



HEART: Humanism in Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF
LOUISVILLE
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

ULSOM WORLDWIDE

IN THIS ISSUE

Global Health Initiatives

by Jessica Huber, Class of 2014

This summer, 28% of the Class of 2014 dedicated part of their 12-week break to treating patients in underserved communities worldwide. Below are some statistics from their time abroad.

El Progreso, Honduras

Participants: 4 ULSOM students
Duration: 1 month
Setting: public hospital & primary care clinic
Patients Treated: 1,114
Procedures Performed: 112

Misahualli, Ecuador

Participants: 16 ULSOM students, 3 ULSOM MDs, & 1 Pharm. D.
Duration: 15 days
Setting: rural public clinics
Patients Treated: 1,020

Mombasa, Kenya

Participants: 10 ULSOM Students
Duration: 12 days
Setting: local churches & orphanages
Patients Treated: 1,260

Mumbai, India

Participants: 11 ULSOM students
Duration: 1 month
Setting: Urban & suburban public hospitals, private clinics, rural clinics, referral centers

Global Health Interest Group

Interested in learning more about Global Health at UofL? Do you have your own ideas for an international endeavor? Contact Will Sears, President of the Global Health Interest Group at wjsear01@louisville.edu.



Class of 2015: White Coat Ceremony

ULSOM and the Greater Louisville Medical Society welcome the latest group of rising physicians.

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Letter from the Editors

When beginning a career in medicine, it is vital that a student develop a vision for what his or her role as a physician will entail. This notion of backwards planning, or beginning with the end in mind, is useful in nearly any goal-setting scenario, and should be revisited often throughout the lifelong learning process. It is especially important in the development of humanism in aspiring physicians. The events featured in this volume of the HEART Newsletter showcase the variety of opportunities that ULSOM students have to develop perspectives on needs common to all humans, and to learn to best address their future patients in a manner that upholds HEART's core values.

The White Coat Ceremony is the first time that many students consider the coat as a symbol of their chosen profession in the light of the reaction that it can elicit from patients, colleagues, and society as a whole. This year, Dean Edward Halperin presented historical evidence from our country's antebellum medical environment that encouraged students to be aware of their duty to practice in a manner that respects all mankind. Furthermore, he encouraged students to actively evaluate the system in which they will practice

to ensure that they are fulfilling their responsibilities to all patients as outlined in the Declaration of Geneva.

Students who participated in the medical service trips abroad are exposed to conditions and ways of life that aren't often seen in the US and other more developed nations. Treating patients in this type of setting broadens students' horizons to include the most basic of human needs, and illustrates the significant impact that altruism can have.

Creative writing is an outlet for many to reflect on the formative experiences in their training. By publishing these reflections in *Systole*, students, residents, and faculty build a community record of empathetic and relationship-centered encounters that others can learn from as well.

The senior students who are selected for the GHHS have the unique opportunity to take their perspectives one step farther by implementing service programs in our school to address areas of need in a humanitarian manner.

By always keeping our end goals in sight, we take active steps towards becoming effective and compassionate physicians.

Trish Todd, Class of 2012; Jessica Huber, Class of 2014; and Pradip Patel, MD, Co-Editors

HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH HEART

If you have questions about or wish to participate in any of HEART's projects or initiatives, please feel free to contact the designated representatives below.

We look forward to new members of our team!

HEART Committee

- Dr. Pradip Patel, Chair

HEART Newsletter

- Trish Todd
- Jessica Huber
- Dr. Pradip Patel

HEART₂Heart

- Amber Zimmer
- Alex Bajorek

Kosair Reading Program

- Christine James
- Karisa Grizzle

Gold Humanism Honor Society

- Dr. Toni Ganzel

Systole Literary Magazine

- Dr. Sarah Griffin

Honor and Professionalism Council

- Rick Bowles
- Farah Nasraty
- Perry Snyder

Gold Humanism Honor Society 2011-2012

by Trish Todd, Class of 2012

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation's motto is "working to keep the care in healthcare." Through various awards, grants, programs and its honor society chapters, the foundation is dedicated to emphasizing the importance of the physician-patient relationship. The foundation and its members promote qualities like empathy and compassion in those who provide medical care.

This year's Gold Humanism Honor Society members already are hard at work developing a program for the year that will enhance humanistic medicine on UofL's campus. Its service subcommittee is organizing a dedicated group of students from all classes that will meet monthly to plan and carry out service projects around the city. As an official service club, the goal is to leave an established organization that will increase student participation in campus and community service.

The GHHS is also collaborating with Student Affairs and the AAMC OSR representatives to sponsor a School-Wide Service Day in the spring. Through a coordinated effort by a large group of students, the Service Day will have a positive impact on our community. The UofL GHHS hopes to leave its legacy on the school of medicine by creating an environment in which students are inspired to give of their time and skills in service to others.

Resident Awards in Humanism

Each year, the third year medical students select up to six residents to receive The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award based on their demonstrated commitment to teaching and compassionate treatment of patients and families, students and colleagues. These awards are presented at the Student Clinician Ceremony. The 2011 winners were a wonderful group of residents from multiple specialties who embody the qualities of integrity, altruism, respect and excellence. At the ceremony in June, we were honored to have Dr. Jennifer Ford give words of advice to the rising third years as they embarked on their clinical years.

2011 Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award Winners:

Jennifer H. Ford - *Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Daniel Son - *Psychiatry*

Jennifer R. Case - *Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Ronald T. Auer - *Orthopedic Surgery*

Keri H. Fay - *Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Andrew W. Moore - *Obstetrics and Gynecology*



Welcome, Class of 2015!

by Jessica Huber, Class of 2014

This August, over 160 new ULSOM students donned white coats for the first time. During the White Coat Ceremony, several speakers described the symbolism of the coats, as well as the responsibilities bestowed upon those who have the privilege of wearing them. The incoming class then recited the Declaration of Geneva, a modernized Hippocratic Oath, which outlines the humanitarian standards to which all physicians are held.



Travis Wheeler of the Class of 2015 describes his WCC experience, "Having the white coat placed upon my shoulders signified the official start to a career in which I will be blessed with the opportunity to care for others, but also left me with a sense of ambition to fulfill the duties and expectations which the white coat represents." Special thanks to the Greater Louisville Medical Society for donating the white coats.

Left: Travis Wheeler, Terri Mason, and Ashley Hinchon show off their new white coats. Above: Anita Allison McNutt, Sammy Allen, and Erin Adams recite the Declaration of Geneva. Front page: Michael Bricken, Andrea Breaux, Nikhil Borkhetaria, and Brad Black are coated on stage. Photography by Susan Harrison.

Systole 2011

Published by Dr. Sarah Griffin

Systole is the School of Medicine's literary journal.

The publication features original poetry and prose themed around humanism in medicine.

Cash prizes are awarded for first, second, and third place submissions.

Look for the full version of this piece, along with many others when **Systole** is released next month!

An Excerpt from: "A Manicured Farewell"

Christine James, Class of 2012
1st Place Winner, Systole 2011

...In the living room, an old woman sat next to the bed of her husband, holding his hand tightly in her own. The Hospice nurse explained to me in quiet tones that her husband had Alzheimer's and had been a patient for quite some time. Her son and daughter were also in the room with their families, speaking in hushed tones, alternating between rubbing their mother's back and silently watching their father. His breathing sounded painful, as if he was choking on the mucus building up in his lungs. Privately, I asked the nurse how many months the patient had left. As he took out his stethoscope, he replied, "A few more hours at most. But his family doesn't know it yet."

As the nurse examined the patient, he explained the situation to his wife, as gently as he could. I could see the emotions flit across her face: shock at the little amount of time they had together and the deep despair of what she could not avoid. After a few minutes, her daughter softly asked, "Are you sure there is nothing else we can do? Maybe we should take him to the hospital. They can clear the liquid from his lungs and help him breathe easier, can't they?" I knew the nurse understood the futility of hospital care at that point, but I also knew he would never to try push them in a direction they were not ready to face...