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Questions, comments or story ideas for Pathways? Call 309-671-8404 or email dhaney@uicomp.uic.edu. Pathways is also available online at peoria.medicine.uic.edu/pathways.
Medical education is changing rapidly. Students once spent most of their time in lecture halls passively listening while transcribing what the Professor said into their notebook. When students reached their clinical years, they then would learn procedural skills using a “See one, Do one, Teach one” philosophy. How the world has changed . . . and for the better.

Over the last several years, the College of Medicine has decreased its number of classroom hours, changed to a small-group, active-learning format, made almost all lectures available electronically and created new study rooms that are rich with technology. The focus is more on clinical problem solving and less on the rote retention of classroom material.

Our new Jump simulation center is focused on “deliberative practice.” This means we are preparing students to perform procedures, deal with challenging patients or provide patient education in a simulated setting. Here we can teach uncommon occurrences, communication skills and working as a team with other healthcare providers. Students can practice until they have mastered a skill, all in a setting where they are supported and there isn’t any risk to a real patient.

We know each medical student is different and comes to the college with different personal and career goals. We have designed multiple diverse programs that allow students to develop skills or interests which may be uniquely important to them. This issue of Pathways highlights some of these programs.

- We are strengthening our Rural Student Physician Program, providing learning experiences that are centered on preparing selected students for careers in smaller communities.
- We have expanded our student research opportunities and displayed the results at our first annual medical student research day.
- Our students are gaining increasing exposure to the healthcare and culture of other countries, gaining appreciation of the wide variations in access and quality between countries.

Although change is important, there are some things that don’t and shouldn’t change. This year’s graduating class was the 40th from UICOMP. The Peoria Medical Alumni Association picked N. Kent Wise, a member of the inaugural 1973 class, as the Alumni of the Year. As he noted in his speech at the awards ceremony, the commitment to providing empathetic, high quality patient care is as strong in the class of 2013 as it was in the class of 1973. That enduring commitment to patients is also evident at the Pediatric Resource Center which is celebrating its 20 year anniversary of serving children and families.

“Lead Collaboration to Improve Health” is UICOMP’s mission– We may change how we teach but the mission of improving the health of our patients and our community never changes.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sara L. Rusch
Regional Dean
A LONG HISTORY OF TRAINING
tomorrow’s doctors

More than 50 UICOMP students received their medical degrees in May, joining a proud tradition now 40 years old. “Today, we have gathered to celebrate our 40th Convocation ceremony. The 51 members of the class of 2013 — you bring the total number of graduates from the University Of Illinois College Of Medicine at Peoria to 1,759 — young physicians well poised to take on the rapidly changing healthcare system. You are our future physicians, leaders and policymakers!” Meenakshy Aiyer, MD, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, told the crowd of more than 400 who gathered in the Peoria Civic Center.

Aiyer was joined on stage by University of Illinois Board of Trustees member Karen Hasara; George Kondos, MD, Professor of Medicine and Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs at UIC; Lorin Whittaker, MD; Regional Dean Sara Rusch, MD; and Julius Bonello, MD. Graduating senior Henry David provided the remarks from the Class of 2013 and Dr. Rusch led the charge and physician’s oath.

UICOMP History
In 1970, the state legislature authorized the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago to expand medical education opportunities by creating additional sites in Peoria, Rockford, and Urbana. As a result, the Peoria School of Medicine opened its doors later that same year.

Peoria’s first class of 18 medical students graduated in 1973.

On November 22, 1976, the Peoria School of Medicine dedicated its permanent home on the current grounds in downtown Peoria, and six years later in 1982, the Peoria School of Medicine was officially renamed the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.

A Small Tribute
“So here we are guys, and what better way to end it off than the way it started right? First off we should all be so proud of everything we have done in four years. We have been through so many struggles together, both personal and academic, and still have managed to come out better students, people and physicians (yes I can say that now) for it. I do not think I would have been able to get through this incredible, yet challenging journey without each and every one of you here.

I am and will be forever so proud to be part of such an amazing and great class filled with so many caring, passionate and simply awesome people. I am going to miss you all in very different ways and cannot wait to see how each one of us affects the communities and the world we inhabit differently. Thank you all for an amazing experience and I hope to have a reunion with you in the future. Congratulations to you, me and all our family, friends and teachers who helped us reach this incredible milestone in our lives.”

— Samuel Abebe, M.D. Class of 2013
Recently retired cardiologist and professor in Peoria reflects back on satisfying career.

This year was the 40th anniversary of the first graduating class from the College of Medicine in Peoria. Among that inaugural class was N. Kent Wise.

“We had classes sometimes in the bank building in downtown Peoria and sometimes at Bradley University,” recalls Wise, who was honored in May with the Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Medicine at Peoria. “It was exciting for all the attending physicians. We got to assist in surgery and deliver babies.”

During his first year of medical school, Wise met and married Joyce ’69, MD ’73, also among that first graduating medical class. “We were a close-knit group,” he said of the students. “Several of us lived in the same apartment complex. Some of us still get together.”

Wise, originally from Rushville, Ill., went to Chicago for residency and on to Duke for a fellowship in cardiology. Joyce Wise took a similar route, pediatrics in Chicago for her residency and to Duke for a fellowship in pediatric endocrinology. They decided afterward to return to Peoria.

“I had an opportunity for private practice, yet to be involved with the medical school and teaching, and we did research,” says Wise, who was a clinical assistant professor of medicine, and a cardiologist at HeartCare Midwest for 33 years and director of cardiology services at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. “It was that mix of private practice and academia that was a really attractive scenario. And at the same time, a lot of sub-specialties were developing, so Peoria was kind of on the cutting edge.”

Since retiring this spring, Wise’s attention has shifted from patients to gardening, hunting and golfing. He and Joyce have two children, Allison and Emma.

Wise reflected on the future of medicine and his own past during the Medical Student Awards Banquet during which he received his alumni award, and addressed the soon-to-be graduates.

“Don’t ever pass up an opportunity to learn something and to follow a patient through,” he said. “It’s been a great career. Our [graduating] group, on the whole, has done really well. … Once in a while you get to make a save, but the majority of the time you’re just there to help people get through their difficulties.”
Research among UICOMP’s students, residents and physicians is climbing off the charts.

More than 20 medical students and their physician mentors put their research findings on display in April – everything from unusual medical cases to the effects of a community crash reenactment program on teen alcohol awareness – at UICOMP’s first annual Student Research Day. And the number of projects presented by residents at the annual Research Symposium in May nearly doubled.

“We’re engaging our students in research because we want to help build the next generation of researchers in medicine,” Dr. Meenakshy Aiyer, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria, said of the first-ever Student Research Day.

More than 20 research posters were displayed by students, including this year’s James Scholars. More than 20 research posters were displayed by students, including this year’s James Scholars.

Research posters were displayed in the lobby and students were available to describe their project and answer questions.

“The quality of research work the students are doing is very competitive – as evidenced by the fact many have been accepted for presentation at the national level,” added Dr. Aiyer, and noting one UICOMP student gave an oral presentation to the Society of General Internal Medicine and two others presented their posters to the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology to name just a few.

Graduate level research also is on the increase.

Scholarship is an important component of resident training,” said Thomas Santoro, MD, UICOMP’s Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education. “Clinical investigation is often considered the premier example of scholarship and I am delighted to say that participation in research by UICOMP residents has steadily increased over the past decade. Last year was no exception. The number and quality of original reports presented by our residents on Research Day was outstanding.”

More than 40 UICOMP resident physicians and their physician mentor counterparts showed off their findings.

1ST ANNUAL STUDENT RESEARCH DAY results

CLINICAL VIGNETTES

- **1st:** Meghna Motiani: TRALI in a Patient with ITP Related Life-Threatening Bleed
- **2nd:** Chris Verdick: Candida glabrata as a Cause of Acute Lobar Nephronia with Associated Perinephric Abscess
- **3rd:** Rasleen Saluja: Drug-Induced Lymphocytic Colitis in patients with and without underlying GI pathology

RESEARCH

- **1st place was a tie**
  - Charlie Jain: A National Assessment on Patient Safety Education in Undergraduate Medical Education: A Survey of Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine
  - Kristen Schmidt: Alcohol Diminished by Pregnancy
- **2nd:** Patricia Eathington: Delivering Sexually Transmitted Infection Education Via Text Messaging: An Evidence-Based Project
- **3rd place was a tie**
  - Brendan Daley: Acceptability and Feasibility of Assessment and Coaching Tool for Pediatric Obesigenic Risk Factors in the Primary Care Setting
  - Tyler Evans: Exergaming for Health: A Randomized Controlled Trial
The Pediatric Resource Center celebrates 20 years of helping children – but the need continues

Did you know a child with a sustained elevated heart rate, and with no other apparent cause, could be a victim of chronic child abuse?

Whether in the community or a physician’s office, the mission of the Pediatric Resource Center has been to provide care, support and understanding for victims of child abuse, while promoting awareness and prevention. This June, the PRC celebrated 20 years of dedication and service to children throughout Illinois, which since its inception has evaluated some 5,500 children.

Unfortunately, the need is no less today than it was two decades ago, says PRC Executive Director Lisa Schwab. In fact, recent trends have shown an increase in child abuse can be found most everywhere.

“No one else in this region does what we’re doing – we’re the frontline in medical child abuse care and prevention,” says Schwab, noting that the PRC has grown extensively in the past 20 years, adding that however more needs to be done.

The PRC, a community service program of the College of Medicine and affiliated with Children’s Hospital of Illinois at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, sees nearly 400 children each year from 50 counties across Illinois. PRC specializes in medical evaluations of children who are suspected victims of abuse.

In order to meet the existing need has required the PRC to open satellite offices in LaSalle, Knox and McLean counties.

Schwab says their current goal is to maintain stable funding and staffing at all clinical sites, while looking ahead at future needs, which includes mental health services and a follow-up clinic specifically oriented to abusive head injuries.

“We want to maintain an experience for children so that once they enter the door there is soothing and healing,” says Schwab.

Dr. Kay Saving, a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria and the Medical Director of Children’s Hospital of Illinois at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, provided the original vision for PRC.

Saving said she was giving noon lectures to residents in pediatrics on ethical issues and delivering difficult diagnoses, such as cancer or congenital heart disease, when she asked the group for ideas for future topics. That’s when one resident asked what he should do when he sees an injured child in the ICU and it’s evident the parent is responsible.

“We realized pretty quick residents were not getting any training on child abuse,” Saving recalls. “So we started talking to people, social service agencies and other medical places and found out we did not really have a good place that was child-centered, family-friendly where children could get an exam by knowledgeable people who knew what they were doing. Really, that’s how the idea started.”

Nearly three years later, the Pediatric Resource Center opened its doors with Saving at the helm, and since has evolved and grown to what it is today.

“There continues to be an ongoing need for education among the people that interact with children including medical providers, teachers, day care providers and parents about how to identify the early signs of child abuse and neglect, so that we can prevent the more serious injuries later,” said Dr. Channing Petrak, Medical Director of the PRC. “We have to remember that the main goal is always the safety of the child.”
An International Impact

Firsthand experience and a strong sense of purpose is the cornerstone of service learning at the College of Medicine – learning that also has a positive, real impact.

Whether in central Illinois or on the other side of the planet 20 time zones away, the College of Medicine and those who comprise it are improving peoples’ lives and way of living, even saving lives.

For many years, medical students, residents, faculty and physicians from UICOMP and other area health care organizations have partnered and traveled to Haiti thanks to the effort began by the Friends of the Children of Haiti. The grass roots effort put together a structure that allowed volunteer medical groups to travel there and provide vital medical care to the residents of Haiti.

Sandy Tun, MD, Class of 2013, was among a contingent who went to Haiti recently:

"The two week international medicine rotation was easily my favorite experience during my four years in medical school," recalls Tun, now enrolled in the Internal Medicine Residency Program at Stanford University. “I will never forget the Haitian individuals I met and the power and strength that they showed me in the face of incredible hardship.”

Tun said many people walked by foot for several miles and lined up, even staying in line overnight, in hopes of seeing a doctor.

"Their determination, fierce drive to survive, and gratitude amazes me," she continued. “And my experience in Haiti reminded me why I decided to pursue medicine as a career and re-energized my determination to incorporate international medicine into my future career in addition to my practice in the U.S.”
Khanh Nguyen, MD, Class of 2013, was on the same trip. “In one day, I evaluated everything from chronic health conditions such as diabetes and hypertension to parasitic helminth infections to an enormous abdominal tumor,” Nguyen said. “Many of the patients I saw were severely impoverished and the kids were often malnourished.”

Because resources were so limited, with minimal lab tests available and no imaging abilities, Nguyen said they relied heavily on the history, physical exam, and their own clinical judgment.

But without even that basic level of care, many of the patients – some who are dehydrated or have an infection – may not otherwise survive.

It’s that firsthand experience and strong sense of purpose that are the cornerstone of service learning at the College of Medicine.

The teaching and learning isn’t limited to the program in Haiti.

Students in recent years have traveled to Ethiopia, the Himalayans, Bolivia, Ecuador, Philippines, India, Nicaragua, Scotland, South Africa, El Salvador, India and Vietnam. They’ve gone for experience in pediatrics, surgery, family medicine, internal medicine, and diabetes and endocrinology. All international rotations programs for students must be approved by department chairs and have a sponsoring institution.

Physicians, too.

Dr. David Chan, a pediatric cardiologist, has been on 25-30 trips or more to Peru, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, and last year to China to name some. He has traveled as part of large groups of 130 or more care providers, or as solo.

“The reasons I think people go on trips like this vary, whether fun, or medical tourism, but the drive for me has always been the belief I’ve been blessed and it’s appropriate to share these skills and talents with people, who otherwise might not see the care they need,” says Chan. “I go to be a service, and whatever I have done, whatever I have learned, I have received back – it’s a very gratifying experience.”

The International Pediatric Specialists Alliance for the Children of Vietnam, or IPSAC-VN, was founded by Ai-Xuan Holterman, MD, Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at UICOMP.

The not-for-profit organization is made up of volunteer clinicians and support personnel with the mission to enhance the care of children in Vietnam. Through a partnership with the local professionals, their goal is to build the healthcare workforce and institutional capacity by providing educational and training exchanges, material, equipment, and academic support, and delivery of outreach surgery.

“We saw an opportunity to make a difference,” Holterman said. “We just put a team together – pediatric anesthesia, pediatric surgery, nurse volunteers,” she continued noting their first trip had some 30 volunteers. “I don’t think the hospital was expecting such a large team, but they welcomed us.”

The team of physicians, residents, students and nurses is now making twice-yearly visits to children’s hospitals in the north, central and south Vietnam.

“The idea is that we want to train medical leaders there who will stay and help the country – that’s a big dream of mine,” said Holterman.

It’s a win for everyone, she adds. “Our younger generations of U.S. medical professionals are very interested in global health issues; they are very sensitive to inequities and are therefore very welcoming of opportunities to do medical outreach work,” Holterman said. “IPSAC-VN provides an opportunity for them to learn, serve and give back; for U.S. medical institutions, global health programs help attract the best and brightest students; and ultimately, patients in developing countries who are in desperate need of medical care have a better chance to be helped.”

“We saw an opportunity to make a difference,”

Ai-Xuan Holterman, MD said about forming the International Pediatric Specialists Alliance for the Children of Vietnam.
Rural Student Physician Program: Not your average University-based learning experience

Story by David Haney, Director of Strategic Communications, UICOMP
To say the previous 48 hours were a whirlwind for Mindy Colgrove would be understated.

“I had surgery all day yesterday, followed by clinic, and then I met up with one of the family physicians who had two patients in labor – we delivered them back to back last night. After that, I looked up some information for an upcoming psychiatry presentation,” Colgrove, a third-year medical student at the time, said without pause. “This morning, I met with another family physician about one of her patients, induced her, then went to clinic and came back after lunch to deliver her baby.”

Still seemingly soaking in the past few hours, Colgrove may have showed a hint of physical fatigue but that was overshadowed by sheer excitement and interest for more.

“I was really surprised when they asked me if I wanted to break the water,” she recalled of the first baby she helped deliver. I felt more like a resident and really got a sense of what it would be like to do that in a practice on my own. It was amazing.”

The experience may not be everyday routine but neither is the Rural Student Physician Program.

For more than 15 years, third-year medical students at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria have had the unique option to enroll in the immersive clerkship program, spending seven months at one of about 20 sites across central and southern Illinois.

“This is one of those programs where I’ve never heard a student say they weren’t glad they were a part of,” says Jim Barnett, MD, a practicing family physician and Director of RSPP. “The goal of the program is to attract students to primary care and rural medicine, but whether a student’s goal is to go into rural or family medicine or not, students get hands-on experience in many areas, they see patients and get to see what it’s like to live and be a part of the community.”

The alternative curriculum integrates pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, internal medicine, general surgery and psychiatry within the context of family medicine. Students, along with attending physicians, see patients in hospitals, outpatient offices and nursing homes.

Many students liken the clerkship more to what resident physicians might experience.

Michael Lintner, MD, a 2010 UICOMP grad now in his fourth year as a resident in UICOMP’s Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program, was assigned to the southern Illinois town of Effingham, Ill. for RSPP. He said it enhanced his learning experience in medicine.

“This program provides you a level of independence and experience you won’t find in a University-based program or hospital,” Lintner said recently. “In a University-based program as a medical student on rounds, you’re surrounded by other medical students, residents, nursing students. But with RSPP, it was just me and the attending. And there was no lack of patients.”
Lintner said he was exposed to something different every day, throughout the day, in the hospital and in outpatient settings, from family medicine, pediatrics, surgery to psychiatry, and even the emergency department.

He said he appreciated the “continuity of care” – seeing the same patients from their initial visit through different procedures, which he said gave him a better understanding about providing care and a better understanding of what his patients were experiencing.

Sister Rosario Carrasco, MD, a 2013 UICOMP grad, went to Breese, Ill., a small town east of St. Louis for the RSPP.

“I could do as much or as little as I wanted,” she says of program, noting she helped with approximately 30 deliveries. “I think I came back with a lot more experience than a lot of my classmates. Preceptors are adaptive to what your needs are and can adjust to studies, including for shelf exams.”

But it’s not just students who benefit.

With 20 percent of Illinois’ population living in rural areas but served by only 10 percent of the state’s physicians, there is a need for more physicians in the country’s smaller towns.

Barnett notes the program is a recruiting opportunity for participating sites, saying students have a chance to get to know the people, the community, they’ve already lived and eaten there as well as interacting with medical staff.

About 70 percent of students who enroll in RSPP end up practicing primary care, says Barnett, adding about half end up practicing in rural areas. RSPP also helps increase the number of community faculty.

Patrick Renick, MD, practices in Canton and has been a preceptor for RSPP the last four years.

“I personally like it because it keeps me sharp,” says Renick. “When you have students, they are always asking questions and you have to be able to explain things; you learn, and sometimes students can teach you things. This also is a way to be able to give back a little.”

Thomas Golemon, MD, Professor and Chair of Family and Community Medicine at UICOMP, says the program provides students a fulfilling experience and follows the College of Medicine’s original mission: to provide downstate Illinois with future physicians.

“RSPP gives students a taste of what it’s like to be a part of the health care provider community,” he said. “They see patients, build trust, build rapport – it’s a great thing to watch. The bond is there, the joy of serving people is there, it’s an exciting process to see.”

For Mindy Colgrove, RSPP has provided her with confidence and future direction, especially after helping to deliver three babies within about 12 hours.

“I feel a lot more confident about my abilities, more capable – and I have a way of showing ‘I can do this, I’m good at this,’ and something that will set me apart from others during application season,” says Mindy. “I really like the idea of practicing in women’s health – right now I’m kind of between family medicine and OB-GYN … I just like to always be learning new things and do something different every day.”

Q&A

If you take part in the Rural Student Physician Program, do you have to go into family medicine or rural medicine? Absolutely not. While RSPP was created to help increase the number of students who ultimately choose careers in primary medicine and increase the number of physicians practicing in rural Illinois, there is no commitment.

How is the program oriented?
Third-year students spend the first five months in Peoria and the next seven months at one of about 20 designated sites.

Will I miss experience in a particular field of medicine by choosing this program?
Not at all. RSPP is designed to provide students with immersive exposure to several sub-specialties in medicine. Those areas not covered at the rural site are provided in Peoria during the first five months.

What additional requirements are there to successfully complete the program?
Students must design, carry out and present a research project based on data collected from their designated site.

What is unique about RSPP?
Students’ clinical experiences can be tailored to their interests; Students are fairly independent; Students can provide follow up on patients; And one-on-one mentoring with attending physicians to name a few.
In just two years since the Center for Outcomes Research was Created, COR has made huge strides.

COR is a co-investigator on a $2.4 million Community Transformation Grant funded by the Centers for Disease Control and has a service agreement in place with OSF HealthCare to characterize and understand why patients with congestive heart failure, acute MI and pneumonia may require hospital readmission after discharge.

Members of COR also have published 54 abstracts, 22 peer-reviewed articles, two business magazine articles, a book chapter on the use of real world data in evidence development, and have made numerous presentations at both national and international venues, including the recent 9th World Congress on Health Economics. Another more than 30 manuscripts and abstracts are under review for future publication.

“We’re determined to show that Peoria and the University of Illinois College of Medicine is valuable for providing micro-level views for health outcomes research, which will provide data and new models for improving health care that can be replicated to save resources and dollars,” says Dr. Carl Asche, Director of the Center for Outcomes Research and Research Professor of Medicine at UICOMP.

Asche, who recently accepted an invitation to be a board member of the Guidelines and Economists Network International (GENI), said the affiliation combined with the recent addition of the Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center could put Peoria at the forefront for developing protocols for economic evaluation in medical simulation research.

“We have already submitted an expert panel proposal on this topic to the upcoming simulation conference in San Francisco,” says Asche. Such guidelines are needed in order to provide a uniform approach for replicating research in medical simulation, similarly to what has taken place in the drug and medical device industries, he said.

GENI is a not for profit network that aims to drive international mechanisms to integrate Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs), clinical and cost effectiveness evidence into national decision making and clinical practice. Learn more about it at: http://geni-econ.org.

Additionally, COR is partnered with more than 20 different health care providers, state and national agencies and businesses. COR exists to conduct multidisciplinary, collaborative research in health systems, health service and health outcomes. Among the journals COR so far is published within include the British Medical Journal, Journal of Managed Care Pharmacy, Value in Health, Current Medical Opinion and Research and the Journal Pain Palliative Care Pharmacotherapy.

“We feel this is a good start to celebrating our first two years as an operation,” said Asche.
Editor’s Note: Take note of the new face in this space. Dolores Metzger was named Director of Development at UICOMP in March. But as many of you may know, she’s not entirely new to our campus, and you might have seen her around at some of our events. Dolores comes to us from the College of Medicine’s Chicago campus. There, she worked in development across all the departments in medicine. She resides in Champaign and has strong ties to the Urbana-Champaign campus. Please join us in welcoming her to Peoria, if you haven’t already.

Medicine provides opportunity

If you are sick, medicine may provide the opportunity for you to get better. That may be in the form of a pill, a procedure, even a conversation. Medicine provides the opportunity for cures that do not exist today, and that our children will live long, productive lives. It also provides the opportunity and path to help our fellow mankind.

The College of Medicine takes pride in identifying and educating those rare and committed individuals who dedicate their lives to protecting and caring for others. Continued strains on financial resources – UICOMP now receives less than 15 percent of our operating funds from the State of Illinois – creates more challenges to attract top students and faculty, to provide support for continuing and new research endeavors and enrich the college’s innovative, educational programs.

The College of Medicine relies on donors to provide support.

We are teaching a new generation of medical professionals to become problem solvers and lifelong learners, ready to protect the health of people and to meet the current and coming challenges in health and medical advances.

Our College of Medicine has touched the lives of millions. We are able to have this type of impact because of individuals with vision and foresight to invest in the future of medicine. However, we still have a long way to go in addressing the changing needs of health care and public health.

Financial contributions from friends, alumni, industry, foundations and other organizations make the College grow to touch the lives of many. Your support makes a difference in health care and research in Illinois, throughout the region and around the country. You, the donor, ensure that the University Of Illinois College Of Medicine at Peoria reaches its fullest potential in serving the needs of the state, our community and our patients.

It is inevitable that every human being will seek medical assistance. We must protect the importance of a strong educational system.

Please consider a gift to support medicine and to provide opportunity. We are committed to being good stewards of your contributions. We appreciate your consideration, and we hope that you become a member of the College of Medicine family and join our very important mission of education.

Dolores Metzger
Director of Development
University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria
Maintaining a detailed attendance for 16 residents in the Department of Radiology during grand rounds, lectures and other educational activities seems fairly simple.

But a mix of varied schedules, running in and out to tend to patients, and a host of other inconsistencies turned the simple into a potential problem for what traditionally had been tracked with pen and paper.

Being in radiology, it was only natural they looked to technology for the solution.

"In the spirit of education and partnership, we got in touch with the computer science department at Bradley," says Ravi Ramakrishna, now in his senior year of UICOMP’s Radiology Residency program at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center.

Bradley put Ravi and the Department of Radiology in touch with Channel Holloway, who at the time was a senior majoring in computer information systems.

"I had some knowledge of RFID (radio frequency identification) which is often used for tracking inventory – the same kind of technology your IPASS uses when you go through a toll on the highway – basically, a way to log movement or activity," said Ramakrishna.

So that’s where they started.

After a bit of research and spending less than $50, the duo had purchased several wireless RFID chips and a reader.

Holloway programmed the RFID tag scanner and connected it to the database system she had created, later migrating the entire system to a web based platform allowing easy updates to the data from any internet connected PC. The system also allows for the creation of reports quickly outlining resident conference attendance and tracking educational activities.

How it works: Residents attached the RFID chips, looking much like a magnet about the size of a dime, to their ID badges. With the special RFID reader that plugged into a computer, residents needed only show up and wave their ID’s past the reader. A display on the computer would acknowledge their presence. No more pen and paper.

"The system saves them time and resources," says Holloway, who graduated from Bradley and now is an IT Analyst working at Caterpillar, Inc.

Ramakrishna said other residencies could adopt similar technology for very little cost. The RFID tags cost between 25 cents and $1 each.

Still, Ramakrishna, who will be staying on next year to take part in the breast imaging fellowship, said they already are looking at future improvements. Among them include creating a mobile platform or an app that uses GPS from a mobile phone to electronically check-in.

"This was a great example of clinical and non-clinical collaboration – we identified a problem, and together we were able to solve it," said Ramakrishna.
More than 300 people celebrated the official opening of the new Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center on April 25.

“The Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center will redefine clinical training, research and education,” said Kevin Schoeplein, CEO of OSF Healthcare System. “It will improve the safety and quality of health care that we provide for our patients. It is seldom that we can say about an event that we were present for the first step of a revolution in health care and medicine, but that is exactly what we are witnessing here today.”

The ribbon cutting for the world-class facility followed a Blessing and Dedication ceremony conducted by the Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C., Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.

Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center, or Jump, is a collaborative effort by UICOMP and OSF HealthCare. Jump is a virtual hospital, combining actual medical equipment and the latest simulation technology for better education, performance training and research with the goal of ultimately improving patient health outcomes and lowering health care costs. Construction started on the facility in September of 2011.

“Over the past year,” said Dr. John Vozenilek, Jump’s Chief Medical Officer. “We have been fortunate to have the support of many partners and benefactors, including Bill & Dr. Mary DiSomma and the DiSomma Family Foundation.”

The project was made possible, in part, thanks to a generous $25 million donation by Bill & Dr. Mary DiSomma and the DiSomma Family Foundation, and named after Jump Trading, a Chicago-based trading firm, in which Bill DiSomma is a managing partner.

“Built on the OSF Saint Francis Medical Center campus in downtown Peoria, the $51 million project was made possible, in part, thanks to a generous $25 million donation by Bill & Dr. Mary DiSomma and the DiSomma Family Foundation, and named after Jump Trading, a Chicago-based trading firm, in which Bill DiSomma is a managing partner.”

“Another unique aspect of Jump is medical innovation, pairing of clinicians and engineers, including those at the University of Illinois.”

“‘These are the kinds of tools that will break open new fields of inquiry not imagined even a few years ago’ said University of Illinois President Dr. Robert Easter. ‘Our academic programs prepare students to lead the workforce of the 21st century, and our research has produced discovery that is ingrained in our daily lives from MRI technology and robotic surgery to plasma screens and the first graphical Internet browser.’”
Resident ROUNDS

A ‘Heritage of Family Medicine’

Like many from the northern Peoria County town of Chillicothe, Timothy Williams grew up under the care of Dr. Fred Z. White, when a doctor was needed. “Everybody in town went to him,” recalls Williams, 35, who later during high school job-shadowed Dr. Ted Rogers – White’s replacement upon his retirement – in the clinic. Williams says White, who was a founding father of the Peoria School of Medicine and among those who helped start the Family Medicine Residency (now UICOMP), provided inspiration and motivation for Williams to enter medicine, specifically family medicine.

“Everybody has their stories about how Doc White helped them through some significant life event. He was always there for the community, going the extra mile. He could do it all from obstetrics to pediatrics through to geriatrics, emergent or chronic problems – and that’s what being a doctor sort of always meant to me – that’s what family medicine is all about,” Williams said recently during a brief break while on an OB-GYN rotation.

Williams first became a Physician Assistant and practiced around central Illinois. He also saw patients while serving as a medical officer in the U.S. Army Reserve and on active duty during Operation Enduring Freedom. But the job as a PA didn’t provide the autonomy he was looking for, he added. So he enrolled in medical school.

The decision wasn’t easy to go back to the classroom, but afterward said it was pretty obvious where he wanted to go – back where it all started.

“I knew I wanted to come back; I was familiar with the heritage of family medicine here,” Williams says of the Peoria area. “The program has that perfect balance of support and autonomy; they tailor the program around your interests and the faculty and staff have been just outstanding.

“Family medicine – it’s about seeing and doing anything and everything – it’s about being a well-rounded physician, who is there for patients providing continuity of care,” he continued. “I’m right where I want to be,” says Williams.

Candidate suggestions for a future Resident Rounds can be directed to dhaney@uicomp.uic.edu.
Dr. Perry

Dr. Bruce Perry, world-renowned child psychiatrist and the author of one of the foremost books on extreme child abuse, was the keynote speaker at this year’s Robert D. Hart, MD Lectureship.

Dr. Perry, who has consulted on many high-profile national and international incidents, including Columbine, the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks and the tsunami in Tohoku, Japan in 2011, presented “The Impact of Trauma and Neglect on the Developing Child” at a special community forum to more than 300 people, in addition to lecturing at grand rounds.

Perry was invited by Lisa Schwab, Executive Director of the Pediatric Resource Center, to speak in Peoria. The event was sponsored by the Robert D. Hart, M.D. Endowed Lectureship in Pediatric and Adult Rehabilitation, which was established in 2002 to honor the late Dr. Hart for his distinguished medical career.

Dr. Chen

Cutting-edge research aimed at treating and preventing birth defects from fetal alcohol exposure just got another boost at UICOMP.

The College of Medicine was awarded a five-year, $1.7 million grant this month from the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to discover the causes of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and how to prevent it.

The research is led by Dr. Shao-yu Chen, an Associate Professor in the Department of Cancer Biology and Pharmacology. This is the second of two, separate $1.7 million NIH grants awarded to UICOMP in the past two years to study FASD.

Chen and his research group spent the past two years looking at microRNA — a small molecule which functions in the regulation of gene expression — and was able to prevent ethanol-induced cell death in embryos through “microinjections” of a substance that mimics microRNA. The new project funded by this grant will allow Dr. Chen and his colleagues to establish microRNA as a feasible target for the prevention of ethanol-induced cell death and FASD.

It is estimated that 40,000 babies per year are born in this country with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, an umbrella term that includes full-blown Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

Dr. Marshall

Dr. William H. Marshall, MD, FACS was named the 2013 Warren H. Cole Distinguished Alumni Award Honoree on Friday, June 7, 2013, during the 6th Annual Olga Jonasson Symposium held at the University Club in Chicago.

Dr. Marshall graduated from the University Of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago in 1953 and took a rotating internship at the University Hospitals finishing in 1954. He left UIC to serve as a medical officer in the United States Navy returning to the U of I Hospitals in 1957. In 1961 he completed his general surgery residency under Dr. Warren H. Cole.

In 1964, Dr. Marshall joined the Peoria Surgical Group in the practice of general surgery where he spent the remainder of his professional career.

He has been a member and served as President of the Peoria County Medical Society, Illinois Chapter of the ACS, Illinois Surgical Society and Mid-West Surgical Association. In 1996, he accepted a position as Corporate Director of Medical Services for OSF Health Care System and Director of Medicare Programs for OSF Health Plans. He retired from these positions in 2008. He retains an appointment as Clinical Professor of Surgery at UICOMP and actively follows with interest the current developments in Surgery.

Dr. Tudor

Gregory J. Tudor, MD, FACEP was named Clerkship Director of the Year by the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine this year.

A Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery in Emergency Medicine and Clerkship Director of Medical Student Education in the Department of Emergency Medicine at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center for the past 16 years, Dr. Tudor received the prestigious award in May.

Within the past year, Dr. Tudor received approval for, and implemented, a required two-week Emergency Medicine rotation for UICOMP third-year medical students — the first and only such rotation at any of the campuses at the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

A 1995 graduate of the UICOMP Emergency Medicine Residency Program at OSF SFMC, Tudor also was recently awarded the Golden Apple Award by UICOMP fourth-year medical students.
Library Of The Health Sciences Names Featured Authors

Peoria’s Library of the Health Sciences recognizes the following Featured Authors:


upcoming UICOMP events

September 26-27
Sixth Annual Breast Cancer Symposium
Peoria Civic Center
www.go.illinois.edu/breastcancersymposium

September 28
Mark Linder Walk for the Mind
One mile walk to raise money for UICOMP brain cancer research
www.marklinderwalkforthemind.org
309.925.3919

October 23
Dr. Robert A. Flinn Lectureship
Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center
309-655-4242

November 2
Harvesting Hope Fundraiser for the Pediatric Resource Center
Country Club of Peoria

November 13
Celebration of Excellence
UICOMP Lobby

Faculty News The following is a summary of recent faculty additions and promotions:

George Johnson, MD has accepted the position of Visiting Professor of Clinical Pediatrics in the Department of Pediatrics.

Venkata Dasari, PhD has the new title of Research Assistant Professor.

Venkataaeswara Gogineni, PhD has the new title of Research Assistant Professor.

Mahwesh Javed, MD has the new title of Clinical Assistant Professor.

Kim Kupfer, MD, MPH has accepted the position of Director of Ambulatory Education, OSF in the Department of Graduate Medical Education. She also has a joint appointment as Visiting Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine.

Manajyoti Yadav, MD has the new title of Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine.
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
CARING FOR THE STATE

Without the College of Medicine, physicians in the state of Illinois would be considerably fewer and farther between. The University of Illinois College of Medicine and its four campuses train and retain physicians across the state who serve nearly 90 percent of the counties in Illinois. Our mission is to produce new knowledge in the medical sciences, develop best practices in health care delivery and educate the next generation of physicians and biomedical scientists committed to serving the needs of Illinois and the nation.

1 of 6 physicians in Illinois have received their MD or resident training from the College of Medicine

12,411 total alumni in Illinois

Nearly 70% of minority physicians in Chicago received College of Medicine training

60% of Illinois’ minority physicians are trained at the College of Medicine

47th in NIH funding among 128 medical schools

3rd among all U.S. medical schools graduating primary care physicians