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WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

ARBOGAST LEAVES A LEGACY TO FAMILY MEDICINE

James G. Arbogast, M.D., a Family Medicine physician for 36 years and former chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the West Virginia University School of Medicine, says he came to WVU a naive but open-minded medical student. Here he developed into a doctor under the tutelage of an amazing and competent cadre of teachers, including Drs. John Traubert, Clark Sleeth, Ed Flink, Herb Warden, John Jones, Gunter Franz, and Bill Fleming.

He decided to strengthen Family Medicine and service to the state in perpetuity by including the Department of Family Medicine in his estate. He will be leaving a legacy of education and care through the creation of two chairs for the Department, their first endowed faculty positions.

“Dr. Arbogast is one of the treasures of the Department of Family Medicine at WVU,” said Dr. King, current Department Chair. “He dedicated his professional life to Family Medicine, his patients, and WVU. His gift is the first of its kind for the department, and will allow us to continue to grow, attract excellent faculty, and support rural programs that are at the heart of what we do and what Jim loves.”



James G. Arbogast, M.D.

Over the years, Dr. Arbogast helped transform many medical students into competent, caring physicians.

“It was a tremendous responsibility,” Dr. Arbogast observed. “My challenge and career-long joy was to guide them through this journey of self-discovery and show them how to become lifelong learners by constantly adjusting my teaching style to complement their particular stages of development.”

Arbogast earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Lafayette College (1972) and is a 1976 graduate of the WVU School of Medicine. During his career at WVU, Arbogast has been recognized numerous times for his outstanding teaching and service to the University. In 2003, he was one of three finalists for the West Virginia Faculty Merit Foundation Professor of the Year award.

FACULTY RETREAT

The 2015 Department of Family Medicine Faculty Retreat on November 6 was a success! The Department's 3-5 year strategic plan is in the process of being developed based on the rich discussions and thoughtful feedback garnered from the retreat. Upcoming plans will include expanding our rural teaching, enhancing our use of technology, and growing our ability to be a resource to the state.



Since the 2012 Department retreat, Family Medicine has achieved its strategic goals to implement a weight management program, hire a dietitian, expand its acute care capacity, achieve Patient-Centered Medical Home recognition, and be housed in a new, modern facility oriented to PCMH.

Overall, this year's strategic plan will enhance the department's current mission to "educate those we train with the same passion and dedication to excellence we use to care for our patients while leading our community and state into the next generation of healthcare through innovation and discovery."

RURAL SCHOLARS



Matthew Abel
Wheeling, WV



Nathaniel Linger
Buckhannon, WV



Kylen Whipp
Glen Dale, WV

The WVU Department of Family Medicine Rural Scholars Program has accepted Matthew Abel from Wheeling, WV, Kylen Whipp from Glen Dale, WV and Nathaniel Linger from Buckhannon, WV into its program to begin July 2016.

Developed in 2004, the goal of the WVU Family Medicine Rural Scholars Program is to identify medical students who are committed to a range of training that will enrich their ability to practice Family Medicine in rural West Virginia. The program provides an enhanced fourth year Family Medicine curriculum with three one-month courses designed to build skills in the areas of community health, wellness promotion, patient education, outpatient management, clinical assessment, and acute and chronic illness management. Following graduation from WVU School of Medicine, scholars go directly into the WVU Family Medicine Residency Program where they pursue an enhanced three-year curriculum.

The WVU Family Medicine Rural Scholars program is accepting applications through January 15, 2016 for the next class of Rural Scholars. Admission to the program is competitive and requires completion of an application, a personal statement of commitment, letters of support, and a personal interview. Please visit the Department of Family Medicine's website for more details.

NEW FACES

Dr. Angela Godejohn is an Assistant Professor, specializing in Women's Health. Prior to WVU Medicine, she served as a faculty Family Medicine physician for Cedar Rapids Medical Education Foundation. She received her medical degree from Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD, completed a Family Medicine internship and residency at Naval Hospital Jacksonville in Florida, before finishing a Family Medicine Obstetrics Fellowship at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center in South Carolina.



"What I love most about family medicine is the continuity," Dr. Godejohn said. "I particularly love obstetrics and feel privileged to be there for the 'birth' of a family." In her free time, she enjoys riding her bike and watching football with her 5-year-old son, "he might yell 'Go Mountaineers, score a home run' during a football game and cheer loudly for both sides, but his enthusiasm is infectious."

Dr. Alison Vargovich is a Clinical Psychologist. She received both her Masters and PhD in Clinical Psychology with a Specialization in Health Psychology from West Virginia University. She also completed an American Psychological Association Accredited Internship at the University of Florida and a Postdoctoral Psychology Fellowship in Pain Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic.



"I chose Family Medicine because it is the best setting for primary and secondary prevention of mental health issues, and quite truly is the 'frontline' of healthcare," Dr. Vargovich said. In her free time, she enjoys hiking with her husband and golden retriever, Luna. She also has a pet rabbit named Hopples and enjoys reading historical fiction and biographies on accomplished and respected women.

Dr. Shaylee Peckens is an Assistant Professor. She received her medical degree from the American University of the Caribbean in St. Martin, Netherlands Antilles. She went on to complete her Family Medicine Residency at WVU, where she served as the Co-Chief Resident for one year. She recently completed a 1-year Patient Centered Medical Home fellowship with the Department.



"I've always known I wanted to be a physician," Dr. Peckens said. "As a medical student, I always found myself looking at the complete picture. I really enjoyed 'whole-person care', and I very much like the variety of clinical cases that family medicine presents." In her free time, Dr. Peckens enjoys going to sporting events, traveling, singing, shopping, cooking/eating, and spending time with family and friends.

Dr. Melody Phillips is the Department's Patient-Centered Medical Home Fellow. She obtained her medical degree from Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Sciences and served as a Family Medicine Resident at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Illinois.



"I wanted to be a doctor since I was four years old, when I watched my grandmother suffering with complications of esophageal cancer due to smoking," Phillips said. "I chose Family Medicine because the flexibility of being able to have the continuity and relationships I want, while being able to practice both pediatrics and women's health and doing procedures, is unlike any other specialty." In her free time, Dr. Phillips likes to hike, cook and recently took up knitting.

Natalie McCready is a certified Physician Assistant. She received her Bachelor's degree in Nuclear Medicine from Wheeling Jesuit University and Master of Physician Assistant Studies from Chatham University.



"I was previously a Nuclear Medicine Technologist," McCready said. "I love that, as a PA, I can build a relationship with patients and follow their medical care. I really enjoy talking to people and trying to make a difference in their life." In her free time, McCready and her husband enjoy spending time with their 7-month-old daughter, taking their dog, Casey Jo, on walks, riding motorcycles, running, horseback riding, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.



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SAVE THE DATE FOR 2016

HAL WANGER FAMILY MEDICINE CONFERENCE

The planned dates for the 42nd Annual Hal Wanger Family Medicine Conference are **September 29-30, 2016**. Future information will be available on the Department of Family Medicine website.

The Department hosted the 41st Annual Hal Wanger Family Medicine Conference at the new University Town Centre in Morgantown. The attendees included over 80 alumni, past and present faculty, current residents, and a former Department chair.

The conference featured a variety of hands-on workshops, which included Introduction to Dermoscopy, Casting and Splinting, and a Central Appalachia Inter-Professional Pain Education Collaborative.

The conference's speakers addressed a variety of topics of interest to family physicians, nurses, and other healthcare providers. The topics included casting and splinting, migraine headaches, acute abdominal pain, diabetes, congestive heart failure, PTSD, viral hepatitis, drugs of abuse, and weight loss. Thank you for attending and making the 41st Hal Wanger Conference a success.

A STATE OF MINDS

The Campaign for West Virginia University

Supporting
Family Medicine

If you would like to make a gift to benefit the programs and activities of the Department of Family Medicine, please visit:
www.mountaineerconnection.com/givetofamilymedicine.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the department.