STUDENTS TAKE THE COLLEGE OF HUMAN MEDICINE TO NEW HEIGHTS.
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The baby isn’t feeling well. It could be the flu, an earache, or…

“Let’s say this baby was found floating in the swimming pool, is brought in and resuscitated,” said Dr. David Lock, (CHM ’98) a clinical professor of medicine at the College of Human Medicine.

Don’t be alarmed. The baby on the examination table is a manikin, but it’s no dummy. It’s a SimBaby, a computerized infant that can be programmed to exhibit many different diseases and respond to treatments.

The Secchia Center’s clinical skills suite is now equipped with an entire family of four manikins (that’s the correct spelling for these high-tech teaching tools) that represent all ages, newborn to geriatric, and either gender. Each can be programmed to portray countless illnesses and traumatic injuries.

The four pseudo-patients were purchased with a $200,000 anonymous gift, said Lock, who, in addition to his duties as director of simulation, is an emergency room physician. The manikins are used to train first- through fourth-year medical students, as well as resident physicians and other practicing clinicians.

“I really want this to become a community resource,” Lock said, a teaching tool not only for students, but for medical providers who want to sharpen their skills in a safe environment.

In the Secchia Center’s operating room or one of two medical examination rooms, students can examine their simulated patient, while professors in a control room beyond a one-way mirror program it to exhibit certain symptoms and respond to treatments. The professor behind the glass can throw in something unexpected, as can happen in real life, perhaps causing the patient to go into a seizure.

“Or, more importantly, they (the students) can throw me a curve,” Lock said. “Maybe they give me a medicine we didn’t expect,” in which case he can cause an adverse reaction, possibly including death.

Students can inject the manikins with drugs, check pulses, respiration and other vital signs. The manikins can be programmed to cry, perspire, turn blue—“anything from not very ill to full cardiac arrest,” Lock said.

Typically, the medical student will work in a team, including nurses and other care providers, because that is how they will work in the real world. Often the team will include actors hired to make the scene as realistic as possible.

Take the case of the baby found floating in the pool, Lock said. Two actors could portray frantic parents, while the medical student works at resuscitating their baby. Professors—“content experts,” Lock called them—can speak to actors wearing earphones, giving them instructions on how to change the situation.

“Everyone knows this is a rubber manikin,” Lock said. “The goal is to create enough reality that the students suspend their disbelief.”

Sometimes it becomes so real that students are moved to tears, he said. If it became clear the SimBaby would not survive, the student would have to tell the parents. That’s because the goal is not only to train students in the medical but the psychological and social aspects of patient care, Lock said. The emphasis is on teaching safety, communication, teamwork and crisis skills.

“That fits very well with this school’s approach,” which emphasizes not only treating the disease, but caring for the patient and the family, said Lock, himself an MSU College of Human Medicine graduate.

In addition to the SimBaby, the medical school has a simulated adult, a manikin that will be used for cardiovascular training, and a birth simulator. The latter is the lower half of a pregnant woman. The top half is portrayed by an actress, while students practice delivering a baby from the bottom half, often with complications.

All the manikins are portable and can be taken into area hospitals to further heighten the reality. In the Secchia Center, sessions are videotaped, so students and professors can critique how the cases were handled.

“Nothing ever will replace really caring for someone, but this will soften that,” Lock said. “Mistakes will happen. This is where we want the mistakes to happen.”

“Let’s say this baby was found floating in the swimming pool, is brought in and resuscitated,” said Dr. David Lock, (CHM ’98) a clinical professor of medicine at the College of Human Medicine.
When this past summer rolled around, Jared Rispens, now in his second year at the College of Human Medicine, decided it was time for a trip to the island. But this was no sun-drenched isle, where he could relax on a beach before resuming his medical studies. It was Roosevelt Island in New York’s East River off Midtown Manhattan, and, rather than in a luxury hotel, he stayed in a dorm room at Coler Goldwater Hospital, a 2,000-bed facility that cares for the city’s poor and chronically ill.

“I felt I needed it to keep me focused on medicine and begin to explore what my strengths are and what I like,” Rispens said. “This summer helped me do that. To see the dedication of these doctors really inspired me.”

He is among many College of Human Medicine students who spent the summer immersed in research, treating the disadvantaged and pursuing other projects to further their education.

Dan Hess and Christopher Riedinger spent much of the summer caring for people in remote villages of Tanzania, where medical professionals seldom are seen. With little supervision from physicians, they traveled village to village caring for patients suffering from malaria, HIV, chronic pain and other illnesses.

“Just being thrust into a situation like that made all of the classes we took that first year very real,” said Hess. “You learn quickly that way, because you don’t have a choice.”

During a break, he and Riedinger climbed Mount Kilimanjaro and held up a pair of t-shirts displaying the College of Human Medicine logo at the summit. It was an awesome experience, Hess said, but nothing can match the experience he and Riedinger received caring for patients far below.

“I don’t think I could have done anything that would have recharged my batteries more,” Hess said. “It was incredibly rejuvenating and reinforced my choice to go into medicine, to see the impact you can have on people. You’re helping them, and they’re incredibly grateful for that.”

Eileen Larkin, Mustafa Husaini and Lauren Bauer, each in their second year at the College of Human Medicine, spent their break immersed in research projects.

Under an internship at Orthopaedic Associates of Michigan, Larkin researched the cost and compared outcomes for ankle fusion surgery versus total ankle replacement.

“This is a different way of learning,” she said. “In class, you read papers. Here you’re reading actual patients’ stories.”

Husaini, with an internship through the Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners, also spent the summer at Orthopaedic Associates of Michigan, where he studied two methods of lumbar spinal fusion. “It’s real important for students to get research experience,” he said. “Reading about it in books, you’re not sure how it actually applies to my life as a doctor. It was a learning experience for me.”

Rispens’ summer on Roosevelt Island was equally enlightening. During his externship at Coler Goldwater, he saw hundreds of patients with fatal and chronic diseases, including AIDS. In the hospital’s ventilator ward, he passed patient after patient permanently tethered to breathing machines. One his own age – 24 – a deaf mute woman disabled in an auto accident when she was 18, particularly impressed him.

“Just to see the level of brokenness in people and to see how doctors can help rebuild those lives really got a grip on me,” Rispens said. “Many of these people are homeless. They are people without families. These are people who fell through the cracks. To see the brokenness in society was really appalling and enlightening to me. I see a great need for quality care in that area.”

“I saw how it can have an impact on people’s lives, and I wanted to be a part of that.”цион

AFTERTHREETHREEWEEKMEDICALMISSIONTRIPTOTANZIA,SECOND-YEARMEDICALSTUDENTSCHRISRIEDINGERANDDANHESSCAPPEDOFFTHEIRSUMMERBREAKFROMMEDSCHOOLWITHA SIX-DAYCLIMBOFMT.KILIMANJARO.UPONREACHINGTHESUMMIT,HESSSAID,”WEWERSURETOSHOWOURCOLLEGEOFHUMANMEDI- CINECOLORS.”

FEATURE

UNDERANINTERNSHIPATTHEVANANDELINSTITUTEINGRANDRAPIDS,BAUERSTUDIETHETGENETICNATUREOFBREASTCANCER,INCREASINGHERUNDERSTANDINGOFHOWCERTAINPRO-TEINSINTERACTWITHINCELLSANDWHYSONEANTICANCERDRUGS EVENTUALLYBECOMENEFFECTIVE.

“Everyday I learned more,” she said. “It was a great experience.”

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In November, all 200 College of Human Medicine first-year medical students presented their midterm reflective projects for the class, "Introduction to the Patient-Physician Relationship."

This tradition challenges new medical students to express the core values that they, as future physicians, will bring to their patients and to the profession - and express these values through any medium, including collage, drawing, painting, photography, poetry, music and sculpture.

“Self-reflection is an important task required of a competent physician,” wrote Jason Miller. “While a physician must continually evaluate his actions, it is also meaningful to identify one’s own perspectives and biases. As a potential patient himself, a physician is reminded that patients also hold deep-seated values and outlooks, which are to be respected. Sometimes, although the subject is the same, these views are different, even reversed as in a mirror.”
**THE SECCHIA CENTER GOES FOR THE GOLD.**

**SECCHIA CENTER LEED® GOLD CERTIFICATION**

The Secchia Center, headquarters for the College of Human Medicine, has received the LEED® Gold certification, one of the highest environmental designations available.

“The award is a real mark of distinction,” said Dean Marsha D. Rappley, M.D. “It’s a natural outcome of trying to construct the very best building with the resources we had. We’re very excited to have this recognition, and it’s a reflection of all the hard work that went into it.”

The Gold certification, the second highest award available, is in recognition of the many environmentally friendly features that went into the design and construction of the Secchia Center. The building’s location in an urban setting, its highly efficient lighting, heating and cooling systems, its use of building materials from within 500 miles and other green attributes helped it achieve Gold certification.

While those sustainable features somewhat increased construction cost, the resulting energy savings will offset it in a little more than six years, said Shirine Boulos Anderson, principal with Ellenzweig, Design Architect for the new headquarters. Michigan State University has a long tradition of environmentally friendly programs, she noted, and Grand Rapids often is called one of the greenest cities in the country because of its concentration of LEED certified buildings.

“Grand Rapids is an amazing community where there is high awareness of sustainability,” Anderson said.

Going for the Gold required a great deal of commitment by every­one involved, including MSU, the designers and the builders, said Dan LaMore, senior vice president of the Christman Co., which managed the building’s construction. For example, it’s one thing to plan on recycling most waste materials, he said, but it’s another to make sure it happens.

“It required a very rigid management process,” LaMore said. “It’s a very collaborative effort.”

“In mid 2011, the popular Leadership in Medicine for the Underserved (LMU) program moved from the former Saginaw campus to the Flint campus.

The two-year certificate program, which was established in 2004, provides health education and health services to local underserved populations as well as underserved international populations.

“We want this to be a sustainable program,” said LMU Program Director, Rae Schnut, Ph.D. “We prize the fact that we work with partners that help carry on what we do within these communities after our student participation has finished.”

This sustainable mantra holds true for the local and international reach of the LMU program. Third-year Flint campus LMU participants are polling Flint community members regarding health needs. Students will either develop programs addressing high blood pressure, cancer, healthy living and numerous other health education programs.

“We’re teaching the students not to make assumptions about the community,” said curriculum development specialist Catherine Macomber. “Not to assume a community needs help with teenage pregnancies and underweight babies because it’s something they’ve heard or read in the news but rather have them go out and learn about the community’s needs.”

LMU participants have been traveling internation­ally since the program began. The international experience started in Belize and has expanded to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Peru, Uganda and India.

“We’ve really expanded our sites,” Schnut said. “Our students get clinical experience with a strong emphasis on public health. This allows our students to not just focus directly on curative medicine but to really look at how they can impact the greatest number of people in a setting by the type of care they deliver.”

The 90 percent of program participants interested in traveling abroad will spend eight weeks in early 2012 working with underserved populations in South America, Central America, India or Africa. Before the students leave, they learn about the area, its health needs and the culture.

“We really learn about the cultural practices,” Schnut said. “For example, if a shaman is still active in that community, the students need to make sure they understand the beliefs and the substances that community may be using in healing ceremonies. We need to make sure we’re sensitive to those needs and see if we can incorporate those practices into our management and understanding of how to impact health.”

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“..."
Ten years ago, fourth-year Grand Rapids campus medical student Vernesa Kazic and her family left Bosnia for the United States. When she arrived, she knew five words of English.

“All the English I knew was from TV,” Kazic said. “Even though I didn’t know English, I set my goal for medical school. In Bosnia my parents didn’t work, so they couldn’t pay for college. The primary goal was for me to go to school.”

The Kazics were one of thousands of families fleeing the Croat-Bosnian conflict. After the tragic loss of family and friends in 1994, the Kazics left their small town in Bosnia and moved to Germany.

“Many of my family members were killed and there were many injured people all over the place,” Kazic said. “I remember how the doctors helped but there weren’t enough medical supplies.”

In 1998, when things had calmed in Bosnia, the family moved back, but in 2001, after years of unemployment and economic instability, the Kazics immigrated to the United States.

The medical atrocities and scarcities associated with war impacted Kazic’s decision to go into medicine but so did a firsthand experience she had living in an underserved area of Bosnia.

When Kazic was seven, the doctor in her town of 3,000 people failed to recognize that she had an appendicitis. It ruptured and Kazic was without treatment for three days. Finally, she was sent to a city that could handle the infection—there were so many people who were injured or killed,” Kazic said. “I kept thinking how good it would be to help someday, so I have been interested in being a doctor since I was seven.”

The Kazics lived in New York City and Denver, Colo., before joining her father’s family in Fargo, N.D. The Kazic family moved to Grand Rapids to join its Bosnian community, which Kazic said is large and supportive. After six months of English courses, Kazic enrolled in math courses at Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC).

“Math was easy for me because I didn’t speak very good English,” Kazic said. “I went to GRCC for two years and then transferred to Grand Valley State University.”

In 2006, she received a bachelor’s in biomedical sciences. “It’s hard when English is your third language – German is my second – but I like the medical field, I like to talk to people and I wouldn’t change my mind to go into another field,” Kazic said.

Kazic wants to work with the Michigan immigrant population after graduation.

“Immigrants need help because they don’t understand how things work here in the United States and only go to see a doctor when they are sick.” Kazic said. “I want to address the cultural differences and teach preventative care.”

Technically, fourth-year Kalamazoo campus student Julienne Angeles’ interest in medicine and health care started when she was in the womb when her mother, a recent Filipino immigrant living near Oakland, Calif., couldn’t find health care for herself or her baby.

Angeles’ mother ended up receiving prenatal care from a local free clinic and, when Angeles was old enough to understand what had happened, she became interested in making health care available to the masses.

“My goal is to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in health care since minorities are often the ones to bear the brunt of poor health care outcomes and higher prevalence of diseases,” Angeles said.

During her senior year at the University of California Davis, Angeles and three other students opened a free clinic. At the time, all three students were part of a large student-run pre-health care organization. They started the clinic because they didn’t feel their members had access to meaningful community service experiences and, while the area has several student-run clinics, none of them targeted newly-arrived immigrants.

To keep costs low, the students made a deal with a local non-profit clinic, which allowed them to use the facilities and equipment when the non-profit was closed from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Saturday.

“We didn’t really need much financial support because the facilities were free and everything was volunteer,” Angeles said. “In addition to urgent care, we also provided comprehensive primary care. We would refer some patients to specialists that were open to seeing a few cases without compensation. For those who walked through the clinic’s doors, we assumed that they didn’t have the means to pay for medical care.”

These days, Angeles applies her experience gained from managing a non-profit clinic to her studies for medical school and a graduate program in public health. She is in the College of Human Medicine’s MD/MPH program and will simultaneously obtain an M.D. and master’s degree in public health.

“Pursuing a public health degree has been one of the best decisions I’ve made personally and professionally,” Angeles said. “It’s allowed me to grasp the bigger picture of medicine and health care. I hope to apply these lessons as a future family physician and public health leader working tirelessly to eliminate health inequities.”

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**LANSING STUDENT TAKES ON CAREFREE CLINIC, POLITICAL CAREER**

The last Michigan gubernatorial campaign gave fourth-year medical student Farhan Bhatti a chance to test his political prowess.

Bhatti, who is from Rochester Hills, took time off from his third-year clerkships to help run Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero’s gubernatorial campaign. As Bernero’s deputy campaign manager, Bhatti coordinated the statewide campaign.

“For me, politics and health care have a hand in glove relationship,” Bhatti said. “In the end, what you’re doing is advocating for people. In medicine, you’re advocating for patients at the micro level. In the political world you’re advocating for the health and wellness of people on a much larger scale.”

The beginning of Bhatti’s developing stump speech encapsulates his plans for Lansing, which includes a run for office and the gradual takeover of Lansing’s Carefree Clinic.

“For me, politics and health care have a hand in glove relationship,” Bhatti said. “In the end, what you’re doing is advocating for people. In medicine, you’re advocating for patients at the micro level. In the political world you’re advocating for the health and wellness of people on a much larger scale.”

Bhatti’s been volunteering ever since. During his second year of medical school, Saltman asked Bhatti to take over the clinic. The plan is for Bhatti to phase in as medical director after he finishes his residency.

“Dr. Saltman has become like the grandpa I never had,” Bhatti said. “I committed to this clinic my second year of medical school, but he birthed this clinic. It will always be his clinic.”

His first year of college was fortuitous for Bhatti, who met Bernero during welcome week. Bhatti helped Bernero with his Senate campaign, which he won, and also helped Bernero with mayoral and gubernatorial campaigns.

Bhatti doesn’t know which office he’ll run for or when he’ll run, but said he’ll take political opportunities as they come.

“I certainly intend to continue the relationships I’ve built locally in Lansing,” Bhatti said. “I will continue to do what I do for the right reasons and be genuine and sincere because sincerity is lacking in politics right now and I think that’s why so many people are turned off by it. If an opportunity presents itself down the line and it’s the right one, I’ll probably take it.”

**MIDLAND STUDENT CONDUCTING CASE STUDY ON RARE DISEASE**

At the end of the first week of her internal medicine clerkship, third-year Midland campus student Sarah Kiel came across something few doctors ever see. She met a patient with Tangier Disease.

Tangier Disease is an extremely rare recessive disorder that was discovered in the 1960s. Patients with Tangier Disease have extremely low or non-existent levels of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in their blood.

Tangier Disease impacts a group of people believed to have settled Tangier Island off the coast of Virginia. At least 150 cases have been reported worldwide.

“We were in the ER and the patient’s wife told us he had Tangier Disease,” Kiel said. “I had just finished my step one exam and thought I should know this. It is such a rare condition that another attending the next day told me I should spend as much time as possible with the patient as I would likely never see the condition again in my career.”

After visiting with the patient, Kiel researched Tangier Disease on the Internet and found very little information.

Known Tangier Disease side effects are fairly mild and include symptoms like muscle weakness.

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Years ago, Kiel was an unlikely medical school candidate. She was interested in literature and pursuing a career as a novelist. Her aunt and uncle were family doctors and that influence had a large impact on her decision to change tracks.

“I was never great at science, but now I’m in medical school and I’ve never been happier,” Kiel said. “With medicine there’s always a personal aspect, always a story to be told. I know I can go back to becoming a novelist, but I didn’t think I’d go back to medical school later in life.”

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In August, the first two Traverse City campus students participated in internships in rural locations.

Fourth-year student Dana Irrer spent an advanced sub-internship in internal medicine at the Dickinson County Memorial Hospital in Iron Mountain.

“It was a fully integrated experience,” Skolasinski said. “I actually lived with a physician, so we had a full experience in the hospital during the day and were then able to discuss career aspects in the evening. They own their practices so I asked them what they’re looking for when they hire physicians, what it’s like to run a business and about the lifestyle.”

Both students worked with the Hospitalists of Northern Michigan, which is based in Traverse City. Troy Ahlstrom, M.D., FHM, and Hassan Sam Shelkho, M.D., worked with Irrer at the Alpena location. David Frriar, M.D., SFHM, Kenneth W Frirar, M.D., SFHM, Richard Woodbury, M.D., FHM and Robert Abernathy, M.D., worked with Skolasinski.

“All of the hospitalists enjoyed having each student work with them directly,” Woodbury said. “At each location, there was nothing short of genuine attempts to accommodate the learning process for each of these students.”

Both students had hands-on experience with internal medicine patients in the ICU and on the general medical floor. The students participated in several procedures including central line placement and ventilator management and intubation.

In a lot of larger areas you learn from residents,” Skolasinski said. “Instead of working in that hierarchy and learning from a resident, I was working one-on-one with the physicians and almost acting as a resident which was another huge benefit.”

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With student numbers expected to increase significantly within the next three to four years, new Upper Peninsula Region Community Assistant Dean William Short, M.D., has a lot on his plate. Though he’s busy, Short still manages to enjoy the Upper Peninsula and his students.

“This is a great place for people who want to be active and I’m one of them,” Short said. “I occasionally get together with some of our medical students and family medicine residents and go for a bike ride.”

Though the rides keep Short in shape, they also help him build relationships with his growing student population. The campus has seven third-year students and expects 12 next year — and as many as 16 within three years.

“As most of us understand, the need for primary care physicians is going to continue growing tremendously and that is an area of focus for us,” Short said. “As physicians retire in this region they will need to be replaced. We hope to be a great source for new physicians coming into the workforce.”

To meet the needs of the expanding campus population, Short is developing relationships with three Upper Peninsula hospitals in hopes of providing more clerkships for the students.

A year ago, the Upper Peninsula campus launched the COMPASS program, an optional outdoor curriculum that teaches students about medicine in the field. As part of the COMPASS program, students learned about hypothermia while kayaking, and sports medicine while biking through a park.

“The most compelling aspect of rural health is how much need there is to provide a good physician workforce.”

“A significant goal of mine is to accommodate more medical students and if we can get them involved in the area and expose them to meaningful educational opportunities, I’ll feel like I’ve really accomplished something,” Short said.

Short grew up in Lake Linden, a small town near Houghton and Hancock in the northwestern part of the Upper Peninsula. He started working for Marquette General Hospital in 1987 and served as director of the Marquette Family Medicine Residency Program from 2001 until 2010.

“The most compelling aspect of rural health is how much need there is to provide a good physician workforce,” Short said. “A lot of physicians prefer living in a more suburban or urban area and we are in need of the right people who want to live in a small town. It’s a great lifestyle for many people. We have great examples of physicians in our region who are very satisfied with the choices they made early in their careers, leading to a life raising families, practicing medicine and enjoying the outdoors.”
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For 32 years, Professor William Anderson, Ph.D., has helped primary care faculty members improve their teaching and leadership skills so they can inspire more medical students to meet a growing need for pediatricians, family physicians and internal medicine specialists.

“We know from research that to be a better faculty member you have to be more than a teacher,” he said. “We need excellent teachers to serve as role models to encourage more medical students to go into those three areas of primary care.”

Helping new faculty members at medical and osteopathic schools improve their teaching and other faculty skills is one goal of the College of Human Medicine’s Primary Care Faculty Development Fellowship Program, which Anderson has directed for 32 of its 33 years. Another is to prepare physicians to teach and treat patients in underserved areas.

Anderson will step down as head of the program at the end of this academic year, but he will continue teaching. With a Ph.D. in education and psychology and a background in faculty development, Anderson has helped train nearly 600 primary care faculty members at medical and osteopathic schools all over the country.

The program is funded in part by a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Public Health Service. At the end of this academic year, the program will be up for another five-year contract with that federal agency, Anderson, 64, said that will be an appropriate time for someone else to take over leadership of the program.

His successor has not yet been named, although the Fellowship Program Advisory Committee will meet soon to designate a new director, he said.

This year’s class of 18 allopathic and osteopathic physicians – all of them new faculty members in schools and residency programs all over the country – spent a week on the campus in September and again in December. They return for one-week sessions in March and May.

Fifty-five percent of the program’s graduates spend at least half their time seeing patients and teaching in underserved areas, such as in community health centers and clinics that serve migrant workers, the homeless and Native Americans.

The program’s other goal — encouraging more medical students to go into primary care — is a formidable challenge, Anderson said. The average medical student is saddled with $150,000 to $200,000 in student loans, prompting many to opt for higher-paying specialties.

The national health care reform law and an aging population are adding to the need for more primary care doctors. The Association of American Medical Colleges estimates the United States will need 45,000 more primary care physicians by 2020.

“One of the things we’re proud of is 90 percent of our graduates who are still working are still active in academic medicine,” Anderson said. “That’s a much higher rate than for any other fellowship program. I can tell you graduates of our program are promoted earlier, receive more awards, do more scholarly research, stay in academic medicine longer and report more job satisfaction than do other medical school faculty members.”

Between one-week sessions, participants meet through video conferencing. Each is expected to spend at least half a day each week working on assignments and on a major research or curriculum development project.

The program is among only three in the country designed to help primary care faculty members improve their teaching and other academic skills, and it is the only one open to medical school faculty members all over the country. The College of Human Medicine and its students have especially benefited from the program.

“While it is a national program, this program has trained well over 175 faculty members who are part of the College of Human Medicine,” Anderson said. “They end up being educational leaders.”
Above: Quintisha Walker receives her white coat from Dr. Dianne Wagner at the MSU College of Human Medicine's White Coat Ceremony, the symbolic beginning of the four year journey into the medical profession and a formal welcome of 200 medical students to MSU.

Right: First-year medical student Emi Bulica takes in a proud moment at the White Coat Ceremony.

Below: Ashley French volunteers at the College of Human Medicine's annual Afternoon of Community Service. All 200 entering medical students visited 24 organizations in Lansing and Grand Rapids to help with such tasks as sorting food donations, assisting residents with exercise programs, outdoor maintenance, packing and sorting materials, assisting with children's activities and stocking pantries.

Double the community service! Twins Adriane and Lauren Marchese sorted donated shoes at Mel Trotter Ministries.

DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AND WHITE COAT CEREMONY

PRE-CLINICAL

“As I begin the study of medicine...” MSU College of Human Medicine’s Class of 2015 recites the Student Oath, marking the beginning of their journey into medical school at the college’s White Coat Ceremony.
A cluster of mid-Michigan villages could hold clues to the genetic causes of hearing loss, Alzheimer’s disease and other inherited disorders, College of Human Medicine researchers believe.

Those communities were selected for a long-term medical study because they offer a rare, genetically isolated population, said Brian Schutte, Ph.D., associate professor of microbiology and molecular genetics. To preserve the integrity of the study and respect the privacy of participants, he declined to identify the communities, except to say they were founded in the mid-1800s by German immigrants. Separated by their language and religion, members of the communities tended to marry within the group, creating a genetically homogenous population. Those communities also offer researchers a wealth of information because of their extensive genealogical records dating back 13 generations, Schutte said.

“We think what we discover in this community could have broader implications for the U.S. population and Europe,” Schutte said.

The project, called Community-based Cooperative for Studies Across Generations, or CoSAGE, builds on an earlier study of children in those same communities who were born with an inherited form of deafness. That research was conducted by Karen Friderici, Ph.D., professor of microbiology and molecular genetics, Rachel Fisher, Ph.D., professor emeritus, and the late Jill Ellenbein, who was a professor of communicative sciences and disorders.

Fisher and Friderici are working on the follow-up study, along with Qing Lu, Ph.D., assistant professor of epidemiology, Jerry Punch, Ph.D., professor emeritus, and Debra Schutte, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor in the College of Nursing.

The current study will look at whether those residents who carry one mutation identified in the earlier study as a factor in childhood deafness could be at risk of developing adult-onset hearing loss.

Debra Schutte, who is married to Brian Schutte, is focusing her research on Alzheimer’s disease, which community members identified as a disorder that appears to have a high incidence.

“We want to identify the specific factors contributing to these disorders,” Brian Schutte said, although the study could hold significance for other medical conditions, including diabetes, cancer and heart disease.

The study is funded by a pair of grants. One is a Family and Community Together grant from a multidisciplinary coalition of MSU and community organizations that promotes research to address community needs. The other is a Strategic Partnership grant from the MSU Foundation.

The researchers are working closely with two groups of community members. The research advisory committee communicates the study’s goals to others in the community. The ethics committee reviews the researchers’ methods to be certain they are consistent with the community’s values.

Each participant is asked to fill out a questionnaire about individual and family health history, undergo a brief physical examination and submit a blood sample to test for cholesterol, triglycerides and glucose. The blood sample also can be used as a DNA source, providing genetic information.

Data gleaned from the study will be shared with members of the community, Schutte said. Ultimately, the findings could help individuals and the community at-large plan for their future health needs. Those with an inherited predisposition for adult-onset hearing loss, for example, could be informed of ways to avoid a decline in hearing. If Alzheimer’s is found to be a significant problem, the community could plan for long-term health care needs.

“People are more willing to work with us when they see research already has been done and the results shared with them,” Schutte said.

Researchers in the earlier study of childhood deafness compiled a database of 28,000 individuals, including 14,000 descendants living within a 90-mile radius of the communities.

Ultimately, we’d like to get all willing participants in the study,” Schutte said. “This last summer, the pace at which community members are contacting us has really picked up. Really, what’s been most effective in recruiting people into the study,” Schutte said. “This last summer, the pace at which community members are contacting us has really picked up. Really, what’s been most effective in recruiting people into the study has been word of mouth from other community members.”

Many participants appear to have altruistic motives, he said.

“Our motto is ‘promoting wellness across generations,'” Schutte said. “This resonates strongly with the community. That value of benefiting the next generation is very strong.”

RESEARCH PROMOTES ‘WELLNESS ACROSS GENERATIONS’

A cluster of Michigan villages founded in the mid-1800s by German immigrants could hold clues to the genetic causes of hearing loss, Alzheimer’s disease and other inherited disorders... and offer researchers a wealth of information because of their extensive genealogical records dating back 13 generations.
NEW FELLOWS ACCEPTED INTO MSU’S MD/PHD PROGRAMS WITH SPECTRUM HEALTH AND THE VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE

As an undergraduate student at MSU, Alyssa Fedoroko felt torn. She wanted to continue her studies after graduation, but wasn’t sure if she should become a medical doctor or pursue a Ph.D. in medical research. “I never could decide which way to go,” she said, “because I thought you had to do one or the other.”

As it turns out, she’s doing both. So is Calvin College graduate Jake Baker. Both have been accepted into MSU’s M.D./Ph.D. program funded by Spectrum Health. Their fellowships, part of a $2.5 million commitment by Spectrum, will pay much of their tuition and expenses as Fedoroko and Baker pursue their joint degrees. As they begin their studies, eight other students are farther along toward obtaining their M.D. and Ph.D. degrees.

MSU offered the M.D./Ph.D. program for years, but placed a moratorium a few years ago when Spectrum agreed to fund the program. Cindy Grove Arvidson, Ph.D., the program’s director and an associate professor of microbiology, said, “There’s a lot of research going on here,” and it’s growing.” Much of that research is being conducted at the Van Andel Institute, which, in partnership with the MSU College of Human Medicine, is offering students another avenue toward obtaining M.D. and Ph.D. degrees. Donald Scholten is starting that program, which will lead to a medical degree from the College of Human Medicine and a Ph.D. from the Van Andel Institute.

Researchers from MSU College of Human Medicine, Van Andel Research Institute and the Translational Genomics Research Institute are investigating a drug that has the potential to not only alleviate Parkinson’s symptoms but also halt the disease’s progression. The research project will be funded by a $400,000 grant from the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research. “This collaboration highlights the strength of strategically aligning teams from two research organizations with different skill sets,” said Caryl E. Sortwell, Ph.D., MSU professor in the Department of Translational Science and Molecular Medicine, and co-investigator on the project with MSU’s M.D./Ph.D. program. Research has always been an important part of what Spectrum Health is about,” Rogers said. “I think this (program) is one in a number of initiatives that promotes research and provides a benefit to patients at Spectrum Health and in Grand Rapids.”

Since the students will complete their studies at Spectrum, Rogers said he hopes they will decide to help bridge the traditional gap between basic research and clinical practice, bringing the latest treatments more quickly to patients, he said. “It’s a very challenging program,” Arvidson said. “It requires the students to be in two places at once, if not physically, then mentally.”

Fedoroko and Baker said they welcome the challenge. Both are beginning seven years of studies leading to the joint degrees. They will spend their first three years in pre-clinical medical classes on the East Lansing campus followed by two years of study for their Ph.D.s. Their last two years will be in clinical clerkships at Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, leading to their medical degrees.

In addition to funding the program, Spectrum is providing physicians to act as mentors for the students, said Dr. Ralph Rogers, chief medical officer for Spectrum Health Hospitals. The idea behind the program is to help bridge the traditional gap between basic research and clinical practice, bringing the latest treatments more quickly to patients, he said. “We have to be leaders in this area,” Rogers said. “There’s a lot of research going on here,” and it’s growing.” Much of that research is being conducted at the Van Andel Institute, which, in partnership with the MSU College of Human Medicine, is offering students another avenue toward obtaining M.D. and Ph.D. degrees. Donald Scholten is starting that program, which will lead to a medical degree from the College of Human Medicine and a Ph.D. from the Van Andel Institute.

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Dean Marsh D. Rappley, M.D., presented the Dr. Lester J. Evans College of Human Medicine Distinguished Service Award to William B. Weil, M.D., at the college’s 2011 Faculty Awards ceremony.

Dr. Weil is a nationally-renowned academic physician who is a strong advocate for children and has influenced children’s issues for more than four decades. In 1968, he became founding chair of the Department of Human Development, now named the Department of Pediatrics and Human Development. After 10 years as department chair, Dr. Weil continued at the college as a professor in the department.

Among his most notable accomplishments and contributions to medical education was the innovative curriculum Dr. Weil championed 30 years ago is now being promoted under the label of the “pediatric family-centered medical home,” an approach to providing comprehensive primary care for children where the care is accessible, continuous, comprehensive, and compassionate.

In 1994, Dr. Weil became Professor Emeritus and has remained active within the department and the state of Michigan. His ongoing commitment to medical education led to his establishment of the William B. Weil Student Scholarships for the College of Human Medicine in 1996.

Kenneth Rosenman, M.D., distinguished professor and chief, Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Department of Medicine, was awarded the 2011 Distinguished Leadership Award from the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists.

Ralph E. Watson, M.D., FACP, (CHM ’75), associate professor, Department of Medicine, has been named a Fellow in the American Society of Hypertension.

E. James Petchen, M.D., chair emeritus for the Department of Radiology, has received the prestigious 2011 American Roentgen Ray Society’s Gold Medal, the highest honor awarded to recipients for distinguished service to radiology.

Pavan Kotaru, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Medicine, has been named a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Steven Roskos, M.D., associate professor, Department of Family Medicine, has been reappointed to the state’s Advisory Committee on Pain and Symptom Management by Governor Rick Snyder.

Michael H. Zaroukian, M.D., Ph.D., FACP, (CHM ’80), chief medical information officer and professor, Department of Medicine, received the 2010 Physician IT Leadership Award from the Healthcare Information & Management Systems Society.

Sheilagh Ferguson-Miller, Ph.D., University Distinguished Professor, Department of Radiology and Human Pathology, has been named a Fellow in the American College of Radiology.

Heather Laird-Fick, M.D., MPH, (CHM ’97), associate professor, Department of Medicine, has been appointed to the Accreditation Committee for the Academic Alliance for Internal Medicine.

Shirley Siew, Ph.D., professor of physiology and human pathology, has been named Fellow by the American Heart Association.

The MSU HealthTeam primary care clinics have been renewed as Patient-Centered Medical Homes, distinguishing them among the top practices in Michigan according to Blue Cross Blue Shield data.

### Faculty

**Dean Marsh Rappley and Dr. William Weil**

**Distinguished Faculty Award:**
- James J. Galligan, Ph.D., professor, Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology
- Thomas Tomlinson, Ph.D., professor, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences
- Teacher-Scholar Award:
  - Sathyanarayan Sudhathar, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics & Human Development

**Outstanding Faculty Award:**
- William B. Weil, Jr., M.D., FAAP, Endowed Distinguished Pediatric Faculty Award:
  - Jane L. Turner, M.D., FAAP, professor, Department of Pediatrics and Human Development

**Outstanding Clinicalian Award:**
- David P. Weismantel, M.D., associate professor, Department of Family Medicine

**Outstanding Community Faculty Award:**
- Raghunandana Kasetty, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics & Human Development

**ARRIVALS & PROMOTIONS**

**William M. Short, M.D.** was named community assistant dean of the MSU College of Human Medicine Upper Peninsula Region.

**Eric Achties, M.D.** has been appointed associate director of the Division of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science. **William Sanders, D.O.,** will serve as the division’s associate director for undergraduate medical education and **William Van Eerden, M.D.,** as associate director for graduate medical education.

**Brian J. Nickoloff, M.D., Ph.D.** has been appointed director of the Division of Dermatology.
MEDICINE WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING TO OUR FACULTY

The Department of Surgery has appointed BARRY L. WENIG, M.D., professor and director of otolaryngology surgery; HARVEY BUMPERS, M.D., professor; SRINI VAS KAVUTURU, M.D., assistant professor; XIN SHI, M.D., assistant professor; DINESH VYAS, M.D., assistant professor; and PING ZHANG, M.D., PH.D., professor and director of surgical research.

The Department of Family Medicine has appointed EDWARD NWANGBO, M.D., assistant professor; NADIR ABDELRAHMAN, M.D., assistant professor; and ERIN SARZYNSKI, M.D., assistant professor.

The Department of Pediatrics and Human Development has appointed MELISSA MANARANG PANGAN, M.D., assistant professor; ARPITA KALLA VYAS, M.D., assistant professor; and NINA MATTARELLA, M.D., assistant professor.

The Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology has appointed BRYAN L. COPPLE, PH.D., associate professor; and CHERYL E. ROCKWELL, PH.D., associate professor.

The Department of Physiology has appointed ERICA WEHRWEIN, PH.D., assistant professor.

The Department of Radiology has appointed MAUREEN SCHAEFER, PH.D., assistant professor.

The Department of Translational Science and Molecular Medicine has appointed DAVID J. RADEMACHER, PH.D., assistant professor.

OBITUARIES

DAVID GREENBAUM, M.D., age 87, died Thursday, August 15, 2011. Dr. Greenbaum helped found the College of Human Medicine. His legacy is nearly 5,000 physicians and several hundred colleagues who are better physicians and people because he shared a part of himself and allowed all to witness a life well lived. While Dr. Greenbaum taught at the College of Human Medicine for 26 years, many of his family and friends will remember him just as much for his love of the arts. He chaired the school’s Department of Medicine from 1989 to 1991, and led the Gastroenterology Division from 1978 to 1990.

JAMES P. MULDOON, M.D., a pioneer in the field of colorectal surgery, died Monday, June 30, 2011, at the age of 86. As a leading authority on colorectal diseases, Jim was particularly proud to head Ferguson Clinic’s residency program in Grand Rapids, training hundreds of surgeons from around the world. In this role, he was professor of surgery for MSU College of Human Medicine.

THOMAS ADAMS, PH.D., age 80, died Thursday, August 17, 2011. Dr. Adams was commissioned in the U.S. Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1951 and completed eight years of active duty as a Captain. Dr. Adams joined the Michigan State University faculty in 1966 as one of the original professors recruited for the new College of Human Medicine. He was a dedicated professor of physiology for 44 years, retiring December, 2010.

RAFAEL SEGOVIA DE LOS SANTOS, M.D., age 88, died Tuesday, October 25, 2011. Dr. de los Santos was professor of surgery in the College of Human Medicine from 1974 to 2009, chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology from 1977 to 1983, and associate chair for the Department of Surgery, 1986 to 1990. A leader in his field, Dr. de los Santos was the first to use laser surgery in Michigan.
The Summer of the Jaw. That’s the affectionate name Anthony Youn, M.D., F.A.C.S., (CHM ’98), a Korean-American Michigander gave to the months between high school and college when he underwent major reconstructive surgery to correct a jaw that had grown “larger than Jay Leno’s.”

“I always felt different from the other kids because I was a self-described nerd back then,” Youn said. “But then, when I was a sophomore in high school, my jaw grew and grew until it was twice the size of Leno’s jaw. It was just one of those crazy things that happen. Some people are born with six toes, I developed a massive jaw.”

The Summer of the Jaw and other comical and tender medical experiences comprise Youn’s first book, “In Stitches.” Youn wrote the first draft of “In Stitches” after he opened his medical fellowship program and other comical and tender medical experiences comprise Youn’s first book, “In Stitches.”

“In Stitches” is about a teenage African American boy who was one of Youn’s patients.

Youn’s patient had severe gynecomastia, the by-product of which was very large breasts.

“I didn’t have breasts when I was a teenager but I had this huge jaw and it made me very different,” Youn said. “For me, that experience helped me have empathy for my patients. It’s not so much about how you look but how you feel about yourself. That can make a big difference in your life.”

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As Youn was writing the first draft of “In Stitches” and waiting for his practice to start churning, producers from the plastic surgery reality show, “Dr. 90210,” called to tell him he’d be on the next episode.

In an instance of right place at the right time, the show’s producers filmed Youn at his fellowship going away party in Beverly Hills and got about eight hours worth of Youn on film.

“They said we’re airing in three days,” Youn said. “Three days later it aired and even though I was only featured for five minutes, my practice went absolutely crazy. I went from waiting for my practice to start churning, producers from the plastic surgery reality show, “Dr. 90210,” called to tell him he’d be on the next episode.

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It took Youn seven years to publish “In Stitches,” which was released in April 2011, but the media relationships he built during his fellowship helped his book get noticed.

YouN IS FUNNY AND NOT AFRAID TO PUT HIMSELF ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK... BUT HE ALSO SHARES SOME REALLY INTIMATE EXPERIENCES THAT HAVE DEFINED HIS MEDICAL CAREER.
Nearly 270 alumni and guests attended the 2011 Alumni Weekend. Events included CME lectures, the Distinguished Alumni Lecture by Douglas B. McKeag, M.D., (CHM ‘73), and Dr. Shirley Siew’s special recognition of the Class of 1994 for donating a handicap accessible laboratory table in honor of classmate Yvonne Tarala. Following the annual alumni tailgate along the banks of the Red Cedar, the weekend concluded with a spectacular Spartan football victory over Wisconsin.

The College of Human Medicine thanks our Alumni Weekend sponsors: Presenting Sponsor - Huntington Bank; Tailgate Sponsor - MSU Federal Credit Union; Legacy Sponsor - Lake Michigan Federal Credit Union; Spartan Sponsors - Hologic, Inc., MidMichigan Health, Saint Mary’s Health Care, Ingham Regional Medical Center, MSU FAME, Seregis, Marquette General Hospital, Regional Medical Imaging, and Sparrow Health System.

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