Newsy Note: Match Day was Friday, March 21! 97.8% of the one hundred and ninety senior students seeking residency positions secured residency placement. 45% of our graduates are entering a primary care residency and 36% of the class will remain in Michigan for training. The top six specialty placements in rank order by percentage are: Family Medicine (15.6%); Internal Medicine (15.6%); Pediatrics (12.4%); Emergency Medicine (11.8%); General Surgery (8.6%); and Psychiatry (7.0%). Students also matched in highly competitive specialties like anesthesiology, neurology, dermatology, ophthalmology, urology, radiation oncology, and orthopedic surgery. Students will be in training throughout the Midwest, in the Northeast, in the South and in the West.

LCME Accreditation Update: We are at T-minus-7 months (and counting) until the LCME visits the college October 19-23, 2014. The Steering Committee continues to review and flesh out the contents of the self-study summary report. The students have completed their analysis of their survey. We encourage you to review the college’s SCRIPT educational competencies at http://lcme.chm.msu.edu/documents/script.html. More information about accreditation can be found at http://lcme.chm.msu.edu/.

Kudos: Margo Smith and Rae Schnuth have both received awards for Ten Years of Excellence in Study Abroad programming. Congratulations!

Academic Affairs People You Should Know: Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Thompson is the Community Associate Dean for the Grand Rapids campus, and the Assistant Dean for the Clinical Curriculum. In her Grand Rapids role, she serves as the academic officer overseeing all four years of curriculum in Grand Rapids. She spends much of her time working with the Block III students on that campus, engaged in career advising, helping with scheduling, and making sure there are enough places for students to rotate. As Assistant Dean for the Clinical Curriculum, she oversees the delivery of the Block III curriculum in all the communities. She meets with the departmental clerkship directors and attends clerkship retreats to stay up to date on any changes that the clerkships plan, and works to share best practices among the groups.

Dr. Thompson is a board certified family physician who graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School and the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont family practice residency program (University of Vermont). She has authored or co-authored several textbook chapters on nutrition and obesity, and enjoys research in medical education.
Continuous Quality Improvement Focus: This month’s CQI focus is on Personal Time during Clerkships:

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<th>Issue</th>
<th>Plan</th>
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<td>Students need personal time off for wellness, scheduling appointment with faculty, and other appointment</td>
<td>Working with clerkship directors to determine the best half day per 8 week clerkship to allow student time away without required excused absence form or make-up.</td>
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Student-to-Student Pearl: It has been a long, cold winter. Spring is barely perceptible. We need to smile at each other early and often!

Patient Care Pearl: Excessive alcohol consumption is the fourth leading preventable cause of death in the United States, resulting in approximately 90,000 deaths and 2.5 million years of potential life lost from 2006-2010. Some population-level strategies suggested by the Community Preventive Services Task Force are increasing the price of alcohol, limiting alcohol outlet density, and holding alcohol retailers liable for harms related to the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors and intoxicated patrons. Data and more evidence-based strategies are needed.

New Curriculum Update: The new curriculum continues to be developed in anticipation of its fall 2015 launch date. Curriculum work groups are forming to create the Early Clinical Experience, Middle Clinical Experience, Late Clinical Experience and other components of the new curriculum. All interested faculty and students should email Lisa.Galbavi@msu.edu.

We will be conducting a trial of a new assessment tool called the Progress Clinical Skills Exam that combines aspects of an OSCE with short answer questions about the basic science underlying the case. About 50 students have signed up for the two simulation dates (April 19 in East Lansing and May 3 in Grand Rapids).

If you are interested in participating in one of the upcoming Progress Clinical Skills Exams in either Grand Rapids or East Lansing there may still be room--email Lisa Galbavi at Lisa.Galbavi@msu.edu.

Don’t forget that there is a New Curriculum website you can visit: go to http://curriculum.chm.msu.edu/