Welcome Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2015

The HPF Class of 2015 met at the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine for Orientation August 20-24 for an introduction to the policy-making and political processes as well as an overview of the key cost, access, and quality issues that impact healthcare. For biosketches, click here.

Back row: Mara Hover, D.O. (AZ); John Sealey, D.O. (MI); Tess Poland, MSN (IL); Juan Acosta, D.O. (WA); Darren Sommer, D.O. (OH); Shane Speights, D.O. (AR); John Dougherty, D.O. (MO).

Keynote speaker Jerry J. Rodos, D.O., DSc., (left) explains the legislative process, joined by Barbara Ross-Lee, D.O., Director of the HPF, and Norman Gevitz, Ph.D., HPF faculty and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at ATSU.
Craig Boisvert, DO, HPF Class of 2007, was named Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) July 23, 2014. As Dean, Dr. Boisvert now represents WVSOM on the AACOM Board of Deans (BOD). Dr. Boisvert succeeds Lorenzo L. Pence, DO, HPF Class of 1997, who stepped down as WVSOM's Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean to take on the role of Vice President for Graduate Medical Education and Rural Outreach. (Inside OME August 2014July/August 2014 - Vol. 8, No. 7/8)

Dr. Boisvert is a graduate of the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is board certified in Family Practice by the AOA. Dr. Boisvert is Professor of Family Medicine and Chair of the Clinical Sciences Division at WVSOM. He is on the active Family Practice staff of the Robert C. Byrd Clinic in Lewisburg, WV, and on the Affiliate Staff of the Greenbrier Valley Medical Center in Ronceverte, WV.
Cynthia Kelley, D.O., appointed to the AOA Committee on Osteopathic Education

July 2014. AOA President Bob Juhasz, D.O. appointed Cynthia Kelley, D.O., HPF Class of 2014, to the AOA Committee on Osteopathic Education. Dr. Kelley's provided her health policy brief, *Impacts of the Single Accreditation Agreement on GME Governance and the Physician Workforce*, to the AOA House of Delegates Special Reference Committee for Single Accreditation System in July to provide background information as they considered resolutions about this issue. The brief was also distributed to all House of Delegates members. HPF graduates Ronnie Martin, D.O., Shannon Scott, D.O., and Rob Hunter, D.O., served on the reference committee.

Dr. Kelley received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OUHCOM) in 2001. Dr. Kelley has been an associate director at the Summa Akron City Family Medicine program for the past nine years. In 2012, she also became the Osteopathic Director of Medical Education at Summa. She also holds faculty positions (clinical assistant professor and assistant professor) at OUHCOM and NEOMED, respectively.
Jennifer Gwilym, D.O., appointed to the AOA Committee on Osteopathic College Accreditation

July 2014. AOA President Bob Juhasz, D.O. appointed Jennifer Gwilym, D.O., HPF Class of 2013, to the Committee on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) for a three-year term. Dr. Gwilym is Assistant Professor Family Medicine OU-HCOM and Family Medicine Residency Program Director Adena Regional Medical Center.

According to the AOA website, COCA "serves the public by establishing, maintaining, and applying accreditation standards and procedures to ensure that academic quality and continuous quality improvement delivered by the colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) reflect the evolving practice of osteopathic medicine. The scope of the COCA encompasses the accreditation of the COMs." [http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/accreditation/predoctoral%20accreditation/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/accreditation/predoctoral%20accreditation/Pages/default.aspx)

Other HPF graduates on the 17-member COCA committee include John Bulger, D.O., MBA; Alissa P. Craft, DO, MBA; Bruce D. Dubin, DO, JD; Paul E. LaCasse, DO, MPH; and Ronnie B. Martin, DO, FACOFP.
IOM Releases Report on the Governance and Financing of Graduate Medical Education

Dr. Barbara Ross-Lee, D.O., Vice President of Health Sciences at NYIT and Director of the Health Policy Fellowship and Training in Policy Studies Program, is a member of an Institute of Medicine committee tasked with reviewing the governance and financing of graduate medical education (GME). Last week the committee released its report, *Graduate Medical Education That Meets the Nation's Health Needs*.

As the IOM web site explains, "the 21-member IOM committee concludes that there is an unquestionable imperative to assess and optimize the effectiveness of the public’s investment in GME . . . . The committee recommends significant changes to GME financing and governance to address current deficiencies and better shape the physician workforce for the future. The IOM report provides an initial roadmap for reforming the Medicare GME payment system and building an infrastructure that can drive more strategic investment in the nation’s physician workforce."
Ira Monka, D.O. Elected Third Vice President to the American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees

(CHICAGO) — Ira P. Monka, DO, Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2004, of Cedar Knolls, New Jersey, was elected third vice president of the Board of Trustees for the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). Dr. Monka, an AOA board-certified family physician, was elected during the AOA’s Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates in Chicago.

“As a primary care physician, I strive to connect with my patients and form a partnership as they work to achieve a healthy lifestyle,” says Dr. Monka. “I look forward to building a similar partnership with leadership as we work to achieve a strong and vibrant osteopathic medical profession.”

A fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, Dr. Monka practices at the Medical Institute of New Jersey in Cedar Knolls. He has been named a “Top Doc” by New Jersey Monthly Magazine for several years, including in 2013.

Prior to being elected third vice president, Dr. Monka served the AOA in other capacities including member of the Bureau of State Government Affairs and program chair for OMED 2012 – the Osteopathic Medical Conference & Exposition. He is past president of the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Monka earned his osteopathic medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - School of Osteopathic Medicine in Stratford, which became part of Rowan University as the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine in July 2013.
He completed an internship at the former Humana Hospital in South Broward, Florida, where he served as chief resident, and a residency at what is now Overlook Medical Center in Union, New Jersey.  *(Press release from the AOA July 20, 2014)*

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**Juan F. Acosta, DO, MS, FACOEP-D, FACEP, Appointed to WA Board of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons**

Washington state Governor Jay Inslee appointed Juan Acosta, D.O., to the Osteopathic Board of Medicine and Surgery for a five year term ending in 2019. Dr. Acosta is Assistant Dean of Post Graduate Medical Education, Director of Clinical Rotations and Director of Medical Education - Yakima at the Pacific Northwest College of Osteopathic Medicine (PNWU).

According to the PNWU web site, Dr. Acosta earned his DO degree from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his internship and residency in emergency medicine at St. Barnabas Hospital in New York. He relocated to Yakima from New York City in May 2009 to join the faculty at PNWU. His teaching interests include emergency medicine and cardiac care certification.

Dr. Acosta is a member of the Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2015.

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**Alissa Craft, D.O., MBA, appointed Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at NYIT-COM**

(July 9, 2014) The New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine announced the appointment of Alissa Craft, D.O., MBA, as the new Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Dean Wolfgang Gilliar, D.O., HPF Class of 2007, described Dr. Craft as “an impressive candidate with extensive experience in medical education, patient care, and health policy.”

Dr. Craft, a board-certified and fellowship-trained neonatologist, received her medical degree from A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Craft completed her pediatrics residency at the Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona, where she also served as the Program’s Chief Resident. Dr. Craft has completed a fellowship in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine at the Naval Medical Center, San Diego and a fellowship in Neonatal–Perinatal Medicine at the University of California at San Diego.
Dr. Craft is a graduate of the Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2011. Dr. Craft was the Scholar in Residence at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine in 2011. Dr. Craft is the recipient of numerous awards both in medical education and clinical practice.

George Mychaskiw, DO, appointed Dean and Chief Academic Officer of Newly Formed Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine in New Mexico

On July 14th, New Mexico State University, NMSU’s Arrowhead Center and the newly formed Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine announced a partnership to create the state’s newest medical school on the NMSU campus.

"Osteopathic medicine, with its emphasis on primary care and community-based medicine, offers an ideal strategy to address physician workforce and health care needs of the Borderplex. Additionally, by facilitating the pathway of education from grade school through high school, college and medical school, we hope to increase physician diversity and deliver more culturally competent care in the region,” said George Mychaskiw, DO, Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2007, chief academic officer and dean of BCOM.

Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine at New Mexico State University will be a freestanding, privately funded, separately licensed and independently operated entity. No taxpayer dollars will go toward its operation. BCOM’s initial capital investment in the project is approximately $85 million.

BCOM has already submitted its pre-accreditation application to the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation and will submit an application to New Mexico’s Higher Education Department, private schools division. BCOM’s goal is to admit its first class in August 2016.

Dr. Mychaskiw completed medical school at the University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City and completed his internship and residency in anesthesiology at the Yale University School of Medicine.


JAOA features Impact of the Single Accreditation Agreement on GME Governance and the Physician Workforce by Cynthia Kelley, D.O., HPF Class of 2014

Cynthia Kelley's health policy issue analysis brief, Impact of the Single Accreditation Agreement on GME Governance and the Physician Workforce, is the featured article in the June edition of the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA). Dr. Kelley summarizes the history of graduate medical education in the US, explains the reasons behind the February 2014 agreement between ACGME, the AOA, and AACOM to unify residency training, and explores the potential ramifications of a unified system on osteopathic medicine and on access to care.

Dr. Kelley received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from
Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OUHCOM) in 2001. She completed her internship and residency training at the Summa Akron City Hospital’s Family Medicine Residency program in 2004. In 2006, Cindy completed a fellowship in academic medicine at Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED). Dr. Kelley is board certified in Family Medicine by the American Board of Osteopathic Family Medicine and the American Board of Family Medicine.

Upon graduation from residency, Cindy joined Summa’s faculty and has been an associate director at the Summa Akron City Family Medicine program for the past nine years. In 2012, she also became the Osteopathic Director of Medical Education at Summa. She also holds faculty positions (clinical assistant professor and assistant professor) at OUHCOM and NEOMED, respectively.

Access Dr. Kelley's article here.

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**Health Policy Fellows Nominated to National Committees and Advisory Boards**

According to *Inside OME (6/30/14)*, AACOM has nominated the following HPF grads to 2014 seats on national advisory boards and committees at Health and Human Services:


(Below left) Thomas E. McWilliams, DO (ATSU-SOMA) (AACOM letter of support on 5/30/2014) and (below right) Lorenzo L. Pence, DO (WVSOM) to Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
HPF grads nominated in previous years to serve on boards include John B. Bulger, DO, MBA: National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality and the Workgroup for Quality Indicator Measure Specification at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); D. Keith Watson, DO (PNWU) to the Council on Graduate Medical Education at HRSA (currently serving); and Thomas E. McWilliams, DO (ATSU-SOMA), Kenneth J. Steier, DO, MBA, MHA, MPH, MGH (TouroCOM-NY), and Terrence Mulligan DO, MP to the National Advisory Council on the National Health Service Corps at HRSA. For more information access Inside OME.

Jeanne Rupert, D.O., Ph.D., Appointed to Bree Collaborative

Jeanne Rupert, D.O., Ph.D., HPF Class of 2014, was appointed by Washington Governor Jay Inslee to the Bree Collaborative on June 20, 2014. According to their web site, "the Washington State Legislature established the Dr. Robert Bree Collaborative in 2011 so that public and private health care stakeholders would have the opportunity to identify specific ways to improve health care quality, outcomes, and affordability in Washington State. These stakeholders are appointed by the Governor and represent public health care purchasers for Washington State, private health care purchasers (employers and union trusts), health plans, physicians and other health care providers, hospitals, and quality improvement organizations" with the goal of "working to identify and promote strategies that improve patient health outcomes, health care service quality, and the affordability of health care." More information about the collaborative is available at http://www.breecollaborative.org/about/

Dr. Rupert was also elected last week as District 1 Trustee to the Washington Osteopathic
Amanda Weaver Receives Honorary Degree from SOMA

Amanda Weaver, MBA, HPF Class of 2001, received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (SOMA) of AT Still University, for her service to the osteopathic profession as Director of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association (AOMA). The degree is the first of its kind given by the school. ATSU-SOMA Dean Kay Kalousek and ATSU-SOMA President Craig Phelps join Ms. Weaver at the ceremony (above).

Ms. Weaver has served as Executive Director of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association since 1996 and will retire at the end of June after eighteen years of service to the association. The Health Policy Fellowship extends congratulations on the honorary degree as well as sincere appreciation for AOMA’s consistent support of Health Policy Fellows from Arizona during Ms. Weaver’s directorship.

Health Policy Fellows Visit Congressional Offices on Capitol Hill

The HPF Class of 2014 ended their Fellowship year with a June trip to Washington DC where they visited their Senators' and Representatives' offices on Capitol Hill to offer their services as resources for health policy issues. Pamela Grimaldi, D.O., shared her research on the impact of cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) with Representative Jim McGovern (MA-02), who has a keen interest in food insecurity issues (left).

Health Policy Fellows Present Policy Posters at OMED 2014

Four graduates of the Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2014 presented policy posters at OMED 2014. From left to right: Monte Mitchell, D.O., JD, was awarded Honorable mention for his presentation, All-Payer Claims Database: Providing FACTS so Patients Can Choose Value. Pamela Grimaldi, D.O., won Honorable Mention for her presentation, The Nutrition

Many thanks to the HPF Fellows who volunteered to judge the presentations: Michael Finley, D.O.; John Graneto, D.O.; Rob Hunter, D.O., MHP; John Lynch, D.O.; Michelle Mendez, D.O.; Ann Peton, MPH; Stacey Pierce-Talsma, D.O.; Layne Subera, D.O.; and Larry Suess, D.O.

Jeanne Rupert, D.O., Ph.D. explains the impact of higher out of pockets costs on Medicare beneficiaries to Ann Peton, MPH, and Moses Mukai, D.O.
Glenn Nordehn, DO, FACOI, HPF Class of 2012, has been appointed by the AOA to serve as the AOA’s Relative Value Update Committee (RUC) Advisor Alternate. Dr. Nordehn is serving a three-year term as a Member-at-Large on the AOA Department of Government Affairs, Bureau of Socioeconomic Affairs.

According to the American Medical Association, "The AMA formed the AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) to act as an expert panel in developing relative value recommendations to CMS. The AMA established a process in the course of its activities to develop relative values for new or revised CPT codes. The purpose of the RUC process is to provide recommendations to CMS for use in annual updates to the new Medicare RVS."

Dr. Nordehn serves as Associate Dean of Clinical Education at Midwestern University-Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine in Downer's Grove, Illinois. 10/31/14
Five Health Policy Fellows have been selected and approved by the Executive Committee of the AOA Board of Trustees to serve on the Osteopathic Principles Committee (OPC).


According to AOA President Robert Juhasz, "... work must proceed on the establishment of the single accreditation system and the OPC plays a key role in that process. The two primary responsibilities of the OPC are to: 1) develop and implement the standards for training programs to be recognized as osteopathic-focused, and 2) establish the requirements (prerequisite knowledge and skills) for MDs to enter into osteopathic-focused training programs." Names will be forwarded to the ACGME Board of Directors for approval.

Other members of the OPC committee include Robert Cain, D.O.; Jane Carreiro, D.O.; Millicent King-Channell, DO; Ken Heiles, DO; Anthony Ottaviani, DO; George Pasquarello, DO; Mike
Congratulations to Graduating HPF Class of 2014

The twentieth class of the HPF graduated September 19th, 2014 in Washington DC: (front row) Pamela Grimaldi, D.O. (MA); Maria Plummer, M.D. (NY). Rear: David Levine, M.D. (NY); Brian Marshall, D.O., MBA (OH); Cynthia Kelley, D.O. (OH); Monte Mitchell, D.O., J.D. (TX); Lauren Donatelli-Seyler, D.O. (PA); Donna Emanuele, DNP (CA); Oneka Marriott, D.O., MPH (FL); Jeanne Rupert, D.O., Ph.D. (WA); and Rob Richardson, D.O. (OR).

Layne Subera, D.O., authors Opioid Prescribing Guidelines in Journal of the Oklahoma State Medical Association

Layne Subera, D.O., is a member of the Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for Oklahoma Workgroup. Dr. Subera is lead author of Opioid.

Dr. Subera was appointed to the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control (OBND) Commission by Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin this year. According to their web site, “the OBND is a law enforcement agency with a goal of minimizing the abuse of controlled substances through law enforcement measures directed primarily at drug trafficking, illicit drug manufacturing, and major suppliers of illicit drugs.” http://www.ok.gov/obndd/About_OBND/index.html (5/30/14)

While a Fellow in the HPF Class of 2010, Dr. Subera researched and presented a health policy brief, Combat Methamphetamine Enhancement Act of 2009. Dr. Subera has been in private practice as a family physician in rural Skiatook, Oklahoma for the past fourteen years. He is AOA board certified in pain medicine. He is currently serving as Chairman of the Bailey Education Foundation in Owasso, OK. Dr. Subera served as President of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association in 2012 and is a member of the AOA Council on Continuing Medical Education (2013-2015) and member-at-large of the AOA Ethics Subcommittee (2014-2016).

Adam Nally, D.O., Invited to Testify at FDA Hearing

The American Society of Bariatric Physicians has invited Adam Nally, D.O., HPF Class of 2013, to testify before the Food and Drug Administration at the Endocrinologic and Metabolic Drugs Advisory Committee Meeting on September 14 in Hyattsville, Maryland. According to the FDA web site, “the committee will discuss the safety and efficacy of new drug application (NDA) 206321, liraglutide for injection, sponsored by Novo Nordisk, Inc. The proposed indication for liraglutide is as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for chronic weight management in adult patients.” For more information about the meeting click here.

Dr. Nally is the Chief Medical Officer and director of Nally Family Practice in Surprise, Arizona. For the past four years, Dr. Nally has focused heavily on the treatment of metabolic syndrome, diabetes, and obesity, which led to the development of the Arizona Bariatric Institute in 2010. He currently serves as the chief medical officer and owner of both practices as as President of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association 2014-2015.
(Left) Rob Richardson, D.O., finds his name on the Wall of Honor at the AOA National Advocacy Center. (Right) Lauren Donatelli Seyler, D.O., Brian Marshall, D.O., Oneka Marriott, D.O., MPH, and David Levine, M.D., enjoy a break. 6/12/14

Oneka B. Marriott, DO, MPH, FAAP, FACOP Publishes Policy Brief in eJournal for the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians

Oneka Marriott, DO, MPH, FAAP, FACOP, Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2014, published a policy brief in the spring edition of the eJournal of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians: *Abstinence-Only Education: Implications for Policy Development*. The brief analyzes the extent to which the Abstinence Education Reallocation Act would increase access to
culturally appropriate sexual risk avoidance education and reduce the social and health care costs associated with teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. Dr. Marriott concludes that the bill does not address the current health care needs of today’s adolescents and young adults, who would be better served by an Abstinence Plus program that incorporates elements from both abstinence and comprehensive sexual education curricula. Access the article here: http://www.acopeds.org/ejacop/2014spring/patient-education.html

Dr. Marriott is a practicing pediatrician in Nova Southeastern University’s Health Care Center. She serves as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health in the College of Osteopathic Medicine where she provides instruction to undergraduate and graduate medical education trainees as well as Master of Public Health degree candidates. She has also been appointed as the Assistant Director of Medical Education for the Palm Beach County Health Department Preventive Medicine-Public Health Residency Program. 6/14

Norman Gevitz, Ph.D., responds to "An Open Letter from the AACOM Executive Committee in Response to Norman Gevitz’s “The Unintended Consequences of the ACGME Merger”

Norman Gevitz, Ph.D., Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs at AT Still University and Health Policy Fellowship Faculty, has written articles pointing out the potential unintended consequences on the osteopathic profession of the ACGME-AOA-AACOM agreement to implement a unified accreditation standard for graduate medical education. Dr. Gevitz's article, The Unintended Consequences of the ACGME Merger, presented at the AODME meeting in San Antonio April 23, 2014, is available here.

The Executive Committee of the AACOM Board sent an open letter in response to The Unintended Consequences of the ACGME Merger, and Dr. Gevitz has responded in ‘Structure & Dysfunction’: An Open Response to the AACOM Executive Committee.

Dr. Gevitz reiterates his concerns that the merger will reduce the number of OGME training slots, undermine osteopathic board certification, and threaten the existence of osteopathic medical schools should allopathic standards be applied to undergraduate medical education. "Given these very real risks", Dr. Gevitz urges the leadership to "put in place a one year moratorium on taking any further steps in the fulfillment of any aspect of the MOU," and to hire "outside independent contractors (to) consider the risks, benefits, and the unintended consequences of unification.” The full article is available here: Structure & Dysfunction: An Open Response to the AACOM Executive Committee.

Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA) Invites Submission of Articles on Health Policy

Robert Orenstein, D.O., Editor in Chief of the JAOA, has expressed interest in including articles on key health policy issues in the JAOA. Dr. Orenstein and Audrey Lusher, Managing Editor, invite the Health Policy and TIPS Fellows to submit
manuscripts which provide clear overviews of public policy, legislative proposals, or other issues related to health care cost, quality, and accessibility that may impact osteopathic medicine. For editorial support and/or further information, please contact coopern@ohio.edu. General guidelines available here.

The AOA welcomes HPF grads to serve as reviewers of articles in their areas of health policy expertise. If you are interested in reviewing submissions, please contact Audrey Lusher, managing editor of the JAOA at alusher@osteopathic.org.

Lucas Hollar, Ph.D., HPF Class of 2012 Publishes Chapter in The American Election 2012


While a member of the Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2012, Dr. Hollar researched the impact of public health interventions compared to clinical screening and prevention and presented his research at graduation - Public Health Prevention Interventions and Healthcare Spending.

Dr. Hollar is an Assistant Professor of Public Health within the Master of Public Health (MPH) Program at Nova Southeastern University’s (NSU) College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Hollar's teaching and research interests include public health program planning and evaluation, organizational behavior and change, health policy, and public health theory.
Kit C. McCalla, D.O., MBA, HPF Class of 2006 Appointed to Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants

Kit McCall, D.O., MBA, has been appointed to serve as the physician member of the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants. According to the ARBoPA's web site, "the Board licenses and regulates over 1,000 physician assistants in Arizona. As the utilization of physician extenders, such as physician assistants, continually increases, the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants stays in touch with community needs and implements health care policy reforms to protect the public and provide guidance to its licensees. Within the last few years, the Board has systematically revised its laws and rules to stay ahead of healthcare trends. The Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants is comprised of 10 members – four physicians, four physician assistants and two public members." [https://www.azpa.gov/ARBoPA/About.aspx 5/7/14]

Dr. McCalla earned his DO degree from Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in 1996. He currently practices as an orthopedic surgeon at the Laser Spine Institute in Phoenix, Arizona.

Michelle Mendez, D.O., HPF Class of 2011 Appointed to Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Florida Governor Rick Scott appointed Michelle Mendez, D.O. to serve on the Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Mendez is an osteopathic family physician and owner of Mendez Family Care. She received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Mendez will serve from December 2013 to October 2016.

According to the Board’s website, "the Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine is responsible for licensing, monitoring, disciplining and educating osteopathic physicians to assure competency and safety to practice in Florida."

(Left) Dr. Mendez discusses the impact of Florida’s new pill mill law on alleviating the state’s prescription drug-abuse crisis. Also pictured are Health Policy Fellows Jonathon R. Kirsch, DO (top), and William Blazey, DO.
Glenn Nordehn, D.O., HPF Class of 2012 Implements Innovation in Medical Education at Midwestern University Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine

According to Chicago Magazine, "Midwestern is in the process of shaking up its curriculum by initiating an interactive teaching method known as Socratic Circles. Devised by the ancient Greek philosopher, the Socratic Method, from which Socratic Circles are derived, is meant to stimulate critical thinking based on asking and answering questions that challenge beliefs or conclusions. Currently, the college is using Socratic Circles in clinical classes taught to first-year students and is developing a new curriculum using symptom presentation for the 2014-2015 school year that integrates the Socratic Circle method in all clinical courses. "All sorts of versions of Socratic Circles and similar discussion groups are being used in education," says Midwestern University-Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine’s Associate Dean of Clinical Education, Glenn Nordehn, DO. “But, as far as we know, there are no medical schools doing it quite like us.” For Dr. Nordehn, it all comes back to patient. "A significant portion of a physician’s memory has to do with knowledge of past patients,” he says. “People remember people better than they remember information in textbooks. The Socratic Circles style of symptom presentation ensures that students can tie the information they are asked to remember to a patient. Our curriculum is linking information to patients from day one.”

Access the full article here.

Norman Gevitz, Ph.D. Presents The Unintended Consequences of the ACGME Merger at AODME


Norman Gevitz, Ph.D., Vice President of Academic Affairs at AT Still University and faculty member for the Health Policy Fellowship, presented an analysis of the unintended consequences of the recent ACGME/AOA/AACOM agreement to pursue unified accreditation standards for residencies. Dr. Gevitz explained that "this proposed ACGME accreditation merger will have far reaching effects not only in the residency arena - but on the entire structural underpinnings of the osteopathic medical profession." Dr. Gevitz predicts that the merger will reduce the number of OGME training slots, undermine osteopathic board certification, and threaten the existence of osteopathic medical schools should allopathic standards be applied to undergraduate medical education. To access the full text, click here.  

David Park, DO, HPF Class of 2013 Appointed Governor of ACOFP and Member of Graduate Medical Education Task Force in Nevada

Dr. Park is Chair and Associate Professor for the Department of Primary Care at Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine in Henderson, NV. He is also the Program Director for the Family Medicine Residency at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas. Dr. Park is also the Regional Academic Officer for the OPTI-West Medical Education Consortium and is charged with GME development and oversight for the Nevada region. Dr. Park received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1998. He completed an ACGME/AOA dually accredited family medicine residency program at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center, an affiliate of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City.

Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval appointed Dr. Park as a member of the state's Graduate Medical Education Task Force as of April 29, 2014.

In 2010, Dr. Park became a Fellow of the ACOFP and was also awarded the ACOFP Fellows Most Outstanding Scientific Paper Award. An active member of the ACOFP, Dr. Park is the Faculty Advisor for the TUNCOM student ACOFP chapter and has served on various committees, including the Scholarship & Student Loan Committee; Osteopathic Family Medicine Educators Committee; Program Committee; and the Convention and Site Committee. He has served as the Program Co-Chair for the ACOFP's 47th Annual Convention in 2010 and was the Program Chair for the 2013 OMED conference.

In January 2012, Dr. Park revived the ACOFP-Nevada chapter and assumed leadership of the organization as the new President. He was reelected to that position in 2013.

http://www.acofp.org/About_ACOFP/David_J_Park/ March 2014
April 7, 2014: Dr. John Casey was named EMP’s Clinician of the Year. The announcement was made at EMP’s annual meeting held in Orlando, FL.

Dr. Casey is a graduate of the Training in Policy Studies Program (TIPS), a health policy program for resident physicians directed by Barbara Ross-Lee, D.O., who also directs the Health Policy Fellowship for mid-career physicians.

Dr. Casey is a staff physician in the emergency department at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, OH. He is also the EMS Director at Springfield Regional Medial Center in Springfield, OH.

Dr. Casey joined EMP (Emergency Medical Physicians) in July 2012 and is currently enrolled in EMP’s prestigious Scholars Program. He is actively involved in health policy and legislation and continues to be involved with EMS. In 2012, Dr. Casey was flown to Washington, DC, and honored as one of 10 Champions of Change for his dedication to improving access to healthcare and helping communities understand the impact and opportunities from the Affordable Health Care Act. In 2010, the American Osteopathic Association honored Dr. Casey as one of the “Most Politically Active Medical Student.”

Shannon Scott, D.O. and Melissa Gastorf, D.O., MBA, graduates of the Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2013, became Fellows in the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians at the annual ACOFP convention in Philadelphia, PA, March 15, 2014. Dr. Scott is a family practice physician and Assistant Clinical Professor at the Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine in Glendale, Arizona. In 2012, Dr. Scott received the ACOFP Young Physician of the Year Award. Dr. Gastorf is a family medicine physician in Durant, Oklahoma. In 2011, Dr. Gastorf's clinic became the first in the nation to receive an incentive bonus from CMS for electronic health record (EHR) implementation.
Shannon Scott, D.O. receives the Gold Crest award for the best scientific paper submitted as part of her application to ACOFP. Dr. Scott researched the impact of E-Health and e-mail communication on access to affordable, quality health care. Dr. Lori Kemper, Dean, Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine accompanies Dr. Scott.

Ira P. Monka, DO, MHA, FACOFP, HPF Class of 2003-2004, awarded Physician of the Year by the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (NJAOPS)

Dr. Monka practices family medicine in Morristown, New Jersey where he serves as President of the Atlantic Accountable Care Organization. He is Past President of NJAOPS (2006), Senior Director of the NJAOPS Board of Directors, and Chairman of the NJAOPS Long-Range Planning Committee. Dr. Monka is a former member of the UMDNJ Board of Trustees, the school from which he earned his DO degree in 1984. Dr. Monka serves as Executive Director of the Morris County Osteopathic Society. Dr. Monka chaired the 2012 OMED Program Committee. Dr. Monka is a member of the Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2003-2004. (3/14)
According to the LA Daily News story by Miles Corwin, California Health Care Foundation Center for Health Reporting on 3/7/14, "Doctor of Nursing (DNP) Donna Emanuele runs the Summit Urgent Care in Palmdale, California and is responsible for the medical care of repeating and walk-in patients. The Palmdale facility works with patients who either have no personal doctor or those who can't afford to seek the help of a doctor.

"You look at Los Angeles County and you see the definition of an underserved area," said Cynthia Carmona, a director at the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County. "With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, we'll need all the help we can get." There are not enough doctors in many parts of the state, particularly in Palmdale and other underserved areas of Los Angeles County. Expanding the role of nurse practitioners — registered nurses with advanced degrees — and physician assistants trained through rigorous, specially designed programs to work as part of a medical team, could help substantially, according to a 2013 RAND Corporation study."

For a link to the full article please [click here](#).

In addition to clinical practice, Donna Emanuele, DNP, MN, FNP-BC, RN, is Assistant Program Director DNP/FNP/MSN Program and Assistant Professor of Nursing at Western University College of Nursing in Pomona, California. Dr. Emanuele is president-elect of the California Association for Nurse Practitioners and a member of the Health Policy Fellowship Class of 2014.
(CHICAGO 3/4/14) — David L. Broder, DO, of Melville, N.Y., Health Policy Fellowship Class of 1994-1995, was installed as vice speaker of the House of Delegates for the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), the national professional membership organization for the nation’s more than 104,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students.

“I am honored for this opportunity to serve the AOA in a new capacity as vice speaker of the House of Delegates,” says Dr. Broder. “The House of Delegates is tasked with setting organizational policy that influences the direction of health care today and in the future. I look forward to infusing my background as a parliamentarian to help the speaker and the delegates attend to their essential duties during the AOA’s annual business meeting.”

A board-certified internist, Dr. Broder is a graduate of the inaugural class of the Health Policy Fellowship (1994-1995). He serves as president and CEO of the New York Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Educational Consortium. Additionally, Dr. Broder is the associate dean for postdoctoral education at the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine (NYITCOM) in Old Westbury and serves as a clinical associate professor of medicine at NYITCOM and the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine in New York City.

Prior to his appointment as vice speaker, Dr. Broder has served the AOA in other capacities, including vice chairman of the Council on Postdoctoral Training Institutions. He also is past president of the New York State Osteopathic Medical Society and currently serves as its parliamentarian.