

TCMC[®]

THE COMMONWEALTH
MEDICAL COLLEGE



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eCHECK-UP

An electronic newsletter for clinical faculty of The Commonwealth Medical College

Summer 2014

Dr. Gerald Tracy Retires as Regional Dean...



Dr. Gerald Tracy, Regional Associate Dean for the North Campus and one of the original visionaries behind the concept and development of TCMC, stepped down from his position as regional dean at the end of May. He will continue to teach and serve the medical school in a number of ways. Dr. Tracy has more than twenty years experience as director of cardiovascular services at Mercy Hospital in Scranton. He was awarded the Presidential Citation Award by the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) President James A. Goodyear, MD on October 24th, 2010. The prestigious Presidential Citation Award is awarded to recognize physicians for their lifelong commitment to excellence in medicine,

medical education, and patient care in improving the quality of medical care to all residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He has served in various leadership roles in the Lackawanna County Medical Society as well as various positions in the Pennsylvania Medical Society including the state board of trustees and the state American Medical Association delegation.



...Dr. Shubhra Shetty Promoted

Dr. Shubhra Shetty has been promoted to Regional Associate Dean of the North Campus. She is a professor of medicine at TCMC and former full-time faculty member at the Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education. Dr. Shetty attended medical school at the Armed Services Medical College in Pune, India. She did her internship and residency in Internal Medicine at SUNY Kings County Hospital Center in Brooklyn, followed by an Infectious Diseases fellowship at Thomas Jef-

erson University in Philadelphia. Her career, over the past 15 years, has included contributions at both the undergraduate and graduate medical education level. She is the recipient of numerous teaching awards and grants, most notably the Ryan White Early Intervention Grant which has allowed her to make a significant impact on the care of patients with HIV disease in Northeastern Pennsylvania. She was a member of the original MED-C group who founded TCMC and has been an active faculty member at TCMC since the onset. In addition, she is a leader in Scranton's medical community, serving as Vice-Chair of the Department of Medicine, the Director of Medical Education at Regional Hospital of Scranton, and the Director of the HIV clinic at the Wright Center.

LCME Approval Granted!

Dr. Steven Scheinman is proud to report that TCMC is now fully accredited by the LCME, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education and by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

"To call this news gratifying or exhilarating would win some kind of award for an understatement. It represents the culmination of years of exhausting effort by a huge number of people who are deeply invested in the mission of this college," said Dr. Scheinman.

For the latest accreditation news visit our website at:

www.thecommonwealthmedical.com

TCMC Datebook

Regional Faculty Development Meetings

South Campus
October 7

6:00 PM @ The Woodlands

North Campus
October 23

6:00 PM @ TCMC

West Campus
October 29

6:00 PM @ DiSalvo's Restaurant

Gala 2014

Saturday, October 18, 2014
Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs
Honoring: Blue Cross of NEPA

The Commonwealth Medical College

Department of Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development



Pictured Left to Right: Mary Roman, JoAnn Babish,
Mary Theresa Mazur and Andrea DiMattia

Associate Dean

Andrea DiMattia, MEd
570.504.9634

ADiMattia@tcmedc.org

Regional Affairs Manager

Mary Theresa Mazur, MA
570.504.9678

MMazur@tcmedc.org

Faculty Affairs/Faculty Development Manager

Mary Roman, MS
570.504.7306

MRoman@tcmedc.org

Associate Director, CME & Faculty Development

JoAnn Babish, MSLS
570.207.3686

JBabish@tcmedc.org

Administrative Assistant

Gloria Colosimo
570-504-9074

GColosimo@tcmedc.org

Regional Campus Manager, North

Nora Alu
570.207.3681

NAlu@tcmedc.org

Regional Campus Manager, South

Jackie Castanzo
570.825.7245

JCastanzo@tcmedc.org

Regional Campus Manager, West

Tammy Button
570.327.6080

TButton@tcmedc.org

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Submit items of interest to editor,
Mary Theresa Mazur, at MMazur@tcmedc.org*

eCHECK-IN

Updates from the Regional Deans

From the North

I would like to thank Dr. Gerald Tracy for his service to TCMC and to the community. Dr. Tracy has contributed immensely to the success of the school, particularly in his role as the Associate Dean at the North campus. He is an accomplished clinician and teacher. He literally helped build the North campus, along with laying down a solid foundation for the overall success of TCMC. We wish him well for the extra free time, which will allow him more time to spend time with his family, and to travel the world!

I am delighted to have the opportunity to work closely with such a dedicated group of people at the North campus, and at TCMC as a whole. I have had the pleasure of being part of the school since the early days, and it is indeed a joy to see the tremendous strides made by the school as well as the students. As we start the new academic year, I look forward to working with all of you to make this another great year of learning for our students.

-Dr. Shubhra Shetty, Associate Dean for North Regional Campus Development

From the South

The South campus is preparing for the next 3rd year class to begin their clinical rotations in our region. Orientation is slated for Tuesday, June 17th where the students will begin what we hope will be another successful year with many wonderful and educational experiences. The students will receive an overview of their 3rd year schedule, hear from our Regional Education Coordinators on each of the six disciplines, and learn about the community in which they will now be living and learning.

We recently held a recruitment social/dinner meeting with a few of the physicians in the Schuylkill Health System in Pottsville. The physicians in attendance were very interested in getting involved and we have already begun the credentialing process for those who will be working with the incoming 3rd year students. We will continue our outreach to other physicians in the Pottsville area to garner more involvement in that region.

We'd like to extend our congratulations to MD3 students Hannah Canty, Luana Hossain and Andrew Wroblewski for their induction into the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

-Dr. Michael Ferraro, Associate Dean for South Regional Campus Development

From the West

It is hard to believe that we are now gearing up to deliver the LIC to our 4th group of students! Sometimes I look back at our history over these last 7 years and just marvel at the fact that we have brought together several disparate medical communities in a spirit of quality improvement and in a joint effort to solve a problem. We literally have created something out of nothing. This educational endeavor is ground-breaking and history-making! And the performance of our students!! The first 2 classes have done so well in the Match and the third class promises to perhaps be the best yet! This rather self-evident idea of giving students clinical training in the actual places where the patients are has produced young physicians with a remarkable breadth of knowledge and depth of empathy.

So here in the West we are preparing once again to receive our part of the Class of 2016. I guess I must admit that I was skeptical, back in the early days, that such things would happen. Our teamwork and dedication to our mission has yielded wonderful fruit. Warm regards to all volunteer faculty, for you are the absolute backbone of our teaching paradigm!!

-Dr. Keith Shenberger, Associate Dean for West Regional Campus Development

Faculty Development

ACE Participates in Commencement

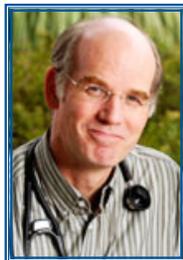


Special thanks to TCMC faculty & volunteer clinical faculty for attending the commencement ceremony at the FM Kirby Center. Members of ACE, the Academy of Clinical Educators, processed in white coats as a symbol of their clinical contributions to the class of 2014 and TCMC's mission.

Outstanding Faculty Mentors, 2014



John Farrell, MD
North Campus



Alexander Nesbitt, MD
West Campus



Richard Fischbein, MD
South Campus

Outstanding faculty mentor awards are given for exemplifying the qualities of caring and compassionate mentorship in the volunteer teaching and advising of medical students. These awards are given to TCMC staff who have most served the MD student community and contributed the most toward their success.

TCMC Speakers' Bureau Recruitment

TCMC Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Ingrid Husisian, welcomes all Volunteer Clinical Faculty and full-time and part-time faculty to join the TCMC speakers' Bureau.

Potential topics include careers in science, medicine or technology; a day in the life of a doctor, specialist, research scientists, etc.; cancer treatment; disease management, and health and wellness topics that address the physical, mental and emotional needs of our communities.

If any TCMC faculty members are interested, please send a CV and your potential topics to Heather Davis at HDavis02@tcmedc.org.

Continuing Medical Education

Keystone Symposium Fall 2014

Hypertension: Guide to the Guidelines

Saturday November 8, 2014
8:00 am - Noon
TCMC Auditorium

Grand Rounds for 2014

August 14

Ajay Shetty, MD
Lung Cancer Update

September 11

Mario Cornacchione, DO
Alzheimer's Disease

September 18

Stanford Faculty Development
Program

September 25

David C. Slawson, MD
Evidence-Based Medicine

Workshop: 9-11 AM
Grand Rounds: 12:15-1:15 PM

October 9

Mark Rodgers, PhD
Human Trafficking

November 13

Shubhra Shetty, MD
HIV/AIDS

For more information, contact:
JoAnn Babish, Associate Director
for CME & Faculty Development
570.207.3686
JBabish@tcmedc.org

Admissions Update

In August, TCMC will welcome 100 new students to its Doctor of Medicine program. These individuals were chosen from a robust, qualified applicant pool of nearly 6,000. This year, approximately 60 TCMC basic science, clinical science, and volunteer faculty members assisted in the selection process. Candidates invited to interview represented a wide variety of undergraduate institutions, many local including: Bucknell University, East Stroudsburg University, Franklin and Marshall College, King's College, Lehigh University, Misericordia University, Muhlenberg College, Penn State University, The University of Scranton, and Wilkes University.

Currently there are 100 students holding a place in the MD Class of 2018, while a strong waitlist is maintained by the Admissions Office, should an applicant reconsider their offer at TCMC. The demographics of the class are not yet final, early statistics show strong representation of both Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania residents, as well as a nearly equal split between men and women.

Medical Student Council Executive Board



The Medical Student Council (MSC) was established to advance the interests and well-being of the medical school and its current and future students. The MSC at TCMC represents the united voice of medical students and provides programs and activities, which support the College's mission and core values. The elected officers work to strengthen existing bonds between students, faculty, staff and administration and to enrich the College's educational excellence and student affairs programs. The 2014-15 officers are, left to right, Eric Drago, Elyse Lynch, Amogh Karnik, Aditya Eturi and Kelvin Monroe.

Student Updates

TCMC Scholarship Recipient



Julie Mercadante, Wilkes-Barre, is the first recipient of the TCMC Scholarship. She is a graduate of the E.L. Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre and the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia with a Bachelor's degree in biochemistry. She is a member of two national honor societies: Alpha Chi, for the top 10% of juniors and seniors and Alpha Lambda Delta, a freshman honor society.

She said her mother has been a nurse for 15 plus years and she inspired her to go into medicine. "I grew to have an interest in the medical field from a very young age," Julie said.

"I admired the passion my mother had as a nurse for improving the everyday lives of other people, and I knew that I wanted to be a part of the medical team," she said.

Julie is interested in becoming a primary care physician in Northeastern Pennsylvania because this region needs more primary care physicians and hopes to someday open a practice and acute care center.

"I am so thankful for the scholarship that was made possible through the generosity and support of the faculty and staff at TCMC. I feel very empowered knowing that so many people believe that I could one day become a great physician," she said. "Thank you!"

Dr. John Farrell addresses NEPASU

John Farrell, MD, Radiological Consultants, Inc, presented a lecture to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Society of Ultrasound for regional clinicians and students studying or working in the sonography programs in NEPA. The program was held in the Moses Taylor Hospital Conference Room on May 22nd and addressed the outstanding diagnostic ability of ultrasound technology.



TCMC is committed to non-discrimination in all employment and educational opportunities.