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Welcome to the first issue of the ***Preceptor Pipeline***, a quarterly newsletter from OCER.

Our goal is that the ***Preceptor Pipeline*** will help us connect with you, the preceptor. Additionally, the newsletter is a mechanism to inform you about preceptor benefits and resources that support your development as a preceptor and faculty member of Dartmouth Medical School (DMS).

Each issue will include profiles of preceptors, students and OCER staff, upcoming OCER and DMS events, course information and other preceptor-related news. If you would like to contribute to this publication, please email the newsletter editor:

Michelle.A.Budwitz@dartmouth.edu.

What is OCER? & What We Do for You ...

The Office of Community-based Education and Research (OCER) at Dartmouth Medical School (DMS) is here to support, advocate for, and provide training and evaluation for DMS preceptors who teach ambulatory courses; On Doctoring, and the Geriatrics and Ambulatory Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, and Obstetrics/Gynecology clerkships.

We collaborate with the course and clerkship directors and coordinators to provide these services.

Here are some of the things we do for you:

- Sponsor the annual preceptor faculty development conference with clerkships to support ongoing teacher training and improvement
- Provide Welcome Packets for new preceptors, listing all the benefits you have as a preceptor for DMS
- Monitor progress on issues concerning DMS preceptors through the Community Preceptor Education Board (CPEB)
- Coordinate site visits for clerkship directors to community preceptor sites
- Facilitate access to DMS library resources
- CME opportunities
- Facilitate adjunct faculty appointments and promotions
- Organize and generate preceptor evaluations allowing preceptors and courses to identify strengths and areas for improvement in teaching skills

In addition OCER develops and supports research and programs in community-based education, such as a National Library of Medicine grant that provided computers and training for using Web-based resources for medical decision-making and patient education. For more information please visit our website:
<http://dms.dartmouth.edu/ocer/>.

Preceptor News Profile

It took me a few weeks to arrange a meeting with Dr. Joel S. Lazar, his schedule is intense: practicing family medicine, studying for a MPH degree, precepting for Family Medicine and On-Doctoring, and preparing for his new role as Community Liaison for the On-Doctoring course, not to mention regular meetings and a family. He is the ideal candidate for a clone. Before I met Dr. Lazar, I wondered how he could have the energy to do so much, but in our one hour together "wonders did cease". He is gifted at organizing and multi-tasking. He confirmed this gift by suggesting that we make good use of our time by exercising and talking. So with microphone in hand, we proceeded to trek all over the Hanover Campus discussing his passion - Precepting.

He joined the Dartmouth Community in 2003 as a Family Medicine physician at the Community Health Center in Hanover. Soon after his arrival He began facilitating and then, precepting for the Family Medicine Clerkship.



I asked Dr. Lazar what made him decide to precept for two courses, as many preceptors have difficulty fitting one student into the practice? Dr. Lazar responded that he feels it is important to catch students at the beginning of their medical education, to help them in the process of learning and hopefully positively affect their initial clinical experiences. But he also enjoys the Family Medicine

students because he recognizes that they positively affect his patient care and he is continually learning from them. "They (students) are learning cutting edge medicine and sometimes they can tell me about new diagnostic tools, treatment or internet help that I didn't know about. I also feel that when I have students I am a better doctor because I have to slow down and be more reflective about the care I give to my patients," he said. The student presence helps him to consider all options possible and to be able to explain his clinical decisions. In the end everyone wins, the patient, the student and him. Dr. Lazar added, "The patient is happy because they have received better care, the student has learned and so have I."

Recently he accepted the role of the On-Doctoring Community Liaison which will require him to travel to community-based preceptor sites for support visits. I teasingly asked him, "Why – why do it?" He laughed and said, "For similar reasons that I am a preceptor. I want to support other preceptors. I would like their experiences to be as positive as mine have been." He thinks that perhaps community-based preceptors feel that they are out there on their own and he wants them to know that there is a community of preceptors doing the same thing and there is help if they need it. Joel's eventual goal is to create a forum for preceptors, a list-serve where preceptors can discuss teaching concerns.

We sat down in front of the MML building after our brisk walk around campus and I asked him one last question, "When do you sleep?" He smiled and said, "I need to work on that."

Written by: Michelle A. Budwitz

Milestones

Dr. Harry Rowe, a veteran preceptor for DMS received the American Academy of Family

Physicians' highest honor, the 2006 Distinguished Service Award. The Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians has new Executive Board members: **Dr. Thomas Parrott** (a long-time preceptor for DMS) will serve a two-year term as President and **Dr. Sharon Fine** (an On Doctoring preceptor) will serve as secretary.

Dr. Mark Nunlist, a community-based family doctor with the White River Family Practice, DMS preceptor, and faculty member of the Department of Community and Family Medicine has recently been named as an Alma Hass Milham Endowment Scholarship recipient. This scholarship fund, derived from the Alma Hass Milham Distinguished Chair in Medicine, currently held by Dr. David Roberts, enables faculty to enroll in the masters program at the Center for the Evaluative Sciences (CECS). Dr. Nunlist will be matriculating into the CECS this coming academic year (September 2007) as a part-time student while maintaining his clinical practice.

OCER News

Speakers' Bureau

The Speakers' Bureau is a resource available to all community-based preceptors who are planning conferences, workshops and seminars in the areas of medical education or clinical improvement practices. Faculty development topics include assessment, observation, evaluation, and feedback. Each session is presented by DMS faculty or medical education specialists. While the sessions are free, host organizations are asked to pay for speaker's travel expenses. For more info about the Speakers' Bureau or a complete list of topics please visit our website: <http://dms.dartmouth.edu/ocer/>.

Preceptor Survey

A couple weeks ago, OCER sent surveys to all Preceptors. Please complete & return your survey to OCER by **April 19, 2007**. If you have questions about the survey

please contact Elaine Small @ (603) 653-3242.

Special Thanks

OCER would like to thank Merilee Perkins, Sandi Cragin and Dr. Joel Lazar for their contributions to this newsletter.

OCER Staff

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If you would like more information about OCER please see our website: <http://dms.dartmouth.edu/ocer/>

Upcoming Events

April

16 12:30-2:00 FAME (Family Medicine Education Committee), for more info call Sandi Cragin @ (603) 653-4920

19 PRECEPTOR SURVEY DUE

May

3 5:30-7:15 CPEB (Community Preceptor Education Board), for more info call Elaine Small @ (603) 653-3242

21 12:30-2:00 FAME

June

4 12:00-1:00, Borwell 658 W Grand Rounds w/Dr. Levin
Talk will be accompanied by a Medical Education Research Poster Session.

18 12:30-2:00 FAME

CME Spring Schedule Registration Required

April

16-17 Making Waves in Critical Care Conference
20-21 Neuro-Oncology
30 Morbid Obesity: What's New and What's Known

May

1 2007 Dartmouth Dermatology Conference for PCPs
7 Provocative Health Concepts for Women
11 3rd Annual Dartmouth Symposium on Substance Abuse: Integrating Specialist and Generalist Care to Improve Management of Addictions
14 Managing Medical Emergencies
21 Third Annual Dartmouth Conference on Advances in Heart Failure

June

1 Gastroenterology & Hepatology Update
For the Full Schedule & Info go to: <http://ccehs.dartmouth-hitchcock.org> or call The Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences (603) 653-1234