Residents are Stars

How fitting that one week before starting to interview Intern applicants for 2019, who will become the class of 2021, the Resident class of 2018 gets their Internal Medicine Board results back. To this day, I still think that the Internal Medicine Boards were the hardest test that I ever took. I think many people feel that way although the test has changed over the years (see: From the Chairman).

We always expect our Residents to do well but this year they surpassed our expectations. 100% of them passed the Boards! That is 34 out of 34. Add to that the three Residents who deferred taking the boards for a year and we now have 37 out of 37.

Although the Residents took the test, it was the Department that did the teaching. Include in that our faculty from the VA and NIH, because everyone plays an important role in the education of our trainees. Thanks to all of you and to our Program Director, Associate Directors and Coordinators for providing an atmosphere conducive to education.

From the Chairman

Last month Sara Wikstrom and I had the honor and pleasure of taking to dinner 10 of the physicians who help us teach third year medical students. What these retired docs, mostly internists but some subspecialists do, is to observe the students on their Medical Clerkship performing a bedside history and physical. They spend anywhere from up to an hour observing the student and then sit down to discuss the patient and critique the students’ performance. I wish I could take credit for this and I probably could, but it was going on before I took over as Chairman.

This has universally been the most highly rated experiences by the students who usually comment that “wish we could do this more often” to “too bad we didn’t have this at the beginning of our clerkships” to “what an amazing learning experience.” All of the physicians who give the students this unique experience are dedicated to teaching and all are concerned that taking a history and doing a physical is a dying art. Abraham Verghese believes that “the bedside evaluation has therapeutic importance as a ritual that helps to establish a bond between patient and physician.” In this era of impersonalized medicine with reliance on technology, bedside skills are waning.

Every physician at dinner could tell stories of a time when a complete physical saved someone’s life. A time when a patient came in with one complaint but something unrelated was found by doing a full examination. It upsets them that students no longer have to have their own ophthalmoscopes as an example of another de-emphasized skill. They clearly understand that this also translates to the outpatient setting when 15 minutes is barely enough time to record all the medications so a comprehensive H & P cannot be conducted.

More than listening to them bemoan these facts, we got to hear many other changes in medicine that has taken place over the years. I am not sure that most of our trainees and I bet some of the faculty know that until the 1970’s to be boarded in Internal Medicine you needed not only to pass a test but to pass an oral exam. You were given an unknown patient to examine and then were quizzed on your findings and diagnosis by some esteemed Professor that usually made even the toughest trainee at least a little nervous. My favorite story, and I hope he doesn’t mind me telling it, came from Bud Weiss. After walking into the room to meet his test patient, she took him aside and whispered in his ear “are you Jewish.” A little baffled but in no mood to upset the patient he replied, “Yes” at which point she whispered back “Mitral Stenosis.”

We talked about “burnout” a term they don’t remember hearing after coming off a 48 or 72 hour straight shift in the hospital. The discussion turned to the explosion of medical knowledge and the areas in medicine that were foreign when they trained. Is there room to learn physical diagnosis when you need to learn genetics and immunology? Will we soon be treating the patient’s genetic profile rather than the patient? Names in the past of some great physicians were also discussed and the days when the Internist was the Captain of the Ship were fondly memorialized. Sara and I and Terry Kind who joined us from the Dean’s office had one of those unexpected experiences that reinforces the legacy that came before us. Maybe a night like this should be part of the curriculum.

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.
Department of Medicine November 2018 Grand Rounds

NOV 1 “Update on Home Care Medicine”
Robert Jayes, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Medical Director, House Call Program
Division of Geriatrics & Palliative Care
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

NOV 8 “Updates on the Stroke Program at GW Hospital”
Kathleen Burger, DO
Associate Professor of Neurology
Director, Cerebrovascular Neurology
GW Medical Faculty Associates

NOV 15 “Should we be Teaching Language in Medical School”
Lalit Narayan, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine
Department of Medicine
GW Medical Faculty Associates

NOV 22 HOLIDAY

NOV 29 “Women’s Issues in Epilepsy”
Anumeha Sharma Sheth, MD
Assistant Professor of Neurology
GW Medical Faculty Associates

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).

Cardiology Grand Rounds
5:00 PM, Ross Hall, Room # 227

NOV 7 Partho Sengupta, MD
Director, Cardiovascular Imaging
Chair, Center for Innovation
WVU Heart and Vascular Institute
Chief, Section of Cardiology
WVU School of Medicine
Machine Learning and Cardiac Imaging

NOV 14 AHA– FELLOWS UPDATE

NOV 21 NO GRAND ROUNDS

NOV 28 Behnam Tehrani, MD
Inova Medical Group
Developing a Cardiogenic Shock Program

Resident Lecture Series November 2018 Noon Conference

NOV 1 Medicine Grand Rounds
NOV 2 Interview Lunch
NOV 5 Interview Lunch
NOV 6 Journal Club
NOV 7 GME Core Lecture
NOV 8 Medicine Grand Rounds
NOV 9 Interview Lunch
NOV 12 Social Lunch
NOV 13 Patient Safety Conference
NOV 14 Interview Lunch
NOV 15 Medicine Grand Rounds
NOV 16 Interview Lunch
NOV 19 “Radiation Oncology”– Dr. Sharad Goyal
NOV 20 “Tick Borne Infections”– Dr. Marc Siegel
NOV 21 Social Lunch
NOV 22 Medicine Grand Rounds
NOV 23 Social Lunch
NOV 26 “West Nile Encephalitis”– Dr. Rachel Harold
NOV 27 “Acute/Chronic complications of DM” – Tamara Swigert

GW Medicine Notes

Medicine Team Contacts

Need to find a Resident on an inpatient team?
Please use Tiger text to reach the appropriate physician. Go to gwu.medhub.com/paging; password: GWUPublicCall; Select Internal Medicine.
Alternatively
GWUH Defining Medicine Intranet: Go to Applications \ Inactive-Non-Production \ Directory Contact System
If you have trouble with your MedHub account, please contact Deborah Corvalan at dcorvalan@mfa.gwu.edu.
Please Join Us In Welcoming Our Newest Additions to the Department of Medicine

Ndelela Nadine Mbuyi, MD joins the Division of Rheumatology as an Assistant Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Mbuyi received her Medical Degree at the Saint George’s University School of Medicine, Grenada, WI. In 2016, she completed a three year Residency in Internal Medicine at the Roger Williams Medical Center, Boston University School of Medicine, Rhode Island. Upon completion of her Residency, she embarked on a two year Fellowship in Rheumatology at the Rhode Island Hospital, Brown University, Rhode Island. She completed in May 2018. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and is board eligible in Rheumatology and is licensed in the District of Columbia.

George P. Kim, MD joins us as an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology & Oncology.

Dr. Kim received his Medical Degree from the College of Medicine, University of Vermont, 1994; after a one year Internship at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, he completed an additional two years in the Residency Program in Internal Medicine at the same institution. In 2002, Dr. Kim completed a Fellowship in Medical Oncology at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health in Bethesda.

He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology and is licensed in the District of Columbia and the States of Maryland and Florida.

His special interests are in GI Oncology – Colorectal, Pancreas, Liver and Gastric Esophagus Cancers.

Shannon R. Vanderhoof, FNP-BC, joins us as a Family Nurse Practitioner at the GW Medical Faculty Associates in the Department of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine.

Shannon received her Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing at The Catholic University of America, 2013 and a Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner, here at The George Washington University in May of 2018.

She is board certified by the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a Family Nurse Practitioner and is licensed in the District of Columbia.

Prior to joining the Medical Faculty Associates Shannon worked as a Registered Nurse at MedStar Washington Hospital Center for 5 years, where she started her career working with Kidney Transplant patients and General Medicine patients; the majority of her time spent on an Orthopedic/Trauma unit caring for patients pre and post-operatively.

Shannon’s special interests lie in the area of Orthopedics, Women’s Health and Heart Healthy lifestyles.

William Weglicki, MD

After over 30 years of clinical service to the Division of Cardiology, Department of Medicine, Dr. Bill Weglicki has decided to hang up the stethoscope. Bill has been an amazing clinician and NIH funded researcher over these many years. He has served as Chairman of the Department of Physiology for 12 years and for the last four years as the Interim Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine.

He received his degree from the University of Maryland and trained in Medicine at the Georgetown University Hospital. He completed his Cardiology Fellowship at Duke University Medical Center. After two years at NIH, he joined the faculty of Harvard Medical School where he was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine before assuming the chairmanship of the Department of Biophysics at the Medical College of Virginia. While at Harvard and MC, he was awarded several NIH research grants as well as an institutional post-doctoral training grant. His research on Molecular Mechanisms of Cardiovascular Injury led to his recruitment to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation to head their Cardiovascular Research Program. In 1985 he joined The George Washington University Medical Center’s Department of Medicine and formed the Division of Experimental Medicine.

Bill will remain active with the research at Ross Hall and continues to play an important role in the Medical School and the Department of Medicine.

Building the Next Generation of Academic Physicians (BNGAP) Conference Promotes Importance of Diversity in Academic Medicine

Last month’s event, supported by the SMHS Office of Diversity and Inclusion and our Department of Medicine, was held in collaboration with institutions including Georgetown University, Howard University, Children’s National Health System, and the University of Maryland.

Geared toward students and medical professionals traditionally underrepresented in academic medicine, the conference aimed to encourage attendees to consider academic medicine as a career option and offer them resources to further explore that career, said Chavon Onumah, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Onumah knew GWU had to play a part in the conference when she heard about it from a Resident who had attended it a year ago in New York City and raved about what she had learned, said Onumah.

From Sept. 21–22, more than 50 students, Fellows, and Residents participated in sessions offering information on career opportunities in academic medicine, educational and research scholarship, finding an academic residency, as well as a lunch hour panel discussion and a speed-mentoring session.
Kudos...to Drs. Paul Silver, Andrew Choi, and Jon Reiner, on a patient shout out, “From beginning to end everyone I encountered was great. Give yourselves an A+. I am forever grateful.”

Kudos...to the Hematology and Oncology nurses! A patient tweeted, “I love the nurses here so much. They have taken care of me as a whole person, not just a patient wanting a positive outcome.”

Kudos...to Dr. Anne Lesburg, Hospital Medicine, on receiving a patient compliment, “My insurance company denied my medicine, Dr. Lesburg and her team called and fought the insurance company to get my medicine approved, the TLC I have received from everyone has been amazing.”

Congratulations...to the GIM practice for receiving Patient Centered Medical Home Certification!

Congratulations...to Dr. Robert Jayes on the birth of his first grandchild.

Congratulations...to Drs. Katalin Roth and Robert Jayes, Geriatrics, on obtaining their Hospital Medical Director Board Certifications.