



# COMMUNITY LINC

Fall 2008 • Volume 2 Number 2 – A publication for the LMU-DCOM family

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## Viva AOA in Las Vegas

Approximately 40 LMU-DCOM students, accompanied by LMU-DCOM faculty and staff, attended the annual American Osteopathic Association (AOA) convention in Las Vegas in October. While at the conference, the students attended sessions and staffed the LMU-DCOM exhibit booth. OMS-II students **Jordan Bohinc, Megan Elstro, David Heath, Deanne Grayson** and **Myles Jen Kin** received awards at the American Osteopathic Foundation banquet on Sunday night. Bohinc received the 2008 Welch Scholars Award, Elstro received the 2008 Russell C. McCaughan Scholarship, and

Heath, Grayson and Jen Kin all received 2008 Savvy Student Traveler Awards.

OMS-II **Anne**

**Kroman** gave a

poster presentation on Sunday afternoon showcasing the research that she and **Dr. Greg Thompson**, assistant professor and chair of osteopathic principles and practice, conducted on cranial sutures. Faculty and

staff in attendance at the convention included **Dean Ray Stowers**; **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate academic dean and

associate dean for clinical

sciences; **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, associate dean of research, grants and sponsored programs; **Dr. Dennis Kiick**, assistant dean of basic medical sciences; **Dr. Burt Routman**, professor and chair of family medicine; **Dr. Mike Wieting**, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP; **Dr. John Murphy**, assistant professor of family medicine; **Amy Drittler**,  
*continued on page 3*



*OMS-II Anne Kroman poses with her research poster during the poster presentation on Sunday afternoon.*



*OMS-I students Lauren Ciolkevich and Kelsey McAnally at the LMU-DCOM booth.*

**COMMUNITY LINC** is dedicated to being the community 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.

**Lincoln Memorial University-  
DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine**

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Dr. Ray E. Stowers,  
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Amy Drittler  
Associate Director of Marketing and  
Public Relations  
Editor, COMMunity Linc

## A Message From the Dean



It has been a beautiful fall in Harrogate, Tenn., and we are enjoying the hustle and bustle that comes with having two classes of students filling the lecture halls and labs at LMU-DCOM. It is a pleasure to see the new things that are happening within these walls: second years mentoring first years, first years taking part in traditions we established last year as well as creating new traditions of their own, students competing good naturedly among one another in intramurals and fundraising drives for bragging rights.

We have recently enjoyed our annual White Coat Ceremony. More than 1,000 people – including many of you reading this publication right now – gathered to celebrate the second class of students at Tennessee's newest medical school and its only osteopathic medical school. Dr. William

G. Anderson, past president of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), was the keynote speaker. Anderson served as president of the AOA from 1994-1995 and holds the distinction of being the first African-American to hold that office. During his remarks Anderson asked the students to stand and repeat a mantra that he hopes they remember throughout their medical education: "If in my heart, I believe it; and in my mind, I can conceive it; with this school, with this faculty, with this administration, with these hands, I can achieve it." It was a moment that I'm sure our students will not soon forget.

Currently our rotations department, headed by Dr. Craig Lenz, senior associate academic dean and associate dean for clinical sciences, is busy preparing for our first rotations lottery, which will take place later this month. Next year, when LMU-DCOM students enter rotations for the first time, Dr. Lenz and his staff will be managing 3,300 individual rotations. Dr. Lenz has worked tirelessly to establish good relationships with clinical partner sites since he arrived at LMU-DCOM three years ago – so much so that we have been commended by the AOA accrediting body for our clinical partnerships – and I know the students will join me in thanking him for his dedication.

As we move through our second year of classes, the LMU-DCOM family continues to grow. Since the last issue of this newsletter, we have welcomed an astounding 18 new faculty and staff members, putting our little family at 61 members strong. I welcome them all and thank them all for their hard work.

As our family continues to grow, we are missing someone very dear to us. Over the summer, Professor of Anatomy Robert Casady was seriously injured in a bicycle accident and has spent the past several months in rehabilitation to recover from his injuries. The Department of Basic Medical Sciences has dedicated this year to Bob as a tribute. Bob has set the goal of returning to LMU-DCOM in time to teach anatomy to our inaugural class of physician assistant students next summer. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Bob and his family, and we thank the faculty members who have carried on with the academic schedule in his absence. Our anatomy department, chaired by Professor Neal Cross and including Associate Professor of Neuroanatomy Jonathan Leo, Associate Professor of Anatomy/Histology James Foster, Assistant Professor of Physiology/Research Lynn Nielsen, Anatomy Instructor Shannon King and Anatomy Assistant Stan Iliff, have done an outstanding job in managing the demanding curriculum, and I applaud them for their efforts.



Dean Ray Stowers talks to students at the LMU-DCOM booth.



LMU-DCOM Student Advocate Association (SAA) Vice President Keith Graham and his wife, OMS-II Rhonda Graham, work the Advocates of the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA) booth during the convention.

## Viva AOA

*continued from page 1*

associate director of marketing and public relations; and **Janette Martin**, director of admissions. **Shelley Wieting**, assistant professor of nursing and faculty advisor to the Student Advocate Association (SAA) at LMU-DCOM, was also in attendance, as were five SAA members, the largest number of members in attendance from any SAA organization in the country. During the conference the LMU-DCOM contingent enjoyed a dinner out at Battista's Hole in the Wall, courtesy of the dean.



Approximately 70 students, faculty and staff of LMU-DCOM gathered at Battista's Hole in the Wall for dinner on Monday night.



(L-R) OMS-I students Amanda Stephens, Tracy Thompson, Courtney Walsh, Brittany Lower (hidden) and Ryan Rose talk to visitors at the LMU-DCOM booth.



Assistant Dean for Basic Medical Sciences Dennis Kiick is entertained by the accordion player at Battista's, who wowed the crowd with his rendition of "Rocky Top."

## LMU-DCOM Student Group Wins New Chapter Excellence Award

The LMU-DCOM chapter of the Undergraduate American Academy of Osteopathy (UAAO) received the 2008 New Chapter Excellence Award at the national American Academy of Osteopathy convocation in Dallas, Texas.

At the convocation, the LMU-DCOM UAAO chapter was named an official UAAO chapter. Several students from LMU-DCOM along with osteopathic principles and practice professors **Dr. Greg Thompson** and **Dr. Kimberly D'Eramo** attended the convocation. Also during the convocation, **OMS-II Stephanie England** was elected to the position of National Coordinator of the Executive Board.



Dr. Greg Thompson, faculty advisor to the LMU-DCOM UAAO chapter, and OMS-II Anne Kroman, president of the LMU-DCOM UAAO chapter, pose with the 2008 New Chapter Excellence Award presented to the group by the national American Academy of Osteopathy.



# LMU-DCOM Receives BlueCross Foundation Grant



Dean Ray Stowers and LMU President Nancy B. Moody accept a grant check from the BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation from Dr. Steve Coulter, president of government business at BlueCross.

The BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation has awarded a grant in the amount of \$250,000 to LMU-DCOM. Representatives from the BlueCross Tennessee Health Foundation were on the LMU campus in May to present the grant to University officials.

“The DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine provides Lincoln Memorial University another wonderful opportunity to fulfill its mission to serve the region,” said LMU President Nancy B. Moody. “In keeping with the mission of LMU and the BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation, hundreds of doctors, nurses, other health care providers and residents will benefit from this grant which will increase access to quality healthcare throughout this region of the country.”

The funding will be used for the 2,400 square foot clinical exam suite in the LMU-DCOM building. The suite consists of ten technology-enhanced clinical exam rooms staged, furnished and equipped similarly to a physician’s office. Testing scenarios in this exam suite allow osteopathic medical students to interact with standardized patients to simulate “real” patient-physician encounters. A standardized patient is a person trained to portray an actual patient with a specific medical history and physical exam findings for the purpose of instructing medical students to examine, diagnose,

and communicate effectively with patients. Approximately 45 community members from the region currently serve as standardized patients for LMU-DCOM. Cameras and software incorporated into each room digitally capture medical student interactions with standardized patients to allow for faculty review and assessment and to develop interactive learning opportunities through discussion between faculty and students.

“Technology continues to play an ever-increasing role in the delivery of health care,” said Dr. Steve Coulter, president of government business at BlueCross. “By investing in these technology-rich exam rooms, BlueCross is not only helping to better prepare Tennessee’s next generation of doctors, but we’re also helping to increase access to primary care physicians in our state.

LMU-DCOM students will come into contact with approximately 18 standardized patient cases on campus before beginning rotations in their third

year of medical school. The opportunity to practice and hone skills is an invaluable component of their medical education. Examinations and encounters allow faculty the opportunity to point out mistakes and areas of improvement in a safe learning environment. Medical students must pass examinations with standardized patients before progressing to the next level of their education.

“Because osteopathic physicians predominately practice primary care, LMU-DCOM is poised to greatly increase the number of doctors serving in our underserved region,” said Dean Ray Stowers. “Thorough training in what we think of as a doctor’s ‘bedside manner,’ which occurs in the clinical exam suite, is crucial to our mission to create high-quality osteopathic physicians who live and work in this area.”

Agencies such as the Appalachian Regional Commission have documented the severe shortage of primary care physicians in rural southern communities. Over 60% of licensed osteopathic physicians practice primary care. Nationally, the proportion of medical students entering primary care has dropped from 50% in 1998 to 38% in 2006.

Additional programmatic growth at LMU has also strengthened the University’s

*Continued on page 5*



Dr. Mary Anne Modrcin, dean of LMU’s Caylor School of Nursing; Dr. Steve Coulter, president of government business at BlueCross; LMU President Nancy B. Moody; Dean Ray Stowers; and Dr. Michelle Heinan, director of LMU’s proposed physician assistant program pose with the grant check from the BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation.

# TOMA Visits LMU-DCOM

Approximately 70 attendees of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) conference were at DCOM earlier in June to attend OMM lectures and labs led by Dr. Greg Thompson and Dr. Kimberly D’Eramo. The event was part of TOMA’s annual conference, which took place in Knoxville, Tenn. The guests were also treated to lunch and tours of the LMU-DCOM building.



*Continued from page 4*

mission to serve the healthcare needs of the region. LMU celebrated the graduation of its first class in the Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner degree program in December 2007. The University is also moving forward with proposed MSN Nurse Anesthetist and Physician Assistant programs to meet additional needs of healthcare providers. Students in each of these programs will benefit greatly through access to LMU-DCOM facilities and usage of clinical examination rooms and simulation laboratories.

The BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation, Inc. (THF) was established in December, 2003 as a 501(c)(3) foundation organized to promote the philanthropic mission of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee by awarding grants focused on high-impact initiatives across the state, which promote healthy lifestyle choices and help control health care costs for all Tennessee residents. THF, working with civic and economic partners, is dedicated to the support of research, innovative programs and creative approaches to improve the health and quality of life of Tennesseans for generations to come.



Dr. Greg Thompson, assistant professor of OPP/family medicine and chair of OPP, looks on as attendees of the TOMA conference practice OMT techniques.



OMS-II Tim Scott demonstrates an OMT technique during the lab session at the annual TOMA conference.

OMS-II Greg Nieckula helps facilitate the OMT lab session during the annual TOMA Conference.



A delegation from LMU-DCOM traveled to the nation’s capitol in April to attend DO Day on the Hill. The annual event, organized by the American Osteopathic Association, is the preeminent opportunity for DOs and students to come to Washington, DC and lobby Members of Congress and their staff face-to-face. Accompanied by Dean Ray Stowers, OMS-II students Jordan Bobinc, Elizabeth Brewer, Anthony Cavalli, Martin Clemmons, Lauren DeLoach, Lindsey Dierlam, Megan Elstro, Aaron Fielden, Tara Gansheimer, Ben Goins, David Heath, Ian Huff, Joseph Jones, Sean Keyes, Jim Kowalczyk, Crystal Lenz, Charlie Lieder, Greg Nieckula, Nicholas Perkins, Rod Sclater, Tim Scott, Torben Svendsen, Amanda Vanlandingham and Owen Vincent met with members of the Tennessee Congressional Delegation while on Capitol Hill.



# ACOFP President-Elect Visits LMU-DCOM

Dr. Jan Zieren, DO, FACOFP dist., president-elect of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) visited LMU-DCOM in May. Zieren gave a talk to LMU-DCOM students on “Family Practice: My Perspective.” Following her talk, Zieren inaugurated the LMU-DCOM student chapter of the ACOFP and then had lunch with the students.

Zieren is a board certified family practitioner who was named a Fellow of ACOFP in 1993. She has served on the ACOFP board of directors since 2002. Zieren was elected as president-elect of ACOFP for 2008-2009 and will assume the presidency in March 2009 during the ACOFP Annual Convention & Exhibition in Washington, DC. Zieren will be only the second female president of ACOFP in its 58-year history. Zieren earned her master’s degree in public health at the University of Oklahoma and her medical degree at Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her postgraduate medical training at Phoenix General Hospital and has been in family practice in Phoenix since 1982.



*Dr. Jan Zieren, president-elect of the ACOFP, presents the club charter certificate to OMS-II Marcus Winkler, president of the LMU-DCOM student chapter of ACOFP, and Dr. Burt Routman, professor and chair of family medicine and faculty advisor to the LMU-DCOM student chapter of ACOFP.*

# LMU-DCOM Recognizes Outstanding Students, Faculty



*LMU-DCOM Students of the Year Jessica Chandler and Lawson Hunley.*

LMU-DCOM awarded its Students of the Year and Faculty Members of the Year awards at its first Spring Gala held in Knoxville, Tenn., in May. The Student of the Year Awards went to **Jessica Chandler** of Laurel, Miss., and **Lawson Hunley** of Louisville

and Mammoth Cave, Ky. Chandler received her undergraduate degree in neuroscience from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. Hunley received his undergraduate degree in pre-medical sciences from the University of Louisville. Chandler and Hunley were selected for the honor by their peers in the Class of 2011. LMU-DCOM faculty members **Dr. Jonathan Leo** and **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum** were named Professors of the Year by the LMU-DCOM inaugural class. Leo, an associate professor of neuroanatomy, was named the Basic Medical Science Professor of the Year. Leo also serves as assistant dean of students. Teitelbaum, a professor of internal medicine and public health, was named the Clinical Science Professor of the Year. Teitelbaum also serves as associate dean for research, grants and sponsored programs.



*LMU-DCOM student government president Ian Huff presents LMU-DCOM Associate Dean of Research, Grants and Sponsored Programs Howard S. Teitelbaum with the Clinical Medicine Professor of the Year Award.*

# Physician Assistant Program Gearing Up for Start in May 2009

The Physician Assistant Program to be housed and administered by LMU-DCOM is in full swing for its anticipated May 2009 start date. Applications are now available for the program and on-campus interviews began on October 15.

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. PAs are valued members of the physician-directed health care team.

As part of LMU’s ongoing efforts to address the health-care shortage that plagues the University’s Appalachian service region, the University announced earlier this year that it was pursuing a proposed Physician Assistant Program to be housed and administered by LMU-DCOM. The 27-month program is slated to begin in May 2009.

Several accomplished physician assistant are at the helm of the proposed PA Program. **Dr. Michelle Heinan, EdD, MS, PA-C**, serves as director of the University’s proposed Physician Assistant Program. Heinan received her undergraduate degree from Alderson-Broadus College in Philippi, W.Va.; her master’s in health administration from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, Wis.; and her doctorate of education from Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Heinan served as a physician assistant in family practice and occupational medicine settings before joining the faculty of the University of Findlay (Ohio) in 1998. Heinan has served as PA Program director at two universities and most recently served as Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Program Chair for Health Services Management at Argosy University/ Twin Cities in Eagan, Minn. Heinan was recently named a Distinguished Fellow

of the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

**David Metcalf, PA-C, MPAS**, serves as assistant professor of physician assistant studies and director of clinical education. Metcalf received his undergraduate degree from the University of Kentucky and his master’s in physician assistant studies from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Prior to joining the faculty at LMU-DCOM, Metcalf worked as a physician assistant for 23 years, spending most of his healthcare career



*(L-R) David Metcalf, Michelle Heinan and Rex Hobbs.*

in general surgery, surgery subspecialties and primary care, including internal medicine. Metcalf spent much of his career practicing in Claiborne County, Tenn., and Bell County, Ky. His chief program responsibilities are to coordinate all clinical rotation sites for the proposed PA Program.

**Rex Hobbs, PA-C, MPAS**, serves as assistant professor of physician assistant studies and director of didactic education. Hobbs received his physician assistant training from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and his master’s in physician assistant studies from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Prior to entering academia Hobbs spent 14 years working in rural and family

medicine in Texas. Hobbs taught at the University of Texas Southwestern before joining the faculty at LMU-DCOM. Hobbs will be coordinating the on-campus curriculum of the PA Program.

The LMU-DCOM Physician Assistant Program is applying for accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA). Accreditation is anticipated to be granted in March, 2009. Accreditation is required prior to starting the program in order for graduates to be able to sit

for the national certification examination for physician assistants, a credential required for state licensure. Should the program not receive accreditation, all deposits will be returned to candidates. Information on accreditation is available at [www.arc-pa.org](http://www.arc-pa.org). The proposed Physician Assistant Program would grant the Master of Medical Sciences degree in Physician Assistant Studies (MMS).

The PA Program at LMU-DCOM offers graduate level professional education for students who desire to become Physician Assistants. The program will provide the academic and clinical training needed to practice

as a competent, reliable extender of the physician. The program is a full-time, 27-month curriculum that provides students the opportunity to earn a MMS and certificate of completion to meet the eligibility requirements for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE). The program is divided into a 14-month didactic, preclinical phase and a 13-month clinical phase. The didactic program is conducted at the LMU-DCOM facility. The clinical portion of the program is provided at urban and rural single and multi-specialty clinics and community and tertiary hospital settings in the southeastern United States with physician and PA preceptors.



# LMU-DCOM WELCOMES THE CLASS OF 2012



*The LMU-DCOM Class of 2012*

area getting settled at the University Inn Apartments in Cumberland Gap, Tenn. The University converted the Inn into student apartments in 2007 specifically to accommodate the housing needs of the LMU-DCOM students.

Today, the building is a 126-unit apartment complex that many LMU-DCOM students call home. Each apartment is fully furnished, and the rental fee includes utilities, cable television, high-speed internet access and local phone service. Each floor has a community laundry facility and study rooms are available on the fourth floor.

“The University Inn Apartments are a great residence, and the LMU-DCOM students have certainly taken advantage of the opportunity to live there,” said Dr. Jonathan Leo, assistant dean of students. “The students like having all of their needs taken care of with one rental fee. And the Apartments are very convenient to campus.”

Other amenities at the University Inn Apartments include an exercise room with new, state-of-the-art exercise machines, plasma screen televisions with wireless headsets, and a speaker system compatible with iPods and other mp3 devices. The

apartments have a newly refinished pool and construction is underway on a covered picnic shelter with patio furniture and barbecue grills. Residents can also enjoy the basketball and volleyball courts on the grounds of the complex.

DCOM Office of Admissions and Student Advancement is expanding its offices on the first floor of the building to accommodate student interviews for both prospective osteopathic medical students as well as prospective physician assistant

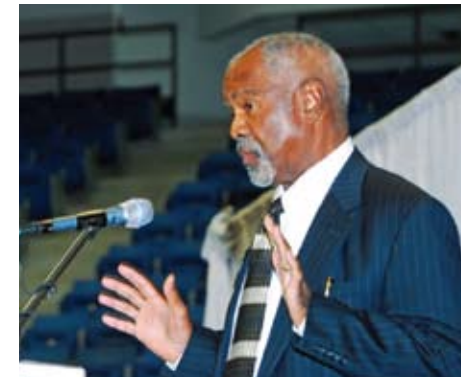


*New students gather in the lobby of the LMU-DCOM building on Wednesday morning prior to the beginning of Orientation for the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012.*

students. Several new faculty members in both the Basic Medical Sciences as well as the Clinical Medicine departments have been hired. Outside the building, additional parking lots have been paved, patio furniture has been added, and slabs have been poured for bicycle racks.

Many of the members of the Class of 2012 spent their first few days in the

## LMU-DCOM Celebrates Class of 2012 at Annual White Coat Ceremony



*Dr. William G. Anderson, past president of the American Osteopathic Association, speaks during the 2008 LMU-DCOM White Coat Ceremony.*

LMU-DCOM formally welcomed the Class of 2012 into the study of medicine at its annual White Coat Ceremony on October 18.

More than 1,000 people gathered to celebrate the second class of students at Tennessee’s newest medical school and its only osteopathic medical school. Dr. William G. Anderson, past president of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), was the keynote speaker. Anderson served as president of the AOA

from 1994-1995 and holds the distinction of being the first African-American to hold that office. During his remarks Anderson



*Photos by Ray Welch Photography*

asked the students to stand and repeat a mantra that he hopes they remember throughout their medical education: “If in my heart, I believe it; and in my mind, I can conceive it; with this school, with this faculty, with this administration, with these hands, I can achieve it.”

Dean Ray Stowers served as master of ceremonies. Dr. Nancy B. Moody, president



*Members of the Class of 2012 receive their white coats during the 2008 LMU-DCOM White Coat Ceremony.*

of LMU, delivered the opening remarks, and Ian Huff, a second year osteopathic medical student at LMU-DCOM and president of the LMU-DCOM Student Government Association, gave a welcome on behalf of the student body. Dr. Robert Crook, president of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA), also delivered remarks on behalf of TOMA, who generously provided the white coats for the ceremony.

The Ceremony closed with a special presentation by Dr. Gary Burchett, vice president of manufacturing at DeRoyal Industries and member of the LMU Board of Trustees, and Steve Ward, president of DeRoyal Industries. Burchett and Ward unveiled a portrait of DeRoyal founder and CEO Autry O.V. “Pete” DeBusk, who also serves as chairman of the LMU Board of Trustees and is the namesake of LMU-DCOM. On behalf of the employees of DeRoyal, Burchett and Ward presented the portrait to Stowers to be hung inside the LMU-DCOM building.



*(L-R) Dr. Autry O. V. “Pete” DeBusk, chairman of the LMU Board of Trustees and the namesake of LMU-DCOM; Dean Ray Stowers; Dr. Gary Burchett, member of the LMU Board of Trustees and vice president of manufacturing at DeRoyal Industries; and Steve Ward, president of DeRoyal Industries, just before the unveiling of the portrait of DeBusk that will hang in the LMU-DCOM building as a gift from the employees of DeRoyal.*



# Student Advocates Make Medical School a Family Affair

By Shelley Wieting, faculty sponsor

When someone you care about goes to medical school, it seems like you go too. They are immersed in the academics and studying that is required to be successful. That puts the spouse or significant other in a situation where he or she is forced to find his or her own activities. If you happen to be married to the medical student, you are likely to be assuming more of the everyday duties and responsibilities that are necessary for a family to function. If you have children, you can feel a bit like a single parent. The pursuit of medicine is all consuming. It is very easy for a spouse or significant other to feel left out and alone.



SAA Faculty Advisor **Shelley Wieting** and SAA Vice President **Keith Graham** visit with **Elvis** at the AAOA booth at the AOA convention in Las Vegas.

That is where the LMU-DCOM Student Advocate Association (SAA) comes in. LMU-DCOM SAA is an organization of spouses and other people who are supportive of osteopathic medical students. It is an affiliate of the Advocates for the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA), which is an affiliate to the American Osteopathic Association. The Advocates have the primary mission of promoting and supporting osteopathic medicine, and helping support the endeavors of osteopathic medical students is a part of that mission. There are few people who can relate more to the situation than someone who has already been in that role.

The Advocates are individuals who are supportive of osteopathic medicine and in many cases are spouses or family members of osteopathic physicians. The AAOA accomplishes its mission in many ways, including scholarships, educational programs that highlight osteopathic

medicine, and support of SAA groups at colleges of osteopathic medicine across the country. Through participation and involvement in SAA activities, a spouse or family member has the chance to support his or her loved one through student study breaks, planned social activities, educational events, couples workshops and other things that help make the often lonely experience easier to handle.

LMU-DCOM, like many of the osteopathic medical schools, has an SAA chapter that was started last year with the first class. The LMU-DCOM SAA has hosted dinners, presented a program on teen suicide prevention, hosted couples workshops, and sponsored holiday

Continued on page 11



Guests at the 2007 SAA Halloween party at Haymaker Farms pose in their costumes.

## LMU-DCOM's Newest Family Members



Lilly Mariana & Dylan Craig

**Dr. Tiffany Alley**, assistant professor of microbiology/immunology, and her husband, David Pollard, welcomed son Zander Dune Pollard on June 2, 2008. Zander weighed in at 8 lbs., 11 oz and was 20 ¼ inches long.

See more of our family on page 22

**Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate academic dean and associate dean of clinical sciences, and his wife, Linda, became grandparents for the first and second times this summer. Granddaughter Lilly Mariana was born June 26, 2008. She weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz. and was 21 inches long. Grandson Dylan Craig was born September 10, 2008, and matched his cousin's vital statistics at 8 lbs., 14 oz. and 21 inches long.



Zander Dune Pollard

parties at Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The events are designed to enhance the student and spouse's experience and make the school time more tolerable. In the long run, you hope that the medical student will be successful with their goals and that their family unit survives also. The SAA can help make that happen.

Photos courtesy **OMS-II Rhonda Graham** and **Shelley Wieting**.



(L-R) Back Row: SAA Vice President **Keith Graham**, SAA Member **Megan Sumrell**, SAA Member **Angela Goins**, SAA Member **Cat Wiley**, and SAA President **Anna Gonzales**. Front Row: SAA Advisor **Shelley Wieting** and National AAOA President **Linda Adams**.

## LMU-DCOM OMS-I Class Officers



The LMU-DCOM Student Government Association is proud to introduce the newly elected OMS-I class officers: (L-R) **Chris Perry**, president; **Melanie McClain**, vice president; **Hillary Chace**, secretary; and **Patrick Matt**, treasurer.

## Summer Scrubs Camp Visits LMU-DCOM

High school students attending the Harlan County Summer Scrubs Camp spent the day at LMU-DCOM in July.

The Summer Scrubs Camp, sponsored by the Southeast Kentucky Area Health Education Center in conjunction with Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College, introduces high school students to a variety of health careers. During the camp students toured the Harlan Appalachian Regional Hospital, shadowed health care professionals at work and participated in a variety of hands-on activities.

At LMU-DCOM the Summer Scrubs camp attendees toured the LMU-DCOM building and had lunch with osteopathic medical students. The campers spent the afternoon in workshops with LMU-DCOM students and faculty doing a variety of activities, including learning anatomy, taking blood pressures, testing reflexes and finding pulses.



OMS-II **Kyle Gonzales** demonstrates how to take a pulse.



OMS-II **Martin Clemmons** discusses the structure of the arm with Summer Scrubs campers.



OMS-II **Martha Nielsen** demonstrates how to test reflexes.



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: DR. NEAL A. CROSS

**Dr. Neal Cross**, professor and chair of anatomy, is no stranger to firsts. He can't even claim that LMU-DCOM is the first "new" osteopathic medical school at which he has taught. In 1978 Cross joined the faculty of another new osteopathic school when he became an assistant professor of anatomy at University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM) in its founding year. Cross was one of the original basic scientists to help start UNECOM, and he taught there for almost 30 years before he was presented with the opportunity to bring to Tennessee the same programming and innovation that made him a standout in Maine.

"It's exhilarating and frustrating at the same time [to start a new medical school]," said Cross. "It's more exhilarating and less frustrating here. LMU-DCOM was wise enough to bring in people with a lot more experience. It's hard for me sometimes to believe we are only in our second year of operation."

During his tenure in Maine, Cross ran the Gross Anatomy course at UNECOM for nearly 25 years. Even more impressive, Cross began the anatomical donation program for the entire state of Maine and served as its director from 1978 until 2007. From 1995 to 2007, Cross also served as the director of the UNECOM fresh tissue program.

Cross's strengths lie in teaching and program development. In Maine, he developed multiple programs that use cadavera in postgraduate medical educational workshops and allied health postgraduate workshops. In only its second year of operation, Cross is already spearheading similar programming at LMU-DCOM. 2008 has marked the launch of the LMU-DCOM Anatomical Donation program, which Cross expects to be self-supporting within a few years. With the help of **Anatomy Assistant Stan Iliff**, Cross has contacted hundreds of health professionals around Tennessee,



*Dr. Alan Biel, Dr. Craig Lenz, Dr. Neal Cross and Dean Ray Stowers pause after Cross was presented with his full professor award in front of the OMS-II class.*



*OMS-II Nick Pleat and Dr. Cross before the start of the Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament sponsored by the LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA).*

Kentucky and Virginia to distribute information about the program.

As the Anatomical Donation program grows, fresh tissue workshops will become commonplace at LMU-DCOM. Until then, Cross is continuing his innovative techniques by using comparable animal anatomy to enable LMU-DCOM students to practice important procedures. For example, early in the school year OMS-II students participated in a tracheotomy workshop using cow throats.

"In my role as basic medical sciences dean, one of the most important positions that had to be filled from a faculty standpoint was chair of the anatomy department," said **Dr. Dennis Kiick**, assistant dean of basic medical sciences. "When Dr. Cross initially approached me about obtaining a faculty position and after I

saw his credentials, I immediately recognized the quality and expertise Dr. Cross would bring to LMU-DCOM. He has taken the anatomy program to one of instant maturity."

While in Maine, Cross would give anatomy summer workshops to the Maine Health Occupation Educators Association of America. During the school year he routinely delivered anatomy lectures via video broadcast to Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) in approximately 20 high schools across Maine. Cross anticipates delivering similar programming at LMU-DCOM.

"The technology here is tremendous," said Cross. "I like to think I'm rapidly adapting." Cross said that without the technology available at LMU-DCOM, all the programming he is constructing would be impossible.

LMU-DCOM students appreciate Cross' expertise in his field. "It's nice having Dr. Cross as our instructor because he has taught anatomy for many years and knows what's important for us to learn before our clinical years," said **OMS-I Amanda Stephens**. "The question 'do we really have to memorize this?' doesn't get very far with him. He says we will thank him when we get to our rotations!"

Cross also has a strong interest in creating anatomy curriculums for other health professions programs on the LMU campus. At UNECOM, he developed a gross anatomy course for the athletic training department and mentored an athletic training faculty member for three years in order to prepare him to teach the course. Cross said he hopes to be able to devote time to working with health professions programs across campus in the future to create individualized gross anatomy courses that will best fit each department's needs.

In the last few months, Cross has nurtured another important project to completion: the mural inside the anatomy lab painted by **OMS-II Carlos Cabrera**. In the fall

*Continued on the next page*



*The participants in the 2nd Annual Anatomy Fashion Show pose following their strolls down the catwalk inside Auditorium 101.*

of 2007, Cross noticed the excellent quality of Cabrera's anatomical drawings and encouraged him to do something on a larger scale. Cabrera had painted murals in the past and was interested in doing a mural somewhere inside the LMU-DCOM building. Together they approached LMU-DCOM administrators with a proposal for a mural inside the lab. The mural, finished in June 2008, has garnered local, national and international media attention for LMU-DCOM. Cross and Cabrera were interviewed for a news story on the NBC affiliate in Knoxville, Tenn., and for a print article in the October issue of *The D.O. Magazine*. The mural has been featured in newspapers as close as Middlesboro, Ky., and as far away as Taipei, Taiwan.

"Dr. Cross' experience has been invaluable in getting LMU-DCOM off to a great start," said **Dr. Alan Biel**, professor of microbiology and chair of molecular sciences. "He has been a great colleague and mentor for new faculty and has been a tremendous resource for students both as an anatomy professor and as chair of the Student Progress Committee."

Another innovation on Cross' part is the Anatomy Fashion Show, an annual event for OMS-I students during their first semester. Cross established the Fashion Show, a good-natured competition in which first-years do anatomical drawings on one another and then walk the catwalk in front of their peers, in the fall of 2007. In fact, it was after Cabrera won the Anatomy Fashion Show for his anatomical drawings that Cross first began to consider teaming with Cabrera to get his artwork up on the walls of the LMU-DCOM anatomy lab.

**OMS-I Jennifer Phillips** was a primary artist for the winning group at the 2008

Anatomy Fashion Show. "I loved the Anatomy Fashion Show because it made me reinforce in my head all the anatomy that I had learned from the books and on the cadaver," Phillips said. "I think that once you are able to draw it is when you really know that you understand it. Looking at a person and being able to visualize what is going on underneath the skin lets you truly know that you understand anatomy. I can't wait for the Anatomy Fashion Show next year. Not only will it be entertaining, but also a great review."

"I am very pleased with the anatomy course and especially with the expertise of Dr. Cross," said **OMS-I Courtney Walsh**. "When we are in lab I am amazed at how patient Dr. Cross is. He will approach a lab bench and listen to the conversations going on and then ask pertinent questions. Some teachers would be quick to get frustrated or shout out the answer before students can think of it, but Dr. Cross takes the time to make sure you really give it a shot."

Being no stranger to firsts, it comes as no surprise that Cross is the first LMU-DCOM faculty member to be named a full professor. Cross was presented with his award of recognition in front of the OMS-II class in September.

"I have the utmost respect for

Dr. Cross as a colleague and his abilities to be able to mentor both faculty and students," said Kiick. "I cannot imagine having started this osteopathic medical school without him."

"My favorite thing about Dr. Cross is that you could go to his office with an anatomy question and find yourself still there two hours later talking about everything from golf to country music," said Stephens. "He's a real down-to earth, caring person who genuinely wants to see all of his students succeed."

Cross was raised in Arizona, where he spent much of his time outdoors hunting, fishing or playing sports. It was his interest in hunting and cleaning game that led to his fascination with anatomy. Cross received his undergraduate degree from the University of Maine and his Master's and doctorate from the University of Oregon. He did his post doctorate work at the Yerkes Primate Center at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

When he is not in the anatomy lab, Cross enjoys hunting, fishing and searching for wild mushrooms. An avid golfer, he often represents LMU-DCOM on the links at area golf tournaments. Most recently, he has taken up photography and is impressing the entire LMU campus with his beautiful work.

In the end, students sum up Dr. Cross' impact the best. "As with all of the faculty at LMU-DCOM, out side of the classroom Dr. Cross is always a friendly face in the halls," said Walsh. "Dr. Cross is the best!"



*One example of Dr. Cross' photography is this photo of the springhouse on the LMU campus surrounded by fall foliage.*



# LMU-DCOM Student Club Updates

## LMU-DCOM SIGMA SIGMA PHI

The **Phi Chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi** at LMU-DCOM held its first candidate ceremony in August. Sigma Sigma Phi is an Honorary Osteopathic Service Fraternity. Its objectives and purposes are: to further the Science of Osteopathic Medicine and its standards of practice, to improve the scholastic standing and promote a higher degree of fellowship among its students, to bring about a closer relationship and understanding between the student bodies and the officials and members of the faculties of the osteopathic colleges, and to foster allegiance to the American Osteopathic Association and to perpetuate these principles and the teachings through the maintenance and development of this organization. The candidates recognized at the ceremony include **OMS-II students Asim Ahmed, Daniel Anderson, Allison Barton, Anthony Cavalli, Lauren DeLoach, Megan Elstro, Aimee Foster, Lauren Fraser, Tara Gansheimer, Deanne Grayson, Bryan Gibson, Ben Goins, Brig Halpin, David Heath, Autumn Hines, Ian Huff, Alan Jasper, Myles Jen Kin, Grace Kao, Dena Krishnan, Tim Larkin, Katherine Mahon, Gina Miller, Gregory Nieckula, Paul Owensby, Nicole Peretto, David Perone, Crystal Philes, Nicholas Pleat, Ben Roe, Walter Saba, Kate Sage, Carissa Sherrit, Kristen Slappey, Joel Smithers, Ryan Scott, Tim Scott, Joseph Sullivan, Amar Talati, Amanda Vanlandingham, Owen Vincent, Richard Welch, Andrea Wenner, Shawn Wilson and Amelia Wright.** Jasper serves as president of Sigma Sigma Phi, Foster is vice president and Grayson is treasurer. **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum** serves as the chapter's advisor.

For Fall 2008 the **Phi Chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi** is engaged in a community service project with Laurel Manor Nursing Home in New Tazewell, Tenn. Each week, volunteers from Sigma Sigma Phi visit Laurel Manor to do art therapy with the residents. LMU-DCOM students bring a "centerpiece" to inspire ideas for paintings, and the students and residents do watercolors based on the centerpiece. The art therapy program is designed to encourage an alternate means of expression for patients suffering from an injury or disease associated with memory impairment and/or impaired cognitive and physical abilities.



*Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum, chapter advisor to the Phi Chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi, speaks to the candidates during the candidate ceremony.*



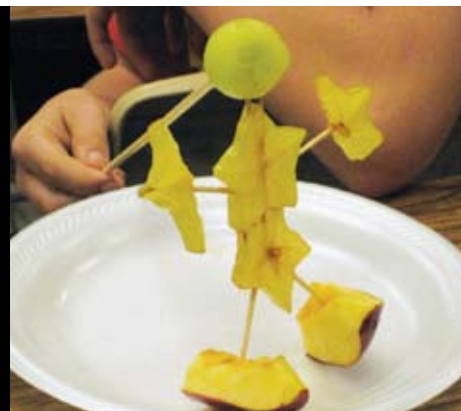
*Candidates for the Phi Chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi await the start of the candidate ceremony.*

## LMU-DCOM SOMA

In October members of the LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) visited Mrs. Jen Bohinc's (wife of **OMS-II Jordan Bohinc**) seventh grade class at Middlesboro Middle School in Middlesboro, Ky. **OMS-II students Stephanie England and Dawn Murrell** gave a nutritional presentation to help finish off the students' series on nutrition before they went on fall break the next week. SOMA members and OMS-II students Murrell, **Jen Ralston, Walter Saba, Damien Morgan, Laura Robinson, Anjali Bhateja and Kyle Gonzales** went to the school the following day to do a nutritional "craft project" using fruit, kabobs and toothpicks. The LMU-DCOM students also talked with the kids in depth about nutrition, healthy eating habits and healthy heart habits.



*OMS-II Dawn Murrell speaks to students at Middlesboro Middle School about healthy eating habits.*



*One of the healthy craft creations made during the SOMA nutrition presentation.*

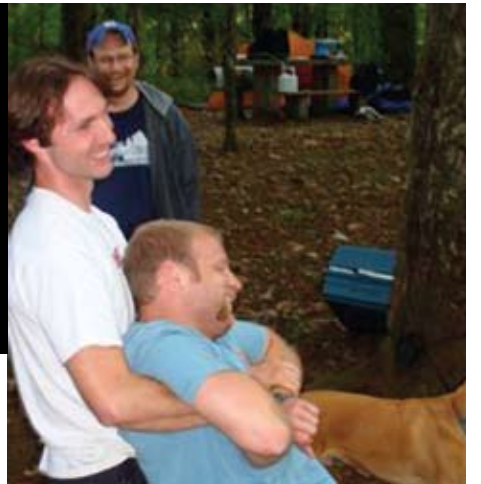
## WILDERNESS MEDICINE CLUB

The first week in October the Wilderness Medicine Club took a camping trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains in Blowing Rock, N.C. Students enjoyed both hiking and rock climbing in a beautiful setting. Stephanie Lareau, a 4th year medical student at Wake Forest and national student representative for the Wilderness Medicine Society, joined the group to give a presentation on Wilderness Medicine opportunities during rotations. The group also practiced wilderness medicine techniques, including stabilizing the C-spine and transporting an injured person who may have been moved prior to medical help arriving on the scene. The group will use the techniques they practiced when participating in the Medical Wilderness Adventure Race, or Med War, an adventure race that involves medical situations in the wilderness.

In August members of the Wilderness Medicine Club hit the road on Highway 63 near campus to pick up trash along the highway. The group spent two hours cleaning up a two-mile stretch of road while enjoying the Powell Valley scenery.



*OMS-I Ryan Rose (standing) and OMS-I David Gates (on ground) practice wilderness medicine techniques.*



## STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The LMU-DCOM Student National Medical Association (SNMA) sponsored a Domestic Violence Awareness Project in October. Club members sold "4 the Fight" bracelets and hosted a seminar on the subject.

Also in October **OMS-II students Dena Krishnan and Faustina Donkor** attended the regional SNMA conference in Nashville, Tenn., where LMU-DCOM contributed the largest donation of any medical school in attendance to the Women's Shelter of Nashville.



LMU-DCOM is proud to unveil its new logo, designed by **OMS-II Owen Vincent**. Vincent, an officer in SGA and in the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA), first came up with the design when SOMA proposed creating an official LMU-DCOM lapel pin for students' white coats. The design proved popular, and in April the LMU-DCOM administration approved the design as the official logo for LMU-DCOM. The school now has two official

marks, the LMU-DCOM seal (seen on the front of this publication) and the LMU-DCOM logo. The logo will be used for merchandising, reserving the seal for formal documents, publications and other merchandise as appropriate. These marks are the official marks of LMU-DCOM and cannot be used without consent.



*Members of the Wilderness Medicine Club pose following a morning of roadside clean-up on Highway 63 near campus.*



LMU-DCOM Celebrates SOMA's Osteoblast

The Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) at LMU-DCOM sponsored the first Osteoblast event in September. The event commemorated the completion of the first exam of the year for both the OMS-I and OMS-II students. The event took place in Harrogate City Park, and students, faculty, staff and their families enjoyed a cookout, music and carnival games including sumo suits, jousting, obstacle courses and Velcro walls. The highlight of the event was the dunk tank. LMU-DCOM faculty and administrators, including **Dean Ray Stowers**, **Dr. Kimberly D'Eramo**, **Dr. Greg Thompson**, **Dr. Mike Seaman**, **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum** and **Dr. Neal Cross** all volunteered as dunk tank targets.

*Dean Ray Stowers gets dunked.*

*Photos by: Amy Drittler and OMS-II Nicholas Perkins*



OSTEOBLAST!



*Members of the LMU-DCOM Dean's Council, including **Dr. Jonathan Leo**, assistant dean of students, and **JooHee Kim**, executive director of academic services, take a shot at dunking the dean.*



*Dr. Greg Thompson gets dunked.*







## 2008-2009 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

### Fall Semester 2008

#### Orientation

July 30 - August 1 (until noon), 2008

#### OMS-I Classes Begin

August 1, 2008 (1 pm)

#### OMS-II Classes Begin

August 4, 2008

#### Labor Day

September 1, 2008

#### Homecoming

October 9-12, 2008

#### White Coat Ceremony

October 18, 2008

#### Fall Break

October 27-28, 2008

#### Thanksgiving Break

November 27 - 28, 2008

#### Last Day of Classes

December 19, 2008

#### Christmas Break

December 22, 2008 - January 4, 2009

### Spring Semester 2009

#### Classes Begin

January 5, 2009

#### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 19, 2009

#### Spring Break

March 23 - 27, 2009

#### Good Friday

April 10, 2009

#### Last Day of Classes

May 22, 2009

## LMU-DCOM Student Wins First Prize In Research Competition

OMS-II **Katherine Sage** recently won first place in the Medical Student Research Competition at the annual American College of Osteopathic Surgeons convention in Boca Raton, Fla.

During the competition, Sage presented her research, entitled "Genetic Analysis of the MMP7 Gene on Age Related Macular Degeneration," which she conducted in June and July 2008 at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston, Mass. Sage's research was made possible through a 2008 DeBusk Summer Research Fellowship at LMU-DCOM.

Sage is currently a second-year osteopathic medical student at LMU-DCOM. She is originally from Grand Rapids, Mich., and received her undergraduate degree from Boston University.

The American College of Osteopathic Surgeons is a national organization committed to assuring excellence in osteopathic surgical care through education, advocacy, leadership development and the fostering of professional and personal relationships.



Katherine Sage

## LMU-DCOM Student Travels To Australia To Present Research Findings

OMS-II **Myles Jen Kin** recently traveled to Melbourne, Australia, to speak at the Australian College of Ambulance Professionals annual national conference.

Jen Kin was one of two international invited speakers at the conference. He presented his research on diabetes and pre-hospital testing of blood sugar levels. Jen Kin also won the Best Oral Presentation award for his research at the EMS Today Conference in Baltimore, Md., in March 2008.

Jen Kin, originally from Kagel Canyon, Calif., is currently a second-year osteopathic medical student at LMU-DCOM. He received his undergraduate degree in Psychobiology from the University of California at Los Angeles and his master's degree in Medical Sciences from Boston University.

The Australian College of Ambulance Professionals (ACAP) is the leading representative association for professionals engaged in the delivery of pre-hospital emergency medical systems. ACAP provides a national platform for policies and representation to enhance the quality of pre-hospital emergency patient care in Australia.



Myles Jen Kin

## Student Laurels



Crystal Lenz

OMS-II **Crystal Lenz** was elected to the position of National Pre-SOMA Director on the National Board of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) during the group's annual convention at the end of April.



Nicholas Perkins

OMS-II **Nicholas Perkins** was elected to the position of National Newsletter Editor on the National Board of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) during the group's annual convention at the end of April. Perkins also won the National Officer of the Year Award from SOMA.



Carlos Cabrera

OMS-II **Carlos Cabrera** and the mural he painted in the LMU-DCOM anatomy lab have been featured in several news stories this fall. The mural was covered by local newspapers *The Middlesboro* (Ky.) *Daily News* and *The Claiborne Progress*, as well as *The Knoxville* (Tenn.) *News-Sentinel* (Tenn.). Cabrera and the mural were also featured in a television news report on WBIR, the NBC affiliate in Knoxville, as well as in the "OMS Spotlight" column in *The D.O. Magazine*. Most recently, Cabrera was interviewed by a journalism student at Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan, for an article in the university newspaper.



Jordan Bohinc

OMS-II **Jordan Bohinc** received the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Welch Scholars Grant. The program, which is administered by the American Osteopathic Foundation, provides grants to osteopathic medical students entering their 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of study at an AOA college of osteopathic medicine. The recipients must be committed to osteopathic medicine, excel academically and have demonstrated financial need while completing their osteopathic education.



Megan Elstro

OMS-II **Megan Elstro** received the 2008 Russell C. McCaughan Scholarship from the American Osteopathic Foundation. The scholarship was founded in 1956 by Dr. McCaughan and is awarded to a second year osteopathic medical student.



Charlie Lieder, Andria Berry and Tim Scott

OMS-II students **Charlie Lieder, Andria Berry** and **Tim Scott** spoke to the Middlesboro (Ky.) Kiwanis Club in May. The three gave a presentation on a day in the life of a medical student.



Martin Clemmons and Lauren Fraser

OMS-II students **Lauren Fraser** and **Martin Clemmons** spoke to the Pineville (Ky.) Kiwanis Club in June. The students gave a presentation on a day in the life of an osteopathic medical student and were invited to speak to the group by Kiwanis member and local attorney Bishop Johnson.



David Heath



Deanne Grayson



Myles Jen Kin

OMS-II students **David Heath, Deanne Grayson** and **Myles Jen Kin** were selected by the American Osteopathic Foundation's (AOF) Board of Directors and the Committee on Educational Grants as recipients of Savvy Student Traveler Grants for 2008. The purpose of the grant is to introduce osteopathic medical students to the AOA Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar and to allow osteopathic medical students to network with members of the osteopathic family.



## Faculty/Staff Happenings

**Dr. Tiffany Alley**, assistant professor of microbiology/immunology, has been notified that eight of the nine items she submitted for consideration to the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) for the COMLEX exam have been approved by the review committee.

**Dr. Mary Beth Babos**, assistant professor of pharmacy, gave a presentation to the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants at their annual Fall Fest in Gatlinburg. Her talk was entitled "The View From Here: Perspectives on Prescribing in Tennessee." Also in attendance was **David Metcalf**, assistant professor of PA studies and director of clinical education for the PA Program, who staffed the PA Program exhibit booth at the meeting.



**Dr. Alan Biel**, professor of microbiology and chair of molecular sciences, presented a lecture at the Educational Strategies Meeting of the Association of Medical School Microbiology and Immunology Chairs (AMSMIC) on "Microbiology in a New Environment." The meeting took place in May in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.



**Dr. Neal Cross**, professor and chair of anatomy, had a book review of *Human Anatomy* by McKinley and O'Loughlin published in September in *American Association of Anatomists News*, Vol. 17, No. 3.



**Dr. Kimberly D'Eramo**, assistant professor of emergency medicine/OMM, spoke at a meeting of the American Cancer Society's "I Can Cope" program at their meeting in Harrogate. Dr. D'Eramo spoke on the topic "Well in Mind and Body." She lectured for the Emory University Physician Assistant Program in June for their Emergency Medicine section. Dr. D'Eramo has served as a guest lecturer for the program for the past six years. Also in June, Dr. D'Eramo presented a lecture and lab on "Anatomic and Postural Considerations of the Shoulder and Thoracic Outlet" at the OMT Day held at LMU-DCOM as part of the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association convention.



**Amy Drittler**, associate director of marketing and public relations, represented LMU-DCOM at the annual Tennessee Valley Corridor Summit in Huntsville, Ala., in May. She attended a meeting sponsored by the Public Relations Society of America on "Pitching Like the Pros" in Knoxville, Tenn., in August and exhibited on behalf of LMU-DCOM at the American Osteopathic Association convention in October. In the spring her essay "A Sensible Place" was published in the LMU literary journal *The Emancipator*.



**Dr. James Foster**, associate professor of anatomy/histology, has been notified that ten out of ten items he submitted for consideration to the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) for the COMLEX exam have been approved by the review committee.



**Dr. Michelle Heinan**, director of the proposed physician assistant program, has been named a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. She also has published a chapter entitled Head, Ears, Eyes, Nose, Throat Disorders in the *Physician Assistant Review*, 3rd edition. Dr. Heinan has also been appointed to the Clinical and Scientific Affairs Council for the American Academy of Physician Assistants.



**Dr. Jonathan Leo**, assistant dean of students, is a contributor to *Atlas of the Human Brain and Spinal Cord*, published in Spring 2008. He also was recently included in a list of medical experts released in the British Medical Journal. Besides a recognized area of expertise, to be included on the list the expert must not have taken any industry funding for the past five years. The purpose of the list is to provide a directory of unbiased professionals for journalists seeking comments on medical research. The list is an attempt to disentangle commercial messages from science and to contribute to better reporting. Dr. Leo also was quoted in an article in the September edition of *Men's Health* magazine. The article, entitled "Was the Prozac Revolution All in Our Heads?," discusses recent studies suggesting that antidepressants known as SSRIs and SNRIs may be no better than placebos at treating depression. Dr. Leo was quoted regarding the chemical imbalance theory of depression. In October Dr. Leo co-authored a letter to the editor published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA). The letter was in response to a study on the treatment of depression in poststroke patients that was published the previous week in JAMA.



**Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate academic dean and associate dean for clinical sciences, was in Williamsburg, Va., in May to attend the annual Virginia Osteopathic Medical Association conference. Also in May he represented LMU-DCOM at the annual Tennessee Valley Corridor Summit in Huntsville, Ala. In June he chaired the American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (AOA COCA) accreditation site visit to the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. That same month Dr. Lenz also attended the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association convention, where he delivered a lecture on "Ethical Dilemmas," and the South Carolina/Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association convention. He also attended the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBOME) meeting in Boston, Mass. In July, Dr. Lenz attended the annual Alabama Osteopathic Medical Association Emerald Coast Conference and the North Carolina Osteopathic Medical Association convention. In August Dr. Lenz completed a week-long National Emergency Medicine Board Review CME course. In October, Dr. Lenz traveled to Johnson City, Tenn., to speak at the GMEC/ETSU "Head for the Hills" CME conference and represented LMU-DCOM at the American Osteopathic Association convention in Las Vegas.

**Nancy Myers**, director of clinical education, represented LMU-DCOM at the annual Kentucky Osteopathic Medical Association conference in Lexington, Ky., in June.

**Dr. Gerald Osborn**, professor and chair of psychiatry, delivered the keynote address for the White Coat Ceremony at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM) in Biddeford, Maine, on October 7. While in Maine, Dr. Osborn also taught in the UNECOM Neurosciences System and

gave a presentation to the UNECOM Neurosciences Interest Group. Dr. Osborn has also been appointed by **Dean Ray Stowers** to serve as the new director of international education for LMU-DCOM. As such, Dr. Osborn will also serve as the vice-chair of the new LMU-DCOM committee on research, grants and sponsored program. **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, associate dean of research, grants and sponsored programs, chairs the committee.



**Dr. Dominic Palazzolo**, associate professor of physiology, has had an article published online and in the journal *Biological Trace Element Research*. The article is entitled "The Minimal Arsenic Concentration Required to Inhibit the Activity of Thyroid Peroxidase Activity In Vitro."

**Dr. Burt Routman**, professor and chair of family medicine, presented a lecture on "End of Life" issues at the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association convention. In August Dr. Routman spoke at a meeting of the American Cancer Society's "I Can Cope" program at their meeting in Harrogate. Dr. Routman spoke on the topic "Communicating Thoughts and Feelings for the Cancer Patient."



**Dean Ray Stowers** spoke at the Sevierville (Tenn.) Noontime Rotary Club meeting in July. **Dr. Richard Gillespie**, a member of the LMU Board of Trustees, arranged the speaking engagement. In October, Dean Stowers spoke to the Rotary Club of Maryville and represented LMU-DCOM at the American Osteopathic Association convention in Las Vegas.



**Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, associate dean of research, grants and sponsored programs, gave a talk to the American Osteopathic Association Health Policy Fellows in August in Glen Cove, New York. The topic of his talk was "Quantitative Reasoning in Health Policy." He also prepared a presentation entitled "Patient Safety at the Undergraduate Medical Education Level" for the Second National Ambulatory Primary Care Research and Education Conference on Patient Safety and Health Information Technology, held in Washington, DC, in October. **Dr. Burt Routman**, professor and chair of family medicine, delivered the remarks on Dr. Teitelbaum's behalf.



**Dr. Greg Thompson**, assistant professor of osteopathic principles and practice (OPP)/family medicine and chair of OPP, presented a lecture and lab on "Knee, Foot and Ankle Techniques" at the OMT Day held at LMU-DCOM as part of the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association convention. Dr. Thompson was the featured speaker at the September meeting of the Tennessee Physical Therapy Association-Knoxville District at Roane State Community College's Oak Ridge campus. Dr. Thompson spoke on the topic "Osteopathic Medicine: The Distinctive Differences as well as the Similarities With Allopathic Medicine."



DCOM Medical Librarian **Lisa Travis** presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Chapter of the

## Faculty/Staff Happenings



# Faculty/Staff Happenings

Continued from page 22

Medical Library Association (SC/MLA) October 26-30 in Birmingham, Ala. Her presentation is entitled "Library Web Site 2.0." Travis was also sworn in as the SC/MLA Research Committee Chair and reviewed poster proposals for the conference. Travis also serves as webmaster for the Council of Osteopathic Librarians (COOL) and will begin work soon on redesigning their website.



**Dr. Michael Wieting**, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP, made several presentations over the summer. In May, Dr. Wieting

gave a talk on "The Cutting Edge of Stroke Care and Rehabilitation" at the Indiana Osteopathic Association 111th Annual Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Also in May Dr. Wieting delivered the Gary Gordon, DO Commemorative Lecture on Excellence in Clinical Care at the Mississippi Osteopathic Medical Association's Annual Coast Conference on May 28th in Sandestin, Florida. In June he delivered a lecture on "Evaluation of Mild to Moderate Head Injuries" at the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association convention. Dr. Wieting authored the chapter "Quadriceps Contusion" in *Essentials of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 2nd edition, published by Saunders Elsevier, and edited

by Walter Frontera, MD, PhD, Julie Silver, MD, and Thomas Rizzo, MD. Dr. Wieting has also been named an Associate Editor, effective July 1, of a new world wide journal, *Current Reviews in Musculoskeletal Medicine*, which will be published by Humana Press. He spoke at the Louisiana Osteopathic Medical Association annual convention in New Orleans in August on "Carpal Tunnel Syndromw: an Osteopathic Approach to Treatment." Dr. Wieting's paper, "Spurling's Maneuver with Extension as a Predictor of Cervical Radiculopathy," was accepted and presented at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine held in Providence, Rhode Island, in September.

In October Dr. Wieting published a review article entitled "Cause and Effect in Childhood Obesity: Solutions for a National Epidemic" in the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*. He also co-authored a chapter in the online Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation textbook on "Manipulation, Traction and Massage" published by eMedicine Corp. Dr. Wieting is the first author on a chapter currently in press in the 5th edition of *Rehabilitation Medicine: Principles and Practice* on the use of manipulation, massage and traction in physiatric practice. **Dr. Neal Cross**, professor and chair of anatomy, and **Dr. Greg Thompson**, assistant professor of osteopathic principles and practice (OPP)/family medicine and chair of

OPP, are other authors of the chapter. At the AOA convention in Las Vegas Dr. Wieting gave four presentations: "EMG Guided Botulinum Toxin Injections" for the program "Musculoskeletal Medicine with a Focus on Electrodiagnostics" of the American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (AOCPMR); "Update on AOA Certification and the American Osteopathic Board of PM&R Certification Process" for the AOCPMR; and "Item Writing Training Workshop" and "Third Cycle Review for AOA Certifying Boards," co-presented with Dr. Donna Surges-Tatum, the AOA psychometrician.



**Dr. Robert Wilmoth**, assistant professor and chair of surgery, received the Reader's Choice Award for Best Physician from the *Claiborne Progress* (Tenn.) in May. In

April, Wilmoth attended the American Association for Endocrine Surgeons Meeting. Wilmoth has also received the AMA Physician's Recognition Award with commendation for a three-year term, and has been appointed to the scientific program committee of the Tennessee Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Wilmoth was made a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons in October.



Josiah Levi Williamson

## New Family Members *continued*

**Dr. John Williamson**, assistant professor of OB/GYN, and his wife, Carrie, welcomed Josiah Levi on August 17, 2008. Josiah weighed in at 7 lbs., 11 oz., and was 21 inches long.

**OMS-II Jim Kowalczyk** and his wife, Jennifer, welcomed their first child, daughter Samantha Lynn on October 10. Samantha weighed in at 8 lbs., 8 oz and she was 21 inches long.



Samantha Lynn Kowalczyk

# LMU-DCOM Honors Students, Community Member



(L-R) Dean Ray Stowers with LMU-DCOM Faculty and Staff Scholarship Recipients and OMS-II students James Kowalczyk, Faustina Donkor, David Heath, Allison Barton and Owen Vincent.

Several students and one outstanding community member were honored at an awards ceremony Monday morning at LMU-DCOM.

**Dean Ray Stowers** named five second year osteopathic medical students as the first recipients of the LMU-DCOM Faculty and Staff Scholarship. The Scholarship is funded by payroll deductions from the faculty and staff at LMU-DCOM. The scholarship recipients include: **OMS-II Allison Barton** of Harrogate, Tenn.; **OMS-II Faustina Donkor** of Accra, Ghana, West Africa; **OMS-II David Heath** of New Tazewell, Tenn.; **OMS-II James Kowalczyk** of Palos Heights, Ill.; and **OMS-II Owen Vincent** of Minneapolis, Minn.



Dean Ray Stowers presents a special recognition to OMS-II Carlos Cabrera for the mural Cabrera painted in the LMU-DCOM anatomy lab.

Stowers also presented a special recognition to **OMS-II Carlos Cabrera** for the mural he painted inside the LMU-DCOM anatomy lab in the spring of 2008. The mural serves as a memorial to the anatomical donors who donate their bodies so medical students may learn anatomy. The mural also includes anatomically dissected figures so that future generations may use the mural as a study tool while working in the lab. The mural has garnered media attention both locally and nationally in recent weeks.

LMU-DCOM Student Government Association

President and **OMS-II Ian Huff** presented the 2008 Community Appreciation Award to **Bob Jackson** of Harrogate, Tenn. The award is given annually by LMU-DCOM students in appreciation to a community member whose outstanding service or involvement has contributed greatly to their success. Jackson has been an integral part of the medical school since it first began interviewing student applicants in the fall of 2006. Two days a week, Jackson devotes his time to LMU-DCOM by driving a



(L-R) 2008 Community Appreciation Award Recipient Bob Jackson poses with LMU-DCOM Student Government Association President and OMS-II Ian Huff following the award presentation.

shuttle bus for the applicants. Jackson picks the applicants up at their hotel and drives them to the LMU-DCOM building. He also takes applicants on a driving tour of the LMU campus and the surrounding area, including the Pinnacle Overlook at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Jackson is typically the first person that student applicants meet from LMU-DCOM on their interview day. Countless student applicants have commented to LMU-DCOM administrators about the positive impression that Jackson has made on them during their interview experience.



## LMU-DCOM Hosts Hospital Day

In early November LMU-DCOM hosted its first Hospital Day, an opportunity for hospital representatives to meet with osteopathic medical students and distribute information on residency programs, internships and clerkships for third and fourth year students. Approximately 63 representatives from 35 hospitals across the United States attended Hospital Day. LMU-DCOM's Hospital Day was held as a part of OsteoQuad 2008, a four-day circuit among osteopathic medical schools in Appalachia organized by A-OPTIC.



# LMU-DCOM at the Country Music Marathon

LMU-DCOM was well represented at the Country Music Marathon and ½ Marathon in Nashville, Tenn. in April. OMS-II students Courtney Carrico, Jessica Chandler, Sage Church, Jamie Knecht, Nathaniel Pavkov, Vicki Sharp, Kathe Supavong and Amelia Wright all ran the ½ Marathon, as did Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine/OMM Kimberly D'Eramo. OMS-II Joel Smithers ran the full marathon.



*OMS-II Jessica Chandler*



*OMS-II Courtney Carrico*



*Dr. Kimberly D'Eramo,  
assistant professor of emergency  
medicine/OMM*



*OMS-II Amelia Wright*



*OMS-II Vicki Sharp*

*photos by: OMS-II Shane McRaven*

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