

# WVU Family Medicine

<http://medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/fammed/>

Spring | 2013

## WVU School of Medicine

Ranked No. 3 for Rural Medicine by U.S. News

The West Virginia University School of Medicine has received its highest ever national ranking for an educational program, coming in at number three in Rural medicine. The ranking is published in the latest issue of U.S. News and World Report's 2014 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools" and available online at USNews.com. WVU medical students in Family Medicine spend a required 4 weeks in rural site preceptorships with community physicians, and Rural Scholar residents and Rural track students spend several more months of their training in rural communities. "Our rural site teachers are busy clinicians who take time from their busy practices to teach. They are now national heroes and being recognized for

the great work that they do. Our Rural Scholars program, Rural Track, and rural practice-based research network add to gaining this distinction," added Dana King MD MS, chair of the department of Family Medicine.

"We are very proud of this recognition," Norman Ferrari, M.D., vice dean for education and academic affairs in the WVU School of Medicine, said. "We have had a required rural health experience in our curriculum for more than two decades. Our students have embraced this learning experience as a valuable part of their education. It has influenced many to stay and make West Virginia their home – that's been especially important in rural areas of the state."

"Our improved ranking in Rural medicine speaks strongly to our intense commitment to improve the health and wellness of West Virginians," Dean Arthur Ross, III, M.D., M.B.A., said.



"Recognition like this can be useful for students who are deciding where to go for their medical and health professional education," Chancellor for WVU Health Sciences Christopher C. Colenda, M.D., M.P.H., said. "It's also really important to us, because it means that our efforts are valued throughout the country. We take very seriously our responsibility to transform lives and eliminate health disparities in West Virginia."

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# Getting to Know Our 2013 Rural Scholars

Big things are coming their way...

## Practice Based

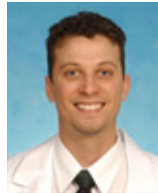
## Research Networks

Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRN's) are comprised of groups of PCP's and their practice who collaborate to translate research findings into clinical practice. There are 140+ PBRN's within the US and abroad that are dedicated to improving the health care of their patients through research and clinical practice. Currently, there are no PBRN's located within the state of West Virginia and the health of our citizens is at stake.

The Department of Family Medicine is currently collaborating with several other departments at WVU and with Family Medicine Practices throughout the state to develop the first PBRN network in WV to assess and improve the health of West Virginians.



## Our Newest Rural Scholars



**Garrett Butler**

Hometown:  
Ridgeley, WV



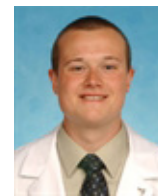
**Katie Hill**

Hometown:  
Pineville, WV



**Amy Moyers**

Hometown:  
Bruceton Mills, WV



**Jason Peklinsky**

Hometown:  
Wheeling, WV

## Rural Scholars Beginning Residency July 2013



Pictured from left to right: Christopher Reynolds, Brooks Mersing, Megan Pritt, Emily Larkin, and Jason McNair



## Annual Hal Wanger Conference! September 5-7, 2013

This year the conference is on an away weekend for football so we've planned some special events. Of interest, we are planning to have two group self assessment modules (group SAMs) on Saturday morning to assist you in obtaining credit toward recertification in Family Medicine. In addition, current plans include a 3 hour session on opioid use that satisfies the WV Board of Medicine Requirements for 2014. We will keep you posted on our website [<http://medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/fammed/>]. See you there!





2013- 2014 Rural Track Student - Back row, left to right: Will Johansen, Nathaniel Linger, and Westley Mullins. Front row, left to right: Virginia Horne and Jessica Veite.

## Rural Track Begins Their Journey

The WVU School of Medicine Rural Track was established June 2012 by Dr. Williams and Dr. Haggerty of Family Medicine and affects all four years of a medical students curriculum. The primary purpose of creating the Rural Track is to better prepare and therefore increase the likelihood that medical students will enter a primary care residency and ultimately practice in a rural primary care setting.

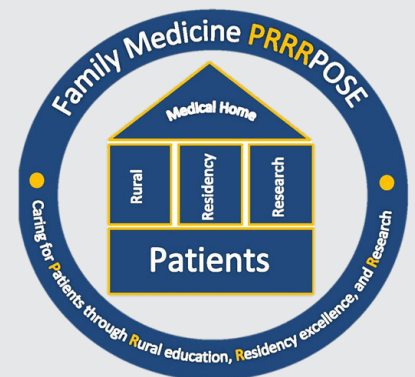
During the 2012-2013 school year five students enrolled in the inaugural class. Virginia Horne, Nathaniel Linger, Will Johansen, Westley Mullins, and Jessica Veite all have participated in various activities that the rural track program provides. During their first year, they participated in a four week summer experience, at a rural location by choice, where they shadowed a physician preceptor and learned the daily tasks of a rural doctor.

In the second year these same students will once again be working with a rural physician preceptor for three weeks. In addition, two field trips are being planned: One of the stops will be a three day trip to McDowell County to learn about Coalfield Medicine. While there, the students will be given a rural health experience that engages them into the past, present, and future of healthcare and coal mining in West Virginia. Another stop will be a one day Appalachian Adventure at the New River Gorge. This is to expose the Rural Track students to the geography, topography, and cultural context of rural communities in which various social determinants of health outcomes occur.

During the third and fourth year of the curriculum these students will spend 5 months working in rural practices while meeting the objectives of the traditional medical school expectations.

## PRRRPOSE of Family Medicine

We have recently developed a new logo for the department of Family Medicine. This logo symbolizes the breakdown of our department and what our collective goal is.



The logo meaning is "Caring for Patients through Rural training, Residency excellence, and Research, in the context of the Patient centered medical home."

**I would like to give a donation to the “WVU Foundation” to benefit the programs and activities of the Department of Family Medicine, including the Rural Scholars Program.**

**Donor Information:**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) donate a total of \_\_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\_\$250\_\_\_\_ Other Amount\_\_\_\_\_to be donated to the WVU Department of Family Medicine

**Make checks payable to “WVU Foundation”**

Please send your donation along with this card to:

***Attention: Ellen Bolyard  
WVU Department of Family Medicine  
Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center  
PO Box 9152  
Morgantown WV 26506***

**QUESTIONS?  
Please Call  
(304)-598-6920**

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