



# COMMUNITY LINC

Fall 2012 • Volume 6 Number 2 – A publication for the LMU-DCOM family

## LMU-DCOM Dean Installed as 116th President of the AOA

### CONTENTS

Professor Featured on National Geographic Series **3**

DO Class of 2012 Celebrates Residency Placements **4**

DO 2012 Graduation **7**

TOUCH Hours at Work **13**

PA Program Graduation **15**

Rotation and Residency Spotlight **18**

Student Achievements **26**

Faculty/Staff Happenings **28**



As **Dean Ray E. Stowers**, an osteopathic family physician from Harrogate, Tenn., addressed his peers shortly after he was sworn in as the 116th president of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) in July, he encouraged all osteopathic physicians to be innovative as they look toward the future of health care and osteopathic medicine.

“Nearly 140 years ago the osteopathic medical profession was built on a new concept of how to improve upon the current approach to medicine,” said Stowers. “And today we must continue to initiate new ways of thinking—from helping patients learn to make better choices for their health to taking the lead in promoting new health care delivery systems.”

He also promised the more than 500 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students gathered at the AOA’s Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates that the AOA will be there for them advocating for important issues such as fair Medicare physician payments and expansion of osteopathic graduate medical education training.

“I look forward to spending the next year advocating on behalf of the more than 100,000 DOs and osteopathic medical students that make up this profession and the patients we serve,” stated Stowers.

Although Stowers has been helping to groom future generations of DOs as the vice president for health sciences and founding dean of Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (LMU-DCOM) in Harrogate since it was established in 2005, he fondly recalls his time practicing medicine in rural Oklahoma after graduating from what is now the Kansas City (Mo.) University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine.

“After earning my osteopathic medical degree, I established my practice in north central Oklahoma, and during most of the 25 years I spent there, I was the only physician in the 300-square mile county,” recalled Stowers.

Prior to joining LMU-DCOM, Stowers was an associate professor of family medicine and director of the Division of Rural Health at the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa. He then served as the founding director

*Continued on page 3*

**COMMUNITY LINC** is dedicated to being the link between faculty, students and the greater community. Just as the musculoskeletal system is the core of wellness for the body, communication is the core of wellness for the community.

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Director of Marketing and  
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Editor, COMMunity Linc



As **Founding Dean Ray E. Stowers** travels the nation and the world representing the osteopathic profession as President of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), it is my honor to step into this role and serve as Interim Dean of LMU-DCOM. And now is certainly an extraordinary time to be at the helm of this extraordinary institution.

In July 2012, LMU-DCOM welcomed its largest class size to date when the members of the Class of 2016 entered our doors. We also marked a new era for the University with the opening of the

140,000 square foot Math and Science building. Our first-year students now attend lecture and anatomy lab inside the Math and Science building, which boasts a 400-seat grand auditorium and a four-pod anatomy lab that is the brainchild of **Professor and Chair of Anatomy Neal Cross**. I believe our new anatomy lab rivals that of any other facility in the country.

Our Physician Assistant Program continues to grow and thrive, and our third class of DO/MBA students completed their classroom work this summer. In September, Lincoln Memorial University was named the #6 up-and-coming institution in the South by *U.S. News and World Report*, and the evidence of this can be seen within the Health Sciences Division as well as campus-wide.

As we grow and change we are also committed to staying true to our core mission: preparing outstanding osteopathic physicians to serve the underserved in this region and beyond. To that end we have added a host of new faculty members and continue to strengthen our curriculum. Thanks to the tireless work of **Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education Kenneth Heiles** and the entire clinical education staff, we are adding new residency and rotation spots and creating new partnerships around the region.

The proof of our mission is the accomplishments of our students and graduates. We now have two classes of DO and PA alumni in their post-graduate years, with four classes of DO students and two classes of PA students doing great things both in and out of the classroom. I encourage you to take a look at notes in this newsletter regarding some of the research and service activities being conducted by members of the LMU-DCOM family. I think you will be impressed. 

*Continued from the front page*

of the Oklahoma Rural Health Policy and Research Center.

A longstanding member of the AOA, Stowers has served on the Board of Trustees since 2000. In addition, he has been involved with several other osteopathic medical organizations. He is a past president of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, which also honored him with the A.T. Still Award of Excellence in 2008, and a Board member of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA). In 2006, he was named Family Physician of the Year by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. In 2011, TOMA honored Stowers with the Paul Grayson Smith, Sr., Physician of the Year Award.

Advocating for the osteopathic medical profession at the national level, Stowers advised Congress on health care issues

through his appointments to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, better known as MedPAC, and the Physician Payment Review Commission. He was also a policy board member of the National Rural Health Association and still serves as a member of the Rural Health Works National Advisory Council.



**Kevin Cope, DO Class of 2014**, and president of the Class of 2014, makes a toast from the LMU-DCOM student body to **Dean Ray Stowers** in front of all AOA conference attendees during the inauguration reception.



**Interim Dean Michael Wieting, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine Gina DeFranco, Kevin Cope, Class of 2014, Brendan Williams, Class of 2015, Katie Clark, Class of 2014 and Kaitlin Dewhirst, Class of 2014** at the AOA House of Delegates.

## LMU-DCOM Professor Featured On National Geographic Channel Series



**Dr. Natalie Shirley**, assistant professor of anatomy at LMU-DCOM, added a new accomplishment to her already impressive resume in Spring 2012: television star.

Shirley was one of several forensic scientists featured in the National Geographic Channel series “The Great American Manhunt,” which premiered April 19. The other members of the investigative team were psychologist Dr. Dan Shapiro and retired Miami-Dade (Fla.) police lieutenant Bill Erfurth.

In the ultimate forensics challenge, National Geographic Channel takes away every shortcut that helps crime fighters identify a “John Doe” – dental records, DNA databases and all forms of personal identification – to find out if a team of experts can positively identify a complete

stranger’s occupation, exact location and full name using only forensic clues from an anonymous target. The only hint: there is something exceptional about each subject – a great sporting achievement, surviving a disaster or excelling at a particular physical, artistic or mental skill. “The Great American Manhunt” is for anyone who has ever wondered how those “CSI”-type investigators on TV manage to track down anyone, anywhere, at anytime.

“Working on the series was a new and challenging experience,” Shirley said. “It stretched my thinking and used parts of my skill set that I don’t usually have to apply in daily casework. The process of figuring out the unknown targets was exciting, and sometimes we hit dead ends and had to rethink our strategy. In the end, I learned a lot and got to meet many interesting and brilliant people in our search for the unknowns.”

In addition to her appointment at LMU-DCOM, Shirley also serves as an adjunct faculty member in the University of Tennessee Anthropology

Department. She received her BA and MA in anthropology from Louisiana State University, where she was actively involved in the forensic anthropology program. She received her PhD (2009) from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville as a student of Dr. Richard Jantz, director emeritus of the Forensic Anthropology Center. Her research interests include skeletal maturation in modern populations, age and sex estimation from the human skeleton and skeletal trauma. She is an active participant in the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and she was awarded the Emerging Forensic Scientist Award (2007) for her research in skeletal maturation. Shirley is also involved in the U.S. Department of Justice’s International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program’s initiative in Colombia, in which she participates in training and research exercises to assist the Colombian forensic community in the reconciliation of crimes against humanity.

# Former AOA President Martin Levine Visits LMU-DCOM

LMU-DCOM played host this spring to Dr. Martin S. Levine, 2011-2012 president of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

Levine visited osteopathic medical schools across the country during his tenure. While at LMU-DCOM, Levine toured the facility, met with faculty and staff and spoke to first- and second-year osteopathic medical students about the AOA and the osteopathic profession. During his remarks Levine encouraged the students to “think osteopathically” and to routinely incorporate osteopathic manipulative medicine into treatment of patients.

Levine is an osteopathic family physician in Bayonne and Jersey City, N.J. He serves as associate dean for education development at the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine in the Harlem neighborhood of New York City. Levine also serves as discipline chief of family medicine and associate professor of clinical family medicine at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine’s New Jersey Clinical Campus based at Seton Hall University School of Health and Medical Sciences. He is one of more than 20 osteopathic physicians in his family. His father, Dr. Howard M. Levine, served as president of the AOA from 1997-1998. 



*Dr. Martin S. Levine (R), 2011-2012 president of the AOA, looks on while Dr. Ray E. Stowers (L), vice president of health sciences and dean of LMU-DCOM, introduces him prior to Levine’s remarks to LMU-DCOM students. Stowers will serve as AOA president for 2012-2013.*

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## LMU-DCOM Graduating Class Celebrates Residency Placements

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### Overwhelming majority of Class of 2012 to enter into primary care

Following osteopathic Match Day on February 13 and the allopathic Match Day on March 12, members of the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012 now know where they will be going to pursue their first year of residency training. And for a full 80% of the class, that field is in primary care.

This continues a trend begun with the LMU-DCOM inaugural class. Three-fourths of the members of the LMU-DCOM Class of 2011 entered a primary care residency following their graduation. Primary care fields include family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN and emergency medicine. The members of the Class of 2012 will be in 130 different residency programs in 27 states.

“As an institution with a strong mission of service to the underserved, we are glad to know that a majority of our graduates will be pursuing those primary care positions that are so critically needed in our region and around the country,” said Ray E. Stowers, DO, vice president of health sciences and dean of LMU-DCOM. “At the same time we celebrate those that will be pursuing a non primary care position. We are exceedingly proud of all of the students we are about to welcome into the profession as osteopathic physicians.”

Once medical students graduate with their medical degree, they receive further training in their chosen medical specialty in residency programs. Prior to Match Day, medical students select a number of residency programs that they are interested in. They then have the opportunity to apply for these programs and be interviewed for potential acceptance. After that process is complete, both the medical students and the residency programs rank their choices with a central matching service. On Match Day, the results of this process are announced. Two Match Days are held annually – one specifically for osteopathic (DO) residency programs and another for allopathic (MD) residency programs. Osteopathic medical students like those at LMU-DCOM are eligible to participate in either match. Traditionally, approximately half of all DO students match in the osteopathic match and half match in the MD match.

LMU-DCOM had the fourth highest match rate within this year’s osteopathic match, behind Michigan State University, Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Pacific Northwest University College of Osteopathic Medicine. This follows a similar trend to 2011, when LMU-DCOM had the second highest osteopathic match rate in the country. 

## LMU Alumna Shows Artwork at LMU-DCOM

LMU alumna **Laurel Sprague** showed her latest artwork, titled “Antipodean,” inside the LMU-DCOM building on the LMU main campus in Harrogate, Tenn., during the month of February.

“Antipodean” is a body of work that examines the relationship between the inner and outer existences of human life. It speaks of the conversation between the external world and the internal self. The mixed media artwork combines alternative photographic techniques, medical imagery, clay, fiber and wood. There are five panels varying from three to six feet wide and two to five feet tall.

Sprague grew up in Harrogate, where her parents were professors at LMU. After graduating from Middlesboro (Ky.) High School, she studied at LMU from 1999-2002 before earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Piedmont College. Recently, Sprague completed a Master

of Humanities degree with an emphasis in photography and philosophy at Tiffin University. Today she resides north of Knoxville with her husband David Wolters with whom she owns a small business called Split River Designs.



For more information about Sprague’s work, contact her through the website at [www.splitriverdesigns.com](http://www.splitriverdesigns.com). 



## 2nd Annual LMU-DCOM Doggy Dash Raises More Than \$2,000 For Claiborne Animal Shelter

The 2nd Annual Doggy Dash 5K raised approximately \$2,100 to benefit the Claiborne Animal Shelter.

Approximately 80 participants and their pets raced in the 5K and enjoyed a doggy talent show, face painting and music on the LMU main campus. The first place male runner was Rob Niedermeyer. The first place female was Kelly Tuveson. Awards given during the doggy talent show included “best bark,” “cutest pup,” “best trick,” “best owner/doggy pair wag,” “best coat” and “best in show.”

A number of student clubs at LMU-DCOM joined forces to host the event. The Student Osteopathic Medical Association, the Student American Academy of Osteopathy and the Student Tactical and Operational Medicine clubs all contributed to the event.

The proceeds from the race will benefit the Claiborne Animal Shelter, a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to building and operating an animal shelter in Claiborne County, Tenn. The shelter has been built entirely from donations, fundraisers and volunteers. The money raised by the Doggy Dash 5K will be used to help open the shelter for animal intake. The shelter will open with an all-volunteer staff and the funds provided by the Doggy Dash and other fundraisers will help to pay for animal food, utilities, medication and other needs. 



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Search for “**Imunetedu**” for more than 100 videos from the University, including many from LMU-DCOM faculty.

# LMU-DCOM Honors Class of 2012 Members at Awards Ceremony



**Dr. Gina DeFranco (R)**, assistant professor of family medicine, presented the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) Spirit of Excellence Award to **Melanic McClain, DO '12**, of Memphis, Tenn.



**Dr. Rob Wilmoth (R)**, assistant professor of general surgery and chair of surgery, presented the Scalpel Award for Excellence in Surgery to **Jennifer Ottino, DO '12**, of Roseville, Calif.



**Allison Schiller, DO '12**, and **Douglas Schiller, DO '12**, both of Raleigh, N.C., received the Emergency Medicine Award, which was presented by **Dr. Michael Seaman (center)**, associate professor of emergency medicine/family medicine and simulation lab director.

The faculty and administration of LMU-DCOM handed out several awards to members of the graduating class at its awards day ceremony on May 11.

The Dean's Award went to **Melanic McClain, DO '12**, of Memphis, Tenn. The Dean's Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who displays a strong commitment to academic excellence, embodies empathy and compassion toward others, exemplifies personal integrity and professionalism and has earned the respect and trust of classmates and faculty. McClain also received the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) Spirit of Excellence Award. The award is presented annually to a graduating student who has achieved distinction among his or her peers through academic superiority, leadership qualities, community service and a commitment to serve the citizens of Tennessee. McClain was also a co-recipient of the Pediatrics Award, presented to an outstanding student entering the field of pediatrics. **William Jeffrey Broome, DO '12**, of Knoxville, Tenn., also received the Pediatrics Award.

The LMU-DCOM Service Award was presented to **John Venditti, DO '12**, of Houston, Texas, and **Christopher Perry, DO '12**, of Columbia, Tenn. The award is given to students who exemplify the mission statement of LMU-DCOM in the following areas: serving the health and wellness needs of the people within both the Appalachian region and beyond; focusing on enhanced access to comprehensive health care for underserved communities; and embracing compassionate, patient-centered care that values diversity, public service and leadership as an enduring commitment to professionalism and the highest ethical standards.

The Valedictorian Award, for the graduate deemed to be the highest academically ranked student in the class, was

presented to **Aaron Roberts, DO '12**, of Knoxville, Tenn. The Salutatorian Award, for the graduate deemed to be the second highest academically ranked student in the class, was presented to **Phillip Penny, DO '12**, of Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Nathan Hartgrove, DO '12**, of Cleveland, Tenn., received the award for Outstanding Anatomy Student. The award is given to a student who performs in the top 5% of the class academically and exhibits enthusiasm for the subject matter.

**Amin Shazly, DO '12**, of Germantown, Tenn., was named the Outstanding Molecular Fundamentals of Medicine Student. The award is presented to the student having the highest combined average for the two Molecular Fundamentals of Medicine courses.

The Outstanding Osteopathic Principles and Practice Student award was given to **Charles Adam Pearrow, DO '12**, of Bald Knob, Ark. The award is presented to the student who best exemplifies the practical implementation of osteopathic manipulation into the practice of medicine.

**Kyle Toti, DO '12**, of Eureka, Mo., received the Family Medicine Award, presented to the student who best exemplifies what an osteopathic family physician should be. This individual has provided excellent care to a wide variety of patients with a multitude of clinical problems in a kind, concerned and professional manner, and has matched into a family practice residency.

The Internal Medicine Award went to **Blake Spiegel, DO '12**, of Dallas, Texas. The award honors one student who has shown uncommon interest and aptitude in the field of internal medicine.

The Scalpel Award for Excellence in Surgery went to **Jennifer Ottino, DO '12**, of Roseville, Calif. The award is presented to a graduating student pursuing a career in surgery and who has demonstrated excellence in the areas of patient care, academic excellence and technical prowess.

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**Amanda Stephens, DO '12**, of Saline, Mich., received the Obstetrics/Gynecology Award, presented in recognition of the student who has displayed an outstanding commitment to assisting women achieve and maintain health and wellness.

**Allison Schiller, DO '12**, and **Douglas Schiller, DO '12**, both of Raleigh, N.C., received the Emergency Medicine Award, presented to an outstanding student

entering the field of emergency medicine.

The Preventive Medicine and Public Health Award went to **Amanda Saunders, DO '12**, of Raleigh, N.C. The award is presented to an outstanding student who has made significant contributions to public health and preventative medicine through leadership, vision, originality and innovation. 



*LMU Chairman of the Board of Trustees Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk (L) looks on as LMU President B. James Dawson (R) confers upon him the Honorary Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine.*

## LMU-DCOM Celebrates Class of 2012 Graduation

### *LMU Trustees DeBusk, Mars receive special recognition*

The members of the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012 celebrated their graduation on Saturday, May 12, 2012. Dr. Norman Gevitz, professor of the history and sociology of medicine at New York Institute of Technology/New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, delivered the commencement address.

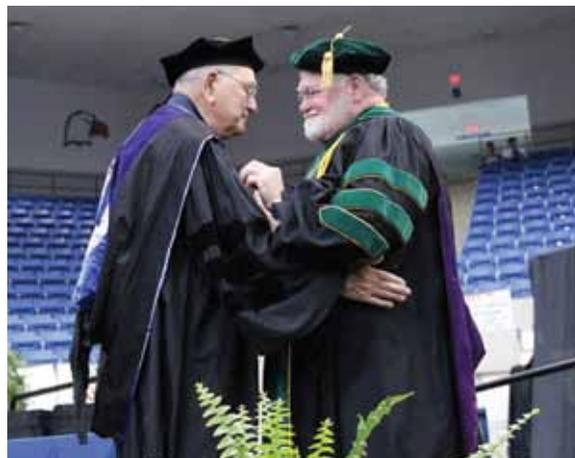
During the ceremony **LMU Chairman of the Board of Trustees Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk** received the inaugural Honorary Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine. The Honorary Doctorate is presented to an individual who has not completed the traditional requirements of osteopathic medical school but who has nonetheless made substantial contributions to the profession of osteopathic medicine. Honorary doctorates date back to the 15th century and have long been used by academic institutions to recognize outstanding achievement. DeBusk was honored for the impact he has had on the health care of the region and the world through his company, DeRoyal Industries.

LMU-DCOM also honored **Sam A. Mars, Jr.**, first vice chairman of the LMU Board of Trustees and chairman of the executive committee, with the Distinguished Service Award. The Distinguished Service Award is presented to an individual who holds service to humanity close to his or her heart and who

has had a significant impact on the health and wellness of those within both the Appalachian region and beyond. Mars holds the longest term of service of any trustee in LMU's history and has been responsible for multiple improvements at the University over the years.

"As the chairman of the executive committee, he led the University's charge in getting the medical school off of the ground," said **Dean Ray E. Stowers**. "He shepherded all of the administrative decisions that needed to be made by the University, and he never wavered in his confidence in the project."

LMU-DCOM opened its doors in 2007. With a full complement of classes and a current student body of more than 600 students, LMU-DCOM has one of the largest medical student enrollments in the state of Tennessee. A full 80% of the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012 will be entering a primary care residency, including the fields of family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN and emergency medicine. 



*LMU First Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Executive Committee Sam A. Mars, Jr. (L) is presented with the 2012 LMU-DCOM Distinguished Service Medal by Vice President of Health Sciences and Dean of LMU-DCOM Ray E. Stowers (R).*



*The LMU-DCOM Class of 2012 celebrates their graduation with a traditional bat toss.*

# LMU-DCOM'S Egnatz Co-Authors Book

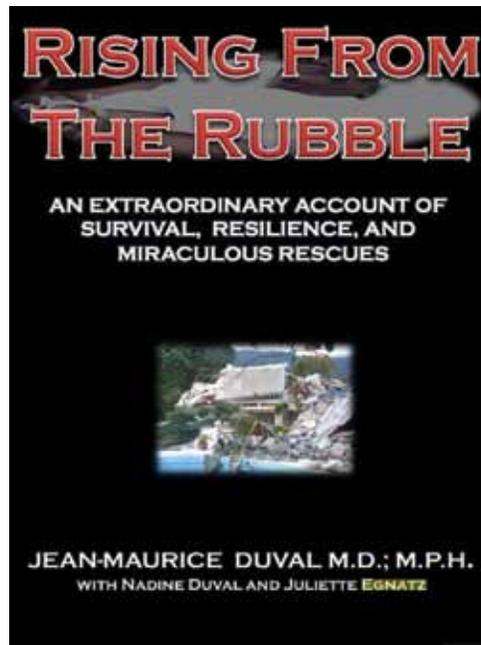


Juliette Egnatz

On January 12, 2010, Haiti was rocked by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake which left the already impoverished nation in ruins. For Haitian physician Jean-Maurice Duval, the earthquake became a personal battle for survival when he woke up to find himself trapped in the rubble of his two-story house. Now, with the help of **Juliette Egnatz**, admissions recruiter for LMU-DCOM and a family friend of Duval, he has written a book chronicling his journey.

*Rising from the Rubble* is a captivating account of how Duval, in spite of his life-threatening injuries, discovered in himself the strength and will to survive in the hopes of being reunited with his wife and three children who were residing in the United States. This true story is a testament to the power of faith and human perseverance and is a moving depiction of the fraternity, unselfishness, generosity and empathy of people toward one another in the face of extreme adversity. Duval's survival in

spite of the odds changed his outlook on life and motivated him to share his story in the hopes that it would inspire others to find the same hope, faith and resilience to prevail in their own lives. The book is available for sale from major online retailers, including amazon.com.



Egnatz and the members of the Duval family befriended each other eight years ago when they met in South Florida. In addition to Egnatz's personal connection to a family profoundly affected by the Haitian earthquake, LMU-DCOM students and faculty have taken up the cause of the Haitian people and have made several medical mission trips to the island nation in the past two years. The most recent mission trip took place over spring break 2012.

Egnatz received her bachelor of arts degree in international communications and journalism, summa cum laude, from Lynn University in Boca Raton, Fla, in 2005. She has served as a newspaper editor and in retail human resources and management before beginning her career in higher education recruitment in 2009.

## LMU-DCOM Students Inducted Into Omega Beta Iota



**Chelsea Nickolson** and **Brittany Grady**, Class of 2013, were inducted into the Omega Beta Iota national osteopathic political action honorary on March 8, 2012.

Nickolson is from Genoa, Ill., and Grady is from St. Augustine, Fla. Also participating in the induction ceremony were **Christopher Perry, DO '12**, who served as national director of Omega Beta Iota, and **Seger Morris, DO '12**, who served as a national board member. Pictured left to right are Morris, Grady, Nickolson and Perry.



## American Heart Association®

*Learn and Live*

The LMU-DCOM Center for Simulation and Training Center provides Basic Cardiac Life Support for Healthcare Providers (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advance Life Support (PALS). The courses are offered in a classroom setting for nurses, physicians, respiratory therapy, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, critical care personnel and any person responding to any cardiac or pediatric emergency.

BLS courses are also offered online with skills checks scheduled with training center instructors. Cards are valid for two years, upon successful completion of the course. Please contact AHA Training Center Coordinator **Johnathan Greene** at 423.869.6480 or [johnathan.greene@LMU.net](mailto:johnathan.greene@LMU.net) for more information.

## Student DO of the Month



*Barron*

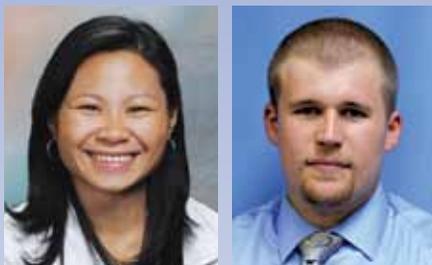
*Lawrence*

**Douglas “Deke” Barron, DO Class of 2014**, of Hernando, Miss., and **Robert “Bobby” Lawrence, DO Class of 2015**, of Memphis, Tenn., were named Student DOs for the month of January.

Barron received his bachelor’s degree in cellular, molecular and systems biology from Berea College in Berea, Ky. While a student at Berea Barron founded the American Medical Student Association Premedical chapter and was the group’s president in his senior year. Barron also served as a student athletic trainer for Berea’s sports teams and was a Horatio Alger National Scholar and a ChairScholars National Scholar. While in his undergraduate years Barron also worked for the Rural Medical Scholars Program, a program he pursued in high school under the direction of Dr. Bonnie Carew. Barron then received his master’s degree in biomedical sciences from William Carey University in Hattiesburg, Miss. At LMU-DCOM, Barron serves as the webmaster for the Student Association of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians and is on the Honors and Ethics Committee and the Curriculum Sub-Committee. He is involved with the Student Osteopathic Surgical Association and the group’s Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament annual fundraiser. Barron is the son of Dixie Leigh and the nephew of Bob Leigh.

Lawrence received his Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Christian Brothers University. At LMU-DCOM he is active in the Pediatrics Club, the Internal Medicine Club and the Student American Academy of Osteopathy. He also currently serves as the first-year liaison for the Student Osteopathic Medical Association and helped organize LMU-DCOM’s participation in the 2011

Operation Christmas Child project, in which students wrapped gifts and wrote cards for children at different hospitals. Lawrence is the son of Cayce Lawrence and Natalie Parker-Lawrence and Joy Lawrence-Tadin and Robert Tadin.



*O Young*

*Huges*

**Diana O Young, DO Class of 2014**, of Denver, Colo., and **Adam Hughes, DO Class of 2015**, of Greeneville, Tenn., were named Student DOs for the month of February.

Hughes graduated with honors from East Tennessee State University in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in biology. At LMU-DCOM he is active in the Student Osteopathic Surgical Association, the Pediatrics Club and the Specialized Tactics and Operational Rescue Medicine Club. In March Hughes will be travelling with the LMU-DCOM Christian Medical and Dental Association on its annual spring break medical mission trip to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Hughes is the son of Hoby and Sandy Hughes of Greeneville.

O Young received her Bachelor of Arts in biochemistry and molecular, cellular and developmental biology from the University of Colorado at Boulder and her Master of Science in biomedical sciences from Colorado State University. At LMU-DCOM O Young serves as President of the LMU-DCOM chapter of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA). O Young is the daughter of PoKwong and Lisa O Young.

**Stephen Mularz, DO Class of 2014**, of Booneville, Ky., and **Danielle Harrell, DO Class of 2015**, of Maynardville, Tenn., were named Student DOs for the month of March.

Mularz received a bachelor’s degree in art with a minor in communications

from Morehead State University in Morehead, Ky., in 2006, and a bachelor’s in biology from Morehead State in 2010. From 2004 to 2010 he was employed at St. Claire Regional Medical Center in Morehead, where he became a certified ACLS instructor in 2006. At LMU-DCOM Mularz is a member of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association, the LMU-DCOM Chapter of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians and the American Academy of Emergency Medicine Resident and Student Association. He is the son of Fred and Pauletta Mularz of Booneville.

Harrell received her undergraduate degree with honors in microbiology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

At LMU-DCOM Harrell is treasurer-elect of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians-Student Chapter and president-elect of the International Medicine Society. She is also active in the Student Osteopathic Medical Association and the Student American Academy of Osteopathy. Harrell is married to fellow LMU-DCOM student Brendan Williams and is the daughter of Danny E. Harrell and Connie E. Harrell.



*Fletcher*

*Worth*

**Jennifer Fletcher, DO Class of 2014**, of Galatia, Ill., and **Anne Worth, DO Class of 2015**, of New Philadelphia, Ohio, were named Student DOs for the month of April.

Fletcher received her BS in biology from McKendree University in 2009. She worked at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., for a year before enrolling in LMU-DCOM. She is the daughter of Marg and Gary Fletcher.

*continued on page 21*

# LMU-DCOM Recognizes Outstanding Students and Faculty at Annual Gala

LMU-DCOM awarded its Student of the Year and Faculty Member of the Year awards at its recent Spring Gala in Knoxville, Tenn.

The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2014 went to **Sara Boyd** of Louisville, Ky., and **Kevin Cope** of Birmingham, Ala. Boyd received her Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Georgetown College. Cope received his Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2015 went to **Anne Bowes** of Oklahoma City, Okla., and **James McKenzie** of Nashville, Tenn. Bowes received her Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Southern Nazarene University and her certificate in biomedical sciences from the University of Texas at Dallas. McKenzie received his Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and Spanish from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The Student of the Year Awards were chosen by the student body of each class.

The Class of 2014 selected LMU-DCOM faculty members **Dr. Robert Johnson** and **Dr. Michael Seaman** as Professors of the Year. Johnson, an associate professor of physiology, was named the Basic Medical Science Professor of the Year. Seaman, an associate professor of family medicine/emergency medicine and director of the LMU-DCOM simulation lab, was named

the Clinical Science Professor of the Year.

The Class of 2015 selected LMU-DCOM faculty members **Dr. James Foster** and **Dr. Frank Venuti** as Professors of the Year.

Foster, a professor of anatomy/histology, was named Basic Medical Science Professor of the Year. Venuti, an associate professor of family medicine, was named the Clinical Science Professor of the Year.

**Brittany Grady**, Class of 2013, of Saint Augustine, Fla., was recognized for being selected as Student Doctor of the Year (SDOY) for LMU-DCOM. SDOY is a program of the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents.

The primary focus of the award is to acknowledge students' commitment to their school, their community, and the osteopathic profession. 



**Dr. Robert Johnson** (L), associate professor of physiology, was named the Basic Medical Science Professor of the Year by the Class of 2014. **Outgoing SGA President Alan Aiken**, Class of 2014, (R) presented him with the award. Photo credit: Jamie Weiss Photography.



The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2015 went to **Anne Bowes** of Oklahoma City, Okla., and **James McKenzie** of Nashville, Tenn. Photo credit: Jamie Weiss Photography.



The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2014 went to **Sara Boyd** of Louisville, Ky., and **Kevin Cope** of Birmingham, Ala. **Outgoing SGA President Alan Aiken** (center) presented them with the awards. Photo credit: Jamie Weiss Photography.

## Third Cohort of LMU'S DO/MBA Program Finishes Summer Classes

LMU's third cohort of the dual Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine/Master of Business Administration (DO/MBA) program has successfully completed its rigorous and integrated summer business foundation courses. The summer coursework concludes with students presenting a proposed medical practice business plan to a group of business and LMU-DCOM faculty. Students have the opportunity to then complete the required MBA coursework online during their final years of osteopathic medical school. The DO/MBA dual degree program equips future physicians with the advantage of a business education that will benefit them in both their business career and personal life. To



date, 55 students have enrolled in the program. The program is a collaborative partnership between LMU-DCOM and the LMU School of Business. 

## Klein Named 2012 LMU-DCOM Preceptor of the Year\_\_\_\_\_



**Dr. Dennis Klein** leads the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012 in the osteopathic oath as part of their graduation ceremony.

**Dr. Dennis Klein**, an osteopathic physician from Morristown, Tenn., was awarded the 2012 Preceptor of the Year award. The award was announced at LMU-DCOM's annual awards ceremony on May 11.

The Preceptor of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual who consistently provides outstanding clinical instruction to LMU-DCOM third- and fourth-year students. The award recognizes a preceptor who displays a passion for teaching, a commitment to service and a dedication to the highest ethical standards.

"It was a pleasure working with Dr. Klein," said **Amanda Stephens, DO '12**. "He always welcomed questions and advanced my learning in a productive way. He allowed us to prioritize our time with patient populations to which we felt we needed more exposure and encouraged us to challenge ourselves with interesting and difficult cases. He really made me feel like an integral part of the health care team and I left the rotation feeling better prepared for residency. I appreciate his willingness to continue mentoring medical students."

"Dr. Klein is consistently cited by our students as an outstanding clinician and teacher whose didactic and bedside teaching is a valuable part of their education," said **Dr. Michael Wieting**, interim dean of LMU-DCOM. "He is a great role model for them."

"My experience working with Dr. Klein was one of the first times I actually felt like a real doctor," said **Kayleigh McDaniel, DO '12**. "He gave us enough independence to make sure we knew how to make important decisions on our own, but was always there checking up to make sure those important decisions were made correctly. During those two months of Community Hospital, I grew both as a person and as a student doctor. I can't think of another physician more deserving of this award."

Klein received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of San Diego and his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Following the completion of his medical education, Klein served in the United States Navy Medical Corps from 1996 to 2004 until he was honorably discharged at the rank of lieutenant commander. Klein currently serves as hospitalist and program director of Apogee Physicians and also serves as the site director for the LMU-DCOM community hospital rotation at Lakeway Regional Hospital in Morristown. In 2011 Klein was named the Apogee National Program Director of the Year.

Klein led the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012 graduates in the recitation of the osteopathic oath during the school's commencement ceremony on May 12, 2012.

## Deroyal Industries Serves as Title Sponsor for Fifth Annual Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament\_\_\_\_\_



*Second Vice Chairman of the LMU Board of Trustees* **Dr. Gary Burchett (L)** with LMU-DCOM Class of 2014 member and SOSA Vice President **Anthony Mattox (R)**.

The Fifth Annual Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament was held April 14, 2012, at Woodlake Golf Club in Tazewell, Tenn. The Tournament is presented by the Student Osteopathic Surgical Association at LMU-DCOM.

The first place team consisted of golfers Mark Gustafson, Bruce Gustafson, Brian Alexis and Josh Carpenter. The second place team was golfers Mark Hartsfield, Miles Hartsfield, Darrel Hartsfield and Bradley Hartsfield. The third place team included golfers Andrew Elliott, Dan Hammer, Jared Pack and Craig Barnette.

This year's tournament was sponsored by DeRoyal Industries. The tournament raised more than \$7,000 to benefit the Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinic at LMU, scheduled for June 2-3, 2012. RAM provides a wide range of free basic health, dental and optical services to people across the country. The Knoxville-based organization also provides services outside the United States. Since its founding in 1985, RAM has provided services at over 600 health expeditions both in this country and overseas. On average, the group conducts one expedition per month in various communities throughout the Southeast.



**LMU-DCOM SOSA Vice President Anthony Mattox, Class of 2014, (R)** presents LMU President **B. James Dawson (left)** with a check to support LMU's RAM clinic following the Fifth Annual Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament at Woodlake Golf Club.

# LMU-DCOM Welcomes Largest Class to Date

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LMU-DCOM welcomed its largest class to date, the Class of 2016, on July 24. The larger class size is a result of LMU-DCOM receiving approval from the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) to increase its incoming class size from 150 students to 225 students.

“This class size increase will allow LMU-DCOM to better fulfill its mission of training quality osteopathic physicians committed to service,” said **Ray E. Stowers**, vice president of health sciences. “Because we are situated in the underserved Appalachian region, the more opportunities we have to enroll and train osteopathic medical students in this environment, the more likely we are to grow physicians who will be dedicated to the region.”

LMU-DCOM has one of the largest medical school enrollments in the state of Tennessee. It is also one of the least expensive private medical schools. Earlier this year LMU-DCOM was named to the “U.S. News” Short List of Top Ten Least Expensive Private Medical Schools in the United States. LMU-DCOM ranked 6th on the list. Tuition and fees for LMU-DCOM for 2011-2012 were \$37,419.

Since its founding in 2007, LMU-DCOM has had a rigorous and competitive application process. For the Class of 2015, there were approximately 17 applicants for each seat in the class.

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“Keeping the cost down while still offering a quality education is an essential part of our mission,” said Dr. Jonathan Leo, associate dean of students for LMU-DCOM and assistant vice president for admissions and student services in the Division of Health Sciences. “Students with less debt are more likely to work in medically underserved regions.”

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LMU-DCOM received more than 3,300 applications for the Class of 2016, a 17% increase in applications in one year.

One hundred and three students – or 44% of the Class of 2016 – hail from the immediate tri-state region of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. The remaining 56% of the class members come from all over the United States. The class is 61% male and 39% female and the average age is 25. 

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## LMU-DCOM Recognizes Outstanding Community Service Through the TOUCH Program

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The LMU-DCOM SGA has recognized many of its fellow osteopathic medical students for outstanding community service through the COSGP TOUCH program. TOUCH (Translating Osteopathic Understanding into Community Health) is a national initiative of the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP). The TOUCH year extends from April 1 to March 31 of the next year. The goal of the program is to encourage and recognize osteopathic medical students to work towards improving the health of their local community through service. Those students completing 50 or more hours of community service for the TOUCH year receive silver-level recognition. Those completing 100 or more hours

receive gold-level recognition. The individual from each college of osteopathic medicine who completes the greatest number of hours receives platinum-level recognition.

For last year, LMU-DCOM had 27 silver-level and 14 gold-level recognitions. **Katie Clark, DO Class of 2014**, had almost 234 TOUCH hours, receiving platinum-level recognition. The DO Class of 2014 received the most combined TOUCH hours with 1319, the DO Class of 2013 was second with 1102, the DO Class of 2015 finished third with 901 and the DO Class of 2012 finished fourth with 358. Overall, LMU-DCOM DO students volunteered a total of 3,680 combined service hours last year. 

# “Agents Of Opportunity For Terrorism” Course Held at LMU-DCOM

LMU-DCOM hosted a free continuing medical education course entitled “Agents of Opportunity for Terrorism” on September 21-22, 2012.

The course was presented by the Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site (REAC/TS), a part of the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, and the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT). The content was developed by REAC/TS at the request of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office of Environmental Health Emergencies. The course, course materials and CME credits are all free. This will be the first time the course has been presented at a medical school.

In recent years, there has been growing concern that many of the most likely terrorist threats will involve “agents of opportunity” or materials that are readily available in most communities around the country. This two-day course is designed to familiarize health care providers and others who might have a role in planning and preparations for an emergency response to toxic exposures with a variety of toxic syndromes. The course will review the medical and psychological consequences of exposures to a variety of materials.



## TOUCH Hours at Work



*Editor’s Note: Katie Clark, DO Class of 2014, volunteered for Access Life in Dandridge, Tenn., in August. The following is her account of the experience.*

Access Life is a free community outreach event that promotes support and fun for individuals and families living with disabilities. This event featured boat rides, bank fishing, kayaking, hay rides, service dogs, simulated jet ski, painting, photos, face painting, archery, crafts, games, food and

other activities that are executed by area churches, organizations and volunteers.

I volunteered as a ‘Buddy’ to a 12-year-old and a 13-year-old who are best friends! They both have Down’s Syndrome. When I met them for the first time we went running through the ‘Welcome

Wagon’ where all the buddy volunteers were lined up with bubbles and pom-poms cheering us on. At the end of the run I turned around to see big smiles on their faces and I knew that this was going to be a great day for all of us.

We started the day with a boat ride on the lake. The remainder of the day was packed full of playing games, winning prizes, decorating cupcakes, dancing, painting, going on a hay ride, shooting a bow and arrow plus so much more. The boys both had an awesome time. It was truly inspiring to see how many volunteers (350+) came to Dandridge, Tenn., to spend their day helping others and sharing their talents, love, hugs and smiles with the 300+ participants.

I left this event with a heart full of love for each and every participant I met that day and two new friends. Throughout my medical education at LMU-DCOM, I have had many opportunities to reach out and help others, and I hope to continue to find and make opportunities like this event where I can positively affect the lives of others.



## PA Program at LMU-DCOM Welcomes Class of 2014



*The LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program Class of 2014*

The Physician Assistant Program at LMU-DCOM welcomed its fourth class of students on May 14.

The students in the PA Class of 2014 will pursue a full-time, 27-month program that leads to the Master of Medical Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies. The

program is housed and administered by LMU-DCOM and is now in the top 5% of PA programs in the nation in terms of class size.

The PA Class of 2014 is 66% female and 34% male. The average age is 25 and the average GPA is 3.4. Approximately 64%

of the class hails from the Appalachian region, with the majority of those coming from Tennessee, Kentucky or Virginia.

Ten students in the PA Class of 2014 have been selected to receive a portion of a \$1.9 million federal grant awarded to LMU by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The grant was awarded under the "Affordable Care Act: Expansion of Physician Assistant Training Program" project, and will allow the 10 chosen students to receive a stipend to support them through the 27-month program. The recipients were chosen based on their commitment to becoming primary health care providers.

## Physician Assistant Program at LMU-DCOM Holds White Coat Ceremony

LMU-DCOM held the White Coat Ceremony for the Physician Assistant Program Class of 2013 on Saturday, June 30. **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor of preventive medicine at LMU-DCOM, was the keynote speaker. The White Coat Ceremony is an important, public demonstration of a student's commitment to patient care and professionalism. The Ceremony is considered to be a rite of passage, in that an individual has demonstrated the qualities and abilities to provide competent care and can move on to the next phase of his or her training.



*The members of the LMU-DCOM PA Program Class of 2013 recite the Physician Assistant oath after receiving their white coats during the ceremony.*



*Dr. George Stanley Thompson PA Student Society President Kaitlin Jasmon speaks during the White Coat Ceremony.*



## Physician Assistant Program at LMU-DCOM Celebrates Class of 2012 Graduation

The Class of 2012 of the Physician Assistant Program at LMU-DCOM celebrated its commencement on Saturday, August 4, at 10 a.m. at the Tex Turner Arena on the LMU main campus in Harrogate, Tenn. Dr. P. Eugene Jones, distinguished teaching professor and chairman at the department of physician assistant studies at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, served as the keynote speaker.

Jones completed a 20-year career in the United States Navy from 1969-1989, serving five years as a hospital corpsman and 15 years as a physician assistant. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Physician Assistant Studies from the University of Nebraska, a Master of Arts in Health Services Management from Webster University, and Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in Education from Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, Calif. Jones joined the faculty at University of Texas Southwestern in 1993. His professional activities have included service on the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine Committee on the Future of Primary Care, past-president of the Physician Assistant Education Association, and he currently serves as Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Physician Assistant Education*.



*The LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program Graduating Class of 2012*

In 2009 Jones was selected as one of 10 Piper Professors by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation, and he also received the Innovations in Online Learning Award from The University of Texas System. He was inducted into The University of Texas Academy of Health Science Education in 2010, and in 2012 he was one of the first 40 health science educators in Texas history to receive the University of Texas Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award.

The physician assistant profession is one of the fastest growing in the country and has been repeatedly named by *Forbes* magazine as the best master's degree for jobs in the United States. A physician assistant is educated in the medical model. PAs are nationally certified and work side by side with both osteopathic

and allopathic physicians in every medical specialty. PAs are licensed to diagnose illness, prescribe medications and assist in surgery. They conduct physical exams, order and interpret medical tests and provide counseling on preventive health care.

A PA has at least six years of education: a four-year undergraduate degree and the physician assistant degree. PA students complete more than 2,400 hours of clinical rotations prior to graduation.



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# PA Faculty Member and Student Travel to Africa

*Editor's Note: In Summer 2012 Paula DeMaro, director of didactic education for the PA Program and assistant professor of physician assistant studies, travelled to Uganda with Harry Howe, PA '12. The following is DeMaro's account of the experience.*



Harry chose to do an elective rotation in infectious disease in Uganda with Dr. Eric Ikoona. Dr. Ikoona works for the Ministry of Health and is an infectious disease expert. This was Harry's fourth trip to Uganda. Harry is a missionary and a Methodist minister. Harry had met Dr. Ikoona on a previous mission trip to Sudan, and since Harry plans to make more trips to Uganda and Sudan, he wanted to learn more about infectious disease and how to treat it. I went along to see if I could be any help and to talk with Dr. Ikoona and see all the facilities that Dr. Ikoona has in mind for future students to do rotations.

The first week we were there we attended a TB/HIV conference, for physicians and clinical officers (who could be compared to PA's in the United States). The clinical officers usually run their own clinics and usually specialize in different disease processes such as hypertension, TB/HIV and so forth.

In Uganda 80% of the health care needs are infectious diseases, so there is a big emphasis on treating these. During the first week I attended the TB/HIV conference and went to the Ministry of Health in Kampala to talk to officials in the Ministry of Health learn about Uganda's health care issues. Dr. Ikoona asked me to do a presentation on American medicine at the conference, so Harry and I did that together.

The second week I was there Dr. Ikoona took us to Kayunga where we worked in an HIV clinic for three days with one of the clinical officers. We traveled to see the pediatric hospital there, and Harry spent some time working with the children.

Dr. Ikoona has arranged for future students to have housing and to spend two weeks in each of the two hospital locations.



# New Faculty Member Adds New Enhancements to Learning

**Dr. Leah Cobb**, assistant professor of psychiatry and chair of behavioral health, has hit the ground running since joining the LMU-DCOM family in July. Beginning August 31, Cobb is instituting weekly teleconferences to all third year students pursuing their behavioral health rotation. The teleconference is conducted in conjunction with Adobe Connect so that students may view Cobb and her PowerPoint slides simultaneously as she lectures on clinically relevant topics. Cobb says the lectures will provide the students with “clinical pearls” and will provide a level playing field for all students by providing uniform exposure to certain topics.

Cobb took the idea from **Dr. John Williamson**, assistant professor and chair of OB/GYN, who has conducted similar teleconferences for OB/GYN rotations. Cobb served as an LMU-DCOM preceptor for two and half years prior to joining the faculty, and heard students discuss the usefulness of this approach in their OB/GYN rotation. Once Cobb began her new role at LMU-DCOM, she wanted to deploy a similar technique to the behavioral health rotation.

Cobb earned her undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Ky. A native of Middlesboro, Ky., Cobb pursued her residency and fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. But her thoughts never strayed too far from home. “I trained at Emory, where we were trained to be academic psychiatrists,” said Cobb. “At that time there was no beautiful medical school in Harrogate, Tenn. I assumed I would be in private practice. I never dreamed I would have the opportunity to do this. They built the school while I was away in training. I was first offered the opportunity to be a preceptor which I really enjoyed. I liked having students with me.”

Cobb is no stranger to using technology to the fullest in her profession. During Cobb’s private practice years in Kentucky, she was the only physician in the state doing inpatient telemedicine for a 100 bed state psychiatric facility. She was involved in telemedicine for two and a half years for the ARH system before joining the LMU-DCOM faculty.

“As a student, I believe one of the hardest skills to learn is how to properly interview a psychiatric patient,” said **Kevin Cope, Class of 2014**. “Dr. Cobb’s lecture gave us tools that we need to provide a thorough and comprehensive history and physical to our preceptors. LMU-DCOM is blessed to have her as a new member of the faculty.”

“My goal is to provide the most comprehensive experience for the students not only in the classroom but also in their clinical sites,” Cobb said. “The majority of patients with mental illness present to their family physician. A psychiatrist probably only sees the most acute 20-30% of patients with mental illness. The rest are going to their primary care physicians. And if along the way we get a few students who want to become psychiatrists, that is a bonus.”

## LIKE US? FOLLOW US!



Want to keep up with all the latest happenings at LMU-DCOM? Follow **Imuamy** on Twitter for updates and insights from Director of Marketing and Public Relations for Health Sciences Amy Drittler.



## New Faces:

LMU-DCOM has welcomed many new faculty members in the past few months. They include:



**Dr. Leah Cobb**, assistant professor of psychiatry and chair of behavioral health



**Dr. Todd Dombroski**, associate professor of OMM



**Dr. Adam Gromley**, assistant professor of molecular/cellular biology



**Dr. Zeynep Gromley**, assistant professor of biochemistry



**Dr. Melissa Henderson**, assistant professor of biochemistry and molecular biology



**Dr. Eva Shay**, associate professor of OPP



**Dr. Ava Stanczak**, associate professor and chair of pediatrics

# Rotation & Residency Spotlight

## A Journey to India

*Editor's Note: Aaron Levy, DO '12, spent time on an international elective rotation in India during his last year of medical school. During that time he also experienced a trek into the Himalayas. This is his account of the experience:*

Although we had spent the day hiking from the last village where we held clinic, a cup of chai tea and a few hours of rest had energized us. It was the 3rd week of our medical trek in northern India. We prepared to see a large number of villagers that night, some of whom would walk miles to see us, making sure to attend to their health concerns before the long and harsh winter struck their remote Himalayan villages in the Ladakh region of northern India.

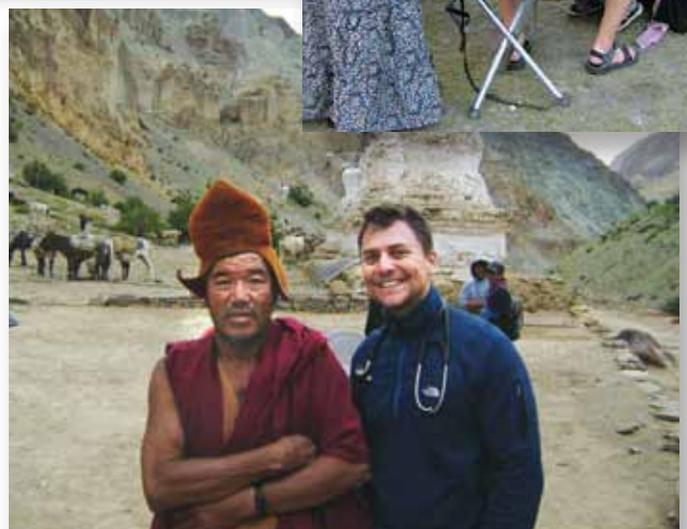
In the pediatrics tent, we examined the children using our headlamps as our only source of light. Their clothes were dirty, and the extent of tooth decay correlated with their increasing age. Many were infested with lice and scabies and most had burnt, reddened cheeks as a result of the intense sun that overwhelms their high altitude environment.

Although our team came equipped with stethoscopes, otoscopes, and basic medicines, the most important tools we brought were actually preventative health measures. Sunglasses, toothbrushes, sunscreen, and basic hygienic education were the most valuable commodities that we provided to these villagers who are cut off from reaching medical care for seven months of the year due to impassable terrain.

Our team was met with expected and unexpected challenges concerning cultural differences and language barriers. At times, hand signals were all we used to communicate. Understanding of chronic disease and types of treatment were starkly different than what we had been taught. Blood letting to treat hypertension and nail polish to treat dermatological conditions were just a couple of the alternative techniques that we came across. Another challenge was convincing villagers about the need to go to the hospital, which was at times a couple of days journey by horseback. One example is of an elderly lady who had a history of tuberculosis and was presenting with all the symptoms of active disease. We knew she would need to have months of treatment that we couldn't provide with our pharmacy and she would need to seek help in the nearest city. Her family assured us she would go to the hospital, but I am left wondering if she ever did.

The most memorable day of our trek was our visit to the ancient Phugtal Gompa (or monastery). Here, we were treated as honored guests by the monks whom we later examined in a makeshift clinic. They showed us their pharmacy which consisted of mostly herbs and natural remedies, but they were surprisingly accepting of the modern medicine that we brought. While I found their simple and spiritual way of life fascinating, they seemed equally as intrigued in the medical knowledge and tools we brought with us. A special and unforgettable experience.

Perhaps my biggest challenge was returning to the United States and readapting to the comforts and niceties I usually take for granted. Halfway around the globe but a different world for sure. The tools and lessons I learned in India will remain with me for the rest of my career and life. 🙏



# Wellmont Family Medicine Residency Program Celebrates First Graduate



A program that trains a new generation of high-quality, innovative physicians and builds on the legacy of their experienced predecessors continues to flourish and develop sustainable patient care in Southwest Virginia.

The family medicine program created by Wellmont Health System and LMU-DCOM welcomed nine new residents during a white coat ceremony Tuesday, Aug. 14, in the Goodloe Center at Mountain Empire Community College.

Representatives of Wellmont and LMU-DCOM also celebrated as Dr. Aaron Porter became the program's first graduate.

"We are thrilled to have nine new physicians joining our residency program and to have one of our initial residents ready to establish his practice," said David Brash, Wellmont's senior vice president of business development and rural strategy. "This has been a remarkable effort to boost the quality of life in Southwest Virginia, and we look forward to continue bolstering our foundation of superior health care in this region."

Now entering its third year, the residency program is based at Lonesome Pine Hospital and designed to increase the number of physicians who practice medicine in Southwest Virginia. Dr. Porter will join Wellmont Medical Associates in the coming weeks.

"It's been an honor to be part of the framework of something new and beneficial for our patients," Dr. Porter said. "I've gotten to work with a great group of talented people and received excellent guidance from attending physicians. This has developed into a highly successful program that will enhance the healthcare delivery in our region."

**This year's new first-year residents and their medical schools are:**

- **Dr. Ayman Alsharbini**, A.T. Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Dr. Rene Brown**, West Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Dr. Sherry Cline**, LMU-DCOM

- **Dr. Joe Drumm**, LMU-DCOM
- **Dr. Matthew Eaton**, University of Pikeville-Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Dr. Johan Koo**, LMU-DCOM
- **Dr. Michele Pearman**, LMU-DCOM
- **Dr. Denisha Shah**, Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine

In addition, Dr. Brian Enriquez, a graduate of Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine, will join the program as a second-year resident. He completed an internship at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas.

With these additions, the program will now have 19 residents. The American Osteopathic Association has granted approval for the program to have as many as 24 physicians.

"LMU-DCOM has long enjoyed a strong partnership with Wellmont," said Dr. Ray Stowers, the school's founding dean and president of the American Osteopathic Association's president. "It's a pleasure to welcome the program's first graduate into practice, and we are eager to see what these physicians will accomplish for our region in the years to come."

The residency lasts three years, with the first one spent at Lonesome Pine and Mountain View Regional Medical Center. In subsequent years, the physicians also care for patients at Wellmont's other Virginia hospital – Lee Regional Medical Center – as well as Holston Valley Medical Center and Bristol Regional Medical Center in Tennessee.

Mountain View Regional became a training site earlier this year when Wellmont combined the federal provider numbers of that hospital and Lonesome Pine. The two hospitals continue to be separately licensed by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In addition to the hospitals, these physicians deliver superior care to patients at the Wellmont Family Medicine Residency Clinic in Norton.

# Rotation & Residency Spotlight

“This residency program provides diverse experiences for our physicians, who benefit from seeing care delivery in a community hospital setting and in our larger hospitals,” said Dr. Maurice Nida, Wellmont’s director of medical education. “This prepares them well for starting a practice in Southwest Virginia and enables them to see medical care from a broad perspective.”

Dr. Thomas Roatsey, who serves as program director, said the program’s success will be a boon for the region.

“It is great to see this program progress and start to fulfill its goal of increasing patient access to physicians in Southwest Virginia,” Dr. Roatsey said. “We’re proud to be the leaders in ensuring that the communities we serve receive the care they need, and the residents in this program are reinforcing our longstanding commitment to improve the health status of our patients.”

Amy Keenum, DO, Pharm D, of Knoxville, Tenn., has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture about primary care at the Medical College of Malawi in Blantyre, Malawi, during the 2012-2013 academic year, the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board announced recently.

Dr. Keenum will teach about primary care, which is the kind of medical care provided by family doctors, general pediatricians and primary care internal medicine physicians and their teams of health care providers. She recently taught at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and has a faculty appointment at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate Tennessee. Dr. Keenum completed her family medicine residency at Mountain Area Health Center (MAHEC) in Asheville, N.C., and received the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Michigan State University.



**Clay Guynn, DO Class of 2014**, visited Belize in Summer 2012. He recalls: “During my pulmonary medicine rotation, I had the opportunity to travel to Belize, Central America with Dr. Joe Smiddy of Kingsport, Tenn. In Belize, I worked with the pulmonologist and two pediatricians and aided in the care of over 500 patients with a variety of diseases. A common theme in medical missions is that the care given is limited to the skills of

practitioners, equipment available and medications available. This trip was no different; however, we were able to treat many common diseases, as well as aid with some preventative medicine measures. Some examples of the care provided include treatment for diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol as well as handing out vitamins, worm pills and toothbrush/toothpaste. Along with these common diseases, there are also opportunities to see conditions endemic to tropical countries. Additionally, we went out into various villages and handed out food to the needy people of this third world country. This trip was my third medical mission trip to the country of Belize, and each time I learn many new things. It is a humbling experience, a wonderful way to serve others, as well as a great educational opportunity. Each trip I have taken only deepens my interest to do medical missions, and I would suggest this trip to anyone who hasn’t ever been on a medical mission trip before.”

## LMU-DCOM PA Program Receive Awards

The faculty and administration of the LMU-DCOM PA Program handed out several awards to members of the Class of 2012 at its awards banquet at Pine Mountain State Resort Park in Pineville, Ky., on July 29.

The Dean’s Award went to **Mark Smith, PA ‘12**, of Bristol, Tenn. The Dean’s Award is presented annually to a member of the graduating class who exemplifies the ideals of the physician assistant by displaying a strong commitment to excellence, showing compassion, maintaining personal integrity and professionalism and striving to provide the highest quality of patient care as part of the health care team.

The Professionalism Award was presented to **Derok Cornwell, PA ‘12**, of Trussville, Ala. This award is presented to a student who exemplifies the ideals consistent with the physician assistant profession, including a dedication to excellent patient care and a strong commitment to cooperative work within the health care team.



*Core 1 Group at Indian Path Medical Center in Kingsport, Tenn., includes (front row L-R) DO Class of 2014 members **Diana O Young, Alan Aiken, Natalie Yanes, Hannah Jones, Arwa Zakaria, Hayley Barbato, Katie Clark**, (back row L-R) **Tyler Duncan, Brandon Fisher, Ben Iles, Kaitlin Dewhirst** and **Lori Shelton**, Medical Education Coordinator at IPMC.*

The PA Profession Advocate Award was given to **Brian Abner, PA '12**, of Barbourville, Ky. The PA Profession Advocate Award is presented to a student who shows special interest in advancing the status of the physician assistant profession on a local, state and/or national level.

The Student Advocate Award went to **Katie Gibbons, PA '12**, of Boise, Idaho. This award is presented by the faculty to a student who exemplifies the ideals of a professional physician assistant and who has shown selflessness, unusual devotion to duty, sensitivity to the patient's comfort and needs and who has served classmates, patients and his or her school.

The Most Improved Award went to **Shelby Kirkpatrick, PA '12**, of New Tazewell, Tenn. The Most Improved Student Award is given to the student who has made outstanding progress and shown the most overall improvement and professional growth in the didactic and clinical components throughout the PA Program.

The Dr. George Stanley Thompson PA Student Society presented the Danny Wester Best Supporting Classmate Award to **Harry Howe, PA '12**, of Marion, Va. The award is given

annually by the student society to the graduating PA student who has demonstrated a willingness to give of himself or herself in assisting fellow classmates and the student society. This person's caring attitude and selfless giving served to continually support the growth and morale of his or her peers throughout all endeavors.

In addition, the inaugural members of the Pi Alpha National Honor Society chapter at LMU were recognized. The Pi Alpha National Honor Society is organized for the promotion and recognition of significant academic achievement, leadership, research, community/professional service and related activities, and the encouragement of a high standard of character and conduct among both physician assistant (PA) students and graduates. Inductees included **Abner, PA '12**, **Katina Candee, PA '12**, of Temecula, Calif., **Gibbons, Brooke Gusler, PA '12**, of Sonora, Ky., **Jennifer Hess, PA '12**, of Wynne, Ark., **Heather Kaiser, PA '12**, of York, Maine, **Sarah Mattox, PA '12**, of Louisville, Ky., **Shalena Peterson, PA '12**, of Johnson City, Tenn. and **Smith, PA '12**. 

## Student DO of the Month

*continued from page 9*

Worth graduated magna cum laude from Ohio Wesleyan University with a degree in health and human sciences and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

At LMU-DCOM she is active in the Medical Spanish Practicum, the Student Osteopathic Medical Association, the International Medicine Club and the Health Equity Club. She is the daughter of David and Paula Worth.



Guerrero



Noriscat

**Aileen Guerrero, DO Class of 2014**, of Cookeville, Tenn., and **Lucie Noriscat, DO Class of 2015**, of Jonesboro, Ga., were named Student DOs for the month of May.

Guerrero received her undergraduate degree in biochemistry and cellular and molecular biology from Tennessee Tech University. At Tennessee Tech she served as president of the Chem-Med Club and TTU Mortar Board. She also served as a teaching assistant for chemistry labs and was active with the Cookeville Leisure Services School of Dance. At LMU-DCOM she is a member of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association, the Pediatrics Club and the Student Tactical and Operational Rescue Medicine club. She is the daughter of Bernardino and Merle Guerrero.

Noriscat received her bachelor of arts in English from the College of the

Holy Cross and her master of science in biomedical sciences from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine-Georgia Campus. She is a member of Sigma Sigma Phi, the national osteopathic honorary, and serves as president of the LMU-DCOM Student National Medical Association and Treasurer for LMU-DCOM's chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi. She has one daughter, Kayla Mitchell.

The Student DO of the Month is a program of the LMU-DCOM Student Government Association (SGA) and is designed to recognize an outstanding first- and second-year student each month. Among the criteria examined for the honor are involvement in LMU-DCOM, leadership skills, community service, class attendance, initiative, attitude and professionalism. Nominations are made to the SGA and voted on by the officers. 

# LMU-DCOM Student Club Updates



## AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS-STUDENT CHAPTER (ACOEP-SC):

The Emergency Medicine club held a joint meeting with the Wilderness Medicine Club with guest speaker **Ryan Rose, DO '12**. Rose spoke about his match into an ACGME residency in emergency medicine. The ER and Ortho Clubs also held a joint bake sale in February to raise money for breast cancer awareness.

## HEALTH EQUITY CLUB:

**Dr. Tiffany Alley**, chair of basic molecular sciences and associate professor of immunology, spoke at the January Health Equity Club meeting on the importance of destressing while still keeping up with studies. In March the Health Equity Club sponsored a supply drive for Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries (KARM). KARM provides assistance, shelter and meals to the poor and homeless population in the Knoxville area. On average, they serve between 800-900 meals daily, and provide overnight housing for 300-400 men, women and children. Students collected toiletries and other supplies for the charity. The Health Equity Club also hosted an event with Anna Bass, regional director for the Disability Law and Advocacy Center and Craig Lemak, chief operating officer for the Knoxville Center for the Deaf. The guests spoke on their experiences with barriers for the deaf in health care, the challenges the deaf population face and ways in which future physicians can mend hardships deaf individuals have experienced in health care settings.

## INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE SOCIETY (IMS):

**Katie Clark** and **Clay Guynn, DO Class of 2014**, spoke at the January IMS meeting on their international travels during Summer 2011. Clark traveled to Guatemala and Peru and Guynn went to Belize. **Danielle Harrell, DO Class of 2015**, did a presentation on "Emerging Health Care Issues Around the World." In February Dr. Scott Girard, an internal medicine physician from Pennsylvania who served as the American College of Osteopathic Internists' resident representative to the board of directors, spoke on the topic of "Applying to Internal Medicine Residencies." Also in February **Brad Gaddis, DO Class of 2015**, did a presentation on health care issues around the world and **Dawn Murrell, DO '12**, presented on the OMT rotation in New Zealand. The club also held a Spring Cleaning Sale.



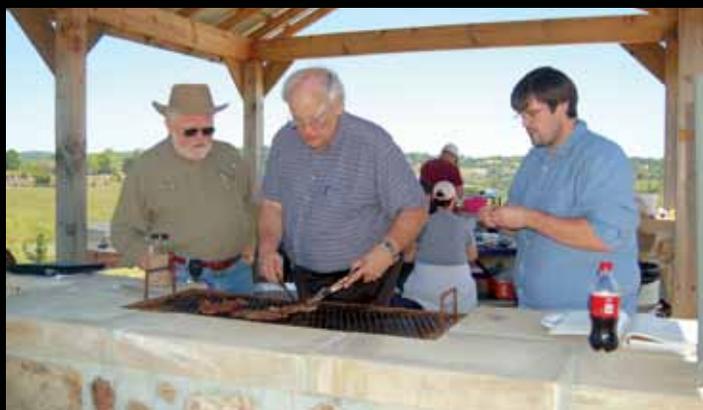
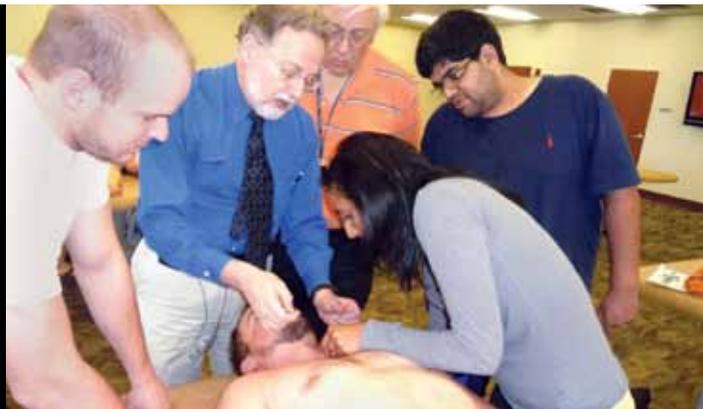
## PSYCH/NEURO CLUB:

The Psycho/Neuro Club held its annual Brain Awareness Day in April for sixth graders at H.Y. Livesay Middle School in Harrogate, Tenn. The day included booths on the brain, the eye, the vestibular system and drugs, memory and concentration and protecting the brain. The club is also planning on hosting its first ping-pong tournament in September.

## PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION CLUB (PM&R):

The PM&R Club hosted a medical acupuncture clinic in March 2012 taught by Dr. Lawrence Prokop as part of Complimentary and Alternative Medicine Week. Prokop has practiced medical acupuncture for 15 years as part of his practice in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Michigan State University. The PM&R Club hosted the 2nd Annual Drive for Muscular Dystrophy on May 11, 2012. The event included a BBQ dinner and golfing competitions. BBQ was prepared throughout the day by the "Clueless Bus BBQ Crew" under the direction of Two Docs BBQ. Nearly 250 people attended, including faculty, students and the families of many of the 4th year students who were graduating the next day. Overall the event raised over \$700 that was donated to the Knoxville Chapter of the MDA.

The club held its first meeting of the fall semester in August. **Dr. Michael Wieting**, interim dean, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP, dean of clinical medicine and assistant VP of program development, was the guest speaker.



# LMU-DCOM Student Club Updates

## STUDENT AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OSTEOPTHY (SAAO):

The SAAO held Greet and Treat sessions throughout the summer.

## STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPTHIC FAMILY PHYSICIANS (SAACOF):

**Dr. Gina DeFranco**, assistant professor of family medicine, spoke at the January 2012 ACOFP meeting. **Dr. Chris Yonts**, assistant professor of family medicine and medical director of the University Medical Clinic, spoke in February on his family medicine practice and how he uses OMM in his practice. In April **Dr. Theresa Campbell**, associate professor of pathology, spoke about her goals when she entered medical school, why she chose to go into family practice, and then why she left family practice to enter pathology. Members of the SAACOF participated in the annual Bell County Repair Affair on April 28, 2012.

## STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF MILITARY OSTEOPTHIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS (SAMOPS):

The SAMOPS held a spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

## STUDENT ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION (SAA):

The SAA donated a ping pong table to LMU-DCOM. The table is used in the third floor student lounge in the LMU-DCOM building. The group also prepared a new Christmas ornament to be sold during White Coat weekend.



## SIGMA SIGMA PHI (SSP):

Sigma Sigma Phi held its annual induction ceremony on April 10, 2012. The group also held its annual silent auction fundraiser at the beginning of the fall semester.



### STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA):

New SGA officers were selected in Spring 2012. They are DO Class of 2015 members **Bobby Lawrence**, president; **Zachary Tomlinson**, first vice president; **Ashley Pruitt**, second vice president; **Dana Small**, secretary and **Sunny Robertson**, treasurer. Webmaster for dcomdo.com is **Chad Cozart, DO Class of 2015**. Class of 2015 officers are **Brendan Williams**, president; **Clayton Boykin**, vice president; **Jennifer Jeng**, secretary and **Alex Heilig**, treasurer. Class of 2014 officers for years three and four are **Kevin Cope**, president and **Matthew Nealeigh**, vice president.

### STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION (SOSA):

SOSA held a Banana Split meeting in February. After club members enjoyed their banana splits, they practiced suturing techniques on their banana peels.

### STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (SNMA):

SNMA hosted its annual International Dinner in February 2012.

### STUDENT AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ACADEMY OF ORTHOPEDICS (SAOAO):

The SAOAO hosted a Joint Taping Clinic. **Phillip Burnett, DO Class of 2014**, led the group through several techniques, including ankle and wrist. The SAOAO also won the national SAOAO Education award. SAOAO held a monogrammed scrub sale at the end of July.

### STUDENT TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL RESCUE MEDICINE (STORM):

STORM held a fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Project in March. The club hosted a lunch of fried turkey, Cajun-boiled potatoes and corn-on-the-cob. The lunch raised over \$500 for the Wounded Warrior Project.

STORM also hosted a presentation on meth labs from the Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force and sold CPR masks as a fundraiser.



### STUDENT AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OSTEOPATHY (SAAO):

The LMU-DCOM SAAO Chapter received The Most Improved Chapter award at the 2012 AAO Convocation.

### DR. GEORGE STANLEY THOMPSON PA STUDENT SOCIETY:

In May the group held a blood drive on campus. The PA Student Society conducted blood pressure checks at the Middlesboro (Ky.) Mall in June. The group began the fall with a book drive to benefit a local elementary school and participated at the International Literacy Day activities at Tazewell/New Tazewell Primary on September 7.



### PEDIATRICS CLUB:

The Peds Club held a Pediatric Physical Exam Workshop. **Dr. Gina DeFranco**, assistant professor of family medicine, lectured on the topic of the pediatric physical exam. The Peds Club held its annual Kids Day at the Park on May 5, 2012. The group also held its annual medical bag sale in August.

# Student Achievements



DO Class of 2013 members **Katrina Kozlin**, **Jennifer Jaynes**, **Katerina Papa** and **Kari Jones** participated in the 2012 Knoxville “March for Babies” event to raise money for the March of Dimes. Their team raised approximately \$300.

LMU-DCOM has had strong representation on the AOCPMR Student Council Executive Committees for the past and present years. Students serving for the 2011-2012 academic year included **Angela Vrooman, DO '12**, chair, student conference planning committee; **Jaime Morris, DO Class of 2014**, website committee representative; **Brennan Boettcher, DO Class of 2013**, co-chair, student research committee; **Grant Stone, DO Class of 2013**, membership committee regional director for region 2; and **Amir Mahajer, DO '12**, membership committee regional director for region 4. For the 2012-2013 academic year, Morris will serve as vice-president of the Student Council Executive Committee and **Justin Pruitt, DO Class of 2015**, will serve as co-chair of the student research committee.



DO Class of 2015 members **Matt Huckabee** and **Jeff Ham** took first place in chicken and second place in pork at the Oasis Family Fun Day BBQ Competition in Charlotte, N.C., over the summer.



*Pam Hanson*

**Pam Hanson, DO Class of 2015**, was a 2012 inductee into The La Cross (Wisc.) Central High School Hall of Excellence. Hanson, a 1997 Central Senior Student of the Year and graduate, was a five-time WIAA swimming high school state champion in the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard backstroke. She graduated from the University of Tennessee in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in exercise science and a master's degree in human performance. While at Tennessee, she was a Southeastern Conference Champion in the 100-yard butterfly, 100-yard backstroke and 200-yard backstroke. She was a 2004 swimming Olympic Trials Finalist and was a member of the 2001-2002 World Cup Team. Hanson was named Division 1 All-American four times in her college career. In addition, she was the 2004 USA Swimming National Champion in the 200m backstroke.



*Justin Head*

Mar 20;2012. pii: bcr1220115326. doi: 10.1136/bcr.12.2011.5326.

**Justin Head, DO Class of 2013**, published “Ethylene glycol ingestion masked by concomitant ethanol intoxication.” *BMJ Case Rep.* 2012



*Dr. John Douglas*

May 26, 2012, at Cornerstone Church of Knoxville. After a honeymoon in Lake Tahoe and Yosemite National Park, the couple resides in Greeneville, S.C. The bride is a graduate of the University of Tennessee, with a BS in

Jennifer Lauren Tallent, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack M. Tallent II, and **Dr. John Michael Douglass, DO '12**, son of Dr. and Mrs. Andrew M. Douglass, were married on

human ecology. The groom is a graduate of University of Tennessee and Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine, and is employed at Greeneville Hospital System.

*Published in the Knoxville News Sentinel on June 10, 2012.*

LMU-DCOM DO and PA Program students assisted with the medical units for the annual Covenant Health Knoxville Marathon on April 1, 2012. Students involved included **Brittany Gusler, PA Class of 2013**; **Justin Hart, DO Class of 2015**; **Amy Kelso, PA Class of 2013**; **Niki Myers, DO Class of 2015**; **Lucie Noriscat, DO Class of 2015**; **Justin Pruitt, DO Class of 2015**; **Devon Rayasa, DO Class of 2015**; **Christina Reddy, DO Class of 2015**; **Emelia Solomon, DO Class of 2015**; **Amy Vischetti, PA Class of 2013**; and **Anne Worth, DO Class of 2015**.



LMU-DCOM students, under the direction of **Dr. Howard Teitelbaum**, professor of preventive medicine, assisted with the annual health screening at Horace Maynard Middle School in Maynardville, Tenn. Students took heights and weights, performed blood pressure checks, conducted vision and hearing exams, and performed scoliosis screenings. School nurse Connie Harrell said, “It was wonderful to have the opportunity to work with LMU-DCOM students. They were a tremendous help in completing a task in a single afternoon that would have taken

*continued on page 27*

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the other nurse and I weeks to complete. The middle school students were also very excited to have the medical students here for the day.” Students also assisted with spring sports physicals at Claiborne High School in Tazewell, Tenn., and for Little League First Aid. Teitelbaum also directed students for NCAA physical exams for the LMU soccer team prior to their trip to Brazil and for screenings at the Claiborne County (Tenn.) Health Fair at First Baptist Church in New Tazewell, Tenn.



The Anatomy/OPP Fellows, under the direction of **Dr. Todd Dombroski**, associate professor of OMM, completed more than 180 NCAA athletic physical exams for LMU and over 200 sports physicals for the high school students of J. Frank White Academy on the LMU main campus, Claiborne (Tenn.) High School and Middlesboro (Ky.) High School.

LMU-DCOM students participated in the annual American Cancer Society Claiborne County Relay for Life event on August 24. The LMU-DCOM Relay team held a variety of fundraisers during August.



Patricia Brooks Goodwin

**Patricia Brooks Goodwin, DO Class of 2015**, had a paper published. See Gene C. Ness, Jeffrey L. Edelman, Patricia A. Brooks, Involvement of tristetraprolin in transcriptional activation of hepatic

3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase by insulin, *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, Volume 420, Issue 1, 30 March 2012, Pages 178-182, ISSN 0006-291X, 10.1016/j.bbrc.2012.02.138.



Nathan Popham

**Nathan Popham, DO Class of 2015**, had a paper published. See S. J. Molesworth-Kenyon, N. Popham, A. Milam, J. E. Oakes, and R. N. Lausch, “Resident

Corneal Cells Communicate with Neutrophils Leading to the Production of IP-10 during the Primary Inflammatory Response to HSV-1 Infection,” *International Journal of Inflammation*, vol. 2012, Article ID 810359, 10 pages, 2012. doi:10.1155/2012/810359



Daniel Craig Barnette

**Daniel Craig Barnette, DO Class of 2014**, received a \$500 scholarship from the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

The scholarship, Rural Access to Anesthesia Care, is intended to assist future physicians in becoming introduced to rural anesthesia. Craig will fulfill the requirements for this scholarship by completing an anesthesia rotation at Wilkes Regional Medical Center in Wilkesboro, N.C., from September to October 2012.



**Dustie Samuels, DO Class of 2015**, participated in the Appalachian Preceptorship during Summer 2012. The program is offered through East Tennessee State University’s (ETSU) Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson City, Tenn. The program is designed to expose medical students to rural primary care practiced in an Appalachian community. Samuels participated in one

week of didactic sessions on the ETSU campus and then spent three weeks with a rural physician practicing in Athens, Tenn. Samuels was one of 12 students chosen from a pool of applicants.



Deke Barron

**Deke Barron, DO Class of 2014**, is a contributing writer to *In Training*, an online newspaper for medical students founded in June 2012. His first submission can be found at <http://in-training.org/youll-always-remember-your-first-128>.



Charnell Cain

**Charnell Cain, DO Class of 2015**, is participating in the Tour for Diversity in Medicine in September 2012. With a goal of promoting

mentorship and professionalism, the Tour for Diversity in Medicine hosts day-long conferences on each selected campus. Students from the host institution as well as surrounding areas are invited to take part in this unique opportunity. Graduating high school seniors, undergraduate students, post-baccalaureate students, and recent graduates are invited to participate. The Tour for Diversity in Medicine, T4D is the brain child of former medical student leaders. The co-founders, Alden M. Landry, MD, MPH and Kameron Leigh Matthews, MD, JD take their vacation time to hold workshops at undergraduate institutions. The Tour is a grassroots effort to inspire, educate and develop future minority physicians and to help alleviate the shortage of minorities in medical schools. The number of underrepresented minorities in medical schools compared to their numbers in the general population is startling. The September tour includes conferences at Georgia State University, Fisk University, Kentucky State University, Indiana University, Central State University and the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Cain is one of the mentors and workshop facilitators for the September 2012 Tour.

# Student Achievements

Charnell graduated from Jackson State University and returned in March 2012 to represent LMU-DCOM in a recruitment event surrounding the inaugural Tour for Diversity. She participated in a small group workshop and was asked to join the tour as a mentor and workshop facilitator for the September 2012 tour.



**Dana Small, DO Class of 2015**, served as a medical mission intern at the Chadasha Foundation in Jimani, Dominican Republic, during Summer 2012. This is the same location where LMU-DCOM students serve during spring and winter breaks. Small served both in the clinic and at the children's home on campus. Small said, "I truly lived the life of a Dominican: eating daily rice and beans, spending much of the day without city power, doing multiple loads of laundry per day, shopping at the village "colmado" and loving on the 47 children at the home. It was five weeks full of new experiences and friendships that I would not trade for anything. I knew before that I was interested in medical missions and rural medicine, but living in the Dominican really solidified that dream. I look forward to my next journey."



*The ACOEP mass casualty lab.*

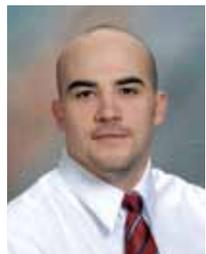
Class of 2015 members **Dustie Samuels**, **Kerolos Rizk** and **Danielle Harrell** attended the American College of COMMunity LINC – 28

Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP) spring conference in Scottsdale, Ariz., in April. Events included daily lecture series, residency panels (comprised of both student and residency directors), a student leadership seminar and a mass casualty lab. The student leadership seminar included a competition where students were to make a presentation in order to promote the ACOEP fall conference, and the group in which Samuels was in placed third overall.



*Souleymane Diallo*

**Souleymane "YaYa" Diallo, DO Class of 2013**, presented on fibromuscular dysplasia at the Oklahoma State University Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla., and presented on pancreatic cancer at Morristown Regional Cancer Center in Morristown, Tenn.



*Daniel Skipper*

**Daniel Skipper, DO Class of 2013**, presented the poster with Kenneth W. Olander MD, PhD "Safety of New Ab-Interno Suprachoroidal Device (CyPass) for IOP Lowering in Combination With Phacoemulsification Cataract Extraction" on May 10, 2012, at the American Osteopathic Colleges of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Foundation's Annual Clinical Assembly. Current treatments in glaucoma include medications, laser surgery and trabeculectomy. Current focus is on minimally-invasive glaucoma surgery (MIGS). This pilot study evaluated safety of the CyPass, an ab-interno suprachoroidal device. Data was collected from 27 patients undergoing CyPass implantation combined with phacoemulsification. CyPass implantation was achieved without complications.

The American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF) has announced the following award winners from LMU-DCOM: **Alan Aiken, Class of 2014**, has been awarded a Welch Scholars Grant. **Brittany Grady,**

**Class of 2013**, has been awarded the AOA President Memorial Leadership Award. **Nate Morin, Class of 2013**, has been awarded a Rossnick Humanitarian Grant.



*Kaitlin Dewhirst*

**Kaitlin Dewhirst, Class of 2014**, has been appointed as a student member to the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Committee on Basic Documents and Operations of Affiliated Organizations. The Committee on Basic Documents and Operations of Affiliated Organizations is responsible for oversight of the AOA's various state and specialty affiliate organizations. This includes the review of the bylaws of all state, specialty and non-practice affiliates to ensure that they comply with their AOA charters, as well as assisting affiliated organizations with resolving operational questions and disputes between affiliated organizations. During the one-year appointment Dewhirst will participate in multiple teleconferences and three face-to-face meetings that will be in conjunction with the AOA Board of Trustees meetings. Dewhirst said, "I am looking forward to a year of learning about the in-depth operations of the AOA and soaking up knowledge from DOs with vast amounts of experience and wisdom."

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DCOMNEWS](http://alumni.lmunet.edu/DCOMNEWS)

# LMU-DCOM Student Gives Back

*Reprinted from The Ozuakee Press, Port Washington, Wisc.*



*Los Toros family (from left) cousin Paula, sister Yordanka and grandmother Seniorita posed with Kelly and Katie Tunder.*

For the past six years, sisters **Kelly (DO Class of 2015)** and Katie Tunder of Grafton, Wisc., have spent 10 days during May in Los Toros, Dominican Republic, living with families and helping to improve living conditions.

Katie, 25, and Kelly, 24, were students at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse when they and other young college students, accompanied by Deacon Don Kabara of St. Joseph's Catholic Parish in Grafton, embarked on the parish's first Young Adult Mission Experience to the small village where many people live in thatched huts with dirt floors and no running water.

This is the 25th year Kabara has led volunteers to the country to develop solidarity with what is now a sister community, but it was mostly adults until the young adult group formed in 2006.

The mission experiences convinced Kelly to go into the medical field. She is a second year osteopathic medical student at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tenn., and wants to put her knowledge into practice in Los Toros.

Katie, who works for FIS in Brown Deer, a banking software and technology company, brought her communication skills to her adopted country.

Los Toros is their second home, a place they envision themselves visiting and working for many years to come. The Grafton High School graduates are fluent in Spanish.

When they entered the village for the first time six years ago, both said they were overwhelmed by culture shock. By the end of the trip, they had taught 90 children how to use toothbrushes and toothpaste and taught English to a handful of students, and they couldn't wait to go back the next year.

"It's one of those mission trips you don't do just once," Katie said. "Eighty to 90% of it is based on relationships."

"If you continue to come, they respect you more and give you their trust," Kelly added.

This May, more than 900 children attended dental hygiene clinics run with the help of 15 young Dominicans, and 200 children

attended English classes in Los Toros and neighboring Sajanoa and Las Guanabanas.

The sisters live with families on opposite ends of the village in very different situations.

Katie lives in a two-room thatched hut with about a dozen people. Her Dominican parents are in their 70s.

"Every year who is living in the house changes. There are a lot of broken families, with one parent gone, but you never see a child abandoned or hungry. An aunt or uncle always takes them in," Katie said.

"I had my own bed, but usually two to three people were sleeping on the floor next to me."

Kelly lives in a palace by comparison with her adopted mother Nuris, sister Yordanka, who is called YoYo, cousin Emerson and grandmother Seniorita.

Her family's home has a concrete floor and indoor plumbing, and she has her own bedroom.

Nuris is head of the water sanitation program in the community and highly respected. For the last two years, she's worked in Santo Domingo, the nation's capital, coming home two to three times a week.

Yordanka, who was 12 when Kelly met her, is now 18 and studying medicine at the university. She is on a scholarship program provided by St. Joe's.

Kelly brought her stethoscope and reflex hammer with her and taught Yordanka how to use them.

"I taught her how to listen to my heart and lungs and do my reflexes," Kelly said. "It was great to see her excitement. Now, every time I listen to a heart and lungs and do reflexes, I think of this experience."

Every day the sisters and their families ate the same meal for lunch — rice, beans and chicken. Plantains and mangos were ripe so there were plenty of those, also.

Electricity is available two or three hours every day, but there is no refrigeration so they eat everything that is prepared.

"If they slaughter a cow, they ring a bell for everyone to come. Every piece of the cow is used," Kelly said.

Kelly worked in the medical and prenatal clinics until she got sick after eating something prepared with tainted water. Her sister took care of her.

Getting clean water for people to drink is a priority for St. Joe's and the Los Toros community. Community members can apply for loans from the Los Toros Foundation to install a water filter. The money they pay back to the foundation is loaned to other families.

All Los Toros projects are determined by the community in conjunction with St. Joe's, which provides financial backing and volunteers to teach the Dominicans.

Over the years, they have worked together to build schools, clinics, a library and mission house. St. Joe's also funds scholarship programs.

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Katie termed the word companionship to describe the joint efforts between the two cultures.

“This was the most successful trip to date (for the young adult mission),” Katie said. “Not only was our group filled with incredibly talented and compassionate Americans, but our group tripled the moment we arrived in the community. It is incredible to see how involved the youth and young adults of Los Toros have become over the years.

“They’re our brothers and sisters in faith, our family over there.”

That enthusiasm spread to the neighboring communities of Sajanoa and Las Guanabanas, where Los Toros young

people took the dental program and English classes. Before, the communities rarely interacted, Katie said, but since the Americans are willing to help them, they decided to help their neighbors.

Katie is especially pleased to see so many young Dominicans learning English.

“Tourism is big in the Dominican Republic. If these kids can learn English, it opens up doors for them to work in tourism,” she said.

Everyone in their mission group tries to step out of their lives back home when they are in Los Toros, Katie said. That’s important now that there are computers and the Internet in the village that allows them to stay connected to the USA. 

## Faculty/Staff Happenings

**Dr. Clarence Colle**, assistant dean of academic affairs/basic medical sciences, has received the faculty rank of professor of microbiology.



**Amy Drittler**, director of marketing and public relations for health sciences,

appeared as a contestant on the game show *Jeopardy!* on April 20, 2012.



**Jessi Earl**, curriculum coordinator/administrative assistant for basic medical sciences, was selected as the February Lincoln’s

Leaders Award Winner. The award is given monthly by the LMU Staff Senate to the staff member who demonstrates outstanding courtesy and customer service skills. Customers are defined as students, parents, co-workers, faculty, staff, alumni and the general public. Consideration is given to the following: job performance, work behaviors, initiative, relationships with colleagues and other customers.

**Johnathan Greene**, AHA Training Center coordinator, completed his BSN degree from East Tennessee State University.

**Dr. Kenneth Heiles**, associate dean of graduate medical education, was nominated by then-American Osteopathic Association President Martin S. Levine, DO, to the National Advisory Council



on the National Health Service Corps. The letter of nomination was submitted in March 2012.



**Dr. Robert Johnson**, chair of physiology and pharmacology and associate professor of physiology, gave a clinical research presentation as part of the trauma session at the

Experimental Biology 2012 meeting in San Diego, Calif., in April. The title of the presentation was “Hemoperitonium Increases Carbon Monoxide and Reduces Platelet Aggregation in Trauma Patients.”



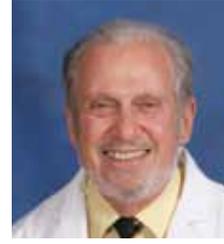
**Dr. Jonathan Leo**, professor of neuroanatomy, associate dean of students and assistant VP for admissions and student services

for the Division of Health Sciences, had a guest blog on [pharmalot.com](http://www.pharmalot.com). The blog was co-authored by Jeffrey LaCasse and can be accessed at <http://www.pharmalot.com/2012/06/ghosts-in-the-pharma-attic-jon-jeff-explain/>.

**Dr. Steve Miller**, chair of family medicine, has received the faculty rank of associate professor of OPP/family medicine.



**Donna Palazzolo**, career services coordinator, graduated from the Leadership Claiborne (Tenn.) program.



**Dr. Burt Routman**, professor and chairman emeritus of family medicine, was reappointed chair of the Program

Committee for the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOF) and the representative from ACOFP to the Primary Care Organizations Consortium.



**Dr. Michael Seaman**, associate professor of emergency medicine/family medicine and simulation lab director, received

LMU’s Houston Award at the Spring 2012 Commencement ceremony. The Houston Award recognizes exemplary professional teaching achievement.



**Dr. Natalie Shirley**, assistant professor of anatomy, made the following presentations: Fojas C, Shirley NR, Passalacqua

# Faculty/Staff Happenings

N (2012). Investigation into human sacral fusion with regard to skeletal age. American Association of Physical Anthropologists Annual Meetings in Portland, OR. Shirley NR and Cridlin S (2012). Documented Secular Change in Epiphyseal Union Timing and Dimensions of the Clavicle. Symposium Poster at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists Annual Meetings in Portland, OR. Symposium Title: Examining the Big Picture: Working towards a Holistic Understanding of Secular Change in Modern Populations. Symposium Organizers/Chairs: Natalie R. Shirley, Richard L. Jantz, Stephen D. Ousley. Fatah EA, Shirley NR, Auerbach B, Mahfouz MR (2012). Bilateral Directional Assymetry in the Human Clavicle. American Anatomy Association at EB Annual Meeting in San Diego. She published Berryman HE, AK Lanfear, and NR Shirley. The Biomechanics of Gunshot Trauma to Bone. In Dirkmaat D, editor. A Companion to Forensic Anthropology. Wiley-Blackwell Publishing. 2012. Shirley also gave the following lectures: TEDx LMU. TED Talk Title: Race; University of Tennessee Gross Anatomy Guest Lecture Series, Invited Lecturer Lecture Title: Fusing Anatomy and Osteology: Skeletal Maturation in Modern Americans; University of Tennessee Forensic Anthropology Center, Human Identification Course Lecture Title: Age Estimation from the Human Skeleton; and University of Tennessee Forensic Anthropology Center, Advanced Methods in Forensic Anthropology Course Lecture Title: Building a Biomechanical Foundation for Skeletal Trauma Interpretation. Shirley also went on a research trip to Bogota, Columbia, in May.



**Rick Slaven**, AHA Training Center faculty/simulation lab coordinator, presented a lecture in July 2012 at the 14th annual Children's

Educational Potpourri in Ringgold, Ga. The presentation regarded new trends in the treatment of pediatric asthma.



**Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor of preventive medicine, gave a presentation on "Statistical Analysis in Health

Policy Decision Making" to the Fellows in the Heritage Health Policy Fellows Program in August 2012 in Glen Cove, N.Y.

**Lisa Travis**, medical librarian/instructor of medical library resources, has completed the following scholarly activity: Funding: Project Manager; Express Digitization and Conservation Award for \$9,000; National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) Southeastern/Atlantic (SE/A) Region Regional Medical Library (RML); May 2012 - April 2013. Presentation: Nickolson, C. A., Sefcik, D. J., & Travis, L. (2011, March 30). Preparing for board exams. Panel presentation at American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) 2012 Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. Retrieved from [http://www.aacom.org/events/annualmtg/past/2012/Documents/Travis\\_Preparing-for-Licensure.pdf](http://www.aacom.org/events/annualmtg/past/2012/Documents/Travis_Preparing-for-Licensure.pdf); Service: Vice President/President-Elect, Knoxville Area Health Science Library Consortium (KAHSLC), July 2012 – present; Colleague Connection mentor; MLA Annual Meeting and Exhibition; Seattle, WA; May 20-22, 2012; Resume clinic reviewer; MLA Annual Meeting and Exhibition; Seattle, WA; May 20 & 22, 2012; Session Moderator for Loading the Bases: Teaching with Technology and Multimedia; MLA Annual Meeting and Exhibition; Seattle, WA; May 22, 2012; Recorder for Table #12, Liaisons Stepping out of the Library; MLA Annual Meeting and Exhibition; Seattle, WA; May 20, 2012.



**Dr. Paul Wood**, professor of pharmacology, published "Lipidomics of Alzheimer's disease: current status" in

Alzheimer's Research & Therapy 2012, 4:5; <http://alzres.com/content/4/1/5>.

He also received a gift of \$26,000, from Rhizo Kids International to support ongoing research at LMU into devastating peroxisomal disorders in children. The American Osteopathic Association has also appointed Wood to the Council on Research and to the editorial board of the *Journal of the Osteopathic Association* (JAOA).



**Dr. Chris Yonts**, assistant professor of family medicine and medical director for the University Medical Clinic, presented an

OMM Grand Rounds Presentation on the topic of Introduction to Osteopathic Documentation and Billing. He also received American Board of Family Medicine certification. Yonts is also board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians.



**Dr. Michael Wieting**, interim dean, dean of clinical medicine, assistant VP of program development and professor of

physical medicine and rehabilitation and OPP, has been appointed vice chair of the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS) for the American Osteopathic Association. The BOS is the body that certifies the specialty boards of the osteopathic profession and is dedicated to establishing and maintaining high standards for certification of osteopathic physicians in all specialties. Wieting also serves on the Executive Committee of the BOS and as the chair of its Standards Review Committee which reviews and approves the examination processes and examinations of all osteopathic specialty boards. Wieting also serves as the secretary of the American Osteopathic Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Wieting conducted a nationwide webinar on the Osteopathic Continuous Certification program of the AOA for the American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in early September. 

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## LMU-DCOM Military Graduates Promoted



**Gabe Polk, DO, MAJ/MC**, administers the Oath of Office during the promotion of the LMU-DCOM military graduates.

The Military Health Professions Scholarship Program participants within the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012 received their military promotions at a ceremony on May 12, 2012.

United States Air Force physicians who were promoted included **Capt. William Goncharow, DO '12**, and **Capt. Joel Smithers, DO '12**.

United States Army physicians who were promoted included **Capt. Steven Bednarczyk, DO '12**, **Capt. Meredith**

**Corzine, DO, '12**, **Capt. Nathan Jansen, DO '12**, **Capt. Alexander Malloy, DO '12**, **Capt. Aaron Roberts, DO '12** and **Capt. Ahmad Yassin, DO '12**.

United States Navy physicians who were promoted included **Lt. Hillary Chace, DO '12**, **Lt. David Feaker, DO '12**, **Lt. Jennifer Ottino, DO '12**, **Lt. Christopher Perry, DO '12** and **Lt. Jenny Smith, DO '12**.

The keynote address was provided by **Gabe Polk, DO, MAJ/MC**. Polk is

currently an osteopathic emergency department physician in Waynesboro, Tenn., and president of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association. He received his bachelor of science in nursing degree from Harding University and his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine. He serves as a medical officer in the Tennessee Army National Guard Medical Command and has served three tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.