOSCE) is administered during Year 3. Highly trained standardized patients and the professional CSSC administration and staff traveled to Fort Pierce last December for this exam. Standardized patients evaluated the details of the student’s approach to the history and physical exam in multiple clinical scenarios. Our clerkship directors assessed students for global competencies and critical thinking skills by remote observation of audiovisual feeds from the exam rooms. Special thanks to Dr. Kenneth Bridges, our surgery clerkship director, and Lawnwood Regional Medical Center for hosting our FOSCE at his office in Fort Pierce.
ANNOUNCEMENT: NEW way for faculty to donate!

Good news! The FSU College of Medicine and the FSU Foundation have created an easy process for faculty to donate their pay back to the Fort Pierce Regional Campus. Through electronic funds transfer, faculty can sign up to have all or a portion of their compensation sent to our campus. These funds will be used for faculty development, student orientations, our graduation reception, faculty appreciation, and other special events and programs. Two of our faculty are now participating in this program. Please contact Dr. Bertolette or Beth Strack for details on this opportunity!

If you would like to make a gift:

Online, go to https://foundation.fsu.edu/community/give2med and designate your gift for the Fort Pierce Regional Campus.

Or, you may write a check payable to “FSU Foundation, Fort Pierce Campus” and mail it to our campus.

Remember, your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.