WRITE News

Michelle Devine, the Alaska WWAMI Regional Assistant has recently married and will be moving to Kiowa, Colorado where she will be pursuing the arts. She has two books in the works and will continue working with oils, watercolors, welding, jewelry making, and fiber arts full time! She has enjoyed her many years with the Alaska WWAMI program and participating in administering WRITE — from its inception to its current position as a profound rural training program.

We wish you all the best Michelle!

Saturday, May 12, 2012, the STOKR bicycle tour (98 miles), raises $25,000 for Habitat for Humanity in Libby and Troy. Pictured here, Dr. Greg Rice, Kirsten Robinson (Libby RUOP and then WRITE in Sandpoint) next to her preceptors Drs. Scott Dunn & Dan Meulenberg, then current WRITE students, Denny Goulet and Delany Conway (Sandpoint), & Tim O’Connor (Libby) & his significant other, Tia Kramer.

Patrick Kane, Surfer’s Beach, Kodiak, Alaska

Libby Loft, of Port Angeles with her friend on Hurricane Ridge in Olympic National Park

WRITE Winter Retreat in Polebridge, Montana:
Dennis Goulet, Rebecca Mandell, Delaney Conway, Tim O’Connor, Timothy Hatlen

WRITE Program Administration/Oversight
Thomas Norris, MD, UWSOM Chair, Dept. FM, WRITE Co-chair
Jay Erickson, MD, WRITE Co-chair
Suzanne Allen, MD, MPH, Vice Dean for Regional Affairs
Ellen Cosgrove, MD, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs

Assistant Deans for Regional Affairs UWSOM - WWAMI
Deb Harper, MD, Eastern and Central Washington
John McCarthy, MD, Eastern and Central Washington
Rich Hillman, MD, Wyoming
Tom Nighswander, MD, MPH, Alaska
Jay Erickson, MD, Montana
Mary Barinaga, MD, Idaho
2012 WRITE Students & Community Projects

Chelan ~ Elizabeth Stover: Chelan High School Med Club
Hailey ~ Rue Van Dyke: Preparing for Puberty
Helena ~ Rebecca Mandell: Hepatitis C and HIV Screening
Juneau ~ Brian lutzi: Assessment of and Community Education for the Juneau United Medical Providers and Parents (JUMPP)
Juneau ~ Cassie lutzi: Increasing Continuity Care of Mothers and Infants—Prenatal through First Five Years
Kodiak ~ Patrick Kane: Going Beyond the Contract to Manage Chronic Pain
Lander ~ Brett Bell: Shaken Baby Syndrome
Lewistown ~ Timothy Hatlen: Promoting Exercise and Local Fitness Options in Lewistown
Libby ~ Tim O’Connor: Improving Access to Psychiatric Medical Services in Libby
McCall ~ Elizabeth Embick: Promoting Vaccination in Children and Adults in McCall
Port Angeles ~ Libby Loft: Port Angeles Rides for World Health
Powell ~ Logan Vincent: HPV Education at Powell High School
Sandpoint ~ Delaney Conway and Denny Goulet: Addressing Hunger & Food Insecurity in Idaho
Wasilla ~ Sarah Fairchild, Birth Control Education: Wasilla High School Students

Featuring new WRITE Sites

The following WRITE sites will be hosting their first WRITE students next January:
- Butte, MT with primary preceptor Dr. Serena Brewer
- Dillon, MT with primary preceptor Dr. Burke Hansen
- Ferndale, WA with primary preceptor Dr. Bertha Safford
- Newport, WA with primary preceptor Dr. Geoff Jones
- Port Townsend, WA with primary preceptor Dr. Molly Hong
- Shelby, MT with primary preceptor Dr. Charles Marler
- Shelton, WA with primary preceptors Dr. Michael Keep and Dr. John Butler

Here is a great representation of ‘WWAMILY.’

Thought is the current Libby WRITE student Tim O’Connor. Then, Dr. Bill Cusakely, Dr. Heidi Combs, and Dr. Jana Hall—all WWAMI grads; Heidi and Jana were classmates; Jana was a Libby WRITE student, and Bill is/was preceptor for both Tim and Jana!

Visits by UW SOM Faculty: WRITE site visits by faculty from the UWSOM are a great benefit to the WRITE communities. Most site visitors are able to give a community talk that is attended by the community health care professionals, and they spend time with the preceptors at the site and with the student discussing cases, the student’s progress, and issues concerning rural health. 2012 site visitors included:
- Chelan: Dept. of Pediatrics, Dr. F. Curt Bennett; Dept. of Psychiatry, Dr. Heidi Combs; Dept. of FM & WRITE Co-chair Dr. Jay Erickson
- Hailey: Dept. of FM, Dr. David Losh; Dept. of IM, Dr. Moe Hageman
- Helena: Dept. of FM & WRITE Co-chair, Dr. Tom Norris; Dept. of IM, Dr. Douglas Pauw; Dept. of Pediatrics, Dr. Sherilyn Smith
- Juneau: Dept of Psychiatry, Dr. Heidi Combs; Dept of IM, Dr. Genevieve Pagalilauan; Dept of FM & WRITE Co-chair, Dr. Tom Norris
- Kodiak: Dept. of Pediatrics, Dr. F. Curt Bennett; Dept. of IM, Dr. Chris Knight
- Lander and Powell: Dept of FM & WRITE Co-chair Dr. Jay Erickson
- Lewistown: Dept of IM, Dr. Chris Knight; Dept of FM, Dr. Misbah Keen
- Libby: Dept of Psychiatry, Dr. Heidi Combs; Dept of IM, Dr. Jenny Wright
- McCall: Dept of FM, Dr. David Losh; Dept of IM, Dr. Mike Ryan
- Port Angeles: Dept. of Psychiatry, Dr. Heidi Combs; Dept. of FM & WRITE Co-chair Dr. Jay Erickson
- Sandpoint: Dept. of Psychiatry, Dr. Heidi Combs; Dept. of FM, Dr. Tom Norris
- Wasilla: Dept. of Psychiatry, Dr. Heidi Combs; Dept. of FM & WRITE Co-chair, Dr. Tom Norris

2012 Match Results:
10 WRITE students matched to residencies in 2012:
6 into Family Medicine
2 into OB/Gyn
2 into Emergency Medicine

Big Sky Faculty Development

At the end of March, the MT AHEC, TRUST Program, and MT WWAMI Clinical Education offices hosted the second Faculty Development Conference at Big Sky. Speakers and hosts from the UWSOM included Dr. F. Curt Bennett, Dr. Heidi Combs, Dr. Tom Greer, Dr. Tom Norris, and Dr. Douglas Pauw. Dr. Bertha Safford, a WRITE preceptor from Ferndale, WA and Medical Director of Quality Performance offered a plenary on PCMH and Teaching. In addition, many WWAMI teaching faculty presented on pertinent teaching topics and moderated or took part in discussion panels, including Dr. Ron Loge, Dr. Blair Davison, Dr. Steve Gerstner, Dr. Greg Rice, Dr. Mark Zilkoski, Dr. Peggy Schlesinger, Dr. Laura Bennett, and Dr. Jay Erickson. A special thanks to the WWAMI students who participated: KayCee Gardner, Abby Kelly, Timothy Hatlen, Jens Olsgaard, and Eve Preus.

Comments about the conference:
- Thought all the sessions were pertinent and VERY good.
- Great plenary talks, very motivating.
- Excellent speakers and insights from students. Very relevant to a ‘newbie’ like me!
- I especially appreciated Dr. Pauw’s stories and realize what a privilege it is to be invited into peoples’ lives...
- Panel on feedback was extremely helpful
- Student panels were an excellent addition this year....

We extend a special thank you to our sponsors and hosts for this event:

Eastern Washington Regional Dean, John McCarthy, MD & Washington Trust Student Timothy Hatlen (doing WRITE in Lewistown).