Board of Trustees Health Sciences Committee Meeting
November 9, 2017
Agenda

I. Approval of September 24, 2017 Minutes 
   Action

II. Health Sciences Division - Dr. Phyllis Horns 
    Discussion

III. College of Allied Health Sciences Update - Dr. Bob Orlikoff

IV. Closed Session

V. 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
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
November 9, 2017

Agenda Item: I. Approval of September 14, 2017 Minutes

Responsible Person: Deborah Davis, Chair

Action Requested: Approval

Notes: N/A
Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:
Mrs. Davis called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. and read the conflict of interest statement required by the State Government Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified. The minutes of July 27, 2017 were approved.
Health Sciences Division Update:
Dr. Benson reviewed some of the highlights from each individual school/college/unit within the division. He thanked the Health Sciences Committee for their approval of the appointment of Mrs. Elizabeth Ketterman as the Director of the William Laupus Health Sciences Library effective September 1st. Dr. Benson also congratulated Mrs. Amy Ellis on the appointment as the Director of Health Sciences Communications. Mrs. Davis thanked Dr. Benson for highlighting the wonderful things that the Health Sciences Division is doing.

Brody School of Medicine Update:
In lieu of a formal report from the Brody School of Medicine, Dr. Benson expressed appreciation from the medical school’s leadership for the work by the Board of Trustees to select Dr. Stacy as the next Dean. Dr. Benson reported that Dr. Stacy is deeply into the orientation process for various issues and opportunities, even though he has just worked with us for two weeks.

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

1. to prevent the disclosure of confidential information under N.C. General Statutes §126-22 to §126-30 (personnel information) and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; and

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

3. to prevent the disclosure of competitive healthcare information under N.C. General Statute 130A-45.11; G.S. 131E-97.3.

4. to consult with an attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the Committee.

Action: Motion passed.

Action: A motion was made by Chairman Davis to go back into open session at 11:45 a.m. Motion passed.

Action Items in Closed Session:
Request - The Health Sciences Committee approve the following motions:
I move that the board approve the resolution of congratulations to Dr. Phyllis Horns for being selected as the 2017 recipient of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award.

The motions passed unanimously.

**School of Dental Medicine Update on Community Service Learning Centers:**
Dr. Chadwick presented an update of the School of Dental Medicine (SoDM) including the Community Service Learning Centers. Applications for admission have continued to rise with each class. The students represent 76 NC counties. In their efforts to achieve student diversity, the SoDM reaches this with 37% of the student population. The benchmark for NC is 33%. Student debt remains low with the ECU SoDM 2017 class average at $119,228 and the national average around $239,895. There are patients in 99 NC counties that are served by Ross Hall and the 8 Community Service Learning Centers. Patient populations continue to grow in all areas. As of August 31, 2017, there have been 48,524 dental patients seen. Dr. Chadwick also outlined the meaningful research being conducted in numerous studies by their students and faculty.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.**
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Agenda Item: II. Health Sciences Division Update

Responsible Person: Dr. Phyllis Horns, Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes: N/A
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Agenda Item: III. College of Allied Health Sciences Update

Responsible Person: Dr. Bob Orlikoff, Dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes: N/A
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Agenda Item: IV. Closed Session

Responsible Person: Deborah Davis, Chair

Action Requested: Approval/Information

Notes: N/A
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Agenda Item: V. Health Sciences Informational Updates

Responsible Person: Dr. Phyllis Horns, Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes:
A. College of Allied Health Sciences
B. College of Nursing
C. School of Dental Medicine
D. Laupus Library
E. Brody School of Medicine
College of Allied Health Sciences Celebrates Its Fiftieth Anniversary

Founded as the School of Allied Health and Social Professions under the leadership of Dean Edwin W. Monroe, today’s College of Allied Health Sciences is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary during the present academic year. CAHS is now the largest and most diverse college of allied health professions in the state, with an enrollment of nearly 1500 students.

The occasion was recognized with a reception at the new Health Sciences Student Center on October 20, followed by the College’s first annual Homecoming Tailgate, which welcomed approximately 200 students, faculty, donors, and alumni.

Nutrition Science Receives Grant for National Nutrition Program

Dr. Melani Duffrin, a professor in the Department of Nutrition Science and creator of the FoodMASTER program, was awarded a $1.18 million Science Education Partnership Award from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. This grant will allow ECU to partner with five other universities to create teaching models that pair health-promotion programs with science education.

Developed by Dr. Duffrin, FoodMASTER is a food-based curriculum designed for students in third grade through college that employs hands-on, inquiry-based learning activities to help students learn about science, math, and nutrition.

The funding will also continue to support local summer science activities in partnership with the Love A Sea Turtle Foundation, River Park North and the Boys and Girls Club of the Coastal Plains. Recently, more than 200 youth from Pitt County Boys and Girls Club units participated in STEM camps at River Park North. In addition, the project will develop new FoodMASTER learning materials for informal science learning environments.

Physical Therapy Explores Exoskeleton Devices to Aid Spinal Cord Injury Patients

The Department of Physical Therapy, in collaboration with the Brody School of Medicine and Vidant Medical Center, recently welcomed representatives from ReWalk, an exoskeleton company.

PT faculty members Dr. Chris Lysaght and Dr. James Lin have recently completed training that will allow them to assist the mobility of patients with spinal cord injuries using the exoskeleton device. Patients must meet certain physical requirements to be able to use the costly device, such as having the strength to lift themselves into a standing position. Dr. Lysaght plans to use the exoskeletons to teach assistive technology to her PT students. The collaborative will continue to research the technology with the aim of designing more effective and versatile models.
Accomplishments & Accolades from Allied Health Sciences:

- Following a national search, Dr. Amy Gross McMillan was named the chair of the Department of Physical Therapy. Dr. Gross McMillan had been serving as interim chair since the retirement of Dr. Walt Jenkins last year.

- Nineteen students from the departments of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy participated in the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) Interprofessional Event at Eastern AHEC Building with others from across the Division. Community actors represented a variety of case scenarios that involved patient-family-clinician interactions, allowing the students to practice assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of geriatric patients. GWEP is made possible through a three-year, $2.5 million grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services and is a partnership between the College of Nursing and local partners, including the Department of Physician Assistant Studies, Eastern AHEC, and the Brody School of Medicine.

- The Master’s degree program in Health Informatics and Information Management offered by the Department of Health Services and Information Management has been ranked 17th nationally by BestColleges.com for online health informatics degrees. Of the 25 institutions recognized, no other North Carolina program made this list in 2017.

- Dr. Sylvia Escott-Stump, Dietetic Internship Director in the Department of Nutrition Sciences participated in the South American Nutrition Congress held in Cusco, Peru.

- Graduate students from the Department of Occupational Therapy’s Phi Theta Epsilon Honor Society traveled to the Oakwood School in Greenville to weigh 80 backpacks for Backpack Awareness Day. They found that many of the backpacks exceeded the “10% body weight rule” advanced by the American Occupational Therapy Association. The initiative was designed to help prevent the pain and injury that can come from overly heavy bags and backpacks as are often used by primary school students.

- Dr. Balaji Rangarathnam, an assistant professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders received a Dean’s Award for outstanding performance in teaching. Drs. Melani Duffrin and Virginia Stage in the Department of Nutrition Science received Dean’s Awards for outstanding performance in research and outstanding performance in service, respectively.

- To fulfill a recognized need, the Department of Health Services and Information Management has reinstituted it undergraduate program in Health Information Management. The eleven admitted students averaged a 3.52 grade point average. The program represents the only Bachelor’s Degree program in the state to hold accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM).

- Over the past three years, the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders’ Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic has provided 13 low-income clients with hearing services through the Hear Now program, a partnership with the Starkey Hearing Foundation. The program funded 25 hearing aids as well as three clinical hours of hearing aid fitting and follow-up at no cost to the patients.

- Dr. Roman Pawlak, an associate professor in the Department of Nutrition Science recently spoke to Jared Brumbaugh of Public Radio East about high-fat diets.
Faculty members Dr. Donna Lake and Dr. Sonya Hardin were recently inducted as Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing. The academy is comprised of more than 2,500 nurse leaders in education, management, practice, policy and research. Fellows include hospital and government administrators, college deans and renowned scientific researchers. Hardin and Lake were honored during a ceremony at the academy's annual conference Oct. 5-7, 2017, in Washington, D.C. They join five other current ECU College of Nursing faculty members as FAANs.

12 College of Nursing alumni were recognized in this year’s Great 100, a grassroots peer recognition organization honoring the nursing profession in North Carolina.

A Homecoming reception held on Oct. 20 at the College of Nursing celebrated the 40th anniversary of the class of 1977.

A staged reading of “Birth” by Karen Brody raised more than $300 in monetary donations and $250 in breastfeeding equipment for the Nurse-Family Partnership of Greenville.

The East Carolina Consortium for Nursing Leadership (ECCNL) and Eastern Area Health Education Center (AHEC) opened the Emerging Leaders Institute Webinar Series. The series offers six monthly webinars for nurses currently serving or aspiring to serve in leadership roles. The one-hour webinars cover various topics such as leadership competencies, communication and collaboration, mentoring and coaching, multigenerational workforce, patient safety and quality improvements, and emotional intelligence.

Faculty members Dr. Melissa Beck and Elizabeth Mizelle’s article Engaging Millennials: Best Practice for Using Pinterest is now in press.

Clinical Associate Professor Dr. Debra Kosko was invited to serve on the editorial board for the ANAC’s publication, the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care.

Beta Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing was selected as a 2017 recipient of the Chapter Key Award. The chapter will accept the award as a 13-time recipient at the chapter awards recognition event on Oct. 30.

Professor Dr. Susan Kennerly is part of a research team conducting a five-year study on optimal timing for turning or repositioning patients to reduce the risk of pressure ulcers.

Clinical Associate Professor Dr. Melissa Beck co-chaired the Digital Library and Digital Education Forum and presented her article “Storytelling in the digital world: Achieving higher-level learning objectives” at China’s inaugural World Education Day, held in Dalian, China Sept. 27-29.

Assistant Professor Dr. Linda Bolin’s work on the Effect of Intensive Blood-Pressure Treatment on Patient Reported Outcomes was recently published in the New England Journal of Medicine.
• Founding Program Director of Nurse Anesthesia Dr. Maura McAuliffe presented “Watchful Care: The History of Nurse Anesthesia” at the 2017 History of Health Sciences Presentations at Laupus Library on Sept. 25.

• Alumna Jenna Meredith, with co-author CON faculty members Dr. Amy Jnah and Dr. Desi Newberry, was named a recipient of the 2017 Manuscript of Exceptional Merit from the Academy of Neonatal Nursing for her paper “The NICU Environment: Infusing Single-Family Room Benefits into the Open-Bay Setting.”

• ECU Nursing was awarded $51,000 by Eastern Area Health Education Center (AHEC) for the Education Mobility Grant, which provides continued support to our RN/BSN students in Lenoir, Beaufort and Edgecombe counties. It was one of two proposals Eastern Area AHEC approved for 2017-2018.
SoDM Milestone
The school’s inaugural cohort of pediatric dentistry residents began the second year of the program in October. Drs. Jorge Arriagada, Mark Cummings, and Laura Johnson joined the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics in October 2016 to begin a 24-month curriculum, which includes instruction in all aspects of pediatric dentistry. Residents participate in pediatric medicine and anesthesia rotations and gain experience at Vidant SurgiCenter and Vidant Medical Center. They practice oral sedation and nasoalveolar molding (NAM) on cleft lip and palate patients, and they participate in advocacy and community service.

Distinction
The SoDM has been selected as an Apple Distinguished School 2017-2019. The award, given by Apple, Inc., is in recognition of continuous innovation in learning, teaching, and the school environment. The School of Dental Medicine has received the two-year award continuously since 2012.

Visits from Other Universities
The SoDM continues to receive inquiries about its unique model of education from universities across the nation. In recent months, officials from Oklahoma University College of Dentistry, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center - El Paso, and Virginia Commonwealth University and Hospital have met with Dean Chadwick and the faculty and toured Ross Hall and Community Service Learning Centers to gain insight for their own dental school construction projects.

Collaboration with Midwifery Program
Dr. Robert Carter, director of general practice residency (GPR), GPR residents, and dental students in the Prenatal Oral Health Program (pOHP) Club hosted ECU masters in nursing-midwifery for awareness training in September. The training familiarized midwifery students with the importance of oral health for their patients particularly during their pregnancy. Dental students demonstrated how to assess patients’ overall oral health and discussed helping patients find a dental home.

Outreach
SoDM faculty, residents, students, and staff routinely participate in community outreach in Greenville and in CSLC communities state-wide. Recent examples include oral health screenings and/or awareness at the Pitt County Healthy Aging and Wellness Expo; Pitt County Council on Aging; ECU Peace.Love.Pirates.Cure cancer prevention fair; Vidant Health’s Winning with Diabetes Day; Pitt County Latino Fest; ECU Brody School of Medicine’s Healthy Birth Awareness Fair; Gates County Community Center Family Fun and Fitness Fair; and the City of Elizabeth City’s Employee Health, Benefits & Safety Fair.
Upcoming Events

- October 27 - ECU SoDM Alumni Reception
- October 28 - ECU SoDM Family Day and Continuing Education Workshop for Community Providers
- October 27, 28 - North Carolina Dental Society Missions of Mercy Mobile Dental Clinic in New Bern, N.C.
- November 3 - ECU SoDM White Coat Ceremony
- December 14 - ECU SoDM Your Profession Starts Here event for potential students and their families

Smiles on Friday
Don’t miss “Smiles on Friday,” the school’s weekly online photo brief linked to our homepage, [www.ecu.edu/dental](http://www.ecu.edu/dental).
Updates from Laupus Library

Laupus Library’s History Collections Department Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Justin Easterday is our new collections manager and began working on August 15 in the Laupus Library History Collections. His work includes cataloging, preserving, conserving, researching, and exhibiting the library’s approximately 500 artifacts that are located in the History Collections. He also works with the Country Doctor Museum’s artifact collection and manages the library’s Preservation and Conservation Lab.

Justin’s previous work experience was in artifact collection for the Culzean Castle & Country Park in Scotland, at the US Naval Museum in DC, and most recently for a private conservator and for historic sites including a rural doctor’s office in Henrico County, VA. He has a Master’s Degree in Museum Studies from the University of Glasgow and a BS in History from Jacksonville University in Florida.

Layne Carpenter is our new archivist and began working on October 2 in the Laupus Library History Collections. Her work includes analyzing, describing, researching, preserving, curating, and exhibiting the archival and manuscript collections of the Laupus Library History Collections and the Country Doctor Museum. Her work also includes providing reference assistance to patrons, coordinating promotion of History Collections events and exhibits, and managing the fourth floor gallery exhibit and event space.

Layne’s most recent position was North Carolina Public Periodicals Index Manager at Joyner Library where she also installed exhibits and worked on special events including co-planning activities for the Country Doctor Museum’s Sick Room Exhibit. She’s also worked at the NASCAR Hall of Fame and was a docent for the Biennerhassett Mansion in West Virginia. Layne has a Master of Arts in History with a concentration in Public History from UNC Charlotte and a BA in History from Westminster College in Pennsylvania.

Laupus Library’s Kerry Sewell is Awarded Scholarship

Kerry Sewell, Research Librarian for the Department of Information Services was recently awarded an AAHSL Data Management Training Scholarship. The award will fund her attendance at the 2018 NC State Data Science and Visualization Institute for Librarians.

The Country Doctor Museum Reschedules History Alive Celebration

The Country Doctor Museum has postponed their History Alive event in celebration of its 50-year anniversary. Originally scheduled for Nov. 11 the event will instead be held on April 21, 2018. As previously planned, the day-long event will be open to the public and held in Bailey, NC. Guests will be offered free museum tours, hands-on activities, music, and more.

Traditional music will be provided by DryBread Road and representatives from regional museums, Civil War medical re-enactors and food vendors will also be on hand. As one of the oldest museums in the country dedicated to sharing the history of rural health care, the
museum features exhibits relevant to rural doctors, as well as nursing, pharmacy and dental history. To learn more please visit http://www.countrydoctormuseum.org/

**Last Fall 2017 Medical History Interest Group Presentation**
*(All lectures will be held on the 4th floor of Laupus Library in the Evelyn Fike Laupus Gallery)*

“The Vaccines: Successes and Tribulations,” will be presented on **Monday, Nov. 13** at 4:30pm by Dr. John M. Lehman, Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine.

**Summary:** Dr. John M. Lehman, Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine will discuss development of vaccines to protect against infectious diseases. The history is replete with successes and some failures, which have provided evidence supporting continued research and development of new vaccines. This presentation describes the utilization of human cells in the development of human vaccines.

**Annual Health Sciences Author Recognition Awards Event to be held Nov. 14**

This program provides an opportunity to honor faculty and staff for their published research and scholarly contributions to their area of study. This year’s eligibility criteria includes books, book chapters, articles in peer-reviewed journals and other creative works published July 1st of 2016 through June 30th of 2017 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. This year we set a new record of 118 authors who will be recognized at a Nov. 14 awards ceremony held at the Hilton Greenville.

**Friends of Laupus Library 2018 Membership Campaign**

Enrollment for 2018 membership will begin on November 14 at the annual Health Sciences Author Recognition Awards event. This year and for the very first time, online enrollment is offered on the Friends of Laupus Library homepage. The Friends are also offering free annual membership to all ECU students who submit enrollment information. If you are interested in enrolling electronically please visit http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/laupuslibrary/Friends/index.cfm. For more information about membership, contact Kelly Rogers Dilda at rogerske@ecu.edu.
Education

- Brody’s Admissions Office has received over 1,000 applications – for the fourth year in a row – from NC residents seeking one of 82 seats in the 2018 entering class. This class is already set to include two Early Assurance Scholars from our partnership programs at NC A&T and UNC-Pembroke. Dr. Peden, Associate Dean for Admissions, hosted the 24th annual Pre-Health Advisors Conference this fall, which attracted a record 28 faculty advisors from colleges and universities around the state.

- Our annual White Coat Ceremony was held on Friday, August 4th, welcoming 82 new students to become the Class of 2021, Brody’s 41st four year class. Students were welcomed by Brody’s new Dean, Dr. Mark Stacy. During the ceremony – the 16th annual ceremony of its kind at Brody – students crossed the stage one by one to put on their white coats embroidered in purple with the Brody logo. The coats were a gift from approximately 100 Brody alumni – ranging from the Class of 1973 to the Class of 2016. As each student was “cloaked,” he or she was handed a note of encouragement or advice penned by one of the alumni. Delivering the keynote speech was Dr. William Burke, a 1983 Brody graduate and current dermatology professor.

- The new Brody curriculum will be fully implemented by April 1 2018, a successful transition due to the efforts of both faculty, staff and students. The Foundational Phase now incorporates low stakes quizzes, integration of examinations and a M2 curriculum organized around an organ systems theme. The Clerkship Phase now incorporates emphasis on outcome competencies. The Elective Phase now includes 3 additional months of advanced clerkships and career exploration opportunities.

- BSOM students continue their pattern of strong performance on examinations from the National Board of Medical Examiners, at or above than national averages for most metrics. A paper presented by Dr. Robert Carroll, Associate Dean for Medical Student Education, describing the preparation of students for licensing examinations received the outstanding oral presentation award at the International Association of Medical Science Educators meeting in Burlington VT. Dr. Carroll’s work uses adaptive modeling through a multivariate equation to prospectively calculate a score on the USMLE Step 1 licensing examination, and allows comparison of study approaches to determine effective study strategies for medical students.
The Office of Student Affairs personnel are working with 78 senior students as they advance through the Match process. Medical Student Performance Evaluations, a summary of the academic record of each medical student, were submitted on October 1, 2017. We are on target for another fantastic Match! For the past three years, our program has exceeded the national benchmarks in successfully matching students into residency programs. This success can be attributed to a completely revamped Match curriculum as well as the selfless time and effort of countless BSOM faculty in advising and mentoring our students.

Next spring, the BSOM will introduce our very first Legacy Teacher Banquet. This event is designed to recognize the patients who make an impact on our learners. We will be partnering with Vidant Medical Center for an amazing event on Monday, April 9, 2018.

Dr. Luan Lawson, Assistant Dean for Medical Education in Brody’s Office of Medical Education, recently received recognition as an Outstanding Reviewer from MedEdPORTAL, the Journal of Teaching and Learning resources from the American Associate of Medical Colleges. Out of over 300 reviewers, she was chosen as one of the Top 10. She has been invited to attend a reception and award ceremony in Boston this November to celebrate her achievement.

Dr. Irma Corral, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, along with two Brody students, has created a cross cultural Objective Structured Clinical Evaluation for medical students to teach and assess their competency in medical Spanish and cultural competency in caring for the Latino population. Students recently participated in the second of these training opportunities, designed to teach proper use of an interpreter when caring for patients, as well as direct Spanish language skills for students who have taken a medical Spanish course that was developed as a collaboration between ECU’s Language Arts Department and Brody School of Medicine Office of Medical Education.

Diversity Week 2017 with the theme of "The Hidden Figures of Brody" is being held the week of November 6-10. Featured speakers will be Dr. Amanda Klein, Film History Professor, from the Department of English and Student Doctor Jaleeka Rudd, M4. Topics that will be covered are new age sexism, the intersection of health care and social justice, Native American Health Disparities and Issues and the week will finish with a heritage day potluck. Also in November, the Office of Diversity Affairs (ODA) will be cosponsoring an event, "Honoring and Recognition of Dr. Jim Jones" with the NC American Indian Health Board, the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity and the Departments of Public Health and Family Medicine. Dr. Jones is a Founding Chairman of the Department of Family Medicine at ECU and is being honored for his work in rural health and family medicine in North Carolina and nationally.

The ODA has also added a new programming initiative called Perspectives in Practice. This joint endeavor with the Office of Student Development and Academic Counseling (OSDAC), the Brody Chapter of Student National Medical Association (SNMA and the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) has a two-fold goal to bring back underrepresented and diverse Brody alumni to meet and establish relationships with the students and to present physicians that are working in various specialties to share their experiences and wisdom. Featured physicians so far have been Dr. Julius Mallette, MD (Class of 1982), Dr. Fernando Puente (Class of 1981) and a special guest, Dr. Michael McKee, MD, MPH (hearing impaired physician and disability researcher) from the University Of Michigan Department Of Family Medicine.
The Summer Biomedical Research Program (SBRP) Poster Session was held on July 28, 2017. The SBRP is an intensive two-month research program that allows undergraduate students to conduct basic or clinical research in various laboratory at the Brody School of Medicine or the main campus. The culmination of this program is this poster session where the students present the result of the research they conducted under the supervision of their mentors. This year's cohort featured ten students that came from East Carolina University, The University of North Carolina at Wilmington, North Carolina Central University and Fayetteville State University.

The BSOM Interprofessional Simulation Center continues to grow and gain recognition for its educational activities. The Simulation Center had 3262 learners in the first quarter (July – Sept 2017), an increase of over 600 learners compared to the same time last year. The Simulation Center is expecting to have over 10,000 learner encounters this year (over 8,200 last academic year). This and projected health care simulation unit activity has necessitated the hiring of a second simulation specialist in October 2017. Medical students continue to participate in simulation and skills sessions during every year of training. Self-directed learning opportunities using VR ophthalmoscopic simulators have been integrated into the Doctoring Course and other opportunities for auscultation, ultrasound, suturing, and laparoscopic anatomy are available to students. Several new programs are contributing to this increase in learner encounters, including weekly IPE Internal Medicine/Critical Care simulation sessions, Pediatric Emergency Department nursing simulations, and ECU Department of Physicians Assistant Studies simulation and skills sessions.

Faculty from across campus are seeking opportunities to collaborate with the Simulation Program, recognizing it as a hub for interprofessional education and education research. The Simulation Program has collaborated with Eastern AHEC, the School of Dental Medicine, and the College of Business to develop a novel course to meet the newly mandated NC dental sedation license educational requirements. This course is grant-funded and will be using both the BSOM Center and the mobile Healthcare Simulation Unit (HSU) at community education centers in Eastern NC.

An interdisciplinary Simulation Education and Research Group has been established to promote education research. The simulation program, VMC nursing, and the College of Nursing are establishing simulation faculty development guidelines. The collaborative trauma service/simulation program, grant-based outreach project “An In-situ Simulation-based Educational Outreach Project for Pediatric Trauma Care in a Rural Trauma System” has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Pediatric Surgery. This project continues in November using the HSU. An IPE simulation fellowship is being planned in collaboration with ECU Emergency Medicine, VMC GME, the center for learning and performance, and ECU College of Nursing.

In addition to the Pediatric Trauma Simulation Outreach Program, the Healthcare Simulation Unit has successfully completed several novel pilot programs since its arrival in April 2017. Notably, the HSU was used for Fundamentals of Critical Care Course training in collaboration with Eastern AHEC, Vidant Medical Center Trauma Service, and the military from Fort Bragg. The Simulation Program is discussing logistics for HSU training sessions with Outer Banks Hospital and Dare County EMS. The HSU continues to receive local and regional media attention and is frequently requested for tours and demonstrations for community organizations, student groups, university events such as BSOM alumni weekend, health sciences board of directors, military, government officials and other leaders visiting the university and a vendor showcase at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Public Radio East attended...
the first HSU simulation activity with VMC pediatric emergency nursing and published a story to educate constituents on medical simulation and the purpose of the HSU. The BSOM Simulation Center also featured the Healthcare Simulation Unit during Healthcare Simulation Week, a national event coordinated by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare.

- Two articles below from local and national media outlets are worthy of sharing related to two signature medical education innovations from Brody School of Medicine – the first is from the AMA Wire, distributed nationally to a vast electronic audience from the American Medical Association; the second is a highlight story from ECU News Services about our students’ involvement in a national student leadership conference.

**Students learn health system as whole, C-suite to parking lot**

OCT 02, 2017
Brendan Murphy Staff Writer, AMA Wire

A physician cannot act alone in an effective health system. That point can be made by data, highlighting the importance of patient engagement on numerous levels, or by talking with and understanding the key players in shaping a health system.

A program at East Carolina University’s Brody School of Medicine is doing both, with the ultimate goal of creating physicians who can shape effective system-wide health care in the coming decades.

Faculty members from East Carolina shared the details of the Leaders in Innovative Health Care program (LINC) during a presentation at the recent AMA ChangeMedEd™ 2017 National Conference.

“In our core curriculum, students are learning how to think about health systems science competencies and how that pertains to their future practice,” said Libby Baxley, MD, senior associate dean for academic affairs at ECU. “LINC is really designed for people who will become the CMOs [chief medical officers], chief quality officers and CEOs of the future for the health systems in which they work.”

**Starting early**

Students can apply to be part of the LINC program following their first semester of medical school, with the program accepting up to 10 students per class. In taking students so early in the medical school journey, the idea is to get them thinking about medicine from a broader perspective at the outset.

The instruction portion of the program begins with an eight-week immersion during the summer following a student’s first year of medical training. “The students are really engaged in learning at that time,” said Luan Lawson, MD, ECU’s assistant dean for medical education and student development. “They are looking for opportunities to expand their knowledge, they have specific interests.” Initially, Dr. Lawson said, some
wondered whether the students would be ready to benefit from the material. “But they really have blossomed,” she said.

“It’s an opportunity for them to think beyond some of the foundational science components and get a much broader view of the health system from the earlier stages.”

**Learning by doing**

The summer curriculum focuses on a number of topics, including leadership, quality improvement, patient safety, interprofessional practice, population health and health care policy.

The learning plan includes delivery of foundational knowledge through online modules, readings or the typical didactic lecture component, and those lessons are all reinforced with experiential learning activities. As part of the field work, LINC students engage in meetings with the health system’s CEO and other senior administrators, as well as policy discussions with experts at the state medical society. They also shadow a patient medical visit from the moment the patient arrives in the parking lot to the time they return to the parking lot to leave, offering a detailed view of the experience from the patient’s perspective.

“While students may not have had the background experience, they certainly brought a lot of enthusiasm,” Dr. Lawson said. “But I can tell you they didn’t bring any enthusiasm for online modules or sitting in a classroom. We really tried to focus on how to build a curriculum so that they understand the foundational. But we can provide them with the experiences that they can put into practice, understand how this would relate to the clinical care they are going to provide and how to become leaders in health systems science.”

Following the summer immersion program, LINC students meet about a half dozen times per school year for continued learning sessions, in addition to participating in independent quality-improvement projects. Those meetings build toward a capstone elective in the fourth year in which students present the projects they have conducted with the guidance of a faculty mentor. Projects have focused on quality improvement initiatives such as using a software simulation to redesign starting in the emergency department, improving pathways to reduce sepsis mortality, and implementing a standardized handoff for students in clinical rotations.

The first cohort of medical students participating in the LINC program will graduate in with the class of 2018 with their MD and “Distinction in Health Systems Transformation and Leadership.” ECU faculty members have high hopes for these graduates’ future in medicine. “These students will think and look differently at the system level than their peers,” said Timothy Reeder, MD, director of the LINC program. “I anticipate and expect that because of their different worldview, they are going to be doing administrative roles, in a higher percentage than their peers are. But even if they are not in formal roles, they are going to be thinking about how to continuously improve their health system, their practice or whatever environment they and themselves in.”

The presentation about the LINC program was among dozens that took place during the ChangeMedEd conference. The event showcased how the AMA, through its Accelerating Change in Medical Education initiative, is working to reimagine and shape the future of medical education.
Faculty at ECU’s Brody School of Medicine have made national news in recent months because of their contributions toward transforming medical education around high quality, team-based, patient-centered care. Brody’s innovative curriculum is what led the American Medical Association in 2013 to award the school $1 million to help lead their national Accelerating Change in Medical Education (ACME) initiative.

Now Brody students are getting noticed for doing their part too. Several recently traveled to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to attend the AMA’s student-led ACME consortium, which brought together medical students from across the country to address key challenges in medical education.

Brody students presented several posters on topics ranging from second-year curriculum optimization to student-led implementation of tablet use in the clinical education setting.

“As one of the smaller schools represented at the conference, the imprint our students had on the conference was quite impressive,” said Dr. Jill Sutton, a clinical Ob/Gyn professor at ECU and the group’s faculty representative at the event.

Third-year student Zach Frabitore gave an oral presentation about developing and implementing interdisciplinary mock disaster exercises like the ones Brody students held the past two years. Frabitore said his presentation resonated with other students, and many approached him throughout the day to discuss it further.

“I think we left the conference having made a very clear and loud statement about our student body at Brody,” said Frabitore. “We were able to articulate the commitment to student leadership and intimate faculty-student relationships that encourage innovation at our home institution. “Many students were [surprised] when we spoke about how we could pick up the phone and make personal calls to our faculty to discuss project ideas and receive advice from mentors who knew us on a personal level.”
“The school’s commitment to student participation in curricular governance and feedback that informs future decisions is a high value for Brody,” said Dr. Elizabeth Baxley, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. “The enhanced opportunities we have had in recent years to invest more substantially in student leadership development and to more formalize their contributions to educational and clinical scholarship are already paying off – for the students and the institution. Additionally, it has increased Brody’s national reputation and brought attention to the great work that has been happening here for many years. Everyone wins in that scenario!” For more information about Brody’s involvement in the AMA initiative to transform medical education visit ecu.edu/cs-dhs/medicaleducation/reach

Research

- **Pirate medical students excel at summer research**
  Austin Colquitt (M2) and Ethan Lubanski (M2) worked jointly on a project entitled “The effectiveness of opioids for analgesia in emergency department patients is dependent on the pathophysiology of the pain condition.” Their research presentation placed 1st in the medical student division of the North Carolina Medical Society meeting. Their mentor was Dr. Kori Brewer (Emergency Medicine).

  Samantha Forlenza (M2) placed second for her project entitled “Excessive beverage consumption reveals shocking financial burden: a quantitative study of obese pediatric patient’s drinking habits.” Her mentor was Dr. David Collier (Pediatrics).

- **Pursuing technology partnerships**
  Dr. Rukiyah Van Dross (Pharmacology/Toxicology; Chemistry) was selected to participate in the Center for Advancing Innovation’s Freedom from Cancer Startup Challenge. This program is a private/public partnership whose goal is to maximize the potential for breakthrough cancer inventions by increasing and accelerating the number of commercialized cancer inventions through new startup launches. Dr. Van Dross’s project was one of 100 projects selected for the Challenge out of 120,000 cancer-related reviewed. Her invention is a therapeutic compound to treat non-melanoma skin and colorectal cancers.

- **Brody clinical research snapshot**
  Pediatrics initiated 1 national trial, 4 new local sponsor-initiated, and 3 investigator initiated trials over the last 2 months.

  Dr. Skip Cummings (Family Medicine; Director of the Office of Clinical Trials) is the site Principal Investigator for a 5-year Center for Disease Control Award entitled “Prioritizing social determinants of health to guide targeted interventions to reduce the burden of diabetes and hypertension in the US.”

- **Federal funding success**
  Dr. Warren Knudson (Anatomy/Cell Biology) received funding for a NIH R21 grant in the amount of $405,625. The project is entitled: “Altering the intracellular flux in UDP-hexose pools provides chondroprotection.”

  Dr. Darrell Neufer, (Physiology, Director of the East Carolina Diabetes and Obesity Institute), and Dr. John Thyfault (University of Kansas Medical Center) were awarded a five-year, $3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to evaluate the impact of the statin class of cholesterol drugs on mitochondrial function in muscle tissue.
Exciting research opportunity – Big Data and more

Dr. Sy Saeed (Chair, Psychiatry/Behavioral Medicine) is the Director of the NC Statewide Telepsychiatry Program (NC-STeP). The footprint of the program is shown below. The Gold color shows the counties where we are currently live. Purple color shows the counties where we are in the process of going live. Yellow dots represent our “clinical hubs” where our network providers are located. With a database of more than 17,000 encounters across more than 62 hospitals, this program offers major research opportunities for basic and clinical faculty across the Brody School of Medicine and entire university.
Community Service

- The American Academy of Family Physicians has ranked the Brody School of Medicine second in the nation for the percentage of graduates it sends into family medicine careers. Brody has been ranked in the top ten for the past decade and in the top five for seven straight years. Over the past three years, Brody has sent approximately 20 percent of its graduates into family medicine – nearly double the national average.

- Dr. Kendall Campbell, Brody’s Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion has been selected to serve on the steering committee for the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Group on Diversity and Inclusion. In this role, Dr. Campbell will act as a liaison between the national committee and all medical schools in the southern region of the United States. The AAMC Group on Diversity and Inclusion is a national forum aimed at advancing diversity in the medical academic setting, keeping institutions informed about the benefits of diversity and highlighting the importance of addressing issues pertaining to historically underrepresented populations. Ultimately, the goal of the committee is to provide better care to the underserved through a more diverse medical workforce. In addition to his AAMC appointment, Campbell was recently named a member of the Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the Elimination of Health Disparities for the National Academy of Medicine. He is also the director of the Research Group for Underrepresented Minorities in Academic Medicine at Brody.

- In September the departments of Public Health and Biodiversity hosted the first regional substance abuse prevention summit. Bringing together health professionals, community representatives and students, this interprofessional forum resulted in an action plan to address substance abuse issues in the region. State Health Director Dr. Betsy Tilson delivered the keynote address.

Clinical Practice

- ECU Physicians had a bottom-line loss of ($5.1M) in the first quarter of fiscal year 18 (July – September 2017). Some of the loss is due to the recent upgrade done on the EPIC Electronic Health Record (EHR), resulting in patient care appointments to be reduced over a two week period in August. ECU Physicians budgets for a loss during the first few months of a new fiscal year, due to new faculty hires, established faculty departures, graduating residents and fellows leaving and faculty and staff vacations.

- ECU Physicians cash reserves at the end of September 30, 2017 were $55.3M or 125.7 days of cash on hand. The ECU Physicians Board encourages ECU Physicians to have 90 days of cash on hand at all times.