

# DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE & PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES

Tweet from Chair,  
John M. Boltri, MD, FAAFP



The DFMPHS faculty and staff continue to be generous with their time, talent, and treasure. Thank you all and Happy Holidays.



## Mission Statement

*We are committed to improving the health, well-being, and environment of individuals, families, and communities by advancing the science and practice of family medicine and public health through innovation and excellence in research and education.*



October 2013 HOUR Magazine  
October 16-23, 2013 WSU The Southend.com  
October MAFP Direct.com  
WSU SOM Prognosis E-News

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## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FMIG WINS NATIONAL PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

For the second year in a row, the School of Medicine Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) was awarded a Program of Excellence Award from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) at the August National Student Conference. In order to win this award, a FMIG must demonstrate that it is well-rounded with competency in a number of key areas. This includes FMIG structure and operation, community service, as well as exposing students to family medicine and family physicians. The FMIG must also illustrate significant changes or enhancements.

The AAFP this year named 17 medical school Family Medicine Interest Groups (FMIGs) as the 2013 Program of Excellence Award winners for their outstanding activities in generating interest in family medicine. The DFMPHS FMIG won for Excellence in Collaboration due to program-partnerships with the Rural Medicine Interest Group, Student-Run Free Clinic, public health and emergency

medicine. The DFMPHS wishes to recognize Ms. Lisa Blackwell for her tireless efforts in our FMIG. Without Lisa we would not be award-winning as we are!

In this photo are several WSU students who attended the conference in Kansas City. They accepted the FMIG award on behalf of the WSU School of Medicine.



## DFMPHS FACULTY RECEIVE WSU SOM FACULTY AWARDS

The Department of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences would like to recognize and congratulate the following faculty for receiving Wayne State University School of Medicine 2013 Awards at this year's Awards Ceremony hosted by Dean Valerie Parisi and Vice Dean Roberta Sonnino on October 29.



Hikmet Jamil, MD, PhD  
College Teaching Award



Pierre Morris, MD  
College Teaching Award



Frederick Rosin, MD  
College Teaching Award



Linda Roth, PhD  
Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award

Congratulations to each of you!!

**WSU School of Medicine**  
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**Applause! Applause!**



Victoria Neale, PhD received an R18 grant from the US DHHS PHS Agency for Health Research & Quality, titled: "Impact of Meaningful Use Patient Engagement Objectives in a Multicultural PBRN"

Julie Gleason-Comstock, PhD is PI of "Achieving Blood Pressure Control through Enhanced Discharge" supported by an Investigator Initiated Grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation.



Congratulations to DFMPHS team member, Samiran Ghosh, PhD from Woodward Gardens. He and his wife, Amrita, welcomed a baby boy, Shreyan, on November 11. He weighed in at 6 lbs. 15 oz. and joins big brother, Shreyo (6 years old). Congratulations!!

## DFMPHS WELCOMES NEW FACULTY

The Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences is pleased to welcome Drs. Kevin Deighton, Dennis Tsilimingras and Robert Podolsky.

Kevin Deighton, MD serves as Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs. In this role, he works closely with the Chair and the leadership team to manage the clinical operations of DFMPHS.



Kevin is a well-respected family physician and leader. He currently serves as a Clinical Assistant Professor, Voluntary Faculty for us as well as the University of Toledo's School of Medicine.

He has extensive experience with practice management including implementation of the patient-centered medical home model through practice transformation and with quality improvement including the National Committee for Quality Assurance patient centered

care management processes.

Dennis Tsilimingras, MD, MPH has joined the DFMPHS as an assistant professor and co-director of MI-AHEC (Michigan Area Health Education Center). Originally from Greece, Dr. Tsilimingras' family lives here in the Detroit Area and he calls Detroit "home."



Dennis comes to us from Florida State University where he spent three years working as an Assistant Professor and Director of the Center of Patient Safety in its Division of Health Affairs, Department of Family Medicine and Rural Health.

Dr. Tsilimingras' time is split between working on research and teaching activities in the DFMPHS and serving as co-director of the MI-AHEC.

We are also pleased to have

Robert Podolsky, PhD join our department. He is an established team science biostatistician focused on statistical genomics and translational research.



Rob comes to us from the Georgia Health Sciences University where he was an Associate Professor in the Center of Biotechnology and Genomic Medicine and also an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Biostatistics at the Medical College of Georgia.

Dr. Podolsky will work with faculty colleagues to provide biostatistical input, teaching one or two courses annually in our public health education programs, contributing to the development of doctoral programs in biostatistics and epidemiology as well as advising students in the public health educational programs.

Welcome to the family!!!

## WOODWARD GARDENS DFMPHS FACULTY AND STAFF ENJOY A HALLOWEEN 'FIKA'

*Fika* is a social institution in Sweden; it means having a break, most often a coffee break, with one's colleagues, friends, date or family. Swedes consider having a coffee an important part of the culture. *Fika* almost always includes something to eat, such as cookies, cakes and even candy. Faculty members Drs. Judith and Bengt Arnetz introduced the Swedish tradition to the DFMPHS a couple years ago.

Most Wednesdays from 9:30 to 9:50 AM, faculty and staff in Woodward Gardens get together to enjoy each

other's company (as well as coffee and a sweet and/or healthy treat) during fika. On October 31, the Woodward Gardens group enjoyed fika, Halloween style.



Pictured L to R: Mary Poppins a.k.a. Mercedes Hendrickson, Sheriff Rhonda Dailey, MD and Hippie Elissa Firestone

# FACULTY REPRESENT WSU AS IRAQI DELEGATION

A delegation representing the Wayne State University School of Medicine (SOM) has returned from the Sulamaniya Province of Northern Iraq, where it presented Iraqi public health officials with its vision for a national public health infrastructure.

“Our goal is for Iraq to have the healthiest and most productive work force in the Middle East, and the centerpiece of our plan to achieve that is the creation of an Iraqi College of Public Health that will establish a public health agenda for the entire nation,” said Hikmet Jamil, M.D., WSU professor and lead delegate. “Like many countries, Iraq is looking to reduce the incidence of chronic health conditions in the Iraqi population and the costly utilization of health services that result from them. By accomplishing this, our strategy can increase productivity among Iraqi workers and consequently draw business to Iraq from across the region.”

The Iraqi government is also interested in Wayne State’s global partnerships in the area of Iraqi health, said delegation member Bengt Arnetz, M.D., professor and vice chair of international affairs, occupational and environmental health. Dr. Arnetz and Dr. Jamil publish extensively on Iraqi refugee and immigrant health disorders under a National Institutes of Health grant.

The October trip was a follow-up to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

signed August 1 by former Wayne State President Allan Gilmour, SOM Dean Valerie Parisi, M.D., and a representative of the *His Excellency Minister of Health Majeed H. Amin, M.D.*, on



WSU Iraqi Delegation in Sulamaniya Province of Northern Iraq

the university’s main campus. The agreement, which marked the culmination of negotiations that began in September 2012, provides for the training of Iraqi physicians in a range of clinical disciplines at Wayne State’s SOM, establishes a joint program through which Wayne State and the University of Baghdad University will issue a high diploma in anesthesiology, and calls for the creation of an Iraqi College of Public Health, which will be developed according to a WSU-led needs assessment of the specific health challenges facing the Iraqi people.

Accompanying Dr. Jamil and Dr. Arnetz to Iraq were Michael Marsh, professor and vice chair for academic affairs at the SOM Department of Anesthesiology;

Pierre Morris, DFMPHS clinical assistant professor and program director in the WSU Family Medicine Residency at Crittenton Hospital, and Stephanie Schim, assistant

dean for family, community and mental health and associate professor in the WSU College of Nursing. The delegation met with Mohammed Jaber, Iraq’s deputy general director of public health, and now Mohammed Shuaib, M.D., Iraq’s general director of public health, is awaiting feedback from Iraqi officials before the WSU delegation undertakes a detailed

proposal for a needs assessment to inform the creation of a public health college curriculum. The needs assessment would require an in-depth survey of Iraqi health attitudes and behaviors.

Dr. Jamil and Dr. Arnetz said Wayne State University is an ideal collaborator in this initiative because of the breadth and quality of its School of Medicine programs and because Southeast Michigan’s large Arab population offers Iraqi students who train at Wayne State under the agreement a welcome and recognizable environment.

*Excerpts from article written by Lucy Ament Hern, Wayne State University, Communication*



The WSU Delegation tours local hospital facilities



Enjoying a meal outdoors

# WSU FAMILY MEDICINE TEAMS UP WITH DETROIT LIONS LIVING FOR THE CITY

The Wayne State University School of Medicine has partnered with the Detroit Lions Living for the City philanthropic initiative that focuses on sustainable community health, wellness and development.

In a partnership that's the first of its kind between a National Football League franchise and a university medical school, the Detroit Lions and WSU School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences will work with Detroit residents, especially children, to teach methods to improve health, conduct health fairs and plan other programs, event and activities.

"Having a highly respected academic resource like the Wayne State University School of Medicine further validates our Living for the City health and wellness efforts," said Tom Lewand, Detroit Lions president. "This partnership will also strengthen the impact that we both have in our community."

Launched in 2012, the Detroit Lions Living for the City supports transformational efforts that improve the well-being of metropolitan Detroit's underserved.

Lions representatives and Marjye Schenk, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., vice dean of Medical Education, signed the documents cementing the partnership at the School of Medicine on November 11,

"Given the school of medicine's mission, this partnership fits right in," said Dr. Schenk. "This pairs our medical students with the youth in the community to improve health. Everybody benefits from that."

Following the launch of Living for the City, Dana Rice, Dr. P.H., research associate of family medicine and public health sciences, began meeting with team officials to discuss ways in which the department could partner with the community program.

"Based on those conversations, we both felt that the relationship between our major academic medical institution and our local NFL team could only enhance both missions," said Dr. Rice, who will take the lead on the affiliation for the WSU School of Medicine.

The school joined Living for the City as part of the federally-funded Bridges to Equity program, which is housed in the Family Medicine Department. Bridges to Equity develops and implements educational programming to engage medical students in inter-professional collaboration with public health students and faculty on community-based projects to reduce health disparities.

"This collaborative effort will provide another structured active learning approach for the students in this area as well as an opportunity for faculty and staff to share their expertise and knowledge on a variety of public health and medical issues with the Detroit Lions and their partners," said Juliann Binienda, Ph.D., assistant professor of family medicine and public health sciences, and principal investigator of the school's Bridges to Equity program.

To date, School of Medicine students have participated in the Detroit Lions' 2012 Hometown Huddle,

which took place at the Detroit Lions Academy, and was a major partner for the 2013 Meet Up & Eat Up at Eastern Market. The program taught children how to shop for and eat healthier foods.

"We have a ton of students who like to volunteer," said Tim Jelsema, a medical student participating in Living for the City activities. "The events create a springboard of education for younger students."

Tanya Troy, a student in the master's of public health degree program, agreed.

"This is really a great opportunity for students to get out and talk about nutrition and healthy eating," she said. "You can plan to do that all you want, but doing it is much different. We get to work with young people and get accustomed



Flanking Dr. Schenk and Luis Perez, Lions' senior VP and CFO for the celebration are, from left, student Tanya Troy; student Tim Jelsema; Dr. Dana Rice; Jasmine Grotto, Lions Corporate Communications and Community Relations; Robert Wooley, director of Community Relations and Detroit Lions Charities; and Dr. Juliann Bi-

*Article excerpts from SOM Prognosis E-News November 14, 2013*

# DFMPHS RESEARCH ASSOCIATE HONORED BY MICHIGAN CHRONICLE

Dana Rice, Dr. P.H., was one of Michigan Chronicle's 2013 40 Under 40 honorees recognized during an October 25<sup>th</sup> event at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. The 40 Under 40 Awards were presented to "forty individuals under the age of 40 who are creating a movement within their professional fields, personal lives and community connections." The Michigan Chronicle Award identifies young leaders who are making decisions that will ultimately equip Detroit to compete and thrive in the global market. The organization received over 100 nominations of hardworking individuals committed to the city of Detroit.

Dr. Rice is a Research Associate in the Department of Family Medicine & Public Health Sciences. She has an extensive background

in applied public health practice and translational research in health disparities, HIV/STD prevention among high-risk and at-risk populations, and health promotion and wellness. Through the DFMPHS, she directs the HIV/STD Screening Program in the Wayne County jails, a program which she designed. Since 2008, her program has provided HIV and STD education, counseling and/or testing services to more than 33,000 individuals. In addition to her HIV/STD prevention work, she also provides oversight for the *Bridges to Equity Project*, a federally funded initiative to engage medical and public health students to work collaboratively on community based projects to reduce health disparities.

Congratulations to Dr. Rice for receiving this prestigious award recognizing the important work she does that

contributes to positive changes within the community.



Dana Rice, Dr. P.H.



## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Tsilimingras has accepted an invitation to become a member of the Board of Trustees for the Michigan Health Council (MHC) in Lansing, MI. The Michigan Health Council works to connect health care employers with practitioners, promote health education, and address the challenges facing health care professionals in Michigan. The MHC Board of Trustees includes representation from the health professions, hospitals and employers, law, accounting, marketing, banking, colleges and universities, managed care, secondary education, professional associations, and state government agencies.

He was also asked to become an Editorial Board member for the Journal of Family Medicine & Community Health (San Diego, CA) and the Austin Journal

of Clinical Medicine (Melbourne, Australia).

In addition, he made a podium presentation at the American Public Health Association Meeting (APHA) in Boston (November 5) on "Identifying adverse drug events after discharge from a community hospital" in section 4239.0 - Drug review and approval in US and Europe, adverse effects, hospital use, prior approval.

The APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition attracts more than 13,000 national and international physicians, administrators, nurses, educators, researchers, epidemiologists, and related health specialists. APHA's meeting program addresses current and emerging health science, policy, and

practice issues in an effort to prevent disease and promote health.

Congratulations to Dr. Tsilimingras on these recent appointments.

Also, thanks to Dr. Tsilimingras and the other Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences faculty who represent WSU, the School of Medicine and our department on a regular basis at these important conferences within the academic, research and medical fields.

All faculty are welcome to share speaker/presentation details along with photographs or other information surrounding an event.