



COMMUNITY LINC

Spring 2009 • Volume 2 Number 1 – A publication for the LMU-DCOM family

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LMU-DCOM Student Named Rural Health Policy Fellow

OMS-II Trent Howard has been named a 2009 Rural Health Fellow by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA).

Howard, of Cynthiana, Ky., is one of 12 individuals nationwide named Fellows by the NRHA following a competitive review process. The program is a year-long, intensive program aimed at developing leaders who can articulate a clear and compelling vision for rural America. Fellows gain valuable insights and build critical skills in three primary areas: personal, team and organizational leadership; health policy analysis and advocacy; and NRHA governance and structure. This is the third year for the Rural Health Fellows Program. Fellows participate in monthly conference calls on rural health issues and complete a final project on rural health.

The 2009 Rural Health Fellows Program commenced at the January meeting of the Rural Health Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. Howard is the only medical student in this year's Rural Health Fellows Program. Other Fellows include a hospital CEO from Michigan, a nursing department chair and professor from North Dakota and a dentist with the American Dental Association.

"Before I came to LMU-DCOM I was a tobacco farmer and a paramedic, and my undergraduate degree is in agricultural economics," said Howard. "This is a good way to link my interest in rural economics and healthcare."

"We at LMU-DCOM are very proud that Trent is serving as a Rural Health Fellow in 2009," said **Dean Ray Stowers**. "It is important for our students to understand the breadth of issues involved in the rural health care crisis. I know Trent will learn a great deal that he can also share with his peers."

Howard received his undergraduate degree from the University of Kentucky. He serves as president of the Internal Medicine Club at LMU-DCOM. He was recently the subject of a feature story on WATE, the ABC affiliate in Knoxville, Tenn.

The NRHA is a national nonprofit membership organization with more than 18,000 members. The association's mission is to provide leadership on rural health issues.



OMS-II Trent Howard

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



Right now our second year osteopathic medical students are in the throes of one of the most exciting and stressful times of their lives. By the time you read this publication, they will have taken their final exam, gone through an intensive prep course for the boards and be heading away from us to take COMLEX Part I and begin their rotations.

In our brief history we have already experienced some very momentous days and this is another one of the milestones we have been waiting for. Having our osteopathic medical students enter their rotation site hospitals in East Tennessee,


Southeast Kentucky and Southwest Virginia is a moment of great pride for us all.

In the coming months, LMU-DCOM students will be seen in: 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.; Sweetwater Hospital Association in Sweetwater, Tenn.; St. Mary's Medical Center in Knoxville, Tenn.; and in the Alabama Medical Education Consortium in Alabama. Without these clinical partners we could not finish the work we have started here on campus.

The clinical site coordinators from our eight core hospital sites recently visited LMU-DCOM to be oriented to our curriculum, tour the facility and meet with course directors and rotations staff. It was a pleasure to have them in Harrogate, and we are indebted to our clinical partners for taking on the great responsibility of educating our students out in the field.

By sending our students to these clinical partner hospitals, we continue to put our mission of service to the region into action. The student doctors will see the real health care problems of the Appalachian region in real time. They will be in communities that, for many, are close to home or reminders of home.

The rotations experience has a great impact on any medical student. It is a time when students get real-life exposure to the various medical disciplines and begin to form their individual career paths. We wish them well as they leave us, but we will be watching their performance closely in the months to come. They may no longer be on campus, but their rotations coursework will be no less intense or demanding.

Our rotations department, headed by **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate academic dean and associate dean for clinical sciences, has done a tremendous job of putting all the details in place for our rotations. Special thanks for all their hard work also goes to **Nancy Myers**, director of clinical education; **Jody Caldwell**, director of rotations; and **Julie Iliff**, administrative assistant. 

LMU-DCOM Steps Back in Time




(L-R) Dean Ray Stowers, LMU Board of Trustees Chairman Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk and ETSU student Tara Samples display the diploma and commencement program Tara's great-grandfather received from LMU's medical department in 1914.

LMU-DCOM officials were given the opportunity to see a little history when Tara Samples, a junior biology major at East Tennessee State University (ETSU) in Johnson City, Tenn., and her parents visited the campus. Tara's

University to take over the operation of Tennessee Medical College (TMC) and its hospital in Knoxville, Tenn. In August of that year the two entities entered into an agreement, and TMC became the medical department of LMU. LMU

great-grandfather, Dr. Ezekiel Howell, received his medical degree from the medical department of LMU in 1914. Tara and her parents, Don and Tammy Samples, brought her great-grandfather's diploma and leather-bound commencement program to LMU-DCOM to show to school officials. The Samples toured LMU-DCOM during their visit.


In 1905, LMU founder and then Board Chairman O. O. Howard spearheaded an agreement for the

operated the medical school and its associated hospital from 1906 to 1914, when the University ceased operation of the enterprise. 



(L-R) Dean Ray Stowers and LMU Board of Trustees Chairman Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk look over the diploma from LMU's medical department.

Dubin Makes Donations to LMU-DCOM Student Groups

Local orthopedic surgeon Dr. Ronald Dubin from Middlesboro, Ky., visited LMU-DCOM in January to present donations to two LMU-DCOM student groups. Dubin's generosity benefitted the Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) and the Orthopedics/Sports Medicine Club. Dubin met with officers from each student group as well as **Dr. Neal Cross**, professor and chair of anatomy, who serves as faculty advisor to both groups. 



Dr. Ronald Dubin (second from left) presents a donation to OMS-II Joseph Sullivan, president of the LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Surgical Association, while (L-R) faculty advisor Dr. Neal Cross and OMS-II students and club officers Jeffrey Godfrey and Owen Vincent look on.



Dr. Ronald Dubin (third from left) presents a donation to OMS-II Joe Jones, president of the LMU-DCOM Orthopedics/Sports Medicine Club, while (L-R) past president and OMS-II Leroy Butler, faculty advisor Dr. Neal Cross and club officer and OMS-I George Cotseones look on.

LMU-DCOM Recognizes Outstanding Students, Faculty



Dr. Autry O.V. "Pete" DeBusk, chairman of the LMU Board of Trustees, speaks to attendees at the 2009 Spring Gala.

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


The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2011 went to **Megan Elstro** of St. Johns, Mich., and **Nathan Hartgrove** of Cleveland, Tenn. Elstro received her bachelor of science in biology from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Mich., and her master's in biomedical sciences from Barry University in Miami Shores, Fla. Hartgrove received his undergraduate degree in biology from East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tenn.

The Student of the Year Awards for the Class of 2012 went to **Melanie McClain** of Memphis, Tenn., and **Chris Perry** of Columbia, Tenn. McClain received her undergraduate degree in biology from Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla. Perry received his bachelor of science in history from The United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., and a master's in psychology from Walden University. The Student of the Year Awards were chosen by the student body of each class.

The Class of 2011 selected LMU-DCOM faculty members **Dr. Dominic Palazzolo** and **Dr. James Lyons** as Professors of the Year. Palazzolo, an associate professor of physiology, was named the Basic Medical Science Professor of the Year. Lyons, an assistant professor and chair of pathology, was named the Clinical Science Professor of the Year.

The Class of 2012 selected LMU-DCOM faculty members **Dr. Casey Bassett** and **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum** as Professors of the Year. Bassett, an assistant professor of cellular and molecular pathology, was named Basic Medical Science Professor of the Year. Teitelbaum, a professor of public health, was named the Clinical Science Professor of the Year. Teitelbaum also serves as associate dean for research, grants and sponsored programs.

The Class of 2011 also instituted a new award, the Dr. Robert Casady Award for Teaching Excellence.

This year's award was given to **Dr. Michael Seaman**, assistant professor of emergency medicine/family medicine and director of the LMU-DCOM Simulation Lab. The Casady Award is named in honor of former LMU-DCOM Anatomy Professor **Robert Casady**, who was seriously injured in a bicycle accident a year ago and continues to recuperate from his injuries. 

at Spring Gala



***Oms-II Megan Elstro** poses with **Oms-II Ian Huff** after Huff presented her with a Student of the Year Award for the Class of 2011.*



***Oms-I Melanie McClain** (center) poses with **Oms-I students Hillary Chace** (L) and **Patrick Craig** (R) after they presented her with a Student of the Year Award for the Class of 2012.*



***Oms-II Nathan Hartgrove** (L) poses with **Oms-II Ian Huff** (R) after Huff presented him with a Student of the Year Award for the Class of 2011.*



***Oms-I Christopher Perry** (R) poses with **Oms-I students Hillary Chace** and **Patrick Craig** after they presented him with a Student of the Year Award for the Class of 2012.*



***Dr. Michael Seaman** (center), assistant professor of emergency medicine/family medicine and director of the LMU-DCOM Simulation Lab, poses with **Oms-II students Nathan Hartgrove** (L) and **Tim Scott** (R) after they presented him with the **Dr. Robert Casady Award for Teaching Excellence**.*

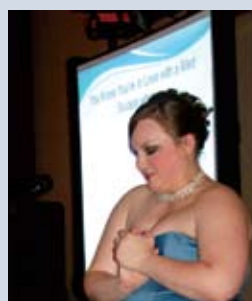


***Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum** (center), professor of public health and associate dean for research, grants and sponsored programs, poses with **Oms-I students Hillary Chace** and **Patrick Craig** after they presented him with the **Clinical Science Professor of the Year Award from the Class of 2012**.*

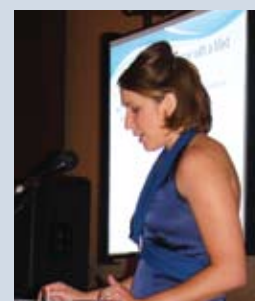
Members of the LMU-DCOM Student Advocates Association (SAA) give a presentation entitled "You Know You're In Love with a Medical Student If...." during the 2009 Spring Gala.



Alarie Ornburn



Catherine Wiley



Amanda Toti

Physician Assistant Program at LMU Receives Initial Accreditation



*Faculty and staff for the PA Program include (Front Row L-R): **Dr. Michelle Heinan**, program director; **Susan Owens**, admissions coordinator; (Back Row L-R): **Norma Wells**, administrative assistant; **Rex Hobbs**, director of didactic education; and **David Metcalf**, director of clinical education.*

The Physician Assistant Program at LMU received provisional accreditation from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) in March.


ARC-PA site visitors were on the campus in January for an on-site review. The program's accreditation application and supporting materials were reviewed at the most recent ARC-PA meeting. The next full review of the program will occur no earlier than four months after students have entered the program's clinical phase and no later than six months after graduation of the inaugural class.

"We are excited to have received provisional accreditation," said **Dr. Michelle Heinan**, director of the Physician Assistant Program. "The inaugural class is made up of students who are from the Appalachian region. The students are dedicated to the Physician Assistant Program's mission of working in medically underserved areas with a focus in primary care and preventive medicine."



*The new logo of the
LMU-DCOM PA Program.*

The Physician Assistant Program's inaugural class of 42 students matriculated on May 18, 2009, with their first day of orientation. 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.

"We are pleased to have the Physician Assistant Program become a part of the many health professions programs at LMU," said **Dean Ray Stowers**. "PAs are a valuable member of the health care team and will help alleviate the health care shortages facing our region." 

New Additions



OMS-II Allison Sharp and her husband welcomed son Beckham James Sharp on December 25, 2008, in Crossville, Tenn. Beckham arrived at 9:35 a.m. on Christmas morning and weighed 8 lbs. 2 oz. He was 20.5 inches long.



OMS-II Damien Morgan and his wife Sheila Marti welcomed Elisa Kai Morgan on April 24, 2009. She weighed in at 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 19.5 inches long. She is the couple's first child.

OMS-I Tyson Sloan and his wife Rebecca welcomed daughter Rachel on December 11, 2008. Rachel weighed in at 8 lbs. 2 oz. She is the Sloans' first child.




Dr. Burt Routman, professor and chair of family medicine, and his wife Debbie welcomed new granddaughter Sofia Dominguez-Routman on December 15, 2008. Sofia weighed in at 7 lbs. 2 oz. and was 19 inches long.



LMU-DCOM Students Bring Mini-Medical School to Ellen Myers Primary and Sharps Chapel Elementary

LMU-DCOM students visited Ellen Myers Primary School in Harrogate, Tenn., and Sharps Chapel Elementary School in Sharps Chapel, Tenn., in the spring to allow elementary students the opportunity to attend a Mini-Medical School.

LMU-DCOM students staffed six informational stations, including X-ray, medical instruments, hygiene, organs, nutrition and exercise. Students spent time at each station to learn about healthy habits. They also had the opportunity to see medical equipment such as stethoscopes and blood pressure cuffs that they might encounter on a trip to the doctor's office. Students received a sticker on their "report card" after successfully completing each station and were granted a Mini-Medical School Certificate of Completion and workbook when they finished the program.

The Mini-Medical School is designed to alleviate children's fears of doctors and medical practices, create a better understanding of medical equipment, foster positive role models and educate children on the importance of preventative medicine and a healthy lifestyle. The curriculum was designed by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) as part of their celebration of National Osteopathic Medicine Week during March 1-7, 2009. Materials for the Mini-Medical Schools at Ellen Myers Primary and Sharps Chapel Elementary were funded by a grant from the AOA. 



OMS-II Kate Sage shows students at Ellen Myers Primary School a model of the eye and explains how the doctor uses an ophthalmoscope to examine a patient's eyes.



OMS-I Daniel Carr (foreground) and OMS-I Lena Yi (background) show Ellen Myers Primary School students examples of healthy and unhealthy foods at the nutrition station.



OMS-II Jamie Knecht shows bone models to Ellen Myers Primary School students at the X-ray station.



Community Groups Visit LMU-DCOM



Students from Sue Ann Bales' anatomy class at Lee High School in Jonesville, Va., recently visited LMU-DCOM to tour the medical school and attend a presentation by members of the LMU-DCOM anatomy faculty and staff. The students also had the opportunity to handle bone models and ask questions of anatomy faculty and staff.



The LMU-DCOM Emergency Medicine Club hosted a helicopter and flight crew from the University of Tennessee's Lifestar Aeromedical Services in February. Students and faculty had an opportunity to talk with the crew and tour the helicopter.



*Members of Girl Scout Troop 465 from Middlesboro, Ky., visited LMU-DCOM in February to take a tour of the medical school led by OMS-I students **Hillary Chace** and **Melanie McClain**. Chace and McClain also answered troop members' questions about medical school and osteopathic medicine in preparation for obtaining their "95 Miles of Adventure – Along Wilderness Road" badges.*



Members of the TNT Red Hat Society of Claiborne County, Tenn., toured the LMU-DCOM building in March. The tour was led by Associate Director of Marketing and Public Relations Amy Drittler. Ladies who belong to a Red Hat Society get together for events while wearing red hats and purple clothing. The tour was part of the TNT Red Hat Society's regular monthly meeting.




LMU-DCOM students pose with the pre-K class at Washburn School after the "What's in a Doctor's Bag" program.

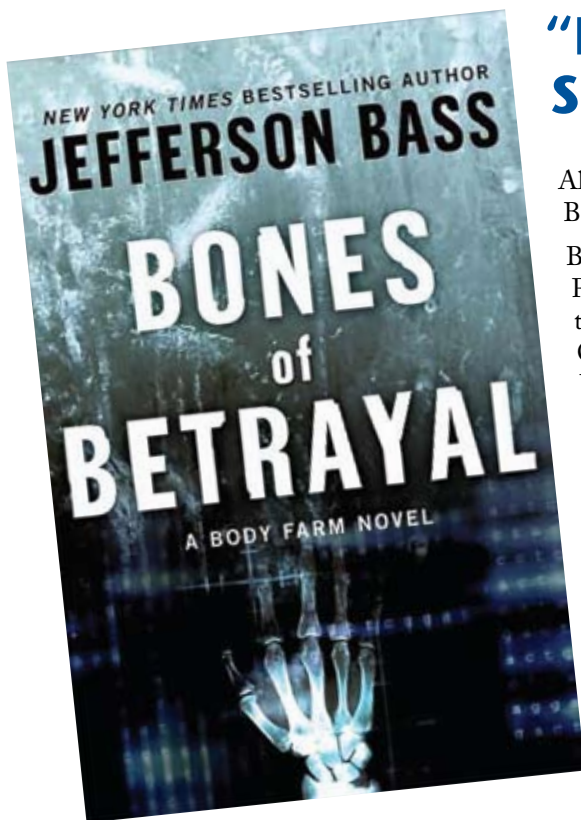
LMU-DCOM Students Visit Washburn School

Several OMS-I students visited Washburn School in Grainger County, Tenn., in March to help students answer the question "What's in a Doctor's Bag?"

Members of the LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) talked to the pre-K and kindergarten classes about various items they may have already encountered or will encounter during a visit to the doctor's office. The osteopathic medical students showed the children several different tools, including stethoscopes, reflex hammers and blood pressure cuffs. The children were able to handle the medical equipment and learn

how the doctor uses each tool. At the end of the presentation, the children were able to try on the osteopathic medical students' white coats.

The students were invited by Kristy Waller, the coordinated school health coordinator for Grainger County. Members of LMU-DCOM SOMA hope to continue visiting area schools with the "What's in a Doctor's Bag?" program to educate children on the different tools a doctor uses and hopefully allay any fears children may have about going to the doctor. 



"Body Farm" Authors Speak At LMU-DCOM

Almost 300 people turned out to hear famed forensic anthropologist Dr. William Bass and journalist and author Jon Jefferson speak at LMU-DCOM in February.

Bass is the founder of the University of Tennessee's Anthropology Research Facility, more commonly known as the Body Farm. Bass is also a dedicated teacher who has been honored as National Professor of the Year by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. He joined the University of Tennessee faculty in 1971 and oversaw the development of the forensic anthropology discipline. Bass founded the Anthropology Research Facility in 1981.



Dr. William Bass (R) speaks to a crowd of almost 300 people at LMU-DCOM as Jon Jefferson (L) looks on.

Jefferson is a veteran journalist, writer and filmmaker whose writings have been published in *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *USA Today* and *Popular Science* and have been broadcast on National Public Radio.

Bass and Jefferson, who write together under the pen name of Jefferson Bass, have authored four mystery novels and two non-fiction books about the work and research done at the real-life Body Farm. The duo's latest novel is *Bones of Betrayal*, a book that sees modern forensic science collide with epic history.

During the event Bass spoke about the founding of the Body Farm and the forensic research that takes place on the site. Jefferson explained the team's writing process and provided some background on their latest novel. He also showed a short video clip from the documentary *Biography of a Corpse*, which Jefferson produced for the National Geographic Society. Following their talk, Bass and Jefferson took questions from the audience and signed books.



Dr. William Bass (R) and Jon Jefferson (L) sign books following their talk at LMU-DCOM.




Dean Ray Stowers (L) shakes hands with Dr. William Bass (R) as Stowers' wife Peggy looks on.

Bass and Jefferson were invited to speak at LMU-DCOM by **OMS-II Anne Kroman**, who holds a PhD in forensic anthropology from the University of Tennessee and studied with Bass. 📖


LMU-DCOM Students Celebrate National Heart Month



The LMU-DCOM Women's Health and Medical Society sold t-shirts in February to promote the American Heart Association's annual "Go Red for Women" campaign. Part of the proceeds of the t-shirt sales were donated to the East Tennessee Chapter of the American Heart Association. The Go Red for Women campaign is held in conjunction with National Heart Month and seeks to raise awareness that while heart disease is the number one killer of women, it is largely preventable and women can take steps to lower their risk. 



D.O. Day On The Hill

A large contingent of DCOM students and faculty were in Washington, D.C. in March for D.O. Day on the Hill, where osteopathic physicians and osteopathic medical students travel to Washington to visit legislative officials. The students were accompanied by **Dean Ray Stowers**; **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate academic dean and associate dean for clinical sciences; and **Dr. Burt Routman**, professor and chair of family medicine. 

Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament a Success

The LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) held its Second Annual Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament at Woodlake Golf Club in Tazewell, Tenn., in March. This year's tournament was sponsored by DeRoyal Industries.

LMU-DCOM SOSA donated \$4,000 from the proceeds of the Tournament to The Dream Connection, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fulfilling the special dreams of children in East Tennessee who are faced with life threatening or chronically debilitating illnesses. Officers from SOSA presented Dream Connection President Ron Rector with a check following the Tournament.

In April, the Dream Connection used the funds donated by SOSA to fund the dream of 13-year-old Cody Harper of New Tazewell, Tenn., who has Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Cody's dream was to enjoy a shopping spree at Wal-Mart.

OMS-II Aaron Fielden, one of the SOSA club officers, was among the invited guests who watched Cody's shopping spree and celebrated at a special party the store held for Cody following the completion of his purchases.

First place in the Tournament went to the Middlesboro ARH team. Team members included Chris Harris, Dr. Vick Kau, Allen Wilford and Matt Gann. The "Sultans of Swing" took second place. Team members included **OMS-II Steven Ralph**, Ronald



(L-R): OMS-I Allison Wagner and OMS-II Aaron Fielden, officers from LMU-DCOM SOSA, present Ron Rector from The Dream Connection with a check for \$4,000.

Ralph, Dirk Doss and David White. Other tournament events included the longest drive contest, closest to the pin contest and putting contest.



DeRoyal Industries once again served as the title sponsor for the second annual Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) at LMU-DCOM. Dr. Gary Burchett (L), vice president of manufacturing at DeRoyal and member of the LMU Board of Trustees, presented a check to OMS-II and SOSA club President Joseph Sullivan (R), for the sponsorship.



Members of the Middlesboro ARH team, the winners of the Second Annual Golden Scalpel Golf Tournament.

LMU-DCOM Hosts Annual Site Visit From COCA

Accreditation site visitors from the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) visited LMU-DCOM in February. The site visit was very positive. During the exit conference the site visit team was especially complimentary of financial services, clinical training sites, assessment outcomes and strategic planning, and faculty

collaboration. The site visitors' report was presented at the April COCA meeting, where a final approval on LMU-DCOM's continued provisional accreditation status was granted. Provisional accreditation visits will occur annually toward full accreditation, which is expected in 2011 before LMU-DCOM graduates its first class.

LMU-DCOM Student Club Updates

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL AND DENTAL ASSOCIATION (CMDA)



The LMU-DCOM Christian Medical and Dental Association held its first Chili Cook-off in March to raise money for the Christian Cooperative Fellowship in Middlesboro, Ky. Approximately 125 people came out to try the different chilis made by students, faculty and staff. Attendees voted for their favorite chili by placing change in the cook's change jar. Prizes were given to the chili that received the

most "votes." In the student category, first place went to **Tamsyn Whiting**, wife of **OMS-II Jeremy Whiting**. The student runner-up was **OMS-I Robert Cromley**. In the faculty/staff category, first place went to the cooking team of **Mary K. Bowen-Reynolds**, office administrator for the department of outpatient services, and **Linda Lenz**, wife of **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate academic dean and associate dean for clinical sciences. The faculty/staff runner-up was **Amy Drittler**, associate director of marketing and public relations. A dessert contest was also held. First place in the dessert category went to **Cassandra Lovell**, wife of **OMS-II Andrew Lovell**, and the dessert runner-up was **Shae Hastings**, wife of **OMS-II Charlie Hastings**. CMDA donated \$250 to the Christian Cooperative Fellowship, which operates a food pantry, clothes closet and other services for the people of Middlesboro.



MILITARY MEDICINE CLUB

The LMU-DCOM Military Medicine Club held its first Viking Spaghetti Dinner and a Movie fundraiser in April. The "Viking" dinner meant that no utensils could be used. Those wishing to eat their pasta with a fork had to pay extra for the privilege of doing so.



STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (SNMA)

The LMU-DCOM Student National Medical Association held its second annual International Dinner in January. Over 120 students, faculty and family attended and over 40 local and international dishes were cooked and shared. The dinner lineup was impressive and included venison red beans and rice, Singapore shrimp noodles, Sri Lankan chicken curry, Ghanaian jollof rice, Thai chicken salad, Indian chole and pani poori and Middle Eastern grape leaves and falafel.



HEALTH EQUITY CLUB

The LMU-DCOM Health Equity Club sponsored the first LMU-DCOM 5K Classic, affectionately known as "the Hootch Edition," to raise money to benefit **Dr. Robert Casady**, former professor of anatomy. Dr. Casady was involved in a serious bicycle accident in summer 2008 and continues to recuperate. **OMS-I Nate Jensen** was the overall male winner, finishing in 17:04:28. **OMS-I Jen Smith** was the overall female winner, finishing in 20:41:00. Overall faculty member winner was **Dr. Kimberly D'Eramo**, assistant professor of emergency medicine, finishing in 24:54:00.

LMU-DCOM Student Club Updates

SIGMA SIGMA PHI



Members of LMU-DCOM Sigma Sigma Phi volunteered at the annual Make-A-Wish Gala in Knoxville,

Tenn., to benefit the eastern Tennessee chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Volunteers gave approximately six hours of time, and performed a variety of tasks, including helping assist with the silent auction and escorting Make-A-Wish children and their families. Sigma Sigma Phi participants included OMS-II students **Allison Barton, Timothy Larkin, Myles Jen Kin, Crystal Philes, Grace Kao, Daniel Anderson, Lauren DeLoach, Lauren Fraser, Gina Miller, Greg Nieckula, Nicole Peretto, Nicholas Pleat, Carissa Sherrit, Amelia Wright** and **Aimee Foster**; and OMS-I **Amanda Saunders**. OMS-II students **Aaron Fielden** and **Crystal Lenz** also volunteered.



To raise money to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Sigma Sigma Phi held the first Mr. DCOM Pageant

in March. The pageant was emceed by **Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum**, associate dean of research, grants and sponsored programs. Contestants competed in the LMU-DCOM spirit portion and the talent portion of the pageant. Talents displayed included singing/guitar playing, skit performance, army training, mind reading and stuffing two Little Debbie Cakes into the mouth at once. In the end, **OMS-II Nathan Hartgrove** took the title of Mr. DCOM.

The Phi Chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi at LMU-DCOM held its induction ceremony in May. OMS-I students inducted into the honor society included: **Hina Ansar, Jessica Barnes, Rachel Beach, Rachel Campbell, Heather Capps, Daniel Carr, Lauren Ciolkevich, Meredith Corzine, Patrick Craig, Stephanie Dalton, Malisa Dunlap, David Feaker, Rachel Goerzen, Katherine Ireland, Aaron Levy, Melanie McClain, April Morrison, Michael Ornburn, Jennifer Ottino, Christopher Perry, Lee Rebecca Ranz, Amanda Saunders, Allison Schiller, Doug Schiller, Karen Selk, Amanda Stephens, Brooke Taylor, John Venditti, and Lena Yi**. OMS-II students inducted included: **Andria Berry, Megan Bina, Brent Boettcher, Martin Clemmons, James Kowalczyk, Rodney Sclater, Michael Slesinski** and **Ashanthi Ratnasekera**. Sigma Sigma Phi is a national honorary osteopathic service fraternity, and its goals include to further the science of osteopathic medicine and its standards of practice and to promote a higher degree of fellowship among osteopathic medical students.



STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC FAMILY PHYSICIANS (SAACOF)

LMU-DCOM's chapter of the Student Association of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians organized about 20 members of the Class of 2012 to participate in the Bell County (Ky.) Repair Affair in April. The annual event, sponsored by Bell-Whitley Community Action Agency, Inc., is a community-wide event that allows home repairs to be made for nearly 20 disabled and elderly in the local area. The SAACOF members were teamed with a group of teens from a local church to work on a home in Pineville, Ky. The home had three or four generations living in it, and was in need of a tremendous amount of work. It was given a face lift with a new coat of paint and repairs to the home's collapsing front porch. It took students just over 9 hours to complete the work in 90 degree temperatures. SAACOF hopes to participate in the Bell County Repair Affair again next year. Participating in this year's event were OMS-I students **Jessica Barnes, Rachael Beach, Robert Cromley, Trasi Crumrin, Steve Gallop, Rachel Goerzen, Meredith Graves, Amber Halverson, Jacquie Hatch, Kelsey McAnally, Claudia Montenegro, Nate Morin, April Morrison, Dorothy Polahar, Ryan Rose, Caitlin Russell, Amanda Saunders, and Jennifer Susoreny-Velgos**.



Dr. Burt Routman, professor and chair of family medicine, congratulates OMS-I Rachael Beach following her induction into Sigma Sigma Phi as Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum, associate dean of research, grants and sponsored programs looks on.

WILDERNESS MEDICINE CLUB

Members of the LMU-DCOM Wilderness Medicine Club traveled to Fort Gordon, Ga., in April for the MedWAR challenge. MedWAR is an adventure race that combines medical scenarios with multiple disciplines such as canoeing, hiking, mountain biking, orienteering and unexpected challenges. Much of what the students experienced during the race, including the course and the content of the medical scenarios, was purposely kept unknown until race day in order for the experience to closely mimic real-life emergent situations in the back country. Four LMU-DCOM teams participated in the race itself, and additional LMU-DCOM students volunteered with the race.



STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION (SOSA)

The Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) held their Spring Conference in Philadelphia, Pa., in April. Eight students from LMU-DCOM were in attendance, including OMS-II students **Jeff Godfrey**, **Crystal Lenz**, **Joe Sullivan** and **Owen Vincent** and OMS-I students **Malisa Dunlap**, **Brittany Lower**, **Michael Ornburn** and **Laurie Skaggs**.



UNDERGRADUATE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OSTEOPATHY (UAAO)

Thirteen LMU-DCOM students and three faculty members attended the Annual American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) Convocation in Little Rock, Ark., in March. This year's theme was "Basic Mechanism of Osteopathy: Balancing the Neuroendocrine Immune System," which allowed both physicians and osteopathic medical students the opportunity to gain new insight to help both in practice and advanced learning for school training. The students participated in educational and social events sponsored by the national UAAO. **OMS-II Stephanie England** completed her one year on the National Executive Council as the National Coordinator. **OMS-II Jenn Ralston** was appointed as a Regional Coordinator for the National UAAO. Her role will be to assist the new National Coordinator in communications to the schools of her region and the national offices.

STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (SOMA)

The LMU-DCOM Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) raised \$505 for Second Harvest Food Bank through its spring fundraiser. SOMA organized a friendly competition among the LMU-DCOM students called "Penny Wars." Each physician who teaches at LMU-DCOM is part of a patient care interaction course in which students work one-on-one with the physicians. SOMA placed a jar representing each of the doctors in front of the auditoriums, which serve as the main classrooms in the LMU-DCOM building. Students, faculty and staff all donated to the fundraiser. Change dropped into a physician's jar equaled positive points and dollar bills dropped into a physician's jar equaled negative points. The idea was to "vote" for the winner by putting as much change as possible into that person's jar, while putting as many dollar bills as possible into the opponent's jars. The fundraiser ran for two weeks, with students, faculty and staff all participating. The winning physician and the students in his course received an ice cream party to celebrate their victory. SOMA plans to hold this fundraiser again during the next school year.

Student Laurels



Martin Clemmons



Ian Huff



Crystal Lenz



Dena Krishnan



Anne Kroman

OMS-II students **Martin Clemmons**, **Ian Huff**, **Crystal Lenz** and **Owen Vincent** have been inducted into Omega Beta Iota, the National Osteopathic Polical Action Honor Society. LMU-DCOM was the only school to have more than two inductees in this year's Omega Beta Iota class.

OMS-II Dena Krishnan has been appointed as the student member of the Research Advisory Committee at LMU. Her article "D.O.ctors: A Rich History and Unique Mission," was published in the Fall 2008 edition of *Inside SNMA*.

OMS-II Anne Kroman gave a presentation on the research that she and **Dr. Greg Thompson**, assistant professor and chair of osteopathic principles and practice, have conducted on cranial sutures at the American Academy of Forensic Science annual national conference in Denver, Colo., in February. The project, titled "Correlation Between Cranial Suture Fusion and Somatic Dysfunction,"

blends two academic fields, osteopathic medicine and anthropology. In March, Kroman presented her research in the A. Hollis Wolf competition for students at the annual American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) Convocation in Little Rock, Ark. Kroman placed fourth in the competition.



Jenn Ralston



Ryan Rose

be participating in a program of 40 students total, and will attend classes and seminars and participate in focused patient visits and workshops.



Angela Thornton

OMS-II Jenn Ralston was honored as one of two outstanding volunteers at the 2009 American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) Convocation in Little Rock, Ark., in March.

OMS-I Ryan Rose has been accepted to the International Summer School on Pediatrics at the University of Groningen Medical Center in the Netherlands. He is one of only six students from the United States accepted into the program. The University Medical Center in Groningen is one of the largest in Europe, with over 1,400 teaching beds. It is also a major research and transplant center. Rose will

OMS-I Angela Thornton successfully defended her dissertation in October 2008 and participated in the May commencement ceremony at Rutgers University in Rutgers, N.J. Thornton received her PhD in biomedical engineering and physiology and integrative biology. Both programs are jointly run by Rutgers and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ).



Owen Vincent

OMS-II Owen Vincent received a national Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA) Scholarship in Education while at the SOSA Spring Conference in Philadelphia, Pa., in April. Also in April, he was appointed to the position of National Public Relations and Website Representative on the Executive Board of the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP) during the group's annual joint meeting with the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM).



Faculty/Staff Happenings



Dr. Randal Batchelor, director of academic assessment, attended the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic

Medicine (AACOM) annual meeting in Bethesda, Md., in April. Dr. Batchelor and **Dr. Dennis Kiick**, professor of biochemistry and assistant dean of basic medical sciences, gave a presentation on “Using Team Exams to Enhance Learning” at the meeting.



Dr. Kimberly D'Eramo, assistant professor of emergency medicine, will be delivering the keynote address for the “Be Well Melrose”

symposium in her hometown of Melrose, Mass., in June. Also in June, Dr. D'Eramo will deliver the lecture and lab on “Solutions for Sciatica, Hip Pain and Back Pain: Diagnosis and Treatment of the Sacrum and Innominate” at the 2009 Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association annual convention in Chattanooga, Tenn.



Amy Drittler, associate director of marketing and public relations, attended the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic

Medicine (AACOM) annual meeting in Bethesda, Md., in April. Drittler sits on AACOM's Marketing Advisory Council. She also attended the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOF) annual convention in Washington, D.C., the American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) annual convocation in Little Rock, Ark., and

the Tennessee Primary Care Association annual conference in Knoxville, Tenn. This spring her short story “To Tell the Truth” was published in LMU's literary magazine, *The Emancipator*.



Dr. Douglas Fitzovich, professor of physiology, was elected as a Regular Member of the American Physiological Society in April.



Dr. Michelle Heinan, director of the Physician Assistant Program, has been nominated for the PAragon Publishing Award. This award honors physician assistants

who author articles that have been published in any peer-reviewed clinical journals during the prior calendar year. Heinan has been nominated for her article “Musicians: How to Treat This Unique Patient Population,” which was published in the April 2008 issue of the *Journal of the American Academy of Physician Assistants*.



Dr. Dennis Kiick, professor of biochemistry and assistant dean of basic medical sciences, attended the American Association of Colleges of

Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) annual meeting in Bethesda, Md., in April. Also in April, he attended the “Medical Biochemistry Education Strategies Workshop” in Myrtle Beach, S.C. At both meetings he made presentations on “The Use of Team Exams to Enhance Student Learning.”



JooHee Kim, executive director of academic services, attended the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

(AACOM) annual meeting in Bethesda, Md., in April.



Dr. Jonathan Leo, associate professor of neuroanatomy and assistant dean of students, unexpectedly found himself at the center of a national controversy after he and co-author

Dr. Jeffrey R. Lacasse, assistant professor at the School of Social Work in the College of Public Programs at Arizona State University, published a letter entitled “Clinical Trials of Therapy versus Medication: Even in a Tie, Medication Wins,” in the *British Medical Journal* in March. The letter pointed out an undisclosed financial conflict of interest of the lead author of a study on the use of Lexapro in stroke patients that was published in an October 2008 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*. Subsequently, editors at *JAMA* called both Dr. Leo and **Dean Ray Stowers** to complain about the letter's publication and threaten Leo and LMU-DCOM. The dispute persists, as *JAMA* subsequently changed its editorial policy on the investigation of conflicts of interest and the public has remained concerned about *JAMA's* response to Dr. Leo's original letter. The story has appeared in a variety of national and international publications, including the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Economist* and *Scientific American*. In addition, it has been a hot topic among medical industry blogs. This spring Dr. Leo and Dr. Lacasse had a commentary published in *Psychiatric Times* entitled

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Faculty/Staff Happenings

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"Consumer Advertisements for Psychostimulants in the United States: A Long Record of Misleading Promotion." In April, Dr. Leo attended the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) annual meeting in Bethesda, Md. Also in April, Dr. Leo had a new book published. Leo is the co-editor of *Rethinking ADHD: From Brain to Culture*. In the past decade, there have been an increasing number of authors who have written about ADHD from a critical perspective, but each has focused on his or her own area of interest. This book brings together a variety of critical perspectives, with each contribution dealing with a particular issue, from culture to genetics and drug companies to nutrition.



Dr. Craig Lenz, senior associate academic dean and associate dean for clinical sciences, participated in an American Osteopathic Association-

Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institution (AOA-OPTI) site visit to Touro University in Nevada in January and attended the AOA OME/CME Sponsors Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. He also attended the AOA's Osteopathic Medical Education Leadership Conference, as well as a Council on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) workshop for college evaluators. In February, Dr. Lenz traveled to Texas to participate in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaffirmation site visit of Texas Chiropractic College. In March, he attended the annual American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFPP) conference in Washington, D.C. While there, Dr. Lenz accompanied LMU-DCOM students during D.O. Day on the Hill. That same month Dr. Lenz participated in the COCA site visit to Touro University in New York. In April, he attended the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) annual meeting in Bethesda, Md., and participated in that group's COM Day on the Hill. He also attended the Association of Osteopathic Directors and Medical Educators (AODME)

meeting in Seattle, Wash., and the Tennessee Primary Care Association annual conference in Knoxville, Tenn.

Nancy Myers, director of clinical education, attended the Virginia Osteopathic Medical Association annual convention in Williamsburg, Va., in April.



Pat Peace, director of financial services, has been named an Honorary Recruiter by the Air Force Recruiting Service. In Fall 2008,

Peace was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Air Force.



Dr. Burt Routman, professor and chair of family medicine, attended the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians

(ACOFPP) annual convention in Washington, D.C., in March. While there, Dr. Routman accompanied LMU-DCOM students during D.O. Day on the Hill.



Dean Ray Stowers attended the National Rural Health Association meeting in Washington, D.C., in January. In February, Dean Stowers, along

with **Dr. Craig Lenz**, senior associate academic dean and associate dean of clinical sciences, made a presentation about LMU-DCOM to the Tennessee state House Health and Human Resources Committee at the state capitol in Nashville. They were invited to speak by Rep. Mike Harrison (R-Rogersville). In March, he attended the annual American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFPP) convention in

Washington, D.C. While there, Dr. Stowers accompanied LMU-DCOM students during D.O. Day on the Hill. Also in March, Dean Stowers, along with **Dr. Michael Wieting**, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP, graduated from a Certified Barbeque Judging Class presented by the Kansas City Barbeque Society in Enid, Okla. Stowers and Wieting, both Oklahoma natives and barbeque enthusiasts, were featured in a front-page story in the *Enid News and Eagle* on their participation in the class. The pair have already been invited to serve as judges in a contest later this summer. In April, he attended the annual Oklahoma Osteopathic Association convention in Oklahoma City.



Dr. Howard S. Teitelbaum, associate dean of research, grants and sponsored programs, is the lead author of an article that will be published in

the June issue of *Academic Medicine*. The article, "Factors affecting specialty choice among osteopathic medical students," is co-authored by Medical Librarian **Lisa Travis**. In June, Dr. Teitelbaum will present a "STD update" at the 2009 Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association annual convention in Chattanooga, Tenn. Dr. Teitelbaum also received the Railsplitter Award from the LMU Athletics Department. The award is given to a person who goes above and beyond the call of duty in their support of the athletics program. Dr. Teitelbaum serves as the team physician for the LMU soccer teams.



Dr. Greg Thompson, assistant professor of OPP/family medicine and chair of OPP, attended the American Academy of Osteopathy annual convocation in Little Rock, Ark., in

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March and the Educational Council on Osteopathic Principles (ECOP) meeting in April. In May he spoke to the Harlan, Ky., chapter of the Kentucky Medical Association. Dr. Thompson will present the "Cervical and Lumbar" lecture and lab at the June 2009 Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association annual convention in Chattanooga, Tenn.


Lisa Travis, medical librarian, has been appointed the Research Committee Chair for the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association. Her term runs through 2010. She made a brief presentation and submitted a poster at the Medical Library Association conference

in May in Honolulu, Hawaii. The presentation was on the Reed Medical and Allied Health Library web site. The poster is entitled "Using Google Docs to Solicit Input on Renewal of an Electronic Books Consortial Renewal." Travis also currently serves as a librarian selector for nursing theory for *Doody's Core Titles 2009* and is the webmaster for Medical Library Association's Osteopathic Libraries Special Interest Group website. Travis, along with Elaine Powers, director of library services for the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Blacksburg, Va., created a wiki for the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine's (AACOM)

Council of Osteopathic Librarians (COOL) and coauthored a poster on the wiki.




Dr. Michael Wieting, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation/OPP, will present a lecture on "Pain Control for Cancer Patients" at the

June 2009 Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association annual convention in Chattanooga, Tenn. 

LMU-DCOM Announces 2009 DeBusk Summer Research Fellows

A new round of DeBusk Summer Research Fellows have been selected for 2009. Selected students include: **Douglass** and **Allison Schiller**, for "Long term effects of mild induced hypothermia on out-of-hospital cardiac arrest;" **Sangjin Lim**, for "Development of a microplate assay to monitor Huntington Peptide Fibrillization;" **Karen Selk**, for "The role of c-Myc in the rapid proliferation rates of the rat insulinoma line, INS-1

and RINm5f;" **Phillip Penny**, for "Targeting osteocyte differentiation;" **David Nguyen**, for "The study of vancomycin utilization before and after implementation of a rapid PCR diagnostic for detection of methicillin staph infections;" and **Amanda Saunders**, for "TrialNet natural history study of the development of type 1 diabetes." 



Douglass Schiller



Allison Schiller



Sangjin Lim



Karen Selk



Phillip Penny



David Nguyen



Amanda Saunders

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LMU-DCOM Runners Take On The Flying Pig

A large contingent of LMU-DCOM students travelled to Cincinnati, Ohio, in early May for the annual Flying Pig Marathon. Other races are held in conjunction with the event, including a 5K, a 10K and a half marathon. LMU-DCOM runners ran in all the available races, and some competed in more than one. Runners included OMS-I students **Katelyn Bonar, Rachel Goerzen, Amber Halverson, Elizabeth McLean, Lucas Meadors, April Morrison, Ryan Rose, Caitlin Russell, Laurie Skaggs, Jennifer Smith, Dina Wilson** and **Zachary Zanfes** and OMS-II students **Anne Kroman** and **Crystal Lenz**.



LMU-DCOM Students Zachary Zanfes, Rachel Goerzen, April Morrison, Lucas Meadors and Anne Kroman pose following the Flying Pig Marathon event in Cincinnati.



OMS-I Amber Halverson poses with her medal after completing the half marathon at the Flying Pig Marathon event in Cincinnati.