

familymed

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

RURAL TRACK

by Heather Hanks

The WVU School of Medicine Rural Track, established in 2012, was pleased to graduate eight students in the class of 2017 at the May investiture ceremony. All eight students have matched with primary care residencies throughout the country. In addition, all eight graduates have plans to practice in a rural or underserved area which is the mission of the program.



L-R: Joseph Hansroth, MD, Darrin Nichols, MD, Sarah Lively, MD, Jessica Eiser, MD, Tanner Moor, MD, Alyson Leo, MD and Steven Stefancic, MD. Not pictured: Westley Mullins, MD

The class of 2017 set the bar high for future students through their involvement in various organizations and academic pursuits. Among the eight graduates is a Pisacano recipient (national award from the American Board of Family Medicine), three WVU Rural Scholars, a National Health Service Corp Scholar, and two US Army Second Lieutenants.

Richard Stefancic, class of 2017 graduate, believes that by participating in the Rural Track Program, he has “been awarded the opportunity to better connect with the rural and underserved population, which will give priceless advantages to [his] future medical practice.”

Other graduates, such as Darrin Nichols, saw the Rural Track Program as an opportunity to gain more hands-on experience to help him on his way to becoming a rural physician. Nichols

said, “I had the opportunity to form lasting friendships with fellow Rural Track classmates.” Nichols stressed that the network of physicians he has encountered over the four years in the program, has given him an insightful experience of patients in a rural setting.

The class of 2017 graduated with a combined \$225,000 in scholarship money awarded by WVU Institute for Community and Rural Health. Two recipients of the scholarship have signed a four year commitment to practice in West Virginia upon completion of residency. One recipient has signed a one year commitment.

To learn more about the WVU SOM Rural Track, go to <http://medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/rural/>

RESEARCH IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

The Department of Family Medicine is excited to highlight unsung hero and champion of its research section, Dr. Ashley Petrone. As the Department's research assistant professor, Dr. Petrone encourages providers to view research as something that is integrated into and improves patient care, rather than being separate.



"In general, I think there is sometimes a fear of research among physicians, as most see research as an extremely complicated process that will take away from patient care," Dr. Petrone said. "However, being that Family Medicine sees so many patients with different conditions or diseases over a long period of time, what better way to develop solutions for them, than through research?"

Dr. Petrone's enthusiasm for research is contagious, as the Department's faculty and residents are not only discussing research ideas, but producing abstracts, manuscripts, and conference presentations that showcase their research.

Dr. Petrone graduated from West Virginia University with her PhD in Neuroscience. "I can't remember a time I wasn't interested in science and medicine," she said.

In her free time, Dr. Petrone enjoys being outdoors, camping, fishing, road biking or swimming, but her favorite hobby is spending time with her pride and joy, Willie Nelson (pictured left).



CLASS OF 2020 RESIDENTS

The Department welcomes its new class of residents! This excellent group includes Shawn Carlson, Benjamin Jackson, Emily Neal and WVU Rural Scholars Alyson Leo, Courtney Pilkerton, and Michelle Reynolds.



Shawn Carlson, MD



Benjamin Jackson, MD



Alyson Leo, MD



Emily Neal, MD



Courtney Pilkerton, MD, PhD



Michelle Reynolds, MD

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF



Amy Moyers, MD

Former family medicine resident, Amy Moyers, MD, will join the department as faculty in July. She attributes her pursuit of a career in medicine to an unlikely source.

"I worked as an EMT during college," Dr. Moyers said. "During an ambulance transport, a prisoner I was transporting said, 'you're really nice, you

should be a doctor.' The following week, I signed up for my MCAT, and now here I am."

She chose family medicine because she enjoys the continuity of care and understanding the whole patient, while also being able to perform procedures.



Jason Peklinsky, MD

Former family medicine Chief Resident, Jason Peklinsky, MD, will join the department as faculty in July. He initially wanted to be an athletic trainer, but realized during his undergraduate education that he wanted to dive deeper into medicine to become a physician.

"I chose family medicine because I genuinely enjoy full family

care and complete care of an individual through procedures, hospital-based medicine, or office-based medicine."

He was born and raised in West Virginia and in his free time enjoys spending time with family, sports, fishing, and golfing.



Ginny Lemley

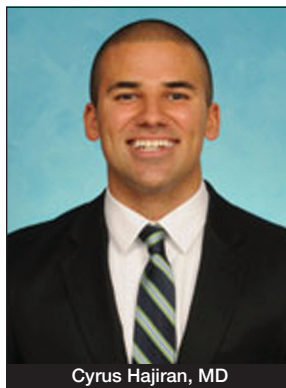
Ginny Lemley joined the department in the spring as a licensed professional counselor.

"I have always been interested in the 'why' of people's stories," Lemley said. "I chose family medicine because I enjoy working with different age groups and populations.

She grew up in West Virginia and in her free time enjoys watching sports and movies, working in the garden, and playing trivia.

NEW RURAL SCHOLARS

The Department of Family Medicine-Morgantown Campus is pleased to announce the selection of three Rural Scholars for entry into the Program beginning July 2017. Cyrus Hajiran, Mitchell Hoyson, and Shauna Novobilsky were selected for their enthusiasm for and commitment to rural Family Medicine in West Virginia.



Cyrus Hajiran, MD



Shauna Novobilsky, MD



Mitchell Hoyson, MD

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:

<https://give.wvu.edu/FamilyMedicine>

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the Department.



DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE
PO Box 9152 | Sleeth Family Medicine, Health Sciences Center
Morgantown, WV 26506-9152

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SAVE THE DATE
SEPTEMBER 14-15, 2017

HAL WANGER FAMILY MEDICINE CONFERENCE



The 43rd Annual Hal Wanger Family Medicine Conference is September 14-15, 2017 in Morgantown, WV at the Holiday Inn off of Pineview Drive.

This one and a half day conference will include lectures on a variety of topics including interpretation of drug testing results, physician burnout and resiliency, initial approach to chest pain, colorectal cancer screening, NASH, and others. In addition, there will be evening workshops on joint injections, x-ray interpretation, and a KSA Workshop on well child care.

The brochure and registration form are available on the department of family medicine website under the Hal Wanger Family Medicine Conference link – medicine.hsc.wvu.edu/fammed.