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Got News?
E-mail dfmnews@uw.edu to submit your news!

Spring has arrived with blossoms cheering the sunshine that graced the Seattle area last weekend. There is much to peruse in our Quarterly Departmental Newsletter. I share your pride in acknowledging the work of faculty, staff and learners as we celebrate again the top ranking in the US News and World Report for primary care, family medicine and rural medicine. Hooray and congratulations to all! March was exciting for another reason, Match Day! Congratulations to our Residency Program faculty, staff and residents for a very successful recruitment year.

People are an organization’s most valuable resource and thus by my estimation, this Department is wealthy. Please read about the life and work of MEDEX founder Dr. Richard A. Smith to be further inspired to live fearlessly. Then, know that we have people striving to change the world and recognized in our Award & Recognition section. We are excited to welcome two important new resources for the DFM. Mina Marcher joined us in February as our new Human Resources Manager and Amon Johnson joined us earlier this month as our DFM Manager of Databases and Web Services.

Our Research Section is impacting the world from Dr. Thompson’s work in Malawi and Zimbabwe to more local news from our work in rural health to the annual WPRN meeting. Finally, our Medical Student Section took great pride in having the highest percentage of students’ match in family medicine in the history of our medical school. Great work Dr. Keen and colleagues!

Paul A. James MD
Professor and Chair
Department of Family Medicine

For the 23rd time in the past 24 years, the University of Washington ranked as the No. 1 primary care medical education program in the country, according to U.S. News & World Report’s 2018 Best Graduate School rankings released Tuesday. Read more here.

Founding father of the PA profession & UW MEDEX NW program, Dr. Richard A. Smith passed
Hails & Farewells

Samantha Crowe, Manager of the Sports Medicine Section, left the department in March to take a position with King County.

Cathy Thomas, DFM HR Manager, retired at the end of March after over 20 years with the University and over 15 years with DFM. Cathy hopes to retire in Missouri in order to be closer to grandchildren.

Mina Marcher, DFM HR Manager replacing Cathy Thomas, joined DFM in February, coming to us from the Department of Radiation Oncology.

Amon Johnson, DFM Manager of Databases and Web Services, joined the department on April 5.

Andrea Chiodo joined the Research Section in March as a Fiscal Specialist 1. Andrea previously worked as a Program Coordinator in UW Oncology.

Welcome to our new R1 Interns for 2017-2018!

Global health leader and widely recognized founder of the physician assistant (PA) profession, Richard A. Smith, M.D., M.P.H., died March 10, at his home in Honolulu, Hawaii. He was 84. Dr. Smith was recently honored by President Barack Obama for his many contributions in the areas of PA education, racial desegregation and global health. Dr. Smith has devoted his lifetime to the cause of improving access to basic healthcare in urban, rural and underserved communities across the United States and around the world. Read the full story here.

On the Calendar

Sports Medicine Grand Rounds
4th Wednesday each month
Husky Football Team Room, Hec Edmundson Pavilion
7:15 - 8:45 a.m

Family Medicine Grand Rounds
First Wednesday of each month
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Northgate Classroom
331 NE Thornton Place, Seattle, 98125

Awards & Recognition

Lynn Oliver elected AOA Honor Medical Society faculty

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, a professional medical organization, recognizes and advocates for excellence in scholarship and the highest ideals in the profession of medicine. Congratulations to Dr. Oliver on this great honor!

Read more about the Alpha Omega Alpha society here.

Steven Meltzer winner of MEDEX NW Pioneer Award for 2017

Publications & Presentations

View a listing of our most recent publications & presentations here
From 2005 to 2016 Steven Meltzer, PA served as full-time lecturer to the MEDEX Northwest Spokane and Yakima sites. Steven Meltzer, PA is recipient of the 2017 MEDEX Pioneer Award. Read the full story here.

ITHS Community Engagement staff team nominated for a UW Distinguished staff award

The ITHS Community Engagement team, including Gina Keppel, Laurie Hassell and Brenda Mollis, were nominated for a UW Distinguished Staff Award. The Distinguished Staff Award highlights University of Washington staff members who display a commitment to the UW and a passion for their work that never rests. This award represents our University’s highest honor by recognizing those who create a world of good through their hard work, dedication and selfless spirit. Read more here.

Lu Marchand, MD was presented with 2017 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Humanities Award in Phoenix, AZ

Lucille Marchand, MD BSN FAAHPM has worked over 25 years integrating the humanities in all aspects of education to colleagues, nurses, nurse practitioners, medical student, physician assistant students, and the public. She is widely published and has organized the Healing Space venue at the 2005 and 2006 Annual Assembly. Read more here.

Dr. Eric Larson, Director of WWAMI RHRC, Awarded Mary Selecky Friends of Rural Health Award
This award seeks nominees who have made a special effort to cause and effect change in rural health policy, legislation, etc. to specifically benefit rural health outcomes. Dr. Larson received this award at the NW Rural Health Conference.

Palliative Care team member Tracy Ng receives Golden Eddy Award for Outstanding Patient and Family Educators

Grace Parker, Chief Nursing Officer, and Cindy Sayre, Associate Administrator, presented awards to the 15 individuals and nine teams who are this year’s recipients including Tracy Ng and Beth Chance for their work on the ICU Children’s Coloring book.

Section Updates

WWAMI NETWORK

WWAMI Rural Training Track Meeting
On February 27 the Family Medicine Residency Network held the 2nd annual WWAMI Rural Training Track meeting during the Northwest Rural Health Conference in Seattle. Twenty-one residency program directors, faculty and staff attended from current and developing WWAMI rural training tracks and programs. The meeting focused on the collaboration between rural sites, communication with core programs and resident recruitment.

Research and Scholarly Activities Group
A group of about 15 faculty leads in research and scholarly activity from residency programs around the University of Washington Family Medicine Residency Network met on March 1 before the start of the annual WPRN meeting. The group had a lively discussion about challenges and successes of involving residents in research and scholarly projects and developed an initial list of best practices, ideas, and resources for programs working to increase participation in research and scholarly activities throughout the WWAMI region. Continued engagement of this group is planned with a listserv, resource-sharing, and occasional webinars.
ACGME and Gold Foundation DeWitt C. Baldwin, Jr. Award Recipients

Congratulations to Montana Family Medicine for receiving the 2017 ACGME and Gold Foundation DeWitt C. Baldwin, Jr. Award. Roxanne Fahrenwald, MD and John Felton, MPH, MBA were presented with the award at the ACGME conference in March. The award “recognizes institutions with accredited residency/fellowship programs that are exemplary in fostering a respectful, supportive environment for medical education and the delivery of patient care, which leads to the personal and professional development of learners”.

Congratulations to Valley Family Medicine and Alaska Family Medicine!

Two of our programs are celebrating big milestones this year; Valley Family Medicine is having their 30th anniversary and Alaska Family Medicine their 20th anniversary. Congratulations to both programs! We thank them for their many contributions over the years to the Family Medicine Residency Network.