

# News & NOTES

Volume 1: March 2002

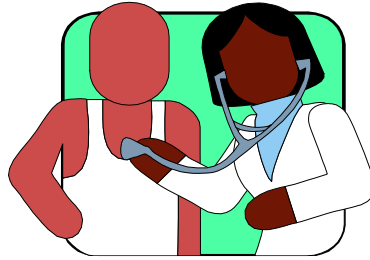
## *New Clinical Practices*

SLUCare has come to Des Peres and with it our department!

**Kimberly Zoberi, M.D., Kate Lichten-berg, D.O.,M.P.H., Eve Gilstrap, R.N., F.N.P. and Mark Mengel, M.D., M.P.H.** have opened a primary care and prevention center in the new Des Peres Medical Arts Pavilion on the Des Peres Hospital campus. In this practice, we are stressing an open access model with a computerized electronic medical record in order to better serve our patients.

**Richard Schamp, M.D.** joined our faculty on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and became the Medical Director of the Alexian Brothers Community Service PACE Program. The PACE program is an innovative program in which nursing home eligible seniors are cared for using a team-based approach in order to keep them functional in the community. As PACE grows, we hope to continue to provide additional primary care services to them.

**Dr. Zoberi** is providing care to an underserved African-American patient population in North St. Louis two days per week at the Women's Health Clinic of the Florence Hill Health Service as part of a contract with ConnectCare.



## **Rural Medicine Grant Awarded to Belleville Family Practice Residency**

The Department was pleased to accept a \$100,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health to enhance training in rural medical practice at the SLU/St. Elizabeth's Family Practice Residency Program. The FP residency program has partnered with Sparta Community Hospital to begin a rotation in February, 2002. Focusing on knowledge and skills suited to rural practice, the resident will gain additional skills in procedures, practice management and rural community health outreach. The resident will travel to Sparta three days per week and maintain his/her continuity practice in Belleville. **Michael Temporal, M.D.** serves as the rotation coordinator and **Amy Ballance, M.H.A.** serves as fiscal agent for the grant.

## *Strategic Planning*

Since coming to the Department in September of 2000, I have begun a strategic planning process which has resulted in the formation of the Department's mission statement and a new departmental organization in which three new divisions have been formed: a Research Division under the direction of **Belinda Ireland, M.D., M.S.**; the SLU Area Health Education Center Program Office under the direction of Deputy Director, **Deborah McGruder, M.P.H.**; and a new Clinical Division under my direction.

In October, a departmental-wide retreat was held in which each division began their own strategic planning effort. After an initial presentation of plans during the December Executive Committee meeting and feedback from our strategic planning consultant, Bob Serben, division directors have worked on their plans and presented them at the February Executive Committee meeting.

As departmental chair, I hope the strategic planning process will enable the department to serve our customers better, align each division mission with the overall department mission and improve implementation of the programs and services that we offer.

- Mark Mengel, M.D., M.P.H.

**Our Mission:** The Department of Community and Family Medicine at Saint Louis University will measurably improve community health outcomes **by the recruiting and interdisciplinary training** of family physicians and other primary care health providers to optimize the health of individual patients, families, and communities; **by research and development** of new services or products that address community health needs; **by collaboration** with community and governmental health agencies to better understand and address community health needs, and **by providing clinical and community services** that meet community health needs. This work will focus on the St. Louis metropolitan area, be financially viable in partnership with SLU, and be consistent with the vision and values of SLU.

## *Research Division Established*

Greetings from the newly created Research Division! In September, 2001, the Department was awarded a 3 year, \$614,000 grant from the Bureau of Health Professions to support the development of a research division that will focus on primary care practice in underserved urban communities. The grant will support three areas of investigation where research is likely to improve care:

- Evaluating the effectiveness of the Community Oriented Primary Care model and its integration with the Community Public Health model to deliver community based primary care services focused on prevention and health promotion in the St. Louis area.
- Integrating behavioral and mental health into primary care delivery models with an emphasis on identifying behavioral and psychosocial risk factors specific to the underserved.
- Improving the delivery of family practice/primary care clinical services from an evidence-based, population-based approach.

### **New Occ Med Residents**

The Occupational Medicine Residency Program is happy to announce that Dr. Andrew Singh and Dr. Louis Lim have been accepted into the program and will begin their residencies in July 2002.

**Louis Lim, M.D.** comes to the program having completed a three year residency in internal medicine at the University of South Dakota in Sioux Falls where he currently serves as Chief Resident in Internal Medicine. Dr. Lim, a native of Singapore, is a 1998 graduate of Saint Louis University School of Medicine. His interest in occ med has been heightened by the work he did as a medical student in helping to organize a health screening drive to provide child health examinations, immunizations and preventive counseling on HIV and sexual abuse. He also served as a volunteer physician in a clinic for the elderly poor in Belize City, Belize. Dr. Lim hopes that by completing his training in occ med, he will be able to address some of the challenges he sees in the identification and promotion of preventive health care.

**Andrew Singh, M.D.** is a 2000 graduate of Saint Louis University School of Medicine and has completed one year of an internal medicine residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He was named "Intern of the Year" for 2000-01. Dr. Singh was born in Wales but grew up in North Dakota. Between college and medical school, Dr. Singh worked as a graduate research associate at the University of California at Berkeley and later as a research associate at COR Therapeutics, Inc. in San Francisco. His interest in occ med began with a clerkship he did as a fourth year medical student where he became intrigued by the dynamics between industry and health care, government regulations and the "astonishingly absent arrogance of the physicians."

We have already established important collaborations in this effort with the School of Public Health, MO Institute for Mental Health, and Medical Defense Partnership for Reinvention and are building new partnerships with the City and County Health Departments and federally qualified health centers.

The Division has a new research director, **Belinda Ireland, M.D., M.S.**, who is an epidemiologist with experience in the government and industry sector as well as academic. Two new clinical researchers have already joined the Division, **Kate Lichtenberg, D.O., M.P.H.** and **Kathleen Tarr, M.D., Ph.D.** Both will continue primary care practice while developing their research interests. The Division is supporting the evaluation efforts of two department educational grants and has already received funding for a major research grant, Increasing FAS Awareness by a Media Campaign. We're off to a busy and successful start!

### *Personnel Notes*



**Douglas Hardin, M.H.A.** has joined the Department as our new Senior Department Administrator. He comes to us from St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis where he worked as Administrative Director of Psychiatry for several years. He takes over for **Steve Gebhart** who left to take an administrative position in the Department of Internal Medicine.

**Nancy Klepper, M.Comm.H.**, former Director of Community and International Programs, retired at the end of 2001 after many years of service to the Department and the University. She is currently traveling in New Zealand with her husband, Bob, who will be teaching there this semester. We are certain that by now she has been elected to the boards of several Maori service associations.

**Jana Knollman** has been promoted to Administrative Assistant. Her responsibilities have expanded to include not just keeping up with Dr. Mengel but providing backup for Doug Hardin in processing Department purchases and expenses. She also supports Deborah McGruder and the SLU AHEC Program.

**Carol Dufresne** has received a promotion to Program Coordinator. She is currently responsible for providing support and hand holding to the predoctoral and research divisions. In addition, she has taken on the responsibilities of program coordinator for the preventive medicine residency programs.

Congratulations to **Michael Robinson**, Data Manager, on accepting an administrative fellowship at Humility of Mary Health Partners in Youngstown, OH. Michael will join them after receiving his M.H.A. from Saint Louis University School of Public Health this summer.

## *SLU AHEC Program Office*

The Carnegie Commission on Higher Education proposed Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) in the early 1970s as a means of addressing the maldistribution of health professionals in the medically underserved areas throughout the nation. Presently, there are 42 AHEC programs currently active in a national network that includes 40 states.

The SLU AHEC Program Office received start-up funds in late 2001 from DHSS, Bureau of Health Professions. We partner with East Central MO Area Health Education Center (ECMO AHEC) for implementation. The primary goal of the office is to enhance access to quality health care through community-academic educational partnerships focusing on the health care needs of the underserved St. Louis area. The program office works in conjunction with the MO AHEC Network (MAHEC) and directly with the East Central MO Area Health Education Center (ECMO AHEC) to:

- Recruit underrepresented minorities to the health professions
- Enroll and maintain them in health profession schools
- Recruit minority faculty and underserved training sites
- Encourage and retain health professionals practicing in underserved urban areas.

The staff of the program office works in conjunction with the health profession schools and ECMO AHEC to identify areas of collaboration and serve as a bridge between the center and academic community to:

- Develop health careers recruitment programs in underserved urban areas for underrepresented populations
- Support community-based multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary training for primary care health profession students and residents in underserved areas.
- Provide educational support, information dissemination, and technical assistance to reduce

professional isolation, increase retention, and enhance the practice environment.

The SLU AHEC Program Office administers a multidisciplinary academic consortium that includes representatives from the cooperating Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Allied Health, Public Health and Social Service.

**Mark Mengel, M.D., M.P.H.** serves as the Project/Program Director. **Deborah Butler McGruder, M.P.H.**, Deputy Director, will manage the program office on a day-to-day basis.

For further information, please contact Deborah at (341)577-8752 or by e-mail at [mcgruder@slu.edu](mailto:mcgruder@slu.edu).

### *What's Up in Pre-Doc?*

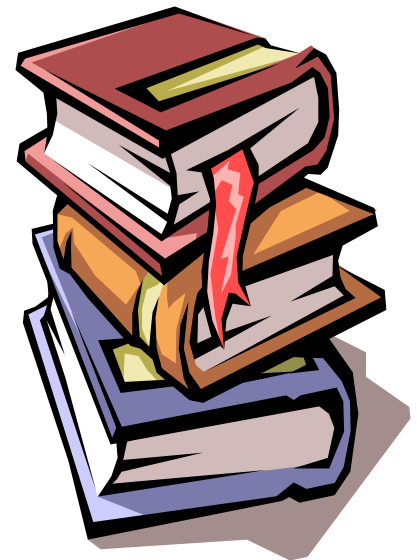
The predoctoral section welcomes the following new preceptors for students in the clerkship: **Dr. Alfred Johnson** and **Dr. Jay Magner** of the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation in Centreville, IL. Both of these practices are in underserved areas with predominately minority patients so they are helping us meet our goal of increasing the amount of clinical time spent by our students in underserved areas.

Our clerkship students are enjoying Problem-based Learning (PBL) and several of our residency faculty and preceptors have joined our students as facilitators in their Wednesday sessions. Our newest PBL facilitator is **Jim Deckert, M.D.** who will be leading PBL sessions in March. Thanks, Jim!

The Department is offering several new electives in winter 2002 and in the 2002-03 academic year. **C. Alec Pollard, Ph.D.** of St. Louis Behavioral Medicine Institute designed a course titled "Behavioral Medicine for Future Physicians" for second year students to prepare them for the behavioral medicine portion of the USMLE Step 2. **Paul Duckro, Ph.D.**, also from the Behavioral Institute, designed the course, "Alternative/Complementary/Integrative Medicine" that

examines acupuncture, pastoral care and herbal interventions in medical practice. **Belinda Ireland, M.D., M.S.** is offering "Community Focused Research" for fourth year students to peak their interest in population based research. **Stacie Walton, M.D.**, part-time faculty in the Department, will teach "Cultural Competence in Medicine through Literature, Film and Dialogue". Finally, **Michael Railey, M.D.** is coordinating an innovative course, "Post Graduate Training and Life Skills Mastery" designed to prepare fourth year students for their residencies by sharpening their skills. Students have responded enthusiastically to the elective choices.

The communication skills portion of our Wednesday didactic sessions has a new twist. **Gail Furman, Ph.D.**, Director of the Clinical Skills Lab, and **Maggie Ulione, Ph.D.**, Education Coordinator, have recruited and trained standardized patients to help students sharpen their communication skills. For example, in the first week the students are practicing are their skills in cultural competency and exploring a patient's illness perspective. There will be two standardized patients, each portraying a patient with information necessary for the student to practice advanced communication skills. For three weeks of the four week clerkship, there will be different standardized patients to assist the students in perfecting different skills.



## *In Appreciation*

As many of you know, of the eight grants we submitted last year, five have been approved for funding including our pre-doctoral grant, our research infrastructure grant, our AHEC contract, our fetal alcohol syndrome contract, and our rural health training grant for the SLU/St. Elizabeth's Family Practice Residency Program in Belleville. Not only will these grants substantially fuel our growth over the next three years, they could not have been possible without the hard work of the faculty and staff who collaborated in writing these grants and the partnerships we established in the community that supported our efforts. So for each of our grants, I would like to recognize the team of individuals who wrote the grant in our department and the partners who significantly supported our work:

<b>Grant</b>	<b>Faculty &amp; Staff Team</b>	<b>Partners</b>
Predoctoral (medical student) Teaching Training Grant	Margaret Ulione, Ph.D., R.N., Michael Railey, M.D., Belinda Ireland, M.D., M.S., Jana Knollman	Family Care Health Center, Institute for Research and Education in Family Medicine, Forest Park Family Practice Residency Program
Department (Research Infrastructure) Grant	Belinda Ireland, M.D., M.S., Mark Mengel, M.D., M.P.H., Jana Knollman	SLU School of Public Health, MO Institute for Mental Health, Medical Defense Partnership for Reinvention at Scott Air Force Base
AHEC Grant	Margaret Ulione, Ph.D., R.N., Mark Mengel, M.D., M.P.H., Belinda Ireland, M.D., M.S., Jana Knollman	East Central MO Area Health Education Center, MO Area Health Education Network, Forest Park Family Practice Residency Program, SLU Schools of Public Health, Nursing, Allied Health, and Social Work, Institute for Research and Education in Family Medicine, Family Care Health Centers, and a host of schools and community groups
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Media Project	Mark Mengel, M.D., M.P.H., Belinda Ireland, M.D., M.S., Carol Dufresne	MO Institute of Mental Health, E. Terrence Jones, Ph.D., Marketing Works, Inc.
Rural Health Training Grant	Mark Thompson, M.D., Michael Temporal, M.D., Amy Ballance, M.H.A.	Sparta Community Hospital and private family physicians in the area

I particularly want to thank several individuals among our community partners who have provided the Department substantial support, including: **Dave Campbell, M.D., M.Ed.** of the Institute of Research and Education in Family Medicine, **Bob Massey, D.D.S.** of Family Care Health Centers, **James Price, M.D., M.B.A.** of the Forest Park Family Practice Residency Program, **Tamra Lisy** of the East Central Missouri AHEC, **Danny Wedding, Ph.D., M.P.H.** of the Missouri Institute of Mental Health, and **Ross Brownson, Ph.D.** of the School of Public Health. These individuals have offered substantial support to the Department and I want to thank them individually for their contributions. Without their contributions, I don't think the Department would be as far along in our growth as we are today.

We look forward to working with our partners on the grants and contracts that we have obtained and, in fact, hope to build on our efforts by obtaining future grant support. Expanding our role in the community by working with existing community agencies is exciting for the Department and should substantially improve health outcome in St. Louis.

- Mark Mengel, M.D., M.P.H.

## ***UPCOMING DEPARTMENT EVENTS!***

### ***Grand Rounds and Training Opportunities!***

*William Shore, M.D., Predoctoral Director of Education for the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California-San Francisco will be presenting “Adolescent Medicine for Family Physicians: Current Updates and Tips” at Grand Rounds on Tuesday evening, April 9<sup>th</sup>, from 6-7 p.m. in the Learning Resources Center, Auditorium C*

*Michael Fleming, M.D., M.P.H., Director of the Family Medicine Research Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is coming in May to present at grand rounds. His presentation entitled, “Proven Methods to Become an NIH-Funded Physician Scientist”, will be held on Tuesday evening, May 7<sup>th</sup>, from 6-7 p.m. in the Learning Resources Center, Auditorium C*

*Timothy Hickman, M.D., M.P.H., Education Specialist, will be offering a two part in-service on small group facilitation for our faculty, problem-based learning facilitators and PPS I group leaders on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 p.m. in the Learning Resources Center, Room 110*

***Details will follow by separate mailing! Please plan to attend!***

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