## I. Approval of April 23, 2013 Minutes

Action

## II. Health Sciences Division - Dr. Phyllis Horns

Discussion

A. Vidant Health CEO Update – Dr. Michael Waldrum

B. College of Nursing Update - Dr. Sylvia Brown

C. Brody School of Medicine Update – Dr. Paul Cunningham
   1. ECU Physicians Financial Performance – Dr. Rick Niswander
   2. Coastal Plains Network & Medicare Shared Savings Program
      ACO – Mr. Dan Sweat

## III. Closed Session

## IV. Health Sciences Informational Updates

Information

A. College of Allied Health Sciences

B. College of Nursing

C. School of Dental Medicine

D. Laupus Library

E. Brody School of Medicine
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Health Sciences Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Responsible Person</td>
<td>Vern Davenport, Chair</td>
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<td>Agenda Item</td>
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Health Sciences Committee – Open Session
ECU Board of Trustees
April 23, 2015
ECHI Conference Room B

Board Members Present:

Edwin Clark
Mark Copeland
Vern Davenport
Steve Jones
Max Joyner
Carol Mabe
Bob Plybon
Danny Scott
Kieran Shanahan
Jake Srednicki

Others Present:

Michael Abramowitz  Chris Locklear
Chancellor Ballard  Cheryl Marsh
Bill Bagnell  Ron Mitchelson
Nicholas Benson  Rick Niswander
Michelle Brooks  Mark Notestine
Greg Chadwick  Donna Payne
Paul Cunningham  Mary Schulken
Steve Duncan  Dan Sweat
Greg Hassler  Stacie Tronto
Phyllis Horns  Michael Van Scott
Kathryn Kennedy  Kathryn Verbanac

Recorder: Cindy Reaves

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Jones called the meeting to order at 11:28 a.m., and read the conflict of interest statement required by the State Government Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified. The minutes of February 19, 2015 were approved.
Health Sciences Division Update:

Dr. Horns informed the committee that she had sent emails with information and links to the members to provide them with updates of things going on within the Division of Health Sciences.

Brody School of Medicine Update:

Dr. Cunningham stated that the Match Day results were very positive with a 100% match result. Dr. Cunningham and Dr. Benson reviewed the ECU Physicians Core Purpose document that has been created to assist and provide focus in the future planning with strategic direction and practice transformation work.

ECU Physicians Financial Performance Update:

Dr. Niswander reviewed the financial year-to-date information as of the end of March 2015. Co-pays were up 18%. Over a 12-month period, the cash reserves had increased from 58 days to 66 days and approximately $4M. The total operating revenues were improved and the total operating expenses had decreased. Dr. Niswander stated that they are expecting 2 more UPL payments before the end of the year. There are a lot of positive changes in the ECU Physicians Practice Management Indicators with a 15.7% improvement in Pro-Fee Collections and a 15% improvement in inpatient E&M visits.

Hospital Relations Update:

Chancellor Ballard and Dr. Horns gave a follow-up from the April 8th meeting with representatives from the BOG/BOT/UNC-GA. Chancellor Ballard stated that the meeting provided the group with a status update on the relationship and clinical integration activities between the BSOM and Vidant Health. This meeting showed the progress in clinical integration efforts in the last 9-month period and discussed the plans for the next steps. Dr. Horns stated that the Vidant Health Board understands and is committed to be engaged with our BOT members and leadership to redefine the relationship and the direction it takes in the future. Dr. Ballard, Dr. Horns and other leadership are very pleased with the results of the national search for the Vidant Health CEO position in hiring Dr. Michael Waldrum who will start on June 1, 2015. They appreciate his commitment to the academic mission and the importance of a partnership.

Clinical Trials Partnership Discussion:

Dr. Van Scott presented an overview of the possibility of an ECU/Vidant joint venture in coordinating clinical trials. This joint venture has a $10M-$20M revenue potential.
The vision of this is to set an entity between the two institutions to rollout services in the entire region and to provide state-of-the-art care. Dr. Van Scott plans to present a business plan on this venture to the BOT in July.

Legislative Update:

Ms. Brooks gave a legislative update. The anticipated amount of SODCA funds that will be collected in 2015 is approximately $1.2M - $1.25M. Rep. Brown sponsored legislation to reinstate full SODCA authority for UNC and ECU. The bill passed the House this week. The Governor’s Budget was released and includes $8M in recurring funds for BSOM, an increase in medical examiner fees and enhanced Medicaid reimbursement for the School of Dental Medicine. Ms. Brooks reinforced the importance of working in tandem with Vidant Health as we educate legislators about the importance of the relationship and the impact of policy decisions.

Division Updates:

Additional informational updates on the College of Allied Health Sciences, College of Nursing, Laupus Library, School of Dental Medicine and the Brody School of Medicine were included in the board packets.

Closed Session:

Action: A motion was made by Chairman Jones that the Health Sciences Committee go into closed session. Mr. Davenport read the motion to go into closed session:

1. Prevent the disclosure of confidential information under N.C. General Statutes §126-22 to §126-30 (personnel information);

2. Consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, or conditions of appointment of one or more prospective and/or current employees and/or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against one or more individual employees;

3. Consult with an attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege; and

4. Prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to law or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, specifically to:

   (a) Prevent the disclosure of financial terms and/or other competitive health care information directly related to the financial terms in a health care services contract between a hospital or medical school and a managed care organization, insurance
company, employer, or other payer, as provided under N.C.G.S. § 131E-99; and

(b) Prevent disclosure of one or more reports regarding assessment of information technology networks under N.C.G.S. § 147-33.111 and to maintain the confidentiality information related to security features of networks and/or systems as provided in N.C.G.S. § 132-6.1(c).

Action: Motion passed.

Action: A motion was made by Chairman Jones to go back into open session at 12:28 p.m. Motion passed.

Action Items:

The Health Sciences Committee reviewed one initial appointment with permanent tenure for Dr. Espen E. Spangenberg. A motion was made to approve the initial appointment with permanent tenure as approved by the Chancellor and as presented in the Board materials. Motion passed unanimously.

The Health Sciences Committee reviewed one initial appointment of Professor with permanent tenure for Dr. Janet Tuttle-Newhall. A motion was made to approve the initial appointment of Professor with permanent tenure as approved by the Chancellor and as presented in the Board materials. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.
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<td>Dr. Sylvia Brown – Dean, College of Nursing</td>
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|                                  | C. School of Dental Medicine 
|                                  | D. Laupus Library           
|                                  | E. Brody School of Medicine  |
Update from the College of Allied Health Sciences since the April 23, 2015 meeting

**Drug and Rehabilitation Studies earns accreditation**

The Masters in Substance Abuse and Clinical Counseling is now accredited by CACREP. For 2015-2016, DARS will submit a self-study and conduct a site-visit for renewing Masters in Rehabilitation and Career Counseling accreditation with CORE. DARS will also submit an application for accreditation of PhD in Rehabilitation Counseling and Administration by CACREP.

**Nutrition Sciences reports 100 percent pass rate**

The Commission on Dietetic Registration of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics issues a report twice annually on the pass rate of graduates from the didactic program in nutrition on the national registration examination for dietitians. The Department of Nutrition Science is proud to report a 100 percent pass rate for the period of January 1- June 30, 2015. Congratulations to these newly credentialed registered dietitians!

**Communication Sciences and Disorders student earns grant**

Congratulations to second-year graduate student Carley Prenshaw and her mentor Balaji Rangarathnam on earning a grant that was sizeable for a master's student – totaling $32,000.

They are partnering with Dr. Andrew Ju in the Brody School of Medicine on this project.

We look forward to watching her defend her master's thesis: “Treatment of trismus and oropharyngeal dysphagia in patients with head and neck cancer.”

**Wright elected fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association**

Dr. Heather Harris Wright, associate dean for Research and incoming chair of the Department of Nutrition Sciences, has been elected a fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

Fellowship is one of the highest forms of recognition given by ASHA of an individual’s accomplishments and is a public declaration of their outstanding professional achievements.
Individuals selected to receive awards given by the Association will be formally recognized with a presentation at the Awards Ceremony on November 13 at the ASHA Convention in Denver.

**Dickerson earns Certification in Driving and Community Mobility**

Dr. Anne E. Dickerson, professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy, received Specialty Certification in Driving and Community Mobility from the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). Less than 1 percent of all occupational therapists accomplish this special distinction.

The attainment of certification demonstrates a strong level of commitment to the profession, the practice area of Driving and Community Mobility and consumer care. Her completion of this certification demonstrates scholarly and professional involvement in activities that promote professional growth and contribute to the field of occupational therapy.

**Wright named interim chair of Department of Nutrition Sciences**

Dr. Heather Harris Wright was selected as interim Chair of Department of Nutrition Sciences, for the College of Allied Health Sciences, effective July 1st. Wright’s appointment as interim chair is in addition to her role as associate dean for Research in the College of Allied Health Sciences.

After receiving her bachelor’s degree in Hearing & Speech Science from University of Maryland, Dr. Wright earned her master’s and PhD from the University of Georgia in Communication Sciences & Disorders. Wright held faculty positions at the University of Kentucky and Arizona State University prior to coming to ECU. She joined the College of Allied Health Sciences’ faculty in 2012 as a professor in the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders.

Wright brings strong leadership, collaborative, advocacy, and administrative skills to her role as interim chair. Please join us in supporting her as she begins this new assignment.

In addition, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Melani Duffrin, who has served as the Interim Chair of the Department of Nutrition Sciences and has worked to ensure the success of the department.

**Dr. Jenkins elected as President of the APTA Sports Physical Therapy Section**

Dr. Walt Jenkins, professor and chair in the Department of Physical Therapy, was elected president of the American Physical Therapy Association Sports Physical
Therapy Section on April 30. During 2015-16 he will serve as president-elect followed by a three-year term as president.

The APTA Sports Physical Therapy Section is an 8,000 member professional organization serving its members, athletes of all ages and abilities, the profession, and the community at large through excellence in Sports Physical Therapy practice, research, education, and professional development.

**Leadership Changes in Communication Sciences and Disorders**

Dr. Kathleen T. Cox has left the College of Allied Health Sciences to assume the position of associate dean in the ECU Graduate School effective September 1. Cox served the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders where she served as interim chair for the past year and a half. As director of the master’s program in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Kathy developed and implemented a number of innovative recruiting strategies.

Kathy served in several leadership roles in support of graduate education at ECU, including service as a member of the Graduate Council for four years and a member of the Graduate Council Executive Committee for three years.

She has distinguished herself in these roles and has detailed knowledge and experience with ECU’s graduate programs, policies and procedures. We thank Kathy for all her work within the college.

New leadership from the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders will be as follows:

- Jamie Perry, PhD; interim department chair
- Andrew Vermiglio, AuD, director of undergraduate education
- Charles Ellis, PhD, director of master’s education
- Jamie Perry, PhD, director of doctoral education
- Lori Kincannon, MS, director of clinical operations for the ECU Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic

**Health Informatics & Information Management program graduates first master’s student**

A distance education student from the Charlotte area has become the first person to graduate from East Carolina University with a master’s degree in health informatics and information management. Rhonda Joyner of Indian Trails completed her required internship this summer and is now seeking employment in the health care
industry. ECU’s Department of Health Services and Information Management – housed in the College of Allied Health Sciences – launched its inaugural graduate program in 2013. The degree builds on a graduate certificate in health informatics.
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is giving the East Carolina University College of Nursing a three-year, $2.5 million grant through its Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program. The College of Nursing will partner with the Brody School of Medicine Division of Geriatrics, the Department of Physician Assistant Studies, the ECU-based North Carolina Agromedicine Institute and multiple regional partners. The grant will allow ECU to implement an interprofessional education model focusing on geriatrics, train primary care providers to meet the specific needs of elderly patients, and deliver community-based programs that address the needs of older adults and their families. A news story about this grant is scheduled to appear on the ECU home page the week of Sept. 13.

The College of Nursing has received 10 years of accreditation, the maximum granted by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The accreditation follows an extensive self-study and fall 2014 site visit, and applies to ECU’s baccalaureate, master’s and post-master’s certificate, and doctor of nursing practice programs. The DNP program, established in 2013, received the maximum five years allowed for programs undergoing initial accreditation. All of the ECU programs assessed met CCNE’s four accreditation standards and with no recommendations for changes.

For the third time, the East Carolina University College of Nursing has been designated a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education by the National League for Nursing. Center of Excellence selection is by competitive application reviewed by a panel of leaders in nursing education. ECU was recognized for creating environments that enhance student learning and professional development, one of several criteria used to evaluate candidates. ECU will carry the distinction from 2015 to 2020.

Spring 2015 students passed licensing exams with the following pass rates: Traditional BSN – 96 percent; accelerated second-degree BSN – 100 percent; adult-gerontology nurse practitioner – 90 percent; family nurse practitioner – 100 percent; nurse anesthesia – 100 percent; nurse midwifery – 100 percent; neonatal nurse practitioner – 100 percent; adult gerontology clinical nurse specialist – 100 percent.

A new class of East Carolina University nursing students was encouraged to pursue knowledge, emphasize service, and be honest and ethical in all matters during an Aug. 27 ceremony welcoming them into their future profession and into the College of Nursing. The twice-annual Lamp of Learning ceremony was held at the East Carolina Heart Institute, with students, families, friends and clinical partners in attendance. Those recognized include 119 students in the traditional bachelor of science in nursing program and 20 students in the accelerated second-degree BSN option – offered to students who previously earned an undergraduate degree in another discipline. Average GPA of admitted students was 3.7. Read more: http://bit.ly/1fVCzDJ.

Dr. Elaine Scott, associate professor and director of the East Carolina University Ph.D. program in nursing, has been inducted as a Distinguished Scholar and Fellow.
in the Nursing Academy of the National Academies of Practice. Professor of Nursing Dr. Kathy Sitzman has been named a National League for Nursing Fellow. Interim Associate Dean for Graduate Programs Dr. Sonya Hardin has been named one of North Carolina’s Great 100 nurses.

- ECU’s RN to BSN program was ranked 9th among online programs by Value Colleges.

- The East Carolina University College of Nursing’s first Massive Open Online Course, or MOOC, attracted a global audience of more than 700 to learn about the science behind caring. Drawing primarily nursing professionals, the course enrollment included students from Australia, the South Pacific, Southeast Asia, Western Europe, South America, Africa and the Middle East. Professor of Nursing Dr. Kathy Sitzman presented the course in partnership with the Watson Institute and Utah’s Weber State University.

- Associate Professor of Nursing Dr. Ann Schreier wrote the second-edition *Pain Management Principles and Practice*. Published by Western Schools, the book provides a comprehensive discussion of pain and effective pain management. Dr. Sonya Hardin, interim associate dean for graduate programs, co-authored the second edition of the indispensable reference *Cardiac Surgery Essentials for Critical Care Nursing*. Jones and Bartlett Learning published the title in April.

- The college will hold its annual scholarship dinner on Sept. 25 at Rock Springs Center to honor scholarship recipients and celebrate donors. We will give out more than $230,000 in awards this academic year.

- Curricular updates: The college added a neonatal clinical nurse specialist concentration and a post-master’s neonatal clinical nurse specialist concentration to its master of science in nursing program. It added a DNP to PhD option to its PhD program.

- The college has increased its outreach to parents of undergraduates, inviting them for the first time ever to our Lamp of Learning ceremony and recording the event for those who could not attend. We also created the following website for parents where they can register to receive periodic updates from the college: [www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/nursing/students_parents.cfm](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/nursing/students_parents.cfm).

### FALL 2015 ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

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Graduation
The School of Dental Medicine graduated its inaugural class of 50 DMD students in May 2015. Before graduating, the class created an endowment earmarked for patient care and educational opportunities for students. Each class member donated at least $250.00 to the fund, which now stands at $35K. The SoDM also celebrated the graduation of sixteen residents from the Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) program and four residents from the General Practice Residency (GPR) program. Applications are being accepted for the first Pediatric Residency class that will start in mid-2016.

Class of 2019
The Class of 2019, which joined the school in August, consists of 25 males and 28 females representing 31 North Carolina Counties. All of the students are residents of NC. The undergraduate institutions most represented by the class are UNC-Chapel Hill, ECU, NC State, and Appalachian State. The undergraduate majors most represented are biology (30), chemistry (5), public health (3), and exercise and sports science (3). The students range in age from 20 to 30 years old.

Celebration of Research and Scholarship
Our year began with an inaugural Celebration of Research and Scholarship at the East Carolina Heart Institute. Chancellor Ballard, Vice Chancellor Horns, and Dean Chadwick addressed faculty, staff, students, and residents. Keynote speaker Dr. Thomas C. Hart, director of the Volpe Research Center at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, presented “Genetic Testing for Dental Practice: Hype, Reality and Clinical Utility.” Dental students and faculty presented research in a poster forum.

Community Service Learning Centers
Seven Community Service Learning Centers are now open to the public (Ahoskie, Elizabeth City, Lillington, Sylva, Spruce Pine, Robeson County, and Davidson County) and our eighth site in Brunswick County will open this winter. Fourth-year students complete three 8-week rotations at the centers.
Photo – 8-19-15 CSLC-Brunswick County, Bolivia, N.C.
Update from Laupus Library since the April 23, 2015 meeting.

**Art as Avocation Series continues for 2015**

Laupus Library’s Art as Avocation exhibit titled, “The Essence of Caring: A Collaborative Exhibit from College of Nursing Faculty,” will be on display September 29th through December 14th on the 4th floor of the library. The exhibit showcases a collection of oil painting, photography, acrylic, textiles, and other mediums from six artists from the College of Nursing.

**Registration for the Annual Health Sciences Author Recognition Awards Program will close September 30th**

This program provides an opportunity for both faculty and staff to be honored for their published research and scholarly contributions to their area of study. This year, Laupus Library expanded eligibility criteria to include books, book chapters, articles in peer-reviewed journals and other creative works published between July 1st of 2014, through June 30th of 2015 for recognition. Creative works are inclusive of, but not limited to, academic abstracts, editorials/letters to the editor, and scholarly reviews in peer-reviewed journals; published educational materials, conference presentations, proceedings papers, and visual media. An awards ceremony will be held on the evening of November 10th at the Hilton Greenville.

**Laupus to Host ‘Lakefest’ event for students**

Laupus Library will host its 3rd annual ‘Lakefest’ event for students on Tuesday, September 29th from 5-7 p.m. The idea was initiated by the library’s user experience group who wanted to provide a student appreciation cookout. Laupus Library staff will oversee the event, facilitating games, providing refreshments, and gathering feedback. There will be free food, music, games and outdoor entertainment sponsored by Laupus Library, the Friends of Laupus Library and ECU Student Activities and Organizations. The event will be held at Lake Laupus and is free to all ECU students.

**“A Voyage to Health” exhibition on display through October 10th**

“A Voyage to Health” explores the recent revival of the ancient arts of navigation and voyaging that first brought the people of Hawai’i to their island homes. Much of the valuable knowledge of voyaging was lost as a consequence of the suppression of traditional ways. As part of a wider movement to reintroduce traditional ways, Native Hawaiians are mastering the knowledge and skills of their elders. By restoring their heritage, this new generation seeks to heal the people. “A Voyage to Health” explores
this resurgence and its significance for health, well-being, and self-determination. The exhibit is provided by the National Library of Medicine and is on display August 31st - October 10th in the 4th floor exhibit gallery.

“Pick Your Poison: Intoxicating Pleasures and Medical Prescriptions” on display September 21

Mind-altering drugs have been used throughout the history of America. While some remain socially acceptable, others are outlawed because of their toxic, and intoxicating, characteristics. These classifications have shifted at different times in history, and will continue to change. The six-banner traveling exhibition “Pick Your Poison: Intoxicating Pleasures & Medical Prescriptions” explores the factors that have shaped the changing definitions of some of our most potent drugs, from medical miracle to social menace. This exhibition was produced by the National Library of Medicine, and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History and is on display September 21st -October 31st in the 4th floor exhibit gallery.

Laupus Library Collection Services Updates

We are now the home of the Nutrition Sciences collection, so our department is in physical receipt of all the materials from Joyner Library and will add them to the Laupus collection.

Models are in high-demand here at Laupus, and we have recently acquired new skeletons, muscle men, and anatomical parts to replace and refurbish our model collection.

We started a subscription to a product called AccessAnesthesiology at the request of our Nurse Anesthetist program leadership. It includes mostly book content and should provide our students and faculty with more exhaustive and current information on the topic than we’ve previously been able to provide.

Save the Date: Fall 2015 Medical History Interest Group Presentations

Laupus Library History Collections & the Department of Bioethics & Interdisciplinary Studies sponsor the Medical History Interest Group Presentations as an educational service for the East Carolina University community. The Library hopes that the speakers and topics selected will promote a greater understanding of the historical and philosophical underpinnings of today’s health care disciplines.

All lectures will be held in the 4th floor Evelyn Fike Laupus Gallery of the Laupus Library. Refreshments will be provided.

Monday, September 28th at 4:30 p.m.
TB or Not TB: The Re-emerging White Plague through History
John M. Lehman, PhD, Professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, BSOM
Bobby M. Collins, DDS, MS, Clinical Assoc. Prof., School of Dental Medicine

**Monday, October 26th at 4:30 pm**
The History of Amputation
Carolyn Horne, PhD, MSN, RN-BC, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing

**Monday, November 9th at 4:30 pm**
Dr. Anton Chekhov and the Syphilitics of Sakhalin Island
John Papalas, MD
Education

- The 39th entering class of the Brody School of Medicine started classes on Monday, August 17, 2015. The 80 incoming students, all NC residents, were selected from a pool of 982 applicants, making this the second most competitive year in our history. Facts about the class include:
  - They represent 25 counties of residence, from Buncombe in the west to Perquimans in the east, and 22 different undergraduate institutions.
  - The class is 51 percent male and 49 percent female.
  - Ages range from 19 to 37, with the average being 24.
  - Thirty-one percent (25 students) are non-Caucasian.
  - The class boasts an average undergraduate 3.6 GPA. And while 29 students majored in biology, there are also business, religion, history and foreign language students in the class of 2019. Fourteen students completed graduate coursework, and they averaged a 3.9 GPA.
  - Thirteen students in the class of 2019 are children of doctors. One is the child of two Brody School of Medicine graduates.

- The Class of 2019 experienced a brand new orientation experience to welcome them to the Brody School of Medicine. M2 students served as orientation leaders, leading new students around campus and introducing them to student life at Brody and at ECU. Every student participated in a tour of Greenville, led by Dr. Tom Irons (Pediatrics). This tour provided students with key aspects of Greenville history and highlighted locations at which students may volunteer. The week culminated in our annual White Coat Ceremony, where the students donned their new white coats for the very first time. The school was filled with family and friends to celebrate this event.

- We just received final summary data on our medical students who took USMEL Step 2 Clinical Knowledge exams (the second portion of a student's licensing examinations), and Brody outperformed the national average on percent passing on first attempt (97%, compared to 95% nationally) and on mean test score (242, compared to 240 nationally). Summary scores for the same year for the Step 1 exam are not yet available, but initial results from students who have taken this also show strong score performance. This is a testimony to the effectiveness of our curriculum and the dedication and hard work of our students.
On July 1st, The Graduate Medical Education Programs at Vidant Medical Center and the Brody School of Medicine welcomed 97 new first year resident physicians and 25 fellows, who joined 282 upper level residents and fellows who are already training in our system. Among the 97 new first year residents are 18 Brody medical school graduates from the class of 2015. In addition to Brody, the incoming residents represent 52 different medical schools.

Two new Graduate Medical Education programs got underway this year: a residency training program in Thoracic Surgery and a fellowship in Forensic Pathology. Additionally, our residency training program in General Psychiatry expanded in order to implement a collaboration with the Veterans Administration that is aimed at improving mental health care for veterans in eastern North Carolina.

The Brody Clinical Simulation Program, a partnership with Vidant Medical Center, has continued to promote excellence in clinical care, enhance critical thinking skills, advance patient and trainee safety, and improve interprofessional team performance within a safe, simulation-based learning environment. Simulation center staffing has been enhanced to include a full time simulation technology specialist, and an administrative assistant. Recruitment will begin in September for a business manager.

There were over 8,000 learner encounters this year consisting of medical students, residents and fellows, VMC nurses and other healthcare professionals. Trainees and faculty are provided with an opportunity for guided practice through the use of a variety of simulation modalities such as computer programs, virtual reality, innovative models, task trainers, higher fidelity computer-enhanced patient simulators, and standardized patients.

Educational space was expanded to 15 rooms for a total of over 5,000 sq ft. Physical space and technology are currently being enhanced to include interactive videodebriefing systems and a VR ultrasound skills education system. Medical students begin clinically oriented, hands-on training early in their first year and take part in 25 simulation sessions by the time they graduate. Student learning and understanding of the importance of teamwork and communication is enhanced by early exposure to clinical scenarios and the inclusion of other healthcare professionals into sessions. Collaborative simulation-based modules consist of medical student basic sciences simulations, doctoring skills, clerkship skills, team based learning, first five minutes crisis management, transition to residency, critical care fellow simulation and skills rotation, medical staff sedation airway module, resident central venous catheterization module, and a Navy corpsmen simulation-based tactical training course.
The REACH Initiative, funded through the AMA’s Accelerating Change in Graduate Medical Education, continues to expand student training in patient safety, quality improvement, population health, and interprofessionalism. Beginning its third year, the longitudinal curriculum revisions are now complete for the M1 and M2 years and development of relevant training components for the clinical years is well underway. Our LINC (Leaders in Innovative Care) Scholars program kicked off this summer with five M1 students who were selected for this Distinction Track spending eight weeks of their time between the M1 and M2 years in an immersion course on health care system science. This part of the REACH Initiative was also funded by a BB&T Leadership Grant. The REACH Initiative continues to achieve national recognition and prominence. Attached is a piece that was written and posted on the Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s Open School web site, and was included as a feature article in the August 24th This Week at IHI (Institute for Healthcare Improvement) electronic newsletter, which has a distribution of over 300,000 people worldwide.

Research

- Dr. Myon-Hee Lee, an assistant professor of internal medicine, has received a three-year, $367,275 NIH grant for his study of germline stem cells in a species of nematode. Germline stem cells are able to self-renew and generate a continuous supply of gametes through differentiation, or changing from one cell type to another. Dr. Lee wants to understand how these germlines are created and regulated.

- Dr. Joe McClung, an assistant professor of physiology, has received grants from the NIH/National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to study aspects of peripheral artery disease. The major ones are a three-year, $532,580 “Pathway to Independence Award” to study a type of cell involved in cardiovascular disease and a five-year, $1.25 million grant looking at an element of limb vasculature, such as occurs in peripheral arterial disease.

- Dr. Vivek Anand, clinical assistant professor of child and adolescent psychiatry has published research in the Journal of Adolescent Health that shows what adolescents in eastern North Carolina think of electronic cigarettes and how they’re using them. Dr. Anand surveyed about 3,000 public high school students to determine their attitudes and habits around the practice commonly referred to as “vaping.”

- Dr. MD Motaleb, a researcher in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, was awarded $423,000 over two years to investigate the disease mechanisms around the bacterium Borrelia burgdorferi, which causes the multi-systemic disorder known as Lyme disease – transmitted to humans via bites from infected deer ticks.
Community Service

- On April 28th, infectious diseases expert Dr. Paul Cook was interviewed by WNCT on the topic of local tick- and mosquito-borne diseases, how to guard against them, and treatments available. On June 3rd, Dr. Cook shared advice with WNCT about rabies after a rabid fox bit someone in Jacksonville.

- On May 15th, dermatologist Dr. Charles Phillips participated in a WNCT news segment about skin cancer prevention. Endocrinologist Dr. Almond Drake also participated, sharing his personal experience with skin cancer. On June 23rd, Dr. Phillips was again interviewed by WNCT for a segment on how to choose/use sunscreen to prevent skin cancer.

- On June 5th, psychiatrist Dr. Vivek Anand shared on WITN his expertise regarding teenagers’ attitudes about – and the dangers associated with - "vaping" (using electronic cigarettes).

- On June 16th, emergency physician Dr. Ted Delbridge held a press conference - attended by reporters from WNCT, WITN, WCTI, and The Daily Reflector - to discuss prevention, symptoms and treatment of heat–related illnesses.

- On July 6th, emergency physician Dr. Herb Garrison was interviewed by WITN about the dangers associated with texting and driving.

Clinical Practice

- Brody and Vidant Health are deeply engaged in a consultation with Huron Healthcare aimed at providing recommendations about how the two organizations’ physician practices (Vidant Medical Group and ECU Physicians) can become more directly aligned to achieve the mutual goal of providing excellence in patient care for the people of eastern NC. Teams are examining financial data, legal and regulatory issues, and matters important to physicians, such as compensation, reporting structure, and clinical standards. The recommendations, from Huron, that emerge in the early fall will include careful consideration of the governance structure and be vetted by the leadership of both organizations.

- In a parallel initiative, ECU Physicians has agreed to join with Vidant Health in an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) that is part of the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP).

- Financial results for ECU Physicians for fiscal year 15 (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015) ended with a contribution margin of $2.4M. The first month of fiscal year 16 (July 1, 2015-July 31, 2015) ended with a margin of $398,000
PROFILE

The initiative at The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University establishes a comprehensive longitudinal core curriculum in patient safety, quality improvement, population health and team-based care for all medical students. Components of the curriculum are integrated with other health-related disciplines to foster interprofessional skills and prepare students to successfully lead health care teams for systems-based health care transformation. The curriculum includes completion of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open School Certificate Program, system-wide patient safety seminars, problem-based learning cases, and new objective structured clinical examinations and simulation cases that incorporate delivery system science principles. Process improvement exercises also are being built into existing courses and clerkships.

As part of the implementation of the curriculum, Brody established its Teachers of Quality Academy to provide faculty development in the new competencies that are to be incorporated in the new medical school curriculum. Faculty members participating in the Teachers of Quality Academy lead quality and safety efforts in their health care system and are helping to design the new integrated curriculum across all four years of a medical student's experience. They also will serve as faculty mentors and teachers for this curriculum.

For a smaller cohort of students, Brody has established a Leaders in INovative Care (LiNC) scholars program. Up to 10 students per year will be enrolled in LiNC. These students will complete advanced course work and experiential activities leading to a Distinction in Healthcare Transformation and Leadership in addition to their MD degrees.

“Our approach is integrative. It’s not to develop a new course … it’s to develop components that we’ll integrate into already existing parts of the curriculum. What will come from this will be a collection of new curriculum components—new cases, new simulations, new group exercises, new interprofessional training—that we’ll map to our medical education curriculum throughout. This design is intentional to establish that these health system competencies are simply the way we ‘do business,’ not some parallel curriculum out of context of the remainder of their learning.”
PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Increasing the teaching of quality and patient safety is integral to Brody's medical education transformation project. The curriculum is a combination of online and didactic content delivery coupled with related experiential components. These include project-based learning cases and simulations along with individual and group exercises to integrate the content with real-world approaches to improving health care systems. Brody is working with its health system partner, Vidant Health, as well as the East Carolina University Physicians practice plan, to create a menu of clinical quality and safety initiatives that can accommodate students in process improvement teams in a meaningful way. Brody also is implementing patient safety seminars that will be included in the orientation for first- and second-year medical students. The 10 LINC scholars will graduate with enhanced training and applied experience in patient safety/quality improvement at a clinical systems level.

East Carolina University
Brody School of Medicine

Elizabeth Baxley, MD
Principal investigator and senior associate dean, academic affairs,
The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University