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# COM Outlook Winter 2013

College of Osteopathic Medicine

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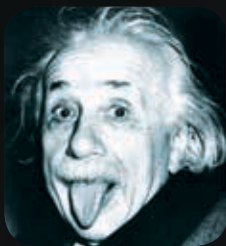
# COM Outlook

Winter 2013

Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine

$$E = mc^2$$

## *“Chauffering a Scientific Legend”*



*Dr. Stan Cohen  
Discusses His Unique  
Relationship with  
Albert Einstein*



## Dean's Message

By Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc., FACOFP dist.

Now that the elections are over, it is time to prepare ourselves for the outcomes of our choices. In the education field, there is a probability that the loss of subsidized loans for graduate and professional programs and the cap on education loans may be reversed based on policies sponsored by new guidelines.

It is time for all those involved to embrace change and support inclusion because advancement in education should be one of the many benefits that grows from the choices voters made. More of those who are economically disadvantaged, or belong to underrepresented minority groups, may be able to attend college if we move to extend greater advantages to all. These proposed changes include offering access to citizenship and educational benefits to students born in other countries who were brought here as children. I also expect that social security, health care, and other benefits will continue to be extended to couples who are committed to each other.

Changes in health care pose new challenges as leaders seek to expand benefits to include most, if not all, people. Controversy continues within the medical community regarding the impact of health care reform, and there is only random speculation about ways to meet the challenges. Other issues of note include having children remain under their parents' coverage for a longer period, which would lower overall medical costs, and ending the penalty against preexisting conditions, which opens the door to a larger number of insurance customers.

Logic dictates that health insurance policies cannot underwrite preexisting conditions without requiring mandatory coverage for all. Without the funds from the mandatory coverage, people would only enroll after they acquire some major illness, making these policies unaffordable. Covering the costs of preventative care would result in fewer people being seriously ill at a younger age and would therefore cause a decrease in the use of medical facilities for critical care. Additionally, there would be fewer people seeking treatment in emergency rooms, which costs so much more.

Another possible change fostered by the election is a more diplomatic approach to international challenges, especially the road to peaceful coexistence. A decrease in military presence throughout the world will affect the government's financial ability to prioritize missions by purpose and longevity. In addition, a focused negotiation and compromise would decrease military spending and long-term medical care caused by catastrophic war injuries.

It is highly probable there will be a decrease in expenditures balanced by an increase in taxes. However, closing loopholes in the tax system will not be sufficient to ease the nation's ballooning debt. The discussion about increasing rates for the wealthiest two percent—those with incomes that total over \$250,000 in family income after deductions—has supporters as well as detractors. Some individuals with high incomes, including business leaders Warren Buffett and Bill Gates, are in favor of the increase. Buffett, Gates, and other financially astute managers believe the tax increase is necessary to establish a stronger economic position than the country has occupied in the past.

After every election, we say these are exciting times. Whether or not this excitement results in pleasure or pain, the impact will be significant for education, health care, and the middle class.

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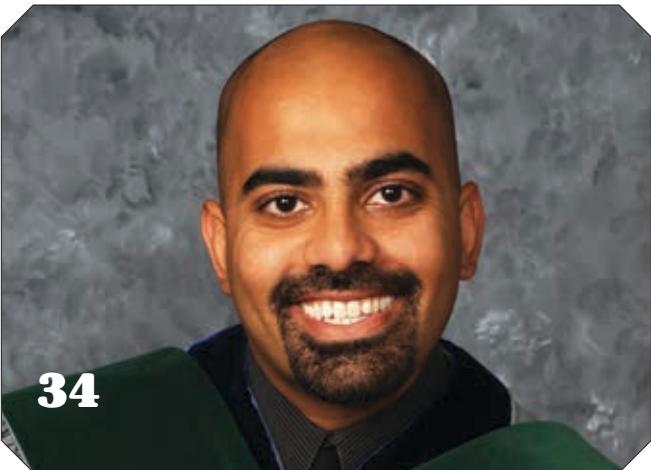
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As the son of a bookkeeper mother and tailor father, who owned his own business, Dr. Mark Sandhouse definitely has an eye for detail. Add in his steadfast dedication to ensuring the best quality care, education, and leadership as chair and associate professor of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, and the portrait of success is complete.



### **Dr. KK Pandya Pursues Unconventional Career Path 34**

Unlike many of his peers, who began their internship and residency training as soon as they graduated from medical school, class of 2012 alumnus Dr. Kaylesh "KK" Pandya is charting an unconventional course that includes completing his Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics degree before pursuing his residency training.



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### NOTICE OF ACCREDITATION

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Over the past several years, I have discussed the subject of health care availability for the American public multiple times in the pages of *COM Outlook*. However, now that the people of the United States have reelected the President, they have also helped certify the much-debated Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act—otherwise known as Obamacare.

As a person who has been involved in health care for many years, I believe it's quite evident that certain elements of the Affordable Care Act have been embraced by the general public. These include tenets such as the closure of the controversial donut hole in Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage and the elimination of citing preexisting conditions as a means to deny health insurance coverage.

I've mentioned the following topic numerous times, but it bears repeating: At Nova Southeastern University, particularly in the College of Osteopathic Medicine but also within all our health care education programs, we've been teaching the issues of wellness, prevention, and the medical home for many years. As a result, because we've embraced and incorporated these practices within the various Health Professions Division colleges over the past decade, I think we have a dramatic advantage over many other educational institutions.

One concern that has become very apparent in recent years is we simply don't have enough health care providers in the United States. Based on various sets of statistics, there are approximately 32 to 34 million people who are going to be receiving health care coverage who weren't covered before. You will also have, depending on which states choose to participate, another 12 or so million people who will become Medicaid eligible. Consequently, when you review the overall figures, you're talking about anywhere from 40 to 46 million additional people who will have the opportunity to receive health care coverage.

In order to unearth the origins of the ongoing physician shortage, you need to look back in time. It certainly can't be blamed on a lack of establishing new U.S. medical schools because in Florida alone, the number continues to rise, with nine medical schools now located throughout the state. If the truth be told, the true culprit was the 1997 Budget Reconciliation Act that came out of Congress, which basically capped funding for all existing residency programs.

Now that 16 years have passed since the Budget Reconciliation Act was enacted, it's imperative to assess how this piece of legisla-

tion actually impacts the Affordable Care Act. This is an important point to examine, especially when you consider that millions of U.S. citizens will now have the opportunity to access health care, which they will be paying for out of their pockets. Still, the question remains: Where are the physicians?

Because residency programs are not funded to an adequate level, it has impacted the number of graduates who can actually gain entry into a residency of their choice. Additionally, because reimbursement rates are extremely low in many areas of the United States, those areas tend to have an insufficient physician population.

As a result, we've seen the evolution of other health care professionals that are also serving as primary care providers. And that's why you're going to find huge numbers of health care providers distributed amongst the areas of the country where there is a paucity of physicians. The way I see it, the medical home paradigm is paramount to the success of providing prevention and wellness services because it allows the physician to work in tandem with nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, optometrists, and dentists to enhance overall patient care.

In my opinion, the recent national election will prove to be beneficial for the future growth of graduate medical education, which has already experienced some positive enhancements. In the past year, the state of Florida received 325 new medical residency positions at existing sites that include Broward Health, Palmetto General Hospital, and Miami Children's Hospital, which are long-time members of the College of Osteopathic Medicine's Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education.

What I foresee is a dramatic opportunity for institutions like NSU, which are already home to a comprehensive compendium of health-related academic programs, to place a strong emphasis on collaborating with as well respecting their fellow health care professionals. That's why NSU's Health Professions Division has been providing interdisciplinary learning opportunities for its students for many years. It also explains why the various HPD colleges are housed within one complex shared by all health professions.

In the world of education, it is imperative for all the health professions programs to be communicative with one another, to understand each other, and to treat each other equitably. The beneficiaries of this interdisciplinary collaboration will be the citizens of the United States. In order to create efficiency in health care, you must provide for wellness, which as we all know, starts with focusing on the critical precept of prevention.

# Burn Simulation Clinic Educates Students

By Debra R. Gibbs, B.A., Medical Communications Coordinator



In September, second-year NSU-COM students spent a week in the Simulation Laboratory doing hands-on training by working with simulated burn victims.

Heather McCarthy, D.O., assistant professor of medical education and director of the Simulation/Standardized Patient Lab, said while the burn case was part of the 2011 curriculum, “This year we took the simulation to a whole other level.”

As part of OMS-II procedures and clinical skills week, Jeff Golomb, the lab’s simulation clinic technician, worked with other colleagues to create burn wounds—raw, dark, and, crusty patches—all over a mannequin that could manifest distress by wheezing and moaning. Starting with a kit containing generic prefabricated wounds, Golomb and his coworkers created specialized burns for the mannequins.

The burns were brought to life with moulage—the French word for theatrical makeup. “The mannequins are expensive, so I had to come up with ways to create that look and have it easily removed after a week of observation and study,” Golomb explained. “With a protective plastic layer underneath, we used liquid latex and tissue to create the texture and added the color with a variety of makeup techniques.” With a moisture effect added by using a facial peel donated by Dr. McCarthy, the simulated burn patients were ready for a week of treatment.

“It was research,” Golomb said. “There is a ton of theatrical effect information available, so my only contribution was

combining different techniques for our specific simulation application.” According to Dr. McCarthy, “It’s like taking five cookbooks and making your own recipe.”

The simulation is used to “engage students and immerse them into a simulated situation so when they see human burn victims, they feel comfortable with seeing and working on them,” Golomb said. “That is what we are trying to do with the simulation and why we try to make it as real as possible.”

Sometimes the realism of simulation learning is intense. “We had two students faint last year when drawing fake blood,” Dr. McCarthy said. “This year we had the same thing happen,” Golomb responded, remembering a student who swooned in a side room.

Students are actively engaged in utilizing several skills while treating the case. They also have the opportunity to apply concepts learned in lecture, such as the rule of nines used to assess the amount of body surface that has been burned, and the Parkland formula—a starting point for fluid resuscitation while working in the Simulation Clinic.

“We teach them basic procedures like drawing blood, starting an IV, and intubating,” Dr. McCarthy said. “Burn victims can lose a lot of blood and fluids, so an IV needs to be started. They place the IV into the mannequin, and if they want to draw blood, they can also do that. They can also assess how much fluid to give and calculate the percent of the body that is burned. There are different degrees of burns, ranging from first to fourth degree, and the students can estimate the type of burns thanks to the moulage.”

The ultimate goal, said Dr. McCarthy, is “to get students to be more comfortable with these procedures by learning through a hands-on approach that allows them to realize, ‘Oh wow, I can take care of a patient by using these skills.’”

According to Dr. McCarthy, the students enjoyed the dynamism of managing the mannequin’s breathing or fluid-loss problems on the spot. “Students serving on the Curriculum Committee told us how much they loved it,” she said. “In fact, I had multiple students tell me this was their favorite week of medical school so far.”



# GME Standardization on the Horizon

*The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) has joined with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) in a historic agreement to pursue a single accreditation system for graduate medical education programs in the United States beginning in July 2015.*

Over the coming months, the three organizations will work toward defining a process, format, and timetable for the ACGME to accredit all osteopathic graduate medical education programs currently accredited by the AOA. “We are supportive of the agreement and firmly believe it will benefit health care in the United States to have a single accrediting system for interns, residents, and fellows,” said Dr. Anthony J. Silvagni, NSU-COM’s longtime dean.

Osteopathic physicians (D.O.s) began certifying graduate medical education programs in 1947. Since the 1950s, D.O.s have trained in both AOA- and ACGME-accredited internships, residencies, and fellowships. Currently, approximately half of all D.O. graduates in the United States enter ACGME-accredited programs and half enter AOA-accredited programs, with each system having separate rules, requirements, processes, deadlines, and requirements for continuous certification and maintenance of licensure. Merging the two accreditation systems would provide D.O. graduates with a streamlined pathway to physician licensure and practice.

At NSU-COM, for example, the proposed merger would ensure that D.O. graduates gain seamless access to all the residency programs in the state of Florida each year. With research showing that physicians frequently enter practice in the state of their graduate medical education training program, the accreditation merger could help to alleviate physician shortages in Florida by having fewer unfilled positions.

“We are fortunate to have a very active Council of Florida Medical School Deans, and through its cooperative structure, it is my opinion that Florida medical schools will have an easier transition for the M.D. or D.O. medical school graduates being accepted into either ACGME or AOA residency programs,” Dr. Silvagni stated.

While details for the planned merger will be discussed over the coming months, the following will occur should negotiations be successful:

- The transition to a unified system would be seamless; residents in or entering current AOA-accredited residency

programs would be eligible to complete residency and/or fellowship training in ACGME-accredited residency and fellowship programs.

- The unified system would create an opportunity to set universal standards for demonstrating outcomes-based physician competency and enhance the ability to share information on best practices.
- All osteopathic training programs would automatically be deemed accredited by the ACGME based on principles of reciprocity, and all training programs would need to meet the same requirements.
- The AOA and AACOM would become member organizations of the ACGME and would have seats on the ACGME board, ensuring input into future accreditation standards discussions.
- All existing and future residency programs would be open to all M.D. and D.O. graduates.

For more information about this historic agreement, please visit AACOM’s Web site at [www.aacom.org](http://www.aacom.org).





# Life Lessons of a Young Doctor

By Tiffany Sizemore-Ruiz, D.O. (2009 NSU-COM alumna)

***As another chapter in my life comes to a close, I try to look back and reflect upon what lessons I have learned and what life experiences I have gained. As a result, most of these lessons are useful not only to recently graduated physicians, but also to the public as a whole. The last three years of my internal medicine residency have probably been the best of my life. Not only did I grow in my knowledge as a physician, but I also grew as a person. I have learned when to speak up and when to shut up, who can be trusted and who cannot, and that true friends will stick with you through thick and thin.***

The life of a doctor is no easy one. We usually treat our patients before we take care of ourselves or our family. While we would probably never wake up at 2:00 a.m. to run to our neighbor's house if someone was sick, we will go to the hospital at 2:00 a.m. because a complete stranger is having a heart attack. We are also emotionally and physically challenged, every single day. Having to tell a daughter that she has lost her mother will never get easier, no matter how many times you do it. We cry, we laugh, and we are the shoulder that gets leaned on.

The hospital staff will see us more than any of our outside friends and relatives. These relationships are extremely important, and a young doctor will soon learn that these relationships will make or break you. Understand that not everyone will like you, and that is okay, but try your hardest to, at the very least, earn the respect of everyone around you. You do not know everything, and if you think you do, just quit now. The best doctors are the ones that know their boundaries and are not afraid to ask for help from anyone. The nurse has placed a thousand more Foleys and IVs than you, so when she says something is wrong, it probably is.

Be kind, humble, and understanding. You will lose your temper, but apologies will typically calm any anger you may have caused. Comb your hair and iron your clothes and lab coat because no one likes a sloppy-looking doctor. Smile. Try not to yawn in front of a patient, even if you only got one hour of sleep. What patient wants to actually know that the person who is taking care of him or her only had one hour of sleep? I got yelled at once for this and never forgot it. You will get asked seemingly stupid questions, by everyone. Smile, answer them—even if you have to answer them four times—and laugh about it later. It's better to get asked a stupid question than for a stupid mistake to get made.

You will disagree with other doctors, but know your place. At the same time, question everything. If you don't know, ask. Never assume the person you are speaking with is correct. If there is any doubt, look it up, and then your inner conscience will jump up and down when you prove them wrong.

It's okay to be upset that someone can sue you for hundreds of thousands of dollars for a mistake. I have never, ever, seen a doctor do anything intentionally to harm a patient, but mistakes or no mistakes, the government allows for frivolous lawsuits. We need to work together to change this, because honestly, it is getting completely out of control. If our government wants to lower the price of health care, then it should stop allowing these lawsuits to happen.

You will order far more tests and labs than you probably need to because you are afraid of getting sued, and you know what? Until laws change, everyone else will be doing it too—and the cost of health care will thus stay high. In addition, the more training you receive, the more you will realize you will probably never be compensated to the extent that you feel you should be—so get over it.

We are expected to be a psychologist, dietician, personal trainer, family member, friend, and mentor. If you don't know how to be any one of these, start learning. Fully answer every question a patient or family member has. Do not ever seem rushed, even if you are. You will always do the right thing if you treat a patient the way you would treat your mother.

Miracles happen, just when you least expect them.

And last but not least, never underestimate the power of a hug. Never!





## Lakeside Medical Center Earns Recognition



Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade, Florida, which is a member of NSU-COM's Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education, was recently named one of the nation's *Top Performers on Key Quality Measures* by The Joint Commission—the leading accreditor of health care organizations in America. Lakeside was one of 620 hospitals in the United States earning the aforementioned distinction.

## NSU-COM Students Attend BCMA Event



In October, third-year students (from left) **Erica Turse**, **Holly Munson**, and **Alex Oleinik** joined more than 100 women physicians and health care executives at the Tower Club in Fort Lauderdale for a social and educational dinner for members of the Broward County Medical Association.

## Dr. Silvagni Promotes Osteopathic Medicine



On October 28, **Dr. Anthony J. Silvagni** met with Pre-Med Club students at Archbishop Edward A. McCarthy High School in Southwest Ranches, Florida, to advise them about the types of classes they should be taking in high

school and college to gain entrance to medical school as well as the tremendous personal and professional satisfaction the medical profession brings. While acknowledging the challenges students face in pursuing a medical degree, Dr. Silvagni noted that medicine continues to be a popular profession. "The average increase of applicants to colleges of osteopathic medicine is approximately 7 percent; however, applications to NSU-COM have surged to over 20 percent," he said.

## NSU-COM Rates Highly in NIH Funding



The November 2012 issue of the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association* listed **NSU-COM** as the number one private osteopathic medical school nationwide in the number of

National Institutes of Health (NIH) dollars received for 2010 and number four of all osteopathic medical schools. In related news, the number of articles published by NSU-COM faculty members ranked fourth in the nation in the number of citations, number one in citations per publication compared to all the osteopathic medical schools—and had the highest impact index.

## Elizabeth Oviawe Earns NextGen Certification



**Elizabeth Oviawe, M.Sc., M.M.I.S., M.S.B.I.**, assistant director of data coordination, analysis, study, and analysis in the Department of Medical Education, successfully completed her NextGen Electronic Health Records certification training in August. She is now a NextGen EHR-certified professional (NCP).

## Palmetto General Increases GME Positions



The **NSU-COM/Palmetto General Hospital** graduate medical education programs recently received approval from the American Osteopathic Association to increase the number of

existing residency/fellowship positions and create a new two-year infectious disease fellowship with four positions allotted. As a result, the number of internal medicine residency training positions has increased to 54, while the number of critical care fellowship positions has proliferated to four.

## Ashley Guthrie Earns National Appointment

**OMS-III Ashley Guthrie** was elected president of the national student chapter of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP), which includes a voting seat on the ACOEP national board.

## Articulation Agreement with Daemen College

In November, NSU-COM signed an articulation agreement with **Daemen College**, a private institution in Amherst, New York, that offers undergraduate and graduate degrees. The agreement is structured around a dual-admittance program for qualified students earning a Bachelor of Science in Biology or Biochemistry. Up to five students per year graduating from Daemen College who meet the grade-point average and other program requirements will be guaranteed a seat at NSU-COM. The program will begin accepting interested freshmen for the fall 2013 semester. Undergraduates in the program also will be able to participate and travel with NSU-COM students and faculty members on global medical outreach trips.

## Students Participate in Planning Conference



Four NSU-COM students attended the **National Medical Students for Choice (MSFC) Conference on Family Planning** in St. Louis, Missouri, on November 10-11. Pictured (from left) are OMS-II Will Jaffee, (NSU-COM chapter co president), OMS-II Becky Desfor, OMS-IV Emily Young, (MSFC national board member), and OMS-I Kelly Thibert.

# Prevention and Treatment of Concussions for Local Athletes

By Andrew Kusienski, D.O., Assistant Professor and Chair of the Department of Sports Medicine

Stephen A. Russo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at the Center for Psychological Studies and NSU-COM Director of Sport Psychology

Johnny is racing to meet the opposing running back at the line of scrimmage. The players collide, helmet-to-helmet, as Johnny makes the tackle. When Johnny gets up, he is clearly not himself. He's confused and dizzy. His head is pounding and he's not quite sure where to go or what to do. He stumbles as he returns to the huddle and attempts to gather himself as he prepares for the next play.

Although the scenario is as old as football itself, many now recognize that Johnny has suffered an injury to his brain—an increasingly more common occurrence in today's world of athletics.

Based on the data available, it's estimated that close to four million sport-related concussions occur each year in the United States.<sup>1</sup> As staggering as that statistic is, perhaps of more concern is the report that approximately 50 percent of all head injuries in football go unreported.<sup>2</sup> Sport-related concussion is perhaps the most publicized issue in the field of sports medicine over the past five years, with many national, state, and county initiatives establishing ways to increase care for the athletes that suffer this unique sports injury.

In Broward County, two NSU-COM faculty members have been leading the battle to have athletes take brain injury more seriously—Drs. Andrew Kusienski and Stephen Russo—who established a sport-related concussion clinic in 2009. Since then, the pair has worked with county and statewide efforts to promote better awareness and treatment of concussions.

In conjunction with the Broward County Athletic Association (BCAA), Broward Health, the Memorial Healthcare System, and the School Board of Broward County, Drs. Kusienski and Russo have been providing cutting-edge clinical care for high school athletes in Broward County that suffer sport-related concussions. As a result, they have helped to shape recent changes for concussion management in the county.

In March 2012, the School Board of Broward County enacted a resolution requiring baseline neuro-cognitive testing for all athletes in BCAA schools. The board also promoted NSU's role in educating

physicians, coaches, parents, school administrators, and certified athletic trainers in Broward County about current concussion management protocols. This mandate coincides with a new law in the state of Florida that requires physician clearance prior to returning to practice or play following a concussion.

Since 2009, NSU-COM has been leading the way in concussion management in South Florida. Housed within the Don Taft University Center's Sports Medicine Clinic on NSU's Davie campus, Drs. Kusienski and Russo have worked tirelessly in the concussion clinic over the past four years to train medical students, graduate psychology students, residents, and fellows in their multi-disciplined approach to the management of concussive injuries.

Along with their clinical acumen and skills, they utilize formal balance testing and the ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) neuropsychological test to assess the athlete's stage of recovery. The clinical team then makes management decisions ranging from excusing kids from school to withholding them temporarily from their athletic activities. Reducing cognitive activity such as prohibiting student athletes from reading, studying, or playing video games is often recommended in an effort to give the brain a better chance to recover, while allowing kids to develop a successful transition back to school before returning to their athletic pursuits.

In addition, Drs. Kusienski and Russo will medically intervene with medication and/or use treatment modalities ranging from psychological counseling to osteopathic manipulation when cases call for more comprehensive care. However, this unique sports medicine team is not just concentrating on treatment. Team members are also actively exploring avenues of research and are engaged in a study measuring the body's psychophysiological response and recovery from sport-related concussions.

Through the collaborative efforts of Drs. Kusienski and Russo, the concussion clinic has experienced unprecedented growth

over the past four years. Both on campus and throughout the Broward County community, word has spread regarding NSU's clinical initiatives on concussion. Starting with only a handful of cases in 2009, referrals in the community have increased since its inception, with over 100 concussion-related cases being seen in the NSU Sports Medicine Clinic last year.

Having already managed close to 70 cases during the first four months of the 2012-13 academic year, it's clear that NSU-COM has firmly established itself as a leading health care provider for concussive injuries. The collective efforts of these two NSU-COM faculty members are having a positive impact on the lives and health of the athletes that live in Broward County by helping to avoid the short-term consequences and potential long-term aftereffects associated with sport-related brain injury.

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## HEALTH CARE LEGAL EAGLE

### Malpractice Insurance in Employment Contracts: Don't Pay to Chase Your Tail

By Fred Segal, Esq.  
Health Law Attorney, Broad and Cassel

**Based on my experiences advising young physicians, one of the most stressful parts of practicing medicine is worrying about becoming a defendant in a malpractice lawsuit. Some lawsuits can be avoided by practicing good medicine; others cannot be avoided at all. Therefore, a young physician is not likely to procure an insurance policy for protection in case of a malpractice lawsuit.**

Fred Segal is an attorney in the Miami office of the statewide law firm Broad and Cassel, where he is a member of the Health Law Practice Group. After earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida, he earned his Juris Doctorate from NSU's Shepard Broad Law Center and then completed a Master of Law degree in Health Law at Widener University School of Law in Wilmington, Delaware, in 2008.

If employed, the malpractice coverage most likely will be taken care of by the employer, which is a valuable benefit. However, carefully research the responsible party for payment of tail coverage.

Tail coverage includes events that cause liability while the policy is still active but are reported to the insurance company after the policy is terminated. For example, consider a physician who treats a patient while employed by a certain medical group. After the physician leaves the practice, the patient sues for malpractice. A tail policy will cover the physician for that incident.

Tail coverage comes with a price, and it's not cheap. Some employment contracts specifically provide that the employer will pay for the physician's tail coverage. Other contracts specify that the physician will pay for it. In still other situations, contracts stipulate that the employer and the physician will split the coverage. Some contracts, however, do not address this issue at all.

Whether you will be responsible for tail coverage in your malpractice policy is an important issue that cannot be overlooked. First, if there is a malpractice provision in your contract, you must make sure that tail coverage is addressed. Many employers will try to avoid having to pay tail coverage for you upon your termination with the group. For example, one common employer tactic is to leave the provision out of the contract

altogether and argue upon termination that it is not responsible for the tail coverage.

If a contract provision refers to tail coverage, read it carefully to understand who is responsible for payment. Some groups consider payment of the physician's policy only during employment a fair policy and believe the physician should be responsible for paying for tail coverage. The tail coverage, unfortunately, often costs more than the physician's coverage during employment.

No simple resolution to this issue exists. Whether a physician is responsible for tail coverage depends on negotiations with the employer, so be very careful. All too often, new physicians don't even think about this issue until it comes back to bite them after employment is terminated. Keep this important issue in mind during negotiations with your future employer. Remember—you don't want to be caught chasing your tail.



# Research Highlights - Faculty and Student Achievements



**1 Steve E. Bronsburg, Ph.D., M.H.S.A.**, assistant professor of biomedical informatics, accepted an invitation to serve on the editorial review board for the Knowledge Management Conference to be held at the Higher Educational Technical School of Professional Studies in Novi Sad, Serbia in June 2013. The conference will showcase current research in practice and pedagogical topics in knowledge management focused on sustaining and improving quality in organizations.

**2 Nicole Cook, Ph.D., M.P.A.**, assistant professor of public health, coauthored a poster entitled "Reducing Disparities and Improving Outcomes in Unmanaged Patients with Diabetes Mellitus Cared for at a Large Community Health Center in Miami, Florida" at the 140<sup>th</sup> American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition held October 27-31 in San Francisco, California.

**3 OMS-I Paul Farnsworth** co-authored a case report entitled "Persistent Complete Molecular Remission After Nilotinib and Graft-Versus-Leukemia Effect in an Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Patient with Cytoge-

netic Relapse After Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation" that was published in the September 17 edition of *Experimental Hematology & Oncology*.

**4 Jay M. Fleisher, Ph.D.**, associate professor of public health, has joined the editorial advisory board of the *American Journal of Cancer Review*, *the American Journal of Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention*, and the *Journal of Water Resources and Ocean Science*.

**5 OMS-II Andrew Garrett** authored a book chapter entitled "Bioactive Foods in Aging: The Role in Cancer Prevention and Treatment" in *Bioactive Food as Dietary Interventions for the Aging Population*.

**6 Janet Hamstra, Ed.D.**, director of preclinical education and associate professor of internal medicine, discussed the topic "Communication in the Electronic Age: EMR and Social Media in Medical Education" at the 2012 Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Surgeons held September 30-October 3 in Chicago, Illinois.

**7 Robert Hasty, D.O., FACOI**, associate professor of internal medicine and program direc-

tor of the NSU-COM/Palmetto General Hospital Internal Medicine Residency Program, presented a lecture entitled "Prevention of Medical Errors" at the Southwest Florida Osteopathic Medical Society's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar in Family Practice held October 18-21 in Sanibel, Florida. He also was featured on *Grand Rounds Nation* on ReachMD in the program segment "ACOF - Advancements in Stroke Prevention: Anticoagulation for Nonvalvular Atrial Fibrillation. ReachMD is a health care communications and education network dedicated to helping busy health care professionals stay abreast of clinical research, treatment advances, expert opinions, and patient-care strategies.

**8 T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of public health, presented three papers during the 140<sup>th</sup> American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition held October 27-31 in San Francisco, California. His presentations included: "Connecting Health Administration Theory to Practice: Competing Public Health Narratives and Their Consequences for Health Research, Policy, and Administration;"

"Maintaining the Relevance of Public Health Within the Wake of the Affordable Care Act: How the Socio-Ecological Model Might Just Save Us," and "Controlling the Per Capita Rate of Growth in Medicare Spending: The Independent Payment Advisory Board, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, and Congress." In addition, he recently graduated as one of the 12 members of the Health Policy Fellowship class of 2011-12 after presenting his final health issue analysis brief entitled "Public Health Prevention Interventions and Health Care Costs" in Washington, D.C. Dr. Hollar also became an invited lecturer for the Training in Policy Studies program that instructs osteopathic residents who are preparing for leadership roles in the profession.

**9 Robin J. Jacobs, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, preventive medicine, biomedical informatics, and public health and director of international medicine, authored a number of articles that were published in a range of journals. They are: "Condom Use, Disclosure, and Risk for Unprotected Sex in HIV-Negative Midlife and Older Men Who

# Research Highlights - Faculty and Student Achievements



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Have Sex with Men" in the *American Journal of Men's Health* with Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.; "Correlates of Loneliness in Older Gay and Bisexual Men" in the *Journal of Gay & Lesbian Social Services*; "Perceptions of the Humanness of Religious Leaders Among University Students" in the *Journal of Spirituality and Mental Health*; and "Perceptions of Religious Leaders' Culpability in the United States" in *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*. She also coauthored a paper with **Dr. Raymond Ownby** entitled "Cultural Adaptation of a Computerized Tailored Health Literacy Intervention to Improve HIV Medication Adherence in HIV+ Spanish-Language Dominant Hispanics," which was presented at the Health Literacy Annual Research Conference held October 22-23 in Bethesda, Maryland.

**10 Jennie Q. Lou, M.D., M.Sc.**, professor of biomedical informatics, public health, and internal medicine and director of the biomedical informatics program, was selected to serve as a reviewer for the Health Resources and Services Administration's Preventative Medicine and Public Health Training Grant

in October. In November, she also was invited to serve as a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Applied Clinical Informatics*.

**11 OMS-III Anna M. Lowell** and **OMS-IV Emily Young** presented their award-winning poster entitled "The Youth Shelter Medical Internship: Improving Adolescent Health Care in a Community Shelter with Onsite Medical Student Leadership" at the American Academy of Family Physicians Scientific Assembly held October 17-20 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**12 Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.**, professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, along with **Robin J. Jacobs, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, presented two papers entitled "Development of a New Measure of Health Literacy: FLIGHT/VIDAS" and "Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills as Predictors of Health Literacy" at the Workshop on Interactive Systems in Healthcare held November 3-4 in Chicago, Illinois. In addition, Dr. Ownby recently coauthored a number of published articles, including "Why Is Health Literacy Related to Health? An Exploration

Among U.S. National Assessment of Adult Literacy Participants 40 Years of Age and Older" in *Educational Gerontology*, "The Relations Between Cognitive Status and Medication Adherence in Patients Treated for Memory Disorders" in *Ageing Research*, "Tailored Information and Automated Reminding to Improve Medication Adherence in Spanish- and English-Speaking Elders Treated for Memory Impairment" in the *Clinical Gerontologist*, and "Thyroid Function and Depression in HIV-1 Infection" in the *World Journal of AIDS*.

**13 Yasmin Qureshi, D.P.T., M.H.S., M.P.S.**, assistant professor of osteopathic principles and practice, coauthored an article entitled "Unilateral Shoulder Bags: Can They Be Worn in a Way to Reduce Postural Asymmetry?" that was published in the October issue of *The Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*.

**14 Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**, professor and chair of the Department of Geriatrics, presented a lecture on "Diabetes in Long-Term Care" at the Pennsylvania Medical Directors Association Annual

Symposium held October 26-27 in Hershey, Pennsylvania. In addition, she coauthored an article entitled "Falls in Nursing Home Residents Receiving Pharmacotherapy for Anemia" that was published in the August 29 issue of *Clinical Interventions in Aging* and authored an article entitled "Glucose Targets in Older Adults with Diabetes: An Evolving Landscape," in the November issue of the *Journal of the American Diabetes Association*. She also presented a lecture on "Diabetes: A Patient-Centered Approach" at the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association Mid-Year Seminar held September 21-23 in Tampa and had the results of a diabetes skin water-content project on which she collaborated entitled "Skin Tissue Water Assessed via Tissue Dielectric Constant Measurements in Persons with and Without Diabetes Mellitus" published in a recent issue of *Diabetes Technology and Therapeutics*.

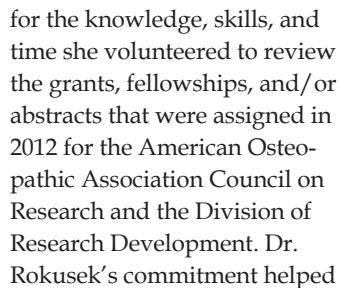
**15 Arif M. Rana, Ph.D., M.Ed.**, assistant professor of biomedical informatics, presented a paper entitled "Quality of Health Service for the 911 Call Center Patients at Newark, New Jersey, USA" at the International Conference

# Research Highlights - Faculty and Student Achievements



on Global Trends in Biomedical Informatics hosted by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey on November 15 in Newark, New Jersey. He also was selected to become a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Invitation Theory and Practice*.

**16 Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D., R.D.**, professor of family medicine and public health and assistant dean of education, planning, and research, joined other faculty members from NSU's Health Professions Division to present a national training session to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. The session, entitled "Inter-professional Faculty Development: Effective Strategies and Lessons Learned," was offered in October in Atlanta, Georgia. She also presented a national teleconference entitled "Integrating All-Hazards Preparedness into the Health Professions Curriculum" for the North Carolina Association of Medical Assistant Educators meeting for the medical assistant program held at Miller-Motte College in Tennessee on October 19. In addition, she was recognized by the American Osteopathic Association



for the knowledge, skills, and time she volunteered to review the grants, fellowships, and/or abstracts that were assigned in 2012 for the American Osteopathic Association Council on Research and the Division of Research Development. Dr. Rokusek's commitment helped many, including **OMS-IV Emily Young**, who was a Student Osteopathic Medical Association Research Application awardee for her poster entitled "The Reproductive Health Seminar Program: Evaluating its Impact on Educators and the Youth They Serve." Dr. Rokusek also served as a visiting professor at the University of Zilina in Slovakia in October, where she delivered four lectures during her weeklong stay. During her visit to Slovakia, Dr. Rokusek met with the vice dean of the College of Medicine at Comenius University in Bratislava to finalize plans to implement the NSU-COM online M.P.H. Program. The inaugural class will begin in the fall of 2013.

**17 Janet Roseman, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of medical education, authored an article entitled "Unlikely Companions: Grief, Dance, and Mysticism" that was published in the August issue of the *Journal of Dance and Somatic Practices*.

**18 Nadine Chipon Schoepf, D.O.**, assistant professor of family medicine, made opening remarks, introduced NSU-COM's Project HOPE (Homelessness in Osteopathic Predoctoral Education), and presented a workshop on



"STD Prevention, Screening, and Treatment" at the National Health Care for the Homeless Regional Training Conference held November 1-2 in Orlando, Florida.

**19 Elliot Sklar, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of family medicine and public health and Project HOPE project manager, along with **Dr. Cecilia Rokusek**, presented the topic "Body Image: A Matter of Importance to Male Health" during the Men's Health Caucus at the American Public Health Association's 140<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition held October 27-31 in San Francisco, California. As a result of his talk, Dr. Sklar was invited to submit a manuscript on "The Issue of Men's Body Image and Self-Concept" to the *American Journal of Lifestyle Medicine* in the summer of 2013.

**20 Sweta Tewary, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, assistant professor of geriatrics and evidence-based practice project coordinator,



presented a poster coauthored with **Dr. Naushira Pandya** and **Dr. Nicole Cook** entitled "Assessing the Morbidity of Foot Problems Among Nursing Home Patients with Diabetes" at the Florida Medical Directors Association annual conference in Orlando in October. Following the presentation, the aforementioned poster received an award of merit in the research study category. Dr. Tewary also presented a research poster entitled "Marital Quality and Self-Efficacy: Influence on Disease Management Among Individuals with Rheumatoid Arthritis" at the Gerontological Society of America's 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting in San Diego, California, held November 14-18.

**21 OMS-IV Emily Young** coauthored an article entitled "Unintended Consequences: Abortion Training in the Years After Roe v. Wade" that was published in the January 2013 issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*.



In November, **Dr. Arif M. Rana**, **Raed A. AlHazme**, a student in the Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics program, and **Michael De Lucca, M.H.M.**, president and chief executive officer of the Broward Regional Health Planning Council, led a public health seminar discussion entitled "Using Business Intelligence Systems in Health Care: Implementation Project at Broward Regional Health Planning Council" on November 6. Their presentation was based on the business intelligence solution they developed and implemented to disseminate health care data and increase connectivity between hospital administrators and decision makers in Broward County. Pictured (above from left) are Raed AlHazme, Michael De Lucca, and Dr. Rana.

# Research Highlights - CEME Fourth Annual Poster Competition

Simultaneous to the NSU-COM Residency Fair, which was held on November 2, the Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education (CEME) held its Fourth Annual Scientific Research Poster Competition. This year, for the first time, NSU-COM students were allowed to submit research in the competition. A record number of individuals from the various CEME affiliates located throughout Florida and the southeastern United States, along with NSU-COM students, submitted posters.

All posters were judged based on the format and completeness of abstract, the overall poster appearance, and the entrant's oral presentation. Additionally, case presentations were judged on the originality, clinical relevance, and uniqueness of the case; the background, differential diagnosis, and clinical discussion of the case; whether the conclusions were supported by clinical rationale; and the value and clinical relevance of the case as stated by the entrant. Experi-

mental research presentations were judged on the originality, clinical relevance, and uniqueness of the research topic; whether the objectives, hypothesis, data analysis, and results were clear; whether the methods were clear and reproducible, and whether the conclusions were in accordance with the results.

Cash prizes of \$500, \$250, and \$100 were awarded to the first-, second-, and third-place finishers in each category. Following are the poster competition winners:



Pictured (front row from left) are: Dennis Penzell, D.O. (judge and NSU-COM associate professor of internal medicine); Janet Hamstra, Ed.D. (head judge and NSU-COM director of preclinical education); Sonia Daryanani, D.O. (internal medicine resident at Broward Health Medical Center); Erin Speck, D.O. (internal medicine resident at Broward Health Medical Center); Delali Blavo, D.O. (internal medicine resident at Magnolia Regional Health Center). Pictured (back row from left) are: Susan Ledbetter, D.O. (judge and NSU-COM associate professor of family medicine); Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S.Ed (NSU-COM associate dean for clinical curriculum/GME); Simon Zeichner, D.O. (internal medicine resident at Mount Sinai Medical Center); Maria Farrell, D.O. (family medicine resident at Broward Health Medical Center); OMS-III Jamie Mazzurco (NSU-COM research fellow); Matthew Geromi, D.O. (psychiatry resident at Larkin Community Hospital); Idelxy Perez, M.D. (psychiatry resident at Larkin Community Hospital); and Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D. (NSU-COM dean).

## EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

### First Place

*"Effect of Gender Differences in Numeracy Skills on Health Literacy"*

**Jamie Mazzurco, M.P.H.** (NSU-COM research fellow), and **Raymond L. Ownby, M.D., Ph.D.** (NSU-COM professor of psychiatry)

Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine

### Second Place

*"Determination of Local Uropathogen Resistance Trends in Acute Uncomplicated Cystitis and Development of Treatment Protocol"*

**Maria Farrell, D.O.** (resident), **Stella Elberg, D.O.** (resident), **Gaelle**

**Laureore, D.O.** (resident), and **Tye Barber, D.O.** (NSU-COM assistant professor of family medicine)

Family Medicine Residency, Broward Health Medical Center

### Third Place

*"Trends in Kaposi's Sarcoma in Miami Beach from 1987-2007"*

**Simon B. Zeichner, D.O.** (resident), Ana L. Ruiz, CTR (Mount Sinai Medical Center), **Gabriel P. Suci, Ph.D.** (NSU-COM associate professor of public health and biostatistics), **Rachel Lerner Zeichner, M.S.** (NSU Department of Clinical Psychology), **Richard L. Theriault, D.O.** (MD Anderson Cancer Center physician), and **Estelamari Rodriguez, M.D.** (Mount Sinai Medical Center physician)

Internal Medicine Residency, Mount Sinai Medical Center

## CASE STUDIES

### First Place

*"Cocaine: What Not to Do Before Scuba Diving"*

**Erin Speck, D.O.** (resident), **Sonia Daryanani, D.O.** (resident), **Carlos Gutierrez-Hevia, M.D.** (Broward Health Medical Center physician), and **Natasha Bray, D.O.** (NSU-COM assistant professor of internal medicine)

Internal Medicine Residency, Broward Health Medical Center

### Second Place

*"Intentional Ingestion of Foreign Objects by a 33-Year-Old Male"*

**Matthew Geromi, D.O.** (resident), **Idelxy Perez, M.D.** (resident), and **Marjorie Caro, M.D.** (Larkin Community Hospital physician)

Psychiatry Residency, Larkin Community Hospital in South Miami

### Third Place

*"Wellens Syndrome"*

**Delali O. Blavo, D.O.** (resident), **Emad Mohamed M.D.** (Magnolia Regional Health Center physician), **James C. Gilmore M.D.** (Magnolia Regional Health Center physician), and **David Pizzimenti, D.O.** (Magnolia Regional Health Center physician)

Internal Medicine Residency, Magnolia Regional Health Center

## Faculty Research Recognized at NSU External Funding Reception



On October 23, a number of full-time NSU-COM faculty members were honored for their efforts to obtain external financial support at the NSU Office of Research and Technology Transfer's External Funding Recognition Reception, which was held at the Grande Oaks Golf Club in Davie. Frank DePiano, Ph.D., NSU provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, and Gary Margules, Sc.D., NSU vice president for research and technology transfer, hosted the event.

The External Funding Recognition Reception is an annual event that provides acknowledgement for the efforts of NSU faculty and staff members who have received external grant funding in the previous fiscal year, which exceeded \$82 million.

Thanks to the efforts of the following individuals, ample amounts of external funding have been received to sustain, enhance, or create various programs and projects. Listed below are the 17 full-time faculty honorees and the organizations they received funding from for their projects:

**Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M.**

(Co-Principal Investigator: **Dr. Nicole Cook**)  
 Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.  
 Transforming Our Community Health (TOUCH)  
 Broward House

**Nicole Cook, Ph.D., M.P.H.**

(Co-Principal Investigators: **Drs. T. Lucas Hollar and Cyril Blavo**)  
 Transforming Our Community Health (TOUCH)  
 Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.  
 Health Choice Network, Inc.

**Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S.Ed**

Health Resources and Services Administration

**Marti Echols, Ph.D.**

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

**M. Isabel Fernandez, Ph.D., M.A.**

University of Alabama at Birmingham  
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
 American Psychological Association

**T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D.**

(Co-Principal Investigator: **Dr. Nicole Cook**)  
 Transforming Our Community Health (TOUCH)  
 Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.  
 Broward House, Inc.

**Nancy G. Klimas, M.D.**

(Co-Principal Investigator: **Dr. Irma Rey**)  
 Chronic Fatigue Initiative  
 Hemispherx Biopharma, Inc.

**Leonard Levy, D.P.M., M.P.H.**

Health Resources and Services Administration

**Jennie Q. Lou, M.D., M.Sc.**

South Florida Regional Extension Center  
 Multiple Sclerosis Foundation

**Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.**

Emory University  
 National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute  
 National Institute of Mental Health

**Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**

Health Resources and Services Administration

**John C. Pellosie, Jr., D.O., M.P.H.**

Florida Department of Health  
 Florida Public Health Institute

**Alina Perez, J.D., M.P.H., LCSW**

Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.

**Irma Rey, M.D.**

(Co-Principal Investigator: **Dr. Nancy Klimas**)  
 Chronic Fatigue Initiative  
 Hemispherx Biopharma, Inc.

**Cecilia F. Rokusek, Ed.D., R.D.**

Health Resources and Services Administration

**Daniel Shaw, Ph.D., M.Ed.**

International Alliance for Invitational Education

**Steven Zucker, D.M.D., M.Ed.**

Health Resources and Services Administration  
 Florida Department of Health

Below: Dr. DePiano presents awards to Drs. Echols, Hollar, Levy, Pandya, Rokusek, and Zucker.



## AOA Presentations



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

During the 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition (OMED 2012) held October 7-11 in San Diego, California, several full-time faculty members made oral and poster presentations:

### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

**Natasha N. Bray, D.O.**

"Treating the Whole Patient with Trauma Osteopathically" and "Diabetes Mellitus Burden"

**Robert Hasty, D.O.**

E-Learning in the New Curriculum" and "Diabetes Mellitus and Public Health Policy"

**Evelyn A. Schwalenberg, D.O., M.S.**

The Key to Active and Passive Learning" and "The Learner in Difficulty"

### POSTER PRESENTATION

**Janet Hamstra, Ed.D.**

"Communicating About Osteopathic Medicine: An Analysis of Osteopathic Residents' Responses to the Question 'What's the Difference Between a D.O. and an M.D.?'"

## AOF Honors

During the American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF) Honors ceremony held October 6 in San Diego, California, a number of NSU-COM alumni, faculty members, and students received recognition for their achievements:

**Carisa R. Lippmann (OMS-III)**

AOF HumanTouch Student Leadership Project

**Howard Neer, D.O., FACOFP (faculty Member)**

Lifetime Achievement Award

**Venette Pierre, D.O. (2009 graduate)**

Rossnick Humanitarian Grant

**Scott M. Sandilands (OMS-IV)**

Welch Scholars Grant

**Jill A. Wallace-Ross, D.O. (faculty member and 2007 graduate)**

Ready Relief Box

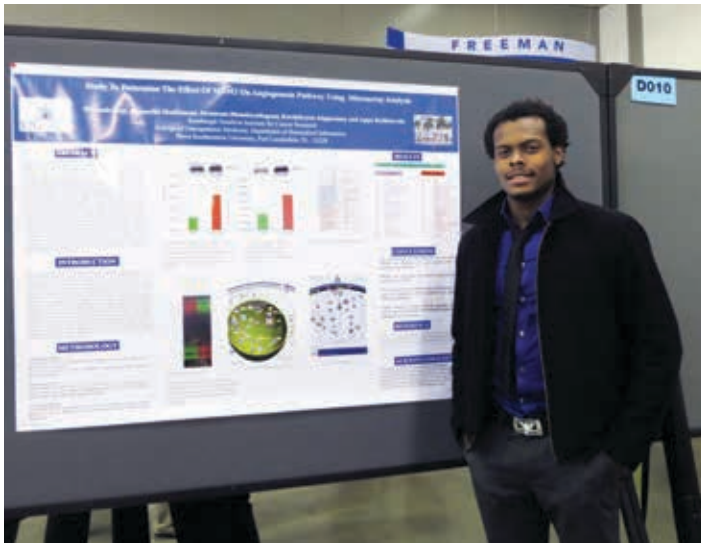
**Natalie Wessel (OMS-IV)**

Rossnick Humanitarian Grant  
 AOF Board of Directors, Student Director



# Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics Program Update

**Olatunde Raji**, a student in the Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (M.S.B.I.) program, presented a poster entitled "Study to Determine the Effect of MDM2 on Angiogenesis Pathway Using Microarray Analysis" at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students held November 7-10 in San Jose, California.



M.S.B.I. program faculty and staff members, students, and alumni attended the **American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium** held November 3-7 in Chicago, Illinois. The conference, which is touted as the world's premier scientific meeting for biomedical and health informatics, drew thousands of attendees who presented more than 670 papers, posters, panels, tutorials, and roundtables.



Pictured (from left) are an unidentified gentleman, M.S.B.I. student Vanessa Hawrylak, and Daniel Hatton, Ph.D., adjunct associate professor of biomedical informatics.

On October 25, several M.S.B.I. program students and faculty members participated in the **Third Annual South Florida Healthcare Trade Fair and Regional Conference** sponsored by the South Florida Health Information and Management Systems Society at the Signature Grand in Davie. Attendees included Steve E. Bronsborg, Ph.D., M.H.S.A., assistant professor of biomedical informatics; Halimat Jinadu, student; Michelle Migliardi-Callanan, student; Maria Sevillano, student; Calandrea Chumiso, student; April Green, student; Juan Carlos Plaza, student; Marybeth Schambach, student; Sergio Depres, student; Arif M. Rana, Ph.D., M.Ed., assistant professor of biomedical informatics; Mohammed Islam, alumnus; and Christopher Sullivan, Ph.D., M.S.B.I., adjunct faculty member.

**PUT YOUR SANDWICH IN THIS BAG**

and join us on Wednesdays for any or all of the **2013 Brown Bag Grant Workshops**

To whet your appetite...dates and topics:

- 1/23.....The NSU Grant Process
- 1/30.....Finding Grant Funding/ Pivot
- 2/6 .....President's Faculty Research & Development Grant
- 2/13.....Quantitative Research in Grant Projects
- 2/20..... Understanding Grant Applications
- 2/27.....Qualitative Research in Grant Projects
- 3/6.....Proposal Writing, Part 1
- 3/13.....Proposal Writing, Part 2
- 3/20.....Grant Budgets
- 3/27.....Success with NIH Proposals
- 4/3.....Post-Award Management
- 4/10.....Post-Award Accounting
- 4/17.....Understanding the IRB

Hosted by the Grant Writing Laboratory and Office of Sponsored Programs

Space is Limited! RSVP at [www.nova.edu/ogc/brownbag](http://www.nova.edu/ogc/brownbag)

# Faculty/Staff Focus - Activities, Achievements, and Awards



1

**1 Paula Anderson-Worts, D.O., M.P.H.**, associate professor of family medicine and public health and program director of the NSU-COM/Broward Health Family Practice Residency, was recognized at ICABA's celebration of South Florida's Most Accomplished Black Community Leaders and Entrepreneurs at NSU's H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship on December 14.

**2 Debra R. Gibbs, B.A.**, joined the NSU-COM team in September in the new role of medical communications coordinator and is working closely with **Scott Colton, B.A., APR**, director of medical communications and public relations for both the college and the Health Professions Division. Prior to joining forces with NSU-COM, Gibbs served as a longtime editor and writer at the *Sun Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She earned a bachelor's degree in French from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, which helped her win a Fulbright scholarship to Paris, France.

**3 James T. Howell, M.D., M.P.H.**, professor of public



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health and rural medicine and assistant dean of professional relations, was elected chairperson of the Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network—a new nonprofit organization responsible for substance abuse and mental health programs funded by the Florida Department of Children and Families. The network will contract with substance abuse and mental health programs in Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee counties. The organization's goal is to ensure accessible and efficient behavioral mental health services through approximately 40 mental health, alcohol, and substance-abuse programs.

**4 Kenneth Johnson, D.O., FACOG**, associate professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was honored at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Valor Awards Luncheon hosted by the American Diabetes Association on November 1 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale. The awards honor those individuals who have made significant business, civic, and philanthropic contributions to the community.



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**5 Heather McCarthy, D.O.**, assistant professor of medical education and director of the Simulation/Standardized Patient Lab, was appointed in December to the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) Standard Setting Committee for the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination/Physical Examination (COMLEX PE).

**6 Arnold L. Tanis, M.D.**, clinical professor of pediatrics, was granted distinguished faculty status in October for providing extraordinary and lasting service to the college. Dr. Tanis, who has practiced pediatrics in the local community for over 56 years, has been inspiring students since 1996. This was evidenced in October 2011 when he was honored with the Arnold Melnick Child Advocacy Award from the college's Pediatrics Club for his commitment to child health care and to NSU-COM.

**7 Elaine Wallace, D.O., M.S.**, professor of osteopathic principles and practice and executive associate dean, has been selected by a committee of her peers as the first recipient of the NSU President's



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Award for Excellence in Community Medicine in the faculty category. This prestigious award will be recognized at NSU's Celebration of Excellence ceremony in January and again at the Team 20/20 Celebration in February.

## - TRANSITIONS -



**Steve Bronsburg, Ph.D., M.H.S.A.**, was appointed as assistant professor in the

Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics program. He previously served as assistant director of the college's AHEC Tobacco Training and Cessation Program funded through the Florida Department of Health.



**Tracy Favreau, D.O.**, who formerly served as the assistant director of

clinical dermatology for the Division of Dermatology, has been appointed as chair of the newly named Department of Dermatology.



**Robin J. Jacobs, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, associate professor of psychiatry

and behavioral medicine, preventive medicine, biomedical informatics, and public health, has been named Director of International Programs.

# Senatorial Debate...Dentistry Institute... Diversity Summit...Coral Reef Center

## Institute for Special Needs Dentistry Relocates to North Miami



North Miami Beach serves as home to a unique facility that provides specialized dental care for persons with disabilities now that the **College of Dental Medicine's Institute for Special Needs Dentistry** relocated there in October to provide comprehensive dental and oral health care for individuals with developmental or acquired disabilities.

Populations served at the clinic include: persons with developmental disabilities such as autism or cerebral palsy; acquired and other types of disabilities such as traumatic brain or spinal-cord injuries and stroke; mental illness and behavioral management challenges; complex medical conditions or compromised medical status; significant physical or mobility limitations; and the frail elderly. When needed, care may be provided under conscious sedation, and when appropriate, under general anesthesia in the operating rooms at Broward Health Hospital Systems, Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, and Memorial Regional Hospital by NSU dental faculty and students.

The clinic serves a unique role in the health care landscape by focusing exclusively on the care of persons with special health needs. Not only is the clinic a valuable community-based local resource, but it also serves many individuals and their caregivers as well as residents of various group homes for those with disabilities from beyond the local area. In fact, patients travel to the clinic from across Florida because the specialized services and care they need are not available in their area.

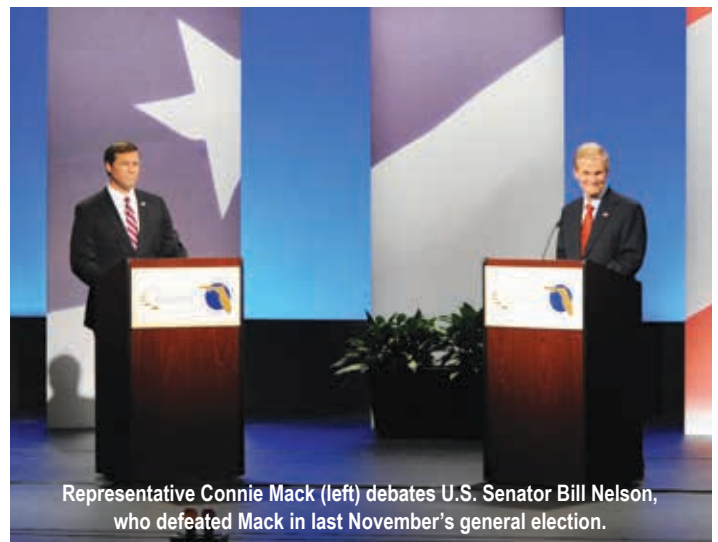
Last year, NSU's Institute for Special Needs Dentistry's faculty members, residents, and students cared for more than 1,300 patients with various conditions across the special needs spectrum, who visited the clinic more than 7,300 times.

## Florida's Only *Decision 2012* Senate Debate Hosted at NSU

On October 17, Florida's two U.S. senatorial candidates—incumbent Democrat **Bill Nelson** and his Republican challenger, U.S. Representative **Connie Mack**—squared off in their only face-to-face debate at NSU's Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center, which was televised live throughout the state of Florida.

NSU undergraduates and community members watched the debate live. In addition, student viewing parties were held on the main campus and at each NSU Student Educational Center. The debate sponsors and partners included Leadership Florida®, the Florida Press Association, Nova Southeastern University, Florida Blue, Florida Credit Unions, AARP, and the Claude Pepper Foundation.

Following the debate, NSU and Florida Blue hosted the inaugural post-debate analysis Webcast featuring moderator Kevin Corke, a former White House correspondent for NBC News. During the Webcast, Corke interviewed a panel of experts that included prominent political leaders, journalists, professors, representatives of both candidates' campaigns, and star high school debaters.



Representative Connie Mack (left) debates U.S. Senator Bill Nelson, who defeated Mack in last November's general election.

# NSU OVERVIEW

## NSU President Goes Coral Reef Diving to Save Threatened Corals

In September, **NSU President George Hanbury II, Ph.D.**, went diving with undergraduate and graduate student researchers to inspect and discover ways to help threatened corals off the coast of Fort Lauderdale. The threatened staghorn coral is grown by NSU researchers in depths of over 20 feet at a university-run nursery designed to repopulate damaged and dead corals. Florida currently contains 84 percent of the nation's coral reefs, which are facing both natural and manmade threats.

Dr. Hanbury's dive took place on the morning of September 27—the day of the grand opening of NSU's new \$50 million Center of Excellence for Coral Reef Ecosystems Research, which is focused on researching coral reef ecosystems in South Florida, throughout the nation, and around the world.

Former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, a noted environmentalist and Nobel Peace Prize winner, spoke at the grand opening ceremony and toured the scientific laboratories of the 86,000-square-foot facility located in Hollywood, Florida. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, a U.S. congresswoman and Democratic National Committee chair who helped NSU secure a \$15 million federal grant to fund the center, also served as the ceremony's keynote speaker.

The Center of Excellence houses NSU's National Coral Reef Institute, the Guy Harvey Research Institute (GHRI), and the Save Our Seas Shark Center. Artwork by renowned marine artist Guy Harvey, Ph.D., who also donated \$200,000 to the GHRI, is prominently featured in the building's interior.



Dr. Hanbury (left) during his presidential dive.

## NSU Hosts South Florida Diversity Summit



Diversity Summit promotes peace.

On November 2, NSU brought current and future South Florida leaders together for the **Seventh Annual Diversity Summit** on expanding diversity and creating a more peaceful world. The event, coordinated by the South Florida Diversity Alliance (SFDA) and held at the Carl DeSantis Building on NSU's main campus, allowed college and high school students, professors, business leaders, and community leaders to participate in over 20 workshops and discuss hot-button social issues that impact every American.

"The Diversity Summit is designed to connect young leaders with seasoned leaders to learn from one another and hopefully build collaborative partnerships to make a positive impact in their schools, communities, and workplaces," said Terry Morrow, Ph.D., conference organizer and assistant dean of student affairs at NSU's College of Health Care Sciences.

In 2009, a group of South Florida higher-education professionals came together to form the SFDA and expand the NSU Diversity Summit to be a coalition event hosted by the SFDA. In 2012, sponsoring organizations included NSU, Lynn University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Barry University, and Broward County Schools.



# CHAUFFEURING A SCIENTIFIC LEGEND

## Dr. Stan Cohen Shares Stories of His Unique Relationship with Albert Einstein

By Scott Colton, B.A., APR  
NSU-COM/HPD Director of Medical Communications and Public Relations

**T**hroughout our lives, many of us have experienced the thrilling adrenaline rush that occurs when we spot a famous celebrity walking toward us on the street or unexpectedly get to engage in a brief conversation with a revered personal hero.

These are the “Pinch me, I must be dreaming” moments Stan Cohen, Ed.D., professor of humanities and executive vice dean for educational support at NSU’s Health Professions Division, was able to enjoy repeatedly over a two-year span in the 1940s when he landed a most-unexpected job: serving as Albert Einstein’s personal driver.

For those who may be unfamiliar with the genius known as Ein-

stein, a brief history lesson is imperative. Although he died in 1955 at the age of 76, Einstein’s legendary stature has only continued to grow over the years as new generations learn about his scientific virtuosity. In 1905, while working as a patent clerk in Bern, Switzerland, the young physicist published four of his most influential research papers, including the “Special Theory of Relativity,” which unveiled to the world his “ $E=mc^2$ ” equation that helped unlock previously unknown mysteries of the universe.

Ten years later, in 1915, Einstein completed his General Theory of Relativity, and in 1921, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics.

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*“I was surprised that his self-image was so low,” stated Dr. Cohen of his intimate chats with Einstein. “I had thought a man as exalted as Einstein would have a strong sense of pride and very high self-esteem. But that simply wasn’t the case.”*

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In 1999, nearly 80 years after winning that prestigious prize, Einstein was feted as *TIME* magazine’s *Person of the Century*.

These world-altering achievements launched him to international superstardom, allowing his name to become a household word synonymous with genius across the globe. Today, the practical applications of Einstein’s theories include the development of the television, remote-control devices, automatic door openers, lasers, and DVD-players.

### **Bravery Leads to Memorable Meeting**

In 1946, Dr. Cohen was a talented and industrious 18-year-old freshman at Rutgers University in New Jersey who was looking to become rich and famous as a researcher and creator of lifesaving antibiotics. However, because the library at nearby Princeton University housed a more-comprehensive set of resource materials than could be found at Rutgers, Dr. Cohen frequented the Princeton library on a continuum.

It was during one of these visits to Princeton where Dr. Cohen unexpectedly laid eyes on the inimitable Einstein, who had immigrated to the United States in the autumn of 1933 and later accepted a professorship at Princeton’s prestigious Institute for Advanced Study. According to Dr. Cohen, the momentous meeting of the minds was a totally spontaneous occurrence—a rare cosmic opportunity that demanded an immediate response.

“I am an extrovert by nature, so I simply walked over and introduced myself by saying, ‘Hello, you must be Albert Einstein. I am just a poor Jewish student from Rutgers,’” said Dr. Cohen of his fearless self-introduction. “He then asked me to sit down, which shocked me because I couldn’t believe he would even talk to me.”

Clearly impressed by Dr. Cohen’s youthful bravado, Einstein quickly tendered an intriguing offer: to serve as his driver for the princely sum of \$14 a month. Although he was 67

years old at the time, Einstein had yet to master the art of driving—a circumstance that turned out to be personally, financially, and intellectually rewarding for Dr. Cohen. “I drove him around on the weekends and sometimes on Thursdays depending on my classes,” said Dr. Cohen of their *Driving Miss Daisy* relationship, which eventually blossomed into a full-fledged friendship.

“I knew, of course, that he was a famous scientist, but what truly amazed me was his knowledge of cultural anthropology, psychology, sociology, philosophy, and even politics. I really think I learned more from him in these areas than I did from my classes,” said Dr. Cohen, who recently published a book documenting his time with the mental master entitled *My Time with Einstein*.

### **Probing a Genius’ Brain**

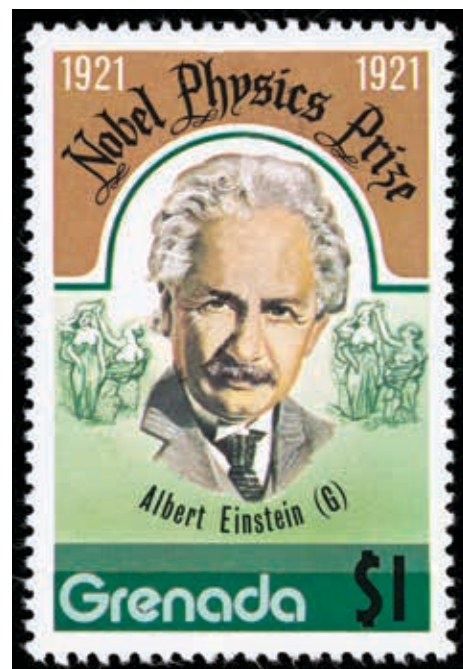
For an 18-year-old, having the opportunity to spend abundant quality time with a living legend such as Einstein was indeed a heady experience for Dr. Cohen, who was able to witness firsthand his mentor’s brilliance as well as his eccentricities and vulnerabilities.

Because Einstein frequently invited him over for dinner, Dr. Cohen was able to witness the genial genius in a more casual milieu that allowed Einstein to reveal his intrinsic personality quirks. “He never wore socks, which used to amaze me because I was a microbiology major who knew all about cleanliness,” Dr. Cohen recalled. “I used to tell him, ‘You really should wear socks because your feet perspire and produce fungi.’ He responded by saying ‘Socks and shoes do the same thing, so why have both?’ Similarly, his bed was never made, but when I asked him about it, he replied, ‘Why make it when you have to unmake it again later that same day?’”

The fascinating reasoning process that defined Einstein was also on display the day he asked Dr. Cohen to drive him to the Philadelphia Zoo—a day indelibly etched in

his memory. According to Dr. Cohen, Einstein seemed to enjoy the zoo adventure immensely. But once they reached the monkey cages, his happy demeanor suddenly shifted when he noticed several of the primates copulating in full view of the intrigued visitors. “He became extremely upset about this and said they needed their privacy,” Dr. Cohen recalled. “He thought it was terrible that people were watching, so he actually offered to buy some sort of screen to shield the monkeys from public view. I tried explaining that it was okay, that people knew this was a natural part of the zoo experience, but he was visibly upset to see that people would gawk at the monkeys while they were making love.”

During their time together, they would frequently stroll through the nearby woods, with Einstein easily rattling off the names of the birds they saw as well as the types of fungi adorning the numerous trees. One day, however, he watched Einstein do something he had never witnessed anyone do before. While walking through the woodlands, Einstein suddenly reached out, grabbed what looked to be a grasshopper, and popped it in his mouth. When Dr. Cohen asked Einstein



about the surprising snack he had just ingested, his reply was bracingly honest: "I ate it because it tastes good!"

Interestingly, for a man recognized as the preeminent scientific mind of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it's somewhat surprising to discover that Einstein was actually a very sensitive soul who suffered from low self-esteem and constantly recriminated himself for what he perceived to be his lack of skill in regard to being both a husband and parent. "I was surprised that his self-image was so low," stated Dr. Cohen of his intimate chats with Einstein. "I had thought a man as exalted as Einstein would have a strong sense of pride and very high self-esteem. But that simply wasn't the case."

Because he was dyslexic, Einstein had been a poor student who also had to deal with the withering insults his mother tossed at him, such as repeatedly calling him a "dummy" and telling him he was the dumbest of all her children. "As great as he was, and with all the success that came his way, he was so beaten down because, in addition to his mother's cruel comments, the scientific world had been calling him a nut for years," Dr. Cohen recalled. "His wife and three children also criticized him for being what they called 'crazy,' so I would praise him about how great he was. One day, I even told his wife it would be nice if she could praise him from time to time as well."

During one of their numerous conversations, the touchy subject of World War II, which had concluded only a year or so before the two had met, was discussed at length. Einstein was painfully aware that although his General Theory of Relativity revelation had led to many great scientific advances, it had also hastened the creation of the nuclear bomb. "We were talking one day about how to stop wars because we were both opposed to them, which is when he told me about how much he had cried when Hiroshima and Nagasaki were devastated by nuclear attacks," Dr. Cohen revealed. "He talked to me about what was going to happen with nuclear power; in fact, he worried about it all the time. He knew it was a great source

of energy for the electric plants, but he said Earth was going to be destroyed by it if we weren't careful."

A lover of jokes and zippy one-liners, Einstein was also an aficionado of great classical music, which could move him to great depths of emotion. "He loved to play the violin for me, and one day while he was playing a piece by Mozart, he started crying tears of sheer joy," said Dr. Cohen, who repeatedly beat Einstein in the brainy game of chess. "It was so beautiful to behold because he could reach such a profound depth of feeling. To tell you the truth, it actu-

### *Dr. Stan Cohen: My Time with Einstein*



ally gave me chills. I was so moved when he finished that I just had to hug him."

### **Mentor, Genius, Friend...Einstein**

After regaling friends, family members, and colleagues with stories about his time with Einstein, why did Dr. Cohen wait until he had surpassed the age of 80 to publish a book documenting his cherished relationship with the peerless genius? "My family always knew about my Einstein connection, but I never mentioned it much academically to anybody because I wanted my teaching skills and executive accomplishments to be my legacy—not the fact that I drove Albert

Einstein around for two years," Dr. Cohen explained. "But during my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party, all my kids, as well as several colleagues, said they thought it was time for me to document my stories."

Now that over 60 years had passed since their initial meeting, Dr. Cohen sat down at his computer, ready to tap into his memory bank. "I began reflecting back on when I first met Einstein, but as I started typing, it suddenly felt as if someone else was doing the writing," said Dr. Cohen of the surreal experience. "I could actually feel his presence in my head; I am telling you it was the weirdest thing. All I know is that the words flowed right through me, which enabled me to complete the book in just over two months. I know I can't prove this, but I think Einstein wrote most of it. After the book was published, he visited me in my dreams several times. In one of them, he actually thanked me for doing it."

Writing *My Time with Einstein* proved to be a wonderful way for Dr. Cohen to reconnect with his formidable friend, who had a profound effect on the trajectory of Dr. Cohen's professional life. "I was pretty lucky because he took me under his wing and convinced me to be a teacher and give back to society," he explained. "My goal was to make a lot of money researching and creating new antibiotics, but Einstein said 'You're going to be sorry if you make money your motivation because when you get to be my age, you're not going to like yourself.' Right then and there, I decided I was going to become a teacher."

Although Einstein felt he was an inadequate husband and father, Dr. Cohen firmly disagreed with Einstein's harsh self-assessment. "If I could have handpicked a father, it would have been him because he was so nice to me," he admitted. "I wasn't his kid, but boy I felt like he was my father, mentor, and hero. He treated me like I was his own son and taught me so much about life, including his philosophy that if you don't fail at anything, you never tried anything. All human beings should be so blessed to have a teacher like that in their lives. He was indeed a rare bird."



Some may say the story of the NSU College of Dental Medicine is not really a part of the Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine's (SECOM) history. But I, and those who look at the bigger picture, see the dental school as a child of SECOM (the precursor to NSU-COM). For SECOM, through a couple of iterations (Southeastern University of the Health Sciences and NSU's Health Professions Division), can be said to have given birth to the dental school in 1996. And SECOM can be proud of the part it played.

## MELNICK MEMORIES

### *Looking Back...at Our Dental School*

By Arnold Melnick, D.O., M.Sc., FACOP

Founding Dean of Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine (NSU-COM)

Preceding the new school by almost 40 years was an interesting vignette. At the age of nine, my son was injured and required specialized dental care. I did not know the specialist recommended. He was **Seymour Oliet, D.D.S.**, founding chairman of the Department of Endodontics at the University of Pennsylvania, who treated my son successfully. Over a period of years, we became close friends. He and his wife visited Florida once or twice a year, and we always got together for dinner. Our running joke—and neither of us believed it or was serious about it—was that SECOM would start a dental school and Seymour (Sy) would become the dean.

Fast forward to 1995: Morton Terry, D.O., and I kicked around the thought of another health school, and after we eliminated the runner-up idea (veterinary medicine), we felt dentistry was the way to go. When the idea was presented to the NSU Board of Trustees, the members immediately approved a taskforce. For a number of reasons, this was the first time we went the usual academic planning route. We organized a large taskforce with representatives from every interested constituency, including the NSU Board of Trustees, community dental experts, NSU administrators, deans, and many other groups. Since it would become the first new U.S. dental school in 25 years, we needed a thorough study.

Here my background came into play for we appointed Sy Oliet, who had retired and relocated to Florida, to be the taskforce's chairman. We decided there were four areas that needed investigation: national need for another dental school; adequacy of the applicant pool; adequacy of the patient pool; and financial feasibility. Dr. Oliet brought in as impartial outside consultants five nationally known dentists, some of them deans or former deans from across the country who proved to be most helpful and contributed much insight, knowledge, and experience to the founding process.

Due partly to the voiced opposition of the American Dental Association and the state dental society (based on the recent closings of several U.S. dental schools), we selected **Steven Zucker, D.M.D., M.Ed.**, our AHEC Program director, to do an intensive study of the situation. Following his investigation, Steve found that the closures did not

represent a failure of the dental profession. As we later reported, "Although dental school closings in those years were erroneously blamed entirely on shrinkage of the applicant pool, many were probably the result of planning problems and management problems on the part of the school."<sup>1</sup>

The taskforce accepted Steve's findings and voted unanimously to recommend establishing a new dental college. The Board of Trustees subsequently approved it, recognizing the outstanding work Dr. Oliet had done as the taskforce's volunteer chair, and immediately and unanimously appointed him as the inaugural dean.

Throughout the entire process, one of the most helpful participants was **Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D.**, the future president and chancellor of NSU. Thanks to his multifaceted expertise, he shepherded the proposal through the administrative process to final approval.

Dr. Oliet dealt with the details expeditiously, putting together a curriculum and attracting a multitude of outstanding faculty members. The Health Professions Division (HPD), with input from faculty and staff members, developed from scratch a brand new dental building (75,000 square-feet of space), using a novel architect-builder system, in just 28 weeks. We went from the germ of an idea in 1995, to official approval in 1996, to first student in 1997—a period of just two years. Perhaps best of all, the HPD was able to absorb the initial capital costs and operational losses that occurred in the first few years.

The rest, as they say, is history. Steve Zucker's findings, predictably, were right on target. We always found a large pool of capable applicants, and today we have a larger number of applicants than many other schools. Our clinical services are in constant demand, and we always have full waiting lists for appointments for dental services.

Over and above all that, since our founding and success, several new dental schools have been developed successfully, and several more are now on the drawing board, completely reversing the decline that some believed dental education was facing.

(1. Melnick A. and Oliet S: Founding a new dental school at Nova Southeastern University. *Journal of Dental Education* 65:3, March 2001, pp.262-268.)





# Attention to Detail Defines the Essence of Dr. Mark Sandhouse

*By Debra R. Gibbs, B.A., Medical Communications Coordinator*

**T**wo traits needed to become a successful physician include attention to detail and dedication to the calling.

As the son of a bookkeeper mother and tailor father, who owned his own business, Mark Sandhouse, D.O., definitely has an eye for detail. Add in his steadfast dedication to ensuring the best quality care, education, and leadership as chair and associate professor of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, and the portrait of success is complete.

When he was five years old, Dr. Sandhouse started thinking about becoming a physician. He recalls no catalyst that sparked the idea, but the desire stayed with him.

Like so many South Floridians, Dr. Sandhouse was born in New York. Soon after his birth, however, his family moved from Brooklyn to Long Island. A few years later, "My dad decided it was time for a change, and we just packed up the car and moved down here," he said.

After relocating to Florida, his parents both worked in real estate, with his mother working at home most of the time. Later, a video business became his father's new venture. Interestingly, Dr. Sandhouse grew up in North Miami Beach "within easy bike-riding distance to the original SECOM campus," but "never knew it existed," he explained.

## **The Road to Osteopathic Medicine Unfolds**

Thanks to the excellence of the New York education system, he was more than ready to attend school in Florida. In addition to skipping first grade, Dr. Sandhouse attended summer school classes—including taking some courses at Miami Dade College—which enabled him to graduate 18 months earlier than other students his age. The dual-enrollment also brought extra credits that helped him enter the University of Miami "at the ripe old age of 17," Dr. Sandhouse recalled. Initially, his studies focused on biology, but

his interests moved to chemistry before his graduation in 1981.

When he applied to various allopathic medical schools, his grades were good but not “stellar,” and he failed to gain acceptance into the top institutions. Still, he persevered, applying for postgraduate chemistry study at the University of Miami as a backup plan. While he admittedly “didn’t know the first thing about what an osteopathic physician was,” personal contacts were about to alter his career path.

Although he was on the wait list at the University of Miami, he decided to apply to Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine (SECOM, which was the precursor to NSU-COM) and considered pursuing a career in thoracic surgery. Some background reading and experience shadowing an osteopathic physician offered insight to a field Dr. Sandhouse soon found, in his own words, “fascinating.” Within a week of his interview, he was accepted at SECOM and on his way to becoming an osteopathic physician as a member of SECOM’s third class.

His was a small class of 80 students in a college that was rapidly evolving. Initially, there was no formal chairperson of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, so various top professionals visited and shared theories and practices. For example, students exchanged ideas with Larry Jones,

the author of *Counterstrain*, and learned about muscle energy from Fred Mitchell, who wrote the book on the muscle-energy technique. In 1984, Arthur Snyder, D.O., became chairman of the department. In addition, the tremendous energy and teaching skills of Joel Stein, D.O., a newly hired faculty member and now a clinical associate professor of family medicine, increased Dr. Sandhouse’s interests so much that when Drs. Snyder and Stein approached him with the idea of taking part in a new predoctoral OMM fellowship, he readily accepted.

Dr. Sandhouse, along with 1988 alumnus Christopher Mondello, D.O., became part of the inaugural one-year fellowship. “From that point on, my ‘What I want to be when I grow up’ changed from a thoracic surgeon, to an orthopedic surgeon, to family medicine and osteopathic manipulative treatment,” he explained.

### Private Practice Offers Eye-Opening Insights

After completing his internship at Southeastern Medical Center and Humana South Broward in 1989, but prior to joining NSU-COM as a faculty member in 1993, Dr. Sandhouse opened a practice called the American Canadian Medical Center in Dania Beach, Florida. Thanks to contacts and partnerships with Canadian travel insurance companies in



Dapper D.O.

Quebec and Montreal, coupled with relationships with hoteliers in Dania Beach, the center offered urgent care to tourists as well as locals who needed medical attention.

Not surprisingly, the practice proved to be a major learning experience. “I remember the first patient I sutured there. It was a very simple laceration that took me two hours to do,” explained Dr. Sandhouse. “However, the last patient I sutured with a laceration five times more complicated took me only 40 minutes.”

According to Dr. Sandhouse, his patients had little idea of their health status. In fact, some had serious problems. At the height of the snowbird season, “We had the paramedics at our office about once a week,” he said. “We didn’t know who was going to walk into our office—and sometimes we weren’t sure they were going to walk out.”

Travel insurance covered sudden illnesses, but snowbirds that stayed for several months paid out-of-pocket for periodic checks of blood pressure or medication refills. “People came in with anything from coughs and sniffles to heart attacks and strokes,” he said.

The dramatic experiences of a Canadian couple remain especially fresh in Dr. Sandhouse’s memory. A woman called the American Canadian Medical Center on a Tuesday, saying her husband was not feeling well. On the advice of the office manager, the woman brought her husband, who was over the age of 80, to the office that Wednesday. When the gentleman arrived, he was weak, ashen,



Dr. Sandhouse and wife Robbyn at their wedding.

and had been suffering from chest pains for 14 hours.

"We kept him alive in the office, which was unbelievable," said Dr. Sandhouse of this pivotal career experience. "We called the paramedics, who took the man to the hospital. The patient improved, but his condition deteriorated on Friday night.

"One of the things I am the proudest of is that the most difficult circumstances of this event took place on a Saturday," added Dr. Sandhouse. "The hospital called me at 1:00 a.m. on Saturday and told me my patient had died. I am not ashamed to tell my students that I cried, even though I knew when I walked into the office days earlier to begin treatment that he had virtually no chance of surviving. I tried to call his wife, but her hotel's switchboard was off between 11:00 p.m. on Friday and 7:00 a.m. on Saturday."

Before sunrise on Saturday, Dr. Sandhouse got dressed and drove to the hospital where the man had died. He studied the chart, reviewing it to make sure he hadn't missed anything and realized again there was nothing more he could have done for his patient. Still, he had to be sure.

After leaving the hospital at 3:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, Dr. Sandhouse went home and slept for a few hours. At 6:30 a.m., he tried again to reach the patient's wife. Sadly, she had already received the news of her husband's death from police officers. The passing of her husband had devastated her—and more problems were in store. Although she and her husband had driven to South Florida from Canada together, she didn't know how to drive. In addition, all the travelers' checks and credit cards were in her husband's name, which meant she was stranded in South Florida.

Dr. Sandhouse and his business partner met the woman at her hotel, took her to the police station, and accompanied her to an office to change the travelers' checks to her name. Then, after getting the widow a hot meal, Dr. Sandhouse signed the death certificate and visited the funeral home in charge of transferring the body back to Canada.

Most doctors would not have gone to those extraordinary lengths, which is why this particular story crystallizes Dr. Sandhouse's

commitment to his work. "When I tell my students that story, I tell them that when it stops making me feel like I want to cry, when I stop feeling like I want to do this work, then I am going to go pump gas somewhere. I will be out of medicine."

Thankfully, that time has not yet come.

### A Career at NSU-COM Beckons

In May 1993, he left the Americanadian practice. Then came a call from his former fellowship partner Dr. Mondello about an opening in NSU-COM's Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, which sounded promising. At the interview, Dr. Sandhouse said he was "essentially hired on the spot." Thanks to that fortuitous meeting, Dr. Sandhouse has been serving as a faculty member in the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice since July 1993.

Despite the numerous demands of his busy career, Dr. Sandhouse makes it a priority to spend quality time with his family, which includes children Brenda and Ryan from his first marriage as well as his two stepchildren, Christopher and Haste, with his second wife,

Robbyn. As his children have progressed to adulthood, Dr. Sandhouse has been able to bond even closer with them by partaking in fun family outings that have included taking several trips to Europe.

During a typically busy workweek, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons are spent in the OPP Lab teaching OMM techniques to first- and second-year students. On Thursday mornings, David Boesler, D.O., and Dr. Sandhouse spend time with the predoctoral OPP fellows discussing leadership topics to keep the fellows abreast of knowledge based on medical theory as well as examining patient assessments and treatments. He also sees patients four half days a week, including Wednesday evenings.

Recognizing his analytical mind, the college's dean, Dr. Anthony J. Silvagni, asked him to lead a committee that oversees all the policy and procedures within NSU-COM. Writing and reviewing the defining documents calls for making sure ambiguities or loopholes are closed academically and legally. According to Dr. Sandhouse, this requires "putting out fires,"



*Pictured (clockwise from left) are a freckle-faced Dr. Sandhouse at age nine; enjoying some family time with his children Brenda and Ryan; savoring a memorable trip to London in 2009 with wife Robbyn, celebrating his birthday in style by participating in a high-flying helicopter ride; taking in the historic sites in Italy during a 2011 vacation; visiting Stonehenge on a bleak and cloudy day in 2009.*



but he handles the complexities with grace and takes them in stride.

As the medical field evolves, including a morphing of M.D. and D.O. education and training, Dr. Sandhouse wants the osteopathic profession to retain its identity and stability. "If we continue to discount osteopathic principles, we are going to lose our profession, and I would hate to see that happen because we will lose the tangible thing that makes us different," he said.

Stimulating the body to heal itself is a truly proactive way to save money on health care and stay distinctive, which is why Dr. Sandhouse truly loves what he does. "My greatest thrill is to help patients deemed beyond help by others," he admitted.

Dr. Sandhouse also serves in various roles to maintain the distinctions and keep osteopathic manipulative medicine vital. One way he stays involved is by serving as chair of the COMLEX (Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination) OPP/OMM Committee for the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, where he spends "lots of weekends reviewing information and editing questions to ensure quality as well as standardization."

Serving on the Educational Council in Osteopathic Principles (ECOP), a consortium of department chairs or their designees, also keeps Dr. Sandhouse involved in strengthening the field. "We have consistently beaten the national average on national boards in OPP and remain actively engaged in the profession." Additionally, he considers himself "a big believer" in the development of curriculum and is listed as an author of the *Glossary of Osteopathic Terminology*.

When at conventions or just by chance, Dr. Sandhouse enjoys encountering the successful people he has helped train or meeting patients who have been referred to him by former students and colleagues.

After five years of study and 20 years of building a progressive career, Dr. Sandhouse stands out as an enduring and diligent member of the NSU-COM family. His attachment is so strong that when outsiders make unsolicited job offers, he "turns them down without blinking. I think that speaks volumes about how I feel about being here," he said.



# NSU-COM Alumni Association Executive Committee

## Past Presidents

Pre-1995 Holly Pomeranz, D.O. ('86)  
1996 - Daniel McBath, D.O. ('90)  
1997 - Orlando Garcia, D.O. ('94)  
1998 - Michael Gervasi, D.O. ('87)  
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2010 - Daniel Carney, D.O. ('95)

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**Mariaelena P. Caraballo, D.O., FAAHPM** ('98), associate professor of family medicine and director of medical education at University Hospital & Medical Center in Tamarac, Florida, was named a fellow of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.



**Amber N. DeChambeau, D.O.** ('07), recently received the Stetson University 2012

Outstanding Young Alumni Award, which is presented to alumni who are 35 years of age or younger. The award recognizes contributions to society, to a profession, or to Stetson University. Recipients must demonstrate significant accomplishment or promise in areas such as leadership or civic, cultural, or charitable involvement.

**Victoria M. Dreisbach, D.O.** ('97), who was named a distinguished fellow of the American Psychiatric Association in 2012, is working as a forensic psychiatrist in Connecticut. She also serves as a clinical assistant professor of psychiatry at Yale University School of Medicine, where she completed both her residency training in psychiatry and fellowship training in forensic psychiatry.

**Jeffrey Grove, D.O.** ('90) recently funded an endowed scholarship for NSU-COM students seeking financial aid. OMS-II Diondra Burney was the recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship, with \$1,000 coming from the Jeffrey and Karen Grove Scholarship along with an additional \$1,000 from the alumni-endowed scholarship.

**Mayrene Hernandez, D.O.** ('01) is currently serving as the inpatient care man-

agement regional medical director for South Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana for UnitedHealthcare Group Southeast Region Clinical Services.

**Christopher E. Keel, D.O.** ('09), who is affiliated with the Department of Urology at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, Louisiana, recently published a book chapter entitled "Semi-Rigid Ureterscopy Step-by-Step - The Tulane Approach" in *Ureterscopy: Indications, Instrumentation & Technique* by Manoj Monga, M.D.



**John C. McDonald, D.O., FACOI** ('93) is serving as the clinical clerkship director in the new Department of Graduate Medical Education at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview, Texas. The hospital is currently interviewing candidates for its second class of 18 internal medicine residents and welcomes applications from NSU-COM graduates.

**Brian McGrath, D.O.** ('07), an emergency medicine staff physician at Irwin Army Hospital at Fort Riley, Kansas, is currently serving as a battalion surgeon with Special Operations Forces deployed in southeastern Afghanistan.

**Olivia E. Morris, D.O., FAOAO, FAOAS** ('85) recently received her fellow designation from the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons.

**Hafusat Oni, D.O.** ('03) and **OMS-IV Erin Nichol** were featured in an article in the *Marion Star* newspaper on November 24, 2012. Dr. Oni

is mentoring Nichol, who is completing her clinical rotation at the Center Street Community Health Center—a federally qualified health center in Marion, Ohio.

**Marcos Rejtman, D.O.** ('94), who is board certified in family practice, geriatric medicine, and hospice and palliative care, is the medical director for Catholic Hospice, which serves patients of all faiths in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.



**Joel Rush, D.O.** ('85) recently funded an endowed scholarship for NSU-COM students seeking financial aid. OMS-I Trevine Albert was the recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship, with \$1,000 coming from the Joel and Beth Rush Scholarship along with an additional \$1,000 match from the alumni student-endowed scholarship.

**Lawrence J. Scalzo, D.O.** ('94) of Cocoa Beach, Florida, who is board certified in family practice, is currently working as a locum tenens physician.

**Gregory Semon, D.O.** ('08) won first place for his research poster entitled "Montelukast (Singulair) for the Treatment of Capsular Contracture Following Breast Augmentation" at the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (ACOS) Annual Clinical Assembly held September 30-October 3 in Chicago, Illinois. He currently serves as chief resident in general surgery at Grandview Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio, and is about to enter a trauma and surgical critical care fellowship at the Orlando Regional Medical Center in Florida.

**John D. Siddens, D.O., FAOCO** ('86) left private practice after 20 years to join the Greenville Hospital System's University Medical Group plastic surgery practice. In his new position, Dr. Siddens also serves as clinical associate professor of surgery and ophthalmology at the new University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville. In addition, he accepted an invitation to become a visiting professor and provide ophthalmology lectures to medical students at the new Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine - Carolinas Campus in Spartanburg, South Carolina.



**Tiffany Sizemore-Ruiz, D.O.** ('09) is currently working as a cardiology fellow at Palmetto General Hospital in Hiialeah, Florida, and as a per diem hospitalist at Aventura Medical Center. She also was recently appointed as chairwoman of the Girlfriends Committee of the American Heart Association of Greater Fort Lauderdale/Miami and serves on the American Heart Association's Executive Board in South Florida. In addition, she has been featured on *shape.com*, the *Huffington Post* Web site, and in the ebook *Bite-Sized Wellness*.

**Tomas Villanueva, D.O., M.B.A., FACPE, SFHM** ('91) was recently promoted to assistant vice president and medical director for the Baptist Health Medical Group, which is part of Baptist Health of South Florida.

**Christopher Zub, D.O.** ('99) was recently appointed medical director of the Good Samaritan Health Centers, Inc. in St. Augustine, Florida.



## Alumni Enjoy Pacific Vistas and Special Guest in San Diego

During the American Osteopathic Association's 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exhibition, held October 7-11 in San Diego, California, NSU-COM coordinated an evening alumni reception that was held at the Birch Aquarium in La Jolla, California.

"It was a great evening," said Lynne Cawley, M.S., director of student and alumni services. "With the aquarium open exclusively to NSU-COM, guests had special access to beautiful aquatic displays, a special exhibit of seahorses, and a gorgeous panorama of the Pacific Ocean at sunset."

"We continue to increase the number of alumni we see at the AOA conventions," said Howard Neer, D.O., FACOFP, associate dean of alumni affairs. "We had 135 in attendance and had contact with alumni we would not typically see," Dr. Neer explained.

A very special guest—Viola Frymann, D.O., who is a cranial therapy advocate and founder of the Osteopathic Center for Children and Families—attended the event with Shawn Centers, D.O. ('95), who works with Dr. Frymann at the facility. Dr. Frymann also invited students and alumni to tour the center the next day, which was an experience enjoyed by all who attended.

### In Memoriam



**Hans Hilst, D.O.** ('11) passed away on December 11 while he and his wife Jessica Hilst, D.O. ('10) were hiking in Georgia. He served as class of 2011 president and was recognized for his contributions to the college and his peers when he received the NSU-COM Alumni Association

Award in 2011 for his leadership and ability to maintain the cohesiveness, unity, and esprit de corps within the class.

**Ian Bradley Vincent, D.O.** ('09) died in a body-boarding accident in Perth, Australia, in December while visiting relatives. Prior to his death, he had just completed a volunteer stint in Southeast Asia.



## INAUGURAL ACOI CONVENTION ALUMNI RECEPTION A SUCCESS



During the American College of Osteopathic Internists (ACOI) Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions held October 17-21 in Orlando, Florida, the NSU-COM Alumni Association coordinated its inaugural reception at the symposium, which attracted 75 guests comprising residents, attending physicians, students, and alumni to the Renaissance Hotel Orlando at Sea World.

"It was a great conference," said Howard Neer, D.O., FACOFP, associate dean of alumni affairs, who plans to make the ACOI convention an annual stop on the Alumni Association agenda. "We visited with alumni we never see anywhere else, so it was a great way to reconnect with them."



# Alumni Association Fund Honor Roll

In the spring of 1999, NSU-COM launched an alumni-based fund-raising effort to generate dollars that would be used to create an endowment fund to reduce future tuition costs for NSU-COM students and produce a funding pool that would be utilized for discretionary purposes as determined by the Alumni Association Executive Committee. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the following list of donors; however, if you notice an error or omission, please contact **Lynne Cawley** in the Office of Alumni Affairs at **(954) 262-1029**.

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# Alumni Association Fund Honor Roll

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(Gift: \$250,000 life insurance policy)

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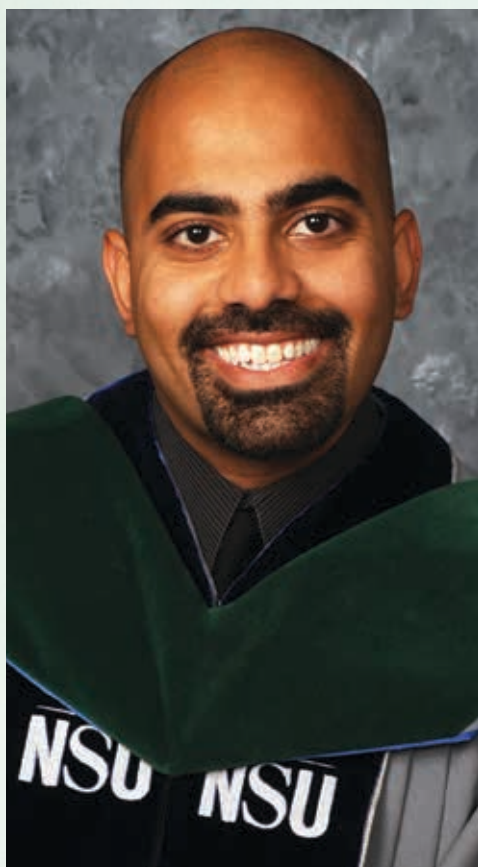
*Dr. Andrew Wakstein ('93)*

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# 2012 Alumnus Dr. Kaylesh “KK” Pandya Pursues Unconventional Postgraduate Path

By Scott Colton, B.A., APR

NSU-COM/HPD Director of Medical Communications and Public Relations



Unlike many of his peers, who began their internship and residency training as soon as they graduated from medical school, class of 2012 alumnus Kaylesh “KK” Pandya, D.O., is charting an unconventional course that includes completing his Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (M.S.B.I.) degree before pursuing his residency training.

In the following interview, Dr. Pandya shares thoughts about his parents, who are both physicians, his favorite NSU-COM memories, and why he chose to pursue a nontraditional postgraduate path in his attempt to attain maximum career fulfillment.

**Please explain what led you to pursue a D.O. degree at NSU’s College of Osteopathic Medicine.** While I’ve always been interested in the sciences, my passions and interests prior to medical school were principally surrounding technology. My undergraduate education at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington, was focused on polymer chemistry and computer science,

while my previous jobs have all been in the information technology field involving system administration, technical support, and security.

Fixing the technical problem was often intuitive to me, but I realized my satisfaction came not only from solving complex problems, but solving these with and for my clients. The challenging (and most satisfying) part of the job involved explaining the problem to my clients, involving them in the troubleshooting process, discussing solutions to these problems, and finding ways to prevent their recurrence. I realized quickly this is also the approach a physician must take in providing patient care.

My first exposure to osteopathic medicine was through my father while he was in medical school. The osteopathic approach to patient care and wellness has always struck me as common sense, and I value being able to use my hands as both a diagnostic and treatment tool for my patients. When applying to medical school, I only applied to osteopathic programs.

After obtaining my wilderness emergency medicine training certification in 2006, I noticed a change in my approach to troubleshooting. It began to mirror the structure I’d been taught to address patients’ problems—obtaining a systematic and comprehensive history of the problem prior to diagnosis and treatment.

**Since both of your parents are physicians, please explain what role they played in your becoming a physician.** While my parents are both physicians, each of them entered the profession through rather different paths. My mother went to medical school in the United Kingdom, did her internal medicine residency in the United States, and has been a physician for all my life. My father went to medical school in his 40s at UHSCOM (now KCUMB) when I was in my early teens.

I’ve grown up in and out of hospitals with my mother, and I saw firsthand what

medical school required from my father and our family overall. When I chose to enter NSU-COM, I had a good picture of what the school would require from me. Most importantly, I was clear that my motives for becoming a physician were my own and not those of my family.

Medical school requires the support of one’s family and friends, and I value that I’ve received that from my parents. In addition to support and understanding as their son, they’ve been invaluable for their advice and understanding as medical professionals. All of the *firsts* that occur during postgraduate training, from my first night on call to stories about patients, are experiences I know my parents have experienced and understand implicitly.

**In previous conversations, you mentioned that you are following a nontraditional career path. Please explain why you decided to pursue an untraditional path and what it will entail.** Although I have graduated from NSU-COM, I have been concurrently pursuing my M.S.B.I. degree through the college. This program allows me to integrate my experience and interests in information technology with my medical studies. Each of my rotations during medical school presented a moment where I relied just as much on my information technology background as my clinical knowledge as a medical student. This has varied from fixing keyboards at the hospital to advising my attendings regarding electronic health record systems usage and implementation.

My careers in both medicine and technology came to an unexpected head during a fourth-year rotation. During my otolaryngology rotation in 2011, a surgical navigation tool malfunctioned at the beginning of a complex jaw reconstruction procedure. I was able to use my laptop to provide my attendings with intraoperative 3D renderings from the patient’s CT, allowing the procedure to continue. This acutely illustrated how important

*“I know my **colleagues and classmates** are more than merely medical students. We are artists, engineers, musicians, humanitarians, tinkerers, entrepreneurs, philosophers, travelers, and citizens of the world. - DR. KK PANDYA*

it is to have medical professionals that understand the technology, which is a necessary component of patient care.

Because I’m still completing the M.S.B.I. program, I decided to earn the degree prior to entering a residency program. While I am passionate about entering a residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation, I’m fascinated by the field of informatics. This decision, in turn, has opened up several other opportunities that aren’t often considered upon graduating from medical school. For my master’s capstone project, I am continuing some personal research in using 3D printers and open-source software to produce inexpensive plastic models constructed from their CT and MRI imaging. Amongst other uses, this will allow physicians to provide their patients with personalized and detailed physical models that illustrate their injuries.

**What has been the most enjoyable aspect of your NSU-COM educational experience?**

The most challenging and unexpectedly educational experience I had while a medical student was as president of the college’s International Medical Outreach Club. Planning the 2010 Ecuador medical outreach trip became a full-time job on top of my medical studies. When our trip was postponed due to Ecuadorian political problems, this then became an exercise in crisis management because it required me to develop my project management and team leadership skills—something crucial for all physicians.

**I know you were involved in several international selective rotations during your fourth year. Please describe these experiences and explain why you felt compelled to participate in them.** My first international medical volunteer experience was as a translator and medical

assistant with the college’s medical outreach trip to Ecuador. This experience encouraged me to improve my medical and conversational Spanish and illustrated that the fundamentals of medical diagnosis and treatment are the same regardless of context. I also went to Ecuador in 2008, prior to entering NSU-COM.

In 2011, the Department of Rural Medicine began a partnership with the Argentinian medical school Universidad Barcelo, which allows several NSU-COM students to complete their rural medicine core rotations there each year alongside Barcelo medical students in the desert town of La Rioja, Argentina. During our stay, we attended classes and rotated alongside students in their last year at Universidad Barcelo, who were also on their rural medicine rotations.

For my May 2012 rural selective, I wanted to return to the city of Pisco, Peru, where I’d previously volunteered in 2008. In August 2007, Pisco was devastated by an 8.0-magnitude earthquake centered nearby. Through my connections with the group Pisco Sin Fronteras, I arranged my rural selective rotation at Hospital San Juan de Dios in Pisco. This hospital lost most of its facilities during the quake and is the main public hospital for the city. I worked alongside the interns on the medicine and surgery services during this month.

I also lived and volunteered with Pisco Sin Fronteras during this month, providing medical care for other volunteers and assisting in projects ranging from electrical wiring to improvements on their biodiesel reactor and revising evacuation plans. I found that practicing medicine with these volunteers from around the world was a far more challenging and rewarding rural medicine experience than my time in the hospital. My evenings were frequently

spent treating and aiding other travelers, even performing house calls to their bunks. Patient care often required a headlamp and consulting a battered copy of *Where There Is No Doctor*.

I enjoy these kinds of travels not only for the opportunity to practice and learn medicine in a new context, but as an opportunity to learn the logistics and leadership skills necessary for these trips. All these experiences have translated well to my rotations and clinical experiences in the United States, which I believe have made me a more capable and competent physician overall.

**Why are you so willing to share your experiences with COM Outlook?**

I wanted to share my story and plans with the NSU-COM community for several reasons. Many students have anxiety about stepping outside of the *normal track* for a young physician. I’ve had the privilege of working alongside and learning from several physicians who bucked this stereotype, including my own parents. They’ve all encouraged me to follow my passions and instincts. I hope I can also provide this encouragement to my colleagues and to future physicians.

I know my colleagues and classmates are more than merely medical students. We are artists, engineers, musicians, humanitarians, tinkerers, entrepreneurs, philosophers, travelers, and citizens of the world. This diversity of experiences and interests allows us to engage our patients not only as their care providers, but as friends. Our experiences and interests outside of clinical medicine also allow us to innovate in patient care and approach difficult problems with a fresh perspective. It is critical that we maintain these facets to our lives outside of the classrooms and hospitals.



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# 2013 Calendar of Events

## February 15-16, 2013

### ***Sixth Annual Interprofessional Geriatrics Training Institute***

*"Interprofessional Aging Issues in a Global Society"*

Nova Southeastern University – Main Campus in Davie, Florida

Additional information is available at <http://www.nova.edu/gec>.

## February 21-24, 2013

### ***110<sup>th</sup> Annual FOMA Convention***

Hyatt Bonaventure in Weston, Florida

## March 21-24, 2013

### ***ACOFP Annual Convention and Scientific Seminars***

Cosmopolitan Hotel - Las Vegas, Nevada

## April 12-14, 2013

### ***Alumni Association Reunion and 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Continuing Medical Education Program***

*"Primary Care Update"*

Nova Southeastern University – Main Campus in Davie, Florida

Bahia Mar Hotel – Fort Lauderdale Beach, Florida

Additional information is available by calling (954) 262-1491 or emailing [jm3005@nova.edu](mailto:jm3005@nova.edu).