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Dates of Special Interest:

- **June 3:** NGH Appreciation Reception for Chief Residents & Graduating Residents
- **June 18:** Residents Graduation @ the Hilton Garden Inn, 1715 Broadway
- **June 22 – 24:** New Resident Orientation
- **June :** Awards & Recognition Program, Department

Interim Chair's Communique

~ Marquetta Faulkner, MD

This academic year of 2010 - 2011 has been full of exciting challenges and fulfilling achievements: For the first time in more than 20 years, eight Meharrians matched with our residency training program which gained three additional training positions; a Digestive Health Center opened at Nashville General Hospital at Meharry (NGH); and, our annual Internal Medicine Commencement Seminar experienced three consecutive years of increased attendance.



Most recently, the Department responded to an invitation extended by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse to collaborate on a research initiative, **Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)**. The goal of this initiative is to expand the State's continuum of care for substance misuse services by screening all clients at selected

primary care clinics for all types of substance use and co-occurring disorders, not just dependency. Thus, seizing the opportunity to focus on "risky use" and prevent the adverse consequences and costs at the population level. The Department accepted the invitation and joined East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine and the Tennessee National Guard as a collaborator. Preceding this opportunity, the department responded to the Health Resources Services Administration sponsored 5-year **Primary Care Residency Expansion project (PCRE)** which provides the funding opportunity to expand our internal medicine residency training program by three positions per year for the next five years.

The **Digestive Health Center** on the 2nd floor of NGH offers patients the ability to be seen in a clinical setting and have diagnostic testing performed in one location. It provides treatment of digestive diseases, diagnostic endoscopy (colonoscopy, EGD, and ERCP), interventional endoscopy, screening endo-

scopy, and long term care of chronic digestive diseases.

Faculty attended the April 13th **Faculty Retreat** focused on the teaching and training of faculty to teach and train residents under the new ACGME guidelines. For PGY 1 (interns) duty hours have been reduced to 16 consecutive hours per day and PGY2's have a 24 consecutive hours limit on continuous duty. Thank you, Dr. Akatue for leading the Retreat!

The **32nd Annual Internal Medicine Commencement Seminar** witnesses continued growth and appreciation of all alumni for the topics presented and their pertinence to their clinical practice.

Culminating this academic year's honors and awards was my receipt of the **Alumni Faculty of the Year Award** presented during this year's Alumni Banquet. I was humbled and most appreciative for the honor and recognition.

In serving we are served.

RESIDENTS' CORNER

~ Olumuyiwa Esuruoso, M.D.

The Internal Medicine Residency Program is growing by leaps and bounds. With funding secured from the Primary Care Residency Expansion grant awarded to the department this year, we increased our resident enrollment. Starting July 2011, the resident complement will increase from 12 to 15 for first and second year resident classes. By July 2012 all three PGY levels will have 15 residents per class. Over half of the new 2011/2012 intern class are alumni of Meharry Medical College!

With the increase in resident numbers comes the need to improve

our resident training data management. Starting July 2011 the Residency Program will transition to an online, intuitive and extremely efficient system of monitoring resident demographics, patient logs, conference attendance, duty hours reporting and invasive procedures certification.

This will greatly enhance the department's efficiency and promote compliance with ACGME regulations.

Also effective July 2011, there will be no overnight calls for

residents except those in the ICU at General Hospital. Over-night continuity of care will be provided by a night float team at both the Nashville and Murfreesboro campuses. The Residency Program plans to introduce an annual internal exam aside from the external In-Training Exam (ITE) as well as

continue monthly tests in each specialty area. These examinations will serve to identify and remediate struggling residents early. Stay tuned for more updates!



**Training + Knowledge =
Competence**

RESIDENTS BEGINING TO LIVE OUT THEIR DREAMS

Makeda Williams, MD & Chinenya Emuwa, MD will be Chief Residents for the AY 2011-2012;

Of the four PGY3's who applied for fellowships, all were accepted into fantastic fellowship training programs:

Zaid Brifkani, MD will continue his training in a nephrology fellowship at the University of FL-Jacksonville;

Chijiuba Nwazue, MD will continue his training as a fellow in Clinical Pharmacology at VUMC;

Ruki Odieta, MD will continue his

training in a Post Doctoral Fellowship program at VUMC;

Minaba Wariboko, MD will continue her training in a cardiovascular fellowship at VUMC. She plans to focus on CVD disparities and women.

Plans of our other graduating residents follow:

Chuck Ball, MD is exploring hospitalist opportunities for 2011-2012 and fellowships in pulmonary and geriatrics for 2012-2013.

Onan Bomar, MD is exploring career options in PA;

Kadallah Brandy, MD is exploring career opportunities in MS;

Fred Cesar, MD is exploring career opportunities in FL;

Edith Henderson, MD is returning to her family in TX and exploring opportunities there;

Olufemi Owolabi, MD is exploring career options in CA..

CLERKSHIP UPDATE

~ Kehinde Carew, M.D.

The Clerkship Program is pleased to announce the implementation of the Simulated Internal Medicine Learning Experience (**SIMPLE**) this summer. **SIMPLE** is an internet based learning program designed to comprehensively integrate our core medicine clerkship curriculum. It will supplement our already existing teaching activities.

Also planned for the year is the introduction of newly acquired trainers and simulators. These are aimed at enhancing physical examination and diagnostic skills of trainee students through a "hands-on" approach.

Finally, the Clerkship Program welcomes our



"Tell me and I may re-member; Involve me and I will understand."

graduating students to the Internal Medicine Residency Training Program. Of the 15 available positions, eight were filled by Meharry Medical College graduates.

THOMAS—HARDY INTERNAL MEDICINE SOCIETY Reports, 2010 – 2011

~ Lakeshia Entzminger, MSIV
President

The **Thomas-Hardy Internal Medicine Society (THIMS)** did it again this year! We accomplished so much in continuing the legacy of our founders, Dr. John Thomas, Jr. and Dr. Robert E. Hardy, to educate our members about internal medicine and its many opportunities.

Several topics presented to **THIMS** members concerned the world of internal medicine. They included cardiology, general internal medicine, highlights of the Belize medical mission trip, and an American College of Physicians (ACP) sponsored presentation about the field of internal medicine, training opportunities and ways to get involved with the ACP.

We continued Meharry's tradition of service within the surrounding Nashville community with participation in various community events. We began our year volunteering at the

first aid booth at the annual African Street Festival in Hadley Park. We were thrilled to help a young patient who presented with seizures and was taken to the hospital via ambulance. Her mother later reported that she was doing well and was so thankful that we were there to assist her daughter. Another service event was the Greater Christ Temple Health Fair; we provided blood pressure screen-

ings.

Keeping in mind the importance of gaining a better understanding of the community we serve, we also started planning for a community research project, the Barbershop Project. In seeking to assess hypertension in African-American adult males, **THIMS** members will visit select barbershops on the Jefferson and Buchanan streets corridor to conduct blood pressure screenings. Application for institutional review board approval has been submitted and the planning process continues; we will begin this project this fall.

Finally, the highlight of our year was attending the annual ACP Conference April 7-9 in San Diego, CA. With the help of donors, we were able to provide travel and hotel expenses for seven members to attend. It was a rewarding experience to learn all that internal medicine has to offer and to meet internists from across the country.

We participated in sessions regarding updates in patient management and diseases, continuing medical education, career professionalism and

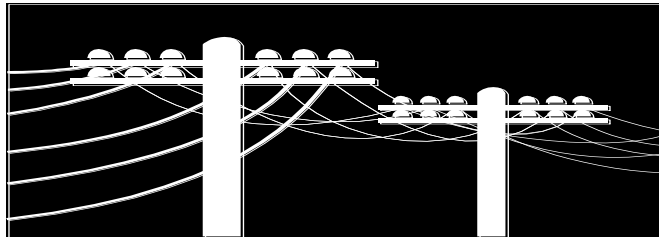


Enter to learn; Depart to Serve

women's health. The two greatest aspects of the conference were participating in the hands-on clinical skills workshops and attending the African-American Physician Reception. The clinical skills center provided standardized patients for male genital, breast and pelvic exams as well as a mock Step 2 Clinical Skills board exam. Other skill sessions included neurologic assessment of the comatose patient, performing an outpatient skin biopsy and diagnosing cardiac murmurs.

During the African-American Physician Reception, we met Meharry alum, Kimberly Draper Manning, MD '96 who was recognized for her blog (www.gradydoctor.com) that highlights her day-to-day experiences as a physician at Grady Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. It was such an inspiration to meet Dr. Manning and learn of her accomplishments. It was also an inspiration to interact with President Riley who actively serves as a Master of the American College of Physicians, Doctors for Adults®. Dr. Manning and President Riley are tangible proof that we can and will make it to where they are today making a unique stamp on our surrounding community and the world.

Future Meharrrians making a unique stamp on their the community and world.



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**MEHARRY MEDICAL
COLLEGE**

*“Worship of God through
service to mankind”.*

We're on the Web!
[http://
internalmedicine.mmc.edu](http://internalmedicine.mmc.edu)

Contemporary History of the Department of Internal Medicine

Under the visionary leadership of Frederic Tremaine Billings, M.D., FACP, chairman and professor of medicine (1950-1961), the Department of Internal Medicine became one of the most prestigious departments in the South. Key faculty were:

- George B. Brothers, M.D.'44, FACP, internist;
- Robert S. Anderson, M.D., FACP, endocrinologist;
- Cleve W. Ewell, M.D.'47 hematologist;
- John Thomas, Jr. M.D.'44, FACP, cardiologist;
- Benjamin L. Love, M.D.'51, infectious disease; and,
- Emile C. Nash, M.D.'45, gastroenterologist

Dr. Billings envisioned a cadre of highly trained, exceptionally competent physicians providing high quality medical care and services to underserved populations, a tradition that continues today.

NEW MEHARRIANS PURSUING INTERNAL MEDICINE...

This year joining our cadre of outstanding residents pursuing their dreams of becoming internists are:

Dr. Lorraine Achebe, a 2008 alumna of Nnamdi Azikiwe University in Nigeria;

Dr. Derron Allen, a 2007 alumnus of **Meharry Medical College** who has passed USMLE Step 3;

Dr. Philip Augustine, a 2005 alumnus of University of Harcourt in Nigeria;

Dr. Hawkins Bassey, a 2004 alumnus of Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria;

Dr. Eyerusalem Bayssa, a 2005 alumna of Gondar College of Medical Sciences in Ethiopia;

Dr. Mussie Beraki, a 2007 alumnus of Universita di Bologna in Italy;

Dr. David Chunn, a 2010 alumnus of **Meharry Medical College**;

Dr. Jennifer Haynie, a 2011 alumna of **Meharry Medical College**;

Dr. Bert Holmes, III, a 2010 alumnus of **Meharry Medical College**;

Dr. Kea Jones, a 2010 alumna of **Meharry Medical College**;

Dr. Peter Meadows, a 2007 alumnus of **Meharry Medical College**;

Dr. Schola Nwachukwu, a 2005 alumna

of University of Ibadan in Nigeria;

Dr. Abimbola Ogungbemille, a 2007 alumna of Escuela Latinoamericana de Medicina, Cuba has passed USMLE Step 3;

Dr. Jeffrey Shehane, a 2011 alumnus of **Meharry Medical College**; and,

Dr. Calvin Smith, III, a 2010 alumnus of **Meharry Medical College**.

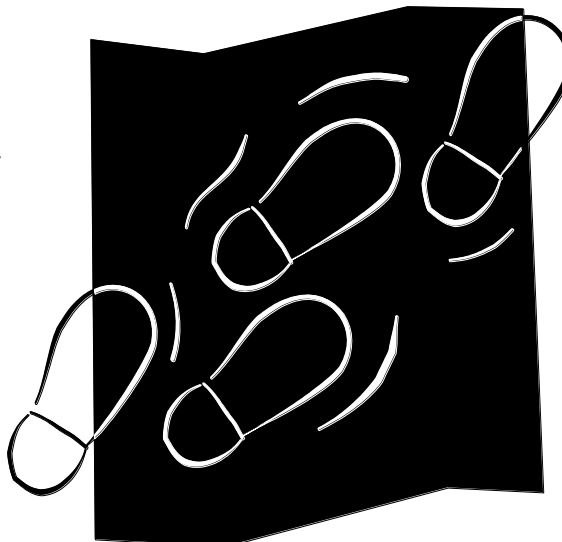
Joining the PGY2 class of resident trainees are:

Dr. Zakaria Botros who completed his PGY1 preliminary year at Wyckoff Height Medical Center in New York;

Dr. Sophie Chwa who completed her PGY1 year at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center in New York and has passed USMLE Step 3;

Dr. Sisay Debebe who completed his preliminary year at St. Agnes in Baltimore, MD; and,

Dr. Masoumeh Ghaffari who completed her categorical training at Mountainside Hospital in Montclair, NJ.



Beginning the journey to achieve their dreams of making a difference in their communities and the world.