

Winter 1-1-2012

# COM Outlook Winter 2012

College of Osteopathic Medicine

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# COM Outlook <sup>Winter 2012</sup>

Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine

**GONE...  
but not  
Forgotten**

**Celebrating the Lives  
of Drs. Lawrence Jacobson  
and Myron Howell**





## Dean's Message

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

### *"The Day I Lost a Friend"*

In 1988, Dr. Lawrence Jacobson, dean of what was then called the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa, hired me as a faculty member, beginning what would become a cherished 23-year relationship that came to a sad end on November 10 when he suddenly passed away.

When I first met Dr. Jacobson, I didn't quite know how to take him. He was a very quiet, reserved individual who was my polar opposite in many ways, so I wondered if he and I would be able to truly work together due to the differences in our personalities. Fortunately, it did not take me long to realize there was a very witty, intelligent, and loving individual behind the quiet façade he projected. We quickly formed a close bond and became a strong team in terms of generating change in Des Moines.

Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences, I had always worked in colleges of allopathic medicine as a clinical pharmacist or as an administrator, so Dr. Jacobson served as my mentor when it came to guiding me through the intricacies of being an academic administrator at a college of osteopathic medicine. His mentorship also helped me forge the concepts of contemporary osteopathic medical education into a deliverable product for the students.

Within six months, he asked me to serve as chair of physiology and pharmacology and then elevated me to the position of assistant dean for special projects. The next few years would prove to be productive ones as Dr. Jacobson, Dr. Leonard Levy, and I embarked on establishing various curricular projects. One very successful project was the creation of the Graduate Professional Education Program, which was a pioneering three-year D.O. curricular track designed to exclusively permit doctoral-degreed professionals to obtain osteopathic medical degrees, thus potentially increasing experienced clinical scholars into the profession.

Dr. Jacobson and I worked together for four years before we both left Des Moines for separate professional opportunities. Although we did not work together again for over six years, we always stayed in touch because we had become good friends. Interestingly, when I came to NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine to serve as dean in 1998, Dr. Jacobson was already working for NSU-COM in Miami, where he had developed the internal medicine residency program at Mount Sinai Medical Center.

Due to our prior working relationship, I already was familiar with the multifaceted talents he possessed. As a result, I immediately brought him back to the main campus and eventually named him vice dean of the college—giving us the enviable opportunity to have two experienced and knowledgeable academic administrators. He hadn't changed; but neither had I. The same energy we shared in Des Moines was still there.

Thanks to Dr. Jacobson, as well as many of the dedicated faculty and staff members here at the college, we began to make significant enhancements from both an academic and clinical perspective. The results, as they say, speak for themselves.

His unexpected passing did not allow me the time to say a proper goodbye to someone who had played such a major mentoring role in both my personal and professional growth. Nevertheless, I believe that as long as his memory lives on within me, I won't miss him as much because I'll feel that he's still here with me.

All I know is that on November 10, I lost a true and trusted friend.

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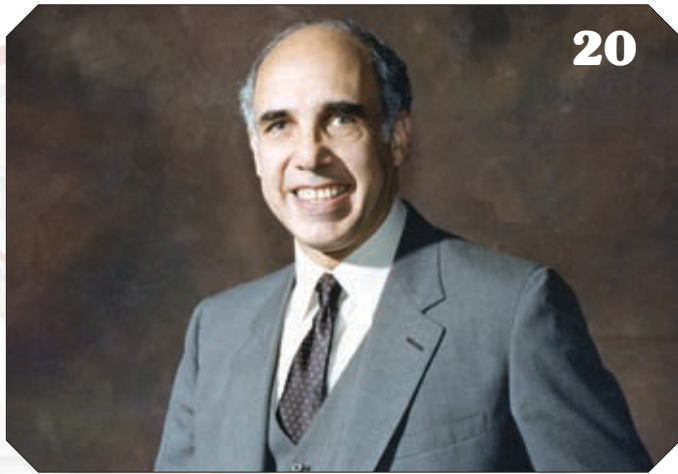
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## In This Issue - Winter 2012



### **NSU-COM Graduates Excel at Cleveland Clinic Florida 19**

NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine takes great pride in its comprehensive and cutting-edge curriculum, which evolves continually to stay abreast of the latest educational and medical advancements. Consequently, it's no surprise that NSU-COM graduates are maximizing their education by becoming leaders at the residency level—and beyond.

### **Tributes to Drs. Lawrence Jacobson and Myron Howell 20**

Within the span of less than a month, NSU-COM—and the osteopathic medical profession—lost two outstanding colleagues and advocates who had worked at the college for a combined 36 years: Dr. Myron Howell and Dr. Lawrence Jacobson.



### **Proactive Approach to Growing GME 25**

Because the college prides itself on being a cutting-edge educational institution that responds to the academic and clinical needs of the times, its leadership has remained committed to enhancing osteopathically accredited graduate medical education positions for its own students as well as those nationally.

### **Paying it Forward: The Many Faces of Mentoring 32**

The mentoring model at NSU-COM reflects the new paradigm of mentoring within the profession. Therefore, while encouraging spontaneous mentoring relationships, the college provides more formal modes of mentoring as students mentor students, faculty members mentor students, and faculty members mentor other faculty members.



## **AREAS OF INTEREST**

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### **NOTICE OF ACCREDITATION**

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### **NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.



## HPD Chancellor's Communiqué

Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.

When one works in an educational environment, especially in a very complex setting such as NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, there comes a time when events such as the recent loss of two of our very significant leaders in the college—Dr. Myron Howell and Dr. Lawrence Jacobson—compel you to reflect upon not only the possibilities of the future but of the lessons and knowledge learned from the past.

In order for us to view the future with foresight and ensure new successes, it's also imperative to keep our eye on the past. This explains why the relationship between exceptional professional conduct, gravitas, and performance played such an integral role for the pioneer members of not only the College of Osteopathic Medicine faculty but the pioneers members of the profession.

I have spoken a number of times about our founder, Dr. Morton Terry, and his visionary ideas that led to the creation of the thriving institution known as the Nova Southeastern University Health Professions Division. However, his vision was always based upon the experiences and disappointments of the past in his own profession, including bias against members of the osteopathic profession and the unwillingness of people to understand the holistic and prevention-based focus of osteopathic medicine.

Without having a foot in the past and carrying it with you as you move forward, you could lose sight of your eventual success. Consequently, when you think about osteopathic leaders such as Drs. Howell and Jacobson and how preeminent they were in their attitudes as professionals and their humane and very empathetic view of patient care, you need to recognize that it came from their history and the numerous travails they experienced to help grow osteopathic medicine. As a result, I think it's important for us to try and emulate the exceptional attitudes of leaders such as Drs. Howell and Jacobson as well as our founder, Dr. Terry.

In regard to the future, I believe the executive administration of not only the College of Osteopathic Medicine but all the colleges within the Health Professions Division are striving to meet the goals that have been expressed most vividly by our new president, Dr. George Hanbury, in his 2020 Vision strategic plan. It would take more than just a few words to relate his entire vision, but in order to achieve it, I believe that enhancing areas such as program and faculty quality, student performance and engage-

ment, and recruitment will serve as a fitting tribute to the efforts of the leaders that have recently passed on.

When I address the first- and second-year students matriculating through our colleges, specifically the College of Osteopathic Medicine, I am often asked questions such as "Why do we have to do this?" or "How is this going to make me a better doctor?" Fortunately, these questions are quite easy for me to answer because I can point directly to the incredible professional successes and capabilities osteopathic pioneers such as Drs. Morton Terry, Lawrence Jacobson, and Myron Howell evidenced in their professional lives.

It's sad but understandable to note that as future students matriculate into the College of Osteopathic Medicine, they won't know or comprehend the enormous contributions Drs. Jacobson and Howell made to the college and osteopathic profession, nor will they know who Dr. Terry is beyond just being a name on a building. Consequently, I really think we all have not a responsibility but a privilege to be able to talk about their good works and their professional capabilities.

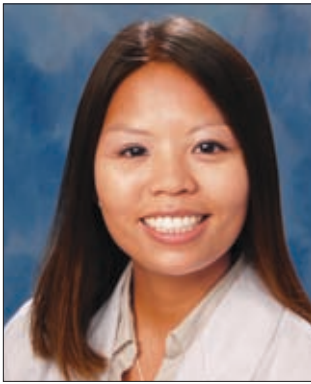
That is why I look toward the future through the eyes of the past.



### 2020 Vision Synopsis

*"By 2020, through excellence and innovations in teaching, research, service, and learning, Nova Southeastern University will be recognized by accrediting agencies, the academic community, and the general public as a premier private not-for-profit university of quality and distinction that engages all students and produces alumni who serve with integrity in their lives, fields of study, and resulting careers."*

## OMS-III Elizabeth Phung Named Student D.O. of the Year



In November, OMS-III Elizabeth Phung was selected from a competitive group of applicants to receive the NSU-COM

Student D.O. of the Year Award from her peers, joining an exceptional group of previous winners who have gone on to become leaders in the medical field.

Based on excerpts from her recommendation letter, it's easy to see why Phung was selected for this prestigious honor. "Elizabeth has shown very strong leadership qualities, which she demonstrated by helping develop the college's Geriatrics Interest Group. She has served as class representative for the Student Government Association and as treasurer of Lambda Omicron Gamma, where she also helped coordinate fund-raising events for local charities. Elizabeth has also coordinated efforts to raise money and awareness for the American Lung Association and assisted with the Vision-

Walk of Fort Lauderdale by organizing a group of medical students to fund-raise for the Foundation Fighting Blindness."

As this year's NSU-COM selectee, Phung is automatically entered into the national Student D.O. of the Year Award competition, which is presented annually by the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP) – a council of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM). This esteemed award acknowledges students' commitment to their school, community, and the osteopathic profession.

## Geriatric Department Joins Forces with Avanté at Boca Raton

In September, NSU-COM's Department of Geriatrics partnered with Avanté at Boca Raton in South Palm Beach County to provide medical care to elderly patients residing in the 144-bed facility, which recently became a teaching nursing home. In addition to spearheading the NSU-COM aspects of this symbiotic collaboration, Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD, professor and chair of the Department of Geriatrics, has taken on the role of medical director at Avanté.

Thanks to this new partnership, Avanté residents are receiving enhanced health care thanks to the participation of several NSU-COM faculty members, who visit the nursing home on a weekly basis. Additionally, the facility is serving as a training site for the college's current geriatric fellow, with plans to incorporate clinical student rotations and residency training opportunities in the near future. The overarching goal of the Avanté-NSU-COM alliance is to provide top-notch training opportunities for geriatric physicians while also bolstering the level of medical care provided to the live-in patients. Another ancillary benefit of the collaboration is that Avanté staff members will have access to newer and more sophisticated approaches to care for the elderly.

"We are thrilled to have these excellent physicians select Avanté at Boca Raton to train, and to have a true national leader in geriatrics with the appointment of Dr. Naushira



*Attendees at the September 27 kickoff cocktail reception at Avanté included (from left): Cheryl Atherley-Todd, M.D., assistant professor of family medicine; Kenya Rivas-Velasquez, M.D., assistant professor of geriatrics; Hady Masri, D.O., assistant professor of geriatrics; Michelle Duhaney, D.O., instructor and geriatric fellow; and Dr. Pandya.*

Pandya as its medical director," said Martin Casper, vice president of operations. "I am sure the quality of life and care will be further enhanced by the interaction and training of these physicians. We are so proud to have become a teaching nursing home in affiliation and collaboration with Nova Southeastern University's College of Osteopathic Medicine."

## NSU-COM Receives Seven Year COCA Accreditation Status

NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine was awarded a full seven-year accreditation from the American Osteopathic Association's (AOA) Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) in the fall of 2010. The COCA serves the public by establishing, maintaining, and applying accreditation standards and procedures to ensure that academic quality and continuous quality improvement delivered by the colleges of osteopathic medicine reflect the evolving practice of osteopathic medicine.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**OMS-I Peter Stueve** was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Oregon State University Foundation to be applied toward his NSU-COM tuition.

**Fred Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.**, HPD chancellor, received the Educator Award at the *South Florida Business Journal's* Excellence in Health Care Awards luncheon held October 6 at the Westin Fort Lauderdale. The award is presented annually to the most impactful health care educator in the tri-county area.

**Scott Colton, APR**, director of medical communications, was elected secretary of the Public Relations Society of America Greater Fort Lauderdale Chapter and vice chair of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Marketing and Communications Advisory Council.

**Charles G. Blackledge, Jr., M.P.H.**, administrative project coordinator of the Predoctoral Training in Primary Care of the Homeless program, was named policy chair of the American Public Health Association's Caucus on Homelessness.

On October 28, the college's **Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI)** was featured in a 90-second segment on the WPLG Local 10 News early evening broadcast that featured interviews with several LLI members as well as the institute's director, Linda Maurice.

On September 14, over a dozen **Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (M.S.B.I.)** students and alumni participated in the Second Annual South Florida Healthcare Trade Faire and Regional Conference held at the Signature Grand in Davie. The conference offered students the opportunity to network with individuals who influence decisions in their health care organizations and provided a valuable educational forum to learn about the past, present, and future of health care information technology trends to find innovative solutions to challenges. *Conference attendees included (from left) Elias Reynoso (prospective student), Arif Rana, Ph.D., M.Ed., assistant professor of biomedical informatics, Fritz Barionette (student), Eduardo Locatelli, M.D., M.P.H. (Holy Cross Hospital), Jennie Lou, M.D., M.S., professor of biomedical informatics, public health, and internal medicine and director of the M.S.B.I. program, Teresa Malak (student), Vanessa Hawrylak (student), Rahel Abay (alumnus), Juan Plaza (student), Leanne Galetta (student), Pierre Batravil (student), and Mark Carnemolla (student).*



## Dr. William Bruno Wins Melnick Child Advocacy Award



William E. Bruno, Jr., M.D., FAAP, NSU-COM clinical associate professor of pediatrics, was the recipient of the Eighth Annual NSU-COM Pediatrics Club Arnold Melnick Child Advocacy Award, which was presented at a ceremony held October 17 in the Health Professions Division's Chancellor's

Dining Room. The accolade is named in honor of Arnold Melnick, D.O., M.Sc., FACOP—the founding dean of South-eastern College of Osteopathic Medicine—for his lifelong commitment to child advocacy.

Dr. Bruno, who worked as a pediatrician for nearly 29 years at Pediatric Associates before becoming the pediatric

medical director at Memorial Integrated Health, has been integrally involved on myriad levels to promote child health issues.

*(Pictured (from left) at the award ceremony are OMS-II Brittany Stutzman, Dr. William Bruno, and Edward Packer, D.O., FAAP, FACOP, chair of the Department of Pediatrics.)*

## NSU-COM Launches Facebook Page



In October, NSU-COM launched its official Facebook page, which can be accessed at

<https://www.facebook.com/novaosteopathic/>. This social media tool is meant to serve as an engaging and interactive forum related to all college news, programs, and events.

Although Scott Colton, APR, director of medical communications, serves as site administrator, all students, faculty members, staff, and alumni are encouraged to post appropriate and relevant college-related news, photos, and videos. Posted content could range from alumni happenings and student organization news to important

programmatic changes and upcoming dates of importance.

For those who do not wish to post their news directly on the college's Facebook page, you may email the information to Colton at [scottc@nova.edu](mailto:scottc@nova.edu), who will then upload it.

The addition of a Facebook page now provides the college with a third significant communications modality (the others being *COM Outlook* and *SharkBytes*) to engage and inform the NSU community, the general public, and potential applicants about all the great things NSU-COM does.

For those who already have a Facebook account, please visit the NSU-COM page at <https://www.facebook.com/novaosteopathic/> and "like" us.

## ON THE RISE: Osteopathic Medical College Enrollment Up 6.5 Percent



According to the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, total enrollment at the nation's osteopathic medical colleges now tops 20,600—a 6.5 percent increase over 2010 enrollment figures of more than 19,000 students.

Today, more than 20 percent of new U.S. medical students are attending osteopathic medical schools—a percentage that will continue to increase as new campuses are developed or complete all four years of enrollment, and as established and existing colleges complete previously approved increases in their class sizes. In 2011, some schools increased their incoming class sizes, one branch campus and one remote teaching location opened, and three new colleges of osteopathic medicine were in development.

In the fall of 2011, more than 5,620 new students enrolled at one of the nation's 26 colleges of osteopathic medicine—a 3.7 percent increase over 2010's incoming class.

The Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine welcomed its inaugural class of 162 students at its new branch Carolinas Campus (VCOM-

CC) in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific – Northwest (COMP – Northwest), located in Lebanon, Oregon, has enrolled an inaugural class of 100 students.

Enrollment is expected to rise in the coming years, with three colleges of osteopathic medicine in development stages: Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine; Campbell University College of Osteopathic Medicine (North Carolina); and Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Indiana). Each school plans to enroll entering classes of over 100 students.

Growth in the number of osteopathic medical school graduates will help mitigate looming physician shortages, especially in the critical primary care area. A variety of reports predict primary care physician deficits that will range from 20,000 to 46,000 by 2020-25, and all physician shortages of 120,000 to 160,000. With large numbers of new osteopathic physicians continuing to pursue primary care careers, AACOM is hopeful that the osteopathic medical profession can help the nation avert a primary care crisis.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**OMS-II Dung Nguyen** emerged triumphant from a competitive pool of applicants to receive a National Health Service Corps (NHSC) scholarship. Nguyen was one of 200 recipients selected from a group of 3,000 qualified applicants. The NHSC awards scholarships each year to students pursuing careers in primary care. The scholarship includes payment for tuition, required fees and other reasonable educational costs, a monthly support stipend, and assistance in finding a practice site.

On November 14, the college coordinated its **Third Annual Cadaver Appreciation Ceremony** to demonstrate the students' appreciation to the individuals who selflessly donated their bodies to benefit future generations of physicians and mankind in general.

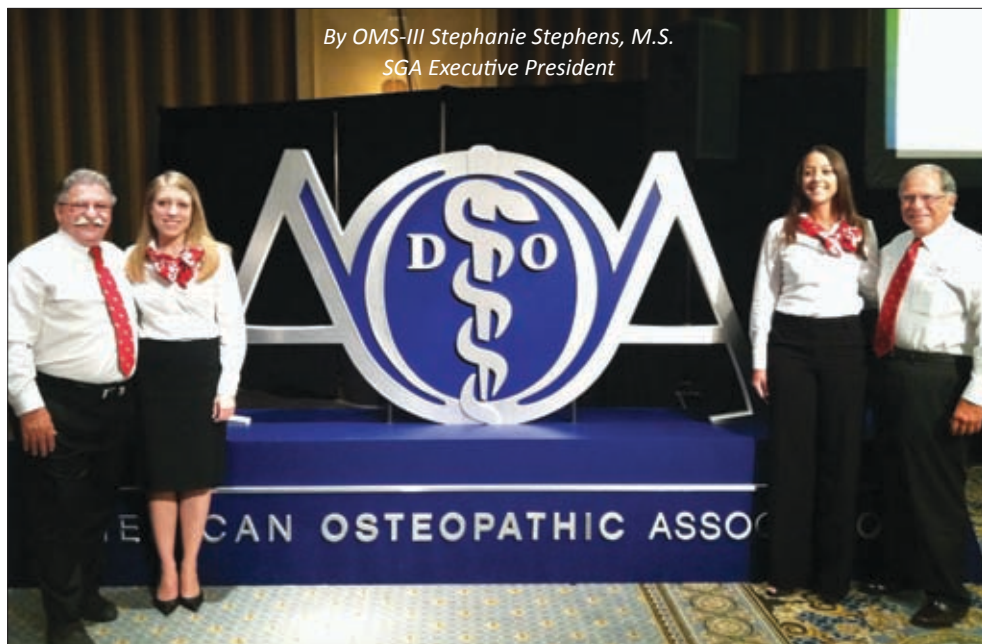
The college's **Emergency Medicine Club** coordinated a slate of educational and volunteer-based activities during the fall semester, including opening enrollment to NSU's Physician Assistant Program for the first time, holding a series of insightful lectures, and enhancing volunteer opportunities such as having students donate their time to Gilda's Club of South Florida to assist with its numerous fund-raisers. In addition to coordinating its annual basic airway clinics as well as a three-day central-line clinic, the club had the largest showing of any osteopathic medical school as 25 NSU-COM students attended the national American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP) Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada. During the symposium, several NSU-COM students were named to the ACOEP student chapter governing board. They are OMS-II Shaun Notman (secretary), OMS-II Ashley Guthrie (Convention Committee co-chair), OMS-III Beth Kushner (Graduate Medical Education Committee), and OMS-II Manuel Portalatin (Publications Committee).

NSU's **College of Medical Sciences** recently established the Certificate Program in Anatomical Studies, which is limited to graduates holding an advanced degree. In order to be considered for admission, applicants must meet one of the following three criteria: possess a master's degree in the medical sciences, have a doctoral degree in the medical sciences, or be a physician. The certificate program may be used to initiate a career in the basic medical sciences or as a specialist or teacher in the anatomical science field. Khin Tu, M.D., FRCS, associate professor of anatomy and public health, is serving as the program's director.



# Student Government Association Fall 2011 Semester Update

By OMS-III Stephanie Stephens, M.S.  
SGA Executive President



The NSU-COM Student Government Association has been hard at work representing our students. It's been a busy semester for the SGA, especially with the large growth we've had in the number of student clubs we now have on campus. Below are some highlights of what we've been up to:

### AOA House of Delegates

OMS-II Carisa Lippmann and I were able to represent NSU-COM as part of the FOMA delegation to the 2011 AOA House of Delegates. While there, we were able to advocate for student-centered legislation, including providing disaster relief training and initiatives to prevent medical student depression.

### Orientation Student Panel

This year, we were happy to participate in the new student orientation process by providing a student panel where upperclassmen could answer questions directly for the incoming first-year students. It was a well-received program. In fact, we are already thinking of new ways we can help ease the transition into medical school for next year's entering class.

### PAN Student Government Association

We are quite proud of our SGA's impact on the university's PANSIGA's work this year, including the formation of a new Health Professions Division subcommittee. Carisa Lippmann was named vice chair of the committee and is currently leading a resolution on renovating the student lounge. The

PANSIGA recently met with NSU President George Hanbury, Ph.D., Frank DePiano, Ph.D., NSU provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, and John Santulli, NSU vice president for facilities management, where we were able to express the needs of the students and have a discussion about future goals.

### Student Organizations

The SGA oversees almost 40 clubs and student interest groups, all of which have made us extremely proud this year. The SGA oversaw a very successful Club Week to kick-start the semester and was able to fund a variety of programs, including health fairs and social events, through our new budget process. The amount of student organization programming that occurs on a daily basis is a great reflection of how engaged and passionate NSU-COM students are.

### Student Engagement in GME

The SGA helped spread the word to our students about protecting graduate medical education from cuts in Congress, and the response we received was fabulous. Nationwide, over 10,000 phone calls were made, and numerous emails were sent by osteopathic medical students to their legislative representatives.

Every day, I am thrilled to see what my fellow students have accomplished, and I am excited to find out what the next semester holds in store for the SGA.

## HPD Library Link



**Kristin Kroger, M.L.I.S.**, HPD librarian and liaison to the College of Osteopathic Medicine, was the recipient of a 2011 Grace and Harold Sewell Stipend, which is awarded to librarians and information professionals that can play a key role in raising the quality of health care.

In the months following the **NSU-COM Strategic Planning Workshop**, which was held in September, the HPD Library has constructed a Web page that incorporates all grant funding information and resources available to NSU-COM faculty members in a format that is easy to both navigate and update. The page is a work in progress, so faculty feedback is vital and encouraged. The URL can be accessed at <http://nova.campusguides.com/COMGrants>.

**Research Support Initiative** - Expertise regarding a broad range of information resources is critical at the beginning of a research project, so below are 10 services the HPD Library can provide NSU-COM faculty members:

**ASSIST** with literature searching, citation management, and appraisal of resources

**IDENTIFY** search terms for your topic

**SET UP** EndNote citation management system to organize all resources and assist with citation formatting and accuracy

**ANSWER** questions specific to library resources by email, phone, text, or one-on-one consultations

**PERFORM** expert literature searches for free, including subscription databases, gray literature sources, clinical trial registries, and the Web

**PROVIDE** instruction for faculty members and graduate assistants on literature searching and clinical resources

**CREATE** alerts for new articles on specific topics as they are published

**HELP** access library resources remotely on mobile devices

**PROVIDE** journal articles and books from non-NSU libraries at no cost

**CONNECT** to NSU grant process information

## NSU-COM and Larkin Hospital Launch New Osteopathic Postgraduate Training Programs



Larkin Community Hospital in South Miami, Florida, and NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine recently received approval from the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to establish several new osteopathic medicine residency training programs.

The AOA's Program and Trainee Review Committee granted the hospital approval to train residents in the following postgraduate programs, which will commence on July 1, 2012. These include a traditional rotating internship, a neurology residency, an ophthalmology residency, a hospice and palliative care fellowship, and an endocrinology fellowship.

The neurology residency program will include a new clinic called the Larkin Community Hospital Movement Disorder Center, which will offer cutting-edge techniques for the treatment of movement disorders. This clinic will be the last hope for treating patients who experience disabling involuntary tremors and don't respond to medications.

Larkin currently offers AOA-approved medical residency programs in family medicine, internal medicine, psychiatry, and neuro-musculoskeletal medicine.

## Lakeside Medical Center Leads U.S. Public Hospitals in Patient Satisfaction

Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade, Florida, was recognized as a leader in patient satisfaction among the nation's 110 public hospitals. Based on the scores compiled in the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems' (NAPH) 2011 *Quality Performance Report*, the rural hospital, owned by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, exceeded the U.S. and NAPH averages in 9 out of 10 areas of measurement and had the highest score in 5 of 10 areas of measurement.



The NAPH produced the report using publicly reported data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Hospital Compare Web site located at [www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov](http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov). The survey data cover patients hospitalized from October 2009 to September 2010 and is collected from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems, which is a national, standardized survey of hospital patients. The survey contains patient ratings in eight key areas: communication with doctors, communication with nurses, responsiveness of hospital staff, pain management, communication about medicines, discharge information, cleanliness of the hospital environment, and quietness of the hospital environment.

Lakeside scored the highest in the following areas, where the patients reported that:

their **DOCTORS** always communicated well (**90%**)

their **ROOMS** and **BATHROOMS** were always kept clean (**86%**)

their **PAIN** was always well controlled (**85%**)

**STAFF** explained medicines before giving them (**75%**)

the **AREA** around their rooms was always quiet at night (**82%**)

"It's rewarding to learn that our patients feel positive about their visits to our hospital," said James T. Howell, M.D., M.P.H., NSU-COM professor of public health/assistant dean of professional relations and chair of the Glades Rural Area Support Board, which governs Lakeside Medical Center. "These high patient satisfaction scores are just another example of how we are delivering on our mission to provide quality care for the people who visit and live in the Glades communities."

## Accomplishments Abound at St. Vincent's Medical Center



Lara Church, M.D., a third-year family medicine resident at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville, Florida, received the Florida Academy of Family Physicians'

(FAFP) 2011 Exceptional Resident Scholar Award. Since 2006, the FAFP Foundation has presented annual scholarships to outstanding third-year family medicine residents in Florida.

In related news, the St. Vincent's Family Medicine Residency Program received the 2011 American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Foundation Pfizer Immunization Award, which is presented to family medicine residency programs that have utilized creative, team-based solutions to attain increased immunization rates among children and adults. The program was also recognized by the Florida Academy of Family Physicians for its impressive success in the System Implementation award category.

Over the past several months, NSU's Division of Clinical Operations, which is overseen by Robert Oller, D.O.—the division's CEO—coordinated and/or played a significant role in a range of activities through the latter part of 2011.

## Shark Shuffle

On October 9, the annual Shark Shuffle was coordinated, bringing professional and recreational runners from the community together with NSU students as well as faculty and staff members to participate in an officially sanctioned 5k race. More than 200 people participated this year both as runners or walkers. As an incentive for student participation, \$500 scholarship drawings were conducted after the race.



## Wellness Made Simple

The division worked closely with the College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Independent Colleges and Universities Benefits Association, Inc. (ICUBA)—NSU's self-insurance association—to implement a patient-centered medical home that addresses employees' health care needs, provides health care education, and helps them adhere to healthy lifestyles. What resulted was the establishment of the Wellness Made Simple program, which provides comprehensive primary health care in a setting that facilitates communication, healthy lifestyle decisions, and plans of care for treatment or prevention. The Wellness Made Simple program is available to all employees and family members insured by ICUBA who are 18 years of age and older but does not apply to pediatrics (aged 0 to 17). Those that register for the program receive full wellness benefits at NSU by completing a physical examination, including blood work.

## NSU Named Fit Friendly Company

As has been the case over the past several years, NSU was honored with an American Heart Association Start! Fit-Friendly Gold Award, which is presented to companies demonstrating progressive leadership by making the health and wellness of their employees a priority. In 2011, the American Heart Association (AHA) designated 183 Fit-Friendly companies, with 30 achieving platinum recognition and 153 earning gold recognition. The award is intended to be a catalyst for positive change in the workplace across the United States. As a gold-level recipient, the university was commended for offering all employees physical activity support at the worksite, increasing the number of healthy eating options available to employees, promoting a wellness culture at the worksite, and embracing at least nine criteria as outlined by the AHA in the areas of physical activity, nutrition, and culture.

## A Day for Children

On September 18, the annual A Day for Children event was held on the university's main campus in Davie, attracting over 12,000 attendees. The event was hosted by NSU Health Care Centers, Blue



Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Broward Health, the Chris Evert Children's Hospital, Walgreens, Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, KISS FM, Channel 2, Broward Family Life, the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Hispanic Unity, the Boys and Girls Clubs, I-9 Sports, and the Special Olympics. In all, 130 exhibitors representing different disciplines of the university and service centers for children in Broward County were available to provide health care screenings and answer questions concerning health-related issues and available services.

## Health and Fitness Expo

On October 12, NSU coordinated its annual Health and Fitness Expo, which showcases the university's health and fitness services as well as its health and wellness program. The 2011 expo



focused on employees and emphasized the importance of getting health screenings and flu vaccinations. During the event, the Division of Clinical Operations, in conjunction with the Office of Human Resources, the NSU Pharmacy, and Blue Cross

and Blue Shield of Florida, offered comprehensive employee health screenings. After the screening results were tabulated, a risk-factor analysis was provided to both the Division of Clinical Operations and the Office of Human Resources regarding the health status of NSU employees that will help to improve efficiency and the wellbeing of university employees.

## Free Flu Vaccines

In the fall of 2011, the Office of Human Resources, the NSU Health and Wellness Committee, and the Health Professions Division teamed up to provide free flu vaccines to 600 university employees.



The vaccines were administered at various sites in the Davie and North Miami Beach campuses through the College of Pharmacy and the College of Allied Health and Nursing. For employees situated at NSU's various Student Educational Centers, the flu vaccine was supplied by Walgreens pharmacies at designated locations throughout the country.

# Melnick Memories: Looking Back...at Memorable Moments

Arnold Melnick, D.O., M.Sc., FACOP - Founding Dean of SECOM



We all have memories – things stuck indelibly in our minds – that are connected with our wedding, our job, our birthday, or any other number of recollections.

But what about some of those things we remember forever that have no significance, no real connection to any event in our lives – something that occurred out of the blue and made no difference in our lives or our work? These vague ones almost haunt us, yet we do not know why.

Two of these stand out for me.

When SECOM first started, even though I was new at being a dean, I realized that some students in their early medical school days, stressed out with the memorization of so many basic facts, often felt they were not learning medicine or that their schooling was not teaching them to be physicians.

So, in one of my “brilliant” moments, I decide to expose an early class to real medicine, to actual practice. I invited Murray Zedeck, D.O., to meet with these young students for an hour to discuss various aspects of medicine and the practice of osteopathic medicine in order to make their schoolwork more enjoyable. At the time, Murray was chairman of community medicine and a very successful, competent, and insightful family practitioner with plenty of experience. He was also a good communicator, so I knew he would paint the students an interesting and very realistic picture of medical practice.

Murray gave his presentation. Shortly after that, I was met with a delegation from the class, essentially saying (my paraphrasing), “We don’t need that ‘stuff.’ We need more cardiology and other medical topics.” Of course, this was an example of inexperience on their part. But I have long wondered why a certain number of young medical students, often never having been in or near a hospital and having minimal experience with physicians, were able within a few months of entry to tell the faculty members what was wrong with their curriculum and how they should be teaching it. Inexperience again, I think.

More troubling is why that memory moment stays so vividly in my mind. It had nothing to do with anything, but it made an impact on me that continually lingers even years later.

The second such moment occurred with a faculty member.

Shirley Brown was Mort Terry’s sister and worked in our financial office. One of her duties was handling expense vouchers. One day, she walked into my office and handed me an expense request from a junior faculty member and said, “Here, read this.” As I looked it over, I saw nothing wrong since it was a reasonable expense for a lunch, and the few other charges were within reason.

I was nonplussed. “Shirley,” I said, “I don’t see anything wrong with this voucher.” Then she handed me another one, proffered by another junior faculty member who attended the same meeting. I looked and was jolted: word-for-word, expense-for-expense, line-for-line, it matched the first one; in fact, it might as well have been a photocopy. Now both of us were confused,

so I did the only reasonable thing I could think of by calling both of them to my office.

Confused, I told them what we found and asked for an explanation. Unruffled, they explained that our school policy was \$50 a day (or some such amount) for expenses at a meeting, and they felt each of them was entitled to that full amount, so they simply each presented a bill for that full amount of their expenses – essentially a request for double payment. Keeping my anger in check, I explained that this was not an entitlement – an amount one collects whether or not he spends it. The policy, like all similar ones, spelled out the maximum allowable for reimbursement, if spent. Anything over that was their financial responsibility.

After some discussion, I asked them which expense request I should tear up. They told me, and I tore that one up in front of them.

Troubling again was why that memory stays so vividly in my mind. We didn’t pay it or lose any money. No policies were destroyed. They were not stealing. I felt they simply misunderstood. It never happened again, and they remained as excellent faculty members.

So why were these memorable moments for me? I don’t know, but they haunt me even today – almost 30 years later. They were unimportant, irrelevant, nonthreatening, unconnected, and uneventful – and yet I still remember them.

These were two minor moments, so why do I remember them? Maybe it was just two of those very small things that together go into the training and experience of a dean.

# An Evening with the Inimitable Dr. Murray Todd

By OMS-II John Ogunlade  
President, Neurology/Psychiatry Club



At NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, new traditions are born every year, and like a pediatric patient, with proper care and nourishment, they grow and thrive. About five years ago, the college's Neuro/Psych Club conceived an annual tradition that would soon become one of the most anticipated events with each passing year. Any health professional student

will confirm that a free gourmet dinner is a great incentive to attend an event, but it is the food for thought—deep thought—served by H. Murray Todd, M.D., clinical professor of psychiatry and neurology, that keeps this annual event a success.

When Dr. Todd speaks, everyone listens, not just medical students or patients, but colleges and experts in medicine alike. Dr. Todd is revered because of his extreme attention to detail, charming wit and humor, and ability to invoke functional curiosity through his storytelling abilities. His numerous accomplishments include serving as chair of the college's Division of Neurology, becoming founder and medical director of the Neurological Institute and Memory Disorder Center at North Broward Medical Center, and being honored by Broward Health as its Physician of the Year.

With all his accolades and leadership roles within the community, Dr. Todd continues to return each year to speak to eager medical students to share interesting cases, boost their spirits, and most importantly, teach them the "business of medicine." This year's event, held November 4, would prove to be no different. With the HPD Chancellor's Dining Room packed, and the aroma of fresh tomato, basil, and garlic wafting through the dimly lit room, Dr. Todd opened with a clinical case not described in classrooms and overlooked by everyone but the neurologist—a dissecting aortic aneurysm.

After discussing a few more cases, Dr. Todd offered words of wisdom and encouragement. "We all need a pep talk every once in a while because medicine is tough," he said. "Everyone is telling you that you can't do this or you can't do that; it's depressing. Well, consider me your cheerleader!"

The more he encouraged us, the more it became clear the "business of medicine" isn't about the monetary gain or how to bill patients. Instead it is about the quality of care given to patients through attention to details and through patient histories. It's about the commitment to teaching and helping the people who come after you. Most importantly, it is about ensuring no single link in this on-growing chain of medicine is ever broken.

*"I am indebted to the mentors I had for teaching me the business of medicine, just as you owe it to me to teach someone else down the line this business of medicine." – H. Murray Todd, M.D.*

## SNMA — Commitment to Service

By OMS-II Charee' Howard, M.Bs., OMS-II Francesca Okolie, M.P.H.,  
and OMS-I Tania Espinal, M.Bs.



NSU-COM's Student National Medical Association (SNMA) continues to preserve established community service projects but also innovate new opportunities to impact underserved communities locally and abroad. One of the largest and longest-standing efforts established by the SNMA is our annual Delray Beach Health Fair.

A health fair like no other, this annual event features local organizations organized by a retired pediatrician, Wiener Leblanc, M.D., and is a one-stop shop for an array of medical services.

More recently established endeavors include our national > (Greater) Than AIDS Campaign and an international project called ZEBRA. Due to staggering statistics that reveal the highest new incidents of HIV cases are in Broward County, our SNMA chapter was motivated to adopt the national campaign to increase AIDS awareness and promote safe sex. In observance of World AIDS Day on December 1, various health professional students were interviewed to gauge their "deciding mo-

ment" to take action against HIV/AIDS and the steps they've taken that declares them > Than AIDS. During the lunch break, as a video played on a projector in front of the Steele Auditorium, SNMA members distributed condoms, red ribbons (provided by the Student National Pharmacy Association), and information about HIV/AIDS while also encouraging people to "know your status" by getting tested at the campus clinic.

Because there is a continued lack of accessible, quality health care within the United States and abroad, the SNMA took an interest in assisting the International Health Initiative, Inc. and it's Zambia Empowerment on Breast Cancer Re-Harmonization and Awareness (ZEBRA) initiative. The project's goal is to raise breast cancer awareness and develop breast cancer support networks in Zambia, Africa. To help accomplish this goal, SNMA members raised funds through Halloween Boo Grams and hoodie sales in order to help provide educational material for the project.

## NSU-COM Receives \$1 Million Grant to Provide Training for Primary Care Residents

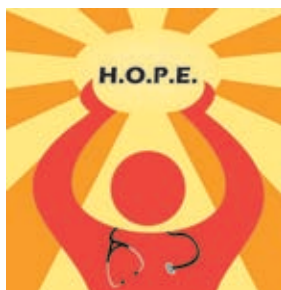


In September, the college received a five-year, \$1 million federal grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to train primary care residents. The grant will be used to develop programs for the college's affiliated family medicine residency program at Larkin Community Hospital in South Miami, Florida, which currently trains 18 family medicine residents.

The grant will create curriculum and clinical training in communities where physicians and medical services are scarce. The funding will also be used to develop training in other areas such as all-hazards preparedness, genomics, and medical informatics.

"There is no reason why people living in areas that have a paucity of physicians should receive a lower quality of care than everyone else," said Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S. Ed, FAAFP, FACOFP, professor of family medicine and associate dean of clinical and graduate medical education, who serves as the grant's project director. "The HRSA grant will help us deliver care to those who need it the most."

## Charting the Progress of Project HOPE



In 2010, NSU-COM received a five-year, \$1.6 million predoctoral primary care training grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The resulting Project HOPE (Homelessness in Osteopathic Predoctoral Education) addresses the deficit in medical education training specific to the health care and psychosocial needs of individuals experiencing homelessness. Statistics on homelessness are widely underreported, which is why part of this educational effort is to expand awareness of the federal definition of homelessness that includes individuals who lack stability in housing. Project HOPE trains medical students and provides them with the requisite knowledge and skills to care for those who are neglected and grossly underserved. With the project now in full swing, the inaugural

didactic presentation within the college's Medicine, Health, and Society course was provided to all first-year students. The presentation was designed and facilitated by Elliot M. Sklar, Ph.D., M.S., assistant professor of family medicine/public health and Project Hope director, and Bertha Tavarez from the Psychological Services Center

Breakout sessions following the lecture allowed students to interact with individuals who have previously or currently experience homelessness in surrounding communities. These very personal anecdotes and interactions provided for the greatest impact upon participating faculty members and students. The didactic training has been adopted by Broward Partnership for the Homeless as a resource. Project partners and curricula continue to be developed within NSU-COM's mission to catalyze and produce a cadre of physicians with keen sensitivity and unyielding commitment to those who are underserved in the local community.

# Put your sandwich in this bag



and join us on Wednesdays for any or all of the

## 2012 Brown Bag Grant Workshops

To whet your appetite...dates and topics:

- 1/25.....The NSU Grant Process
- 2/1.....Finding Grant Funding
- 2/8 .....President's Faculty Research and Development Grant
- 2/15.....Understanding Grant Applications
- 2/22.....Proposal Writing, Part 1
- 2/29.....Proposal Writing, Part 2
- 3/7.....Grant Budgets
- 3/14.....Post-Award Management
- 3/21..... Post-Award Accounting
- 3/28.....Understanding the IRB
- 4/4.....Success with NIH Proposals
- 4/11.....Putting it All Together: Tips and Tools
- 4/18.....Leveraging Procurement on Sponsored Projects

**SPACE IS LIMITED—RSVP at [www.nova.edu/ogc/brownbag](http://www.nova.edu/ogc/brownbag)**



Hosted by the Grant Writing Laboratory and Office of Grants and Contracts

## Faculty Members Recognized for Research at NSU External Funding Reception



On September 21, 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 recognition for the efforts of NSU faculty and staff members who have received external grant funding in the previous fiscal year. The prior fiscal year produced great progress in the area of external funding, with total funding exceeding \$76 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 19 full-time faculty honorees and the organizations they received funding from for their projects:

**Renee Alexis, M.D.**

*Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*

**Stephen Bowen, M.D., M.P.H.**

*University of Washington*

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

*Health Choice Network, Inc.*

**Robin Cooper, Ph.D.**

*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  
National Institute of Nursing Research  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
American Psychological Association*

**Robert Hasty, D.O.**

*Johnson and Johnson Pharmaceutical Research and Development, Inc.*

**T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D.**  
*Broward House, Inc.*

**Kenneth Johnson, D.O.**  
*Pfizer, Inc.*

*Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*

**Leonard Levy, D.P.M., M.P.H.**  
*Health Resources and Services Administration*

**Jennie Lou, M.D., M.Sc.**  
*Multiple Sclerosis Foundation*

**Kristi Messer, M.P.H., M.S.W.**  
*Health Resources and Services Administration*

**Raymond Ownby M.D., Ph.D., M.Ed., M.B.A.**  
*National Institute of Mental Health  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute*

**Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**  
*Health Resources and Services Administration*

**John Pellosie, Jr., D.O., M.P.H.**  
*Florida Department of Health  
Palm Beach County Health Department*

**Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D., R.D.**  
*Health Resources and Services Administration*

**Daniel Shaw, Ph.D., M.Ed.**  
*International Alliance for Invitational Education*

**Elliot Sklar, Ph.D.**  
*Health Resources and Services Administration*

**Steven Zucker, D.M.D., M.Ed.**  
*Health Resources and Services Administration  
Florida Department of Health*

*Below: Dr. DePiano presents awards to Drs. Fernandez, Johnson, Levy, Ownby, Sklar, and Zucker.*



## New Grant Awards



### "TOUCH: Transforming Our Community's Health"

Received by **T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D., Nicole Cook, Ph.D., M.P.A., and Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H.** and **T.M.**, from the *Broward Regional Health Planning Council* and the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

#### Received Amount

**\$75,000** per year for five years (total anticipated award: **\$375,000**)

#### Project Goal

Transforming Our Community's Health (TOUCH) is designed to achieve meaningful improvements (of at least five percent) in tobacco-free living, active living, and healthy eating, increased use of high-impact, quality clinical preventative services, and healthy and safe physical environments for residents of Broward County.

### "Effects of Health Literacy on Health Disparities on HIV Clinical Outcomes"

Received by **Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D., M.Ed., M.B.A.**, through a subcontract from *Emory University*

#### Received Amount

**\$61,417**

#### Project Goal

Dr. Ownby will serve as a co-investigator with principal investigator Drenna Waldrop-Valverde, Ph.D., who is associated with Emory University in Georgia. The project's overarching goal is to try and discern if the differences in health outcomes between African Americans and Caucasians are related to their levels of health literacy. A core hypothesis is that the extent to which clinicians and patients agree on how the patients are supposed to take their medications is related to health literacy and is a cause of health disparities. Additionally, the study aims to help explain why health disparities exist between Caucasians and African Americans, especially among persons with HIV infection, by focusing on health literacy as well as a number of cognitive, social, and economic factors.

## CEME Coordinates Third Annual Research Poster Competition



Pictured at the awards ceremony (seated from left) are: Christos Mihos, D.O., internal medicine resident at Mount Sinai Medical Center; Matthew A. Phares, D.O., internal medicine resident at Broward General Medical Center; and Ashley Walker, D.O., dermatology resident at Broward General Medical Center. Standing (from left) are: Tye Barber, D.O., Ph.D. (judge), assistant professor of family medicine; Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc., FACP dist., NSU-COM dean; Irina Goldenberg, D.O., family medicine resident at Broward General Medical Center; Anne C. Vo, D.O., pediatric resident at Palms West Hospital in Loxahatchee; Janet Hamstra, Ed.D. (judge), assistant professor of internal medicine and medical education specialist; and Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S. Ed, FAAFP, FACP, professor of family medicine and associate dean of clinical curriculum and GME.



Simultaneous to the NSU-COM Residency Fair, which was held on November 10, the Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education (CEME) held its Third Annual Intern/Resident/Fellow Scientific Research Poster Competition. Numerous individuals from the various CEME affiliates located throughout Florida and the southeastern United States submitted posters, which were judged on their originality, content, and design in the experimental research and case studies categories. 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:

### EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

#### First Place

**“Intra-Atrial Placement of a Mitral Valve Prosthesis in Patients with Severe Mitral Annulus Calcification”**

**Christos Mihos, D.O.** (resident), **Orlando Santana, M.D.** (Mount Sinai Medical Center physician), and **Joseph Lamelas, M.D.** (Mount Sinai Medical Center physician)

*Internal Medicine Residency, Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami Beach*

#### Second Place

**“Alcohol Intoxication and the Overuse of Computed Tomography of the Head in the Emergency Department”**

**Matthew A. Phares, D.O.** (resident), **Kyle Knabb, D.O.** (resident), **Jason Mansour, M.D.** (Broward General Medical Center physician), and **Natasha Bray, D.O.** (NSU-COM assistant professor of internal medicine)

*Internal Medicine Residency, Broward General Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale*

#### Third Place

**“Perinuclear Eosinophilia: A Histological Hallmark of Hailey-Hailey Disease”**

**Ashley Walker, D.O.** (resident), **Evangelos Poulos, M.D.** (Broward General Medical Center physician), and **Angela Combs, D.O.** (NSU-COM assistant professor of internal medicine)

*Dermatology Residency, Broward General Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale*

### CASE STUDIES

#### First Place

**“From Proptosis to Acute Myelogenous Leukemia: An Infantile Presentation”**

**Irina Goldenberg, D.O.** (resident) and **Andrea Granados, M.D.** (Broward General Medical Center physician)

*Family Medicine Residency, Broward General Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale*

#### Second Place

**“Atypical Cause of Typical Angina: A Case Report of an Anomalous Coronary Artery”**

**Kari Clark, D.O.** (resident) and **Shyama Wickramaaratchi, D.O.** (resident)

*Internal Medicine Residency, Broward General Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale*

#### Third Place

**“IVIG in the Treatment of Stevens-Johnson Syndrome/ Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis in Children”**

**Anne C. Vo, D.O.** (resident) and **Erin C. Toller, D.O.** (resident)

*Pediatric Residency  
Palms West Hospital in Loxahatchee*





**Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M., FA-COP**, professor of public health and pediatrics and director of the college's Master of Public Health Program, had his article entitled "Something Has Fallen Inside" published in the fall 2011 issue of *PULSE*, which is a quarterly publication of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians.



**G. Stephen Bowen, M.D., M.P.H.**, professor of public health and preventive medicine, participated in a Broward County Health Department Grand Rounds session on November 29, where he discussed the topic "HIV Treatment as a Prevention Strategy" and addressed several of the barriers involved in effectively incorporating this strategy.



**Michael A. Chizner, M.D.**, clinical professor of internal medicine and chief medical director of the Heart Center of Excellence of Broward Health, was recently named in the top one percent in the nation in the first Top Doctors List compiled by *U.S. News & World Report*. Dr. Chizner, who spearheaded the establishment of the

Heart Center of Excellence at Broward General Medical Center, oversees an exceptional roster of experienced cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons, whose clinical expertise, superior outcomes, and strongly positive patient satisfaction ratings earned Broward General Medical Center distinction as the only high-performing hospital in Broward County for cardiology and heart surgery according to *U.S. News & World Report*.



**Robin Cooper, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of family medicine and project director of the Interprofessional Primary Care Education Project, had her article entitled "Appraising Qualitative Research Reports: A Developmental Approach" published in the November issue of *The Qualitative Report*. On December 3-4, she co-presented

two workshops at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Primary Care Research Methods & Statistics Conference in San Antonio, Texas, on the topics "Writing Primary Care Qualitative Research Well" and "New Paradigms for Conducting Qualitative Research with Vulnerable Populations in Primary Care."

**Jon Dodds, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, associate professor of public health, had his coauthored article entitled "Are Complications of Transrectal Ultrasound-Guided Biopsies of the Prostate Gland Increasing?" published in the September issue of *Connecticut Medicine*.

**Robin J. Jacobs, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, preventive medicine, biomedical informatics, and public health, coauthored an article with **M. Isabel Fernandez, Ph.D., M.A.**, professor of public health/pre-



ventive medicine and director of the Behavioral Health Promotion Program, and the Adolescent Medicine Trials Network that appeared in the November issue of *AIDS and Behavior*. The article was entitled "The Role of Multiple Identities in Engagement in Care Among Gay/Bisexual Male Adolescents Living with HIV." She

also coauthored a poster presentation entitled "Classification of Musculoskeletal Conditions in Medically Underserved Regions in Peru" that was displayed on October 30 at the AOA Bureau on International Osteopathic Medical Education and Affairs 13<sup>th</sup> Annual International Seminar that was held in conjunction with the AOA's OMED symposium in Orlando, Florida. Dr. Jacobs coauthored the poster with fellow faculty members **Elaine Wallace, D.O., M.S.**, and **Nadine Chipon-Schoepp, D.O.**, and **OMS-III students Emily Eubanks, John "Dan" Murchison, Neha Patel, and Chelsey Swaiko.**

**Ian P. Jeffries, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of pediatrics and a neonatologist at Miami Children's Hospital, coauthored an abstract entitled "Can Changes in Clinical Practice Decrease the Incidence of Candidemia in Very Low Birth Weight Infants?" that was presented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Research meeting in Newcastle, England, in October.

**Jennie Q. Lou, M.D., M.Sc.**, professor of public health and internal medicine and professor and director of the Master of Biomedical Informatics Program, accepted an invitation to serve as an associate editor for the *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Public Health*.



**OMS-III Jaclynn Moskow** won third place at the Florida Medical Directors Association Best Care Practices in the Geriatrics Continuum 2011 symposium held last October in Orlando. Moskow's coauthored poster was entitled "Fasting Blood Glucose as a Predictor of Depression in the Non-Diabetic Geriatric Population."



**Deborah A. Mulligan, M.D., FAAP, FACEP**, clinical professor of pediatrics and director of the NSU-HPD Institute for Child Health Policy (IChP), coauthored an article titled "Media Use by Children Younger Than 2 Years" that was published in *Pediatrics*—the official journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The article topic, which

argues that children are negatively affected by casual exposure to television, also was the subject of a recent front page article in *USA Today*. She was also profiled on the *sharecare.com* Web site in an article entitled "A Pediatric Watchdog for Children." Additionally, she coauthored two research posters entitled "African American Women's Eating, Physical Activity Practices, and Attitudes About the Body They Are In," and "Adapting an Intervention: The Broward County Collaborative to Reduce the Use of

Substances, HIV, and Hepatitis Experience at the American Public Health Association's 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition held October 29-November 2 in Washington, D.C.



**Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., M.Ed.**, professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, made presentations at several national conferences. This included discussing "Development of a Computer-Based Tailored Information Application to Improve HIV-Related Treatment Adherence" on September 18 at the Medicine 2.0 event held at Stanford University and "A Theory-Based Health Literacy Intervention for HIV-Related Medication Adherence" on October 18 at the Health Literacy Annual Research Conference in Chicago, Illinois. He also worked with **OMS-III Jaclynn Moskow** and **Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**, on a research project entitled "Fasting Blood Glucose as a Predictor of Depression in the Non-Diabetic Geriatric Population" that was presented at the Florida Medical Directors Association annual conference in Orlando on October 20.

She also gave a lecture on "A Systematic Approach to Abnormal Blood Chemistries" at the Florida Medical Directors Association annual conference in Orlando in October, presented a poster coauthored with **Kenya Rivas-Velasquez, M.D.**, assistant professor of geriatrics, on the topic "Merkel Cell Carcinoma: A Case Report," and provided a lecture on October 7 at Columbia Hospital in West Palm Beach, Florida, where she discussed "Outpatient Management of Type 2 Diabetes." She also coauthored a research poster entitled "Too Many Finger Sticks for Nothing? A Study of Sliding Scale Insulin Use Among Elderly Nursing Home Residents with Type 2 Diabetes," which was presented on November 18 at the 2011 American Society of Consultant Pharmacists Annual Meeting and Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. On December 7, Dr. Pandya was in Louisville, Kentucky, to present a lecture on "Diabetes: Risk for Cardiovascular Disease" at Kindred Healthcare's national clinical impact symposium.



**Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**, professor and chair of the Department of Geriatrics, discussed the topic "Successful Aging to Encore!" at a Leadership Broward gathering on September 29 and presented a seminar on "AMDA: American Medical Directors Association Dedicated to Long-Term Care" in late September at the Expertise in Long-Term Care European Collaboration in Prague, Czech Republic.

**Kenya Rivas-Velasquez, M.D.**, assistant professor of geriatrics, had her poster entitled "Merkel Cell Carcinoma a Lethal Polyomavirus Disease" accepted for presentation at the AMDA Long Term Care Medicine—2012: A Mission from the Heart symposium to be held March 8-11 in San Antonio, Texas. Her poster abstract will also appear in the March/April issue of *JAMDA*.

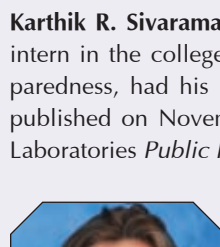


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**Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D., R.D.**, professor of family medicine/public health and executive director of education, planning, and research, was a featured speaker at the Expertise in Long-Term Care European Collaboration in Prague, Czech Republic, on September 24, where she discussed the possible integration of the Geriatric Education Center model into the Czech Republic's development of a new curriculum. She also made two poster presentations at the American Public Health Association's 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition held October 29-November 2 in Washington, D.C., entitled "Inter-professional Practice in Medicine and Public Health: Unlocking New Opportunities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" and "Responding to a Pandemic Outbreak on a College Campus—Lessons Learned."

**Karthik R. Sivaraman**, an M.P.H. student who is working as an intern in the college's Institute for Disaster and Emergency Preparedness, had his article entitled "A Culture of Preparedness" published on November 1 on the Association of Public Health Laboratories *Public Health LabLog*.



**OMS-II Jennifer Wellington** presented her research project entitled "The Incremental Costs Associated with C. Difficile Associated Infection (CDAD) in a Community Hospital Setting" on October 31 at the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual American College of Gastroenterology Scientific Meeting in Washington, D.C.



**OMS-IV Natalie Wessel** coauthored a research poster entitled "Association of Biochemical Changes and Weight Gain Throughout Pregnancy" that was presented at the AOA's 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition, which was held in Orlando, Florida, from October 30 through November 3.

Wessel coauthored the project with **Ken Johnson, D.O.**, **Yasmin Quereshi, D.P.T.**, **Patrick Hardigan, Ph.D.**, **OMS-III Rohit Mehra**, and **OMS-II Meighan O'Connor**.



**OMS-III Emily Young, M.A.T.**, was awarded first-place honors at the Florida Chapter of the American College of Physicians' Annual Scientific Meeting held September 9-11 in St. Petersburg in the medical student poster category for her project entitled "Lymphatic Filariasis: Treating a Neglected Tropical Disease in the United States." This accolade was just the latest in a string of achievements Young has accrued in the past year. In July, she received the American Osteopathic Association's Presidential Memorial Leadership Award, which was preceded in April when she was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Sun Coast Osteopathic Foundation in Largo, Florida.

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## Faculty Presentations at OMED 2011



Pictured at the NSU-COM booth at OMED 2011 are OMS-III students Laura Peter and Tara Nowakhtar with Janet Hamstra, Ed.D., assistant professor of internal medicine and medical education specialist.

During the 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition—OMED 2011 held October 30–November 3 in Orlando, Florida, a number of full-time NSU-COM faculty members made oral and poster presentations. In related news, **Susan Ledbetter, D.O.**, associate professor of family medicine, served as program chair for the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. Following are the faculty members who made presentations:

### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

**Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M.**  
"Use of OMT in Pediatric Asthma"

**David Boesler, D.O.**  
"Use of OMT in Pediatric Asthma" and "OMT Workshop"

**Natasha Bray, D.O.**  
"Acute Coronary Syndrome Update"

**Mark Gabay, D.O.**  
"Considerations in Children with Sickle Cell Trait and Disease"

**Robert Hasty, D.O.**  
"Florida Mandatory Licensure: Prevention of Medical Errors"

**Gary Hill, D.O.**  
"The Role of Virtual Colonoscopy in Colon Cancer Screening" and "Recognition of Inflammatory Bowel Disorders"

**Kenneth Johnson, D.O.**  
"Cervical Cancer Screening and Colonoscopy Update" and "Women's Sexual Concerns After Menopause"

**Andrew Kusienki, D.O.**  
"Traumatic Brain Injury in the Young Athlete"

**Edward Packer, D.O.**  
"Diagnosis and Management of Failure to Thrive in Infants and Children" and "Effectively Evaluating Students in Pediatric Rotations"

**Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**  
"Anemia in the Elderly"

**Alina Perez, J.D., M.P.H., LCSW**  
"The Challenges of Discussing End-of-Life Care"

### POSTER PRESENTATIONS

**Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M.**  
"A Comparison of Citizens' Perceptions of Their Countries' Health Insurance Systems: Canada, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America"

## M.P.H. Research on the Rise

APHA 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition  
October 29–November 2, 2011 - Washington, D.C.

### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

**T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D.**  
"Initiating Policy Change in Jurisdictions Recalcitrant to Comprehensive Sex Education: Policy Diffusion as a Strategic Model for the Policy Process"

**Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M., T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D., and Rushita Shah, M.S.** (M.P.H. student)  
"A Comparison of Perceptions of and Experiences in the Health Insurance Systems of Canada, France, United Kingdom, and the United States of America"

### POSTER PRESENTATIONS

**T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D., Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M., and Rushita Shah, M.S.**  
"A Comparison of Citizens' Perceptions of Their Countries' Health Insurance Systems: Canada, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America."

**Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M., and Rushita Shah, M.S.**  
"Access Barriers and Waiting Times in Social Health Insurance Systems"

**Rushita Shah, M.S., Michael Wolwa, M.P.H.** (2011 graduate), and **Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M.**  
"Rising Elderly Health Care Costs in Broward County"

**Michael Wolwa, M.P.H., and Cyril Blavo, D.O., M.P.H. and T.M.**  
"Cardiovascular Physicians and Cardiac-Related Morality"

Southeastern Conference of Public Administration  
September 21–24, 2011 – New Orleans, Louisiana

### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

**Nicole Cook, Ph.D., M.P.A.**  
"Discordance Between Health Information Technology Adoption in Patient-Centered Medical Homes and the Impact of Visit Time Constraints for Providers Caring for Underserved Populations"

**John Dodds, Ph.D., M.P.H.**  
"Little Red Hen/Big Red Hen: The Pushy Character of Public Health Leadership"

**T. Lucas Hollar, Ph.D.**  
"The Reification of Public Health and its Consequences for Health Policy: Problem Recognition, Constituencies, Interventions, and Childhood Obesity"



## NSU-COM Grads Excel in Cleveland Clinic Florida Internal Medicine Residency Program

NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine takes great pride in its comprehensive and cutting-edge curriculum, which evolves continually to stay abreast of the latest educational and medical advancements. Consequently, it's no surprise that NSU-COM graduates are maximizing their education by becoming leaders at the residency level—and beyond.

Nowhere is this more apparent than at the Cleveland Clinic Florida (CCF)-Weston medical center, which is a fully-integrated facility located in southwest Broward County that houses a medical staff comprising more than 170 physicians practicing in over 35 medical specialties, as well as a full-service hospital with 150 beds.

Currently, only 3 of the 30 residents doing their internal medicine residency training at the Cleveland Clinic Florida-Weston campus are D.O.s, all of whom are NSU-COM graduates, including 2011 alumnus Marlow Hernandez, D.O., M.P.H., M.B.A. However, two of them—2009 NSU-COM graduates Michael Alvarez, D.O., and Alejandro (Alex) Perez, D.O., serve as the program's chief residents. D.O. leadership can also be found in Cleveland Clinic's hospitalist section, which is led by 2005 NSU-COM alumna Ariel Fernandez, D.O.

Consequently, although D.O.s are few in number at CCF, many of the integral leadership positions are filled by NSU-COM alumni. "We have had a very good experience working with the D.O. graduates," said Jose Muniz, M.D., who serves as program director of the Cleve-

land Clinic Florida's Internal Medicine Residency Program. "The fact that the above physicians have risen to leadership positions is a testament to the quality of the education they received at NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine."

The three-year CCF Internal Medicine Residency Program, which was established in 1996 and is fully-accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, achieved the highest American Board of Internal Medicine pass rate in Florida in 2009 in regard to the U.S. in-training examination, ranking number 1 out of 402 programs. It also offers all the requisite rotations necessary to complete internal medicine residency graduation guidelines.

Dr. Muniz would like to see more NSU-COM graduates participate in the CCF Internal Medicine Residency Program, which is why he has extended an open invitation for current NSU-COM students to visit the facility and attend one of the daily core-curriculum conferences, which are held at noon, followed by teaching rounds from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.



Pictured at Cleveland Clinic are Drs. Ariel Fernandez, Alejandro Perez, Jose Muniz, Michael Alvarez, and Marlow Hernandez.

## New Grant Proposal

**"A Culturally Appropriate Automated Tailored Information Application for Medication Health Literacy in Spanish-Speaking Hispanics"**

Submitted by **Robin J. Jacobs, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, to the National Institutes of Health

**Requested Amount**  
\$349,520

### Project Goal

The aim of this research study is to adapt and assess a computer-based automated application that will provide linguistically and culturally appropriate individually tailored health literacy education to Spanish-dominant Hispanics living with HIV.

## Faculty Focus

**Tracy Favreau, D.O.**, assistant professor and chair of the Division of Dermatology, appeared on NBC Miami's news program to promote the dangers of do-it-yourself Botox kits, which are becoming increasingly popular throughout the United States.

**Merrill A. Krolick, D.O.**, clinical assistant professor of internal medicine and program director of the Largo Medical Center Interventional Cardiology Fellowship, appeared on Tampa Bay's 10 News program on October 27 in Tampa, Florida, to discuss peripheral arterial disease and new treatment options.

**Robert Hasty, D.O., FACOI**, assistant professor of internal medicine and program director of the Palmetto General Hospital Internal Medicine Residency Program, was a quoted expert in an article entitled "Bert Fish Hospital Board to Weigh Options for Future" that appeared in the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*.

**James T. Howell, M.D., M.P.H.**, assistant dean for professional relations and chair of the Department of Rural Medicine, was elected treasurer of the Palm Beach County Medical Society Board of Directors.

**Rakesh Mittal, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of pediatrics, was recertified by the American Board of Pediatrics. He has been board certified in general pediatrics since 1988 and pediatric emergency medicine since 1994.

# A FOND FAREWELL

## Gone...But Not Forgotten: Drs. Myron Howell and Lawrence Jacobson

By Scott Colton, APR  
Director of Medical Communications

Within the span of less than a month, NSU-COM—and the osteopathic medical profession—lost two outstanding colleagues and advocates who had worked at the college for a combined 36 years: Myron Howell, D.O., associate professor of family medicine and program director at Bethesda Memorial Hospital in Boynton Beach, and Lawrence Jacobson, D.O., professor of internal medicine and vice dean.

In a tragic twist of fate, both Drs. Howell and Jacobson succumbed to brain bleeds precipitated after each had sustained severe head injuries following separate trip-and-fall accidents. As we all know, death is an inevitable conclusion for all living creatures, which although true brings little solace to those left behind to grieve the loss. In the following articles and reflections from longtime colleagues, we celebrate the lives of these two beloved professionals who left an indelible personal and professional imprint on those they touched throughout their prolific lives.

## Family Medicine Devotee: Dr. Myron Howell



When Dr. Howell passed away on October 13, it was indeed a sad occurrence for all who knew, loved, and respected him.

During his 19-year NSU-COM career, Dr. Howell served as director of medical education and program director of the family medicine residency at Broward General Medical Center, chair of the college's Department of Family Medicine, and most recently as program director at Bethesda Memorial Hospital in Boynton Beach.

Throughout his five decades as an osteopathic practitioner, Dr. Howell was a staunch proponent of the holistic, family medicine approach to health care. Like many physicians of his generation, Dr. Howell was a medical anachronism—a link to a time when doctors made house calls and treated their patients as extended family. Almost 50 years have passed since Dr. Howell received his D.O. degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, yet he remained steadfastly committed to imparting the holistic, family medicine-based philosophy to current and future generations of osteopathic practitioners until the day he died.

Dr. Howell's career provided him with many treasured memories, ranging from owning his own family medicine practice to his nearly two-decade affiliation with the College of Osteopathic Medicine. However, most of these events would never have occurred were it not for a chance encounter he had with an allopathic physician named Edgar Smith in the early 1960s. "I initially had a strong interest in pharmacy, so I received a bachelor's degree from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1959 and began my internship at a drugstore, which was really more like an apothecary," explained Dr. Howell in a 2001 *COM Outlook* interview."

It was during his pharmacy internship that Dr. Howell first met Dr. Smith, who grew to become both friend and mentor. "He was a person who I felt I wanted to emulate," Dr. Howell explained. "Dr. Smith had a practice in his house, and his kids were always around."

Because Dr. Howell was quite familiar with the tenets of osteopathic medicine due to his interaction with the local D.O.s who passed through the apothecary, Dr. Howell set his sights on attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine when he

*"One fond memory I have of Dr. Howell is when I traveled with him and a few others on the Hospital Day circuit to the osteopathic schools in Missouri several years ago. During our trip, Dr. Howell laughed and joked about the rural area until he discovered one of the many casinos in Kansas City. He then changed his mind, retracting the comments he had made about the Midwest, and thoroughly looked forward to having the opportunity to return to Kansas City and take his turn at the slots he so enjoyed. I miss him stopping in my office to update me on his various visits to the casinos and the various other things we would discuss."*

**- Johneta Goodwin -  
Director of Administrative Operations**

decided to attend medical school. "I chose one methodology over the other because I liked the osteopathic philosophy."

The next few years would prove to be enriching and enlightening ones for Dr. Howell as he earned his D.O. degree, met his now deceased wife, Donna, during his internship at a local hospital, and opened a successful family medicine practice in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. Initially, though, the transition to the wonderful world of family medicine was fraught with obstacles for the fledgling osteopathic practitioner. "In the beginning, it was very difficult because I was not residency trained," he explained. "When I completed my internship, there were really no family medicine residency programs out there, so you went directly from your internship into practice without much in the way of outpatient medical knowledge, which is so different from how we train physicians today."

One particular incident remained in Dr. Howell's memory bank forever, mainly because it illustrated just how unprepared he was to serve as a diagnostician in his early days as a physician. "Because I went into practice with very little outpatient experience, I was totally

*"Myron Howell and I had known each other for a great many years because our paths always crossed at various Florida Osteopathic Medical Association and Florida Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians' meetings. He was a quiet, unassuming, humble man who performed his work with confidence and thoroughness. We had many coffee breaks together where we commiserated and solved problems of whatever was the medical subject or interest at the time. He was a friend I will certainly miss."*

**- Howard Neer, D.O., FACOPF -  
Associate Dean of Alumni Affairs**

unaware of what to do when I went on a house call to take care of a sick child," he recalled. "When I got to the house, the child patient had a rash and a 102-degree fever. I basically had no clue as to what was wrong until the mother said to me, 'Don't you think he has measles?' So I agreed and said, 'Yeah, I think he does have measles.'"

Although the osteopathic profession has made tremendous strides over the past 40 years, it wasn't all that long ago when D.O.s like Dr. Howell were denied access to staff privileges at most allopathic hospitals—a dubious slight that prevented osteopathic physicians from further honing their clinical skills. "Unfortunately, there was a lot of animosity toward D.O.s at that time," he admitted. "We did not have hospital privileges at most of the allopathic hospitals. I had to learn on the job, and that's true of anybody who went into practice in those

*"In the decade I have been on the faculty at the College of Osteopathic Medicine, it was a wonderful pleasure to meet and become colleagues and friends with Dr. Lawrence Jacobson and Dr. Myron Howell. I will remember both as role-model osteopathic physicians and men of ethics, distinction, and knowledge."*

**- James Howell, M.D., M.P.H. -  
Assistant Dean of Professional Relations**

days. Back then, you got out of your internship, hung up a shingle, and started to practice medicine.

"It wasn't until 1970 that a local hospital let me on its staff, and that was only because I had developed a pretty large practice by that time and was referring a lot of patients there," he added. "But even then the chief of staff said, 'Myron, we'll let you on the staff, but don't see any patients in the hospital.' I agreed to that stipulation because I wanted to get my foot in the door. Ironically, years later, that hospital ended up buying my practice."

From 1964 until 1992, Dr. Howell ran his practice out of the house he shared with Donna, who also served as his nurse and office manager, and their sons Mark and Scott. In 1992, when the hospital made a lucrative offer to buy his practice, Dr. Howell accepted the proposal and decided to relocate to South Florida to enjoy semi-retirement with his fam-

ily. Still, Dr. Howell agonized over the decision—for obvious reasons. "Leaving practice was a sad time for me because I had become very close to my patients," he explained. "In many cases, I was the only doctor many of my patients had ever known, and I had spent the past 30 years taking care of their mothers, grandmothers, and kids."

After settling in Pembroke Pines, Florida, the allure of semi-retirement quickly abated when Dr. Howell was offered the chance to serve as medical director of the newly created NSU-COM medical clinic, which was then based in North Miami Beach. "It was basically established as a student health clinic, but over the next few years we began seeing patients that came in from the community," he explained.

In 1996, Dr. Howell took on an even larger administrative duty when he was tapped to become director of medical education and program director of the NSU-COM family medicine residency, which is run through Broward Health and its tertiary care hospital—Broward General Medical Center.

While it's clear Dr. Howell has played a key role in promoting the merits of osteopathic medicine and boosting its acceptance among his allopathic peers, his most lasting legacy lives on in sons Mark and Scott, who followed in their father's footsteps and became osteopathic physicians. "When my kids were young, I always took them with me to see patients on house calls, so they were exposed to the kinder side of medicine," he explained. "I love osteopathic medicine, and if I had to do it all over again, there's no question in my mind I would."

*"When I came here in 1998, Dr. Howell was an active faculty member who was always willing to serve wherever needed. For example,, when a program director was needed immediately at Bethesda Memorial Hospital in Boynton Beach, Dr. Howell was quick to agree to go there and ensure our students would continue to have a quality experience at the hospital even though this meant a significant commute for him each day. Dr. Howell gave 19 years of his career to NSU-COM, and it is truly a better place because of his participation and contributions."*

**- Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc.  
NSU-COM Dean**

## **Dr. Lawrence Jacobson: Medical Education Maestro**



*Throughout a productive career that spanned five decades, Dr. Jacobson, who passed away on November 10, amassed one of the most extensive backgrounds ever compiled by an osteopathic college administrator. The scope of his educational credentials, which included vast experience in curriculum development and implementation as well as the establishment of progressive clinical teaching programs, earned the respect of his peers both locally and nationwide.*

**H**owever, had it not been for a well-timed epiphany that occurred during his undergraduate studies, Dr. Jacobson may well have become a world-renowned architect or mechanical engineer instead of a respected osteopathic physician. "I actually had a dream to be an architect because I thought I had artistic flair," he explained in a 2001 *COM Outlook* interview. "I used to take a number of courses and go to art museums, but I soon discovered there were really talented people out there who could truly do artistic things, so I gave it up and decided to pursue an engineering career."

So how did medicine eventually win out in this vocational tug of war? "I wrestled with the decision for a long time," admitted Dr. Jacobson. "Quite a few of my friends back in high school wanted to be doctors, and there was always

the thought lingering in my mind about pursuing a medical career. After one year of engineering school, I suddenly decided that all those technologic things weren't exactly my bag. So if there was any sort of epiphany, it took place in the midst of doing mechanical drawings, calculus, and physics. That's when I decided to shift majors and study premed at the University of Pennsylvania."

In 1953, after graduating from Ursinus College in Pennsylvania with a B.S. degree in chemistry, the appeal of a medical career still remained elusive, so Dr. Jacobson decided to bide his time by signing on for a two-year term of service with the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps. "When I graduated college, I still wasn't quite sure what I wanted to do for a living," he stated. "At that point, even though I had been premed, I was not as ambitious to pursue it, so I went into the service. But I did apply to several allopathic and osteopathic medical schools while I was in the army."

During his predoctoral training, he received a National Institutes of Health fellowship to concurrently participate in a Ph.D. program for experimental psychology at the University of Chicago. This provided Dr. Jacobson an invaluable opportunity to develop more expertise in neurophysiology and neuropharmacology as well as research methodology prior to earning his D.O. degree in 1962 from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (now Midwestern University). After completing a one-year rotating internship at Northwest Hospital in Miami, Florida, Dr. Jacobson returned to Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine as a member of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology. Shortly thereafter, he

began a residency and fellowship program in neurology at the University of Illinois Neuropsychiatric Institute and Chicago Osteopathic Hospital. In 1969, after a two-year stint as assistant professor of neurology in the Department of Internal Medicine at Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Jacobson's career kicked into high gear when he joined the founding faculty at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSU-COM).

"I had developed an increasing interest in the nervous system, so I was recruited as part of the initial faculty at MSU-COM, where I did clinical neurology practice and developed the neuroscience program," said Dr. Jacobson, who completed his postdoctoral training in 1967 and received his board certification in neurology in 1970." That's where I really got thrown into medical education. The college had a very prestigious office of medical education and research, and the university was doing things similar to self-directed and problem-based learning, which were coming into vogue at that time." Dr. Jacobson, who eventually became assistant dean for clinical affairs at MSU-COM, was responsible for developing all clinical programs and rotations for the students. He also developed, implemented, and supervised the first three-year osteopathic degree program ever offered in the United States.

In addition, he was prominently involved in several groundbreaking protocols, including the introduction and widespread use of standardized patients for teaching neurology to osteopathic medical students and the implementation of the first integrated organ systems curriculum in the profession, which he supervised. He also participated in the origination of the spiral curriculum concept in medical education, which promoted the continued integration of basic science and clinical input throughout all four years of osteopathic medical training while also maintaining a part-time clinical neurology practice during his nine-year MSU-COM affiliation.

In 1978, the winds of change signaled another career shift for Dr. Jacobson, who decided to leave the world of academia and open a private neurology practice in the metropolitan Detroit area. Thankfully, the following eight years would prove to be productive ones, as he served as medical director of the brain trauma unit at Southfield Rehabilitation Center and as-



*What a cute baby I am!*



*Hmm...engineering or medicine?*



*Loretta—the love of his life.*



*Dr. Leonard Levy—the best friend.*



*Devoted family man and colleague.*

sociate director of electromyographic services at the Flint Diagnostic Center.

However, in 1986, the continued allure of academia compelled Dr. Jacobson to reenter the medical education arena. "I told my wife Loretta that I really wanted to get back into education again," he explained. "So when I was offered an opportunity to become the dean for academic affairs of Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine (DMU-COM) in Des Moines, Iowa, I accepted the position."

Over the next decade, Dr. Jacobson, who also served as dean of the college, supervised DMU-COM's educational programs and assisted in the development of numerous projects, including the institution's first ambulatory surgery center and the innovative three-year D.O. curricular track, which was designed to exclusively permit graduate-degreed professionals to obtain osteopathic degrees. He also played a key role in establishing the state-supported Student Community Health Care Initiative Program, which focused on providing a continuum of education beginning in high school and extending through residency. In addition, he helped develop a directed state-funded program that facilitated the placement of primary care residents into rural Iowa community practice sites.

"During my latter years in Des Moines, I also assumed some general administrative responsibility over all university programs as the executive vice president for academic affairs," he said. "My primary responsibilities were directing the four years of the predoctoral program, which involved working with faculty members and clinicians. I also assisted in the supervision of all the clinic operations and the development of an HMO, which was certainly a new and instructive experience for me.

In 1995, Dr. Jacobson's life took yet another fortuitous turn when a former student contacted him with an intriguing offer. "I knew the former NSU-COM dean, Dr. Matthew Terry, very well because he had been a student of mine at Michigan State way back in the 1970s," he explained. "And as he began climbing the administrative ladder, we stayed in touch at various national meetings. He was interested in developing a systems curriculum at NSU-COM, so I came to Florida and joined the faculty. A year later, after the program was underway, Dr. Terry offered me another challenge. At the time, he was trying



*"During my various interactions with Dr. Jacobson, I was always struck by how humble he was for a man who had accomplished so much. He was never interested in self-promotion or standing front and center in the white-hot glare of the osteopathic spotlight. Instead, he chose to do his job magnificently well in a low-key manner. In my 12 years as an NSU-COM employee, I never heard a single negative comment uttered about Dr. Jacobson—just words of affection and deep respect. Although his passing was a sad occurrence for all the obvious reasons, Dr. Jacobson lived a robust life filled with love, family, friends, and abundant professional accomplishment. To put it simply, his was a life well-lived."*

*- Scott Colton, APR -  
Director of Medical Communications*

*"Lawrence Jacobson will be remembered as a gentle giant within the osteopathic profession. He was a mentor and role model for all who had the honor to know and work with him. He exemplified a leadership style steeped in extreme humility, compassion, and professionalism. He was NSU-COM's unsung hero as he managed the day-to-day operations of our college, never seeking accolades, honors, or praise. His contributions to the profession and our college have gone largely unrecognized as he never sought the limelight for his achievements. He was the glue that kept our organization cohesive and functional. His qualities are to be emulated by all. He will be missed but never forgotten by those who had the privilege to call him colleague and friend."*

*- Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S. Ed -  
Associate Dean for Clinical Curriculum and GME*

*"I met Dr. J.—as I have fondly referred to him for years—in the 1980s when we were both working at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. J. was then the dean of the school, and our offices were across from each other. I got to know Dr. J. and always admired his wisdom and various other attributes. After a few years, we both had other professional opportunities, so our lives parted and we didn't see each other for many years. When I came to NSU-COM in 1998, our lives reconnected and our offices were again across from each other—it was as though we had never been apart. During the past 13 years, Dr. J. and I laughed together, shed a few tears together, "bickered," and disagreed at times, but he was always there for me and served as my sounding board. I will truly miss him because he was a very special person. Rest in peace, my friend."*

*- Johneta Goodwin -  
Director of Administrative Operations*

*"Over the years, it was a pleasure to work with him. He had an amazing way of balancing his superb stalwart administrative skills with a great wit, along with a healthy dose of common sense."*

*- Robert Hasty, D.O. -  
Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine*

to establish clinical teaching programs at the Miami Heart Institute, so he asked me if I would be willing to go down to Miami and help develop them.

"I accepted his offer and established a student-training site at the institute," continued Dr. Jacobson, who is the proud father of Dana, an ESPN television sports anchorwoman, and Mark, who earned a Ph.D. in military history and recently returned from two years in Afghanistan serving as a diplomat with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and as an adviser to U.S. General David Petraeus. "In 1997, we also initiated the internal medicine residency program. "Then, when Dr. Silvagni, who I had worked closely with in Des Moines in the late 1980s, came on board



as dean in 1998, he asked me if I was interested in coming back to work at the NSU campus as the associate dean for medical education."

After being elevated to the position of NSU-COM vice dean in 2003, Dr. Jacobson's responsibilities expanded greatly once again, which was an unusual opportunity to receive at the age of 72 when many professional careers have already concluded. "I feel fortunate that I can be a part of the development," he stated. "I think the personal attributes, experience, and energy Dr. Silvagni brought to the college are key factors. The dean has the ability to get everybody smiling and enthused. And in what is the wind-down part of my career, it's nice to have this rejuvenation, to be able to continue to do new and exciting things and have someone like Dr. Silvagni, who understands educational needs, supporting you."

*"Dr. Jacobson was one of the pioneers in modern osteopathic medicine. For 26 years, he also was my closest friend, virtually impossible to replace. But he also had a most unusual background. As a result of his educational background, he brought great depth to the training he received. Larry was a marvelous educator, able to demonstrate to his students the abnormalities that were presented by many of his patients, including the gait of the patient with Parkinson's disease. In addition to his extensive clinical experience, he developed an interest and expertise in contemporary medical education practices. But, most of all, he was a very special human being."*

*- Leonard A. Levy, D.P.M., M.P.H. -  
Associate Dean for Education/Planning/Research*

*"Dr. J. was truly a mentor, a counselor, and a friend to me. Ever since he convinced me to take the program director position for the M.S.B.I. program in 2006, he was always there to support and guide me professionally and personally and was one of the driving forces behind the program's success. I knew that no matter how frustrated or upset I was before I entered his office, I always came out with a different perspective toward the event and life in general. I also knew no matter what happened at work or in my personal life, I could always go to Dr. J. for his advice and his wisdom, which always picked me up right away. I will never forget those great stories Dr. J. told me with his unique sense of humor, especially the ones about his children, to encourage and inspire me."*

*- Jennie Q. Lou, M.D., M.Sc. -  
Director of the Master of Science in  
Biomedical Informatics Program*

*"Dr. Lawrence Jacobson was the very first person I met on campus during my transfer interview for admission into NSU-COM. During our interview, he gave me the impression of one who is an honorary leader of an institution—yet so sincere and humble. In every meeting I had with him, he was very supportive of my educational endeavors and goals toward medicine and was always there to help me achieve my goals with a flexible plan."*

*- OMS-IV Denisha Shah -*

*"When I think about Dr. Jacobson, I have many fond thoughts of a wonderful colleague who was hardworking, committed to our college and the osteopathic profession, and a great educator. He was a man who never wasted words, always got to the point quickly and precisely, never bragged about himself, and always stayed focused on the challenges at hand while being extremely helpful in finding sensible and practical solutions. To him, it was always about providing all of our students with the best osteopathic medical training possible. I will greatly miss his keen intelligence, straightforward and unpretentious ways, and wonderful dry wit. It was a privilege to work with this wonderful educator and colleague for so many years."*

*- Steven Zucker, D.M.D., M.Ed. -  
Associate Dean for Community Affairs  
and AHEC Program Director*

# GME LEADER



## NSU-COM Takes Proactive Approach to Growing Graduate Medical Education

*By Scott Colton, APR  
Director of Medical Communications*

**I**n 1999, NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine strode boldly into the competitive world of graduate medical education by launching its Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education (CEME), which has spent the past 13 years providing exceptional postdoctoral training opportunities through an ever-increasing array of affiliations offering high-quality internship, residency, and fellowship programs.

On a national level, however, the outlook regarding osteopathic graduate medical education (GME) continues to look grim. Although NSU-COM has played an integral role in providing

many U.S. osteopathic medical school graduates with myriad postgraduate training opportunities in the southeastern United States, the number of osteopathic GME positions that exist nationally continues to lag significantly behind the number of new D.O.s that graduate annually.

According to Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S. Ed, FAAFP, FACOFP, associate dean for clinical curriculum and graduate medical education, the profession is facing a serious challenge when it comes to providing a D.O.-accredited residency position for every graduating senior, particularly given the burgeoning number of colleges

of osteopathic medicine and branch campuses. "In my opinion, each college has a responsibility to grow GME because, minimally, medical education is a seven-year event; it's not just a four-year medical school event," he explained. "But if you truly believe in the seven-year continuum, you have to put as much energy into developing your postgraduate opportunities as you do in developing your four-year medical school curriculum.

"All D.O. students have seven years ahead of them because they have to minimally do a three-year residency after graduating from medical school," he added. "That's why I feel it is

absolutely within the purview and mission of each of our colleges of osteopathic medicine to grow GME. After all, how can we humbly take our students' tuition dollars and not provide them with postgraduate training opportunities? Many of the newer colleges of osteopathic medicine and branch campuses don't really have GME associated with them. Consequently, as a profession, how do we allow these colleges to open if they have no GME attached to them? It's wonderful to witness all this great expansion, but where are we going to train all these future physicians?"

### ***Leading the Way by Overcoming Challenges***

Because NSU-COM prides itself on being a cutting-edge educational institution that responds to the academic and clinical needs of the times, its leadership has remained committed to enhancing osteopathically accredited GME positions for its own students as well as those nationally. In fact, over the past five years, the osteopathic postgraduate training institution (OPTI) that NSU-COM is a member of has expanded by over 300 accredited and funded positions.

As of October 21, 2011, the Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education (NSU-COM's affiliated OPTI) comprised 24 member institutions that encompassed 64 internship, residency, and fellowship programs and included 747 postgraduate training positions. In 2006, there were 19 institutions, 45 internship, residency, and fellowship programs, and 439 postgraduate positions.

"In the Office of Clinical and Graduate Medical Education, a tremendous amount of our time is spent working to find new GME opportunities for students," Dr. De Gaetano said. "It's important to remember the problem we face, which is that existing hospitals like Mount Sinai Medical Center — one of our major partners — have a capped number of funded postgraduate training positions

they can provide that is based upon the 1997 Balanced Budget Act. As a result, even if Mount Sinai wanted to establish new GME programs, it can't."

To circumvent this thorny situation, Dr. De Gaetano and his graduate medical education team constantly seek out virgin hospitals that have never established GME programs since they are the only ones eligible to petition the federal government for Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) dollars to fund GME. "What we do is look for opportunities, wherever they may arise, with hospitals that have even a slight interest in developing GME programs," he explained "Truth be told, it's no simple task for a hospital to get into the business of establishing new residency programs."

That's why Dr. De Gaetano stressed the importance of having engaged and enthusiastic medical personnel that truly want to participate in GME. "Even though the dollars may be available, that doesn't mean the physicians want to do it," he admitted. "For a physician to take on the role of training residents and also medical students in a hospital setting, it's a lot more work. And the truth is the vast majority of physicians in practice don't really want to do that. They want to practice medicine, make a good living, take care of their patients, and then go home and spend time with their families.

"What we have to go out and do is educate both hospital administration and the medical staff about the benefits of having graduate medical education," he added. "We may be biased, but what we find is that the quality of patient care really improves within a facility that chooses to do GME. The reason this occurs is because you have multiple minds thinking about a patient's medical problem. In addition to the attending physician, you have an intern, a resident, and in some instances, a fellow, involved in a patient's case. Similarly, because residents ask a lot of questions, it

pushes the attending physicians to be up to date in their knowledge because they are going to have to answer those questions. It also enhances medical care in general because the residents spend significantly more time with patients than the attending physicians, which augments patient interaction from a communication standpoint."

### ***Perseverance Pays Off—Sometimes!***

Although the college has been enormously successful in adding new affiliations to its CEME mix, the process involved in enticing virgin hospitals to join the college's consortium is an arduous one that often results in maximum effort being expended — with little result. "Our staff, which includes me, Carol Siu, Dr. Delia Celestine, Dr. Janet Hamstra, and Elaine Lefkowitz, has a well-honed presentation we have done numerous times," said Dr. De Gaetano. "Our pitch also entails bringing in a financial consultant from Boston who works closely with us during these presentations.

"Basically, you have to put the hook in the water to see what you can catch," he added. "More often than not, we go in and do the pitch but are not successful. For every five pitches we make, if we get one bite, then we are doing well. You often have to go in and do the pitch multiple times over many years to a different group of administrators, because they frequently change. Over the past 10 years, we have visited several hospitals up to a dozen times to try and establish GME, but we have yet to gain traction. You might say, 'Well, why don't you gain traction at these facilities?' It's because culturally they have not committed to starting GME. Then, of course, you have to go in and convince them to do osteopathic GME, which can be a difficult proposition. When 900 physicians are on the medical staff and only 50 are D.O.s, they ask questions like, 'Why should I do osteopathic GME when my son or daughter is going to go to the University of Florida and can't participate in your osteopathic residencies?'"

With nine medical schools in Florida currently competing for GME positions, it would be an understatement to say it's a challenging chore to convince wary hospital administrators to establish osteopathic graduate medical education programs. Every so often, however, Dr. De Gaetano and his determined team do strike gold.

"Sometimes there is a physician at a specific location that has a strong desire to start a GME program," he explained. "What will generally happen is the physician will invite us in to meet with the hospital's administration. Usually, the physician has already met with the key administrators and gotten a preliminary feel for if they're interested, so we'll come in and explain the benefits of GME and discuss the financial aspects involved in the process. In other instances, we identify the virgin institutions ourselves and contact them by asking a simple question: 'Have you ever thought about establishing graduate medical education at your hospital?'"

However, even if a hospital is interested in establishing GME programs, the lack of financial rewards for doing so can be quite

off-putting for already leery hospital administrators. "It's important for hospitals to understand that going into the business of starting a residency program is not a revenue-generating event," Dr. De Gaetano explained.

"Consequently, if hospitals break even or are a little bit in the black when they offer GME, these are considered good outcomes. From a financial perspective, they do it because of the other attributes GME offers, such as improved patient care, better visibility in the community, clinical excellence, and enhanced research opportunities."

According to Dr. De Gaetano, the amount of federal funding a hospital will receive for its GME programs varies wildly due to variables such as how many Medicare patients seek services annually and how many Medicare patients are admitted to the hospital. "In truth, hospitals such as Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami and Broward General Medical Center that serve a Medicaid or uninsured population actually get very few dollars to train their residents because they don't fill Medicare beds."

In contrast, Larkin Community Hospital in South Miami, which

predominantly admits Medicare patients, receives far more federal dollars for its GME programs than does Broward General. "Hopefully, all hospitals participating in GME are at least receiving enough dollars to cover the salaries and fringe benefits of a resident, which are roughly \$80,000 to \$100,000 a year."

Becoming—and remaining—a nationwide leader in the graduate medical education realm is a rigorous undertaking that offers no respite in today's ultra-competitive postgraduate environment, which is why Dr. De Gaetano is justifiably proud of the college's accomplishments in this area.

"The administration here has always been supportive of our being very aggressive in terms of GME, which explains why NSU-COM received commendation from the AOA's Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation during its on-campus site inspection in March 2011," he stated. "When you consider how far we've come in a short period of time and that we've been able to add over 300 funded positions through our partner affiliates just in the past five years, I think that is quite an accomplishment."

## IS THERE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE GME TUNNEL?

Although the overall outlook for GME isn't especially auspicious at the present time, some rays of optimism have sprouted on the governmental horizon. Thanks to legislation drafted by U.S. senators Bill Nelson of Florida and Harry Reid of Nevada and approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 16 Florida hospitals will be gaining 325 new medical residency positions effective July 1, 2012.

In fact, four of the 16 Florida hospitals receiving additional residency spots are CEME partners: Palmetto General Hospital in Hialeah (57 new positions), Broward General Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale (46 new positions), Miami Children's Hospital in Miami Beach (14 new positions), and Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami (1 new position).

In September, Senators Nelson and Reid, along with Senator Charles Schumer of New York, took an even bolder step by introducing the Resident Physician Shortage Act of 2011—a bill that would increase the number of allopathic and osteopathic Medicare GME residency slots by 3,000 each year, totaling approximately 15,000 additional slots over the next five years. The bill stipulates that at least 1,500 of the new slots each year must be used for a shortage specialty residency program. Based on current and projected physician workforce shortages, legislation of this kind is desperately needed to ensure that Medicare-funded GME programs can train a sufficient number of physicians.

As of December, the bill had yet to be voted on...so stay tuned.

## GME AT NSU-COM

While it's readily evident Dr. De Gaetano and his team have done an outstanding job of augmenting GME opportunities throughout the southeastern United States, the college has also been extremely forward thinking from an internal standpoint. Following are the six programs currently offered through NSU-COM:

**Correctional Medical Fellowship**  
(partnership with the Florida Department of Corrections)

**Forensic Pathology Fellowship**  
(partnership with the Broward County Medical Examiners)

**Geriatrics Family Practice Fellowship**  
**Geriatrics Internal Medicine Fellowship**

**Sports Medicine Fellowship**

**Psychiatry Residency**  
(partnership with the Florida Department of Corrections)

# NSU Overview: A Tradition

## New Internet Marketing and Social Networking Course Unique to NSU

The H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship introduced a new graduate-level course entitled **Internet Marketing and Social Networking to Students** in the fall of 2011 that will help make NSU graduates stand out when interviewing for potential jobs.

The course gives students an entrepreneurial understanding of the processes, tools, and planning steps required to develop enterprise-wide Internet and social media infrastructures that expand customer reach, reinforce brand recognition, and manage customer relationships. Students receive hands-on experience launching social customer relation management solutions, search-engine marketing, online advertising, and select e-commerce initiatives.

A primary objective of the course is to acquaint students with the complexity and power of Internet marketing and social networking to help them appreciate the resource commitment and decision-making process for evaluating inbound marketing infrastructures. The hands-on approach reinforces this understanding for entrepreneurs seeking firsthand knowledge of blogging, social networking, effective web design system, and search-engine marketing skills required for sales generation, branding, and customer support.

By the course's conclusion, students will be acquainted with the tools and financial justifications used to validate the adoption of social business and inbound marketing infrastructures.



## University Honors Chancellor Ray Ferrero, Jr., at Gala Event



On November 2, NSU honored **Chancellor Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D.**, during its Celebrate a Lifetime of Giving ceremony for his many years of leadership at NSU and for his service to the community. Proceeds from the event will benefit NSU's newly established scholarship fund—the Chancellor's Fellows Endowment.

"I am honored to be recognized for my service to NSU and to the

community," said Chancellor Ferrero. "I am especially proud to establish the Chancellor's Fellows Endowment to provide scholarships for academically gifted graduate students who are in need of financial assistance. The Chancellor's Fellows believe that what they do will make a difference—they will change lives and change the world."

"Under Chancellor Ferrero's leadership, student enrollment increased 72 percent," said NSU President George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D. "In addition, the student population became more diverse, which has become one of our core values."

Dr. Hanbury also noted that Chancellor Ferrero has overseen the transformation of NSU's main campus, adding more than two-million square feet of facilities during his tenure. "In addition, he has energetically and effectively pursued collaborative efforts between community and education that have undoubtedly improved the lives of thousands of individuals, which emphasizes another core value—that of community," Hanbury stated.

His involvement with the university began in 1984 as a board of trustees member. During his six years as board chairman, Chancellor Ferrero played a major role in bringing about the merger of Nova University and Southeastern University of the Health Sciences, which ultimately resulted in the university's current position as the largest independent university in the Southeast.

# of Growth and Achievement

## Dr. Jane Lazarus Selected as School Psychologist of the Year



During the 38<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Florida Association of School Psychologists (FASP) held November 1-5 at the Omni Orlando Resort in ChampionsGate, Florida, **Jane Lazarus, Ed.S.**, NSU Center for Psychological Studies School Psychology program site facilitator, won the School Psychologist of the Year Award, which honors the contributions of individuals and programs that promote the well-being of children and advance the field of school psychology.

The FASP was formed to promote and advocate for the mental health and educational development of Florida's children and families in educational systems and communities and to advance the profession of school psychology in the state. The organization comprises more than 1,000 school psychologists working in 67 districts and a variety of private and alternative settings.

Students and faculty members from the Center for Psychological Studies made 13 presentations and participated in 7 poster sessions during the conference.

## NSU Celebrates Homecoming 2011 with Eclectic Activities

Broward County recently experienced a Shark influx as NSU celebrated its **2011 Homecoming** with current NSU Sharks and alumni as well as faculty and staff members. The festivities took place during the first week of November and included NSU traditions such as the annual President's Tailgate, which is a festival of Shark pride that encompasses food, games, and entertainment from NSU student organizations and athletes.

The Homecoming Dance was hosted at Opium in the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood, Florida, and attracted more than 1,000 students, while one of NSU's best-loved traditions—the Anything That Floats Raft

Races—took place at Gold Circle Lake. Finally, the university created a new tradition this year with the first-ever Laugh Your Fins Off comedy event featuring Kevin Hart and new comedian Joey Wells, which drew about 4,000 people. The show was also the culmination of NSU's Last Shark Standing competition to find its funniest student.



## Offering of the Angels on Display at Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale



The highly-acclaimed exhibition **Offering of the Angels: Old Master Paintings and Tapestries from the Uffizi Gallery** made its American debut on November 19 and will be on view until April 8, 2012 at the NSU Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale. The exhibition features tapestries and paintings by some of the greatest artists of the Renaissance and Baroque periods, including Sandro Botticelli, Parmigianino, Alessandro Allori, Luca Giordano, and

Lorenzo Monaco. For additional information, please visit <http://moaff.org/exhibits/botticelli.html>.



# CEME Spotlight

*Lakeside Medical Center was recognized as a leader in patient satisfaction among the nation's 110 public hospitals. Based on the scores compiled in the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems' (NAPH) 2011 Quality Performance Report, the hospital exceeded the U.S. and NAPH averages in 9 out of 10 areas of measurement and had the highest score in 5 of 10 areas of measurement.*



Lakeside Medical Center, which became a member of the Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education in July 2010, is Palm Beach County's only public hospital. The 70-bed, all-private room hospital that is owned and operated by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, was completed in October 2009 – four months ahead of schedule and \$10 million dollars below budget. The hospital provides a regional health care delivery system for nearly 40,000 residents in the rural western Palm Beach County communities bordering Lake Okeechobee and surrounding towns.

Lakeside Medical Center features women's health services to help educate women in the community about their overall health, including primary care, maternal and child care, and bone densitometry and offers technologically advanced digital mammography screenings for earlier detection of breast cancer. The hospital's Birthplace features six labor and delivery rooms and 10 postpartum rooms. In its first year, the hospital delivered more than 550 babies.

Emergency room care is provided in 17 treatment and 3 fast-track exam areas that handle nearly 23,000 emergency room visits each year, while the Intensive Care Unit provides six spacious private rooms to care for its most critically-ill patients. For patients needing surgical care, the hospital is equipped with 1,701 square feet of efficient, technologically advanced surgical space.

In 2011, after receiving accreditation from the American Osteopathic Association, Lakeside launched a new three-

year family medicine residency program that will have five residency positions each year, for a total of 15 positions. The hospital also serves as the main clinical training site and partners with academic and community organizations, including NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Palm Beach County Health Department, Florida Community Health Centers, and the West Palm Beach Veterans Affairs Medical Center, to provide a diversified and rewarding educational experience for its residents.



*Pictured (from left) are Autumn Pearson, Nikerson Geneve, D.O., Jasmine Pierre, D.O., Tai Vo, D.O., Omar Mubaidin, D.O., and Na L. Vang, D.O.*



Following are some highlights of the Lakeside Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Program:

**THE PROGRAM** utilizes the latest video teleconferencing technology, which will be used with various teaching institutions and faculty members to expand and complete the residents' educational experience.

**ALL RESIDENTS** are given individual laptop computers.

**DIDACTIC ACTIVITIES** include a daily morning report, specialty noon lectures, and interactive discussions with the teaching faculty.

**DISTANCE LEARNING** via video teleconferencing also includes multispecialty grand rounds, tumor board, and specialty courses.

**TELEMEDICINE** will be fully incorporated into the program and made available to the residents.

The three-year curriculum includes rotations in emergency medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, general surgery, internal medicine, neonatology, community medicine, critical care, cardiology, geriatrics, sports medicine, and osteopathic manipulative medicine. In addition to its family medicine residency program, the hospital serves as a clinical training site for about 18 third-year NSU-COM students annually.



*Pictured (from left) are Na L. Vang, D.O., Nader Abdallah, D.O., Omar Mubaidin, D.O., and Kyle R. Gormezano, M.D. (radiology).*

The hospital, which features the most modern technology, has a dedicated staff approach to quality patient care that revolves around compassion and understanding. In fact, the medical staff at Lakeside is trained in a health care delivery model that emphasizes relationship, partnership, teamwork, and critical thinking in patient-care delivery.

Recently, Lakeside Medical Center was recognized as a leader in patient satisfaction among the nation's 110 public hospitals. Based on the scores compiled in the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems' (NAPH) 2011 Quality Performance Report, the hospital exceeded the U.S. and NAPH averages in 9 out of 10 areas of measurement and had the highest score in 5 of 10 areas of measurement.

*(Photos courtesy of John Ricksen Photography.)*



*Jasmine Pierre, D.O., Anne Maxey, D.O., Na L. Vang, D.O., Nader Abdallah, D.O., Tarah Freyman, D.O., Omar Mubaidin, D.O., Tracy Romanello, D.O., Tricia Nielsen, D.O., Tai Vo, D.O., Josephine Pearson, D.O., and Nikerson Geneve, D.O., family medicine residency program director and director of medical education for Lakeside Medical Center.*

*Since 2005, COM Outlook has featured informative spotlights on the various organizations that comprise the Consortium for Excellence in Medical Education—the college's osteopathic postgraduate training institution (OPTI). The accomplishments and contributions of this interactive network are indeed merit worthy because each participating institution provides exceptional postdoctoral training opportunities throughout Florida and the southeastern United States.*





# Paying it Forward: The Many Faces of Mentoring

By Marti Echols, Ph.D., M.Ed.  
Assistant Dean of Medical Education

**A**s we reflect on the different stages of our professional development, we can often identify people who had strong influences on who we are, our approach to our work, or how we present ourselves. The mechanism for facilitating this type of learning in the health professions is often called mentoring. Mentoring systems in medicine are well established and a very important component of professionalism. Over the years, mentoring has also been part of the *hidden curriculum* in medical education.

Much like other areas of medicine, mentoring is evolving within the profession. Previously, mentoring occurred spontaneously between people with shared interests, but now includes an organizational role as well as dedicated time and resources. The mentoring model at NSU-COM reflects the new paradigm of mentoring within the profession. Therefore, while encouraging spontaneous mentoring relationships, the college provides more formal modes of mentoring as students mentor students, faculty members mentor students, and faculty members mentor other faculty members.

## **Students Mentoring Students**

The framework of academical societies is the organizational structure used at NSU-COM to provide mentoring within the student body. Since their inception five years ago, the academical societies have continued to evolve. Each year,

first-year students apply to become peer mentors for the incoming class members who replace them as they matriculate into their second year. Three to four students in each society commit to become peer mentors and dedicate time to transition new students into the college.

This group of about 35 students serves three mentoring roles, which are wellness and social activities, medical outreach and community service, and academic support. These peer mentors, who provided more than 600 hours of support to their colleagues, can be found in hallways, libraries, coffee shops, and the NSU Flight Deck as well as at the beach or the gym, where they answer numerous questions and help students make various social connections.

Peer mentors also provide lecture reviews, course notes, smiles, support, food, and fun. The class of 2014 mentors enhanced the academic support of new students with the formation of organized Sunday Study Tables for biochemistry, physiology, and anatomy. In addition, peer tutors were on hand to answer questions, monitor study groups, or just provide a quiet structure for daily study. The peer mentors also recruit and serve as tutors for the OMS-I class and provide a critical component to our course evaluation process.

Each semester, the mentors lead academical society discussions as they peer review each course in the curriculum, allowing the students to dialogue about each course



and instructor and summarize their feedback into a written report submitted to the Curriculum Committee. Course action plans utilize student feedback to continuously improve courses within the college's curriculum. The value of the peer mentors within NSU-COM has been significant because they have had a profound influence on the transition and progression of each entering class.

### **Faculty Mentoring Students**

Each academical society has an identified academic leader, in addition to other faculty members who provide academic guidance to students within their society. Academic leaders receive training in areas such as learning styles and academic resources available through the college, the Health Professions Division, and the university. They learn techniques to assist with study skills and time management and help students cope with the stress of being medical students.

Academic leaders dedicate time each semester to reach out to students that may be experiencing challenges and offer guidance to them. Since the inception of this venue, students have shared their appreciation for the confidential hand of guidance from faculty members, who enjoy connecting with students early and watching them blossom into confident medical students.

### **Faculty Mentoring Faculty**

Perhaps the ideal type of a mentoring program is one which happens by chance. However, we cannot always count on stumbling into one of those relationships. Therefore, while encouraging spontaneous mentoring relationships, the college provides more formal modes of faculty mentoring. Each new faculty member is assigned a department mentor by the department's chair, but also has the opportunity to be matched with a college mentor, whose intention is to help new faculty members adjust to their new environment.



A well-respected senior faculty member can be invaluable during the early years at a new university, which is why we want to do whatever it takes to retain and advance our faculty members in both their interests and those of the college. NSU-COM has its own culture, structure, role relations, informal system dynamics, and environmental stresses and strains, so college mentors play a key role in helping new faculty members transition into the NSU family.

The college's mentor program, which began in 2010, has become a bridge between the senior and junior faculty. Three times each year, mentors and mentees fellowship together as they learn about the history of the college, academic medicine, the peer review process, governance and structure of osteopathic medicine, and networking skills.

Our November 2011 event featured Dr. Arnold Melnick,



foundling dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. William Levin, a longtime clinical preceptor, and Dr. Paula Anderson-Worts, an NSU-COM alumna and faculty member. The collegial ambience evidenced in the Simulation Lab warmed your heart with pride as over 30 faculty members shared memories and stories about the inception and growth of osteopathic medicine in South Florida, the birth of NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine – and beyond. Be on the lookout for faculty members wearing a special gold mentor pin and ask them to share a story with you.

From the traditional model of mentoring, NSU-COM continues to evolve as we meet the needs of students, alumni, faculty members, and the community. The academical society structure has become a home for expanding mentoring and connections among students. With input and guidance from everyone involved, we will continue to evolve as we value the past and build the future.

# NSU-COM Alumni Association Executive Committee

## Past Presidents

1997 - Orlando Garcia, D.O. ('94)  
1998 - Michael Gervasi, D.O. ('87)  
1999 - Tamer Gozleveli, D.O. ('94)  
2000 - John Geake, D.O. ('93)  
2001 - Isidro Pujol, D.O. ('94)  
2002 - Jeffrey Grove, D.O. ('90)  
2003 - Glenn Moran, D.O. ('88)  
2004 - Kenneth Johnson, D.O. ('91)  
2005 - Steven Cimerberg, D.O. ('87)  
2006 - Ronald Renuart, D.O. ('90)  
2007 - Gregory James, D.O. ('88)  
2008 - Robert Blackburn, D.O. ('86)  
2009 - Ronald Tolchin, D.O. ('89)  
2010 - Daniel Carney, D.O. ('95)

## Trustees at Large

Bridget Bellinger, D.O. ('86)  
Tyler Cymet, D.O. ('88)  
Tamer Gozleveli, D.O. ('87)  
Mayrene Hernandez, D.O. ('01)  
Stephen MacDonald, D.O. ('90)  
Glenn Moran, D.O. ('88)  
Raymon Priewe, D.O. ('86)

## 2011-12 Officers

**Paula Anderson-Worts, D.O.** ('94)  
President

**Andrew Gross, D.O.** ('94)  
President Elect

**Annette Da Silva, D.O.** ('96)  
Vice President

**William Stager, D.O.** ('96)  
Secretary

**Donald Howard, D.O.** ('85)  
Treasurer

**Daniel Carney, D.O.** ('95)  
Immediate Past President

**Howard L. Neer, D.O.**  
Associate Dean, Alumni Affairs

**Lynne Cawley, M.Sc.**  
Director, Student and Alumni Services

## Living Tribute Honorees

2002 - Mary Smith  
2003 - Arthur Snyder, D.O.  
2004 - Lori Dribin, Ph.D.  
2005 - Edye Groseclose, Ph.D.  
2006 - Howard Hada, Ph.D.  
2008 - Cyril Blavo, D.O.  
2009 - A. Alvin Greber, D.O.  
2010 - Harold Laubach, Ph.D.

## Celebration of Excellence Distinguished Alumni

1999 - Archie McLean, D.O. ('88)  
2000 - James Turner, D.O. ('88)  
2001 - Daniel McBath, D.O. ('90)  
2003 - Joel Rush, D.O. ('85)  
2004 - Jeffrey Grove, D.O. ('90)  
2005 - Gregory James, D.O. ('88)  
2006 - Glenn Moran, D.O. ('88)  
2007 - Ross Zafonte, D.O. ('85)  
2008 - Majdi Ashchi, D.O. ('89)  
2009 - Tyler Cymet, D.O. ('88)  
2010 - John Geake, D.O. ('93)  
2011 - Jacqueline Kraveka, D.O. ('94)

# NSU-COM Alumni Association Reunion and 16th Annual Continuing Medical Education Program

## February 10-12, 2012

## Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six and NSU Health Professions Division

The Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine (NSU-COM) Alumni Association invites you to join the festivities of the Alumni Association Reunion and 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Continuing Medical Education Program entitled *Primary Care Update*.

In addition to honoring the **class of 1987**, we will be commemorating the **class of 1992's 20-year reunion** and celebrating the **10-year anniversary of the class of 2002**. It's a wonderful opportunity to renew old friendships, reminisce, dine, dance, and have a good time!

Social functions will take place at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at 1-800-233-1234 and asking for our group's lower rate of \$199 per night.

The educational program will be held at the College of Osteopathic Medicine on the main NSU campus in Davie. Paula Anderson-Worts, D.O., Alumni Association president, and Andrew Gross, D.O., president elect, worked hard to make this an en-

tertaining and enriching event and cordially invite you to attend this celebration. For your information, we now have 3,718 alumni who are practicing all over the country.

The goals of the *Primary Care Update* CME program are designed to be useful to all primary care physicians, family practice physicians, internists, geriatricians, and others and provide the latest information on subjects that pertain to primary care practices. The educational updates allow you to earn **seven hours of AOA-approved Category 1-AOA CME credits**. The sessions will include discussion of the latest concepts of pathophysiology, diagnosis, and therapy of disease processes commonly seen in the office setting. Topics of current interest will include: *"Immunizations in Pediatrics: A Brief Overview and Update"*; *"Cardiac Auscultation Refresher Course for the Practicing Physician"*; *"New Technology and the Abnormal Pap Smear"*; *"Managing the Patient with Chronic Rhinosinusitis"*; and *"Ethics and Law in Medicine."*

For additional information, please contact **Ellen Rondino** at [er499@nova.edu](mailto:er499@nova.edu).

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

**Melissa Boguslawski, M.P.H.** ('11), who is working as a fitness coach at Sola Life & Fitness/Beaumont Health System in Rochester Hills, Michigan, is featured in a documentary entitled *Super Healthy Me* that chronicles the efforts of a *Detroit Free Press* writer who is devoting a year of his life to eating healthy, exercising regularly, and living well.

**Gaston Dana, D.O.** ('92), who currently works in a multispecialty practice and serves as chairman of medicine and medical director of wound care and acute rehabilitation at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Franklin, Indiana, is now board certified in four specialties—internal medicine, emergency medicine, undersea and hyperbaric medicine, and medical acupuncture.

**David Graper, D.O.** ('03) passed away unexpectedly on September 11, 2010, at the age of 38. Dr. Graper, who was born on March 10, 1972, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, at Holy Cross Hospital, moved to Gainesville with his family as a teenager, graduating from Newberry High School in 1990. After earning his D.O. degree from NSU-COM, Dr. Graper served as a family practice physician in the Florida municipalities of Gainesville and Hawthorne.

**Philip Ham, D.O.** ('03) has joined the staff of West Florida Hospital and West Florida Medical Group's East Nine Mile Road location. Before joining West Florida Medical Group, Dr. Ham, who is board certified in family medicine and is a major in the U.S. Air Force, practiced at the family medicine clinic of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Medical Group at Spangdahlem Air Force Base in Germany. He also served as allergy and immunizations chief, casualty management disaster team chief, and space shuttle recovery team leader in France and Spain for NASA's final two shuttle launches.

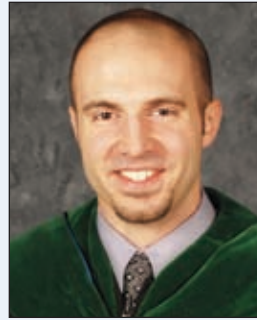


**Marlow Hernandez, D.O., M.P.H., M.B.A.** ('11) was awarded first-place honors at the Florida Chapter of the American College of Physicians' Annual Scientific Meeting held September 9-11 in St. Petersburg in the resident doctor poster category for his project entitled "Objective Laboratory Targets in Treatment of Patients Hospitalized for Heart Failure."

**Sheeja Kanacheril, D.O.** ('04) recently joined the Lehigh Medical Group at Lehigh Regional Medical Center in Lehigh Acres, Florida, where she is practicing family medicine. Prior to joining the Lehigh Medical Group, Dr. Kanacheril worked at Florida Family Health Centers in Orlando and Port Charlotte, where she provided medical care to underserved and challenged patients.

**Kellie Mosley-Mendez, D.O.** ('98), who is a board-certified dermatologist with two practice locations in Florida, was appoint-

ed to the Assistance Fund Board of Directors. The organization, which is based in Orlando, is a leading 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that helps make advanced therapies and diagnostics available to the underinsured. More than just a funding resource, the Assistance Fund provides a continuum of services for those with chronic and life-threatening illnesses.



**Christos G. Mihos, D.O.** ('09), a second-year resident in the NSU-COM/Mount Sinai Medical Center Internal Medicine Residency Program, and his wife and fellow Mount Sinai resident **Rosa T. Artola, D.O.** ('08), coauthored an article entitled "The Pleiotropic Effects of the Hydroxy-Methyl-Glutaryl-CoA Reductase Inhibitors in Rheumatologic Disorders: A Comprehensive Review" that was published over the summer in *Rheumatology International*.

**Alexandra Schmidt, D.O.** ('07), who completed her residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine/Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center, recently relocated to Boca Raton, Florida, to work in a private OB/GYN practice.



**Ronald Tolchin, D.O.** ('89) and **Dionne Casthely, D.O.** ('95) have joined Baptist Health Medical Group, which is an organization comprising about 80 physicians in multiple specialties closely aligned with Baptist Health South Florida. Dr. Tolchin, who serves as medical director of the Baptist Center for Spine Care, specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation, low back pain, and spine disorders; Dr. Casthely specializes in musculoskeletal rehabilitation and fluoroscopic guided injections as well as spine disorders.



NSU-COM alumni enjoy the festivities at the alumni reception held at the Orlando Science Center on November 1 during the AOA 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Osteopathic Medical Conference in Orlando, Florida.

# 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 **Ellen Rondino** in the Office of Alumni Affairs at (954) 262-1544.

## 2011 Donors

### Clock Tower Society (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Dr. John and Ellen Geake, Jr. ('93)

Dr. Jack Goloff ('85)

Dr. Raimundo Pastor ('93)

Dr. David Spight ('99)

Drs. Ronald Tolchin ('89)/Susan Yahia ('91)

Dr. Charles A. Wilson ('96)

Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

### 500 Club (\$500 - \$999)

Dr. Steven Beljic ('95)

Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Lynne Cawley

Dr. Joan Crawford ('86)

FOMA District 16

Dr. Christopher Guzik ('97)

Dr. Nancy Harpold ('96)

Dr. Soling Li ('00)

Dr. Mitchell Pace ('87)

Dr. Ronald Renuart ('90)

### 250 Club (\$250 - \$499)

Dr. Tye Barber ('06)

Dr. Mariaelena Caraballo ('98)

Dr. Annette Da Silva ('96)

Dr. John Drabing

(In memory of Morton Morris, D.O., J.D.)

Dr. Thomas Green ('98)

Dr. Andrew Gross ('93)

(in memory of Arthur and Helen Klaus)

Dr. Diane Haisten ('93)

Dr. Mayrene Hernandez ('01)

Dr. Dana T. Lister ('95)

Dr. Joseph Morelos ('97)

Dr. JoAnna VanVleet ('04)

Drs. Mary Jo Villar ('94)/Orlando Garcia ('94)

## Century Club (\$100 - \$249)

Dr. Theodore Aquino ('09)

Dr. Michael Baron ('88)

Dr. Elizabeth Biggers ('06)

Dr. Joel Biggers ('06)

Dr. Juanita M. Brown ('91)

Dr. Terry Carstensen ('97)

Mr. Scott Colton

(in honor of Dr. Anthony J. Silvagni and Dr. Fred Lippman)

Drs. Bryan ('06) and Jennifer ('07) Currie

Dr. Gaston Dana ('92)

Dr. Bruce David ('88)

Dr. Linda Delo ('86)

Dr. Joanna L. Greenblatt-Drowos ('04)

Dr. Salvatore Finazzo ('96)

Dr. Michael Gervasi ('87)

Dr. Melinda Greenfield ('94)

Dr. Jeannette Hill-Adler ('99)

Drs. Kenneth ('91) and Michelle Johnson

Dr. Joy H. Kang ('10)

Dr. Cecylia Kelley ('02)

Dr. Rubin Kesner ('89)

Dr. Kern Koos ('98)

Dr. Michele Lapayowker ('90)

Dr. Olga Martinez ('06)

Dr. Aeyal Oren ('99)

Dr. Ramsey B. Pevsner ('03)

Dr. John R. Presutti ('93)

Dr. David Rabaja ('94)

Dr. Michael Rasansky ('06)

(in memory of Dr. William Stoler)

Dr. Steven Reeves ('95)

Dr. Saul Rigau ('89)

Dr. Jill Ross ('07)

Ms. Mary Smith

(in honor of Harold Becker, Maureen Emond, and Betty Lambert)

Dr. William H. Stager ('89)

Dr. Howard Stein ('85)

Dr. Michael Weiss ('86)

Dr. Richard Wolonick ('91)

## Friends/Young Alumni (up to \$99)

Dr. Intiaz Ather ('09)

Dr. Douglas Baska ('86)

Erica Burch ('10, M.P.H.)

Dr. Delia Celestine

Dr. David Cressy ('93)

Dr. Diana J. Graves ('86)

(in honor of Harold Laubach, Ph.D.)

Rodger Jackson ('05, M.P.H.)

Joseph Mcloughlin ('03, M.P.H.)

Dr. Damilola Olupona ('10)

Dr. Stuart Shalit ('90)

Dr. John Tole ('03)

## Cumulative List (1999-2011)

### Founder's Circle (\$25,000+)

Drs. Andrew J. Hanley and  
Evangelos G. Poulos

David Kimmel Foundation/Mr.  
and Mrs. Stephen Mason/

Harry Wendroff, CPA  
(in memory of Dr. David Levine)

Dr. George Linsey

Mr. Howard Spector

Dr. Paul Winner

Dr. Ross Zafonte ('85)

# Alumni Association Fund Honor Roll

## Heritage Circle

(Represents donors that have made a significant deferred gift via life insurance policies, insurances, or trusts.)

*Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Grove ('90)*  
(Gift: \$500,000 life insurance policy)

*Dr. Albert Whitehead*  
(Gift: \$250,000 life insurance policy)

## NSU-COM Society (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

*Dr. John and Ellen Geake, Jr. ('93)*

*Dr. James W. Howell ('94)*

*Dr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Silvagni*

*Drs. James ('88) and Sherry ('07) Turner*

## Chancellor's Council (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

*Abbott Laboratories*

*Dr. Tamer Gozleveli ('87)*

*Dr. Jeffrey Grove ('90)*

*Dr. John N. Harker ('89)*

*Dr. Donald C. Howard ('85)*

*Dr. Stanley Zimmelman ('91)*

## Dean's Council (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

*Dr. Robert Blackburn ('86)*

*Dr. Daniel C. Carney ('95)*

*Dr. Richard A. Cottrell ('90)*

*Dr. Jack Goloff ('85)*

*Drs. Kenneth ('91) and Michelle Johnson*

*Dr. Raymon Priewe ('86)*

*Dr. Joel Rush ('85)*

*Dr. Robert Sammartino ('90)*

## Clock Tower Society (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

*Dr. Michael Baron ('88)*

*Dr. Steven Beljic ('95)*

*Dr. Douglas G. Bushell ('98)*

*Dr. Mariaelena Caraballo ('98)*

*Dr. Charles Chase ('89)*

*Dr. Joan Crawford ('86)*

*Dr. Robert Crook ('88)*

*Dr. Tyler Cymet ('88)*

*Dr. Tony Diaz ('92)*

*Florida Osteopathic Medical Association*

*FOMA District 16*

*Florida Society ACOFP*

*Dr. Michael Gervasi ('87)*

*Dr. Leslie Greco ('87)*

*Dr. Andrew Gross ('93)*

*Dr. Christopher Guzik ('97)*

*Dr. Jamal Haddad ('91)*

*Dr. Armando L. Hassun, Jr. ('92)*

*Dr. Robert Hasty ('00)*

*Dr. Steven L. Hazelcorn ('98)*

*Dr. Mayrene Hernandez ('01)*

*Dr. Gregory James ('88)*

*Dr. Christopher P. Lampson ('85)*

*Dr. William and Rita Levin*

*Dr. Carlos Levy ('87)*

*Dr. Soling Li ('00)*

*Dr. Glenn Moran ('88)*

*Dr. Mitchell Pace ('87)*

*Dr. Raimundo Pastor ('93)*

*Dr. Earle Pescatore ('89)*

*Dr. Isidro Pujol ('94)*

*Dr. Bruce Rankin ('85)*

*Dr. Steven Reeves ('95)*

*Dr. Ronald Renuart ('90)*

*Dr. Michael Ross ('88)*

*Dr. David Spight ('99)*

*Dr. and Mrs. Ronald B. Swanson ('96)*

*Ms. Geraldine Terry*

*Drs. Ronald Tolchin ('89)/Susan Yahia ('91)*

*Dr. Stacy Williams ('95)*

*Dr. Charles A. Wilson ('96)*

*Dr. John Windsor ('89)*

## 500 Club (\$500 - \$999)

*Dr. David Adler ('92)*

*Dr. Eric Alboucrek ('92)*

*Drs. Seth and Mary Baker ('88)*

*Dr. James Beretta ('88)*

*Dr. Roger Boyington ('94)*

*Broward County Osteopathic*

*Medical Association*

*Dr. Colene Stout Calo ('95)*

*Dr. Terry Carstensen ('97)*

*Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Lynne Cawley*

*Dr. Steven Cimerberg ('87)*

*Dr. Joseph Corcoran ('86)*

*Dr. Bruce David ('88)*

*Drs. Felix Fernandez/Ravi Mehan ('00)*

*Dr. Judith Fitzgerald ('90)*

*Dr. Brad Glick ('89)*

*Dr. Sandy Goldman ('86)*

*Dr. John Gordon ('92)*

*Dr. Thomas Green ('98)*

*Dr. Diane Haisten ('93)*

*Dr. Nancy Harpold ('96)*

*Dr. Jennifer Hayes ('86)*

*Dr. James T. Howell*

*Dr. Sharon Johnston ('93)*

*Dr. Barry Karpel ('89)*

*Dr. Walter J. Kay*

# Alumni Association Fund Honor Roll

*Dr. Cecylia Kelley ('02)*

*Dr. Rubin Kesner ('89)*

*Dr. Robert Klein ('91)*

*Drs. Jared and Susan Lechtenstein ('01)*

*Dr. Stephen MacDonald ('90)*

*Dr. Henry Malczak ('90)*

*Dr. Ronnie and Sherri Martin*

*Dr. Clyde S. Meckstroth ('85)*

*Dr. Joseph Morelos ('97)*

*Dr. Julia O'Brien ('89)*

*Dr. Tricia Percy ('95)*

*Dr. Patrick Sayavong ('92)*

*Dr. Todd Schwartz ('88)*

*Dr. Gregory Serfer ('97)*

*Ms. Mary Smith*

*Ms. Lorraine Snyder*

*Dr. Theodore Spevack ('85) and*

*Dr. Robyn Zelnick ('87)*

*Dr. William H. Stager ('89)*

*Dr. Sonia Talarico ('03)*

*Dr. Aye Unnoppet ('00)*

*Dr. JoAnna VanVleet ('04)*

*Drs. Mary Jo Villar ('94)/Orlando Garcia ('94)*

*Dr. Andrew Wakstein ('93)*

*Dr. Richard Wolonick ('91)*

## **250 Club (\$250 - \$499)**

*Dr. Comfort O. Adewumi ('00)*

*Dr. Tye Barber ('06)*

*Dr. Bridget Bellingar ('86)*

*Dr. Shaughn Bennett ('86)*

*Dr. Camille Z. Bentley ('92)*

*Dr. Behnam Birgani ('93)*

*Drs. Alice ('94) and Cyril Blavo*

*Dr. Edgar Bolton*

*Dr. Janet Bradshaw ('92)*

*Dr. Kenneth Bresky ('92)*

*Dr. Juanita M. Brown ('91)*

*Dr. Kenneth Chan ('92)*

*Mr. Scott Colton*

*Drs. Bryan ('06) and Jennifer ('07) Currie*

*Dr. Gaston Dana ('92)*

*Dr. Annette Da Silva ('96)*

*Dr. Alan David ('92)*

*Dr. John DeCosmo ('87)*

*Dr. Linda Delo ('86)*

*Dr. John Drabing*

*Dr. Stephen Dyke ('91)*

*Dr. Salvatore Finazzo ('96)*

*Dr. Malcolm R. Freedman ('94)*

*Dr. Julie Katz-Gerrish ('93)*

*Dr. Lee L. Gibson ('85)*

*Dr. Dana Chaykin Glover ('90)*

*Dr. Diana J. Graves ('86)*

*Dr. A. Alvin Greber*

*Dr. Melinda Greenfield ('94)*

*Dr. Jason D. Hatcher ('99)*

*Dr. Eric Hegybeli ('95)*

*Dr. Nabil Itani ('00)*

*Dr. Andrew Kahn ('91)*

*Dr. Marc Kaprow ('01)*

*Dr. Michael Krutchik ('88)*

*Dr. James Liang ('99)*

*Dr. Dana T. Lister ('95)*

*Dr. R. Jackeline Moljo ('95)*

*Dr. and Mrs. Howard Neer*

*Dr. Anjali Noble ('97)*

*Dr. Merideth Norris ('00)*

*NSU-COM Class of 1994*

*Dr. Nelson Onaro ('92)*

*Dr. William E. Osborn, III ('96)*

*Dr. Anthony Ottaviani*

*Dr. Edward Packer*

*Dr. Joseph D. Paulding ('89)*

*Dr. Ramsey B. Pevsner ('03)*

*Mr. John Potomski*

*Dr. David Rabaja ('94)*

*Dr. George Ramie ('96)*

*Dr. Michael Rasansky ('06)*

*Dr. David Ratcliffe ('92)*

*Dr. Saul Rigau ('89)*

*Dr. Hector Rodriguez ('90)*

*Dr. Jill Ross ('07)*

*Dr. Steven Sager ('90)*

*Dr. David D. Sarkarati ('00)*

*Dr. Lawrence Schwartz ('90)*

*Dr. Stuart Shalit ('90)*

*Dr. Sandi Scott-Holman ('93)*

*Dr. John Yozen Shih ('91)*

*Dr. William Sjovall II ('96)*

*Dr. Joseph Stasio ('91)*

*Dr. Donald Teplitz ('85)*

*Ms. Louise Todaro*

*Dr. Peter A. Tomasello ('91)*

*Dr. Ira Weiner*

*Dr. Michael Weiss ('86)*

*Dr. Margaret Wilkinson*

**Alumni Reunion at the  
American Osteopathic  
Association  
OMED Conference**

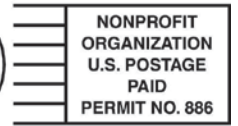
*November 1, 2011  
Orlando Science Center*







Health Professions Division  
College of Osteopathic Medicine  
3200 South University Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328-2018



# 2012 Calendar of Events

## **February 10-12, 2012**

### ***16<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Reunion and CME Weekend***

Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale, Florida

For additional information, please contact *Ellen Rondino* at [er499@nova.edu](mailto:er499@nova.edu).

## **February 23-26, 2012**

### ***109<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Osteopathic Medical Association Convention***

Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa in Weston, Florida

## **March 2-3, 2012**

### ***Fifth Annual Interprofessional Geriatrics Symposium***

Nova Southeastern University – Main Campus in Davie, Florida

## **March 3-11, 2012**

### ***Medical Outreach Trip to Ecuador***

For additional information, please contact Dr. Robin Jacobs at [rjacobs@nova.edu](mailto:rjacobs@nova.edu).