Hahnemann Medical School was established as the Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1848, to provide standardized training in the emerging system of medicine called homeopathy. It was named Hahnemann Medical College in honor of Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of homeopathic medicine. By the late 1920s, the homeopathic focus was gone, but the school lived on. Hahnemann became a nationally known academic medical center and a leading provider of subspecialty care, particularly for cardiovascular disease.

But not without notoriety. In 1968, the School attempted to give Anastasio Somoza, the dictator of Nicaragua an honorary degree after a rather large donation. The honor was given but not at graduation as the class threatened to walk out. Anastasio would not tolerate opposition of any sort, and after being overthrown in an insurrection led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front, he fled Nicaragua. He was eventually assassinated while in exile in Paraguay.

The legacy continued In 1979 when the President of Hahnemann, Wharton Shober and Philadelphia Congressman Daniel J. Flood went to jail after being convicted of accepting bribes either for the building of a new wing of the hospital and/or for accepting students into the school.

But it wasn’t all bad at Hahnemann. Grace Kelly was born there on November 12, 1929. Charles Bailey, MD achieved professional and public fame in 1948 when he repaired the mitral valve of a 24-year-old woman who had been expected to live only six months. She lived for 38 years, and his procedure became the standard for repairing mitral valves until heart-lung machines and open-heart surgery were developed. On August 2, 2000 former President Gerald Ford came to Hahnemann’s emergency room with a headache, was given pain meds and sent back to his hotel. Approximately 9 hours later he returned to the emergency room having suffered a stroke. It happens.

Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital was purchased by Allegheny Health Education and Research Foundation in 1993 which went bankrupt 5 years later and sold to Tenent. Tenent ran up an even larger debt and sold the institution to American Academic in 2018. New interns started on June 23, 2019 and on June 26th American Academics announced they were closing the Hospital.

Drexel took over the Medical School from Hahnemann and the Medical College of Pennsylvania in 2003 and many, most (me) assumed the house staff were also Drexel employees. Wrong! The over 500 interns, residents and fellows are (were) employed by Hahnemann and are now out searching for new positions. About 40 percent of Drexel University physicians and clinical staff will lose their jobs as a result of the planned closure of Hahnemann Hospital. The Medical School with over 1000 students will continue to be operated by Drexel with multiple regional hospitals and clinics. Good luck. But when you have over 1000 students paying $57,248 a year in tuition would you close the school or keep the $58 million dollars?

I was always an un-proud alum of Hahnemann and now if you see me with a bag over my head you will understand why.

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.
Department of Medicine
August 2019 Grand Rounds

AUG 1 "Glaucoma"
David Belyea, MD
Professor & Vice Chair of Ophthalmology
Department of Ophthalmology
GW Medical Faculty Associates

AUG 8 "Diversity in Medicine"
Chavon Onumah, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Medicine
3rd year Primary Care Clerkship Director
Division of General Internal Medicine
Department of Medicine
GW MFA

AUG 15 "Viral Hepatitis and HIV"
Sarah Kattakuzhy, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Clinical and Administrative Director, DC Partnership for HIV/AIDS Progress
University of Maryland, School of Science

AUG 22 "Beyond the Calories– How did we get here and how do we fix it?"
Janese Laster, MD (GI)
Gastroenterologist

AUG 29 "Love in the Time of Sleep Apnea"
Vivek Jain, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, GWU
Director, GW Sleep Disorders Center
Division of Pulmonary
Department of Medicine

The George Washington University Medical Center (GWUMC) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. GWUMC designates this continuing medical education activity on an hour-for-hour basis in Category I of the Physician’s Recognition Award of the American Medical Association. (AMA).

Master Teacher Leadership Development
Program Graduation– June 12th
Department of Medicine Graduates:

Jalil Ahari, MD– Pulmonary
Caitlin Mingeys, MD– Internal Medicine

Resident Lecture Series
August 2019 Noon Conference

AUG 1 Medicine Grand Rounds
AUG 2 "Sepsis"- Dr. Hawkins
AUG 5 Library Resources– Laura Abate
AUG 6 Rehab Services– Nick Caylor
AUG 7 “Asthma”- Dr. Anjeni Keswani
AUG 8 Medicine Grand Rounds
AUG 9 Patient Safety Conference
AUG 12 “Ischemic Stroke”- Dr. Leon Guerrero
AUG 13 Patient Safety Conference
AUG 14 Perioperative Anticoagulation–
Dr. Courtney Paul
AUG 15 Medicine Grand Rounds
AUG 16 Med Reconciliation– Abiy Getahun
AUG 19 “UTI”- Dr. Jillian Catalanotti
AUG 20 “Sexually Transmitted Infections”-
Dr. Adam Hodes
AUG 21 NEJM Case
AUG 22 Medicine Grand Rounds
AUG 23 Pulmonary TB– Dr. Daniel Baram
AUG 26 “Peritoneal Dialysis”– Dr. Susie Lew
AUG 27 “Menopause”– Dr. April Barbour
AUG 28 “Insulin Medications”- Tamara Swigert
AUG 29 Medicine Grand Rounds
AUG 30 Social Lunch
Jamie Rosenthal, MD joins us as a full time faculty member in the Division of Allergy, Asthma and Sinus Center.

Dr. Rosenthal earned her Bachelor’s Degree from Cornell University and her Medical Degree from New York University School of Medicine in 2013. She moved to Seattle, Washington to complete her Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Washington, where she also completed her fellowship in Allergy and Immunology.

She is board certified in Internal Medicine and is licensed in the District of Columbia.

Adam Kilian MD joins the Division of Rheumatology as an Assistant Professor of Medicine.

He is originally from Michigan and moved to Washington DC in 2019. He completed his undergraduate education in the Honors Program at the University of Michigan. He continued his education at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine in Grand Rapids, MI, where he graduated with high designation in his class. Dr. Kilian completed his Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics in Salt Lake City. Subsequently, he returned to Michigan where he completed his Rheumatology Fellowship at the University of Michigan. During his Fellowship, he also completed the Medical Education Scholars Program, an internationally acclaimed program for competitively selected faculty to study and apply principles of educational leadership, teaching, and scholarship in depth. At the University of Michigan, Dr. Kilian received emphasis training in the management of Autoimmune Connective Tissue Diseases, Vasculitis, and Novel Therapies for Rheumatic Diseases.

Dr. Kilian is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and Gold Humanism Honor Society and is licensed in the District of Columbia.

Dr. Kilian is passionate about exceptional clinical care, research, and teaching. He has published many peer-reviewed articles, as co-investigator, has overseen clinical trials, and has presented at more than fifteen national and international conferences. He has received many regional and national awards for his work, including the Grand Award at the American College of Physicians Annual Research Competition in 2018. Dr. Kilian is an active member of several professional societies, including the American College of Physicians, American College of Rheumatology, American Medical Association, and DC Rheumatism Society.

His specific areas of interest include Lupus and lupus-Spectrum Disorders, Inflammatory Myopathies, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Vasculitis, IgG4-related Disease, Systemic Fibrosing conditions, Spondyloarthopathies, Sarcoidosis, Still’s Disease, Familial Autoinflammatory Syndromes, and Autoimmune Disease in pregnancy.

Kathleen Griffith, PhD, MPH, FNP-BC is employed by the George Washington University, School of Nursing, and serves as the Assistant Dean in the PhD Program. Dr. Griffith is also a research Health Scientist and Nurse Practitioner, practicing at the Baltimore Veterans Medical Center. Her primary appointment is in the School of Nursing as an Associate Professor of Nursing; most recently, she was appointed to the equivalent rank with a secondary academic appointment in the Department of Medicine.

Her focus, symptom management related to cancer and its treatment. Her program of research addresses mechanisms of weight gain during breast cancer chemotherapy and management of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy.

She will partner and help to enhance the ties between the School of Nursing and the Department of Medicine, specifically the Division of Hematology & Oncology.

Chief Wellness Officer

The George Washington University (GW) is pleased to announce Kaylan A. Baban, MD, MPH, as the inaugural Chief Wellness Officer for GW’s medical enterprise — GW Hospital, the GW Medical Faculty Associates, and the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

As Chief Wellness Officer, Baban will lead the GWell Center for Healthcare Professionals, which aims to promote a broad concept of health and wellness for all members of the GW medical enterprise. The center will use an evidence-based framework of healthful lifestyles — modeled on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration eight dimension for wellness — and supportive institutional structures. Created based on feedback from a Wellness Task Force, the center’s mission is to: promote a culture of wellness as the foundation of professional excellence, support skills development for personal and professional wellness, and provide leadership to identify and minimize structural stressors. The new center will act as an umbrella organization for existing wellness activities, and lead collaboration to develop and implement a shared vision for further program development, to affirm wellness as a central priority for the GW medical enterprise.
Kudos, Congratulations, and Condolences...

Kudos... to Dr. Patricia Centron Vinales, Nephrology, on a patient note regarding her cooking/eating class, “I don’t think many doctors are doing what you are doing: putting the power in your patients’ hands to heal ourselves. I appreciate the opportunity you have given me to improve my habits before automatically needing to increase my medicine.”

Kudos... to the entire Hematology/ Oncology division on receiving full ACGME accreditation. Special thanks to Dr. Holly Dushkin and Tiffanie Tate.

Kudos... to Dr. James Gehring, Hospital Medicine, on a patient letter, “he is a really great guy. He always brings light when he walks in the room.”

Kudos... to Dr. Tania Alchalabi, Geriatrics, on a student letter singing her praises for being an exceptional teacher.

Kudos... to Dr. Nitin Seam, MD, former Chief Resident, on becoming the first editor in chief of ATS Scholar, the open access, online education journal launching in 2020.

Congratulations

To Dr. Dianne Thompson, Hospital Medicine, on the newest addition to her family, Harrison Pablo Yang born on 7/1, weighing 7 lbs., 14 ounces.

To Dr. Katalin Roth, Geriatrics, on becoming a grandmother to granddaughter, Marguerite Frances Kuhn Singerman.

Condolences

To Dr. James Gehring, Hospital Medicine, on the passing of his father.

To Dr. Vivek Jain, Pulmonary Medicine, on the passing of his father.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.