

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

FAMILY MEDICINE INTEREST GROUP

2008 PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE APPLICATION

STUDENT CONTACT:
Preston McDonnell, M3
FMIG Vice President
608 Summer Place
Flowood, MS 39232
601-613-1251
pbmcdonnell@som.umsmed.edu

FACULTY ADVISOR
Vanathi Siddaiah, MD
University of Mississippi School of Medicine
Department of Family Medicine
2500 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39212
601-984-5447 (office)
601-984-5411 (fax)
VSIDDAIAH@SOM.UMSMED.EDU

INFRASTRUCTURE

Founded at the University Of Mississippi School Of Medicine in 1975, the goals and mission of the Family Medicine Interest Group set forth originally in its constitution and bylaws have changed little over the years. Since its induction, the group has sought to promote interest, awareness, and understanding of the practice of Family Medicine through service, fellowship, scholarship and fun. To help achieve the goals of the organization, the executive committee is comprised of seventeen positions filled by eighteen qualified individuals, who are dedicated to the promotion of an interest in Family Medicine among our students. Below is a list of the current officers and a brief description of each position.

2007-2008 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Amber McIlwain

VICE PRESIDENT: Preston McDonnell

SECRETARY: Rebecca Rose

TREASURER: Martha Dempsey

PAST PRESIDENT: Tara Rosenberg

COMMUNITY SERVICE COORDINATOR: Dionne Jackson

SOCIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR: Amber Johnson

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COORDINATOR: Sonya Clemmons

CLINICAL SKILLS CO-COORDINATORS: Laura Jackson and Samuel Holdiness

2007 RESIDENCY FAIR COORDINATOR: Angela Sood

2008 RESIDENCY FAIR COORDINATOR: Laura Jackson

M4 CLASS REPRESENTATIVE: Jennifer Lowery

M3 CLASS REPRESENTATIVE: Nathan McIntosh

M2 CLASS REPRESENTATIVE: Adrian Austin

M1 CLASS REPRESENTATIVE: Samuel Holdiness

RESIDENT ADVISOR: David Norris

FACULTY ADVISORS: Dr. Robert Forbes, Dr. Thais Tonore, and Dr. Vanathi Siddaiah

STAFF/FACULTY LIAISON: Chastity Carney

PRESIDENT

The president is the leader and a representative for FMIG. In addition to organizing and chairing all meetings (general meetings and officers' meetings), he or she acts as a liaison between the group and other entities. The FMIG president also sits on the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians and serves as the Chapter Delegate to the National Conference of Family Practice Residents and Medical Students each year. The president is usually a third year medical student who serves as past president and acts in an advisory role during the next academic year.

VICE PRESIDENT

The vice president assists the president and is responsible for leading FMIG and chairing all meetings during the president's absence. He or she also serves as the Student Membership Liaison for the American Academy of Family Physicians. As such, the vice president is responsible for the annual M-1 Welcome Luncheon, our primary recruiting activity, and oversees all membership activities, including recruitment and submitting new applications to both the American and Mississippi Academies. The vice-president also reserves meeting rooms for the monthly general meetings and the monthly officers' meetings. Finally, it is the responsibility of the vice president to submit the Program of Excellence Awards Application toward the end of the academic year for which he/she serves.

SECRETARY

The FMIG secretary is responsible for keeping updated records for the organization. He or she maintains a directory of the officers' contact information and sends reminders for all monthly and officers' meetings. The secretary also records attendance and minutes from all meetings and distributes them to officers and faculty/staff advisors.

TREASURER

The treasurer is responsible for all financial activities of FMIG. This officer maintains and provides records of FMIG accounts, provides financial statements to the officers, and assists in receiving and depositing checks.

PAST PRESIDENT

As an advisor to the new executive committee, the past president helps ensure a smooth transition among officers from one academic year to the next. He or she is an invaluable source of wisdom and ideas to help improve the organization from one year to the next.

COMMUNITY SERVICE COORDINATOR

The community service coordinator is responsible for organizing creative, productive, and fun community service activities for FMIG members. Unifying FMIG members in service, this year's projects have included activities such as collecting money for community outreach, Thanksgiving dinner for the Ronald McDonald house, Christmas

caroling, clothes and toiletry drive for the state hospital, valentine's day project at the children's hospital, and workdays at the local free clinic.

SOCIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

The social events coordinator organizes the general lunch meetings as well as the annual FMIG Banquet, an event that brings together community leaders in Family Medicine and medical students to discuss current issues in the field. For both the monthly meetings and the banquet, the coordinator assists with securing speakers and sponsors, finding a location, catering, door prizes, setup and decorating.

CLINICAL SKILLS COORDINATOR

The clinical skills coordinator is a second year medical student who organizes clinical skills workshops for both the first and second year classes. Workshops are held each semester and usually led by Family Medicine faculty and residents. This year's topic included suturing skills.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COORDINATOR

The public affairs coordinator is responsible for documenting important FMIG events via photography. He or she submits articles and photographs to *This Week at UMC*, the weekly campus newspaper, and is responsible for maintaining an updated website for the organization.

RESIDENCY FAIR COORDINATOR

The residency fair coordinator performs the monumental task of organizing and coordinating our annual Family Medicine Residency Fair, the primary fundraiser of our FMIG. This officer, usually a first year student, is elected in the fall and works with the coordinator from the previous year during the initial planning of the fair. Planning for the fair begins in the spring when invitations are sent to regional residency programs and hospital recruiters. Then in the late summer and early fall, the coordinator arranges catering, exhibit layouts, program printing, and advertising for the event in addition to registering exhibitors and coordinating the setup of exhibits. During the fair, the coordinator ensures that the event runs smoothly and makes contacts for the next year's fair. For the 2008 fair, a committee comprising interested FMIG members will assist the coordinator with planning and implementing the day's events.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

The class representatives from each of the medical school classes serve as liaisons between the FMIG and each class. Elected by the executive committee, they are responsible for communicating FMIG news to their class members in addition to announcing meetings, posting flyers, and e-mailing the classes about FMIG events. Class representatives also assist with recruitment activities of the organization.

FACULTY ADVISOR

The faculty advisor is available to students for advice regarding the planning of FMIG events. He/She also works diligently to encourage students in FMIG to consider a career

in Family Medicine. The advisor is a liaison between FMIG and other faculty members in the UMMC Department of Family Medicine.

STAFF LIAISON

The staff liaison ensures the smooth operation of the organization by serving as a link between students, the FMIG officers, and Family Medicine faculty, residents, and staff. She serves as a valuable source of information about various technical and historical details of the organization.

ELECTIONS

In April of each school year, the majority of the FMIG offices are filled via nominations at the monthly meeting and via e-mail to the secretary. Candidates are invited to attend the April officers' meeting at which they are questioned and allowed to ask questions of the current officers. The executive committee elects new officers via secret ballot after discussion.

In May, new officers are announced to the medical students via e-mail, and they officially assume duties. As a part of the transition process, these newly elected officers as well as outgoing officers meet to share pearls of wisdom about each position. During this time, a tentative calendar of events is planned for the next academic year. The M1 representative and residency fair coordinator are elected through a similar process during the fall of the next academic year once the incoming class of first year students arrives.

MEETINGS

FMIG meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month. Advertising for the meeting is done by the chapter secretary who sends out e-mails, prints flyers, and posts them around campus. The secretary is assisted by the class representatives who make announcements to their respective classes and help post flyers. These meetings provide the opportunity for students to learn about current issues in Family Medicine and to network with local physicians, Family Medicine faculty & residents, and other students interested in the field. Monthly meetings also serve as a forum to inform students about the ongoing activities of the organization.

Monthly meetings are usually sponsored by community hospitals, local family physicians, and others who are interested in encouraging students to pursue a career in Family Medicine. By providing lunch for FMIG meetings, these kind donations make it possible for the FMIG to use money generated by fundraising efforts to send students to various conferences and to support philanthropic efforts. Students are also allowed to interact with representatives from the various sponsors, thus exposing them to opportunities in Family Medicine that are different from those found in an academic institution.

On the last Wednesday of each month, FMIG officers meet to conduct the business of the chapter. Topics of discussion for the meetings often include potential speakers and

sponsors for monthly lunch meetings, service project ideas, clinical skills workshops, and planning for the annual recruitment fair and banquet.

MAFP PARTNERSHIP

Additional support for our meetings also comes from the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians. In addition to being one of our lunch meetings sponsors, the Academy also sponsors a booth at the annual residency fair. A huge asset to our recruiting efforts, the MAFP pays the AAFP membership dues for each student who also joins FMIG. MAFP also partners with FMIG by allowing our president to attend board meetings, therefore allowing the exchange of information between students and physicians about local and national issues in Family Medicine.

Officers also participate in the annual MAFP meeting in Destin, Florida. At the 2007 meeting, FMIG representatives assisted with the registration process and setup for the recruitment fair. They also helped staff the family fun night activities and had the opportunity to enjoy some fun in the sun. This unique experience allowed our officers to network with many local family doctors, thereby building professional relationships that will help foster increased support of FMIG from physicians across the state.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT/STUDENT RETENTION

The student and staff leadership of FMIG are passionate about stimulating as well as maintaining a continued interest in Family Medicine among students. Through the monthly lunch meetings, students are afforded the opportunity to hear from dynamic speakers about topics that illustrate both the breadth and depth of Family Medicine. Additionally, these meetings allow students to interact with community and staff physicians, UMMC Department of Family Medicine residents, and other students who share an interest in this field of medicine. During these meetings, students also sign up to participate in the community service activities of the organization. The following is a brief description of this year's monthly meetings:

AUGUST 11, 2007

The major recruiting effort of FMIG occurs during this first luncheon meeting of the year. Representatives from our Family Medicine faculty as well as the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians introduce first year medical students to Family Medicine as a career and invite students to become members of the AAFP. As a result, over 100 members of the first year medical student class became members of FMIG and the AAFP. Lunch for this meeting was sponsored by UMMC Department of Family Medicine.

OCTOBER 3, 2007

Dr. Beisel, a family practice physician originally from Germany who now practices in Columbia, Mississippi, spoke to a group of approximately 75 students. He discussed

coming from another country, attending school in Mississippi, and what he does as a family practitioner in Columbia. He also discussed what he does as the physician for area sports teams and how he sees a lot of sports medicine as a family practitioner.

NOVEMBER 7, 2007

At this meeting, Dr. Griffith, a physician with Hattiesburg Clinic spoke to a large group of over 80 students. Dr. Griffith focused his talk on wanting to help people and how he works with a lot of elderly in his clinic. He discussed how he relates to them, etc. Lunch was sponsored by the Hattiesburg clinic. Dr. Griffith later that same day had individual lectures with the M1/M2 classes about his issues with addiction. His talk on addiction was about medical-student well being and how he got addicted while in medical school/residency and sought help, how he's stayed clean, and how we could get help/support as students/residents. We felt this to be a key issue that students have little counseling on while in medical school.

JANUARY 10, 2008

The Annual FMIG Dinner Banquet is held during this month in lieu of the regular lunch meeting. Attended by 100 students, this event allowed FMIG members, Family Medicine faculty and residents to come together to celebrate the accomplishments of the organization throughout the year.

Our guest speaker this year was Dr. Ed Hill, a family physician in North Mississippi. Dr. Hill began his professional career in the rural Mississippi Delta where he practiced for 27 years. In addition to his full-service family practice, Dr. Hill developed and directed a local maternal child health program that resulted in lowering fetal mortality rate from one of the highest in the United States to below national average, where it has remained. Due to his wealth of medical practice experience and recognition as a role model for young doctors, Dr. Hill was asked in January of 1995 to become the director of the Family Practice Residency Program at North Mississippi Medical Center, which is the nation's largest rural hospital. Having stepped down from the directorship in July 2001, he remains on the faculty full time and has an active practice. In addition to his practice and teaching responsibilities, he serves as Chair of Council of World Medical Association, the prevention consultant for a major health insurance carrier and a board member of one of the largest rural primary care delivery systems in the nation. He is also an active participant and leader in community activities. Dr. Hill based his talk on two books each of which have opposing views of our health care system today and some of the possible solutions to the problems faced today with healthcare.

Planned by the social events coordinator with assistance from other FMIG members, the banquet was held at the Capital Club of Jackson. The coordinator contacted a speaker, arranged the catering and was in charge of the decorating.

Various businesses in the area were solicited via phone calls, e-mails, letters, and personal visits to sponsor the event with monetary donations and door prizes. Platinum sponsors donated \$1000 each and set up a display table at the banquet. They were Capital Club of Jackson, who generously waived the \$1800 location fee, MAFP

Foundation, North Mississippi Medical Center, and Rush Health Systems. Gold level members included the Office of Alumni Affairs who donated \$250. Silver sponsors donated door prizes. They were Abners, Buffalo Wild Wings, Hal and Mal's, Mellow Mushroom, Southern Heritage, On The Border, Julep, and Pizza Shack.

FEBRUARY 6, 2008

At this meeting, Mrs. Stephanie Barnes-Taylor spoke to more than 60 students about malpractice and other medical and legal issues in family medicine. The sponsor for this meeting was Singing River Hospital in Oceans Springs, MS.

MARCH 7, 2007

Approximately 70 of the first and second year medical students listened to Dr. Thais Tonore, Assistant Professor and Director of Student Programs in Family Medicine; speak about the third year Family Medicine rotation and preceptorship. Dr. Tonore also informed first year students about the opportunity to work with a summer preceptor and begin learning clinical skills early through a three-day clinical skills workshop. Dr. Tonore also gave the students some zebra stories and gave them some ideas of over the counter medicine they could tell their family's to take. Dr. Beebe, Chairperson of the Family Medicine Department, was also there to share some of here stories as a physician. Family Medicine Department provided lunch for the students.

MARCH 19, 2008

To congratulate the graduating medical school class of 2008, FMIG personalized Hershey's™ chocolate bars with wrappers containing the UMMC Family Medicine logo and the inscription "Congratulations Class of 2008 from the Family Medicine Interest Group." Over 100 chocolate bars were displayed and distributed at the reception following the Match Day Ceremony.

April 2, 2008

At this meeting we were honored to have Dr. Hill, past president of AMA, speak to us again. His talk hit the high points of the problems facing health care today and some of the possible solutions. The North Mississippi Medical Center sponsored a lunch for the students.

RECRUITMENT

The primary recruiting efforts of FMIG are aimed at encouraging first year medical students to become members of the organization. During orientation week for first year students, the interest group, in partnership with the departmental faculty, introduce students to opportunities available in Family Medicine. As a result, approximately 85% of each incoming class consistently joins FMIG and AAFP.

RETENTION

To keep all members involved in FMIG, the executive committee endeavors to pick different topics each year for monthly lunch meetings that will maintain student interest. The officers also select meaningful and enjoyable service projects. Additionally, student involvement is encouraged during all four years of medical school by encouraging students to hold an FMIG office. The leadership of FMIG is composed of members of all medical school classes. This allows the organization to stay connected to each class and to keep students informed.

FMIG also encourages student leaders to stay involved in the organization nationally by sponsoring several students to attend the AAFP national conference. By attending workshops and the recruitment fair as well as networking with other students and family physicians, our student leaders are able to develop innovative ideas for improving our local FMIG program. Last year we were able to send 2 representatives and with continued success in our fundraising efforts, we hope continue to send students to the conference each year.

FAMILY MEDICINE ADVOCACY

The Family Medicine Interest Group seeks to foster an interest in the specialty through numerous activities. The monthly lunch meetings frequently feature family physicians from around the state that discuss a variety of topics ranging from patient care to practice in urban and rural settings. The UMMC Family Medicine residents' panel is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about the basics of Family Medicine. This is especially beneficial for the first and second year medical students who learned about the breadth of practice of Family Medicine, residents' lifestyles, community physicians' lifestyles, fellowship opportunities, and how choose a specialty.

Community physicians also partner with FMIG by serving as preceptors for preclinical students. This year during the March lunch meeting as is customary, a member of the Family Medicine faculty, Dr. Tonore, informed students about the opportunity to work with a community physician during the summer after the first year of medical school. Students work with the preceptor for approximately 2-6 weeks, during which they begin to learn clinical skills that will be invaluable once they begin clinical rotations. FMIG members also participate in the Department of Family Medicine's day camp, an abbreviated 3-day summer program that allows students to learn clinical skills including the general physical exam, the musculoskeletal exam, venipuncture and basic medical tool usage.

Further opportunity to interact with the Family Medicine residents and faculty occurs through members' volunteer efforts at several local middle schools. Using their clinical knowledge to benefit the community, FMIG members work beside residents and faculty physicians to perform free pre-sports physicals. In addition to honing their clinical skills, FMIG members are afforded the opportunity to provide a much-needed service and perhaps spark an interest in the minds of these young students to someday pursue a career in Family Medicine.



Dr. Tonore instructs on the proper techniques of suturing.

To aid in the development of clinical skills among the FMIG members, workshops are held during the year for first and second year medical students. These activities are designed to help students make a smooth transition from the classroom to the wards by teaching basic clinical skills. In the spring students received hands-on training in basic suturing. Cosponsored by the Family Medicine Interest Group and the Emergency Medicine Interest Group, this event was attended by approximately thirty students. Dr. Gary Holdiness, a family medicine physician and preceptor from Kosciusko, and Dr. Thais Tonore, FMIG faculty advisor, presented a lecture on basic suturing techniques. Following the lecture, students practiced newly acquired skills with the assistance of Dr. Holdiness, Dr. Tonore, one Emergency Medicine resident, and the president of the Emergency Medicine Interest Group. The physicians instructed students on various suturing techniques as well as various situations that they may face in undergraduate rotations, residency, or in practice.

The annual Residency Opportunity Fair serves not only as an important effort to advocate Family Medicine, but also serves as the primary fundraiser for the organization. Exhibitors from residency programs all over the southeast are given the opportunity to recruit qualified students, while students and residents gain the chance to explore the many options offered by a career in Family Medicine. Profit generated by the event is used to fund community service projects organized by FMIG and to sponsor meals at various events throughout the year. This money is also used to defray the cost of FMIG members' travel and other expenses to attend the AAFP students and residents meeting in Kansas City each year.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PATIENT ADVOCACY

Service to the community was once again a primary focus for the UMMC chapter of FMIG. This year we challenged ourselves to at least one major service project per

month. In addition to the scheduled projects, food left over from each meeting was distributed to the residents of the Ronald McDonald House located on campus.

We began the school year with a bang in August with our annual luncheon for the first year medical students. Each year this outreach meeting presents an opportunity for students to fellowship with family physicians and gain valuable information about family medicine.

During the annual residency fair in September, we held a \$100 raffle to benefit Stewpot Ministries. This faith based community organization provides meals for some of Jackson's indigent population. We collected just over \$100.

The project for October was our annual service day at the Jackson Free Clinic. The JFC was originally established by FMIG as a Saturday clinic affording free health care to the underserved in Jackson. The clinic is staffed by students and various primary care physicians. On FMIG service day, students interested in family medicine volunteer with members of the UMMC family medicine faculty. This project has been so successful in the past that we planned a second service day for our final project scheduled for April 26, 2008.

We choose to serve residents at the Ronald McDonald House during the holiday season. It was important to the group members that we provide extra love and attention to these families during this period. In celebration of Thanksgiving, FMIG members prepared and served a lasagna dinner complete with dessert. We expanded the annual Christmas caroling event into a gathering for the residents with gifts and treats.

January was extremely busy as members worked to gather donations and door prizes for the annual FMIG Dinner Banquet, which was once again a major success.

Valentine's Day was dedicated to the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital. Members signed Valentine cards during the February lunch meeting. On Valentine's Day, several members distributed the cards to children on all floors of the hospital.

Several projects were scheduled for the month of March. One new project was the Spring Cleaning Clothes and Toiletry Drive to benefit residents of the MS State Hospital. The MS State Hospital is a 350-acre campus dedicated to psychiatric, chemical dependency, and nursing home services. During the March lunch meeting students were encouraged to use Spring Break as an opportunity to clean out their closets and serve their community. In addition, FMIG provided good luck notes and candy bars to all senior medical students during the Match Day ceremony. Many members worked hard to package these gifts of congratulations for the UMMC senior class.

FUTURE GOALS

The members of the Family Medicine Interest Group are constantly striving to make the organization better and to find new and creative ways to accomplish its goals. In the

upcoming year, it is our goal to continue to send students to the AAFP national conference and to also send more students the MAFP annual meeting. By becoming more involved with our state Academy, students will be able to interact with local doctors who are on the frontline battling Mississippi's health care problems, thereby encouraging more students to pursue a career in Family Medicine within Mississippi.

Though FMIG was involved in a considerable amount of service this year, we would like to branch out and do even more. By continuing to seek outside sponsorship for our lunch meetings and banquet, this will allow us to use FMIG funds for community service projects, such as health fairs, food & toy drives, and community cleanup projects.

Finally, FMIG hopes encourage more partnerships with other student organizations on campus to sponsor projects such as the suturing clinical skills workshop cosponsored by EMIG and FMIG. By utilizing the resources of more than one group, we can come together not only to educate our students but also to create a more unified medical school community.

MOST VALUABLE PROGRAM—SPOTLIGHT ON FAMILY MEDICINE ADVOCACY

FMIG Officers at the Residency Fair



The year of 2007 on September 12th saw the exceptional success of the Sixth Annual Family Medicine Interest Group Residency Fair/Physician Opportunity Fair held in the Norman C. Nelson Student Union at the University of MS Medical Center in Jackson, MS. The residency fair provides an excellent opportunity for residency programs to recruit qualified students while affording students and physicians the chance to explore the many options Family Medicine has to offer. Thirty-nine programs attended this past year's fair which was a significant increase compared to the one in 2006, also a tremendous achievement. The financial reward acquired from this event totaled approximately \$7800 for this year

alone. This resourceful fair is a wonderful opportunity for anyone and reaps great benefits for the family medicine interest group.

The Residency Fair offers bountiful moments of fun both in attendance and in planning, which entails a considerable amount of time. The initial organization of the fair involves the distribution of a descriptive letter to potential residency programs that are willing to attend. The majority of the planning is allocated in the actual acquisition of an adequate number of family medicine residency programs that express their sheer interest in participating in this event. After an initial letter, phone calls are made to invite the participation of other programs that may convey a desire to attend. A sizeable number of programs expose both the students and physicians to a wide variety of places that may be potential future jobs and training centers.

In actual preparation for the event, various components must come together to produce such a successful fair. This past year, catering provided an excellent and scrumptious assortment of dips, meat, rice, desserts, drinks, and other such delights throughout the time of the fair. Four conference rooms in the Student Union fell short that day when new programs called, on the spur of the moment, to be a part of this wonderful incident; organizers experienced a surgency of madness as they scrambled for more tables and tablecloths in university colors to prepare for the overwhelming number of programs. To make this affair profitable both for the family medicine interest group and for the student and physician tourists, a number of donations were procured from local restaurants, health gyms, spas, stores, and other such locations, excluding the incredible prizes that the residency programs had to contribute; the donations were employed as door prizes and served as the fair's way to thank the attendees. The top prize, contributed by FMIG, was a functionally impressive PDA won by a deserving fourth year medical student.

For the residency programs, lodging was available at a reduced price at the local Cabot Lodge. The Student Union itself was made accessible by providing for ample parking that was close to the center; an elevator easily transported recruiters to the second

floor with their belongings. The bright day and wonderful weather complimented the amazing success of the residency fair captured on camera fill by the university photographer and FMIG officers. The conference rooms teemed with students and physicians hungrily devouring each and every residency program's delicious facts and details while stuffing their overflowing bags with goodies of various sorts gifted by the programs. The grand cluster of attendees present can be attributed to the great advertisements and announcements crowding the message boards and email inboxes of the medical student body. The night closed with sighs of pleasant satisfaction from the organizers, programs, students, and resident physicians. The programs left behind evaluation surveys conveying compliments of gratitude and excellence in the name of the FMIG residency fair as they held their welcome folders and pushed their belongings towards the door. The victoriously renowned FMIG Residency Fair/Physician Opportunity awaits yet another year to provide a superb event complete with an evening of lively fun, free prizes, delectable food, and a plethora of shining future prospects.