

familymed

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

TWO NEW FEDERAL FUNDED RESEARCH STUDIES



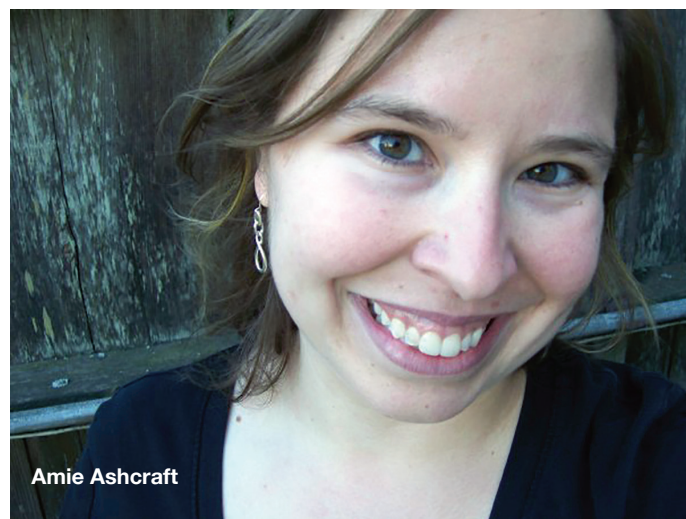
Cara Sedney (left) and Treah Haggerty

NIH FUNDING FOR STUDY ON OPIOIDS

The National Institute of Health (NIH) has awarded WVU family medicine faculty, Treah Haggerty, MD, MS and Cara Sedney, MD, MA from the WVU Department of Neurosurgery with a 2-year grant award to study the effects of new opioid legislation on patients, physicians, and pharmacists in West Virginia. The study will collaborate with the West Virginia Practice-Based Research network, the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy, and harm reduction programs in the state. The research team will be interviewing primary care physicians, specialty physicians, pharmacists and patients to understand the effects of prescribing limits.

CDC FUNDING FOR APP-DELIVERED TRAINING TO IDENTIFY AND REPORT RURAL CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

Dr. Amie Ashcraft is part of a team funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (CDC; CE003169) to develop a prototype app to train key personnel in rural areas to identify and report child sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. In collaboration with Lead PI Tamara Kuhn (dfusion) and Co-PI Dr. Pamela Anderson (ETR Associates), and the WVU Launch Lab, they will pilot test the app with frontline staff in several county health departments in WV.



Amie Ashcraft

CAUGHT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

JOSEPH B. SELBY, MD



I am a graduate of the WVU School of Medicine, Class of 1990. I completed a combined residency in Family Medicine/Psychiatry in 1996. My entire medical career has been in Family Medicine at West Virginia University, where I have been the Director of Clinical Operations since 1997. I am one of the few remaining active faculty that remembers caring for patients in the “old hospital”.

I have been active in the West Virginia State Medical Association Serving as President from 2006-2007. During that time, I spearheaded the successful initiative to establish a Physician's Health Program in West Virginia (WVMPHP). I have served as Chairman of the Board for the West Virginia Physician Health Program Service since its creation in 2007.

My service to organized medicine includes, serving as the President of the Mon County Medical Society and the Chair of the Delegation for West Virginia at the twice-yearly meetings of the American Medical Association.

I still see my own patients two-half days a week and on an as needed basis. I supervise residents during their outpatient clinic at the University Town Center. I serve as a group leader for first and second year medical students during the academic year. I am the Course Director and helped to



establish WVU's School of Medicine fourth year, two-week elective in policy and legislative advocacy.

My wife (Joan) and I have been married 32 years and have three children; William 27, Mary Beth 26, Thomas 23, and one grandson, Anthony 5. At my age (70+) I still get out on my BMW motorcycle when weather permits. My passion is fly fishing, introduced to me by Drs. John and Jim Brick in the 1990's. I have fond memories of trips to Montana and Idaho with Drs. Jim Brick, John Brick, Tony DiBartolomeo and John Shamma'a.

I love patient care and working with residents and students. Electronic Medical Record, insurance demands, prior authorizations, as well as, federal documentation demands are taking a toll and I am looking forward to retirement in a couple of years. What about you?





GREAT STRIDES TOWARD SOCIAL CHANGE IN HEALTHCARE

Patients may hide important information pertinent to their care if they have had a bad experience simply because they are different, or worse, they may avoid healthcare entirely to prevent uncomfortable or stigmatizing experiences. The West Virginia University Department of Family Medicine is currently engaged in both individualized and systemic efforts to combat the health disparities of the LGBTQ community.

Family Medicine PGY-2 resident, Cyrus Hajiran, MD, leads a LGBTQ Cultural Competency initiative comprised of didactic and simulation as part of the third-year medical student curriculum on the Family Medicine clerkship training future clinicians on an individual patient-provider level. Preliminary data analysis from the training shows the achievement of positive changes in knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors.

Additionally, the department is developing system-based changes by pursuing enrollment in the Human Rights Campaign Healthcare Equality Index, a national LGBTQ benchmarking tool used to evaluate and institute healthcare facility policies and practices related to the equity and inclusion of LGBTQ patients. Most recently, the department represented the WVU Medicine network in the first Morgantown PRIDE celebration to celebrate and support the LGBTQ community.

In addition to Family Medicine's continued interdepartmental collaborations regarding the advancement of LGBTQ healthcare and social change, the horizon of these initiatives includes Dr. Hajiran's pursuit of publishing his initial findings regarding achievement of the LGBTQ Cultural Competency Training goals and discussions on the development of a LGBTQ fellowship focusing on preventative care, behavioral medicine, endocrinology, and infectious disease.

NEW FACULTY



Rob Allison, DO, joined the Department in October as a Geriatrician. He is dedicated to training the next generation of physicians to be well-rounded and exceedingly capable of taking care of the increasing number of individuals growing older and living longer.

"I've been fortunate to listen to some of the most interesting stories and experiences from patients who might not otherwise had the chance to share these memories," he said. "And for that I am eternally grateful."

When he's not working, he enjoys spending time with his wife, new son, and two dogs. He is excited to explore more of West Virginia and get to know more people in this great Mountaineer Family!



Kylan Whipp, MD, joined the Department in July as Clinical Faculty with Obstetrics. Developing relationships with his patients and being able to provide them with quality care is something he finds extremely rewarding.

"As long as I can remember, I have always wanted to pursue a career as a physician. This was re-affirmed when I had a family member admitted to the hospital requiring emergency care that saved his life," he said. "From that time, I had a goal to be able to help provide the same level of care to my patients as my family member had received."



Brooks Mersing, MD, joined the Department in August as Clinical Faculty. Being from West Virginia gives him the unique insight into the people of this area and allows him to provide the best care possible to patients and their families.

"The people of the state are hardworking, strong, proud people," he said. "It inspires me to help them along their life's journey."

He enjoys spending time at home with his family. He was born and raised in West Virginia and has always been proud to be a Mountaineer.

WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer — Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran.

ANNUAL HAL WANGER CONFERENCE

The Department would like to thank all those who contributed to make the 45th Annual Hal Wanger Family Medicine Conference a success! This year's event was held at the Holiday Inn Morgantown on October 3-4, 2019.

Dr. Dorian Williams, Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at West Virginia University School of Medicine, served as this year's distinguished Mesaros lecturer and highlighted the "To Simulate...And Beyond! Toys or Educational Apogee?" Lecture topics ranged from psychological impact of pain and its management, rheumatoid arthritis, and migraine therapy to a panel discussion on alternative pain management, leading an end of life discussion, and adolescent LGBTQ issues.

