

COM M U N I C A T O R

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences
College of Osteopathic Medicine
Alumni Newsletter



**OSTEOPATHIC
MEDICINE
ALUMNI**

White Coat Ceremony welcomes students

First-year students at the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine received their medical student white coats during the school's 13th annual White Coat Ceremony Sunday, Aug. 7. The ceremony emphasizes the importance of the doctor-patient relationship and focuses on the true meaning of the art and science of medicine. The white coats are provided to students by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association.

Howard G. Barnett, Jr., president of OSU in Tulsa, welcomed guests. **Joan Stewart, D.O. '85**, associate dean for Clinical Education, presented the students. William J. Pettit, D.O., associate dean for Rural Health and professor of Family Medicine, and LeRoy E. Young, D.O., president of OOA, cloaked them and they recited the osteopathic oath of commitment, led by Dr. Young.

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

Oath of Commitment

I hereby affirm my loyalty to the profession I am about to enter.

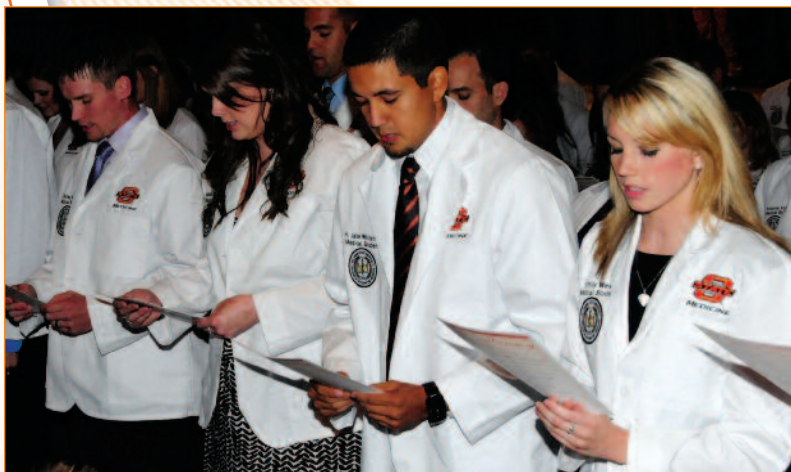
I will strive to apply my skills only with the utmost respect for the well-being of humanity; being ever vigilant in aiding the general welfare of the community, sustaining its laws and institutions, and not engaging in those practices which will in any way bring shame or discredit upon myself or my profession;

I will endeavor to work in accord with my colleagues in a spirit of progressive cooperation and never by word or by act cast imputations upon them;

I will not permit considerations of nationality, politics, prejudice or material advancement to intervene between my work and this duty to present and future generations;

I vow to practice my profession with conscience and dignity;

In the presence of this gathering I bind myself to this oath, making it solemnly, freely and upon my honor.



First-year medical students read the Oath of Commitment during the White Coat Ceremony.

Hello alumni,

From campus renovations and curriculum revision to increased class size, positive things are happening at OSU-COM.

In July, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education charged OSU and OU with increasing class size and OSU President Burns Hargis and OSU in Tulsa President Howard Barnett have announced that OSU's class size will double by 2016. Our classrooms, anatomy lab, library and other sites are being updated to meet expanding needs. This semester, our first year students meet at OSU-Tulsa for classes. Second year students are in Dunlap auditorium. Our Center for Advanced Medical Education classroom space is being renovated in a process that is expected to take about a year to complete.

A curriculum revision plan is underway, an update has been implemented and our entire student body will benefit from this change. A "Med-Sation" conference in August offered information on integrating current topics into curriculum and ensuring that the most current information is taught. One measurable outcome of curriculum review



Ryan Miller

is pass rates on boards and PE's or physical exams and OSU has excelled, with a 100% pass rate on our PE's for 2011 (see story). This is a wonderful indication of the caliber of medical students, residents and physicians we prepare and of the educators who prepare them.

A big welcome to our OSU-CHS Alumni Association officers **John "Buck" Hill, D.O. '99**, president; **Trudy Milner, D.O. '88**, president-elect; **Danny Thomason, D.O. '01**, vice president and **Patti Shaw, D.O. '97**, treasurer. Thank you for your service to the association.

Look for OSU-COM at the ACOI in San Antonio on Oct. 12-16, and at AOA/OMED in Orlando, Oct. 30-Nov. 4. Our reception at AOA will be at B.B. King's Blues Club from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov 1. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be provided. Entertainment from the legendary BB King's All Star Band will start at 7:30 p.m. B.B. King's club is located at Point Orlando, four blocks from the Peabody Hotel.

As always, we appreciate your support of OSU-COM and our alumni association.

Ryan Miller, Director
OSU-COM Alumni Association

COMPLEX

OSU-COM Class of 2011 achieves 100 percent pass rate on performance evaluation

The OSU-COM Class of 2011 achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners COMLEX Level 2-Performance Evaluation.

"This is a milestone achievement for our school," said **Joan Stewart, D.O. '85**, associate dean of clinical education. Clinical Education faculty and staff members help to prepare students for the evaluation.

During their fourth year, the students take the COMLEX Level 2 CE, a computer-based exam, and the COMLEX Level 2 PE, a performance-based exam. During the Level 2 PE the students rotate through 12 stations and interact with standardized patients who act as though they have a certain disease or illness. The students perform a focused history and a physical examination on the patient. They are evaluated on these components of the encounters as well as their SOAP notes and interpersonal skills.

Last year, OSU-COM ranked first for pass rate on that exam among the 23 osteopathic schools whose students took the exam for that cycle, with a 98.8% pass rate compared to the national pass rate of 94.8%.



Tournament a success

The association's annual golf tournament at Clary Fields Golf Club drew 12 teams and approximately 50 players, with additional friends and family attending a luncheon prior to tee-off. "Pistol Pete and Coach Eddie Sutton attended once again, and we raised nearly \$6,000," said alumni director Ryan Miller. The tournament raises funds for scholarships, emergency loans and events for OSU-COM students, student groups and alumni.



Pistol Pete with the OSU-CHS Center for Rural Health team members Val Schott, Jeff Hackler and Chad Landgraf.



Coach Eddie Sutton, Kayse Shrum, D.O., OSU-CHS provost and Pistol Pete.



OOA honors OSU-COM president, alumni



Howard G. Barnett, Jr., president of OSU in Tulsa, received the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association Award of Appreciation at its annual convention. He was recognized

for bringing the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine to the forefront in the OSU system, the state's legislature and within the city of Tulsa. **R. Greg Martens, D.O. '81**, Durant, received the A.T. Still Award of Excellence. **Jason L. Hill, D.O. '99**, Talihina, **Douglas Nolan, D.O. '00**, Tahlequah, and **Ryan Schafer, D.O. '02**, Ardmore, received recognition as preceptors and Nolan was recognized as a residency director.



Have news to share?

Send to ryan.miller@okstate.edu or renee.e.motte@okstate.edu

Physicians Wanted

See career opportunities at www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/alumni/career.cfm

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Alumni notes

OSU Health Care Center resident physicians Erin **Kratz, D.O. '08** and **Aaron Wilcox, D.O. '08**, earned the top two scores among 1,407 osteopathic resident physicians tested in the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians standardized in-service testing. All third-year osteopathic medicine residents take the examination. **Lora Cotton, D.O. '01**, is vice chair of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine Department of Family Medicine and is OSU Family Medicine Residency Program associate program director.

Justin W. Fairless, D.O. '08, joins Emergency Medicine Physicians of Tulsa as a staff physician at the St. Francis Trauma Emergency Center in Tulsa. He returns to Tulsa from Corpus Christi, where he completed an emergency medicine residency at Christus Spohn/Texas A&M University Health Science Center. He has also joined the Oklahoma Disaster Medical Assistance Team (OK-1 DMAT) as a medical officer. He will relocate to Tulsa with his wife, Kyndal and daughter, Lola.

Elizabeth Harris, D.O. '05, an OG/GYN, and her husband **Brian Harris, D.O. '05**, an anesthesiologist, met in chemistry lab, attended OSU College of Medicine together, married during medical school and now work at the Cherokee Nation W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah. The

couple completed their residencies at OSU Medical Center in 2010.

Aunna Herbst, D.O. '07, has opened a family medicine practice in Grove, Okla.

Kyle Jones, D.O. '06, was featured in the June issue of Tulsa People magazine. He is a medical missionary with Samaritan's Purse at Kapsowar Mission Hospital in Kapsowar, Kenya.

Kevin Kitka, D.O. '96, recounts his experience at St. John's Regional Medical Center during the Joplin tornado at <http://thecentralline.org/?p=2012>. He was on duty in the emergency room when the storm struck.

Wendy McConnell, D.O. '09, a third year otolaryngology resident at Des Peres Hospital in St. Louis, is chair-elect for the Council of Residents and Fellows for the American Osteopathic College of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

In memoriam

Kenneth Bret Smith, D.O. '88, Stillwater, Okla., family practice, June 21.

Patricia Ann Williams, D.O. '82, Lakeview, Ark., family practice, Feb. 3.

Dudley Clinton Zimmerman, D.O. '81, Carthage, Mo., family practice, April 21.

The COMmunicator is a quarterly alumni newsletter published by the OSU Center for Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine Alumni Association.

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