



# The Best Medicine

SPRING 2004

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## Florida's Family Physician of the Year heals his hometown, inspires new generation of doctors

As her elderly mother slowly declined into the world of dementia, Margaret Miller did her best to cope, choosing to care for her at home even after she had become bedridden.

"It was a long goodbye," Miller said of the two years her mother spent confined to her bed.

"Without the help of a caring physician who was concerned not only about her condition, but also mine, it would have been impossible for us to see it through."

The caring physician who stood by Miller throughout her ordeal was C. David Smith, M.D., and Miller's story is one of untold thousands about a man who has been the backbone of the local health-care system in Jay, Fla., and the surrounding rural area for nearly a quarter of a century.

Smith serves patients in his private practice, the emergency room, acute care center, hospital and nursing



C. DAVID SMITH, M.D., GETS A SMILE OUT OF PATIENT NANCY REEDER AS HE EVALUATES HER FOR A PERSISTENT HEADACHE AND TEACHES THIRD-YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT AMANDA DAVIS SUMNER HOW TO ASSESS REEDER'S CASE.

home, and serves as team physician for the local high school football team.

For years, he was the only physician practicing in Jay and was almost always on call. To this day he can hardly fill up his Chevy with gas or enjoy a meal at a local restaurant without stopping to answer a "Hey, doc!" question.

So it seemed more than appropriate to Smith's patients, coworkers and friends when the Florida Academy of Family Physi-

cians named him Family Physician of the Year for 2004.

"He deserves the honor. There's no doubt," said Jeffery Kelley, M.D., one of Smith's partners in Jay. "There are very few physicians I've encountered during my career, including my trek through medical school and even in residency, who work as hard as he does — very few, if any."

Smith's work ethic grew out of his upbringing in a working class family in Jay.

see SMITH, p. 2

“He came back to Jay for the people, and he put the good of his community and the health care of his community far above himself.”

AMANDA DAVIS SUMNER  
THIRD-YEAR MEDICAL  
STUDENT

“To fully understand how meaningful Dr. Smith is, you must understand that this hospital and all 150 of my co-workers would not be employed here were it not for Dr. Smith.”

MARK FAULKNER  
ADMINISTRATOR  
JAY HOSPITAL

SMITH, from p. 1

In his teenage years, he played team sports and often worked part-time jobs, even assisting the mayor of Jay with garbage collection at one time (Smith can tell a colorful story about that episode).

But after observing the need for more medical care in Jay — and falling in love with the daughter of the director of nursing at Jay Hospital — Smith set his sights on a career in medicine.

While sorting mail one day in the mailroom of Pensacola Junior College — one of three part-time jobs he had while a student there — Smith came across a brochure for the FSU Program in Medical Sciences, which had just been established.

“It outlined the fact that they were trying to locate potential medical students that would likely return to an underserved area and would likely be interested in family medicine,” Smith said. “I thought, ‘Gee, this sounds an awful lot like me.’”

After marrying his hometown sweetheart, Smith went on to earn his bachelor’s degree at FSU, start medical school through PIMS and graduate second in his class from the University of Florida in 1979.

At FSU, Smith says, he always felt supported in his goal of returning to Jay to practice, but at UF he got a different message.

“They would say things like, ‘That’s not going to challenge you enough,’” Smith said. “‘You need to do something that’s a lot more

mentally challenging, more academically challenging.’”

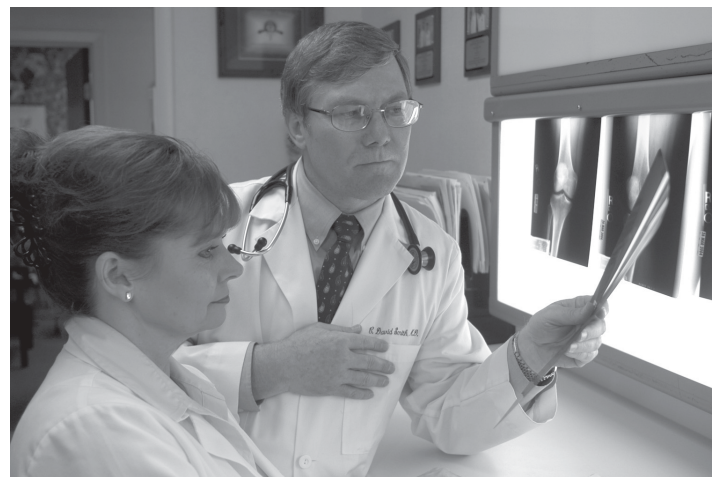
But Smith stuck to his plan, and today, in addition to being known as a caregiver, friend and confidant to his patients and neighbors, Smith is heralded as the man who saved the local hospital.

“To fully understand how meaningful Dr. Smith is, you must understand that this hospital and all 150 of my co-workers would not be employed here were it not for

people, he was likely the only physician who had a compelling reason to intervene in order to keep the doors open.

“My thinking was, ‘Gee, if they close the hospital, it probably will never be reopened,’” Smith said. “To open a facility is very difficult to near impossible, so I decided that I should return.”

That selflessness has characterized his career from day one, and it has since inspired a new generation of



DEBRA HAYES, R.N., SMITH'S NURSE FOR THE LAST 22 YEARS, REVIEWS A PATIENT'S X-RAY WITH SMITH AT JAY MEDICAL CLINIC.

Dr. Smith,” said Jay Hospital Administrator Mark Faulkner.

As a young doctor with seemingly limitless career potential, Smith made the difficult decision to cut short his residency training at the University of South Alabama in 1980 when previous Jay Hospital administrators told him the hospital — like many rural hospitals at the time — faced closure due to financial difficulties and a lack of physician manpower.

Smith knew that as someone with ties to the community of just 600

doctors and future doctors to follow his lead.

In addition to Kelley, also a Jay native and PIMS graduate, Smith has helped recruit at least a half dozen physicians to the area, including two other PIMS alumni (see PIMS, p. 4).

And as a faculty member of FSU’s Regional Medical School Campus — Pensacola, Smith now serves as a role model for FSU medical students, including some who are also from small Florida towns.

Amanda Davis Sumner of Wewahitchka did her family medicine rotation with Smith last summer. It was her first clinical rotation, and she feels it forever changed her.

“We had a lot of time to talk about my goals as a physician,” Sumner said. “He’s really the only person that I’ve ever met that I could really, truly aspire to emulate everything about him. It was the first time I think I’ve really had a role model.”

Sumner not only learned a tremendous amount of medicine from Smith, but she also took with her indelible lessons about relating to patients. She recalls one Monday evening when Smith was called to the ER to pronounce a patient dead.

“They called the family in, and he went in with them and said a prayer and went back to the chapel and talked with them – talked with them like people – and explained what

had happened,” Sumner said. “I will remember that for the rest of my years as a physician, the way he taught me to talk to the family of patients who you’re giving bad news to and help them understand.”

When she learned about Smith’s personal history, Sumner had even more reason to admire him.

“He came back to Jay for the people, and he put the good of his community and the health care of his community far above himself,” Sumner said. “It definitely made me realize the impact that one person can have.”

Debra Hayes, Smith’s nurse for the last 22 years, said the people of Jay are keenly aware of his sacrifice, and regard him as a genuine hometown hero.

“Every little old lady over the age of 65 claims to have changed his diaper at one time or other, and every little old man over 65 claims to



C. DAVID SMITH, M.D., STANDS JUST OUTSIDE HIS JAY OFFICE, WHICH SITS BESIDE THE LOCAL FARM IMPLEMENT DEALER.

have taught him how to throw a baseball or football,” Hayes said. “Even though they may not have, everyone in our small community wants to think they had a small part in helping him grow up.”

Smith, forever modest, shares credit for his accomplishments with his office staff, co-workers, patients and family.

“I just feel like I’ve been very fortunate to always have great people around me,” Smith said. “I could not do what I do without the help of my staff, and the support from my wife and family, and really the entire local community.”

—N.K.

## MESSAGE FROM DEAN J. OCIE HARRIS, M.D.

The FSU College of Medicine is just a year away from its first graduation, and it seems appropriate at this time to recognize those who have paved the way for our first crop of graduates.

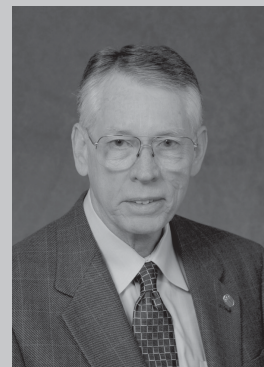
Among those on whose shoulders our students now stand are the more than 800 alumni of the FSU Program in Medical Sciences, the last of whom graduate this May from the University of Florida College of Medicine.

Over a period of more than 30 years, these physicians blazed a trail for medical education at FSU and went on to provide excellent health care in communities across the state and nation.

Many continue to be involved in the FSU College of Medicine as faculty, admissions committee members, benefactors and supporters, and most recently, as

founders of our Alumni Association.

We would like to dedicate this issue of *The Best Medicine* to our PIMS alumni. We appreciate their support and are proud to have them represent us as honorary alumni of the FSU College of Medicine.



*J. Ocie Harris*



## Alumni Affairs

### PIMS alumni return to rural hometown of Jay

A second-year resident at Tallahassee Memorial Family Practice Residency Program, Michael Smith, M.D., will have an office waiting for him in Jay, Fla., when he finishes his residency in 2005.

The son of Jay family physician C. David Smith, M.D., Michael Smith is just the latest homegrown doctor his father has recruited to the Panhandle community about 50 minutes north of Pensacola.

A new medical office complex in Jay soon will house father and son, as well as internist Jeffery Kelley, M.D., and pediatrician Marian Stewart, M.D., all Jay natives and all alumni of the FSU Program in Medical Sciences.

"We're building a medical complex that will have four physicians, and all four physicians are primary care, and all four went through Florida State University and the PIMS program and returned home to a very needed area," said David Smith. "So we feel like we've created a very stable medical environment for our community."

Like his father, Michael Smith always had the goal of returning to Jay to

practice family medicine, so he never seriously considered any route to medical school other than through PIMS.

"I felt that I would represent the PIMS mission well and that I would benefit from their emphasis on primary care," he said.

Kelley said it's easy to see why he and Stewart took the same path as well.

"Being around Dr. Smith, you're sort of drawn to what he does, how he acts, and I think that's evident in the fact that I followed in his tracks, Dr. Stewart followed in his tracks, and now his son has followed in his tracks," Kelley said.

"And I think any students that are fortunate enough to rotate with Dr. Smith will be drawn to the type of practice that he has and to behave the way he does with his patients."

Kelley, Stewart and David Smith are all involved in teaching FSU medical students, and Michael Smith plans to do so also.

Having been selected as chief resident for the coming year, he won't have to wait until he gets to Jay.



MICHAEL SMITH, M.D., WILL PRACTICE IN JAY, FLA., AFTER SERVING AS CHIEF RESIDENT NEXT YEAR AT TMH.

"I've had some interaction with some of the third-year students here at the hospital, and I've been very impressed with their clinical knowledge," he said. "We're going to have a lot more interaction with the students as they enter their fourth year of medical school, and I'm very much looking forward to it. I think I will enjoy teaching as much as my father does, and he enjoys it tremendously."

—N.K.

### College of Medicine launches Alumni Association

PIMS alumni have stepped forward to help establish the FSU College of Medicine Alumni Association in anticipation of the medical school's first graduation in 2005. The Executive Committee of the Alumni Association has begun drafting bylaws for the organization, developing membership, networking and setting goals. Officers are as follows:

Jennifer McLean Foley, M.D., chair (jmcleanfoley@yahoo.com)  
 Vicki McKinnie, M.D., vice-chair (mckinnie@muscc.edu)  
 Ed Magee, M.D., secretary (doctornole@netzero.net)  
 Jay Clugston, M.D., treasurer (jayclug@yahoo.com)

Members-at-large:

David Bellamy, M.D. (davidbellamy@yahoo.com)  
 Ramona DeJesus, M.D. (dejesus.ramona@mayo.edu)

An alumni directory recently was mailed to all members. If you would like to join the association, please contact one of the officers or e-mail Toni McCoy at [toni.mccoy@med.fsu.edu](mailto:toni.mccoy@med.fsu.edu). An application form is available online at [www.med.fsu.edu](http://www.med.fsu.edu). Click on PIMS Member-ship at the bottom of the page, complete the form and hit "Submit."



*"PIMS provided me with an excellent clinical foundation in medicine and prepared me well for subsequent challenges of medical school.*

*I developed close friendships with classmates whom I continue to be in touch with. Most of us are in primary care practice.*

*I am deeply grateful to the PIMS administrative staff and faculty members.*

*I am thrilled with the realization of the College of Medicine, and I hope to continue to participate actively in its programs through the Alumni Association."*

Ramona DeJesus, M.D.

# Last PIMS class graduates from UF

This May marks the last time medical students who started at FSU will be donning orange and blue academic regalia and graduating as Gators in Gainesville.

After 30 years, FSU's Program in Medical Sciences has come to an end, having been replaced by the FSU College of Medicine.

An extension of the University of Florida College of Medicine, PIMS had been educating a class of about 30 first-year medical students on the FSU campus and then sending them off to finish their medical education at UF since 1971.

Meredith Polansky, who transferred from FSU to UF with the last PIMS class in 2001, said it's sad to see the program come to an end, but at the same time she sees great potential in FSU's new medical school.

"They can make it whatever they want it to be, and medical education is changing, so just starting out makes you able to follow the right path," Polansky said.

She recalls her PIMS neuroscience professor, Charles Ouimet, Ph.D., who now teaches neuroscience in the College of Medicine, as one of the best professors of her life, and says she has fond memories of her first year of medical school.

"It was the best experience. If I had it to do over again, I would choose PIMS again," said Polansky, who plans to pursue a residency in family medicine after a year of traveling and providing HIV education in Africa.

Jeffrey Melendez, also a member of the last PIMS class, completed his undergraduate education at FSU and considers himself a Seminole at heart.

"I think that the PIMS program prepared me so well for my second year,"

Melendez said. "When we were doing neurology in our UF class our second year, we had an edge because of the neurology at FSU."

Melendez, who will be doing an internal medicine residency at Cleveland Clinic Florida in Weston, said most of his classmates stuck with their plans of pursuing careers in primary care.

Among them is Hillary Hultstrand, who will begin her family practice residency at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital in July.

"The introduction to rural health and primary care was a theme which had a strong influence on my career choice in family practice," Hultstrand said of her year in PIMS.

Hultstrand has had the opportunity to see the PIMS tradition carried over to the FSU College of Medicine. Her husband, Victor Hultstrand, is now entering his third year of medical school at FSU.

"I support the new school and see its great potential in building a new kind of medical education which is very patient-centered, taking in all aspects of the physician-patient relationship," she said.

When the FSU College of Medicine was created, it was founded on the basic principles that had been developed over three decades with PIMS. Not only was the mission similar – PIMS focused on serving rural and underserved populations – but PIMS also provided students with a lot of clinical exposure in their first year, a tradition that continues at the College of Medicine.

Janelle Plummer, another member of the last PIMS class, credits the early clinical exposure at PIMS for her high comfort level with patient interaction later in her medical education. And she is glad to see the PIMS mission being carried on in FSU's four-year medical school.

"Because serving underserved populations is very important to me

personally, I think that a medical school with that mission is a much-needed entity," said Plummer, who will soon be starting a pediatrics residency in Charlotte, North Carolina.

When she starts her residency, Plummer will be taking with her a special book from her PIMS days.

"At PIMS, each class had the opportunity to put together a collection of poems and essays in which we expressed our thoughts and feelings about the medical profession," Plummer said.

"This is a book that we can all keep and look back on during the different stages of our career. I have referred to this book from time to time to remind me of what an honor it is to have the privilege to practice medicine."

– M.B. & N.K.



"Because serving underserved populations is very important to me personally, I think that a medical school with that mission is a much-needed entity."

JANELLE PLUMMER  
MEMBER OF FINAL PIMS CLASS

## College of Medicine hosts Rural Health Summit

Impending changes in state and federal rural health initiatives were the focus of a day-long summit sponsored by the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health Research and Policy at the FSU College of Medicine.

National and statewide rural health leaders gathered in Tallahassee for the Feb. 27 Rural Health Summit, which drew about 70 rural providers, hospital administrators, rural health network representatives and FSU medical students.

In spite of the constant financial struggle rural communities face in providing health care, Stephen Wilhide, executive director of the National Rural Health Association, said improvements can often result from bringing together all the players to identify existing resources and determine how they can be better coordinated to close gaps.

"By maximizing and coordinating their resources, communities can achieve better outcomes," Wilhide said.

Robert Brooks, M.D., associate dean of health affairs at the FSU College of

Medicine, and Nir Menachemi, Ph.D., M.P.H., director of the college's Center on Patient Safety, presented preliminary results of their recent research on rural providers and hospitals in Florida. The studies are expected to be published this year.

Brooks described a 2003 survey of Florida's rural physicians showing the challenges they are facing in the midst of the medical liability insurance crisis, which could result in further loss of services to rural areas.

Menachemi's study identified trends in rural and urban hospital information technology use in Florida. The use of



SUMMIT PANELISTS INCLUDED (L-R) FLORIDA HEALTH SECRETARY JOHN AGWUNOBI, M.D., STEPHEN WILHIDE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, AND MARCIA BRAND, PH.D., OF THE U.S. OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH POLICY. MODERATING WAS ART CLAWSON, DIRECTOR OF THE BCBS CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH RESEARCH AND POLICY AT THE FSU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

information technology in hospitals has been linked to enhanced patient safety, but the study indicated that due to limited resources, many rural hospitals have been unable to adopt new technologies.

—N.K.

## BRUMMEL-SMITH CHAIRS COUNCIL ON AT-RISK DRIVERS



KEN BRUMMEL-SMITH, M.D.

"We know for certain that vision is an important part of driving, but that is not all that's wrong with people who have driving problems."

Roadways soon may be safer for drivers throughout the state of Florida.

The Florida At-Risk Driver Council is working to develop better ways of assessing and rehabilitating older drivers, as well as ways to support those who are no longer able to drive safely.

The council was commissioned to develop a report for the Florida Department of Motor Vehicles and Highway Safety as a way to advise the Legislature on improving driving ability and decreasing the number of at-risk drivers among older Floridians.

Ken Brummel-Smith, M.D., chairman of the At-Risk Driver Council and chair of the department of geriatrics at the FSU College of Medicine, said the council's study focused on four major points: the measures used to identify at-risk drivers; the assessment methods that should be used once an at-risk driver is identified; ways to remediate

or rehabilitate the driver; and the alternatives that can be offered to drivers who are denied license renewal.

"The assessment area is the biggest area of controversy because the science is still undecided," Brummel-Smith said. "We know for certain that vision is an important part of driving, but that is not all that's wrong with people who have driving problems."

As of Jan. 1, 2004, all drivers age 80 or older in Florida must pass a vision screening test to obtain or renew a license. But Brummel-Smith said an eye examination is not enough.

"More and more information shows how complex the situation is," he said.

Brummel-Smith said the council hopes to study methods for further testing a driver's general perception. Pilot testing sites around the state are experimenting with methods of testing for capa-

bilities such as glare tolerance, the ability to see a wide field of vision, memory and speed of reaction.

The council's report also recommends that lawmakers create programs to educate professionals such as doctors and driver's license examiners on assessment methods, and provide more transportation alternatives for people who have lost their ability to drive safely. In addition, the report suggests the Legislature should fund further research on assessment methods.

Brummel-Smith said a public campaign is needed to educate people about how to deal with older drivers who can no longer drive safely.

"If someone is having a problem, it doesn't help that person to hide it," he said. "There are often ways the person can be rehabilitated, and even if he can't be rehabilitated, there are alternatives he can be taught to use."

—M.B.



# VAN DURME NAMED CHAIR OF FAMILY MEDICINE AND RURAL HEALTH

Daniel Van Durme, M.D., has been named chair of the FSU College of Medicine's department of family medicine and rural health.

Van Durme comes to FSU following a 15-year career at the University of South Florida College of Medicine in Tampa, where he was associate professor and vice chairman of the department of family medicine.

An experienced teacher in all four years of the medical school curriculum, Van Durme sees his new job, which begins June 21, as an opportunity to help build a "new and better" medical school.

"Mostly, I decided to come to FSU because I am deeply and passionately committed to the mission and vision of the FSU College of Medicine," Van Durme said. "I saw that same commitment in every student, faculty and staff member in the college, and I look forward to working with people with the same sense of purpose."

At FSU, Van Durme's principal goal will be to help medical students become outstanding clinicians.

"Personally, I look forward to teaching in the classroom and the Clinical Learning Center, working with and advising students and faculty, and becoming an active member of the FSU and Tallahas-

see communities," he said.

At the University of South Florida, Van Durme received numerous teaching awards, including the Sir William Osler Award in 2000, which was presented by the graduating class to the outstanding faculty role model. Van Durme also was named Florida Family Physician Educator of the Year by the Florida Academy of Family Physicians in 1997.

Van Durme has held a number of leadership positions in organized medicine, including FAFP president and board chair, as well as board member of the American Academy of Family Physicians. His work with international family medicine education projects and organizations has taken him to Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Siberia, the Republic of Georgia, Vietnam and South Africa.

A native of the small town of Dansville in western New York, Van Durme maintained an active family practice in semi-rural Land O' Lakes from 1991 to 1996. He also has served as team physician for the USF football program and for professional and amateur sports teams around the Tampa Bay area since 1992.

In addition to sports medicine, Van Durme's academic interests include public health and dermatology. —M.B.



DANIEL VAN DURME, M.D., WITH A PATIENT.

"Mostly, I decided to come to FSU because I am deeply and passionately committed to the mission and vision of the FSU College of Medicine."

## PIMS alumnus returns to his FSU roots

For Stephen Quintero, M.D., returning to Florida State University to teach at the College of Medicine is the fulfillment of his original purpose for coming to FSU as a student in the 1980s.

Quintero, who started medical school at FSU through the Program in Medical Sciences in 1986, is serving indigent patients at Tallahassee's Neighborhood Health Services and teaching students about caring for underserved populations.

"The medical school will have a tremendous effect on rural health and underserved medicine, and I'm proud to be a part of that," Quintero said. "I'm really happy to be here – it seems like the FSU College of Medicine has picked up where PIMS left off, but with a more extensive approach."

Quintero, too, is picking up where he left off, now practicing and teaching at the

same center where he received his first clinical exposure as a PIMS student. At that time, NHS was located in the basement of a church and was a clinic for patients with hypertension and diabetes.

"That training gave us a great advantage when we arrived at UF as second-year students," Quintero said. "Through NHS we had hands-on experience right from the very beginning, which gave us a leg-up with interviewing patients."

Quintero came to FSU from the Emergency Department and Medical Screening Clinic at Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee, where he was a senior physician.

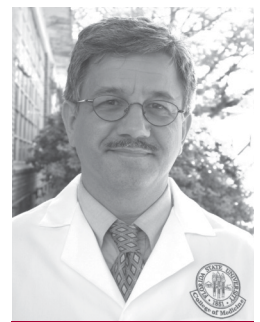
In addition to his duties at NHS, Quintero is teaching in the Clinical Learning Center, the medical school's simulated clinic, and supervising residents at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital one day per week. Through teaching and

patient care, he hopes to contribute to the fulfillment of the college's mission of educating doctors who will provide patient-centered care and be responsive to community needs.

"At the FSU College of Medicine, it seems everybody, including students and faculty, is on the same page when it comes to the mission of the school," Quintero said.

"I'm very fortunate to come to a place where all of the people are trying to reach the same goal."

—M.B.



STEPHEN QUINTERO, M.D.

# The Seminole Medigators

They love the FSU College of Medicine  
... but don't ask them to do the chop.



FSU MEDICAL STUDENTS MATT HENRY, JASON ACOSTA AND DAVID DROSSNER DO THE GATOR CHOMP ON THE TERRACE OF FSU'S DOAK CAMPBELL STADIUM.

"We just feel like we're going to be producing an enhanced quality doctor at FSU. And that's what you expect from something that's starting out new. You don't expect to just re-create what's been there for 30 years. Otherwise there would be no reason to do it."

ALMA LITTLES, M.D.  
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS  
AND SEMINOLE  
MEDIGATOR

The place is crawling with them. Creatures from down in the Swamp, they are the Seminole's natural enemy. Yet they have quietly taken a foothold in the heart of Seminole territory, almost in the shadow of Doak Campbell Stadium. They are the Gators of the FSU College of Medicine – University of Florida graduates and former faculty who now make up a significant part of FSU's medical school.

In fact, these Seminole Medigators, as they are sometimes called, constitute more than a third of the student body and occupy many of the top spots in the college's administration. Among them are the dean, two associate deans and two department chairs.

While they all love their new home, there are certain outward indications of loyalty you will never see them show.

"I'd rather repeat the entire first year of medical school than do the Tomahawk chop even a single time," said FSU medical student Jason Acosta, who graduated with honors from UF in 2002.

Alma Littles, M.D., associate dean for academic affairs, has similar feelings.

"I will not chop," said Littles, who earned both her bachelor's and M.D. degrees at UF. "I'm not going to repeat the first year of medical school, but I will not chop."

Although a die-hard Gator fan, Littles does in fact support Seminole athletes as a member of FSU's Athletics Committee.

"I'm truly concerned about the well-being of the student athletes and have found a new sense of pride in them as I've developed closer relationships with the coaches and some of the players," Littles said.

Still, her admiration for the Gators is evident in the décor of her College of

THE OFFICIAL  
SEMINOLE MEDIGATOR  
MASCOT SITS IN THE  
OFFICE OF COLLEGE  
OF MEDICINE DEAN J.  
OCIE HARRIS, M.D.

ALTHOUGH NOT A UF  
GRADUATE,  
HARRIS HAD A  
DISTINGUISHED 30-  
YEAR CAREER AT  
THE UF COLLEGE OF  
MEDICINE, AND  
THEREFORE IS  
CONSIDERED THE  
HIGHEST-RANKING  
SEMINOLE  
MEDIGATOR.



Medicine office, where the prevalence of orange and blue often shocks her visitors.

"I have people walk into the office all the time and they look around and do a double take," Littles said. "They say, 'Can you do this on this campus? Is this legal? Has the president been to your office?'"

But make no mistake, Littles' enthusiasm for the Gators is surpassed only by her passion for the FSU College of Medicine.

"We just feel like we're going to be producing an enhanced quality doctor at FSU," Littles said. "And that's what you expect from something that's starting out new. You don't expect to just re-create what's been there for 30 years. Otherwise there would be no reason to do it."

One of the advantages of FSU's approach to medical education, Littles said, is its community-based model, in which students learn medicine from many of the very same local physicians





JOE MAHONEY  
FSU MEDICAL STUDENT  
AND UF ALUMNUS.

“The education we are receiving is spectacular, in my opinion.”

who care for patients all over Florida day in and day out, as opposed to those whose patients comprise that tiny sliver of the population who seek treatment at an academic medical center.

One such local doctor is Dennis Mayeaux, M.D., family medicine clerkship director at the medical school’s Pensacola campus.

Mayeaux, who met his wife in the UF band – he recalls that he was positioned at the top of the “U” and she was at the top of the “F” – went on to medical school at the University of Miami, where his wife attended nursing school. Needless to say, the Mayeauxs were never FSU fans.

“Year before last, at Christmas, I told my family, ‘Sit down, I have something to tell you. I’m going to be working for FSU,’ ” Mayeaux said.

His announcement was greeted by a long silence. That Christmas, Mayeaux’s family bought him several packages of new underwear, and on the waistband of each pair they had sewn little Gator logos.

“They told me I had to say to people, ‘It may be garnet and gold on the outside, but it’s all orange and blue on the inside,’ ” Mayeaux said.

But when it comes to the College of Medicine, Mayeaux wears his allegiance proudly on his sleeve.

“Academically, I am very committed to the Florida State University College of Medicine because the mission and the people involved fit hand in glove with the way I think and practice,” Mayeaux said. “The commitment is total. There’s no looking back.”

Having practiced medicine in the Panhandle town of Milton, Fla., for two decades, Mayeaux has a genuine zeal for FSU’s medical education program.

“As it turns out I’ve been living this small-town, rural family doc lifestyle for 20 years, and here’s an institution that has dedicated itself in large part to that purpose,” Mayeaux said. “I can’t think of a better way to spend the rest of my career.”

Likewise, UF graduate Joe Mahoney can’t imagine a better place than FSU to go to medical school, even though most of his family members attended UF, and even though his father, UF medical school graduate John Mahoney, M.D., once chaired the UF Medical Alumni Association.

“The education we are receiving is spectacular, in my opinion,” said Mahoney, who, over the course of his first year in medical school, has often discussed his educational experiences with his father.

“Ninety to 95 percent of medicine is done outside of the hospital, and if you want to be inside the hospital and see those really rare cases, then UF is probably more geared towards you,” Mahoney said. “But here we’re doing more of the everyday things. It’s equally valid, it’s just different.”

For Mahoney, choosing FSU for medical school was an easy decision. He just felt like it was where he belonged. During the interview process, he said, he observed that FSU’s medical students seemed genuinely happy.

“And that is not necessarily, from what I’ve heard, the case with other medical schools,” he said.

Second-year medical student Danielle Bass also cites the comfortable, collegial atmosphere as among the things that attracted her to the FSU College of Medicine.

A member of the 1998 NCAA Championship women’s soccer team at UF, Bass said she shed so much blood, sweat and tears

into her Gator uniform, she may never be able to bring herself to wear garnet and gold.

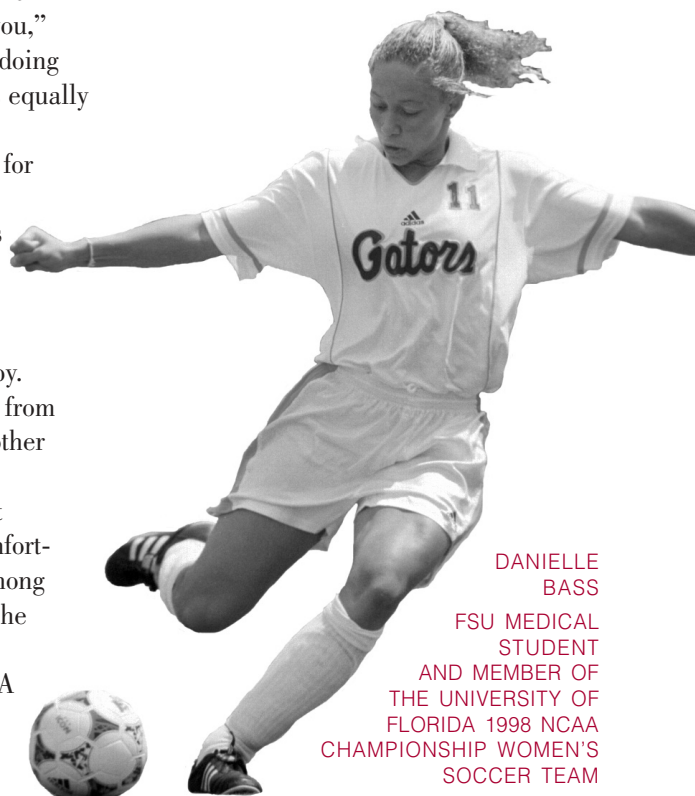
But she’s still glad to be at FSU for medical school.

“When I was on the soccer team at UF, during sprints, if someone was slowing us down, not only would they have to do extra sprints, but we would too. It was a whole team effort, everyone giving 110 percent,” Bass said.

“It’s the same thing here. Everybody is trying to help each other out. If someone has notes that they have written up from a lecture, or has summarized something, they send it to the whole class. Everyone at FSU is so supportive, and everybody wants everybody else to do well.”

–N.K.

“Everyone at FSU is so supportive, and everybody wants everybody else to do well.”



DANIELLE  
BASS  
FSU MEDICAL  
STUDENT  
AND MEMBER OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA 1998 NCAA  
CHAMPIONSHIP WOMEN’S  
SOCCER TEAM

## On Course: Year 2

### Understanding the nature of human disease

In their first year, FSU's medical students focus on the normal structure and function of the human body – the way things are supposed to work – whereas in the second year, the focus shifts to all the things that can go wrong.

And there are a lot of things that can go wrong with the human body, all of which are dealt with in pathology, the study of human disease.

Second-year student Manny Herrera said that in learning such a complicated subject, it's important to take a carefully planned approach. And the pathology courses at FSU do just that.

"The pathology course is structured in a way that facilitates learning of complex material by emphasizing repetition and clinical application of the basic medical sciences," Herrera said.

Morton Levitt, M.D., assistant director of the pathology curriculum, and Edward Klatt, M.D., Year 2 director, teach pathology and work with the other Year 2 faculty to design the curriculum so that related topics are covered simultaneously in each course.

During one month, for example, the faculty focuses on the cardiovascular system. Levitt lectures on cardiovascular pathology, while the pharmacology faculty lectures on the drugs used to treat cardiovascular disease, and the microbiology faculty presents cases of cardiovascular infection. All of these faculty members work together in the department of biomedical sciences.

"Knowing what other faculty members are teaching in their disciplines allows me to fine-tune my presentations so that the students are not inundated with unnecessary duplication, nor are there significant gaps in the discussion of a disease entity," Levitt said.

Before teaching at FSU, Levitt was accustomed to dealing with faculty from multiple departments, among whom there was little coordination.

"In my former institution," Levitt said, "the pathology lecture included 33 full-time and adjunct faculty from more than a dozen different departments, so there was

very little effort to integrate topics among major courses. Often incorrect assumptions were made about prior exposure to a concept."

At FSU, pathology spans two semesters, with general pathology and immunology taught in the fall, and systemic pathology and laboratory medicine taught in the spring. Levitt and Klatt facilitate the pathology courses using multiple methods that emphasize active learning.

Students develop their diagnostic skills in small-group sessions, during which they present specific cases to their peers. They review the patient's clinical history, lab test results, physical exam notes, and radiologic imaging and work together to develop a differential diagnosis. Klatt explained that the faculty facilitators are only present in the sessions to answer questions and keep students on track.

"The students are using the information, and instead of passively listening to somebody telling them what the answer is, they are actively trying to come up with it themselves," Klatt said.

Herrera said the small-group sessions promote teamwork.

"We teach and learn from each other while diagnosing clinical cases," he said.

In the pathology courses, students are encouraged to look at disease in a variety of ways. While pathology is classically taught by looking at whole organs and tissues and then viewing them microscopically, most practicing physicians diagnose by looking at the disease through radiologic imaging.

At FSU, radiology is used extensively in pathology, building on the radiology students learned about in the Year 1 anatomy course.

Students can view radiologic, microscopic and other pathology images using WebPath, a compendium of digital images Klatt has collected over more than 25 years of work in pathology.

Klatt's WebPath, which is used in pathology education nationally and

internationally, provides students opportunities for review and self-assessment across the spectrum of human pathology.

Second-year medical student Brian Gibson appreciates having so many resources readily available at any time.

"With just a couple of punches on a keypad we have the lecture notes, small-group laboratories, tutorials, slides and more," Gibson said. "But what makes these tools invaluable is that this massive amount of information is set up in a way to teach efficiently, which is very important to a medical student who has limited time to learn the multitude of knowledge in the field of medicine."

– M.B.



MORTON LEVITT, M.D., CENTER, LEADS A SMALL-GROUP SESSION IN PATHOLOGY.

"The students are using the information, and instead of passively listening to somebody telling them what the answer is, they are actively trying to come up with it themselves."

EDWARD KLATT, M.D.  
YEAR 2 DIRECTOR

# Mission-focused PIMS admissions policies continue under College of Medicine

Originally developed under the FSU Program in Medical Sciences, the admissions policy of the College of Medicine shuns the cookie cutter.



“PIMS is special to me because they selected me for what I am as a person and what they thought I could offer to the realm of primary care medicine.”

ED MAGEE, M.D.  
PIMS ALUMNUS

There is no one type of student the admissions committee holds up as the ideal. Instead it’s a matter of trying to put together a group of students who offer the right blend and who are likely to fulfill the medical school’s mission.

“The secret is diversity,” said Myra Hurt, Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs, admissions and outreach. “If you can develop a class that has diversity in all dimensions, in terms of gender, ethnicity, life experience, in terms of adversity, demographic backgrounds and age, you’re going to have a diverse product. You’re going to get the nice mix of specialties that most schools are striving to have.”

The medical school achieves this kind of diversity, Hurt said, by personalizing the admissions process and going beyond the numbers. MCAT scores and grade point averages are important, but they are not the ultimate determining factors.

“The only people we interview are the people who we believe are going to make it academically,” Hurt said. “We have to see evidence that they’ll succeed in a very demanding curriculum, or we won’t interview them.”

However, just because a student has a low overall

undergraduate GPA, for example, that doesn’t mean that student won’t be able to succeed in medical school. And over the 30-year history of PIMS, plenty of medical students proved that point.

One of them is PIMS alumnus Ed Magee, M.D., who is now in his final year of family practice residency at Florida Hospital in Orlando along with his wife, fellow PIMS alum Kristy Kopala Magee.

Magee got off to a rough start during his first attempt at college, racking up a 1.7 GPA in his first few semesters. But after six years in the Marine Corps, including tours of duty in the Persian Gulf and Somalia, he returned to college with a new sense of purpose and achieved vastly improved results. Still, his first three semesters remained on his record and affected his overall GPA.

“PIMS is special to me because they selected me for what I am as a person and what they thought I could offer to the realm of primary care medicine,” said Magee. “The admissions committee took a risk with me, when other medical schools would not even offer me an interview. In retrospect, I have held true to what I stated back in my admissions interviews at

PIMS. My wife and I are family physicians, raising our own family and living our dream.”

Keeping such students from falling through the cracks requires a labor-intensive and carefully administered admissions process.

Although applying to medical school at FSU begins with an online application to AMCAS, the national system for medical school applications, the medical school asks more in-depth questions on a secondary application that is sent to all qualified applicants.

After a careful review of all of their materials, applicants are invited to campus for interviews. On interview days, students not only have extensive one-on-one contact with members of the admissions committee, but they also get to spend time mixing with current students.

“Every contact that an applicant has with us is important,” Hurt said. “A major goal for our interviewers is to see if the person we have seen on paper matches the real person, but moreover, to find out if this person is going to be a warm, compassionate physician who actually listens to the patient.”

—N.K.



## Student Activities

### Interest Groups

The **Student National Medical Association** held an International Food Festival to celebrate cultural diversity and Black History Month. More than 100 people attended. SNMA seeks to serve the health needs of underrepresented communities and assure that medical services are sensitive to the needs of culturally diverse populations.

The **Internal Medicine Interest Group** was recognized by the American College of Physicians for increasing its membership in the ACP by 24.1 percent.

The **Family Medicine Interest Group** held its second annual health fair at the Tallahassee Mall. The "Shopping for Your Health!" fair was attended by more than 150 people and included blood pressure screenings, diabetes education and blood glucose screenings, stroke prevention and education, body mass index tests, skin cancer screenings, and bone density scans, along with other health-related information.

### Honors & Awards

**Rob Allison** has been accepted to the Clinical Research Training Program at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. Only 30 medical students are accepted into this program each year. Participants spend a year engaged in clinical research projects in the field

that matches their professional interests and goals.

**Stefano Bordoli**, representing the College of Medicine, won the FSU Academic Leadership Award at the university's Leadership Awards Night.

**Kim Ruscher-Rogers** and **Stephen Patrick** were recipients of the American Medical Association Foundation's Excellence in Medicine Leadership Award. They were among 20 medical students nationwide who received scholarships to travel to Washington, D.C. for leadership training, Lobby Day and the National Advocacy Conference. Ruscher-Rogers was appointed chair of the Health Access Education Subcommittee and Patrick was appointed chair of the Cover the Uninsured Week Task Force for the AMA-Medical Student Section.

### AMSA

The FSU chapter of the American Medical Student Association hosted an AIDS teach-in involving a two-hour workshop given by medical students from Philadelphia. Students learned about the global AIDS epidemic and how they can get involved in making AIDS a major issue for the presidential campaign.

### Presentation

**David Drossner** presented the poster, "Physical Medical Comorbidity in the Young Adult, 16 to 25 Year Old Age Group, with a Severe and Persistent Mental Illness" at the American Psychiatric Association annual meeting in New York.

### Cover the Uninsured

College of Medicine students presented a panel discussion and distributed information on campus as part of the national Cover the Uninsured Week campaign.

The panel discussion featured faculty members and other local physicians, who discussed the challenges of serving the growing number of uninsured in the United States. Nearly 44 million Americans are uninsured, 8.5 million of whom are children. Medical students also passed out brochures and stickers at the Oglesby Union to raise awareness of the issue.

The April 19-23 on-campus events were sponsored by the Medical College Council and coordinated by second-year medical student Stephen

Patrick, national chair of the Cover the Uninsured Week Task Force for the AMA-MSS.

The College of Medicine will participate in community events during the national Cover the Uninsured Week, May 10-14.

### Patch Adams visits FSU

World-famous philanthropic physician Patch Adams visited the FSU campus in March to speak on the topics of medicine, politics and love. Adams travels the country each year speaking about his experience running the Gesundheit! Clinic, which served more than 15,000 patients at no charge for 12 years. Adams is raising funds to reopen the clinic in a new, larger facility. The event was co-sponsored by the Medical College Council.

### Biking for a good cause

FSUCares leaders Courtney Nall and Mason Shamis will embark this June on a month-long cycling trip designed to raise \$5,000 to open a free clinic to provide care for underserved populations in Tallahassee.

On their bike-a-thon, they will be traveling 1,000 miles along the Atlantic coast from Jacksonville to New York. Nall and Shamis will be pulling about 100 pounds of supplies such as food, tents and clothing in a trailer behind them. They will be traveling secondary roadways and stopping to sleep at campgrounds.

The FSUCares free clinic would be student-run with faculty support and supervision. Students hope to target concerns such as nutrition, obesity and diabetes in various cultural groups.

The clinic would provide an interactive, clinical learning environment for



MASON SHAMIS AND COURTNEY NALL

students in the College of Medicine.

Nall and Shamis are seeking sponsorships from faculty, parents and members of the community. All money raised during the trip will go toward the development and maintenance of the FSUCares clinic.

**If you would like to support the FSUCares free clinic, please send your contribution in the donor envelope provided in this issue. Be sure to designate your donation for FSUCares.**

[www.med.fsu.edu/students/FSUCares/](http://www.med.fsu.edu/students/FSUCares/)

# Milestone summer for medical school

With the start of summer, the FSU College of Medicine will have students enrolled in each of four classes for the first time, bringing the plan for a four-year medical school at FSU to its full fruition.

Students in the inaugural class, the Class of 2005, will begin their fourth-year clinical rotations in July. The fourth year consists of 16 weeks of required rotations – four weeks each of advanced family medicine, advanced internal medicine, emergency medicine and geriatrics – and

24 weeks of electives.

Students will complete their required rotations within FSU's regional campus system, but can complete a portion of their electives elsewhere.

Also in July, students in the Class of 2006 will relocate to the medical school's regional campuses in Orlando, Pensacola and Tallahassee to begin their third year. Their arrival will more than double the size of the student body at each regional campus. The Orlando campus will have a total of 30 third- and fourth-

year students, while Pensacola will have 23 and Tallahassee will have 15.

Students in the Class of 2007 are completing their first year and will spend the first three weeks of May working one-on-one with primary care physicians around the state through a required summer clinical practicum coordinated with assistance from the state's Area Health Education Centers. They will have the rest of the summer off and will return to Tallahassee in August to begin their second year.

Meanwhile, 60 students have been admitted to the Class of 2008 and will begin their first year with the clinical anatomy, embryology and imaging course this summer. The new class will only spend its first summer in the medical school's transitional facilities in the former FSU Developmental Research School (Florida High) complex, as the entire medical school will be moving into the new College of Medicine building complex in August.

## FSUCares students visit Panama, Texas

Although a planned spring break medical mission to Haiti had to be abandoned due to civil unrest, in just three weeks FSUCares managed to organize an alternate trip to McAllen, Texas, where students worked with underserved populations on both sides of the US-Mexico border.

While 10 students traveled to McAllen, 16 visited two sites in Panama, where FSUCares has provided primary care to rural residents for three years.

The students and their faculty advisors served

patients with medical conditions mainly stemming from poor hygiene and malnutrition. Many of the patients suffered from poor chronic disease management due to a lack of health education and medical care. In some cases, students and faculty worked in local clinics, while in others they set up clinics in structures such as churches and school houses, where they sometimes treated more than 100 patients a day.

The Texas-Mexico trip would not have been possible without the help of Angel

Braña, M.D., M.P.H., of the U.S. Border Health Office. Braña organized everything for the students during their trip, from their clinical activities to their housing.

"After working with Dr. Braña, we had a good understanding of the challenges facing residents on both sides of the US-Mexico border," second-year medical student Kartik Pandya said. "We hope to rely on his hospitality and knowledge on future FSUCares international medical missions."



SECOND-YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT STEFANO BORDOLI, RIGHT, SUTURES A YOUNG PATIENT'S WOUND AT A RED CROSS CLINIC IN REYNOSA, MEXICO.

## Medical students provide physicals for Leon County Special Olympics

Under the supervision of faculty advisor Edward Shahady, M.D., students in the Sports Medicine Interest Group provided sports physicals for about 100 Leon County middle school students so that they could participate in the Special Olympics.

"A lot of kids wouldn't have physicals either because they couldn't afford it or for any number of reasons," said Lonnie

Seay, athletic director for the Leon County Special Olympics. "Without the medical school's help, these 100 kids wouldn't be participating in any kind of sports, so this is a huge benefit."

Besides performing the sports physicals, Shahady and medical students Tristan Altbuch, Jason Buseman, Anthony Mills and Aaron Nordgren treated several athletes and

spectators for minor problems such as abrasions and heat exhaustion at the countywide Special Olympics competition held March 20 at Godby High School.

In addition to the annual event, students participating in the Special Olympics compete year-round in 22 different sports such as softball, tennis, track and basketball.



FIRST-YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT MAGGIE DAVIS CHECKS THE LEGS OF CARL BAITY, 15, OF SWIFT CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL.

# Faculty Achievements

JANUARY-APRIL 2004

## Publications

David Balkwill, Ph.D., authored the chapter, "Spatial Segregation: The Deep Subsurface Story," in the book, *Microbial Evolution: Gene Establishment, Survival, and Exchange*.

Edward Bradley III, M.D., authored "Nerve Blocks and Neuroblastic Surgery for Chronic Pancreatitis" in *World Journal of Surgery*.

Robert Brooks, M.D., and Art Clawson, M.S., co-authored "The Rural Physician Workforce in Florida: A Survey of U.S. and Foreign-born Primary Care Physicians," in the *Journal of Rural Health*.

Adam Golden, M.D., co-authored "Providing Case Management to Cuban-American Homebound Elderly" in the *Annals of Long-Term Care*.

Anne Gunderson, R.N., M.S.N., A.P.N., and John Tomkowiak, M.D., co-authored "Dynamic Health Promotion for the Geriatric Population" in *Rehabilitation Nursing*.

Suzanne Johnson, Ph.D., co-authored "Technological and Medical Advances: Implications for Health Psychology" in *Health Psychology* and "Maternal Anxiety Associated with Newborn Genetic Screening for Type 1 Diabetes" in *Diabetes Care*.

Charles Ouimet, Ph.D., and his graduate student Orenda Johnson authored "Protein Synthesis is Necessary for Dendritic Spine Proliferation in Adult Brain Slices" in *Brain Research*.

Edward Shahady, M.D., co-authored "Shoulder Pain in a Man with a History of Trauma" with medical student Jason Buseman, and "Severe Foot Pain in a Runner" with medical student Anthony Mills in *Consultant*. Shahady also co-authored "Suspected Avascular Necrosis in a Runner" in *Consultant* and articles about knee swelling in a young basketball player in *Consultant* and in *Pediatric Consultant*.

David Steele, Ph.D., co-authored "Integrating the Art and Science of Medical Practice: Innovations in Teaching Communication Skills" and "From Library to Discharge: A Managing Care Student Project" in a supplement to the journal *Family Medicine* titled, "Report on Undergraduate Medical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A National Medical Education Project."

## Presentations

Dennis Baker, Ph.D., Nancy Clark, M.Ed., Barbara Shearer, M.S.L.S., Sarah Sherraden, R.N., M.S.N., and David Steele, Ph.D., presented "Creating a New Medical School: Challenges and Opportunities" at the Southern Group on Educational Affairs conference in Savannah, Ga.

Harold Bland, M.D., presented an abstract and a poster session titled, "Implementing the Millennium Report at a New Medical School: Third Year Pediatric Clerkship," at the national Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics meeting in Panama City Beach. He was also chosen as a member of the Steering Committee on Curriculum Development.

Edward Bradley III, M.D., presented "Surgery in Acute Pancreatitis" and "Pancreatoduodenectomy for Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma: Triumph, Triumphalism or Transition?" at the First Annual Memorial Lecture for Marvin L. Gliedman, M.D., XX Annual Montefiore Surgical Symposium in New York.

Ken Brummel-Smith, M.D., presented "Clinical Practice Guidelines: Are they Useful in Geriatrics?" at the West Florida Hospital Grand Rounds in Pensacola and at the Geriatric Pharmacology Update in Miami; "Medications Management Across Care Transitions" at the Geriatric Pharmacology Update in Miami; "Medication Use in Older People: Promises and Perils" at the Florida A&M University annual clinical pharmacy symposium, "Pharmaceutical Advances in the Care of the Elderly," and "Discussing Advance Directives" at the Sacred Heart Medical Center Grand Rounds in Pensacola.

Nancy Clark, M.Ed., presented "Sharing Evidence-based Curricular Materials: How Do We Peer Review Them?" at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine annual conference in Toronto.

Nancy Clark, M.Ed., co-presented a lecture titled, "Integrating and Sustaining: Technology within Medical Education," and a poster titled, "Creating the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Medical School: Technology Across the Curriculum," at the Southern Group on Educational Affairs annual conference in Savannah, Ga.

Jennifer Bencie Fairburn, M.D., M.S.A., presented "The Role of Health Departments and Hospitals in Emergency Management" at the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association annual conference, and "Terrorism Preparedness and Implications for Public Health Infrastructure" at the International

Disaster Management Conference.

Robert Glueckauf, Ph.D., and Ken Brummel-Smith, M.D., were featured speakers at the Florida House of Representatives Alzheimer's Summit 2004.

Steven David Grossman, M.D., presented "Don't Check Me Out, I'm Not Done Shopping: A Living Legacy in Celebration of Life" at the American Medical Student Association national convention in Kansas City, Mo.

Richard Hornick, M.D., presented Grand Rounds at the University of Maryland Hospital.

William T. Kepper, M.D., presented a workshop on "Pre-participation Examination of Scuba Divers" to the Southern College Health Association annual meeting. He also is serving as the 2004 president of the Capital Medical Society.

Gerry Maitland, M.D., presented Grand Rounds and was visiting professor at the University of Tennessee School of Medicine. He also presented "Falls and Balance Mechanisms in Parkinsonism" at the National Parkinson's Foundation's annual symposium on Parkinsonism in Tallahassee and was a guest lecturer at the Florida A&M University annual pharmacy clinical symposium, "Pharmaceutical Advances in the Care of the Elderly."

Joan Y. Meek, M.D., presented "Normal Breastfeeding Management" at the international Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine annual meeting in Chicago and "Ingredients for Health: Infant Formula" at the American Dietetic Association Food & Nutrition Conference in San Antonio. She also co-presented four workshops at the American Academy of Pediatrics national conference in New Orleans on "Developing Clinical Breastfeeding Counseling



Skills." At the Arnold Palmer Hospital and Nemours Foundation 21st Annual Care of the Sick Child Conference in Orlando, she presented "Managing Challenging Breastfeeding Cases" and "Navigating Your Way through Infant Formula Selection."

Nir Menachemi, Ph.D., M.P.H., with Darrell Burke, Ph.D., (Information Studies) co-presented "Quantifying Patient Safety Initiatives: Emerging Research" at the American College of Preventive Medicine annual meeting held concurrently with the American College of Medical Quality conference in Orlando.

Nir Menachemi, Ph.D., M.P.H., presented "Medical Errors and Patient Safety: What Practicing Providers Need to Know" at the Florida State Hospital continuing education seminar in Chattahoochee.

Barbara Shearer, M.S.L.S., presented "Creating a 21st Century Virtual Library at FSU's College of Medicine" at the Southern College Health Association annual meeting in Tallahassee and "Steering a

Course through Uncharted Waters: Creating New Academic Medical Libraries from 1971 to Aught 1" at the annual meeting of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association in Miami.

Janet Shepherd, M.D., presented to the Florida Legislature on the subject of hormone replacement therapy, as well as on how FSU College of Medicine faculty incorporate the unique health needs of women into the curriculum, as part of Women's Health Awareness Day.

Mark Weatherly, M.D., and Lloyd N. Werk, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P., co-presented the poster, "Improving Health Care Using Information Technology – A Series of Quality Improvement Activities in a Cystic Fibrosis Center," at the Third Annual Forum for Improving Children's Health Care in San Diego.

## Service

Joan Y. Meek, M.D., was re-elected to a second three-year term on the board of the

International Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine. She chairs its Education Committee.

Michael J. Muszynski, M.D., was appointed co-chairman of the Research and Education Committee of the Association of Florida Children's Hospitals.

Andrew Payer, Ph.D., has been appointed to the American Association of Anatomists Education Affairs Committee for a three-year term. This involves working on the organization's Web site, where anatomists share examination questions, teaching methodologies and education information. He also is helping develop a workshop for the 2005 annual meeting involving the creation of an anatomy curriculum for a theoretical new medical school.

Sandeep Rahangdale, M.D., has been elected chairman of the Department of Medicine at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital for 2004.

## Grants

Ken Brummel-Smith, M.D., was principal investigator for

"Medical Ethnomusicology: A Symposium on the Intersections of Music, Culture, and Medicine," which received a \$25,000 FSU CRC-Interdisciplinary support grant.

Nir Menachemi, Ph.D., M.P.H., was awarded two grants from the Agency for Health Care Administration. The first, for \$159,500, is for "A Pilot Project to Assess the Feasibility and Applicability of Mobile Information Technology at a Rural/Community Hospital." The second, for \$59,500, is for hosting a Patient Safety Summit for hospital CEOs.

Barbara Shearer, M.S.L.S., was awarded a \$16,000 subcontract from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine for the project, "Delivery of PDA Technology to Florida State University College of Medicine Affiliated Hospital Librarians." Funds will be used to purchase state-of-the-art PDAs for affiliated librarians and provide a number of e-books and clinical decision tools for evaluation by the librarians.

# VanLandingham receives teaching award

FSU College of Medicine faculty member Hugh VanLandingham, M.D., has been named 2004 Part-time Family Physician Educator of the Year by the Florida Academy of Family Physicians.

VanLandingham has been a preceptor for first- and second-year FSU medical students since completing his residency at the Tallahassee Memorial Family Practice Residency Program in 2002.

Two first-year FSU medical students who were assigned to VanLandingham this spring, Joe Rousso and Gary Visser, nominated him for the award.

"I think he's got really great empathy toward his patients," Visser said, to which Rousso quickly added, "He's got good empathy for his students, too."

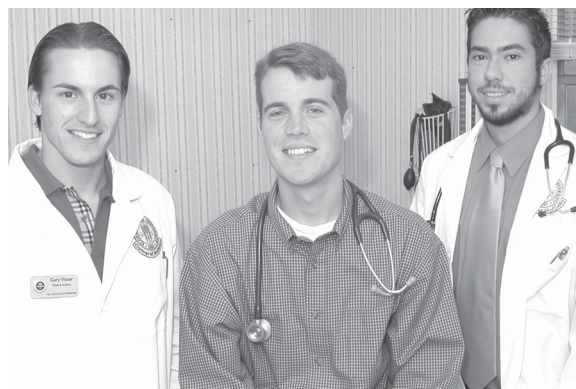
VanLandingham earned his undergraduate degree at FSU and his medical degree at the University of Florida. He noted that some of his professors from UF are now at FSU's medical school, including Philip Posner, Ph.D., and Gene

Ryerson, M.D., whom he calls "my hero."

At the Tallahassee Memorial Family Practice Residency Program, he worked under Alma Littles, M.D., associate dean for academic affairs at the FSU College of Medicine and former director of the residency program. Both VanLandingham and Littles are from Quincy, Fla., and they have known each other for many years.

"Alma is clearly my mentor," VanLandingham said.

The VanLandingham connections to the medical school are many. Hugh VanLandingham's younger brother Jake taught neuroanatomy to PIMS and College of Medicine students while pursuing his doctorate at FSU, and his youngest brother Cody will be in the



TALLAHASSEE FAMILY PHYSICIAN HUGH VANLANDINGHAM, M.D., CENTER, WAS NOMINATED FOR THE FAFP'S PART-TIME TEACHING AWARD BY FSU MEDICAL STUDENTS GARY VISSER, LEFT, AND JOE ROUSSO, RIGHT.

medical school's incoming class, the Class of 2008.

Their mother, Kathy VanLandingham, is office manager at the medical school's Regional Medical School Campus – Tallahassee.

## Calendar/Events

### SUMMER CLERKSHIPS CLASS OF 2007

May 3-28

### ORIENTATION CLASS OF 2008

June 1-4

### PATIENT SAFETY SUMMIT FOR HOSPITAL CEOs IN FLORIDA

June 25

9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Hyatt Regency, Orlando

International Airport

Co-sponsored by FHA

### FOURTH-YEAR ROTATIONS BEGIN CLASS OF 2005

July 6

### THIRD-YEAR ORIENTATION CLASS OF 2006

July 6-9

### THIRD-YEAR ROTATIONS BEGIN CLASS OF 2006

July 12



PIMS ALUMNI (L-R) C. DAVID SMITH, M.D., JEFFERY KELLEY, M.D., AND MARIAN STEWART, M.D., PRACTICE TOGETHER IN JAY, FLA. THEY WILL BE JOINED NEXT YEAR BY SMITH'S SON, MICHAEL SMITH, MD., WHO IS CURRENTLY A FAMILY PRACTICE RESIDENT AT TALLAHASSEE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (SEE PIMS, P. 4).

## Dance Marathon funds pediatric outreach

The College of Medicine's Pediatric Outreach program, Children's Miracle Network and Shands Children's Hospital will benefit from more than \$160,000 raised at this year's FSU Dance Marathon.

More than 500 dancers stood on their feet for 32 hours, raising 15 percent more than in 2003.

One of the new fund-raisers this year was a raffle for a 2004 Honda Civic supplied by The Proctor Dealerships and partially underwritten by Farmers and Merchants Bank.

Last year's proceeds helped create an FSU pediatric clinic at the Grenta Wellness Center in Gadsden County. Harold Bland, M.D., pediatrics education director for the medical school, will see patients there one half-day a week, with medical students working alongside him beginning this fall.

Dance Marathon, FSU's largest student-run philanthropy, has been raising money for critically ill or injured children in the North Florida and South Georgia area since 1996. Since then, it has raised more than \$600,000.

J. Ocie Harris, M.D., Dean  
College of Medicine

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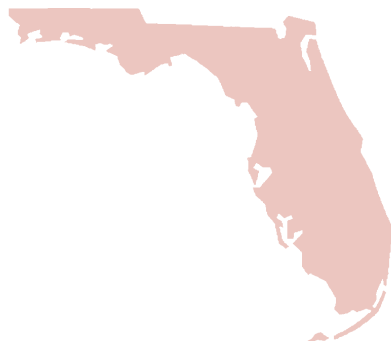
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