

Summer 7-1-2010

## COM Outlook Summer 2010

College of Osteopathic Medicine

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NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

# COM Outlook

College of Osteopathic Medicine

Summer 2010

Volume 11, Number 3

## Sensitivity Toward Seniors

*Creative Geriatric Collaboration  
Enlightens Future Physicians*



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...PALS Tele-Education Training in Iraq...Senior Week Awards and Activities...Dr. Christopher Sizemore Saves Lives in Haiti

## Dean's Message



In an election year dominated by health care reform, the need to have additional physician representation at both the state and national legislative level is more imperative than ever before. Fortunately, as the fall election cycle draws near, it's become increasingly evident that physicians across the nation are responding to this clarion call.

According to a *USA Today* article that appeared in its

April 20 issue, 47 physicians—41 Republicans and 6 Democrats—are running for the U.S. House or Senate this year, which is nearly three times the number of physicians (16) serving in Congress today. By comparison, 30 physicians ran in the 2008 general election, while only 22 ran for congressional seats in 2006. Currently, physicians comprise only three percent of the U.S. Congress.

In Florida, three physicians are currently serving in the state's House of Representatives—Ron Renuart, D.O., (the first osteopathic physician ever elected to the Florida House), Paige Kreegel, M.D., and Ed Homan, M.D., while in the Florida Senate, Durrell Peaden, M.D., is our lone physician voice. In the upcoming November elections, two osteopathic physicians are running for state and national seats: Rudolph Moise, D.O., who is running for the U.S. Congress, and Robert McCann, D.O., who is campaigning for a spot in the Florida House of Representatives.

One fact is certain: Physician candidates have the distinct political advantage of voter confidence when it comes to dealing with the country's unwieldy health care system. A Gallup Poll conducted in March 2010 unearthed the fact that 77 percent of Americans trust doctors to "do the right thing" on health policy, compared with just 32 percent for Republican leaders and 49 percent for President Barack Obama.

Having increased physician representation at the state and national level is vitally important for the simple reason that health care is primarily regulated by the legislative process. It's no secret that the majority of legislators simply don't grasp the complexity and personal idiosyncrasies involved in patient care when they draft legislation that regulates the health care industry. For example, they can misjudge what is involved in the perception and performance of an office procedure. In addition, they may

misjudge the impact of health care delivery or where the real costs are when they're trying to implement cost-cutting measures that actually hinder instead of improve the way the medical profession delivers care.

One striking illustration of this involves the issue of shrinking physician reimbursement payments. Additionally, legislators as a whole may not truly comprehend the escalating costs involved with running a medical practice today. Beyond the issue of burgeoning malpractice insurance fees, additional clerical support is required just to respond to the insurance companies that submit multiple inquiries before they will provide reimbursement. As we are all aware, processing a never-ending stream of paperwork has become a burden, as has the overall lack of understanding in the legislative process that the practice of medicine is not just a job but actually a way of life for the many physicians who are frequently on call and work excessively long hours.

This lack of understanding also extends to the realm of medical education. Over the past several years, new medical schools have seemingly opened at whim without legislators really comprehending the crucial need for also providing increased graduate medical education opportunities. Similarly, there is a paucity of funding to accommodate those health professionals who selflessly choose to work in medically underserved areas of the United States where there is inadequate revenue to support them. Consequently, is it any wonder that these medical professionals are having difficulty paying back their approximately \$200,000 in medical school loans?

The facts I have discussed in this message illustrate the need for health practitioners, especially physicians, to realize how important it is for them to become significantly more involved in the political process. This is especially important for those individuals who possess the ability and desire to actually pursue national or state House and Senate opportunities. Once elected, they can work toward ensuring the American people continue to get the best health care in the world at an affordable price with reasonable safeguards by educating their fellow legislators and sponsoring or supporting progressive and sound health care legislation.

*Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc.*



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# COM Outlook - Summer 2010



***Sigma Sigma Phi Establishes Support Our Soldiers Program - 9***

Since its inception earlier this year, the Support Our Soldiers program has coordinated a number of worthwhile activities to outreach to U.S. soldiers and veterans. These include a DVD drive as well as a letter decorating initiative to thank U.S. soldiers for their patriotic service to the country.

***PALS Tele-Education Training Provided to Iraqi Physicians - 22***

Placing itself at the vanguard of medical education is nothing new for NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, which exemplified this quality once again in late March when it participated in the first-ever Pediatric Advance Life Support (PALS) Course to be transmitted via teleconferencing technology to Iraqi physicians working in the war-torn city of Baghdad.

***Creative Geriatric Collaboration Enlightens Future Physicians - 24***

Thanks to a creative collaboration between NSU-COM's Florida Coastal Geriatric Resources, Education, and Training Center and the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Broward County, student physicians are gaining new perspectives concerning the plight of many seniors.

***Graduation 2010: Senior Week Activities Emphasize Fun - 27***

In late May, Senior Week provided an abundance of opportunities for the class of 2010 to get reacquainted while participating in a range of fun-filled activities that included a golf tournament, a jovial dining experience at Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. in Fort Lauderdale, and a festive awards banquet at the Westin Diplomat Resort and Spa.

***Mission of Mercy: Christopher Sizemore, D.O., Saves Lives in Haiti - 42***

In January, just a week after a devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck near the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince, Christopher Sizemore, D.O., a 2005 NSU-COM alumnus, flew down to the stricken region to provide his medical and surgical skills to those in need.

DEPARTMENTS

*Dean's Message - 2*

*Chancellor's Communiqué - 4*

*COMMunications - 5*

*Looking Back - 15*

*Research Highlights - 16*

*Faculty Focus - 20*

*Alumni Corner - 40*



Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097; telephone number: 404-679-4501) to award associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

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As we approached another graduation season, I began to experience that familiar warm feeling I always get this time of year as I watch our graduating students move on and become part of the nation's health care provision community. I also began reflecting on the multiple changes that have occurred in the delivery and construct of medical and health education around the United States.

In a way, it seems as if Dr. Morton Terry, the founder of NSU's Health Professions Division, was indeed a soothsayer based on the numerous communications I've been receiving recently from academic colleagues around the nation regarding how they are coordinating their educational offerings in the various professional disciplines of health care. In essence, what is occurring nationwide is an educational model Dr. Terry envisioned as far back as the early 1980s—the creation of a cohesive and collaborative Health Professions Division.

Today, it has become a widespread trend that stretches from as far west as California to as far east as Maine. Recently, I received some catalog information from the University of California, San Diego and the University of California, San Francisco that attests to this development. I also received a report from a very prestigious college of medicine in Chicago named the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, which has combined all its health degree programs into one unit called the College of Health Professions.

When I read Rosalind Franklin University's reasoning for doing so, it was almost as if I was sitting with Dr. Terry and hearing the words he spoke to me nearly three decades ago. In the report, it stated that health care had moved to the point where we must recognize that each profession has to know more about issues such as holistic and collaborative care. I experienced a sense of déjà-vu as I read the report because it echoed how Dr. Terry felt about the importance of both intra- and inter-professional affairs.

In addition to the universities I mentioned in California and Illinois, evidence of this trend can be found right here in South Florida at Florida International University in Miami, which has created a health sciences division to enhance traits such as cooperation, communication, and collaboration between the health professions. Similarly, my alma mater, Columbia University in New York, is in its second year of having an administrative body that functions for the purposes of creating this collaborative presentation of not only academic didactic courses, but clinical environments for its medical, dental, and allied health schools.

It's very clear that our preeminent presentation of health care education, not only at the College of Osteopathic Medicine but

throughout our Health Professions Division, is being replicated nationwide. It's a wise move because it benefits all involved, whether it be in a unique simulation training center or by doing collaborative research.

That's why we're always working hard to obtain additional grants from federal, state, and foundation funding sources to establish a very significant simulation program that will augment the interdisciplinary teaching that already occurs here. If you look at a simulated hospital operating room and ICU, you have elements within that environment that encompass everything from pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, and nursing to sonography and anesthesia assistant training. As a result, you have multiple professions that are working together simulating, cooperating, communicating, and collaborating with the idea of learning together for the betterment of all health professionals.

Prior to the creation of our intra- and inter-professional health professions educational paradigm several decades ago, other health professions units existed around the United States, but they were individually administered in what I call a "silo" environment. For example, you may have had a school of medicine, a school of dentistry, and a school of dental medicine, but every one had its own administration, faculty members, and budgets, and they didn't share faculty members or collaborate with each other.

The success of our model illustrates the brilliance of Dr. Terry, who thought of the Health Professions Division concept not only as an academic venture but also as a means to create many of the additional schools we have without replicating faculty and services. Through his mentorship to many of our sister schools around the nation, he helped spawn the creation of many health professions or health sciences divisions at universities across the country.

Over the years, I attended many meetings where administrators from other universities asked Dr. Terry how we had accomplished what we did and requested his assistance to help them achieve something similar. As a result, I did pro bono consultations at colleges and universities across the United States because Dr. Terry wanted to help his colleagues create an academic structure that centered on the idea of shared assets. This meant sharing everything from classrooms, equipment, and medical sciences faculty to laboratories, libraries, simulation labs, and technology.

It was the brilliance of Dr. Terry's instincts that helped bring about this important educational transformation, but I also think it was the humanity he possessed as a physician that made him so unique. He understood how important it is for health care professionals to use their knowledge and skills while also depending on their colleagues and utilizing the knowledge they impart to you to create the best and most well-rounded professionals.

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

## NSU-COM Collaborates with Russian Medical University on Standardized Patient Protocols

Research supported by an NSU Health Professions Division grant provided an opportunity for collaboration between NSU-COM and Kazan State Medical University (KSMU), which is the oldest medical university in Russia. The primary goal of this project is to move a newly established international standardized patient program in Russia forward in its use of standardized patient methodology through collaborative development of training manuals, protocols, and materials by partnering with an established counterpart in the United States.

Heidi Lane, Ed.D., assistant professor of internal medicine and director of patient-centered education, visited KSMU in Russia in early May to initiate the process, which continued several weeks later when KSMU representatives Alexey Sozinov, M.D., Sergey Bulatov, M.D., and Aysylu Valeeva, M.D., visited NSU-COM. During her stay in Russia, Dr. Lane had an opportunity to collaborate with the KSMU professors and conduct the inaugural high-stakes clinical skills examination in Russia. The goal of the examination, which was given in English to 30 Russian and international (Indian) medical students, is to prepare these students to take licensure exams in their home countries or the United States. The researchers will conduct a comparison of pass rates on these licensing examinations between those students who took the exams without taking a high-stakes exam and those who completed the high-stakes exam.

In preparation for the examination, Dr. Lane met with faculty members, students, and standardized patients from KSMU. She also made a presentation to an audience of senior academic officers, residents, clinical skills center trainers, and administrators from nine medical schools in Russia regarding the project and was interviewed on Russian television along with the standardized patients, students, and faculty members about the examination.

In mid-May, following Dr. Lane's stay in Russia, Dr. Sozinov (KSMU rector), Dr. Bulatov (chief of the KSMU Centre for Practical Skills), and



**International Collaboration in Action**  
During their stay in South Florida, the Russian delegation was able to interact with the I-Stan human patient simulator. Pictured (clockwise from left) are: Dr. Heidi Lane; David Thomas, M.D., J.D., NSU-COM chair of the Department of Surgery and the Division of Correctional Medicine; Dr. Alexey Sozinov; Dr. Aysylu Valeeva, Dr. Sergey Bulatov, and Marti Echols, Ph.D., NSU-COM assistant dean of medical education.

Dr. Valeeva (officer in the KSMU International Department) presented the project with Dr. Lane at the 14<sup>th</sup> Ottawa International Conference on Assessment of Competence in Medicine and the Healthcare Professions held May 15-18 in Miami, Florida. Following the conference, the KSMU delegation visited the NSU-COM campus to discuss future collaborative opportunities. During their five-day visit, the delegation members were delighted to interact with various university administrators and tour the impressive NSU campus.

This project will provide a foundation for conducting future research with a standardized patient program in a third-world country that may be designed specifically to address effectiveness of collaboration between international sites and the impact of standardized patient methodology on medical education and patient outcomes.

## NSU-COM Nabs Three Awards at AACOM Annual Meeting



Following the awards ceremony, the triumphant trio posed for a photo with Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc., the college's esteemed dean. Pictured (from left) are Dr. Silvagni, Dr. Hamstra, Scott Colton, and Dr. De Gaetano.

During the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) Annual Meeting held April 7-10 in North Bethesda, Maryland, three awards were bestowed upon various NSU College of Osteopathic Medicine faculty and staff members.

**Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S.Ed, FAAFP, FACOFP**, associate professor of family medicine and associate dean of clinical and graduate medical education, received the Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators' Award for his outstanding leadership as chair of the Core Competency Task Force of the Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators.

**Janet Hamstra, Ed.D.**, assistant professor of internal medicine and medical education specialist, was named the winner of the Peer Reviewers' Poster Award for her project titled "Analyzing First-Year Osteopathic Medical Students' Learning Styles, Spatial Ability, and Success in OPP/OMT." Poster collaborators included David Boesler, D.O., Mark Sandhouse, D.O., and Barbara Arcos, D.O.

**Scott Colton**, director of medical communications, received a Best Feature Story or Article Award in the Communications Awards Competition for his *COM Outlook* article entitled "Miracle on the Hudson: Albert Panero Rides a Wave of Emotions Following Watery Plane Crash."

## Correctional Medicine Edges Toward Specialty Status

Roughly six million Americans are interfacing with the criminal justice system today. Of these, three million are in an incarcerated setting and 1.5 million are cared for by physicians who work full time in this unique environment.

Correctional physicians deal with a wide variety of patient problems and conditions and are responsible for assuring a healthy environment. From acute detoxification of alcohol and drugs at intake in a jail to chronic seizure disorder, diabetes, and hypertension in a prison or acute and chronic care of hepatitis in all correctional settings, correctional physicians must master a variety of skills, not to mention the unique natures of their patients and the factors impacting incarceration itself.

Because of these diverse knowledge bases and abilities, which also include mastery of quality management/quality improvement programs and understanding, defining, and implementing a systems-based approach to medical care delivery, correctional providers have long wished to have this field of medicine recognized as the specialty that it is. Unfortunately, until recently, there was no postgraduate training program to assist physicians in this field to master these responsibilities and prepare them for a career in this growing field.

Several years ago, NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine developed a pow-

erful two-year postgraduate correctional medicine program to accomplish this goal. To be considered for the program, candidates must have a solid grounding in another field of medicine as demonstrated by board certification or eligibility in a primary care field (or the equivalent). The two-year curriculum assures mastery of all the diverse knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to lead in the correctional environment. The NSU-COM program leads to board certification in correctional medicine and a Master of Public Health degree.

Recently, the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) began the process of recognizing correctional medicine as a distinct medical specialty when its Board of Jurisdiction of the Board of Specialties formally took jurisdiction and recommended the field as a duly recognized specialty of medicine. NSU-COM's overarching goal is to receive recognition for correctional medicine as a specialty by both the AOA and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

"Many of the NSU-COM postgraduate programs are recognized by the osteopathic and allopathic board-certifying bodies, and our goal is to have this occur for correctional medicine," said David Thomas, M.D., J.D., professor and chair of the Department of Surgery and the Division of Correctional Medi-



cine. "We are fortunate to have a wide variety of truly outstanding allopathic and osteopathic physicians as a part of this fellowship. Dianne Rehtine, M.D., is our co-program director and Paul Roberts, D.O., is program director of our accompanying correctional psychiatry residency as well as an integral part of our Correctional Medicine Fellowship."

## Osteopathic Medicine on the Rise

According to the Council on Graduate Medical Education (COGME), the United States will face a critical physician workforce shortage of approximately 85,000 physicians by 2020. Population growth, an aging physician workforce, and the health care demands of an aging U.S. population are three significant factors that will contribute to the shortage. In its *2005 Physician Workforce Policy Guidelines for the United States, 2000-2020*, COGME recommended that between 2002 and 2015, total U.S. medical school enrollment be increased by 15 percent.

Osteopathic medical education is growing at a rate far surpassing COGME's clarion call. In fact, total enrollment at the nation's colleges of osteopathic medicine has grown by 58 percent since 2002. Today, osteopathic medical education is one of the fastest-growing components of U.S. medical education.

Over the past decade, the number of colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) across the country has grown from 19 to 26, and the number of osteopathic medical students has increased from fewer than 11,000 to more than 18,000. There are 5,400 available seats for the entering class of 2010, and more than 13,000 potential medical school students have applied for those spots. By 2015, colleges of osteopathic medicine will graduate more than 5,300 osteopathic physicians—a number that is expected to continue to grow as more colleges open and existing colleges increase their class sizes.

The William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine, located in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, will welcome its first class of students in 2010. Earlier this year, the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Blacksburg, Virginia, held a ground-

breaking ceremony for its recently established site in Spartanburg, North Carolina, which will open in 2011. Western University College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona, California, will open a new location in Lebanon, Oregon, in 2011. In addition, the board of trustees at Marian University in Indianapolis, Indiana, recently approved the school's proposal for the development of the state's first school of osteopathic medicine.

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) recently collected data from its member schools on their continued growth through fall 2015. The 23 private colleges and branch campuses have projected an enrollment increase of 25 percent; the six public COMs have planned for an increase of approximately 17 percent.

(Source: AACOM)

## Florida Rural Medical Mission for Health Embraces Multidisciplinary Approach

**N**SU-COM's Ninth Annual AHEC/AMSA Florida Rural Medical Mission for Health, which consists of two large health fairs in two separate rural communities, was held during the weekend of March 13-14. The Glades Rural Education and Community Health (REACH) Fair took place on March 13 at the C.L. Brumback Health Center in Belle Glade, while the Hendry/Glades Community Health Fair was held the following day on the campus of Hendry Regional Medical Center in Clewiston.

During the two-day event, over 1,200 people received direct health care services and education from a contingent comprising well over 200 students, faculty members, and alumni from the 6 NSU Health Professions Division colleges and 14 HPD programs.

The participating NSU-HPD academic programs, listed by college, included the College of Osteopathic Medicine and its Master of Public Health Program; the College of Allied Health and Nursing's three physician assistant programs located throughout the state as well as nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, audiology, and vascular sonography; the College of Dental Medicine; the College of Optometry; the College of Pharmacy; and the College of Medical Sciences.

This medical outreach effort is unique as compared to typical health fairs because it is a true working partnership between NSU-COM and its student-run American Medical Student Association (AMSA) chapter, all HPD colleges, the NSU-COM Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program and its Everglades AHEC, over 150 community organizations, the local health fair planning committees, the Palm Beach County and Hendry County health departments, the Hendry Regional Medical Center, and the C.L. Brumback Health Center. The NSU component of this outreach program is run through the college's AMSA chapter and its outreach coordinator, which this year was OMS-II Wendy Song.

In addition, several other AHEC-affiliated colleges and universities, such as Palm Beach College and South University, actively participate in this rural outreach program. In order to participate and provide services in an outlying community, NSU faculty members become registered as volunteers under the auspices of the Florida Department of Health through the Palm Beach County Health Department (for the Glades REACH Fair in Belle Glade) and the Hendry County Health Department (for the Hendry/Glades Community Health Fair in Clewiston).

The Florida Rural Medical Mission for Health serves as a coordinated entree for individuals to access vital health care services once the fair is over. By design, the checkout and referral process is rather sophisticated for a health fair because NSU is not geographically positioned to provide continuous services out in the Glades communities, so we want to ensure that patients have assistance to figure out a plan for local follow-up.

As part of the checkout/referral station at the REACH



*To assist with the multicultural focus of the health fairs, translators fluent in languages such as Creole and Spanish were recruited to make the health care examination process flow as smoothly as possible.*

Fair, the C.L. Brumback Health Center/Palm Beach County Health Department staffs the checkout station. A full range of comprehensive services is provided by comparison with most typical health fairs. There is even a separate medical examination section at both fairs, comprising a triage station, lab, and 18 exam rooms. Vital services provided include cardiovascular risk assessments as well as diabetes, dental, and vision screenings, to name just a few. It is a true service learning opportunity when health professions' students from 14 NSU programs can work together and witness firsthand the vital needs in local underserved communities. The number of fair participants with high blood pressure among other medical conditions is staggering.

The 2010 fairs might best be remembered by the much-needed health care provided to recent evacuees of the earthquake in Haiti. The local community planning group worked especially hard to provide translators to assist the non Creole-speaking students and faculty members from NSU. This outreach program not only provided health care and educational services for over 1,200 participants, as evidenced by the long line of local residents who were waiting to get in prior to the start of the event, but the event provided free lunch and entertainment in two communities that have been hit the hardest during these difficult economic times.

*(Article written by Debbi Steinkohl, M.H.S.A., administrative director, Interdisciplinary Generalist Curriculum Program.)*



*Students from various NSU Health Professions Division disciplines played an integral role in ensuring the success of the Florida Rural Medical Mission for Health.*



## Interest Looms for International Educational Alliance in Colombia

In May, several NSU-COM representatives welcomed Maria Elvira Araujo Forero, O.D., coordinator of international relations and dean of the School of Health Science at La Fundacion Universitaria del Area Andina Seccional Pereira in Pereira, Colombia, to discuss the potential for future academic exchanges.

Specifically, because NSU-COM's Master of Public Health Program is providing classes in Spanish, expanding the scope and potential impact the program can have on international public health are primary goals. Dr. Forero expressed interest in utilizing this resource as a means to enrich the education of her students in Colombia.

Facilitating this meeting was Michael Parra, M.D., trauma research director and clinical assistant professor at Broward General Medical Center, who was first introduced to Dr. Forero through his work with international trauma research. Dr. Parra and a group of Broward Health trauma surgeons engage in monthly video conferences with physicians in five separate hospitals spanning three countries to discuss trauma cases with the mutual goal of improving care by fostering an international exchange of ideas.

In the spirit of international academic cooperation, all parties expressed their mutual interest in pursuing this academic exchange and look forward to future communications and collaborations.

*(Article written by OMS-III Roberto Castillo, M.H.S.)*



Pictured (top row from left) are: Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc., NSU-COM dean; James Howell, M.D., M.P.H., chair of the Department of Rural Medicine; Alfredo Rehbein, M.B.A., director of budgeting and grants management; Pablo Calzada, assistant dean of graduate education and extramural affairs; OMS-III Roberto Castillo; and Dr. Michael Parra. Seated (from left) are Angelica Maria Garcia Castro, an alumna from the Colombia university, and Dr. Araujo Forero.

## FOMA Health Fair Targets Health Education

NSU-COM's Florida Osteopathic Medical Association (FOMA) Student District Society held its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Fair on April 11, which provided health care screenings and health education literature to over 300 attendees at the Tower Shops/Home Depot Plaza near NSU's main campus.

This year's health fair included volunteer participation from a number of community organizations and NSU-COM student organizations as

well as interdisciplinary involvement from NSU's College of Allied Health and Nursing, College of Optometry, and Center for Psychological Studies. This year, in addition to receiving a \$1,000 Student Initiative's Grant from the American Osteopathic Foundation, the fair was able to offer free rapid HIV testing, which was provided through the generosity of Holy Cross Hospital Community Outreach.



## NSU-COM Showcases Community Spirit at Hispanic Unity Fair

NSU-COM showcased its community spirit on March 28 when several individuals from the college's family medicine clinics in Davie and North Miami Beach provided health care education and medical screenings to attendees at the Hispanic Unity Fair, which was held on the grounds of the Pembroke Pines Community Center.

During the daylong event, Bruce Peters, D.O., FACOP (medical director of the College of Osteopathic Medicine clinics), Marina Mendez (medical assistant in the Davie Family Medicine Clinic), Reimar Rodriguez (medical assistant in the North Miami Beach Family Medicine Clinic), and Robert Fung, an NSU premed student, provided services to over 200 attendees. Activities included providing blood pressure checks and diabetes screenings as well as health education presentations on "Diabetes in the Hispanic Community" and "The Importance of Blood Pressure Monitoring."



Pictured at the NSU information table are Robert Fung and Marina Mendez.

## Sigma Sigma Phi Supports Our Soldiers

When OMS-II Tasha Frederick applied for membership into the college's honorary student osteopathic service fraternity called Sigma Sigma Phi, one of the requirements involved composing an essay that included a novel idea that could be incorporated into the organization's existing programming.

"When I reviewed all the amazing programs Sigma has, which focus on specific groups of people like high school students, children in hospitals, and seniors, I noticed there wasn't one that helped the men and women giving their lives for our country," said Frederick, who was already serving as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force when she began attending NSU-COM. "My suggestion was to do something for U.S. soldiers, veterans, and their families. Consequently, when I was accepted into the fraternity, the officers said they wanted me to put the plan into action, which we called Support Our Soldiers. We only began the project in the winter 2010 semester, but in just a few months we were able to accomplish quite a lot."

Since its inception earlier this year, the Support Our Soldiers program participants have coordinated a number of worthwhile activities to outreach to U.S. soldiers and veterans. These include a DVD drive that resulted in 80 such items being collected for shipment overseas as well as a letter decorating initiative to thank U.S. soldiers for their patriotic service to the country. "We had student volunteers create colorful notes on red, white, and blue paper to show our soldiers how much we appreciate all they do," she explained.

Frederick, who serves as chair of the newly established Support Our Soldiers program, and her peers also formed an affiliation with an existing organization called Beanies for Baghdad, which collects the tiny stuffed animals and provides them to the soldiers in Iraq, who then distribute them to the Iraqi children they come into contact with on the war-torn streets of Baghdad.

Of course, once all the donated items had been collected, they needed to be shipped overseas. As a result, a bake sale, which brought in \$218, was coordinated to raise the funds needed to accomplish this task.

On a local level, Sigma Sigma Phi members outreached to local veterans residing at the Alexander "Sandy" Ninger State Veterans' Nursing Home in Pembroke Pines by bringing puppies to bond with and spending quality time with the appreciative—and frequently lonely—veterans.

To ensure the program's continued growth and success, plans have already been implemented that will carry on Frederick's vision long after she has completed her clinical rotations and graduated from NSU-COM. "We already have identified a first-year student who will continue the activities we started this year while also trying



to incorporate some other ideas we've had that we just didn't have time to implement," Frederick explained. "One of our goals is to work with the families of some of the soldiers that are based here. What we hope to do is visit some of the bases and see what programs they have that we can

be involved in to provide some assistance."

For students like Frederick, who truly enjoy altruistically outreaching to others while balancing the demands of pursuing a rigorous medical school curriculum, being involved with student organizations such as Sigma Sigma Phi provides a vivid reminder as to why they wanted to become physicians in the first place. "I'm going to medical school to help people," she explained. "The medical school experience can be very tiring, and you sometimes lose focus on why you're doing it. However, through participating in service-related organizations like Sigma Sigma Phi, I get to constantly remind myself of the reason I am becoming a physician."

*(Article written by Scott Colton,  
director of medical communications.)*



## Excellence Honored at Inaugural NSU-COM Awards Ceremony

On May 14, NSU-COM coordinated its inaugural Faculty, Administrator, and Staff Recognition Awards ceremony, which was held in the HPD Chancellor's Dining Room. The idea for creating some form of internal recognition was born during the college's strategic planning process in 2009. As a result, all NSU-COM personnel had an opportunity to submit letters of nomination on behalf of worthy individuals in various categories. The nominations were then reviewed by the college's Scholarships, Honors, and Awards Committee, which selected the following recipients:

### Staff Pride Award

*Presented to an individual whose performance is characterized by serving as a role model, demonstrating a positive and helpful attitude toward others, and showcasing consistent dedication to the job and work group.*

**Denise Raof, Administrative Assistant**

### Administrative Leadership Award

*Presented to an individual and/or team performance that contributes to the goals and objectives of the college and continuously demonstrates the core values of the college.*

**Carol Siu, M.S., Administrative Director, CEME**

### Distinguished Faculty Award

*Presented to a faculty member in recognition of his/her outstanding contributions to the college in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service.*

**Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD  
Chair, Department of Geriatrics**

### Clinical Teaching and Education Innovation Award

*Presented annually to promote and honor excellence in clinical teaching by recognizing specific faculty members for their innovations and accomplishments in teaching, training, mentoring, and motivation of medical students.*

**Robert Hasty, D.O.  
Program Director, Palmetto General Hospital Internal  
Medicine Residency Program**

### COM Outstanding Service Award

*Presented in recognition of that individual who has demonstrated outstanding performance and service to the college and/or department.*

**Johneta Goodwin  
Director, Administrative Operations**



*Denise Raof  
proudly receives  
her Staff Pride  
Award from Dr.  
Silvagni.*



*Pictured (from left) are Dr. Naushira Pandya, Carol Siu, Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc. (NSU-COM dean), Dr. Robert Hasty, and Johneta Goodwin.*

## AHEC Partnerships Reap Rewards

Over the past several months, AHEC has continued to partner with an array of community groups throughout South and Central Florida to implement tobacco cessation and prevention activities. In Broward County alone, this has included the provision of tobacco cessation classes for the general public in multiple locations (including the NSU campus in Davie) in collaboration with the Broward County Health Department, the American Lung Association, Broward Community and Family Health Centers, and the NSU Center for Psychological Studies. Efforts also are underway to further develop local cessation services initiatives in conjunction with the Broward County Sheriff's Office and Broward General Medical Center.

In addition, the program continues to work with several regional and statewide health professional organizations, such as the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association, the Florida Academy of Osteopathy, and the Florida Association of School Nurses to conduct professional training workshops for health providers throughout Florida on effective techniques to treat tobacco dependency in the practice setting in adherence to CDC clinical practice guidelines. Since the inception of this AHEC tobacco training program in 2007, over 3,600 practicing professionals from a range of health fields including medicine, nursing, dentistry, and pharmacy have participated in these and other NSU-COM AHEC tobacco treatment training workshops.

In other AHEC-related news, over 500 informational requests were serviced by the AHEC Library Without Walls Program for providers at over 40 affiliated clinical sites throughout the program's 19-county service area. In addition, over 70 AHEC-sponsored continuing education programs took place in 15 counties throughout the region. These programs provided training to nearly 1,600 program participants in topics areas such as mental health, oral health, HIV/AIDS, treatment of tobacco dependency, substance abuse, cultural competency, and domestic violence.

# Dr. Lori Dribin Wins Professor of the Year STUEY



Alumni of the Year nominee Dr. John Geake.

Lori Dribin, Ph.D., professor of anatomy and assistant dean for student affairs in the College of Medical Sciences, received the coveted Professor of the Year Award at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual NSU Student Life Achievement (STUEY) Awards ceremony, which was held April 20 at the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center on campus. The STUEY Awards, which were established in 1999, serve as a celebration of NSU's best in leadership, inclusion, scholarship, service, integrity, commitment, and involvement.

Dr. Dribin, who has been teaching NSU-COM students the finer points of anatomy, histology, and neuroanatomy since 1982, was submitted by the college's



Dr. Packer with Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D., NSU chancellor.

Student Government Association. Excerpts from her nomination entry illustrate why this beloved instructor was named as this year's Professor of the Year. "Dr. Lori Dribin has proven time and time again her commitment to teaching and to her students. Her lectures are not only informative, but also entertaining, filled with anecdotes and comedy that keep students engaged and make the material more comprehensible and valuable.

"In addition to her accomplishments in the classroom, students often turn to her as a trusted mentor and adviser. She makes a concerted effort to know each and every student by name, which is a difficult task with classes as large as 250 students. She also takes time to speak with students personally, especially those who are struggling with program requirements and coursework. Her involvement includes assisting students in finding tutors and other resources to help them throughout their medical education. Dr. Dribin has made the students her priority and helps to make sure the College of Osteopathic Medicine prepares students with a strong foundation of science to carry forward into our clinical practice of medicine."

Other NSU-COM STUEY nominees were as follows:

**Alumni of the Year**

John Geake, D.O.



Dr. Silvagni, Jessica Hilst, and Lindsay LaCorte.

**Cocurricular Adviser of the Year**

Edward Packer, D.O.

**Graduate Organization of the Year**

Student National Medical Association

**Student of the Year**

Jessica Hilst

**Staff Person of the Year**

Leslie Jones

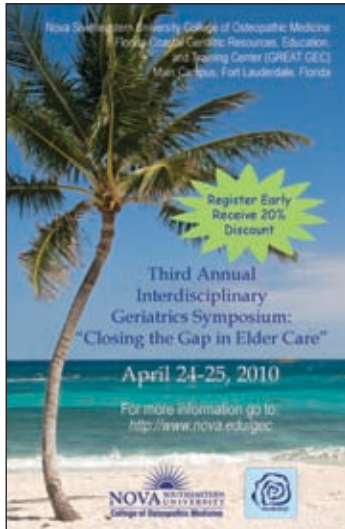
**Student Government of the Year**

NSU-COM SGA



Leslie Jones with Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D., NSU chancellor.

## GEC Symposium Attracts Diverse Audience



On April 24-25, NSU-COM's Florida Coastal Geriatric Resources, Education, and Training Center (GREAT GEC) held its Third Annual Interdisciplinary Geriatrics Symposium entitled Closing the Gap in Elder Care. During the weekend conference, over 100 attendees learned about a multitude of geriatric topics from a diverse group of presenters.

Joan Weiss, Ph.D., director of the Health Resources and Services Administration Division of Diversity and Interdisciplinary Education, provided the opening keynote address on the "New Era of Interprofessional Collaboration in Geriatric Education Centers." A second keynote session by Manju Beier, Pharm.D., provided information on "Medication Management in Older Adults." Additional topics

addressed included health policy and economics, clinical practice challenges, public health, and mental/psychological problems in aging.

One of the symposium's highlights was a viewing of the documentary film *I Remember Better When I Paint*, which is narrated by Academy Award-winning actress Olivia de Havilland and explores how artistic expression helps older adults deal with memory loss from Alzheimer's disease. The conference also included an exhibit by Miami photographer Eileen Escarda entitled *Isolation Unveiled: Refocusing Alzheimer's and Caregiving*.

## Students Provide Skin Cancer Screenings



Pictured (front row from right) are: Dr. Julian Moore (second-year resident); Dr. Shino Bay Aguilera (private practice); Dr. Murray Smith (private practice); Dr. Peter Babinski (private practice); and NSU-COM students Matt Uhde, Miglena Dzhupanova, and Andrew Sakla. (Second row from right): Dr. Roya Ghorsriz (first-year resident); Dr. Angela Combs (third-year resident); Dr. Tracy Favreau; Dr. Nelson Charlie (private practice); and NSU-COM students Leeor Porges and Michael Kasprzak. (Third row from right): Dr. Theresa Cao (first-year resident); Dr. Jerry Obed (first-year resident); Dr. Carlos Gomez-Meade (second-year resident); and NSU-COM students Alejandra Ponce and Chantelle Dufresne.

COM assistant director of clinical dermatology, were some of the noted clinicians who oversaw the event and took time to educate the nascent professionals. The screening aimed at preventing the most common cancer in the United States by educating sun worshippers on how to protect themselves from the harmful UV rays of the sun. A quick history and physical examination along with some tips on staying sun-wise proved to be a community service success for all the participants.

May 1 proved to be an extraordinarily exciting day for first- and second-year students Chantelle Dufresne, Miglena Dzhupanova, Michael Kasprzak, Alejandra Ponce, Leeor Porges, Andrew Sakla, and Matt Uhde. Split into two shifts, members of the Student Dermatology Association (SDA) assisted in screening 170 patients at Broward General Medical Center. Numerous dermatological benign and malignant lesions were identified with the help of the attending physicians.

Peter Babinski, M.D., and Tracy Favreau, D.O., NSU-

## NEWS BRIEFS

**OMS-1 Alyssa Logeman**, an earnest and well-liked student doctor, passed away on May 12 following a long illness in her hometown of Saline, Michigan.

**Evelyn Oviawe, M.Sc., M.M.I.S., M.S.B.I.**, assistant director of data analysis and development, successfully completed the METIman qualifying examination to become a certified simulation repair technician for the high-fidelity simulation mannequins used in the Health Professions Division.

On June 12, NSU-COM partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Florida Department of Health to coordinate a free continuing education course entitled **Dengue Clinical Case Management** for South Florida physicians and other local health care professionals, which was held at NSU's Health Professions Division. The course was designed to update knowledge in epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and management of dengue and dengue hemorrhagic fever cases.

Celebration was the theme of the evening at the **25th Annual Bal Fantastique**, which is a gala dinner dance that honors the vision of Morton Terry, D.O., who, along with numerous other dedicated individuals, created a renowned health care teaching facility called the Nova Southeastern University Health Professions Division (HPD). This year's event, held March 27 at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale, also honored the contributions of **Thomas Panza, J.D., Ed.D.**, of Panza, Maurer and Maynard, P.A., who was presented with the HPD Distinguished Service Award for his numerous contributions to the division.



**25th Annual Bal Fantastique**



# Distinction on Display at Undergraduate Student Awards Ceremony

On April 5, a number of awards and scholarships were presented to both students and faculty members at the annual Undergraduate Student Awards Ceremony, which was held in the Steele Auditorium. Students were honored in areas such as research, academic excellence, and service. In addition, several faculty members were presented with Golden Apple Awards for their outstanding teaching abilities. Following are the awards that were presented:

## LaCorte Named Student D.O. of the Year



**O**MS-III Lindsay LaCorte 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 respected leaders in the medical field.

During her time at the college, LaCorte has had a meaningful and lasting impact on the student body, administration, and local community.

Whether it be in her role as president of the Student Government Association (SGA) or her in her unwavering commitment to upholding the tenets of osteopathic medicine, LaCorte does it all with a passion and flair that earns her both affection and respect.

“Lindsay is a leader on campus, in student government, and, most importantly, in her life outside the university’s walls,” said OMS-II Bryan Peterson, the college’s incoming SGA president. “As a predoctoral osteopathic principles and practice fellow this year, she has had the opportunity to provide guidance in the world of osteopathic manipulative medicine to first and second-year students, thereby helping to educate the next generation of osteopathic physicians.

“I believe the most successful leaders are those who lead by example, not those who choose to delegate difficult or unpleasant tasks,” Peterson added. “Lindsay has shown repeatedly that she is not afraid to lead from the front as she frequently takes on more than her share to accommodate those around her. Our profession needs more people like Lindsay who celebrate the osteopathic training and philosophy that differentiates D.O.s from other health care providers.”

## Pickel Garners David Spector Memorial Award

**O**MS-II Jayde Pickel was the deserving recipient of the David Spector Memorial Award, which is presented annually to a first- or second-year osteopathic medical student who has participated in research pertaining to the prevention or treatment of substance abuse.

The award, which is accompanied by a \$500 cash prize, was established in the summer of 2005 in honor of David Spector—an undergraduate psychology student in the NSU Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences who died from an oxycontin overdose in December 2004. Thanks to the benevolence of David’s father, Howard, who decided to find a positive outlet for his grief by establishing an

endowment fund at NSU-COM, future generations of students now have an opportunity to conduct further research in this field.



Jayde Pickel (third from left) poses with Raymond Ferrero III, J.D., assistant professor of family medicine and HPD executive director for intramural health affairs, Nancy Fagin, and Howard Spector.

## Fleisher, Wessel Receive Dr. Matthew Terry Scholarships

**O**MS-I Jillian Fleisher and OMS-II Natalie Wessel were the recipients of the Dr. Matthew A. Terry Scholarship Endowment. The academic accolade, which is accompanied by a \$500 cash award, was established in 1999 to honor first- and second-year medical students who epitomize virtues such as scholastic excellence, service to the school, empathy, and congeniality. The Dr. Matthew A. Terry Scholarship Endowment, which was the brainchild of the Department of Family Medicine, serves as a fitting tribute to NSU-COM students who embody the true spirit of an osteopathic practitioner.



Jillian Fleisher (left), Dr. Anthony J. Silvagni, and Natalie Wessel.

## Alonso, Mazor, Win Dr. Bradley I. Silverman Scholarship



**O**MS-II Ann Mazor and OMS-III Jennifer Alonso were named the recipients of the Fifth Annual Dr. I. Bradley Silverman Memorial Scholarship, which was established in 2006 to honor outstanding NSU-COM students who participate in cancer-related community service and showcase compassion, commitment, and other laudable traits exemplified by Dr. Silverman. In addition to earning well-deserved recognition, Alonso and Mazor each received

\$1,500 cash awards. Pictured (from left) are Stanley Silverman, Ann Mazor, Marilyn Silverman, and Jennifer Alonso.

## Drs. Boesler, Packer Earn Golden Apple Awards



**D**avid Boesler, D.O., M.S., associate professor of osteopathic principles and practice and chair of the Department of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine, and Edward Packer, D.O., FAAP, FACOP, professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics, were the recipients of this year's Golden Apple Awards for their outstanding teaching skills. Dr. Packer received his award from the class of 2012, while Dr. Boesler was honored by the class of 2013. Pictured are Dr.

Packer, Seiha Kim (class of 2013 president), and Dr. Boesler.

## Academical Society Award Recipients

**T**en diligent students were honored for their contributions to their individual academical societies as well as their commitment to fellow society members: **Richard Poole** (*William G. Anderson, D.O.*); **Devlin O'Connor** (*Louisa Burns, D.O.*); **Kate Ogren** (*Robert Klein, D.O.*); **Dominic Perrino** (*Fred Lippman, Ed.D.*); **Heidi Hagerott** (*Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O.*); **Eleanor Chen** (*Bradley I. Silverman, D.O.*); **Zachary Wichner** (*A.T. Still, M.D., D.O.*); **Angela Fickel** (*Morton Terry, D.O.*); **Laura Peter** (*James Turner, D.O.*); and **Michael Luca** (*Ross Zafonte, D.O.*).



## NSU DIVISION OF CLINICAL OPERATIONS UPDATE

On April 9, NSU received a certificate of recognition from the **Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade** for its outstanding efforts to promote wellness and improve the university employees' quality of life.

The **Third Annual Health Professions Division (HPD) Patient Safety Educational event**, which revolved around the topic "Healthy Conversations for Safer Health Care," was held April 8-9 at the NSU-HPD campus and was repeated a week later at the university's North Miami Beach campus. The event, which is offered at no charge to NSU faculty, staff, and students, provided an opportunity to showcase information and various initiatives to decrease risk to patients in all health care settings.

On March 26-27, the university hosted the **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Diabetes Conference on Diabetes Mellitus**, which was attended by nationally recognized speakers and health care practitioners.

On March 18, as part of NSU's commitment to enhancing the health and wellness of its staff and students, the Wellness Committee planned a day focused on health, fitness, and nutrition. Over 500 attendees participated in the inaugural **Wellness Day**, which took place on the grounds adjacent to the Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center Library. During the event, participants received an NSU wellness T-shirt, enjoyed a healthy lunch, played games related to wellness, and learned more about the wellness resources available to the NSU community.

On March 7, NSU coordinated its **Fifth Annual Boomers and Beyond Health and Wellness Expo**, which was held in the Health Professions Division complex. Focusing on the theme *Your Healthy Future Begins Today*, this free event is geared toward attendees in the 40-plus age range and provides participants with an array of health, wellness, and aging screenings, information, and activities. Health expo highlights included Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz's discussion of health care reform and WPBT Channel 2's informative instruction on using the Internet to connect with others.

Approximately 80 undergraduate students from NSU's Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences received blue laboratory jackets during a ceremony held on January 20 signifying their embarkation into Farquhar's **Clinic Exploration Program (CEP)**. The CEP pairs students with health professionals so they can personally experience a broad range of medical and therapeutic fields and acquire valuable practical knowledge by shadowing professionals who work in NSU's various clinics. Working side-by-side with seasoned health professionals, students gain a firsthand perspective into possible career options. The program organizes rotations with doctors, optometrists, audiologists, physical therapists, dentists, certified athletic trainers, and other professionals.



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

Old-timers may nod and remember some of the following names, or even remember incidents about a specific person. Younger *COM Outlook* readers probably would ask, “Who is he/she?” and wonder why the name was even mentioned.

But we cannot overlook some of the pioneer personnel of Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine (SECOM). As you know, first, there was **Morton Terry, D.O.**, who became the first

president of SECOM, then **Arnold Melnick** (that’s me!) was added. In 1980, when we started, that was the entire SECOM.

Even though we watched the pennies carefully, very soon came the realization that with our fast growth more help was needed. And gradually, we added employees. Most of them were very good, even the ones without great experience. They all took over areas that needed establishing and organization in order to service our students. They actually established patterns for various departments, and any mistakes they may have made served as training for following years and following administrators. So they served well.

**Frank Mulick** deserves first mention. Actually, he was an employee before he ever received a penny of salary. In fact, Mort Terry simply commandeered him to handle our “books,” for he was the finance director of Osteopathic General Hospital, right across the street. Working part time, he kept our financial records, supervised expenditures, and advised us frequently. In short order, he moved over to us full time. He was a quiet, steady worker who did his job and did it well. He stayed employed as our finance director for a number of years until he retired. We have heard he passed away a few years ago.

When we needed a communications person—first called director of medical communication, then simply director of communications—there never was a doubt. Mort and I (and many other D.O.s) knew **Robert Klobnak** from his work at the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). He spent many years in Chicago directing the AOA’s public relations program and acted so many times as a spokesman for the osteopathic profession in matters of licensure. Some of us believe he was responsible for changing osteopathic practice rights in several of the “backward” states. He truly was the major public relations’ voice in the osteopathic profession, so we snatched him from the AOA, and he did a commendable job for us for many years until his retirement—looking out for our public relations, establishing our publications, and even supervising many of the early television products of the college. He too passed away in recent years.

**David Collins** served well for many years as the executive director of Osteopathic General Hospital. When it became Southeastern Medical Center, he moved to our side of the

street and joined our administration as director of purchasing and college property—an area in which we were staring to need his expertise. David was a mainstay of SECOM until his death.

**Mary Smith** was a constant figure throughout the life of SECOM and our subsequent incarnations. Starting early on as an administrative secretary (our second one, if I remember correctly), she moved from position to position as she rose in our administrative ranks, serving for a long time as college registrar before winding up in executive positions in the alumni office. She is probably the best-known and best-remembered college official among faculty members and graduates. When the Alumni Association established its Living Tribute Award to honor outstanding faculty/staff members and administrators who have made significant contributions to the college and the profession, Mary was its choice to receive the first award. After many years with us, she moved to Colorado several years ago to live with her daughter.

**James Evans** started as administrative assistant to **Albert Weiner, D.O.**, assistant dean for admissions, and soon was elevated to the newly created post of director of student financial aid. He served us well for several years until he moved on to advance his career.

A subsequent director of financial aid was **Patrick Gorman**, who did commendable work. However, a single incident brought Patrick a sort of “anonymous fame.” We had invited the board of the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) to hold its meeting in South Florida. During this time, a local NHSC scholar complained loudly that by following the IRS ruling for paying taxes on his salary while paying back his government loans, he was sinking deeper and deeper into debt every year. Of course, it was met with a “pooh-pooh” attitude from many people (including me). But we sent Patrick out to the site where this doctor was working, and he spent a full day examining the scholar’s financial records. Lo and behold, he was right. Presented with that evidence, the IRS ruling was overturned, making life easier for that young physician—and for thousands of other NHSC scholars, then and now. No medals, no plaques, no celebrations. But Patrick has the undying gratitude of thousands—even though he is unknown to them—and he was part of our SECOM team that achieved it.

It has been said that successful people achieve their status by standing on the shoulders of their predecessors. Certainly, some share of the success of NSU-COM has to go to these early administrators, many of whom laid the groundwork for our growth and expansion. I certainly recognize those contributions and appreciate (and cherish) the personal and professional relationships I had with each of them.



*Dr. Melnick is the founding dean of Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine (the precursor to NSU-COM). His insightful columns serve as a humorous and important bridge to the past and remind us of how far our college has come in a relatively short period of time.*





Dr. Bhasin

Dr. Echols

Dr. Fernandez

Dr. Fleisher

Dr. Hamstra

Dr. Jacobs

Dr. Lane

**Arthur L. Berman, D.O.**, clinical instructor of internal medicine, made a poster presentation at the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of the Liver, which was held April 14-18 in Vienna, Austria. Dr. Berman's poster was titled "Phase 2 Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study of Nitazoxanide Plus Peginterferon and Ribavirin in HCV Genotype 1 Naïve Patients: Week 12 Sustained Virologic Response Rate."

**Anjali Bhasin, M.D.**, assistant professor of internal medicine, coauthored an article titled "Use of Comparison Films for Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis Among Florida Radiologists" that was published in recent issues of the *Internet Journal of Radiology* and the *Internet Journal of Family Practice*. Coauthors included OMS-III students **Chris Bailey**, **Nitin Wadhwa**, and **Marlow Hernandez**, **Debbi Steinkohl**, **M.H.S.A.**, and **Alina Perez**, **J.D., M.P.H.**

**Barry A. Doublestein, M.A.**, assistant clinical professor of family medicine, had his response article published in the June issue of the *Harvard Business Review* that addressed topics discussed in a previously published essay regarding the development of additional physician leaders.

**Marti Echols, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of internal medicine and assistant dean of medical education, presented her coauthored research poster entitled "An Analysis of Factors Which Predict Success

on Clinical Skills Examinations" at the 14<sup>th</sup> Ottawa International Conference on Assessment of Competence in Medicine and the Healthcare Professions held May 15-18 in Miami, Florida. Dr. Echols coauthored the project with **Natasha Bray, D.O.**, **Heidi Lane, Ed.D.**, and **Rebecca Cherner, D.O.** During the conference, Dr. Lane also made a presentation on the "International Collaborative High-Stakes Clinical Skills Examination Project: Nova Southeastern University and Kazan State Medical University." In addition, Dr. Echols discussed the topic "Using CurrMit for Curriculum Evaluation."

**Jay Fleisher, Ph.D.**, associate professor of public health, had two coauthored articles accepted for publication. They are "The BEACHES Study: Health Effects and Exposures from Non-Point Source Microbial Contaminants in Subtropical Recreational Marine Waters" in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* and "Traditional and Molecular Analyses for Fecal Indicator Bacteria in Non-Point Source Subtropical Recreational Marine Waters" in *Water Research*.

OMS-III students **Marlow Hernandez** and **Chad McDonald** presented their coauthored posters at the American College of Physicians (ACP) Florida Chapter Scientific Meeting held March 27-28 in Orlando. Hernandez presented his project titled "Treatment of Suppurative Lymphadenitis in a Healthy 24-Year-Old Male," which he coauthored with **Richard Callari, M.D.**, and **Mark Sandhouse, D.O.**

McDonald's presentation titled "In Situ Follicular Lymphoma Leading to Crohn's Disease Diagnosis" was coauthored with **Pablo Calzada, D.O., M.P.H.**

**Janet Hamstra, Ed.D.**, assistant professor of internal medicine and medical education specialist, and **Barbara Arcos, D.O.**, assistant professor and chair of the Department of Family Medicine, presented the topic "A Case-Based Teaching Model for Integrating OPP into the Six NBOME Competencies" at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Annual Meeting held April 7-10 in North Bethesda, Maryland. In addition, Dr. Hamstra made both an oral and a poster presentation at the 14<sup>th</sup> Ottawa International Conference on Assessment of Competence in Medicine and the Healthcare Professions held May 15-18 in Miami, Florida. The oral presentation, titled "A Case-Based Instructional Model and Performance Assessment of Osteopathic Resident Competency," was presented with Dr. Arcos. The poster presentation, titled "The Professionalism Portfolio," was coauthored with **Daniel Shaw, Ph.D.**, and **Paula Anderson-Worts, D.O., M.P.H.**

**Heidi Lane, Ed.D.**, assistant professor of internal medicine and director of patient-centered education, traveled to Kazan State Medical University in Russia during the month of May to direct clinical skills testing for English students at Kazan, which marked the first time in the Russian medical school's 196-year history that this type of training was ever conducted.

**Leonard Levy, D.P.M., M.P.H.**, professor of family medicine/public health and associate dean of education, planning, and research, gave a presentation on the topic "A National Training Model for Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Competency-Based Training" at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Annual Meeting held April 7-10 in North Bethesda, Maryland.

**Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D., M.Ed., M.B.A.**, professor of psychiatry and public health and chair of the Department of Psychiatry, was extremely productive over the past few months, publishing four articles and making six presentations at various local and national conferences. His busy agenda included presenting coauthored poster research (along with **Andrea Sciberras, D.O.**) on topics such as "A Computer-Based Individually-Tailored Information Intervention to Improve Medication Adherence" and "Relation of Cognitive Abilities and Health Literacy to Patients' Recall of Orally-Presented Medication Instructions" at the Fifth International Conference on HIV Treatment Adherence held May 23-25 in Miami Beach, Florida. He also presented his coauthored research on the topics "Stability of Sleep Problems in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease" and "Subtypes of Sleep Problems in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease" at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Associated Professional Sleep Societies held June 5-9 in San Antonio, Texas. In addition, he had articles published in re-



Dr. Ownby



Dr. Pandya



Ms. Perez



Dr. Rokusek



Dr. Sandhouse



Dr. Snyder



Dr. Yu

cent issues of *Current Psychiatry Reports*, *Nature and Science of Sleep*, the *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*, and *AIDS Care*.

**Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**, associate professor and chair of the Department of Geriatrics, served as program chair and provided two lectures at the college's Florida Coastal Geriatric Resources, Education, and Training Center (GREAT GEC) Third Annual Interdisciplinary Geriatrics Symposium, which was held April 24-25 on the Davie campus. During the conference, she discussed "Diabetes Management in Older Adults" and "Comparing Eldercare in Slovakia and the United States." She also volunteered her medical skills on May 2 at the Indian Physicians of Florida Health Fair, lectured on the topic "Osteoporosis Prevention and Treatment" at a pharmacy CME conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and presented a session in April on "Anemia in the Long-Term Care Setting" at the Florida Association Directors of Nursing Administration 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention in Orlando. In May, she presented a lecture on "Fracture Prevention" at the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists' 32<sup>nd</sup> Midyear Conference and Exhibition in Phoenix, Arizona, and another on "Diabetes" for the Pennsylvania Medical Directors Association.

**Alina Perez, J.D., M.P.H.**, assistant professor of public health, recently had two law review articles published. They were entitled "Aging, Driving, and Public Health: A Therapeu-

tic Jurisprudence Approach," which appeared in *Florida Coastal Law Review*, and "La Caja de Pandora: Improving Access of African Americans and Hispanics to Hospice Care," which was published in the *Houston Journal of Law and Policy*. She also was appointed to the advisory council of Senior Volunteer Services, which is a community organization serving the elderly in Broward County.

**Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D., M.S.**, executive director of education, planning, and research and project director of the Center for Bioterrorism and All-Hazards Preparedness, presented a paper on "Nutrition for Positive Aging" at the college's Third Annual Interdisciplinary Geriatrics Symposium held in April. She also presented posters on "The Integration of Nutrition into the Health Professions: Extending Good Nutrition into Geriatric Patient Assessment and Interprofessional Intervention" and "Expanding the Medical Reserve Corps with the Nation's Senior Population." In addition, Dr. Rokusek was asked to serve on a national review panel for Healthy People 2020, which will reflect assessments of major risks to health and wellness, changing public health priorities, and emerging issues related to our nation's health preparedness and prevention.

**Paul N. Schacknow, M.D., Ph.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery, served as senior editor and author/coauthor of five chapters that appear in a medical textbook titled *The Glaucoma Book: A Practical Evidence-Based Approach*, which

was published in April 2010. The tome is both a comprehensive academic work with evidence-based science and exhaustive bibliographies and an everyday, pragmatic guide for general ophthalmologists, optometrists, and resident physicians who need immediate answers while examining patients.

**Mark Sandhouse, D.O.**, associate professor and chair of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, along with a number of collaborators, coauthored an article entitled "Effect of Osteopathy in the Cranial Field on Visual Function—A Pilot Study" that appeared in the April 2010 issue of the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA)*. Coauthors included **Diana Shechtman, O.D.**, **Richard Sorkin, O.D.**, **Joanna Drowos, D.O., M.P.H.**, **Alberto Caban-Martinez III, M.P.H.**, **Michael Patterson, Ph.D.**, **Josephine Shallo-Hoffmann, Ph.D.**, **Patrick Hardigan, Ph.D.**, and **Arthur Snyder, D.O.**

**Samuel Snyder, D.O., FACP, FACOI, FASN**, associate professor and chair of the Department of Internal Medicine, coauthored a letter entitled "A Case of Peritonitis Due to Rothia Mucilaginosa" that appeared in the May 2010 issue of *Peritoneal Dialysis International*. Dr. Snyder, who also serves as program director of the internal medicine residency program at Mount Sinai Medical Center in Miami Beach, coauthored the letter with 2008 NSU-COM alumnus **Emin Hodzic, D.O.**, who is an internal medicine resident at Mount Sinai.

**Xinhua Yu, M.D., Ph.D.**, assistant professor of public health, who is serving as reviewer for the *Journal of Urology* and the *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, had his coauthored research article titled "Screening Mammography Use and Chemotherapy Among Female Stage II Colon Cancer Patients: A Retrospective Cohort Study" published on April 19 in the peer-reviewed journal entitled *BMC Health Services Research*.

## Recently Submitted Grant Proposals

"ATN Coordinating Center"

Submitted by **M. Isabel Fernandez, Ph.D.**, director of the Behavioral Health Promotion Program, to the *University of Alabama at Birmingham*

Requested amount: \$463,185

"Florida Coastal Geriatric Resources, Education, and Training Center"

Submitted by **Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD**, chair of the Department of Geriatrics, to the *Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)*

Requested amount: \$2,158,508

"Competitive Preventative Medicine Training Application"

Submitted by **John Pellosie, D.O., M.P.H.**, chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine, to *HRSA*

Requested amount: \$844,148

## Faculty Members Receive Chancellor's Research Grants

On May 19, a number of NSU-COM faculty members, in collaboration with other NSU faculty participants, were awarded cash endowments in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Chancellor's Faculty Research and Development Grant (CFRDG) program, which was created in 1999 to provide funding to faculty members in their efforts to secure additional resources for research activities.

Each spring, awards of up to \$10,000 are provided to full-time faculty members based on the quality of their applications. In addition, one NSU-COM faculty member was honored with a Quality of Life Award, which was presented in conjunction with the Chancellor's Faculty Research and Development Grants. Following are the projects that feature NSU-COM participation:

### Chancellor's Faculty Research and Development Grants

*"Reproduction and Spread of Cliona Delitrix Excavating Sponge on Coral Reefs"*

**Jay Fleisher, Ph.D.**, associate professor of public health

*"Treatment Patterns for Depression Among Elderly Medicare Population"*

**Xinhua Yu, M.D., Ph.D.**, assistant professor of public health, and **Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry

*"Exploring Biofeedback as an Assessment Tool in Sport-Related Concussion"*

**Stephen Russo, Ph.D.**, NSU-COM director of sports psychology in the Sports Medicine Clinic and assistant professor in the Center for Psychological Studies, and **Andrew Kusienki, D.O.**, assistant professor of osteopathic principles and practice and chair of the Department of Sports Medicine

*"Age and Events that Interrupt Contact Lens Wear in Youth"*

**Sandi Scott-Holman, D.O.**, assistant professor of family medicine and director of NSU's Student Medical Center

*"Man and His Best Friend: Is One More Therapeutic Than the Other?"*

**Bindu Mayi, Ph.D.**, assistant professor



Dr. Yu with Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D., NSU chancellor.

of microbiology in the College of Medical Sciences

### Student Participants – Class of 2013

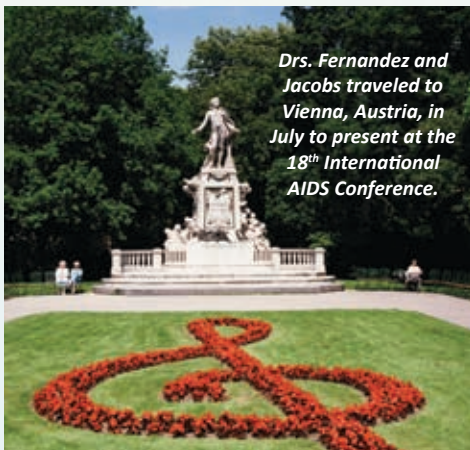
**Jennifer Guyant, Joshua Kretchmar, and Ashley Terry**

### Quality of Life Award

*"Identifying Obesity and Obesity Complications in Pediatrics"*

**Jessica De Leon, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of public health and CBAP Research Associate

## Behavioral Health Promotion Program Maintains Busy Agenda



**Drs. Fernandez and Jacobs** traveled to Vienna, Austria, in July to present at the 18<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference.

### Publications

**Robin Jacobs, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of preventive medicine and psychiatry, coauthored two articles that will soon be published: "Perceptions of Students About Younger and Older Men and Women Who May Be Homeless" in the *Journal of Social Service Research* and

"Perceptions of Intimate Partner Violence, Age, and Self-Enhancement Bias" in the *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*. A third article titled "Sexual History-Taking and HIV Screening in Primary Care Settings: Missed Opportunities for Prevention" to be published in the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association* was coauthored with OMS-III students **Preetam Gongidi, M.H.S.** and **James Sierakowski, G. Stephen Bowen, Ph.D.**, and **M. Isabel Fernandez, Ph.D.**

### Presentations

The following five presentations were made by **Drs. Fernandez** and **Jacobs** at the 18<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference held this July in Vienna, Austria:

*"The Relationship Between Self-Esteem and HIV-Stigma, Sexual Assertiveness, and Self-Silencing in Women Aged 50*

*and Older"* coauthored by **Dr. Jacobs**.

*"Sexual Positioning, Serosorting, and Disclosure Behaviors Associated with Risk for Unprotected Anal Intercourse in HIV-Positive MSM Aged 40 and Older"* by **Drs. Jacobs, Fernandez, Bowen, and Ownby**.

*"HIV Risk Behaviors and Experience of Racism Among Young Hispanic Men Who Have Sex with Men in South Florida"* by **Drs. Jacobs, Fernandez, and Bowen**.

*"Unprotected Anal Intercourse Among HIV-Positive and HIV-Negative MSM Aged 40 and Older in Serodiscordant and Seropositive Relationships"* by **Drs. Jacobs, Fernandez, Bowen, and Ownby**.

*"Development of an Internet-Based Intervention Using Motivational Interviewing Culturally Tailored for Young Hispanic MSM"* by **Drs. Jacobs, Fernandez, and Bowen**.

## In Life...Much Is Required

**T**he veritable rollercoaster ride that has been my medical school career should be written down and sold as a work of fiction. The ups soared past the stars and the downs seemingly were constructed by El Diablo—Satan himself. Each twist left me more aware of my shortcomings, and each turn made me more self-assured. The straightway gave me temporary relief, but I knew to always expect the unexpected.

Nova Southeastern University's College of Osteopathic Medicine was the best choice in terms of my attending medical school. Had I attended a medical school out of the state or even outside of the county, there is a great possibility I simply would not have been able to proceed with my medical education. We buried my brother and his wife, who died within 48 hours of each other, the first week of school. No surprisingly, I had to remediate that year. During the second month of my second year, on the day we buried my murdered cousin, my eldest brother was abducted. During my third year, my wife's grandmother was in a near-fatal car accident.

During the remediation of my first year, I realized this was life or death: the life or death of my future patients and my career. Although I studied frequently, and for long hours, the formula I was using did not work. I was balancing parenthood and still grieving my brother. Telling my mother about my situation was the hardest thing to do. I was the family success story and the first to attend college. My parents are immigrants from Haiti, and I grew up in Miami's inner city. The education that my brothers and I had access to was made possible by their working double shifts and practicing old-school discipline. I did not want to fail them because this is just as much their dream as it is mine.

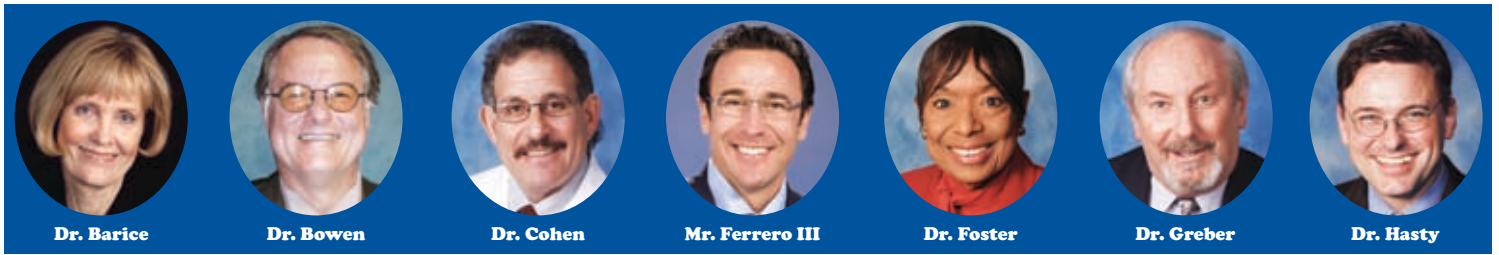
I approached each year after that magnanimously. My faith in myself was reinvigorated; my faith in God amplified. During my different rotations, I rediscovered why I fell in love with medicine. The ability to diagnose and heal—to give hope and renew faith is why I do what I do. Each patient left me with something new and different and taught me about people and those things that connect us. During my rural rotation, I met a young man who could have been someone in my family. He could have been like me had not he taken a darker path.

I graduated on May 30, 2010, as a physician with an M.B.A., and it seems surreal. However, the need for more Haitian physicians like the one I intend to be is very real. The problems plaguing Haitian Americans and other minority groups in South Florida are many and extremely dire.

Haitian, Latino, Asian, and African American men and women are more likely to not go to a physician due to language barriers, financial hardships, and fear. High blood pressure, diabetes, various cancers, HIV/AIDS, and other preventable/treatable ailments are going undiagnosed and unmanaged.

My practice will work to reverse these malignant conditions and restore our community. Serving the underserved is my mission.





Dr. Barice

Dr. Bowen

Dr. Cohen

Mr. Ferrero III

Dr. Foster

Dr. Greber

Dr. Hasty

**J**oan Barice, M.D., M.P.H., FACP, clinical assistant professor of preventive medicine and public health, was honored as one of Palm Beach County's Best and Brightest Women by the Lupus Foundation of America South Florida Chapter for her tireless efforts to go above and beyond to make a difference in her community.

**G.** Stephen Bowen, M.D., M.P.H., professor of preventive medicine/public health and assistant director of the Behavioral Health Promotion Program, was asked by the HIV/AIDS International Health Program at the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to serve on its HIV/AIDS program country assessment team to Nigeria. To prepare for the trip, which occurred during the last two weeks of June, Dr. Bowen participated in a comprehensive training course that took place in Rockville, Maryland. Trip objectives included assessing the current status of PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) funded HIV/AIDS programs, their links to WHO global AIDS-funded programs, and their needs for health personnel training. The team also made recommendations for treatment and prevention program integration and improvements, including technical assistance and data-system needs.

**W**illiam E. Bruno, Jr., M.D., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, who currently serves as president of the Broward County Pediatric Society, will be stepping down from this leadership role at the end of 2010 to accept the position of regional representative for Region VII of the Florida Pediatric Society.

**P**eter Cohen, D.O., assistant professor of family medicine, has been named assistant medical director of NSU's North Miami Beach medical clinic. In this role, he will be assisting **Bruce Peters, D.O., FACOP**, medical director of the NSU medical clinics, in regard to ensuring the efficient operation of the North Miami Beach site.

**J**ulie Dahl-Smith, D.O., director of medical education and program director of the

Medical College of Georgia Family Practice Residency, received an Exemplary Teacher of the Year Award for her numerous contributions at the Medical College of Georgia.

**R**aymond Ferrero III, J.D., associate professor of family medicine/public health and HPD executive director for intramural health affairs, appeared on the Internet radio program called the *Afflicted and Affected*, which highlights the most current and effective professional services and treatments for addictive illnesses as well as the latest tools available for building a successful long-term recovery. He also was reelected to the Broward County Bar Association Board of Directors.

**R**osebud L. Foster, Ed.D., M.S.N., professor of public health, special assistant to the HPD chancellor, and deputy director of the Area Health Education Centers Program, delivered the commencement address on May 21 at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, where she discussed "Health Disparities in Vulnerable Populations: Issues of Diversity and Cultural Competence." Dr. Foster, who is a Meharry alumna, also provided a Webinar presentation entitled "Overview of Public Health" at the Third Annual Florida Public Health Introduction to Applied Public Health course on June 15. The presentation was the first in a series of modules in the course, which is offered in collaboration with nine Florida universities.

**A.** Alvin Greber, D.O., FACOI, professor of internal medicine and HPD executive dean for professional affairs, was inducted into the American College of Osteopathic Internists' (ACOI) Gillum Society of Master Fellows, which honors active members who have demonstrated outstanding past and present contributions to the ACOI or to osteopathic internal medicine on a local, regional, or national level.

**R**obert Hasty, D.O., FACOI, assistant professor of internal medicine and program director of the Palmetto General Hospital Internal Medicine Residency Program, was quoted in the March 22 issue of the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* in an article titled "How Floridians

Stand on Historic Health Care Plan: Depends on What Side You Are on." He also appeared on the NBC 6/WTVJ news program on March 24 to discuss health care reform and the need for primary care doctors.

**J**ames Howell, M.D., M.P.H., professor of public health and chair of the Department of Rural Medicine, was elected chairman of the Glades Rural Area Support Board, which is a community board of Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade. The board's responsibilities, which are delegated by the Palm Beach County Health Care District, include patient safety and quality of care as well as professional staff credentialing and granting of hospital privileges.

**J**oseph Mazzola, D.O., clinical assistant professor of family medicine and program director/director of medical education for the family medicine residency program located at Floyd Medical Center in Rome, Georgia, was appointed as an Association of Osteopathic Directors and Medical Educators Region 5 trustee for a three-year term.

**D**eborah Mulligan, M.D., FAAP, FACEP, clinical professor of pediatrics and director of the NSU-HPD Institute for Child Health Policy, received the FREDDIE International Health and Medical Media Award from the MediMedia Foundation for her contributions to the development of managing weight issues in children. The nonprofit MediMedia Foundation supports health care literacy and education. She also served as a presenter at the American Academy of Pediatrics Emergency Medicine Leadership Conference held in April in San Antonio, Texas, where she discussed the topic "Enhancing Leadership to Improve Quality of Care in Emergency Settings for Children."

**R**obert Oller, D.O., professor of family medicine and CEO of the NSU Division of Clinical Operations, along with his wife, Ronnie, received a Florida Initiative for Suicide Prevention Humanitarian Award at the organization's annual dinner dance held April 16 at the Signature Grand in Davie. The duo also received a Valor Award from the Ameri-



Dr. Howell



Dr. Mulligan



Dr. Packer



Dr. Qureshi



Dr. Sciberras



Dr. Suci



Dr. Zappa

can Diabetes Association at a ceremony held May 12 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale. The annual Valor Awards are presented to a range of community leaders that have made significant philanthropic contributions in the South Florida area.

**Edward E. Packer, D.O., FAAP, FACOP**, professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics, participated in the National Board of Osteopathic Examiners Part II Item Review Committee in March, led a workshop on "Dealing with the Unprofessional Educator" at the spring meeting of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians, and received the 2010 Appreciation Award from the NSU Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences for "supporting student learning and clinical training across the professions."

**Yasmin Qureshi, M.H.S., M.P.T.**, assistant professor of osteopathic principles and practice, and **Andrew Kusienski, D.O.**, assistant professor and chair of the Department of Sports Medicine, had their article entitled "Commentary on the Globalization of Osteopathic Medicine" published in the May 2010 issue of the *Osteopathic Family Physician*.

**Norman Rose, D.O., FICS, FACOS**, clinical professor of surgery, was appointed chairman of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons Web Site Content Review Committee. This marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year he has served as committee chairman.

**Andrea Sciberras, D.O., FACOI**, assistant professor of internal medicine, was named a fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Internists.

**Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc., FACOFP dist.**, NSU-COM dean, was elected chair of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) Board of Deans in April. He also was elected to serve as a board of trustees' member for the United States Pharmacopeia organization, which is a nongovernmental, official public standards-setting authority for prescription and over-the-counter medicines and other health care products manufac-

tured or sold in the United States. In March, Dr. Silvagni garnered yet another honor when he received the Golden Baton Award from the Symphony of the Americas Society at a lavish black-tie event held at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale.

**Gabriel Suci, Ph.D., M.S.P.H.**, associate professor of public health, played a pivotal role in assuring the reaccreditation of the NSU-COM/Palm Beach County Health Department Preventive Medicine Residency Program by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

**Khin Tu, M.D.**, who serves as associate professor of public health, has been promoted in rank to professor of anatomy in the College

of Medical Sciences. He also was named as a member of the College of Medical Sciences Curriculum Review Committee and the NSU-COM Curriculum Committee.

**Michael J. Zappa, M.D., FACEP**, clinical assistant professor of family medicine, was elected president of the board of directors of the Emergency Medicine Learning & Resource Center located in Orlando, Florida. He also chairs the American College of Emergency Physicians National Task Force on the Regionalization of Care.



## NSU-COM Welcomes New Faculty Faces

A number of new faculty members have joined or will be joining the NSU-COM family:

**Marlene Aramburu, D.O.**, a 2007 NSU-COM alumna, joined the college as a geriatric fellow effective July 1. She recently completed her family medicine residency, which included a tracking internship at Broward General Medical Center.

**Mark Gabay, D.O.**, who is a 2005 NSU-COM alumnus and served as chief pediatric resident at Miami Children's Hospital, joined the college's Department of Pediatrics on June 7 in the position of program director. He also will be overseeing the patient care component at the university's North Miami Beach clinic.

**Victor Jaffe, D.O.**, a 2006 alumnus who recently completed his family medicine residency training at Palmetto General Hospital in Hialeah, joined the college on July 1 in the Department of Family Medicine.

**Francisco Laboy III, D.O.**, and **Scott Martin, D.O.**, began their sports medicine fellowship training on July 1.

**Hady Masri, D.O.**, a 2005 NSU-COM graduate, joined the Department of Geriatrics on July 1. Dr. Masri is quite familiar with the department since he completed his geriatric fellowship training at NSU. To gain additional experience, he had been working as a wound care physi-

cian while also conducting home visits and outpatient management in the geriatrics field.

**Doris Newman, D.O.**, who previously served as associate professor of osteopathic principles and practice at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, is the latest addition to NSU-COM's Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice.

**Donald Pyle III, D.O.**, a West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine alumnus, began his psychiatry residency training effective July 1 and will be located throughout the Florida prison system.

**Jill Ross, D.O.**, a 2007 NSU-COM alumna, will be joining the college effective August 30 as a faculty member in the Department of Family Medicine. She recently completed her family medicine residency training at Palmetto General Hospital.



Dr. Mark Gabay



Dr. Doris Newman

# Innovative PALS Tele-Education Training Provided to Iraqi Physicians

By Scott Colton  
Director of Medical Communications



Placing itself at the vanguard of medical education is nothing new for NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, which exemplified this quality once again in late March when it participated in the first-ever Pediatric Advance Life Support (PALS) Course to be transmitted via teleconferencing technology to Iraqi physicians working in the war-torn city of Baghdad.

The origin of NSU's involvement actually initiated in May 2009 when the NSU Health Professions Division's (HPD) Institute for Child Health Policy coordinated the International Child Health Forum: Masters of Pediatric Education for Pre-Hospital Professionals symposium that was

geared toward teaching paramedics and firefighters throughout Broward County the skills needed to save children's lives. Thanks to the comprehensive success of the program, which provided vital networking opportunities to all involved, NSU reaped the rewards when the dual-continent tele-education course was in its gestational phase.

After many months of planning between various collaborators, including the Institute for Child Health Policy and the NSU-COM Department of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Education and Training, the course, held March 29-31, proved to be a resounding triumph. During the three-day program, which was

beamed live from the NSU-HPD campus to the Medical City Hospital in Baghdad, 12 Iraqi physicians learned how to perform lifesaving pediatric techniques such as CPR and how to administer IV fluids to a young patient.

The creation of this revolutionary training opportunity originated from the requests of Iraqi doctors and representatives from the Iraqi Ministry of Health, who contacted Ross Donaldson, M.D., M.P.H., at the International Medical Corps (IMC)—a U.S.-based nonprofit humanitarian aid organization working in Iraq—and conveyed an urgent need for training regarding pediatric emergencies. The IMC agreed with the need for such

training and decided to support such efforts as part of its U.S. State Department-funded programming.

To accomplish this multifaceted undertaking, the IMC contacted two renowned experts in the field of pediatric emergency medicine: Marianne Gausche-Hill, M.D., FACEP, FAAP, professor of medicine and director of EMS and pediatric emergency medicine fellowships at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles, California, and Deborah Mulligan M.D., FAAP, FACEP, clinical professor of pediatrics and director of the NSU-HPD Institute for Child Health Policy.

After agreeing to volunteer their time and teach the course from Florida via a teleconferencing link, Drs. Gausche-Hill and Mulligan contacted the American Heart Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics to secure their involvement. Dr. Mulligan then obtained the participation of NSU-COM's Department of EMS Education and Training personnel

I didn't have any skin showing from the neck down, and I also made sure my arms and legs were covered to be respectful. In addition, because people living in Iraq have a 9:00 p.m. curfew, they must be in their homes by that time to avoid breaching the law. There is a seven-hour time difference between the United States and Iraq, so we had to make sure we were done with our training everyday by 1:00 p.m. U.S. time to allow the participating Iraqi physicians to get home."

Despite the numerous constraints that had to be dealt with to successfully deliver the PALS program to the Iraqi physicians, who all passed the certification course with flying colors, the training team felt a profound sense of accomplishment and satisfaction when it was completed. "It's amazing that we could stand here in a classroom at NSU while thousands and thousands of miles away, people from a different country and a different culture were able to come together for one particular reason, which

of EMS Education and Training.

The importance of providing PALS training to the Iraqi physicians was evidenced just three days after the course's completion when a wave of bombings struck Baghdad, killing dozens of people. Within a week, the following email was relayed to the course instructors from Dr. Abdullah Alqazzaz, one of the participating Iraqi physicians: "I want to tell you that the PALS Course was of great importance to my practice," he stated. "As you heard from the news about the latest explosions in Baghdad, many of the victims were children. You have no idea how the course was of great importance because I followed exactly what I learned in the course. As a result, we were able to save the lives of critically injured patients."

Thanks to the success of this international training experiment, new vistas of educational outreach are being investigated, including using the distance-learning technology to train physicians in hard-to-reach communities throughout

*"It gives me a real joy to know this training program started here at Nova Southeastern University," said Dr. Mulligan of the protracted planning process. "Because there were elections taking place in Baghdad, we couldn't do anything until they were completed. We also had to deal with serious security issues, which meant we had to be fairly secretive and not let the military in Baghdad know what we were planning to do simply because it could have put people in harm's way."*

to complete the assemblage of the most superlative training team possible.

"It gives me a real joy to know this training program started here at Nova Southeastern University," said Dr. Mulligan of the protracted planning process. "Because there were elections taking place in Baghdad, we couldn't do anything until they were completed. We also had to deal with serious security issues, which meant we had to be fairly secretive and not let the military in Baghdad know what we were planning to do simply because it could have put people in harm's way."

The comprehensive pediatric training course, which was coordinated with the blessing of the U.S. military, also required the experts gathered at NSU to make numerous concessions to both cultural and governmental Iraqi guidelines. "PALS is normally a two-day course, but we had to make it three days because we had to be sensitive to safety and cultural issues," Dr. Mulligan explained. "Because I'm a woman, I had to be aware of my clothing,

was to learn how to take care of kids," said Kevin Nugent, REMT-P, program director of the NSU-COM Department

the rural United States while also exploring its use in other war-ravaged areas such as Afghanistan.



Participants in the training course held at NSU included (from left): Kevin Nugent; Dr. Marianne Gausche-Hill; Rick Matherly, EMT-P; Dr. Deborah Mulligan; John Molnar, ECC senior national training consultant at the American Heart Association; Maricar Cabral, CCRN, BCC, pediatric emergency medicine nurse educator at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital; and Mark Von Stein, EMT-P.





# ***Sensitivity Toward Seniors: Creative Collaboration Enlightens Future Physicians***

*By Scott Colton  
Director of Medical Communications*

**F**or numerous at-risk elders, the following scenario is a frustratingly common one occurring daily in homes across the United States: A patient dealing with an injury, illness, or the irreversible ravages of old age falls through the cracks of a health care system that too frequently fails to address the needs of seniors who live alone or have a beleaguered elderly spouse struggling to provide their daily care.

Those who can afford the luxury of hiring private nurses, home health aides, and therapists to tend to their daily needs are indeed fortunate. But what about the countless numbers of “invisible” and economically disadvantaged seniors who are essentially homebound due to their declining health and suffer the indignities of abuse and neglect?

To address these concerns, as well as educate future generations of physicians, NSU-COM’s Florida Coastal Geriatric Resources, Education, and Training Center (GREAT GEC) joined forces with the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

of Broward County to form an innovative and award-winning educational alliance that is altering people’s perceptions of this imperative issue.

The partnership, which began several years ago following a productive meeting between Naushira Pandya, M.D., CMD, associate professor and chair of the college’s Department of Geriatrics, and ADRC leadership, has proven to be an effective and enlightening way for physicians-in-training to witness firsthand the plight of seniors who are “aging in place.” During the initial meeting, which included Edith Lederberg, M.S., ADRC executive director, and Gail Gannotta, L.P.N., program director of the ADRC’s Senior Intervention and Education Program, the idea was hatched to have a select group of NSU-COM students, as well as residents and fellows, shadow Gannotta during her in-home visits with isolated and at-risk seniors.

“Once Edith and Gail explained what the Senior Intervention and Education Program does, which is outreach to isolated Broward elders through in-home visits to aid their efforts to

care for themselves and remain independent in the community, I knew it would provide a great learning opportunity for our students,” Dr. Pandya explained. “We make occasional home visits in our program, but normally patients have to come to the NSU Geriatric Clinic for care.

“However, what Gail does is way beyond that, such as intervening after hospital discharge and helping seniors get back on their feet, free of charge,” Pandya added. “I thought that would be a great venue for our medical students who are doing their geriatric clinical rotations with us here at NSU. Each month, we send a new group of students to shadow Gail. I thought it would be better for the students to learn from someone in the community and see what it’s like firsthand because when the students visit our clinic or a nursing home, it’s kind of sanitized. Going into seniors’ homes, they witness a realistic aspect of what older people are facing.”

Lederberg, who has served as the ADRC’s executive director for several decades, says there are many beneficial aspects related to this innovative alliance between an academic institution and a social service agency. “The program is replicable, able to sustain lives, and humane,” she stated. “We believe that involving the corporate world, nonprofit social service arena, and educational facilities can provide solutions to problems that are affordable, sustainable, and commendable at a time when the health economy is crying out for answers that may be found quickly if the search is pointed in the right direction.”

During a recent in-home visit, four NSU-COM students had the opportunity to accompany Gannotta as she conducted a follow-up visit with an essentially homebound and morbidly obese client who suffered from a variety of chronic health issues, including emphysema and diabetes. Unable to leave her condo freely because it lacks an elevator, the client was enmeshed in an agonizing web of health care bureaucracy that provided seemingly insurmountable obstacles instead of solutions. Fortunately, with Gannotta acting as a one-woman advocate for her client, the students were afforded a visceral view of what is occurring daily away from the confines of a clinic, hospital, or private physician’s office.

“Walking into the home of a person whom you’ve never met and obtaining highly guarded and personal information about the individual’s health and surrounding circumstances was truly a one-of-a-kind experience,” said OMS-III Chris Bailey. “The exposure to this world of medicine was powerful; moreover, the experience allowed one to peer into the realities of a patient’s hardships, which are far beyond just medical pathology. The event was conducive to further educational success, allowing one to see what lies beyond closed veils of a patient’s home.”

According to OMS-IV Michael Marro, who also participated in the aforementioned in-home visit, the experience was instructive on several levels. “I think it is very important for every future health care professional to be exposed to the part of medicine that is not taught in classes,” he said. “There is a very large patient population in the United States that unfortunately slips through the cracks of the system, becomes almost invisible, and lacks a voice. It’s crucial that as a physician, nurse, or whatever your title, you listen to the specific needs of the patient, whether they are emotional, social, or economic, and not be lulled into the complacency of using cookbook medicine for every patient.”

The NSU-COM/ADRC partnership, which is allowing the college to provide its students with geriatrics education in a novel way that extends far beyond taking an online course, working in a clinical setting, or attending a conference, also serves as an effective way for the ADRC to promote its lauded intervention and education program to a wider audience. “We want to share my experiences and resources,” said Gannotta, who travels throughout Broward County in a donated van stocked with wheelchairs, commodes, bedpans, diapers, old cell phones, and other items that are provided free of charge to her client base. “The prime goal of the Senior Intervention and Education Program, which has been funded for the past three years through a Jim Moran Foundation Grant, is to always enhance it by partnering with the community and building a stronger alliance in protecting these most vulnerable people in our community.”

During these educational expeditions, the participating students are never quite sure of the type of scenario they may be encountering when they shadow Gannotta, which is exactly



*As a component of their required geriatric rotation, NSU-COM students David Tran, Chris Bailey, Michael Marro, and Russell Zhuravsky participated in an instructive and eye-opening home visit conducted by Gail Gannotta from the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Broward County.*

the way she wants it to be. "Since we began this collaboration several years ago, there were two cases that were extremely intense," said Gannotta, who has been affiliated with the ADRC since 1992. "The first occurred in the summertime when we went to an efficiency apartment to visit an amputee who had bone cancer. She was wheelchair-bound and had gone without electricity for two months because she could not afford to pay for it. The living conditions were horrendous, and I could see the horrified looks on the student physicians' faces.

"The other case was a similar one that involved a bedbound woman who had multiple sclerosis and needed to be on oxygen," she added. "The disease was extremely progressed, so she couldn't do anything for herself. Her husband worked part-time to help make ends meet because he was her sole caretaker, but he didn't want to leave her at all, of course, because of her condition. They couldn't afford air conditioning, so we stood there, with sweat pouring down our faces as I assessed the situation. Needless to say, the students were totally taken aback by the conditions."

Since the novel program's inception several years ago, approximately 100 students, 25 family medicine residents, and several geriatric fellows have participated in the popular project, which has earned kudos for Gannotta's no-holds-barred approach to assisting needy seniors. "I always get positive comments about what an eye-opening experience it is for the students and other participants," Dr. Pandya stated. "I think early exposure is extremely important because it's so easy in a hospital or clinic setting for physicians to simply refer a patient to a specialist or prescribe certain medications. Seeing seniors in their home setting adds a whole new dimension to the overall patient-care process."

Thankfully, the collaboration has been gaining recognition on both a local and national level. In the summer of 2009, the GREAT GEC/ADRC alliance was recognized with an Innovation Award during the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The award was presented for outstanding exemplification of both innovation and sound management practices that can be emulated by the aging services network.

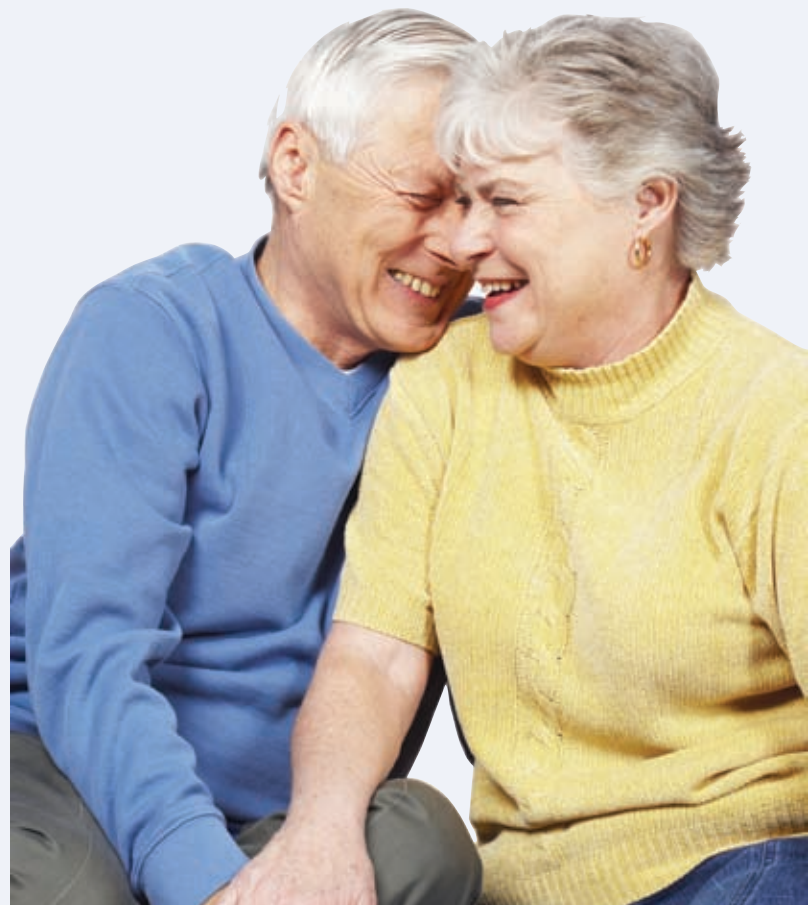
"We nominated the program for national recognition, both as evidence of how highly we esteem the partnership, and also to familiarize the rest of the national aging network with a doable process—if the right staffing can be found," Lederberg explained. "We must remember that Gail Gannotta truly is one of a kind, and that Dr. Naushira Pandya merits applause for being a pioneer in the medical world. The award was won because of the obvious uniqueness and merit of the entire program and the duet that "sings" in harmony so well. In addition, the role played by the Jim Moran Foundation as the grantor for the project is indicative of the corporate

world's recognition of the value of concept."

Although Gannotta is proud of the acclaim the collaboration has received, she is even more excited to be playing a pivotal role in showcasing the plight of seniors to future physicians. "I view NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine as a very prestigious, cutting-edge school, so I feel that for the vulnerable clients I see, this unique venture is giving them much-needed recognition because they are basically invisible," explained Gannotta, who will be making a presentation on the programmatic partnership with Dr. Pandya at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Tradeshow being held July 17-21 in St. Louis, Missouri.

"Every time I get to expose their problems, especially to medical students from a prestigious school where I get to show them what's going on in our community, right down the street from where they're attending school, it makes me feel as if I have shed some light on a very, very dark place," she added. "To me, the most important aspect is that we are helping our vulnerable and isolated senior population in Broward County to live with dignity, which can be accomplished by preventing abuse, neglect, and exploitation as well as premature nursing home placement."

If you would like to learn more about the ADRC's Senior Intervention and Education Program or other available senior services, please contact the Broward County Elder Helpline at (954) 745-9779.





# Graduation 2010

## Senior Week Activities Emphasize Fun

Senior Week provided an abundance of opportunities for the class of 2010 to get reacquainted while participating in a range of fun-filled activities that included a golf tournament, a jovial dining experience at Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. in Fort Lauderdale, and a festive awards banquet at the Westin Diplomat Resort and Spa in Hollywood. The week culminated on Sunday, May 30 when 216 D.O., 57 Master of Public Health, 6 Master of Biomedical Informatics, and 6 Master of Biomedical Sciences degrees were conferred during the NSU Health Professions Division (HPD) Commencement Ceremony at the BankAtlantic Center in Sunrise.

During the ceremony, 836 graduates from various NSU-HPD colleges received their long-awaited diplomas in front of an enthusiastic audience filled with family, friends, and faculty members. Rev. Monsignor Franklyn M. Casale, president of St. Thomas University in Miami Gardens, Florida, delivered the commencement address.

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Chancellor's Award – Osteopathic Medicine**

*Presented to the student who best exemplifies the characteristics of a fine osteopathic physician—a combination of scholarship, leadership, integrity, humanity, and loyalty to the profession.*

Recipient: **Audrea Vaughan, D.O.**

Presenter: **Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc.**



## **Dean's Award – Osteopathic Medicine**

*Presented for academic excellence to the student graduating with the highest scholastic achievement in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Program.*

Recipient: **Brett Horgan, D.O.**

Presenter: **Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc.**



## **Morton & Geraldine Terry Internal Medicine Award**

*Presented to the student for the highest achievement in the study of internal medicine, both academic and clinical.*

Recipient: **Dannielle Woodruff, D.O.**

Presenter: **Samuel Snyder, D.O.**



## **Matthew A. Terry, D.O., Memorial Award**

*Presented to the student chosen by his or her peers as the exemplary osteopathic medical student.*

Recipient: **Jessica Hilst, D.O.**

Presenter: **Lawrence Jacobson, D.O.**

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Chancellor's Award – M.P.H. Program**

Presented to the student who best exemplifies the characteristics of a fine public health professional—a combination of scholarship, leadership, integrity, humanity, and loyalty to the profession.

Recipient: **Diane Ede-Nichols, D.M.D., M.H.L., M.P.H.**  
Presenter: **Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc.**



## **A. Alvin Greber, D.O., Cardiology Award**

Presented to the graduate who excelled in the cardiovascular system and received a grade of 85 percent or more on his/her internal medicine clinical rotation written examination.

Recipient: **Lisa Gronski, D.O.**  
Presenter: **Samuel Snyder, D.O.**



## **Alumni Association Award**

Presented to the student who, by his/her leadership, has done the most to maintain the cohesiveness, unity, and esprit de corps within his/her class for all four years.

Recipient: **Vivian Lo, D.O.**  
Presenter: **Lynne Cawley, M.Sc.**



## **Dean's Organizational Award**

Presented to the senior who demonstrated organizational skills and leadership and received recognition from his/her peers during a productive academic career.

Recipient: **Jessica Hilst, D.O.**  
Presenter: **Margaret Wilkinson, Ph.D.**

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Dean's Community Award**

Awarded to that member of the graduating class who, by personal and professional conduct, and by contributions to the student affairs and the general program of NSU-COM, has been deemed worthy of special recognition.

Recipient: **James Spendley, D.O.**

Presenter: **Debbi Cohn Steinkohl, M.H.S.A.**



## **Chancellor's Award – M.S.B.I. Program**

Presented to the student who best exemplifies the characteristics of a fine biomedical informatics professional—a combination of scholarship, leadership, integrity, humanity, and loyalty to the profession.

Recipient: **Mohammed Islam, M.S.B.I.**

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



## **Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award**

Presented to the graduate who has demonstrated outstanding proficiency in emergency medicine.

Recipient: **Mark Newberry, D.O.**

Presenter: **Cecilia Rokusek, Ed.D.**



## **Dean's Award – M.S.B.I. Program**

Presented for academic excellence to the student graduating with the highest scholastic achievement in the Master of Biomedical Informatics Program.

Recipient: **Patrick Casimir, M.S.B.I.**

Presenter: **Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc.**

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Florida Geriatrics Society Award**

*This award, which is presented by the Department of Geriatrics and sponsored by the Florida Geriatrics Society, honors a student who has excelled in his/her geriatrics rotation.*

Recipient: **Woodwin Weeks, D.O.**  
Presenter: Kenya Rivas, M.D.



## **Public Health Student Service Award**

*Presented to the student who demonstrated commitment to community service.*

Recipient: **Melissa Boqulowski, M.P.H.**  
Presenter: Jon Dodds, Ph.D., M.P.H.



## **Dean's Government and Public Policy Award**

*Presented to that member of the graduating class who has shown unique interest in developing an understanding of governmental and public health care policies.*

Recipient: **Nicholas St. Hilaire, D.O.**  
Presenter: James Howell, M.D., M.P.H.



## **Research Award – Public Health**

*Presented to the student who demonstrated an effort to contribute to new public health knowledge through research.*

Recipient: **Marlow Hernandez, M.P.H.**  
Presenter: Gabriel Suciu, Ph.D., M.S.P.H.



# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Outstanding Student in the Study of Pediatrics**

*Presented to an outstanding student who is in the upper quarter of his or her class in rank and has honors grades in pediatric ambulatory and hospital rotations as well as at least one elective in a pediatric area with an honor grade.*

Recipient: **Stacey Keller, D.O.**  
Presenter: **Edward Packer, D.O.**



## **Florida Chapter, American Academy of Osteopathy Award in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine**

*Presented to the student who, in the opinion of the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice, has achieved the highest proficiency in osteopathic therapeutics.*

Recipient: **Cesar Aguiluz, D.O.**  
Presenter: **Mark Sandhouse, D.O.**



## **Morton and Mary Smith Achievement Award**

*Presented to the student exhibiting the highest quality of service and leadership, combined with scholarship, integrity, and personal worth.*

Recipient: **Vanessa Lalley, D.O.**  
Presenter: **Marti Echols, Ph.D.**



## **Albert L. Weiner, D.O., Memorial Psychiatry Award**

*Presented in memory of Dr. Albert Weiner to the student achieving the greatest proficiency in psychiatry.*

Recipient: **Angele LaFleur, D.O.**  
Presenter: **Raymond Ownby, M.D., Ph.D., M.Ed., M.B.A.**

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Golden Apple Award (Osteopathic Medicine)**

*Presented by the class of 2010 to a faculty or staff member deemed most outstanding by the graduating class.*

Recipient: **David Boesler, D.O., M.S.**  
Presenter: Vivian Lo, D.O.



## **Outstanding Student in Pediatric Service**

*Awarded to a student in the upper third of class in rank who actively organized and participated in at least three children's projects during his or her time at NSU-COM and is considered by students and faculty to have motivated children-related projects at NSU-COM.*

Recipient: **Danielle Wallach, D.O.**  
Presenter: Hilda De Gaetano, D.O.



## **Golden Apple Award (Public Health)**

*Presented by the class of 2010 to the M.P.H. faculty member deemed most outstanding by the graduating class.*

Recipient: **Alina Perez, J.D., M.S.W.**  
Presenter: Melissa Boquilowski, M.P.H.



## **Samuel J. Salman, D.O., Award in Family Medicine**

*Presented by the FSACOFPP to the student whose scholarship, patient empathy, dedication, concern, and goals epitomize the osteopathic family physician.*

Recipient: **Emmie Barford, D.O.**  
Presenter: Barbara Arcos, D.O.

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Daniel R. Barkus Outstanding Achievement in the Study of OB/GYN**

Presented to the student who ranks in the top 25 percent of the class, is pursuing OB/GYN residency training, and has obtained the highest grade in the women's health course.

Recipient: **Dawn Stanley, D.O.**  
Presenter: *Daniel Barkus, D.O.*



## **Research Award – Osteopathic Medicine**

Presented to a member of the graduating class who performed student research at a level worthy of recognition among peers and faculty.

Recipient: **Kristina Trubey, D.O.**  
Presenter: *Leonard Levy, D.P.M., M.P.H.*



## **Rose Community Service Award**

Presented to the student who demonstrated sincere interest in community service or community projects.

Recipient: **Mark Newberry, D.O.**  
Presenter: *Steven Zucker, D.M.D., M.Ed.*



## **Dean's Award – M.P.H. Program**

Presented for academic excellence to the student graduating with the highest scholastic achievement in the Master of Public Health Program.

Recipient: **Heather Ruff, M.P.H.**  
Presenter: *Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O., Pharm.D., M.Sc.*

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



## **Endocrine Society Award**

*Presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the area and/or study of endocrinology.*

Recipient: **Teresa Gallo, D.O.**  
Presenter: Kenya Rivas, M.D.



## **Research Fellowship Award**

*Presented to the members of the graduating class who successfully completed the initial College of Osteopathic Medicine Research Fellowship.*

Recipients: **Mark Newberry, D.O., and Kristina Trubey, D.O.**  
Presenter: Robin Jacobs, Ph.D.



## **Clinical Service Award**

*Presented to the student judged to be outstanding in clinical service*

Recipient: **Suzanne Micciantuono, D.O.**  
Presenter: Joseph De Gaetano, D.O., M.S.Ed



## **Donna Jones Moritsugu Award**

*Presented to the spouse of a graduating student who exemplifies the role of a professional's partner in being an individual in his or her own right while being supportive of mate, family, and the osteopathic profession.*

Recipient: **Michelle Kramer**  
Presenter: Albert Whitehead, D.M.D., M.Ed., M.B.A.

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



**Sigma Sigma Phi** is a national honorary osteopathic service fraternity whose main objectives include furthering the science of osteopathic medicine and its standards of practice as well as promoting a higher degree of fellowship among its students. To earn membership consideration, Sigma Sigma Phi members are required to have a minimum grade point average of 80 percent; however, selection is based primarily upon service and leadership in the osteopathic community. Cesar Aguiluz, D.O., Jessica Anderson, D.O., Deidre Bass, D.O., Keren Braithwaite, D.O., Sean Branch, D.O., Mary Chrisochos, D.O., Ari Cohen, D.O., Joanna Coonradt, D.O., Justin DiSanto, D.O., Joshua Green, D.O., Kara Haggart, D.O., Jessica Hilst, D.O., Stacey Keller, D.O., Natwalee Kittisarapong, D.O., Robert Kostoroski, D.O., Sandy Lau, D.O., Thuy Le, D.O., Lauren Lippincott, D.O., Vivian Lo, D.O., Ritchelle Martinez, D.O., Sarah Monte, D.O., Pamela Masella, D.O., Mark Newberry, D.O., Jessica Okun, D.O., Gauri Sunkersett, D.O., Joala Tubbleja, D.O., and Danielle Wallach.



## **Osteopathic Principles and Practice Fellowship Certificates**

*Presented to students who have completed a predoctoral clinical and teaching fellowship in osteopathic principles and practice from July 2007 to May 2010.*

### **Recipients**

**Cesar Aguiluz, D.O., Cori Chase, D.O., Beau Gedrick, D.O., Joy Kang, D.O., Jenisa Oberbeck, D.O., and Woodwin Weeks, D.O.**

Presenter: Mark Sandhouse, D.O.



## **Florida Obstetric and Gynecologic Society Outstanding Achievement in the Study of OB/GYN**

*Presented to the graduating student who ranks in the top 50 percent of the class, has demonstrated his/her intention of pursuing residency training in OB/GYN, and has effectively organized and participated in the greatest number and variety of activities related to the field of women's health.*

Recipient: **Laura Martin, D.O. (pictured right)**

Presenter: Daniel Barkus, D.O.



Membership in the **Theta Chapter of the Psi Sigma Alpha National Osteopathic Scholastic Honor Society** is based on laudable traits such as academic achievement (placing in the top 15 percent of their class), high moral character, and integrity (honorees are listed chronologically). Brett Horgan, D.O., Jessica Anderson, D.O., Edwin Montague, D.O., William Skakun, D.O., Jessica Okun, D.O., Pamela Masella, D.O., Tiffani Stroup, D.O., Teresa Gallo, D.O., Cori Chase, D.O., Lisa Gronski, D.O., Jodi Deleski, D.O., Dawn Stanley, D.O., Suzanne Micciantuono, D.O., Nika Ferdowski, D.O., Susan Arvan, D.O., Sagar Patel, D.O., Stacey Keller, D.O., Dannielle Woodruff, D.O., Robert Schneider, D.O., Keren Braithwaite, D.O., Mehul Shah, D.O., and Angele LaFleur, D.O.

# Graduation 2010: Senior Awards Ceremony



The **Commissioning Ceremony**, which was established in 2005 to honor and showcase support for graduates who will be doing medical tours of duty in the armed services, is held annually to facilitate the promotion of these young officers from the rank of second lieutenant (army and air force) or ensign (navy) to the rank of captain (army/air force) or lieutenant (navy). These young men and women have attended NSU-COM via the armed services Health Professions Scholarship Program. The graduates have committed to serve in the armed forces of the United States for a minimum of eight years as part of their scholarship obligation. Most will be pursuing graduate medical education opportunities within the armed services after leaving NSU-COM. This year's ceremony was presided over by Captain Teresa M. Brennan, D.O., of the U.S. Navy.

## United States Army

Captain Alan George, D.O.

Captain Matthew Laughlin, D.O.

Captain Pamela Masella, D.O.

Christopher Roberts, D.O.

## United States Navy

Lieutenant Jeromy Boucher, D.O.

Lieutenant Andrea Gajeton, D.O.

Lieutenant Lynn Morrissey Flowers, D.O.

Lieutenant Daniela Perez-Velasco, D.O.

Lieutenant Raubby Sabalerio, D.O.

## United States Air Force

Captain Lauren Hedenschoug, D.O.

Captain Matthew Kramer, D.O.

Captain Erin Mai, D.O.

Captain Joshua Pascoe, D.O.

Captain Aseem Peterson, D.O.

Captain Matthew Stringer, D.O.



The **Gold Humanism Honor Society** honors senior medical students, residents, role-model physician teachers, and other exemplars who have demonstrated excellence in clinical care, leadership, compassion, and dedication to service and was organized to elevate the values of humanism and professionalism within the field of medicine and its constituent institutions. Paula Anderson-Worts, D.O., M.P.H., Deidre Bass, D.O., David Boesler, D.O., M.S., Keren Braithwaite, D.O., Corey Chartan, D.O., Joanna Coonrad, D.O., Randy Daniel, D.O., Katie Heintz, D.O., Jessica Hilst, D.O., Laura Jarvis, D.O., Vivian Lo, D.O., Ritchelle Martinez, D.O., Pamela Masella, D.O., Suzanne Micciantuono, D.O., Mark Newberry, D.O., Jessica Okun, D.O., Sagar Patel, D.O., Noelle Sanon-Stewart, D.O., and Matthew Stringer, D.O.



The **Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Awards**, which are presented by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, recognize one graduating medical student and one outstanding faculty member judged to be exemplary in their compassion and sensitivity in patient care. These individuals consistently demonstrate compassion and empathy, act as role models for professional behavior, and demonstrate cultural sensitivity in working with people of diverse backgrounds.

Recipients: **Paula Anderson Worts, D.O., M.P.H.** (faculty member), and **Matthew Stringer, D.O.** (student, not present)

Presenters: Robert Hasty, D.O., and Edward Packer, D.O.

# Graduation 2010: A Lifetime of Memories



# Graduation 2010: A Lifetime of Memories





## NSU-COM Alumni Association Executive Committee

### Past Presidents

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

### Trustees at Large

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)  
William Stager, D.O. ('89)

### 2010-11 Officers

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

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

**Andrew Gross, D.O. ('93)**  
Vice President

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

**William Stager, D.O. ('89)**  
Treasurer

**Ronald Tolchin, D.O. ('89)**  
Immediate Past President

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

**Lynne Cawley, M.Sc.**  
Director, Alumni Affairs

### Living Tribute Honorees

2002 - Mary Smith  
2003 - Arthur Snyder, D.O.  
2004 - Lori Dribin, Ph.D.  
2005 - Edey 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)

## Class of 2010 Celebrates Professional Milestone in Festive Fashion



On May 27, the NSU-COM Alumni Association coordinated a fun-filled event for the graduating seniors, which took place at the Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. on Fort Lauderdale Beach. "We had the event at Bubba Gump's in 2009, and it was a huge success again this year," said Lynne Cawley, M.Sc., director of alumni affairs. "With students finishing their fourth-year rotations, many had not seen each other for awhile, and this evening gave them an opportunity to move about, talk, and get reacquainted with their classmates."

Adding to the festive atmosphere this year was the inclusion of a photo booth, which the soon-to-be physicians took full advantage of throughout the evening. Also in attendance were numerous College of Osteopathic Medicine faculty members and administrators, such as Howard Neer, D.O., FACOFP, associate dean of alumni affairs, as well as several alumni who were there to support the graduates and partake in the fun. "The students had a great evening and appreciated the Alumni Association's willingness to sponsor such an event," Cawley added. "We wish them well as they move on into residencies and proudly welcome the class of 2010 into the Alumni Association."



## Fun, Friendly Competition Rule at Alumni Golf Tournament



The Sixth Annual Senior Week NSU-COM Alumni Golf Tournament, held May 24 at Grande Oaks Golf Club in Davie, proved to be a resounding success in every conceivable way—including the picture-perfect weather that greeted the 80 participants hitting the fairways and greens in the shotgun scramble tournament. The teams, consisting of students, faculty members, alumni, and NSU-COM supporters, had an opportunity to compete for prizes, which were awarded to the first-, second-, and third-place teams as well as to those who hit the longest drive or knocked their ball closet to the pin.

The first-place team comprising Brittany Nuccitelli, Michael Brown, Case Cassidy, and Alan Morin shot a 12-under-par score of 59, while Adam Tsakonas, Luis Guerreris, Ryan Donzello, and Mike Mominey placed second with a score of 60. Placing third with a score of 63 was the foursome consisting of Thai Nguyen, Jason Palmateer, Wesley Guilermo, and Ed McClosky. Ryan Brown won the longest drive for the men's prize, while Brittany Nuccitelli snared the longest drive for women award. Case Cassidy won the men's closet-to-the-pin contest, while Tracy Templin was the closet-to-the-pin women's winner.

Following the tournament, the participants attended a barbeque held at NSU's Flight Deck located in the Don Taft University Center that included a spirited awards ceremony and raffle drawing. "Many of the participants had never been to the Flight Deck," said Lynne Cawley, M.Sc., director of alumni affairs. "So it was good opportunity for them to see the University Center and all it has to offer."

Special thanks are extended to tournament sponsors **JD Backhoe**, **NSU Athletics**, and **Comprehensive Home Care** as well as the following individuals and organizations for their support in ensuring the tournament's success: Army Healthcare Recruiters, Debbie Chase (for her tenacity in procuring prizes), Golfsmith, The Falcon Pub, Dr. Kenneth Johnson, Paul Cawley, Country Club of Coral Springs, Eagle Trace Golf Club, Marriott at Heron Bay, Baron Marketing, Leslie Jones, Dr. Bart Whitehead, Katherine Caboverde, William Hollis, Shorty's Bar B-Q, Jason's Deli, Sign-O-Rama, Lou Scalia's Pro Shop, Quarterdeck, Red Lobster, and Pizza Loft.

**Jeremy Ingram, D.O.** ('07), who recently completed his emergency medicine residency training at the University of Florida Health Science Center–Jacksonville, has joined Emergency Medical Associates of Florida, Bayfront Division, in St. Petersburg. His recent accomplishments include serving as co-chair of the EMS/Disaster Committee for the Emergency Medicine Residents Association section of the American College of Emergency Physicians. He also was selected to present his senior research project titled "Utilization of Simulation for Mass Casualty Training of Emergency Medicine Residents and Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellows" during the University of Florida Health Science Center–Jacksonville Emergency Medicine Research Day 2010.

**Marc G. Kaprow, D.O., FACOI** ('01) recently accepted the position of associate medical director at Vitas Hospice in Broward County. He also continues to serve as vice chief of internal medicine at Memorial Hospital West and as vice president of the Broward County Osteopathic Medical Association.

**Heather Mikes, D.O.** ('09), an intern at Legacy Health in Portland Oregon, was named the winner of the international poster competition held in conjunction with the American College of Physicians' Internal Medicine 2010 symposium held April 22-24 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in Toronto, Ontario. Her winning poster was titled "Beyond the Cuckoo's Nest: Limbic Encephalitis Presenting as Acute Psychosis."

**Sherika Newman, D.O.** ('05) was named as a Most Valuable Physician at the North Broward Medical Center in Deerfield Beach, where she serves as a palliative care physician. Her nomination portrayed Dr. Newman as a true advocate for her patients in terms of pain management.

**Ronald Renuart, D.O.** ('90), who was the first osteopathic physician elected to serve as a representative in the Florida House in 2008, was honored with the American Heart Association's State Legislator of the Year Award in March for sponsoring legislation to improve care for victims of ST-elevation myocardial infarction.

**Manuel D. Rodriguez, D.O., M.S., M.P.H.** ('06), who is a PGY-3 internal medicine resident at the University of South Alabama Medical Center in Mobile, Alabama, has been named chief resident in the center's Department of Internal Medicine for the 2010-11 academic year. He also was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

**Marivi Soto, D.O.** ('94), who is a family practitioner, was featured in *CMH* magazine, a lifestyle publication in Columbus, Ohio.



# Mission of Mercy

## 2005 Alumnus Dr. Christopher Sizemore Saves Lives in Haiti

*By Christopher Sizemore, D.O.*

*In January, just a week after a devastating 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck near the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince, Christopher Sizemore, D.O., a 2005 NSU-COM alumnus, flew down to the stricken region to provide his medical and surgical skills to those in need. Dr. Sizemore, who did his OB/GYN residency training at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee, and has since established his own OB/GYN practice in Franklin, Tennessee, says his interest in global health was cultivated during his days as an NSU-COM student when he participated in the college's medical outreach trip to Guatemala. Following is the compelling story of his time spent in Haiti:*

**M**y flight was booked, as were my plans to return once again to the northwest region of Haiti for a routine medical mission trip. Little did I know that a single event of catastrophic proportions would soon change everything. A few days before my scheduled departure, Haiti's 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked a country already reeling from hardship, poverty, and sickness at a level hard to understand here in the United States.

The desperation in Port-au-Prince (PAP) was palpable through our home television and my radio as I drove to work each day following the quake. It was even more astonishing to hear the pleas of journalists to a worldwide audience: "If you are a doctor and have medical supplies, we need you—now." My response

to this request would lead me to the back porch of a Haitian orphanage I will never forget.

After gathering my thoughts, I called my wife, Janie, to tell her what she said she already knew: I was going to Port-au-Prince to assist however I could. The sense of urgency was obvious. Getting to Haiti was now my focus—the sooner, the better. Dr. Aaron Didier, my friend and business partner in our practice (Harpeth Obstetrics & Gynecology), immediately stepped up to offer coverage during my time in Haiti.

Initially, my attempts to secure flights, ground transportation, and a safe place to sleep were futile. Haiti's poor infrastructure was now exacerbated by an even larger shortage of food, water, and shelter. The multitude of aftershocks made communication,

as well as travel, extremely difficult. All the while, friends and community volunteers gathered generous donations of medications, as well as medical supplies and equipment for me to take to the earthquake victims. About 50 emails and 30 phone calls later, I gratefully boarded a flight for Fort Lauderdale from Nashville the following day.

Once in Florida, I met up with a small team of medical personnel. After 24 hours of flight cancellations and delays, we all boarded a small charter plane for our flight into PAP. Our transportation and safety were now in the secure hands of Heartline Ministries—a longtime ministry serving the poor in Port-au-Prince. The orphanage had been inundated by injured men, women, and children in the aftermath of the earthquake and was now a makeshift field hospital. Somehow, that's where I came in. My previous medical experiences in serving the people of Haiti, Guatemala, and Africa, as well as my service in the U.S. Army, made me a good "fit" for this emergency response team. I hoped I could help.

The scene was one of unfathomable desperation. The medical need was extreme, including conditions such as head injuries, compound fractures, severe lacerations, required amputations, burns, wound infections, and disease. We had little anesthesia, as well as limited surgical equipment and supplies. Like thousands of other relief volunteers there, you ask yourself, "Where do I start?" and then spend very little time deliberating and you just



*Compassion in a crisis:  
Dr. Christopher Sizemore*

*"Upon my arrival, I met a terrified teenager named Jennie, who I estimated was about 34 weeks pregnant based on the size of her abdomen. At first glance, I had a shimmer of hope that she was just in labor, but quickly came to learn she had been struck by a falling brick wall during the earthquake a week prior. Enduring the agony all week, she now had unbearable pain and her bleeding had become life-threatening. My exam revealed a placental abruption, which is a condition where the placenta separates from the wall of the uterus. It was a true emergency as now both lives were at serious risk."*

start. Sixteen hours later, you ask yourself, "Did we even make a dent?"

But each day we just kept working the only way we knew how—treating one patient at a time. Local staff members did an amazing job organizing the work flow: a triage area at the front gate, an outside station for the "walking wounded" or minor injuries to be evaluated and treated by nurses and physicians, and an inside area with scattered foldout tables for performing minor procedures. Beyond that, on the back porch was the "operating room," which consisted of a flimsy kitchen table, oxygen tank, and cardboard box filled with vials of Ketamine—the only anesthesia we had for surgical procedures.

After a long day of treating patients, I draped a mosquito net over me and laid down on the ground outside (no one slept inside buildings for fear of collapse) to get some rest. Minutes after I fell asleep, I awoke to learn a young pregnant girl was in trouble. As an OB/GYN, I was needed. She had come upon the orphanage in the middle of this night, screaming and bleeding. I immediately grabbed my headlamp and ran a block or so to the orphanage. Upon my arrival, I met a terrified teenager named Jennie, who I estimated was about 34 weeks pregnant based on the size of her abdomen. At first glance, I had a shimmer of hope that she was just in labor, but quickly came to learn she had been struck by a falling brick wall during the earthquake a week

prior. Enduring the agony all week, she now had unbearable pain and her bleeding had become life-threatening. My exam revealed a placental abruption, which is a condition where the placenta separates from the wall of the uterus. It was a true emergency as now both lives were at serious risk.

To save them, our only option was to perform an emergency cesarean section outdoors on a shaky kitchen table, in the dark,



*Special delivery:  
Dr. Sizemore's namesake,  
baby Christopher.*



and on the very unsterile back porch of a Haitian orphanage. Unfortunately, there was no other option, so we did our best to prepare for surgery. I scooped up a severely bleeding Jennie, placed her on the table, and dug out an old fetal doppler from a box on the floor to confirm what I knew and feared—the baby’s heart rate was a mere 60 beats per minute instead of the normal 110-160 range. Jennie’s baby had only minutes, if not seconds, to live, so our team scrambled.

Dr. Dave started an IV while Joanna, the midwife, tried to find a working cell phone to call for additional medical help and made attempts to find a working fog light. I rummaged through boxes and bags on the floor, finding only two sutures and a single pair of gloves. I reached into my shirt pocket and remarkably discovered a scalpel I had forgotten was there. Just then, our pediatric ER doc, Jen, and anesthesiologist, Scott, arrived. Within a mere 15 minutes of Jennie’s arrival, we had assembled a medical team ready to operate. Ketamine was administered, followed by one more check of the baby’s heartbeat, which was up slightly to the 70’s range. That’s it—no turning back now. As ill equipped as we were, we began.

It took just 60 seconds. I recall making the incision with the scalpel (the only tool I had), getting the baby out, and then passing a pale, limp, and very frail baby boy to Jen, the pediatric ER doc. With two dry towels and an oxygen tank, she worked frantically to resuscitate him while the anesthesiologist monitored Jennie. Meanwhile, I completed the operation with the only two sutures I had. A few minutes later, a faint, squeaky cry resounded into the night. This baby boy was miraculously alive.

We also had the immediate challenge of protecting his mother from a life-threatening infection since the surgery was by no means sterile. I administered and monitored Jennie’s antibiotics while Joanna spent the following five days caring for her. Remarkably, neither fever nor infection resulted. Jennie and her baby are now doing very well, meaning two lives had been saved. A sign of hope in this tragedy had miraculously occurred.

This is the kind of incident that renews your faith amidst unthinkable human suffering. I will never forget Jennie’s smile and words as she uttered in Creole, “I will name him Christopher after the doctor who saved him.”

My small response had mattered.



# Alumni Association Fund Honor Roll

In the spring of 1999, NSU-COM launched an alumni-based fundraising effort to generate dollars that would be used to create an endowment fund to reduce future tuition costs for NSU-COM students and produce a funding pool that would be utilized for discretionary purposes as determined by the Alumni Association Executive Committee. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the following list of donors; however, if you notice an error or omission, please contact Lynne Cawley in the Office of Alumni Affairs at (954) 262-1029 to rectify the matter. For example, the college has received a number of donation cards with credit-card pledges where no name is listed. The Office of Alumni Affairs cannot process the credit-card donation without a name indicated, so if you have not received a letter of thanks from NSU-COM but know you have made a credit-card contribution, please contact Ms. Cawley at the aforementioned phone number.

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*\*in honor of 2010 Living Tribute Award recipient Dr. Harold E. Laubach*

## Cumulative List (1999-2010)

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### 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)

# Alumni Association Fund Honor Roll

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Dr. Tricia Percy ('95)

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Dr. Ronald Renuart ('90)  
Dr. Patrick Sayavong ('92)  
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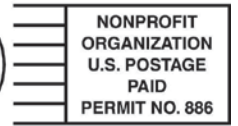
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Health Professions Division  
College of Osteopathic Medicine  
3200 South University Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328-2018



# 2010-11 Calendar of Events

## **July 28-August 1, 2010**

### *FSACOFP Annual Convention and National Family Practice Update*

Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando, Florida

Alumni Reception – Friday, July 30, 2010

Hyatt Regency Grand View Terrace

5:30-7:30 p.m.

## **September 24-26, 2010**

### *FOMA Mid-Year Seminar*

Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay in Tampa, Florida

## **October 24-28, 2010**

### *AOA Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition*

San Francisco, California

Alumni Reception – Monday, October 25

Conservatory of Flowers at Golden Gate Park

100 John F. Kennedy Drive

7:00-9:30 p.m.

## **January 28-30, 2011**

### *NSU-COM Alumni Reunion CME Weekend*

NSU Campus/Renaissance Hotel-Plantation