



COMMUNITY LINC

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LMU-DCOM Celebrates Milestone As Inaugural Class Enters Rotations

The LMU-DCOM inaugural class began a new chapter of its medical education when students began their clinical rotations in June.

Third-year osteopathic medical students from LMU-DCOM will be performing clinical rotations at a number of core sites in the Appalachian region during the next year. These sites include: Blount Memorial Hospital in Maryville, Tenn.; Cumberland Medical Center in Crossville, Tenn.; East Tennessee Children's Hospital in Knoxville, Tenn.; Hazard ARH Hospital in Hazard, Ky.; Indian Path Medical Center in Kingsport, Tenn.; Lee Regional, Lonesome Pine and Mountain View Hospitals in Southwest Virginia; Morristown Hamblen Hospital in Morristown, Tenn.; Norton Community Hospital in Norton, Va.; St. Mary's Medical Center in Knoxville, Tenn.; Sweetwater Hospital Association in Sweetwater, Tenn.; and participating sites within the Alabama Medical Education Consortium.

During clinical rotations, the LMU-DCOM students will spend time studying several medical disciplines including family medicine, general surgery, internal medicine, OB/GYN and behavioral health. Core rotation sites act as a hub for the osteopathic medical students in rotation providing a central location for the majority of these disciplines. Some core sites will be working in partnership with other hospitals or clinics to provide certain rotations to the

LMU-DCOM students. Osteopathic medical students will also be seen in Chota Community Health Services in Madisonville, Tenn.; Frontier Health in Kingsport, Tenn., and Big Stone Gap, Va.; Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center in Knoxville, Tenn.; Plateau Mental Health Center in Cookeville, Tenn.; and Woods Memorial Hospital in Etowah, Tenn. *continued on page 3*



OMS-III students (L-R) **Greg Nieckula**, **Shane McRaven** and **Charlie Lieder** on their first day of orientation at Cumberland Medical Center in Crossville, Tenn. *Photo courtesy Cumberland Medical Center.*

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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.

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Amy Drittler
Associate Director of Marketing and
Public Relations
Editor, COMMunity Linc

A Message From the Dean



LMU-DCOM has seen a number of changes over the summer. Our faculty has now grown to 29 full-time members on campus and eight part-time members. Our clinical adjunct faculty ranks have now surpassed 600 clinicians willing to mentor our osteopathic medical students. And our staff continues to grow, numbering 31 strong as of this writing.

With the start of a new academic year comes the pleasure of announcing promotions of some of our faculty members. In August, I had the honor of announcing to the LMU-DCOM faculty and staff that **Dr. James Foster** (Anatomy/Histology), **Dr. Dominic Palazzolo** (Physiology), **Dr. Craig Lenz** (Emergency Medicine/Family Medicine/

OMM) and **Dr. Jonathan Leo** (Neuroanatomy) had achieved the rank of full professor, and **Dr. Casey Bassett** (Cellular and Molecular Biology) had achieved the rank of associate professor.

Dr. Bassett also has added the title of chair of molecular sciences to her name plate. Dr. Bassett takes over this role from **Dr. Alan Biel**, who over the summer was named dean of research and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) initiatives for LMU. Dr. Biel will continue to teach in the medical school as well.

The LMU-DCOM Dean's Council also has grown. Over the summer we welcomed three new members: **Dr. Gerald Osborn**, who was named associate dean for international and community medicine; **Dr. Greg Smith**, who joined the LMU-DCOM family as associate dean of clinical medicine; and **Dr. Michael Wieting**, who was named director of program development.

Dr. Lenz's new Dean's Council appointment is as Senior Associate Dean, allowing him to concentrate full-time on developing relationships with new clinical partner hospitals and establishing residency programs in our region. Dr. Smith now handles day-to-day clinical rotations issues with our current educational partner sites. He also is responsible for the clinical content of the first two years of the LMU-DCOM curriculum.

Two more Dean's Council members were promoted in their administrative rank. Dr. Leo now serves as associate dean of students, and **Dr. Dennis Kiick** serves as associate dean of academic affairs and basic medical sciences. **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum** has stepped down from his administrative role on the Dean's Council to take over the reins as chair of the new department of preventive and community medicine. He also serves as professor of preventive medicine.

It goes without saying that I am extremely proud of these individuals and their accomplishments, as I am of all the members of the LMU-DCOM faculty and staff. It takes a special group of people to start a new medical school and grow it into maturity, and I could not have wished for a better crew to help guide this ship. 🎖️

Inaugural Class Enters Rotations

continued from page 1

"The rotations experience has a great impact on any medical student," said **Dean Ray Stowers**, "and we are pleased to be educational partners with our rotation sites. This is a time when students get real-life exposure to the various medical disciplines and begin to form their individual career paths. Rotations are key components of medical education, and could not be accomplished without the cooperation of our clinical sites and the physicians and support staff at each."



Dr. Craig Lenz and Dean Ray Stowers (back row, left) join Wellmont Health System officials in the ribbon cutting to officially open the medical student housing for LMU-DCOM students in rotations in Norton, Va. Photo courtesy Wellmont Health System.

In June, Stowers, **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate dean; **Dr. Burt Routman**, professor and chair of family medicine; **Amy Drittler**, associate director of marketing and public relations; and **OMS-III Tim Scott** represented LMU-DCOM at a Wellmont Health System press conference and ribbon cutting in Norton, Va. Leaders from Wellmont and LMU-DCOM joined elected public officials and dignitaries from the business community to welcome the osteopathic medical students, who will fulfill their



OMS-III Rod Sclater and OMS-III Andi Wenner pose with Dr. Maurice Nida. Dr. Nida is a long-time osteopathic family physician in southwest Virginia. Photo courtesy Wellmont Health System.



Dr. Barry Roseman (left), a surgeon at Blount Memorial Hospital in Maryville, Tenn., reviews a chart with OMS-III Aaron Fielden. Photo courtesy Blount Memorial Hospital.

core clinical rotations in Wellmont's Mountain Region hospitals in Virginia – Mountain View Regional Medical Center in Norton, Lee Regional Medical Center in Pennington Gap and Lonesome Pine Hospital in Big Stone Gap. Wellmont invested \$250,000 to renovate a former convent to provide medical students free housing and an area where they could gather with their peers to share experiences during their rotations. Wellmont also has received approval to offer the first medical residency for LMU-DCOM students beginning in July 2010.

"From day one of medical school we have been waiting for clinical rotations," said Scott. "For the last two years I have received training that, in my opinion, is second to none, and I can't wait to start applying all of the information I have learned." Scott is in rotations at Lonesome Pine Hospital. 🎖️

TOUCH Program Comes to LMU-DCOM

LMU-DCOM is the latest osteopathic medical school to participate in the Translating Osteopathic Understanding into Community Health (TOUCH) Program. TOUCH is a national program developed by the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP) to encourage medical students to preserve one of the basic tenets of osteopathic philosophy: a commitment to improving the health of our communities through service. TOUCH fulfills its mission by recognizing the service commitment of osteopathic medical students and their colleges on the local and national level. Individuals with 50 or more hours of TOUCH service in their communities receive a TOUCH pin, national recognition and a letter of commendation sent to the dean of their osteopathic medical school. The LMU-DCOM Student Government Association is currently enrolling students in the TOUCH program. Volunteer hours will be tallied in the spring. The TOUCH program is an ideal fit for LMU-DCOM, whose institutional mission is built around service to humanity. 🎖️

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 (SE AHEC) in conjunction with Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College (SEKCTC), introduces high school students to a variety of health careers. During the camp students toured the Harlan ARH 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 in the LMU dining hall. The campers spent the afternoon in workshops with LMU-DCOM students and faculty doing a variety of activities, including testing reflexes and finding pulses. 🩺



The Harlan County Summer Scrubs Camp.



OMS-III Nathan Hartgrove shows Summer Scrubs camp attendees a skeleton model inside the LMU-DCOM anatomy lab.



OMS-III Stephanie England demonstrates testing reflexes.

LMU-DCOM Welcomes The Class Of 2013



Dr. Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk talks with members of the LMU-DCOM Class of 2013 before their first orientation session begins.

LMU-DCOM warmly welcomed its third class of students to the beginning of their osteopathic medical education at the end of July.

The members of the Class of 2013 were greeted by faculty and staff and were formally welcomed to osteopathic medical school by **Dean Ray Stowers** and **Dr. Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk**, chairman of the LMU Board of Trustees.

Seventy-seven students – or 47% of the Class of 2013 – hail from the immediate tri-state region of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. The average age is 25. The class is 60% male and 40% female. Over 2,339 students applied for a spot in the Class of 2013, the most applicants LMU-DCOM has had to date. There were approximately 15 applications for every seat in the class. 🩺

LMU Library Bringing Medical Research To "Loansome Docs"

The Lon and Elizabeth Parr Reed Medical and Allied Health Library at LMU is one of seven Tennessee Health Sciences Library Association member libraries that will provide access to full-text research articles to physicians across the state of Tennessee.

The participating libraries are part of a pilot project funded by a grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) Southeastern/Atlantic Region (SE/A) and in collaboration with the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA). Participating libraries will assist physicians who are members of the TMA but who are not currently affiliated with a medical library. Participating libraries will help physicians gain access to PubMed, an Internet resource available through the Library of Congress. PubMed has a special "Loansome Docs" tool that helps physicians obtain full-text journal articles from a local medical library. The seven participating medical libraries will provide the physicians in the pilot program with free full-text articles when they submit requests using the "Loansome Docs" online tool.

The project is the result of a survey of health information needs done by an NNLM/SEA funded statewide team that found that physicians often did not obtain current journal articles on medical advances due to time constraints, the inability to identify reliable research sources and the cost of obtaining full-text journal articles.

Lisa Travis, medical librarian, will be coordinating LMU's efforts in the project. Travis has been assigned seven Tennessee counties including Bedford, Campbell, Overton, Scott, Sumner, Smith and Wilson.

Travis was an exhibitor at the 2009 Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA) Convention in Chattanooga to promote the pilot project among osteopathic physicians in the state. The exhibit was funded in whole with federal funds from the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health and Department of Health and Human Services, under Contract No. NO1-LM-6-3502 with the University of Maryland Baltimore. LMU's Reed Medical and Allied Health Library has been assigned the unaffiliated osteopathic physicians throughout the state.

"This is a great opportunity to help unaffiliated physicians while increasing the reach of LMU's library services among healthcare providers," said Travis.

The six other participating institutions are County General Hospital Learning Center in Jackson, Tenn.; Preston Medical Library at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville; St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville, Tenn.; East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine Library in Johnson City, Tenn.; Johnson City Medical Center in Johnson City, Tenn.; and the Medical Library of Erlanger Health System in Chattanooga, Tenn. 🩺

LMU-DCOM Family Continues to Grow



OMS-II Heather N. Capps and Ian M. Gilliam were married on June 20, 2009, in Byrdstown, Tenn.

OMS-III Shane McRaven and his wife, Susan Shakibi, welcomed son Aedan Shakibi McRaven on June 9, 2009, in Nashville, Tenn. Aedan weighed in at seven lbs., 13 1/2 oz., and was 19 1/2 inches long.



Standardized Patient /Patient Model Jamie Duncan and her husband, Gill Padilla, welcomed son Wyatt Lewis Duncan-Padilla on September 5, 2009. Wyatt weighed in at five lbs., three oz., and was 18 1/2 inches long.

Associate Director of Marketing and Public Relations Amy Dritler and her husband, Ben Pressnell, welcomed daughter Harper Claire Pressnell on October 23, 2009. Harper weighed in at 7 lbs., 9 oz. and was 19 1/2 inches long.



LMU Readies Campus For H1N1 Flu



As students at LMU arrived back on campus to begin another school year, a new message accompanied the routine memos about obtaining parking permits and completing class registrations: “Healthy LMU and U: Keeping U Healthy Keeps LMU Healthy.”

University officials debuted the “Healthy LMU and U” campaign during the University’s annual faculty/staff conference in August after months of preparation by LMU’s H1N1 Task Force. Composed of LMU-DCOM faculty members, the “Healthy LMU and U” campaign involves an extensive campus management plan for coping with an H1N1 flu outbreak as well as an aggressive communications campaign to educate the campus community about H1N1 and their individual roles in prevention.

The overall message of the “Healthy LMU and U” campaign centers on disease prevention and early detection. The campus community is reminded to practice good hygiene, including regular hand washing and use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Individuals who develop symptoms on campus are directed to make use of LMU-DCOM’s Department of Outpatient Services. Arrangements have been made for LMU security personnel to escort sick students to the Department of Outpatient Services to help expedite diagnosis and treatment. Most importantly, individuals who are sick are strongly encouraged to stay home until seven days after a confirmed H1N1 diagnosis or for 24 hours after symptoms have disappeared, whichever is longer.

Individual H1N1 fact sheets have been created for key constituencies on campus including faculty, housekeeping/ maintenance, security, dining hall staff and resident directors/resident advisors. Every student has been given a fact sheet and pocket card outlining the symptoms of H1N1 and the key on-campus numbers to

call should a student become sick. “Cover Your Cough” posters developed by the Minnesota Department of Public Health have been distributed around campus, and masks and gloves are available in academic buildings for sick students as needed. H1N1 materials have even been translated into Japanese for distribution to students from Kanto International High School in Tokyo, Japan, who travel to LMU every fall and spring for several weeks to study English and be immersed in American culture. H1N1 status updates and reminders will be communicated to the campus community through a variety of mediums as needed throughout the flu season.

“As a campus we have been aggressive in our approach to H1N1 flu planning,” said **Dean Ray Stowers**. “With the medical school as a resource, we have been able to develop a comprehensive education plan and deploy that plan in time for the students’ return to school.”

The H1N1 Task Force is composed of LMU-DCOM faculty members **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor and chair of preventive and community medicine, who has decades of experience in the field of public health; **Dr. Michael Wieting**, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation, who worked with the American Red Cross for many years of his career; and **Dr. Michael Seaman**, assistant professor of emergency medicine and family medicine, who has extensive disaster planning experience through his service in the United States Air Force and in his career as an emergency

room physician. **Amy Drittler**, associate director of marketing and public relations, serves as the communications officer for the Task Force. The “Healthy LMU and U” campaign was designed to complement the University’s existing crisis management plan, as well as the Claiborne County, Tenn., crisis management plan. The H1N1 Task Force has met regularly with both LMU and local government officials to ensure cooperation at all levels of the plan’s implementation.

LMU’s “Healthy LMU and U” campaign materials are available for download at www.lmunet.edu/dcom/h1n1.shtml. The resources are available to area organizations and schools that may need assistance in their own H1N1 planning.



From Left to Right; Dean Ray Stowers, Mike Todd and Dr. Craig Lenz

Dean Ray Stowers and **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate dean, hosted a visit from Mike Todd, administrator of the Tennessee Medical Foundation (TMF), this summer. TMF is a non-profit organization that offers professional assistance to physicians suffering from chemical dependencies or mental or emotional illness. Lenz was recently appointed to the TMF Board of Directors.

EBCI Students Visit LMU-DCOM



Students from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians pause for a unique photo opportunity inside the LMU-DCOM building during their summer trip to LMU.

Students from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians (EBCI) in Cherokee, N.C., visited LMU over the summer to tour the campus, including LMU-DCOM. In April, LMU and EBCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a collaborative relationship between the two entities.

LMU and the EBCI have been working together for several years to establish an affiliation for the purpose of creating a framework to enhance their relationship, to improve educational and economic opportunities for EBCI members and to provide cultural exchanges between the two groups.

Most notably, the Memorandum calls for the establishment of a relationship between LMU and the EBCI to allow for EBCI members to attend LMU to attain their degree. To this end, the Memorandum calls for two EBCI members appointed by the Tribe’s Education Department to attend LMU on a full tuition scholarship. In the Memorandum LMU and the EBCI also

agree to maintain a proactive envoy from both parties, to explore opportunities for cultural exchanges, to develop a long-range plan to fund collaborative projects and to establish clinical and other types of partnerships that will allow University students to work in all areas of the EBCI including in medical, educational and social-service settings.

The EBCI is a sovereign, federally recognized Native American Tribe operating a Native American tribal government. It is treated as a distinct legal and political entity and has its own powers of self-government and self-determination. LMU is located on former traditional Cherokee land and has operated since its founding with a mission to serve the underserved of the Appalachian region.



(Back row L-R) Professor of Education Okie Wolfe, Vice President for Academic Affairs Sherilyn Emberton and Senior Associate Dean Craig Lenz look on as (front row) Dr. Gary Burchett (R), LMU board of trustees member, reads the Memorandum of Understanding between LMU and the EBCI before he and Chief Michell Hicks (L), principal chief of the EBCI, sign the document.

LMU-DCOM Clinic To Open Doors To The Public



The physicians and staff of the LMU-DCOM Department of Outpatient Services.

Since October 2007, the LMU-DCOM Department of Outpatient Services (OPS) has been operating a campus clinic on the second floor of the LMU-DCOM building inside the building’s clinical exam suite. However, this space was never designed to be a functioning medical clinic. Instead, it was designed to meet the educational needs of health care students.

With the additions of the MSN and PA programs, the growth of the medical school and the growing number of patients being seen by OPS, the time has come to find a larger home for OPS so that the current space may be returned to its intended use.

The new home of OPS is an off-campus facility in Harrogate, Tenn. This new facility will be called the University Medical Clinic, and will be available not only to the LMU family, but also to the local public. All patients who have been receiving services from OPS will be able to continue to receive those services at the new location from the same physicians. In fact, the larger space will allow for many more services to be offered to patients.

The acquisition of this property and the move off-campus is a temporary solution. LMU-DCOM intends to have an on-campus clinic when a suitable new structure can be built to accommodate it.

LMU-DCOM Honors Body Donors



OMS-II Heather Stooksbury lights OMS-II Tyson Sloan's candle during the Body Donor Memorial Candlelight Vigil.

OMS-III and OPP/Anatomy Fellow Stephanie England speaks during the Vigil.

Dr. Neal Cross gives the closing remarks at the Vigil.

In August both osteopathic medical and physician assistant students at LMU-DCOM gathered for an afternoon of reflection and remembrance for the body donors who make the study of human anatomy possible.

The first Body Donor Memorial Candlelight Vigil was held outside the LMU-DCOM building and was attended by students, faculty, staff and guests. The program included inspirational readings and songs performed by the students as well as comments from **Dean Ray Stowers**, **Dr. Neal Cross**, professor and chair of anatomy; and **Dr. Ray Penn**, LMU chaplain. The focal point of the Vigil was the candle lighting ceremony in memory of the body donors. The service concluded with a lone bagpiper playing "Amazing Grace." The solemn event will be held annually.

Both osteopathic medical students and physician assistant students at LMU-DCOM study anatomy, which is the

cornerstone of medical education. Individuals may choose to participate in a body donation program in which they may leave their body to an educational institution following their death to help enable anatomical study.

"Without body donation programs, detailed anatomical study would be impossible," said Cross. "The students and faculty have the utmost respect for those that choose body donation."

Body donation programs, including the one at LMU-DCOM, are administered with great care for the donor and his or her family. All information is confidential, and donors are never identified by name to students.

The recent Memorial Vigil was organized by the LMU-DCOM Class of 2012. In addition, the Class of 2012 has chosen to erect a Memorial Park as its class project. The Park will be located near the LMU-DCOM building and will be a peaceful place for reflection for students, faculty and staff.

Medical And PA Students Help Out At Annual RAM Clinic



Dean Ray Stowers (R) and Dr. Ron Dubin (L), clinical adjunct faculty member at LMU-DCOM, volunteer in the dental area, sanitizing instruments. The dental area of the RAM clinic is historically the busiest area of the clinic, and physicians and students are often called up to help out when the dental area is short-handed.

LMU and Remote Area Medical (RAM) joined together in May to hold the fourth annual RAM Health Expedition at LMU. The expedition provided free medical, dental and optical care to 818 individuals in just two days.

During the expedition, more patients than ever received a range of free medical, dental and optical care. These individuals accounted for a total of 1,443 patient contacts, as patients were able to receive services in all three clinic areas if they so desired. These 1,443 patient contacts equaled \$197,905.00 in free medical services rendered.

RAM provides a wide range of free basic health, dental and optical services to the people of Southwest Virginia, Eastern Kentucky and Northeast Tennessee. The Knoxville-based organization also provides services outside the United States. On average, the group conducts one exhibition per month in various communities throughout the Southeast, as well as overseas. LMU and RAM recruited 277 people to volunteer at the LMU event.

Continued on the next page

LMU-DCOM Celebrates Class Of 2013 At Annual White Coat Ceremony



The LMU-DCOM Class of 2013 recites the Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment after receiving their white coats at the annual White Coat Ceremony. Photo courtesy Welch Photography

LMU-DCOM held its annual White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2013 in September.

More than 1,000 people gathered to celebrate LMU-DCOM's third class of students. **Dr. Boyd Buser**, vice president and dean of the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine in Pikeville, Ky., was the keynote speaker. **Dean Ray Stowers** served as master of ceremonies. **Dr. B. James Dawson**, COO and chancellor of LMU's Harrogate campus, delivered the opening remarks. **OMS-II Melanie McClain**, second vice president of the LMU-DCOM Student Government Association, gave a welcome on behalf of the student body. **Dr. Michael Miller**, president of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA), delivered remarks

on behalf of TOMA, who generously provided the white coats for the ceremony.

This year's White Coat Ceremony included a LMU-DCOM first: a faculty member coating a child. **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate dean, had the honor of coating his son, **OMS-I Craig Lenz, Jr.**, during the Ceremony.

The White Coat Ceremony is a special ceremony designed to mark a student's entrance into medical school. The first White Coat Ceremony was held in 1993 at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and is now a standard ritual in medical schools across the country. During the Ceremony, each medical student is presented and "robed" with his or her short white laboratory coat, formalizing and welcoming the student's entrance into the study of medicine.



Dr. Boyd Buser, vice president and dean of the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine in Pikeville, Ky., delivers the keynote address at the annual LMU-DCOM White Coat Ceremony. Photo courtesy Welch Photography



Senior Associate Dean Craig Lenz coats his son, OMS-I Craig Lenz, Jr. Photo courtesy Welch Photography



OMS-II Jennifer Susoreny-Velgos assists with a dental procedure during the RAM clinic. Photo by Dr. Neal Cross.

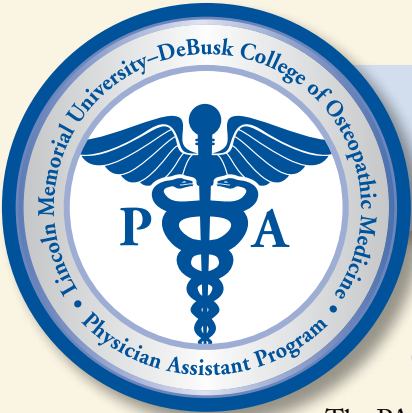
... Annual RAM Clinic

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The general medical area was staffed by local private physicians as well as members of the clinical medicine faculty at LMU-DCOM. Students and faculty from the Physician Assistant Program assisted in the medical area as well. The practitioners saw 572 patients. Among the services rendered were medical specialist exams, osteopathic manipulations, diabetes screenings and education, cholesterol screenings, pulmonary function testing, pap smears, breast exams and medication

assistance. The group will also facilitate follow-up care for any abnormal results found in the scans. In addition, OMS and PAS students did "rotations" through the optical and dental areas of the clinic to lend a hand and gain experience.





New PA Program Underway

Tennessee's newest Physician Assistant program commenced at LMU-DCOM on May 18

The PA Program's inaugural class began their academic career with two days of orientation and a get-to-know-you barbeque in May. The program is a full-time, 27-month program that leads to the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies. The program is housed and administered by LMU-DCOM. A majority of the class is from Tennessee and Kentucky. The rest are from the Appalachian region or have ties to the region. "Our inaugural class really exemplifies the missions of LMU, the PA Program and the PA profession," said **Dr. Michelle Heinan**, director of the PA Program. "Because so many have local ties, they are already committed to the idea of working in this region even before they begin their first day of class."




LMU Board of Trustees Chairman Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk (center) chats with members of the PA Program Inaugural Class prior to the start of orientation activities.

"It is an honor to be part of the PA inaugural class because this class will be considered the 'one' that has set the bar for future LMU-DCOM PA professionals," said **PA-S Brandon Brooks**. "Also, the sense of becoming a mentor to future PA students offers a great sense of pride." Brooks, a Claiborne County, Tenn., native, received his pharmacy technician certificate and associate degree in pre-optometry from Walters State Community College in Morristown, Tenn., before enrolling at LMU to pursue a bachelor's degree in pre-medical studies with a concentration in biology. The PA Program is an integral part of the health professions education taking place in the LMU-DCOM building. Medical school faculty teach many of the PA Program courses and the PA students have full use of the building's high quality learning labs.



Director of Didactic Education Rex Hobbs (right) talks with PA Program Inaugural Class members Sharon Ross of Knoxville, Tenn. and Ashley Ferguson of Kingsport, Tenn.

PA students study cadaveric anatomy on-site in the Anatomy Lab, which includes camera projection of dissections. They also engage in medical scenario simulations in the building's Simulation Lab, which includes a simulated operating room, simulated emergency room, simulated OB/GYN birthing suite and simulated intensive care rooms. Simulations are performed with computerized mannequin patients, which can present with any medical symptom and respond to medical treatment. "With this new PA program, we are setting a high standard of education for our students," said **Dr. Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk**, chairman of the LMU Board of Trustees. "Extra emphasis will be placed on high-quality education in anatomy and other courses taught by the medical school faculty." Additionally, PA students interact with trained standardized patients in the Clinical Exam Suite. Approximately 50 community members are currently trained to portray an actual patient with a specific medical history and physical exam findings for the purpose of instructing health professions students. Finally, the PA students receive training in selected hands-on manipulative medicine techniques, which provides a unique addition to the skills of the PA Program graduates. "This is a fantastic facility," said **PA-S David Evans**. "The technology we have available to us is very impressive." Evans, from Johnson City, Tenn., worked in pharmaceutical sales for many years before deciding to make a career change a pursue a career as a physician assistant. Evans did his undergraduate work at the University of Memphis and East Tennessee State University (ETSU) in Johnson City and his graduate work at ETSU.

The fourth floor of the LMU-DCOM building, left unfinished for expansion since the building opened in August 2007, was built out in Spring 2009 to house classrooms and the faculty and administrative offices of the PA Program. The fourth floor boasts two multipurpose lecture halls with smart classroom technology and interactive video conference capability. As with the osteopathic medical school classes, all PA Program classes and labs are digitally recorded and archived for students' use. The PA Program curriculum is paperless, with all PA students being issued tablet PCs upon matriculation. Curricular materials are loaded directly onto the tablets or uploaded by the students from LMU's online e-learning portal. "We are excited to welcome the PA students to LMU-DCOM," said **Dean Ray Stowers**. "PAs are an important part of the health care team, and by learning from medical school faculty alongside our osteopathic medical students, those collegial bonds will be formed early on." 

PA Student Laurels



Emily Burke



Brandon Brooks

PA-S Emily Burke spoke to LMU's Southwest Virginia Alumni Chapter in September. **Dr. Michelle Heinan**, director of the PA Program, also attended the meeting. Also in September, Burke and **PA-S Brandon Brooks** gave a presentation on the PA Program to the LMU undergraduate pre-med club.




Kenneth Byrd

PA-S Kenneth Byrd spoke to health occupations students at Cherokee High School in Rogersville, Tenn., in September about the Physician Assistant Program.

Mayor Fultz Proclaims PA Week In Harrogate



Harrogate Mayor Bill Fultz and Physician Assistant Program Director Michelle Heinan look over a proclamation declaring Physician Assistant Week in the City of Harrogate.

As part of LMU's observance of National Physician Assistant Week in October, Harrogate Mayor Bill Fultz signed a proclamation declaring Physician Assistant Week in the City of Harrogate and recognizing the important contributions of physician assistants to the health care field. Mayor Fultz attended a special celebration on the LMU campus in observance of National Physician Assistant Week. **Dr. Michelle Heinan**, director of the PA Program; **Dr. B. James Dawson**, COO and Chancellor of LMU's Harrogate campus, **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate dean; and **PA-S Chris Pivonka**, president of the student leadership for the PA program inaugural class, all spoke during the event. National Physician Assistant Week is observed each year from October 6 to October 12. The theme for this year's National PA week was "PAs for a Healthy America." National PA Week is intended to support, celebrate, highlight and recognize the significant impact PAs have made and continue to make in health care. It is an opportunity to promote public awareness of the physician assistant profession and to salute the outstanding growth of the PA workforce. 

AOA Convention

Over 115 LMU-DCOM faculty, staff and students attended the American Osteopathic Association's OMED 2009, the 114th Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition in New Orleans, La. Many of the students took shifts manning the LMU-DCOM exhibition booth with DCOM Director of Development and Alumni Services **Erin Lenz**. While at the conference, the LMU-DCOM delegation was treated to dinner at Gordon Bierch by **Dean Ray Stowers** and his wife **Peggy**.



OMS-I students **Rebecca Justin**, **Bo Hamby** and **Paige Altom** pose in front of the LMU-DCOM exhibition booth. For many of the Class of 2013 it was their first OMED Conference.



LMU-DCOM **Dean Ray Stowers** joined his wife **Peggy** in hosting the LMU-DCOM contingent at Gordon Bierch in New Orleans. The dinner has become a tradition for the LMU-DCOM faculty, staff and students at AOA Conferences.

OMS-II students **Robert Cromley**, **Elizabeth Larive**, **Kim Pham** and **Britton Jewell** answered questions about their medical school while manning the LMU-DCOM booth during the OMED Conference. By far the number one question asked was where is Harrogate, Tenn.?



LMU-DCOM Names Inaugural Anatomy/OPP Fellows

LMU-DCOM has accepted its first Fellows in the Anatomy/Osteopathic Principles and Practice (OPP) Dual Fellowship. The Anatomy/OPP Fellows of the Class of 2011 are OMS-III students **Stephanie England**, **Nathan Hartgrove**, **Joe Jones**, **Anne Kroman**, **Kate Mahon**, **Dawn Murrell**, **Adam Pearrow** and **Andi Wenner**.

Dr. Neal Cross, professor and chair of anatomy, and **Dr. Greg Thompson**, assistant professor of OMM/family medicine and chair of OPP, selected eight students from the Class of 2011 for the inaugural Fellow positions. These Fellows and those chosen from subsequent classes will be intimately involved with the pre-clinical curriculum that is taught during the first two years of enrollment at LMU-DCOM. Fellows will complete their osteopathic medical education at LMU-DCOM in five years instead of the traditional four years, taking an extra year to pursue the duties of their fellowship.

The Fellows have the responsibility of helping with every OPP and Anatomy lab, as well as giving various lectures to the OMS-I and OMS-II classes. Fellows also pursue focused individual research of each Fellow's choosing. The program allows the Fellows to work side-by-side with the faculty. Not only do the Fellows teach in the classroom, they also treat patients under the supervision of LMU-DCOM clinical faculty members.

LMU-DCOM has joined an exclusive group with the addition of the Fellows program. While several schools have either an Anatomy or an OPP Fellowship, only two in the United States have a dual program encompassing both facets. The only other program in the country is at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM) in Biddeford,

Maine, which was started by Cross when he chaired the anatomy department there.



Anatomy/OPP Fellow **Adam Pearrow** works with OMS-I students in the OPP lab.



Anatomy/OPP Fellow **Stephanie England** meets with **Dr. Steve Miller** (foreground), assistant professor of OPP/family medicine and **Dr. Greg Thompson** (background), assistant professor of OMM/family medicine and chair of OPP.

LMU-DCOM Student Club Updates

OSTEOBLAST

The LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) held its second-annual Osteoblast in August to help kick off the new school year. Students enjoyed a meal catered by Heavy's Barbeque in Harrogate, Tenn., and participated in a variety of activities, including a crutch relay race, pie toss, dunk tank and student club fair. *Photos courtesy of OMS-II Jessica Barnes*



Dr. Burt Routman, professor and chair of family medicine, smiles after getting a pie in the face.



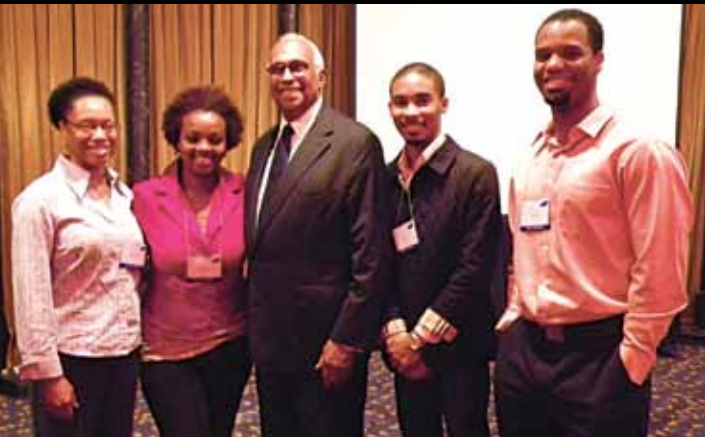
(L-R) OMS-II students **Aaron Levy**, **Ryan Rose** and **Jacquelyn Hatch** pose before the crutch relay race.



(L-R) OMS-II students **Heather Gilliam** and **Rachel Campbell** share information about the LMU-DCOM Women's Health and Medical Society.

STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

OMS-II Angela Thornton and **OMS-I** students **Mekdes Ditamo**, **Jaiden Miskel** and **Elton Taylor** recently attended the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) Regional Conference in Memphis, Tenn., in October. While there, the students attended a lecture by Dr. LaSalle Leffall, a surgical oncologist who serves as the Charles R. Drew Professor of Surgery at Howard University and who became the first black president of the American Cancer Society in 1978. The talk was part of the Bluff City Medical Society's 6th Annual Memorial Lecture. In addition to the lecture, the LMU-DCOM students met SNMA members from medical schools throughout Tennessee and Kentucky and attended sessions addressing healthcare reform, racism in medicine, stress relief and public distrust of medical professionals. The conference concluded with a private tour of the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel followed by a closing banquet.



Dr. Tiffany Alley, assistant professor of microbiology/immunology, takes a turn in the dunk tank.

LMU-DCOM Student Club Updates

PEDIATRICS CLUB:

The LMU-DCOM Pediatrics Club held its first Kid's Health Fair in May. Events included kids' yoga, face painting, an obstacle course, relay races, a summer reading program table and a nutrition table where attendees made "healthy plate" placemats. The Club gave away two bikes, kites, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, books for all reading levels, soccer balls, t-balls, bats, baseball and softball gloves and hula hoops.



EMERGENCY MEDICINE CLUB:

Members of the LMU-DCOM Emergency Medicine Club travelled to Boston at the end of September for the Fall American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP) Scientific Seminar. Attendees included **OMS-II Doug Schiller**, club president, **OMS-II Allison Schiller**, clinical skills coordinator, **OMS-III David Heath**, **OMS-III Jim Kowalczyk**, **OMS-II Chris Perry** and **OMS-II Palek Desai**. The LMU-DCOM students attended lectures, a lab on ultrasound in the ER and a lab with various procedures (including intubation, central lines, ultrasound guided venous puncture and ultrasound guided foreign body removal). The highlight of the conference was the Residency Fair, where over half of the osteopathic emergency medicine residencies were in attendance and students had the opportunity to interact and ask questions to program directors and current residents. The students also had time to take in a game at Fenway Park when the Boston Red Sox played the Cleveland Indians.



INTEGRATIVE MEDICAL CLUB:

The LMU-DCOM Integrative Medical Club had a busy start to the academic year with three events in the month of September. **Dr. Michael Wieting**, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation and director of program development, gave an introductory talk on "What is Integrative Medicine?" to about 70 LMU-DCOM students in attendance. He began with a brief talk on the history of Integrative Medicine and then discussed how it is an up-and-coming field both in research and clinical practice. He described how Integrative Medicine utilizes many traditional Eastern medicine based therapies to complement Western Medicine. The following week, Dr.

Jeanne Reed came to speak to students about her experiences and research in ethnobotany in Uganda. She spoke about the culture, remedies for both people and animals from the local plants, and her experience with the local healer. Dr. Lawrence Prokop from Michigan State University-College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSU-COM) also came to speak to the group about acupuncture and how it can be integrated into a medical practice. He discussed the history, theory and current uses of acupuncture. Because of the positive student response, the club is currently working on having Dr. Prokop return in the spring to teach a hands-on acupuncture seminar for students that are interested.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM:

The Physician Assistant Program held class officer elections for its inaugural class this fall. **PA-S Chris Pivonka** was elected president while **PA-S Kristi Crabtree**, **PA-S Heather Schaubach** and **PA-S Lauren Anderson** were voted vice president, secretary and treasurer respectively. A number of representative positions were also voted on. **PA-S Jonathan Salamat** was selected as the representative to the Tennessee Association of Physician Assistants (TAPA). **PA-S Ken Byrd** was voted external affairs chair. **PA-S Robin Campbell** was selected as American Academy of Physician Assistants Assembly of Representatives (AOR) representative. The class also selected **PA-S Ursula Treadaway** as the American Academy of Physician Assistants House of Delegates (HOD) representative. **PA-S Sally Shevlin** was selected as student historian, and **PA-S Cynthia Ford** will represent her peers on the Student Diversity Committee.

The LMU-DCOM Dr. George Stanley Thompson PA Students Society (a society of SAAAPA-Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants) held a dedication event for the society in honor of Dr. Thompson, who practiced medicine in Harrogate and was killed in a plane accident.

The Society also hosted a drive for Samaritan's Purse. Samaritan's Purse is a program that fills shoeboxes with Christmas gifts and they are shipped overseas to less fortunate countries. The society will also be supporting the local Angel Tree program during the holiday season and plans to adopt several Angels from the local community to provide Christmas gifts.



NAVAL OFFICER DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL:

Four LMU-DCOM students completed Naval Officer Development School in Newport, R.I., this summer. Officer Development School is designed to provide newly commissioned Navy officers with the basic information required to understand Naval culture. **OMS-II Hillary Chace**, **OMS-II David Feaker**, **OMS-III Ian Huff** and **OMS-II Laurie Skaggs** all assumed leadership roles during their five-week training.

While at Officer Development School, Feaker served as Assistant Division Officer for Victor Company. Skaggs served in the color guard and also designed and painted a mural for King Hall. Chace was the Division Officer for Uniform Company, and Huff served as Battalion Commander at graduation. **OMS-II Chris Perry**, a Ensign in the Navy, attended the graduation in support of his classmates. Prior to enrolling in medical school, Perry served as a Naval attack helicopter pilot.

Student Laurels



Owen Vincent

OMS-III Owen Vincent was recently awarded the 2009 Most Politically Active Student Scholarship from the American Osteopathic Information

Association–Osteopathic Political Action Committee (AOIA-OPAC). Vincent is a member of the AOIA as well as OPAC’s Student Chairman’s Club.



Matt Tipton

OMS-II Matt Tipton co-authored a grant submission with **Dr. Michael Seaman, Dr. Randal Batchelor, Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum** and **JooHee Kim**.

The grant is a partnership application with Claiborne County to HRSA. It is entitled “Public Access to Defibrillation Demonstration Project.” The grant request is for \$540,000.



Myles Jun Kim

OMS-III Myles Jen Kim is a student member of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) and has been accepted as a new member of the 2009–2010 Advocacy committee.



Edward Pokorny

OMS-II Edward Pokorny currently writes a blog on the Medscape student blog section of WebMD.



Jessica Chandler

OMS-II Jessica Chandler gave a presentation on the use of “Osteopathic Therapy in Hospice and Palliative Care Patients” to the local Hospice Care board in Larel, Ms.

OMS-II students **Amir Mahajer, Kent Walker, Justin Hare** and **George Cotseones** attended the 26th Annual Southern Orthopedic Association Meeting in Amelia Island, Fla., this summer. The meeting involved orthopedic surgeons from throughout the South. During the meeting the medical students spent an evening with the team doctor of the Tennessee Smokies during their game against the Jacksonville Suns.



Alex Phillips

OMS-III Alex Phillips currently serves as the National Board Student Liaison for the American Osteopathic Association of Medical Informatics (AOAMI).



Melanie McClain

OMS-II students **Melanie McClain** and **Daniel Carr** have been awarded scholarships from the American Osteopathic Foundation. Carr received the Russell C. McCaughan, DO, Education Scholarship and McClain received a Welch Scholars Grant. McCaughan Provides \$400 scholarships to one second-year



Daniel Carr

osteopathic medical student from each AOA approved college/school of osteopathic medicine. The recipients must

be committed to osteopathic medicine, excel academically and have demonstrated financial need to cover the cost of their osteopathic education. Welch Provides \$2,000 grants to osteopathic medical students, entering their 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of studies, from each AOA approved college/school of osteopathic medicine. The recipients must be committed to osteopathic medicine, excel academically and have demonstrated financial need while completing his/her osteopathic education.



OMS-II April Morrison (third from right) poses with other AMSA End of Life Fellows.

OMS-II April Morrison was selected as an American Medical Student Association (AMSA) End of Life Fellow for the EOL Fellowship in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. The program was sponsored by AMSA and partnered with VITAS Hospice. During the six-week program Morrison and the other Fellows participated in end of life care in several settings, including a hospital, assisted living facilities, long term care facilities and peoples’ homes. Fellows also shadowed social workers, chaplains and nurse managers at VITAS Hospice on different interdisciplinary teams to see how each functioned in providing a high quality of life for terminal patients. As part of the program, each Fellow takes back part of the curriculum learned over the summer to his or her medical school to integrate it into the school’s curriculum. Morrison is currently working with her faculty advisor, **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor and chair of preventive and community medicine, to incorporate the lessons into the upper years of the LMU-DCOM curriculum.



Dr. Casey Bassett, associate professor of cellular and molecular biology and chair of molecular sciences, was awarded the Essential Skills in Medical Education

(ESME) Certificate in Medical Education by the International Association on Medical Science Educators (IAMSE). She attended the ESME course at the IAMSE annual meeting in 2008 and successfully completed the coursework this academic year to fulfill the requirements for the ESME certificate. The ESME Certificate is recognized as stage one of the IAMSE Fellowship Award.



Dr. Alan Biel, professor of microbiology, was named dean of research and STEM initiatives for LMU in July. Biel published “Technology

Enhanced Scripted Scenario: A Method for Running Multiple Small Groups Simultaneously,” in the *Journal of the International Association of Medical Science Educators*, vol. 19 (3), 2009, and presented at the International Association of Medical Science Educators in Leiden, the Netherlands, at the end of June. The title of the presentation was “Use of Technology to Enhance Small Group Learning.”



Paula DeMaro, assistant professor of physician assistant studies, attended the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants annual

Fall Fest in October in Gatlinburg, Tenn. DeMaro also attended the American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition in Washington, D.C., in October.



Amy Drittler, associate director of marketing and public relations, attended the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association

Convention in June in Chattanooga, Tenn. Drittler spoke to the Claiborne County Retired Teachers’ Association in August.



Dr. Douglas Fitzvich, professor of physiology, is a contributing author to the third edition of *MedEssentials*, published by Kaplan Medical.

The work is in press and will be released late this year or early 2010.



Michelle Heinan, director of the Physician Assistant Program, presented at the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) conference in

San Diego, Calif., in May. Heinan was a part of the Clinical and Scientific Affairs Council with AAPA. The council presented the Top Ten Medical Stories of 2008–2009.



Rex Hobbs, director of didactic education for the Physician Assistant Program, has been appointed as a Senior Lecturer at The University of Queensland

School of Medicine in Brisbane, Australia. He is a member of the adjunct faculty for the school’s new Physician Assistant Program and will be delivering lectures via teleconference to their PA

students. Hobbs also participated in the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) Workshop “Accreditation and You.”



Dr. Craig Lenz, senior associate dean, has been appointed to the board of the Tennessee Medical Foundation (TMF). TMF

is a non-profit organization that offers professional assistance to physicians suffering from chemical dependencies or mental or emotional illness. Lenz has also been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Regional Healthcare (ARH) system. ARH operates hospitals in Harlan, Hazard, McDowell, Middlesboro, Morgan County, South Williamson and Whitesburg, Ky., and Beckley and Summers County, W. Va. Lenz attended the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association Convention in Chattanooga, Tenn., in June. Also in June, he traveled to the Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association/South Carolina Osteopathic Medical Society annual CME convention and scientific exhibition in Hilton Head, S.C. Lenz attended the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) Board Meeting in Toronto in June, as well as the Kentucky Osteopathic Medical Association annual conference in Louisville, Ky. In July, Lenz attended the Alabama Osteopathic Medical Association 19th Annual Emerald Coast Conference in Destin, Fla. In August, Lenz attended the Louisiana Osteopathic Medical Association annual convention in New Orleans, La. In September, Lenz completed the National Emergency Medicine Board Review Course in Las Vegas, Nev. In October, he attended the Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators (SOME) Steering Committee Meeting. Also in October, Lenz attended the Virginia Osteopathic Medical Association fall meeting in Roanoke, Va.

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Faculty/Staff Happenings

Faculty/Staff Happenings

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Dr. Jared Madden, assistant professor of family medicine, was in Nashville, Tenn., at the end of September to attend the World of Bluegrass convention sponsored by the International Bluegrass Music Association. Madden staffed a table announcing a clinical study of repetitive motion injury in bluegrass musicians. Madden also provided OMT to approximately 50 bluegrass musicians while he was there.



David Metcalf, director of clinical education for the Physician Assistant Program, participated in a continuing education conference, entitled "Internal Medicine: Recent Advances," presented by the Medical College of Georgia.



Dr. Burt Routman, professor and chair of family medicine, chaired the Committee on Evaluation and Education meeting for the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP). Routman serves on the steering committee for the Primary Care Organizations Consortium. He also spoke at the Intensive Update in Family Medicine for ACOFP.



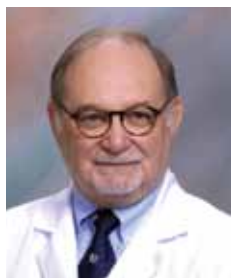
Dr. Gregory Smith, associate dean of clinical medicine, recently graduated as a Health Policy Fellow for the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) in Washington, D.C. While there, he presented a paper on the future of Graduate Medical Education. Smith also has been named vice chair

of the Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education Committee by the AOA. Smith also serves as one of six Board of Governors for the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP).



Dean Ray Stowers was elected to another three-year term on the Board of Directors of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) at the AOA's annual House of Delegates meeting in Chicago in June. Stowers also received a number of new appointments at the meeting. He was named to the AOA Board of Trustees Executive Committee and the AOA's Committee on Administrative Personnel. Stowers was elected chair of the AOA's Business Affairs Committee and was elected to the board of the American Osteopathic Information Association (AOIA). In June, Stowers also traveled to the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association conference in Chattanooga, Tenn.

This summer Stowers and **Dr. Michael Wieting**, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP and director of program development, traveled to Tecumseh, Okla., for their first turn as certified barbeque judges. They judged the "It's a Smokin' Good Thang" barbeque championship. In March, they graduated from a Certified Barbeque Judging Class presented by the Kansas City Barbeque Society in Enid, Okla. The two were featured in a front-page story in the *Enid News and Eagle* about their participation in the class.



The first, "The Status and Future of Osteopathic Medical Education in the

United States," he coauthored with Dr. Stephen Shannon and was published in the journal *Academic Medicine*. Teitelbaum also coauthored "Factors Affecting Specialty Choice Among Osteopathic Medical Students" with Dr. Nat Ehrlish and medical librarian **Lisa Travis**. The article also appeared in the June issue of *Academic Medicine*. Also in June, Teitelbaum was in Old Westbury, N.Y., where he gave a presentation entitled "Statistical Reasoning in Health Policy" at the American Osteopathic Association Health Policy Fellowship.



Dr. Greg Thompson, assistant professor of OPP/family medicine and chair of OPP, is working with the Claiborne County, Tenn., special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team. The SWAT Team is a division of the Claiborne County Sheriff's Department. Thompson assists in mission calls by the team, usually on high risk drug warrants, and serves as both the tactical medical advisor and as a tactical member of the team during operational missions. Thompson is on call and available at the SWAT team's discretion, and serves as the emergency tactical physician during any medically emergent event, such as a gunshot, explosion or other traumatic event. In October Thompson attended a two-week International School of Tactical Medicine training course in Palm Springs, Calif. The school provides quality training for law enforcement special operations units. Thompson's training was in emergent care, team health maintenance and utilization of special operations tactics and weapons employed by the team.

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Lisa Travis, medical librarian, coauthored the article "Factors Affecting Specialty Choice Among Osteopathic Medical Students" with Dr. Nat Ehrlish and **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, professor and chair of the department of preventive and community medicine. She staffed a table promoting the Loansome Doc grant (see page 5) at the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA) Annual Meeting in April in Nashville, Tenn., with Sandy Oelschlegel, Preston Medical Library Director and grant principal investigator. In June Travis attended the annual Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association convention in Chattanooga, Tenn., to promote the Loansome Doc grant. Travis presented four posters at the Southern Chapter/Medical Library Association (SC/MLA) Annual Meeting at the end of October. The titles of the posters were "Investigating Availability of Library Services at Clinical Rotation Sites," "Brief Library Survey To Assess Library Services and Skills," "Characteristics of Study Spaces and Policies on Their Use in Academic Medical Libraries" and "Use of Google Docs To Solicit Input on Renewal of an Electronic Books Consortium Purchase." Travis also currently serves as the Research Committee Chair for SC/MLA. The committee judges the papers and posters for research awards, and Travis announced the award winners at the conference. Travis also received an appointment to the Medical Library Association's Bylaws Committee. The appointment will last three years.



electronic publication. The chapter, entitled "Biceps Rupture," is coauthored

with G.L. Branch and appears in *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, published by webMD/eMedicine on September 18, 2009.



Dr. Rob Wilmoth, assistant professor and chair of surgery, was elected Chief of Staff at Claiborne County Hospital in Tazewell, Tenn.



Dr. R. Christopher Yonts, assistant professor of family medicine and medical director of the Department of Outpatient Services, was awarded the 2009

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Resident Teacher Award by the Family Practice Residency Program at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville, Tenn. The STFM Resident Teacher Award recognizes teaching contributions by residents. Each family practice residency program can give this award annually to the resident who has demonstrated an interest, ability and commitment to family medicine education. The award recipient is selected by the residency program faculty.



2009-2010 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall Semester 2009

Orientation

July 28 - July 31 (until noon), 2009

OMS I Classes Begin

July 31, 2009 (1 pm)

OMS II Classes Begin

August 3, 2009

Labor Day Break

September 7, 2009

White Coat Ceremony

September 26, 2009

Fall Break (AOA Convention)

November 2 and 3, 2009

Thanksgiving Break

November 26-27, 2009

Last Day of Classes

December 16, 2009

Christmas Break

December 21, 2009 - January 3, 2010

Spring Semester 2010

Classes Begin

January 4, 2010

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Break

January 18, 2010

Spring Break

March 15 - 19, 2010

Good Friday Break

April 2, 2010

End of Semester

May 21, 2010

COMLEX Review

May 22-June 7, 2010

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What's In A Doctor's Bag



LMU-DCOM students visited Springdale Elementary School in Tazewell, to present "What's in a Doctor's Bag." Pictured in the back row are OMS-I Aaron Gilson, OMS-II Aaron Levy, OMS-II Patrick Matt, OMS-II Jennifer Susoreny-Velgos, OMS-II Andrew Goins and OMS-I Brennan Boettcher. The second row includes OMS-I Joseph Starke, OMS-II Claudia Montenegro, OMS-II Jennifer Roberts, OMS-II Heather Rattenbury and OMS-II John Venditti. Kneeling in front are OMS-II Robert Cromley and OMS-I Ed Wills.

This fall first- and second-year osteopathic medical students from LMU-DCOM visited students at Bean Station Elementary in Bean Station, Tenn., and Springdale Elementary in Tazewell, Tenn., to present "What's in a Doctor's Bag?" The program is designed to educate children on the different tools a doctor uses and hopefully allay any fears children may have about going to the doctor. Students from LMU-DCOM will continue to visit schools with this program throughout the year.



OMS-II Patrick Matt plays patient while OMS-II Aaron Levy assists a Springdale Elementary student with an ophthalmoscope for examining the eye.



OMS-II John Venditti helps a Springdale Elementary student listen to his heart with a stethoscope.