Message from the Chair

Welcome to the Fall 2016 Department Newsletter! Just like the record rain in October in Seattle, the teaching, scholarly and clinical work we do continues to pour in!

We welcomed our new class of UW medical students to our new Spokane site at Gonzaga University, as well as a record-sized incoming class of physician assistant students to the MEDEX program. The caliber of our students, as well as their personal journeys, is often inspiring. Congratulations in particular to Brianne Huffstetter Rowan who was awarded the 2016 Pisacano Scholarship a national honor in family medicine. Two of our family medicine clerkship Site Directors, Dr Nanette Smith and Dr Robert Weston, who have dedicated 10 years to our teaching mission, were awarded distinguished faculty awards. The dedication of our nearly 1,200 faculty across WWAMI are a key reason why the family medicine clerkship is so highly rated among UW medical students.

Family Medicine residency program expansion continues, with new programs accredited at Richland and Coeur D’Alene. Several of our faculty and many others from UW presented sessions at our annual update course in primary care, the 44th Annual Advances of Family Medicine course, which attracted a record attendance, affirming its prime place as a venue for keeping physicians, PA’s and NP’s up to date in clinical care.

Research and scholarly output continues to be very strong, as well as success with several major new grants. Faculty and staff gave presentations regionally, nationally and in at least three countries internationally this quarter! Our publication record includes some ‘firsts’ for us - it is rare that a US President writes articles for medical journals (I guess they don’t have to worry about promotion!), so a great honor that POTUS cited a publication by our own Dr Bianca Frogner! And in another ‘first’ Dr Jon Drezner appeared on the Today Show to discuss sudden cardiac arrest in young people.

The clinical service provided by our faculty across our patient care sites continues to provide valuable service to our patients, whether they are in our clinics or hospital, and across the spectrum of family medicine, as well as palliative care and sports medicine.

On behalf of the Department of Family Medicine, thank you for your hard work and support.

With best wishes!

Matthew Thompson
Helen D. Cohen endowed Professor
Interim Chair, Department of Family Medicine

Department Highlights

MEDEX Spokane Joins UW Medicine
Nicole Ide joined the Research Section in June as a new Research Scientist on Dr. Thompson’s Supporting Life grant.

Rachelle McCarty joined the CHWS team as a Research Scientist in July. She is working on Dr. Frogner’s Behavioral Health Integration Workforce Needs grant.

Stacey Morrison moved from MSE to Research to become the Project Manager for a project to develop a Web Portal Clearinghouse for the Washington State Department of Health.

Jordon Legros also joined the Web Portal team in September.

Valerie Pruitt, Assistant Director in the DFM Administration Section retired effective November 1. She served in a variety of administrative and fiscal roles at WSU and UW with over 32 years of service to the State of Washington.

Dr. Daniel Evans, PhD, has joined the Department of Family Medicine Residency as an Assistant Professor effective November 1. Dr. Evans is a clinical psychologist with his PhD from the University of Kentucky obtained in 2014, with a post-doctoral fellowship in integrated primary care from the Family Medicine department at Brown University.

Students at Gonzaga University

Monday, September 19th marked the first day of class for the MEDEX Spokane site at its new location on Gonzaga University. The Gonzaga Schoenberg Center now houses 29 MEDEX physician assistant students and 100 UW Medicine medical students. Over the summer months, a third floor room was renovated into a classroom to accommodate incoming MEDEX Spokane Class 20, and faculty were moved into offices located on the building’s garden level. Read the full story here.

Eric Larson & Davis Patterson discuss Health Reform in rural U.S. including new ideas for quality care & access

For the nearly 60 million Americans living in rural areas, health reform is playing out in different ways. Despite health reform’s promise of expanding coverage, almost two-thirds of the rural uninsured live in states that are not expanding Medicaid, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. To find out more, Health Journalism Fellow Kellie Smith of the USC Center for Health Journalism interviews WWAMI RHRC’s Eric Larson & Davis Patterson. Read the interview here: What has health reform meant for rural America?

Holly Andrilla featured in Rural Health Info Q&A on her work and the UNODC Conference

Zachary Toliver recently interviewed Holly Andrilla for Rural Health Information Hub’s Rural Monitor about her work and her recent participation in The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Prevention Conference in Vienna, Austria. Read the full interview here.

Check out this year's FMIG Art in Family Medicine winners!

The winners of our 2016 Art in Family Medicine competition are in! Each year the photos that our students and faculty from across WWAMI are stunning. The good news is that we have turned all of the winning photos into a 2017 calendar to raise money for the Family Medicine Interest Group’s student programs. Order your calendar here!
Awards & Recognition

Congratulations to Brianne Huffstetler Rowan on being named a 2016 Pisacano Scholar! Each recipient is noted as an outstanding medical student who has made a commitment to enter the specialty of Family Medicine. Read more about the Pisacano Leadership Foundation here.

Melissa Bender, MD, receives UW Medicine Cares Award
This award highlights UW Medicine's Service Culture Guidelines: Respect privacy and confidentiality. Communicate effectively. Conduct myself professionally. Be accountable. Be committed to my colleagues & to UW Medicine. It is awarded to a health professional that embodies these values of service.

Dr. Lu Marchand recipient of the AAHPM Humanities Award, 2017
Dr Lucile Marchand, MD, BSN, FAAHPM, was chosen as 2017 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Humanities Award recipient, and recognized at the national conference in Phoenix, AZ, February 24, 2017. This award is for her significant work in the humanities and medicine.

Jim Fausto, MD, FAAHPM, was selected as the UWMC leader for UW Medicine Accountable Care Network’s work on end of life care and advance care planning.

Two peer-reviewed proposals with seven MEDEX PA faculty were granted by the Don Pedersen Research Grants Program at the Physician Assistant Education Association. Each project was awarded $7,000 in September 2016. The first project, "How do Physician Assistant Schools Identify and Remediate Professional Lapses in PA Students? A Nationwide study of PA Programs", includes four PA faculty with Gino Gianola as the PI. Additional MEDEX faculty participating in this project are Amee Naidu, Christine Kempe, Vanessa Bester, Doug Brock, and Susan Symington. The second project, "Diversity within Physician Assistant Education: Assessing Perceptions of Promotion and Tenure Opportunities among Underrepresented Minority Physician Assistant Faculty", is a multi-program project that includes Anju Jain as a Co-PI.

Allison Cole and Peggy Hannon (Health Services) were awarded, as Co-Principal Investigators, a Special Interest Project Award from the Centers for Disease Control. This two-year, $500,000 award will test the adaptation and implementation of an evidence-based Patient Navigation program to improve rates of colonoscopy completion among health disparities populations. The new award and Dr. Cole were highlighted in the fall edition of the Health Promotion Research Center newsletter.

Family Medicine Clerkship Awards

The following awards were presented at the October 7th, 2016 End-of-Quarter (EOQ) Meeting at the Waterfront Activities Center, Seattle:

The Family Medicine Clerkship Distinguished Faculty Award is given to Clerkship Site Directors who have dedicated over 10 years of service and demonstrated a passionate commitment to the advancement of students and colleagues in mission of the Family Medicine Required Clerkship.

Distinguished Faculty Award Winners
- Robert Weston, MD
- Nanette Smith, MD
The Family Medicine Clerkship Professionalism Award is given once a year to Clerkship Faculty or Staff who exhibit exemplary professionalism behavior during the third year clerkship. Students nominate faculty or staff based on role modeling professional behavior during your Family Medicine Clerkship.

**Faculty Professionalism Award Winners**
- Sonja Olson, MD - Country Doctor
- Zachary Warnock, MD - Pocatello
- Troy Witherrite, MD - White Salmon

The Family Medicine Clerkship Professionalism Award is given once a year to a student that exhibits exemplary professionalism behavior during their third year clerkship. Staff and Faculty can nominate students based on a particular interaction, a series of positive exchanges and/or positive feedback received about a student.

**Student Professionalism Award Winners**
- Patrick Callahan - Ferndale
- Volkmar Gaussmann - Swedish First Hill
- Caroline Pihl - Libby

### Section Updates

**MEDEX Northwest**

MEDEX Northwest welcomed 235 students back in Fall quarter with 132 students entering the didactic phase of training. Students start the year with basic clinical and technical skills, pathophysiology, behavioral medicine and professional role development. Another 113 students began clinical rotations, with half of this group entering the four-month family practice preceptorship. In addition to this busy training schedule, the admissions team is busy reviewing record-breaking numbers of applications: more than 2,600 PA applicants selected our PA training program of choice, a 40\% increase over last year. More than 1,600 applicants met the requirements to move forward in the screening and review process. Faculty have been hard at work reviewing applications and selecting applicants to interview in Seattle, Spokane, Anchorage, and Tacoma.

Also this Fall, representatives from MEDEX NW attended the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA) Annual Forum in October. Terry Scott and Amee Naidu presented details on our success in preparing PA students to pass the PA National Certifying Exam (PANCE). In addition, several faculty and staff had posters and presentations outlining some of the research being done at MEDEX. Topics included the impact of underrepresented minority students and its role in applicant selection of PA programs, the success of updating emergency medicine curriculum to include new technologies and teaching techniques, preceptor productivity, and the impact of unconscious bias on admissions decisions. Our presentations forum were well received and inspired many conversations amongst our PA colleagues.

MEDEX NW faculty and staff have been working hard to produce scholarly work. Several articles and a book chapter have been submitted and are currently under review process for publication. Clinician Review and Journal of Physician Assistant Education are just two of the publications in which MEDEX has articles slated for publication in the coming months.

### Medical Student Education

**Congrats to Matt Peters**, an Idaho WWAMI student, who was just elected to be one of the medical student delegates to the American Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates.
WWAMI Family Medicine Residency Network

The Family Medicine Residency Network is pleased to announce that our two newest residency programs, Kadlec Family Medicine Residency in Richland, Washington and Kootenai Family Medicine Residency in Coeur D’Alene, Idaho have received official ACGME accreditation this month. Congratulations to the faculty and staff at both programs and kudos for all the hard work and perseverance it took to get their programs off the ground!

Kadlec Family Medicine Residency

Kootenai Family Medicine Residency

Palliative Care

Development of new UWMC/HMC comfort care order set, new palliative sedation protocol and new patient controlled analgesia infusion order sets to keep patients safe.

Dr Melissa Bender (DFM) and Dr. Caroline Hurd have led the development of these important PC tools at UWMC and HMC, which go live November 7th and will not only increase patient safety and comfort, but also provide education tools and guidelines for clinicians. Dr Bender’s research focuses on how these new order sets and protocols will affect nurse and clinician satisfaction.

UW Medicine Clinical Physician Innovators group: Drs. Fausto, Raetz, and Marchand are actively involved in several practice transformation initiatives specific to palliative care, including physician orders for life-sustaining treatment, clinician education for advance care planning. Dr. Marchand is the physician champion for the Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest Initiative with UWMC selected as early adopter hospital.
This advance care planning initiative will eventually be rolled out to the entire state of Washington.

**Drs. Fausto and Marchand participate in the Vital Talk Train the Trainer program.**

Vital Talk is a nationally recognized program for effective communication in challenging situations and was created in part by Dr Tony Back, co-director of the Cambia/UW Palliative Care Center of Excellence. Faculty trained in Vital Talk will train others in this method, and will teach in the UW Graduate Certificate Program in Palliative Care which is in its second year.

**Advanced Educational Pursuits:**

**Dr. James Fausto** has started the executive MHA program this fall at UW. **Kelson Okimoto**, Palliative Care section manager, started a MSW program this fall at UW.

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**Research**

![Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine](https://example.com/jabfm.png)

Good evidence that our practice based research network is having an impact - three of the 10 Original Research articles in the September-October "practice-based research" edition of the *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine* emanated from the WWAMI region Practice and Research Network (WPRN). The WPRN is the 58-clinic primary care practice-based research network that is a collaboration between the Department of Family Medicine and the Institute of Translational Health Sciences.

*The studies* all involved collaborations with practices and family medicine residency programs across the five WWAMI states, along with Group Health Research Institute and the UW Department of Human Centered Design and Engineering. These articles illustrate the breadth of research conducted in the WPRN, including implementation of a blood pressure kiosk for patient self-service check-in, a survey of patients' willingness to participate in weight loss programs, and development of a tool that practices can use to decide whether or not to implement a new evidence-based innovation.

The Department of Health Web Portal project is now underway. This project will develop a Web Portal Clearinghouse for the Washington State Department of Health HUB, funded by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. It aims to identify, prioritize and disseminate across the state the best evidence and practical tools for practice transformation with a focus on primary care, substance abuse treatment and behavioral health services.

Internationally, our trial of a mobile phone decision support is finally underway in northern Malawi. *The Supporting Life* trial is measuring the impact of using mHealth decision support by first line health care workers at village clinics to improve care of children under 5 years in three districts of Malawi. A total of 100 health care workers will be involved, and recruitment of several thousand children is starting.

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**Residency**

The department's residency program has been busy during its fall interview season, having received 1,068 applications, offering 160 interviews, and have scheduled 143 interviews over 12 days. Our first interview day was 11/1/2016 and the Residency anticipates another great interview season!

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**Sports Medicine**
Fall cardiac screens were successful with Seattle United teams coming to the sports medicine clinic for cardiac screens on Tuesday evenings throughout the fall. Cardiac screens were performed with the Nick of Time Foundation at Tumwater High School and Kamiak High School.

Jon Drezner was named Deputy Editor for North America for the British Journal of Sports Medicine. Dr. Drezner is also co-chair and lead author on the AMSSM Position Statement on Cardiovascular Pre-participation Screening in Athletes, which was published simultaneously in four journals. This evidence based document moves the conversation regarding cardiovascular screening forward.

Drs. Rao, Pelto, and Siebert taught in the 44th Annual Advances of Family Medicine Course. Dr. O’Kane taught an evidenced based shoulder exam to WWAMI faculty. Dr. Siebert also published a blog in the British Journal of Sports Medicine on ECG Screening.

Drs. Kim Harmon and Jon Drezner received two grants: The first is a grant from the Pac-12 on Cardiovascular Screening of College Athletes in the Pac-12, the second is a grant from the NCAA to examine the etiology of sudden cardiac death in athletes. In addition, Dr. Harmon is collaborating on another Pac-12 grant just awarded examining effective concussion education in coaches.

We are recruiting patients for two ongoing Clinical Trials in Sports Medicine:

- Double blind, placebo controlled study examining the effectiveness of platelet rich plasma in patellar tendinitis. If you have a patient with patellar tendinitis please contact Monica Zigman mzigman@uw.edu
- Study of the use of orthotics in acquired flat foot deformity. If you have a patient with this or posterior tibial tendon dysfunction please contact Monica Zigman.

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