Board of Trustees Health Sciences Committee Meeting  
February 15, 2018  
Agenda  

I. Approval of November 9, 2017 Minutes  
   Action  

II. Health Sciences Division Update - Dr. Phyllis Horns  
    Discussion  

III. Closed Session  

IV. Health Sciences Information Updates  
   Information  
   A. College of Allied Health Sciences  
   B. College of Nursing  
   C. School of Dental Medicine  
   D. Laupus Library  
   E. Brody School of Medicine
Board of Trustees
Health Sciences Committee
February 15, 2018

Agenda Item: I. Approval of November 9, 2017 Minutes
Responsible Person: Deborah Davis, Chair
Action Requested: Approval
Notes: N/A
Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:
Mrs. Davis called the meeting to order at 10:30 am a.m. and read the conflict of interest statement required by the State Government Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified. The minutes of September 14, 2017 were approved.
Health Sciences Division Update:
Dr. Horns referred the group to the materials in their packets that highlights the great work that each of our schools/colleges and library are doing within the Health Sciences Division.

College of Allied Health Sciences Update:
Dr. Orlikoff presented an update on the work going on within the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS), which offers degree and certificate programs within nine departments. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the college. Student enrollment has grown by almost 1,000 students since 2001. CAHS offers two Physical Therapy Clinics, a Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic, and the Navigate Counseling Clinic. They also run programs for fall prevention for seniors, and summer camps for children and their families with speech, language, and hearing problems. The CAHS is the largest college of allied health in NC and the #1 producer of new allied health professionals for the state. Most their graduate professional programs are nationally ranked. They offer a great opportunity for the schools and colleges to learn and practice with one another. First-time pass rate on national certification or licensure examinations across all graduate professional programs is between 98-100%. CAHS has experienced a 66% increase in external research funding since 2014 and look to continue to expand its research efforts and enhance student success to meet the growing demands of health care. Last year, 86% of the PA graduates stayed to work in NC. Our 5-year average is 81%.

Closed Session:

Action: A motion was made by Chairman Davis that the Health Sciences Committee go into closed session. Mr. Davenport read the motion to go into closed session:

1. to prevent the disclosure of confidential information under N.C. General Statutes §126-22 to §126-30 (personnel information) and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; and

2. to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, or appointment of prospective and/or current employees and/or to hear or investigate a complaint or grievance by or against one or more employees.

3. to prevent the disclosure of competitive healthcare information under N.C. General Statute 130A-45.11; G.S. 131E-97.3.

4. to consult with an attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the Committee.

Action: Motion passed.
Action Items in Closed Session:

Request - The Health Sciences Committee approve the following motion:

I move that:

- The board approve the initial appointment of Professor with permanent tenure in the School of Dental Medicine for Richard R. Seals, Jr., DDS, M Ed, MS as presented in the board materials.

The motion passed unanimously.

Action: A motion was made by Chairman Davis to go back into open session at 11:30 a.m. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.
Agenda Item: II. Health Sciences Division Update

Responsible Person: Dr. Phyllis Horns, Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes: N/A
Board of Trustees
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Agenda Item: III. Closed Session
Responsible Person: Deborah Davis, Chair
Action Requested: Approval/Information
Notes: N/A
Board of Trustees
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Agenda Item: IV. Health Sciences Informational Updates

Responsible Person: Dr. Phyllis Horns, Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Action Requested: Information

Notes:
A. College of Allied Health Sciences
B. College of Nursing
C. School of Dental Medicine
D. Laupus Library
E. Brody School of Medicine
Leigh Cellucci Begins Appointment as CAHS Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Following a national search, Dr. Leigh W. Cellucci has been named the College of Allied Health Sciences’ first full-time Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Beginning this semester, she will help the College meet its goals pertaining to student success, faculty engagement, and program development. Cellucci’s background is in sociology, business administration, health care management, and rural health. In her new role, she will oversee the accreditation of professional programs, provide leadership in curriculum development, lead initiatives to enhance the student experience, and work with clinical and community partners.

A member of the CAHS faculty for the past seven years, Professor Cellucci became the Director of the Health Services Management program in 2014. She served as the Chair of CAHS Council and is a member of Undergraduate Affairs and Curriculum Committees, the Chancellor’s Leadership Academy Board, the Women and Gender Advancement Committee, and the ECU Patent Committee.

Dean Robert Orlikoff noted that “Dr. Cellucci brings exceptional talent and skill, which combined with her long record of leadership as an academic and administrator, ensure that she will become an essential member of the CAHS Dean’s Office.”

Patients in Communication Sciences & Disorders’ Aphasia Group Spread Holiday Cheer

The ECU Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic's Aphasia Group recently shared their singing talents at a Holiday Concert in the lobby of the Health Sciences building. Ms. Sherri Winslow, a clinical instructor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, lead the choir on keyboard as they performed a collection of holiday classics for a large and enthusiastic audience of faculty, students, staff, and family members.

People with aphasia have difficulty or loss in communication due to a stroke or brain injury. According to Winslow, “the words are there, they still have their intellect, but they just have trouble getting their words out.” Because vocal music can be an effective treatment, the concert was both entertaining and therapeutic.

The 14th Annual Jean Mills Health Symposium Focuses on Diabetes and Obesity Issues

Social determinants of obesity and diabetes was the focus of the 14th annual Jean Mills Health Symposium that was held on February 2nd on the Health Sciences campus. Featured was a presentation by Dr. Leandris Liburd, Associate Director for the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She is an expert on the social determinants of health and has been instrumental in identifying intervention strategies that have been shown to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities.

Sponsored by CAHS, the Department of Public Health, and the Medical & Health Sciences Foundation, the half-day program was free and open to community residents and leaders, faith-based organizations, allied health and public health providers, nurses, dentists and oral health providers, physicians, other health care providers, as well as ECU faculty and students.
Accomplishments & Accolades from Allied Health Sciences:

• Dr. Ray Hylock, assistant professor in the Department of Health Services & Information Management, was selected as one of 11 faculty members to receive a 2018 ECU Scholar-Teacher Award. The award, which recognizes outstanding faculty members who integrate scholarship and teaching, will be conferred in early April.

• Dr. Chia-Cheng “James” Lin, assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, along with eight doctoral students volunteered at the 2017 Pitt County Healthy Aging and Wellness Expo offering gait and balance evaluations at no cost to attendees.

• Dr. Leigh W. Cellucci, Professor in the Department of Health Services & Information Management, and student Jenyqua Young presented at the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA) Undergraduate Workshop in Orlando.

• Dr. Anne Dickerson, Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy, delivered a lecture recently on “Older Adults and Driving: Current Trends and Future Directions” as part of the Aging Studies Program at Eastern Michigan University.

• Ms. Kim Stokes, Director of Clinical Education in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies, recently visited Denver to present “Hurricanes, Floods and Blizzards: Clinical Year Contingency Plans” at the Physical Assistant Education Forum.

• Sylvia Escott-Stump, Dietetic Internship Director in the Department of Nutrition Science, recently spoke to the New Hampshire Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics about FoodMASTER along with the program’s creator, Professor Melani Duffrin. Escott-Stump also visited Portugal, Greece, and Switzerland to share her research with international colleagues. Earlier in the fall, she attended the IUNS 21st ICN International Congress of Nutrition in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

• Twenty-two graduate students in the Clinical Counseling program in the Department of Addictions and Rehabilitation Studies took the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) with a 100% pass rate. The students also exceeded the national mean on all eight of the exam’s content domains.

• Three students in the Clinical Counseling program in the Department of Addictions and Rehabilitation Studies, received NAADAC Minority Fellowship Program (NMFP) awards. The federally funded program provides graduate-level counselors the support to aid underserved populations including LGBT populations and transition-age youth.

• Prior to final exams, a group of first-year students in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies volunteered to assist families in need during the holiday season. The local church’s Angel Shop provided a selection of presents which the PA students then wrapped for shoppers.

• The ten graduate student organizers of Pirate PLAY (Promoting Literacy Among Youth), a special interest group in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, collected 22 sets of pajamas and 22 storybooks for the North Carolina Children’s Home Society in celebration of National Literacy Month.

• Students Andrew Geddes of the Department of Physical Therapy and Chelsea Richards of Health Services and Information Management offered their thoughts in an interview with University Advancement to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the College of Allied Health Sciences. Both spoke about their connection to the college while thanking those who offer their financial and other forms of support.
East Carolina University
College of Nursing Updates
February 2018

• UnitedHealthcare has committed to giving a $25,000 gift to the College of Nursing for student scholarships in the Regionally Increasing Baccalaureate Nursing (RIBN) program. UnitedHealthcare will be presenting the check to the college on Feb. 12.

• Alumna Terri Joyner — BSN 2005, MSN 2013 — was named NC School Nurse Administrator of the Year.

• The College of Nursing welcomed 152 new students into the BSN and ABSN programs during the Lamp of Learning ceremony on Jan. 25.

• The BSN program reported a new NCLEX-RN licensing exam pass rate of 96 percent for 2017. This is compared to a state pass rate of 83% and a national pass rate of 87% during the same time frame. The 3-Year average (2015-17) was 97% compared to the state average of 82% and the national average of 86%.

• The ECU Midwifery program had a 100 percent pass rate for the 13 students who took the national licensing exam in 2017.

• The College of Nursing’s online graduate programs were ranked 34th in the nation by U.S. News and World Report. The College of Nursing also ranked 14th in the nation for Online Master of Science in Nursing Programs for Veterans.

• The Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) is providing health care education through the NC Fisheries Association publication, “Tradewinds,” every two months.

• Nursing students Joanna Paul and Deanna Pilkington received Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Awards for the Fall 2017 semester.

• Faculty member Dr. Kim Larson was appointed as the co-director of the Health Behavior research cluster.

• Clinical instructor Jean Matthews has been appointed to the Agrisafe Network Board of Directors. The AgriSafe™ Network, a non-profit international membership organization, represents health and safety professionals who strive to reduce health disparities found among the agricultural community.

• Faculty member Dr. Jeanette Avery’s abstract “Medical-Surgical Patients With a Secondary Diagnosis of Medical Illness: How Are Nurses Prepared?” was selected for presentation at Sigma Theta Tau International’s 29th International Research Congress.
• Faculty member Dr. Terri Floegel was invited to present her scholarly work on the association of posture and ambulation with function at 30 days after hospital discharge in older adults with heart failure at the Aging Research for Junior Faculty Symposium in Washington.

• Faculty member Dr. Donna Roberson’s scholarly works, “Meeting the HIV prevention needs of older adults” and “Winning the HIV War Through Prevention” were published in The Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (JANAC). Dr. Roberson was elected to the Board of Directors for the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC), an international organization with more than 2,200 members from 60 countries.

• A BSN retention task force began working in Spring 2017 to identify factors leading to success and/or failure to progress and implement strategies to improve retention. Strategies implemented thus far based on the task force’s assessment include requiring first semester students to have at least one appointment with a CON counselor and administering a survey to new first semester students. These efforts are believed to be responsible for more students utilizing the counseling center and fewer students failing courses in our Fall 2017 semester. The task force will continue to examine the data and suggest additional strategies for retention and on-time graduation.
Service Award Recognition
The school held its first Faculty and Staff Service Award Recognition on November 29. Forty-five faculty and staff members received five- and ten-year medallions for their years of service to the school. Honorees received medallions bearing the seal that is on the school's ceremonial mace. A service recognition event will be held annually.

Telemedicine Grant
The school has received a USDA Rural Utilities Service – Distance Learning and Telemedicine (RUS DLT) grant for $62,000 to increase the telemedicine capabilities at Community Service Learning Centers across the state. The grant will fund video conferencing technology in patient consultation rooms for meetings with specialists as well as intra-oral cameras for better patient education and public health hygiene at area schools. Additionally, the grant supports dental faculty partnering with practitioners from the ECU Department of Family Medicine’s Diabetes Research Program and Department of Nutrition Science to help patients create healthier meal plans. The school received a RUS Grant in 2014 for over $450,000 for the purchase of audio-visual technology at the CSLCs and in Ross Hall.

Intraoral Radiography Certification Course
The school is offering its first Intraoral Radiography Certification course this spring for office-trained dental assistants. The course is administered by the ECU Office of Continuing Studies and taught by Madge Webster, a dental imaging specialist.

Lessons in a Lunch Box
Eleven second-year students traveled to Robeson County on January 10 to present Lessons in a Lunchbox: Healthy Teeth Essentials & Facts About Snacks for 220 children at Prospect Elementary School in Maxton, N.C. Each child left the presentation with a bright orange lunch box containing oral hygiene products. Ninety-six percent of the children who attend Prospect are of Lumbee Indian descent. The outreach was organized by a dental student, who is a Prospect alumna and member of the Lumbee Tribe. The event was sponsored in part by the Society of American Indian Dentists.

Give Kids a Smile
School of Dental Medicine faculty, residents, staff, and students in Greenville and at all eight Community Service Learning Centers across the state will participate in the American Dental Society’s Give Kids a Smile (GKAS) initiative in February. Events will vary from presenting oral health instruction to applying dental sealants to performing extractions and restorations. Faculty and residents in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics and dental students will treat patients at the East Central Dental Society’s GKAS on Friday, February 2 in Greenville.

Schweitzer Fellowships
Five ECU dental students are among the twenty-three students from North Carolina universities conducting projects as 2017-2018 Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina
(BCBSNC) Foundation Schweitzer Fellows. Kevin Holley and Trevor Staton are delivering oral health instruction to children in six Pitt County schools; Morgan Stroud and Allen Bunch are expanding ECU’s Prenatal Oral Health Program (pOHP) by establishing a direct referral system from the ECU Department of Pediatrics to the School of Dental Medicine’s Pediatric Dentistry Clinic; Kiersten Bethea and medical student Samantha Forlenza are working with dental and medical faculty and students to provide no-cost dental treatment and primary care for homeless patients. Project outcomes will be shared after completion in April.

Civility Presentation
Mr. Dan Buccino, director of the Johns Hopkins Civility Initiative, gave a timely presentation to faculty, residents, staff, and students based on the book *Choosing Civility*, by Dr. P. M. Forni. In his presentation on January 24, Mr. Buccino discussed the rationale for civility and the application of civility principles in our professional and personal lives.

Upcoming Events
- February 2 & 3 – Give Kids a Smile activities
- February 16 & 17 – North Carolina Dental Society 5th District Mid-Winter Meeting in Greenville.
- March 2 – CITA Board Exam for fourth-year dental students
- March 3 – SoDM Burnisher’s Ball fundraiser for the SoDM Patient Care Fund

Smiles on Friday
Don’t miss “Smiles on Friday,” the school’s weekly online photo page linked to our homepage at [www.ecu.edu/dental](http://www.ecu.edu/dental).
By increasing access to dental care for rural populations, ECU is also helping to reinvigorate communities.

In this month’s letter, Dr. Rick Valachovic talks with North Carolinians to find out how a new model of dental education is bringing dental care to rural parts of the state.

Placing Dentists Where They Can Do the Most Good

What happens when you recruit students who are committed to rural practice and prepare them to be dentists in rural practice environments? Can such an investment make a measurable difference in improving access to dental care?

East Carolina University (ECU) set out to answer these questions when it opened the doors of its School of Dental Medicine (SoDM) in 2011. The plan for the school had many unique features, which I’ve described in this column before, but what most set this groundbreaking venture apart was the decision to move a substantial portion of clinical education to the community by building eight, identical 16-chair Community Service Learning Centers (CSLCs) in underserved areas across the state. Senior dental students—all of whom hail from North Carolina—spend three nine-week rotations at the CSLCs, practicing dentistry alongside ECU SoDM faculty and residents.
The first entity to partner with ECU to bring dental education to a rural corner of the state was a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Ahoskie, a town of nearly 5,500 in eastern North Carolina. Health Center Chief Executive Officer Kim Schwartz, M.A., remembers well her first meeting with Greg Chadwick, D.D.S., M.S., ECU SoDM’s Dean. The conversation that ensued was scheduled for 45 minutes. It lasted almost three hours, and after three years of planning, development and construction, the Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center in Ahoskie became the first FQHC in the nation with a co-located dental school clinic and residency program.

Dentistry’s arrival in Ahoskie worked out well, not least for Nicole Beasley, D.M.D. She grew up in Jackson, about 30 miles away, and recalls having to drive an hour to get to a dentist when she was young. She saw a career opportunity in her community’s lack of dental care and chose to attend ECU SoDM for two reasons: She felt at ease there, and she knew its mission dovetailed with her own aspirations.

After graduation, Nicole completed an Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency at the Ahoskie CSLC, and today she practices at an FQHC in Jackson. “I had always thought I wanted to be back home, but after graduating, I was weighing my options,” she told me. “When it came down to it, I just knew that the whole reason I went to dental school was to be here in the first place. Here’s where I can do the most good.”

Maggie Wilson, D.D.S., M.B.A., Vice Dean and Associate Dean for Student Affairs at ECU SoDM, couldn’t agree more with Nicole’s assessment. “It’s only once our graduates are out there in a practice, in a rural community or an underserved area, that our mission is realized,” she told me.

Maggie and Greg put me in touch with Nicole and another graduate who exemplifies ECU SoDM’s promise. Gustavo (Gus) Gasca, D.M.D., had difficulty accessing dental care as a child because he moved from Florida to North Carolina to Michigan and back each year as his Mexican-born parents followed the harvest. Gus told me he and his siblings needed to have primary teeth extracted, and their permanent teeth came in misaligned. In his brother’s case, the problem was extreme enough to draw unwanted attention from his middle and high school classmates.

As it happened, the family’s desire to see Gus go to college led to a marked improvement in their oral health. So Gus could take advanced placement courses, the family decided to live in North Carolina year-round, a choice that made the family eligible for Medicaid. Gus’s mother was finally able to address her dental pain, and his brother got the orthodontic treatment he needed.

“Getting braces changed my brother’s self-esteem,” Gus told me, and watching that transformation eventually led Gus to pursue a career in dentistry. Today he is practicing at Pollock Advanced Dental Group in Burgaw, where he primarily treats Medicaid patients and is the only dentist in a 20-mile radius who speaks Spanish. He is delighted to be “giving back.”

Where are ECU SoDM’s other graduates?

- The majority—83 of 148—are practicing in North Carolina.
- Seven are practicing out of state, and two will likely return when their spouses complete residencies.
• Another 38 graduates are in General Practice Residencies.
• Fifteen are pursuing advanced dental specialties.
• Two are in the military.
• One is a faculty member at ECU SoDM.

Perhaps the better question is: Are these graduates engaged in work aligned with ECU SoDM’s mission of placing dentists in rural, underserved communities? Apparently many are.

“We’d like to track this by county,” Greg told me, “but even in doing that … you have to peel the onion back. One of our graduates is working in Mecklenburg County. That’s urban, but he’s working in two Medicaid practices and seeing 100% Medicaid patients, so his work is clearly mission aligned.”

Back in Ahoskie, Kim sees ECU SoDM’s mission in practice every day. The Ahoskie CSLC provides continuous care for an established panel of patients and prioritizes care for individuals who arrive at the FQHC with dental needs. An arrangement with the Roanoke-Chowan Foundation allows the center to provide complex procedures on a sliding fee scale for uninsured patients.

Kim calls the impact of this care “miraculous.” One patient saw her diabetes improve after receiving dentures that allowed her to get off a soft diet of applesauce and sweet potatoes. Another patient found a job after his missing front teeth were replaced. A third was able to sleep again after being treated for the condition causing her dental pain, Kim told me. “To literally have this clinic right here in Ahoskie, this little rural town in eastern North Carolina, and to be known for it. … People are very proud of that fact and proud of the association with ECU,” she says. “They finally have an option for oral health and (this is not too strong a word) hope that there’s someone looking out for their oral health needs.”

There’s no question in Kim’s mind that by providing one-stop shopping for medical and dental care at Ahoskie, ECU SoDM has improved the lives of some of the health center’s most vulnerable patients. The school’s statewide numbers are also impressive. Since that first CSLC opened in 2012, Greg told me, ECU SoDM students, residents and faculty have treated 49,720 patients at the Greenville campus clinic and the eight CSLCs distributed throughout the state. More than 15,000 of those patients were enrolled in Medicaid.

These numbers are welcome news in a state with one of the lowest dentist-to-population ratios, roughly five per 10,000. According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, North Carolina has roughly 140 Health Professional Short Areas when it comes to dental health. So why are so few dentists practicing in rural parts of the state?

When I asked Nicole if she had thought about opening her own practice in the area, she expressed doubts about her ability to make that happen. She says it’s difficult to find front-desk staff, dental assistants or a business manager. Additionally, because so few people have private insurance, it can be challenging to develop an adequate patient base. Instead, she has set her sights on one day being the Ahoskie CSLC clinic director—a goal with which no one at her alma mater will argue.

Despite the obstacles, rural practice can be financially viable. “A lot of people look at the Medicaid fee scale and say, no way can I take part in that,” Maggie observes, but that reaction is too hasty, she tells students. “You can serve Medicaid patients and still earn enough to pay
off your loans, send your kids to college, buy a home, etc., but you need a well-designed vision and a practice plan."

To equip students with the tools they need to care for underserved patients in a sustainable way, the ECU SoDM curriculum explores public policy, financial barriers to care and the sociology of poverty. The school has also hired Hillary Harrell, who serves as Student Financial Support Manager. She works with students to help them figure out how they will pay for dental school, teaches in the practice management curriculum, and assists students, residents and graduates with identifying practice opportunities that are aligned with ECU’s mission. Her support ranges from critiquing business plans to helping students arrange for loan repayment to coaching students on salary negotiation. With a number of first-generation college students among ECU SoDM’s graduates, many without a family member to guide them, Maggie says, Ms. Harrell can be a lifeline.

So, what’s next for Ahoskie? According to Kim, the CSLC could use several more dentists just to meet the routine needs of the patients at the FQHC. That may happen one day, but Greg plans to proceed cautiously.

“We have room for expansion within the facilities, but we’re trying to make the center sustainable—not just economically but also educationally. We’re not just a safety net clinic. Students need to do crowns, bridges, root canals, partials and not just provide basic care.” Greg echoes Nicole’s concerns when he adds, “In rural areas, it’s hard to recruit a mix of patients who can afford more complex treatments, and Medicaid doesn’t cover much.”

It has been clear for years that Greg and his colleagues are contributing to the transformation of dental education. Six years into ECU’s experiment, it seems irrefutable that the CSLCs are achieving their early goals and having wider impacts. By bringing dental care to rural populations, ECU SoDM students, residents, faculty and graduates are not only making a measurable dent in their state’s access-to-care challenges, they are also helping to reinvigorate communities. When CSLC practitioners eliminate pain and restore smiles, they participate in a process that can lead to employment and improved economic circumstances. Kim also reports that the presence of young dentists drawn from the community is inspiring a new generation to consider pursuing dental careers.

These are some of the good things that happen when you recruit students who are committed to rural practice and prepare them to be dentists in rural practice environments. I look forward to hearing more good news as the program grows.

Richard W. Valachovic, D.M.D., M.P.H.
ADEA President and CEO
valachovicr@adea.org

American Dental Education Association
655 K Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202-289-7210
adea.org
Updates from Laupus Library

Laupus to house ECU’s first data analytics cluster

ECU recently launched eight pan-university research clusters. One of the first to develop is the Big Data & Analytics Research Cluster co-directed by Drs. Leonard Annetta and Huigang Liang. While permanent space is prepared, Laupus Library has been identified as the temporary home for the activities of the cluster. A large room at Laupus will be configured into a collision space that allows for a wall of monitors, white board walls and seating for approximately 25 participants. The faculty and students will also have access to a computer classroom and lab for conducting research activities.

Now on Display: North Carolina & The Great War: Medical Professionals on the Western Front

2017 marked the 100-year anniversary of the United States’ entry into World War I. Often called the Great War and the War to End All Wars because of the horrific death toll, World War I marked a major transformation in world politics, economics, and industries. As warfare technology advanced, medical techniques improved in response.

A great number of North Carolinians offered their services to the war effort, both at home and abroad. Doctors and nurses volunteered to treat the various ailments and injuries in military hospitals and on the battlefront. North Carolina & The Great War: Medical Professionals on the Western Front offers insight into the work of medical professionals in the war, highlighting the roles of both men and women and will be on display on the 4th floor of Laupus Library from January 16 through March 18, 2018.

Join us on Tuesday, February 6 from 4-6pm for the opening reception of this exhibit. Beginning at 4:30pm, local historians will discuss the war’s influence in Pitt County specifically, including stories about local doctors and the Influenza Epidemic. This event is open to the public and refreshments will be provided. Please contact HSLHISTMED@ECU.EDU with questions.

Art as Avocation Series exhibition to present Eye Rain and Heart Cramps

April Holbrook, administrative support specialist for clinical financial services in the Brody School of Medicine presents a 2018 spring semester exhibit as part of the Art of Avocation series. Entitled, “Eye Rain and Heart Cramps,” Holbrook showcases her collection of paintings and mixed media artworks to tell stories about life’s challenges and other relatable experiences of everyday people. The exhibit is on display in the Laupus Library 4th floor gallery beginning March 20 and will run through June 1, 2018.

Fabric posting printing services offered for the first time at ECU

Beginning this semester, Laupus Library is offering poster printing on fabric media. There are several advantages of printing on fabric, especially when traveling with a poster. With the
100% polyester lightweight fabric, a poster can be folded up and stored in a luggage bag, when previously a cumbersome poster tube would have been required. The fabric is also not as delicate as the paper media, so you don’t have to worry about tearing or denting your poster, which can easily happen with the rolling and unrolling of paper prints.

ECU faculty, staff, and students can request fabric prints through the same process they’ve used to request paper prints in the past.

**Become a Friend in 2018**

The Friends of Laupus Library provide advocacy and support of the library, the health sciences community and East Carolina University. Friends serve as ambassadors by sharing information about the library’s programs and resources with the community and organizations beyond the library and the university. Please visit https://spark.adobe.com/page/xLTu2yK4X52rF/ for a photo story about Laupus Library and the Friends.

**Spring 2018 Medical History Interest Group Lectures**

*All Lectures are on the 4th floor of Laupus Library*

**Monday, February 26 at 4:30** *Clara Louise Maass: Servant Nurse Leader Undaunted*, Carol E. Winters, PhD, RN, CNE, Professor and Director, MSN Nursing Education Concentration

**Monday, March 26 at 4:30** *Death and Diversity in Civil War Medicine*, Margaret Humphreys, MD PhD, Josiah Charles Trent Professor in the History of Medicine, Professor of History, Professor of Medicine, Duke University

**Monday, April 9 at 4:30 pm** *The History of PTSD: How Cultural Narratives Affect the Patient Experience*, Sheena M. Eagan, MPH PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Bioethics and Interdisciplinary Studies

For more information about the presentations, please visit the presentation website http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/laupuslibrary/HOM/ or email History Collections at HSLHISTMED@ECU.EDU.

**Laupus celebrates new faces and new roles**

On November 13, 2017 *Jacob Parks* joined the Country Doctor Museum as Docent. His responsibilities include greeting guests and tour groups, collecting tour fees, providing guided tours, conducting retail sales, complete stocking duties in the museum gift shop, participating in educational and special event programs, assisting in general cleaning and maintenance of the public areas, and assisting with museum projects.

On December 1, 2017 *Megan Inman* was appointed as Collection Development Librarian and began work in the Collection Services department. She had been working in Collection Development in an interim role for two years prior. Her role includes managing collection decisions including selection, deselection, assessment, licensing, and acquisition processes for all materials in all formats. She also manages collections funds and works with colleagues at all ECU Libraries to implement collection development strategies and operations.
On December 1, 2017 **Marlena Barber** was appointed as Assistant Director of Collections & Historical Services. She previously oversaw History Collections in an interim role for the past two years. In addition to continuing supervision of the employees in History Collections and managing departmental programming, her new appointment additionally oversees Megan, provides guidance on collections budget and collections management activities, and she provides supervision for Annie Anderson, Curator of the Country Doctor Museum. She also continues to manage the application of cataloging, classification, and metadata standards in regard to all library collections and in all formats.

On December 1, 2017 **Roger Russell** assumed new duties as Associate Director for Laupus Library. In this role, he supervises personnel and daily operations of the library, and directly supervises the Assistant Director for Access Services and Assistant Director for Collections & Historical Services.

On January 16, 2018 **Amanda Haberstroh** joined Laupus Library as an Information Services Librarian and liaison to the College of Nursing. In this role, she will serve as a member of the Information Services team, providing library skills instruction and research support for faculty in College of Nursing, and other patrons needing help.

**Laupus Library’s Research Librarian selected as participant in National Library of Medicine Biomedical Health Research Data Management Program**

Laupus Library is pleased to announce Research Librarian, Kerry Sewell, as one of thirty-five participants selected throughout the nation in a National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM)-created program, Biomedical and Health Research Data Management for Librarians.

The program began January 8, 2018, introducing librarians to data issues and policies, with the goal of implementing or enhancing data services at their institution. The course topics include an overview of data management, choosing appropriate metadata descriptors or taxonomies for a dataset, addressing privacy and security issues with data, and creating data management plans.

The program offers an 8-week online class, mentoring by a data librarian, and completion of a capstone project at the end of the course. The experience will culminate in a summit at NIH, April 10-11, 2018.

NLM Director Patricia Flatley Brennan, RN, PhD, said, “We need data-sophisticated librarians who can assist the research process, the enterprise, in developing the resources and data services around them. The Biomedical and Health Research Data Management for Librarians program offers the kind of training that will develop librarians’ skills and develop practical and actionable data services at their own institutions.”

The Biomedical and Health Research Data Management is supported by grant UG4LM012344 from the National Library of Medicine.
Brody SOM will have its next full accreditation site visit in January 2020, and preparation is already underway for this effort. The Liaison Committee on Medical Education review process includes a 18-24 month intensive review process that involves students, faculty, staff and administration. In 2017, leaders in Academic Affairs advanced their planning for this by completing a “dress rehearsal” data collection instrument, which allowed for us to do a vulnerability analysis regarding accreditation requirements and begin addressing any areas of risk that were identified. This year, the process expands to involve the larger school community and will take considerable time and effort to prepare for submission of materials in the fall of 2019. A consultant is coming in May to provide a preparatory external vulnerability analysis and that will help inform areas of focus for summer/fall 2018.

Office of Medical Education
Brody 4th year medical students entered the residency match this year with the highest USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge scores in school history, above the US medical school average both in numerical average and in passing rate. The outcomes of the match will be known on March 16th.

M3 students will complete their clerkship training in March. At this point, the new curriculum will be fully implemented across all four years of training

M2 students are completing the Foundational Phase of the curriculum, and will begin preparing for their first in a series of three licensure examinations, the USMLE Step 1, in March.

The REACH© Initiative, funded through the AMA’s Accelerating Change in Medical Education, along with cosponsor Vidant Health, launched the third cohort of the Teachers of Quality Academy on January 24, 2018. This unique professional development program for healthcare leaders is a national exemplar designed to fundamentally change care delivery through a curriculum focused on building knowledge and skills in quality improvement and patient safety (QI/PS). Participants engage in advanced learning in these areas, develop projects to apply these skills across the health system, teach others in the clinical learning environment about these concepts, and evaluate the outcomes of improvement interventions. Leading by example, TQA participants promote a culture of quality and safety across our enterprise.
On January 31, 2018 the Brody School of Medicine REACH© Initiative and the Vidant Health Quality Office cohosted the second annual Unified Quality Improvement Symposium. The symposium is a showcase of initiatives happening throughout East Carolina University’s Health Sciences Campus and Vidant Health related to quality improvement, patient safety, population health, and interprofessional practice.

As a component of BSOM’s longitudinal Health Systems Science curriculum, the Office of Medical Education is collaborating with the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation to design and implement a unique curriculum to teach and assess interprofessional conflict management.

**Admissions**
We are mid-way through a national search process to recruit the next Assistant Dean for Admissions for Brody SOM. Dr. Jim Peden, who has been capably filling this role for over 20 years will be retiring in June 2019.

**Faculty Development**
Two Brody faculty have been recipients of important teaching awards recently – Stephanie Jilcott Pitts PhD, Public Health, has won a 2018 ECU Scholar Teachers Award. This is the first Brody Faculty to win this in several years. Jill Sutton MD (Brody alum, 2006), OB/GYN, was awarded the 2018 APGO William N. P. Herbert MD Promising Educator Award at the national meeting of OB/GYN educators.

Five Brody Faculty will be named Master Educators this year – David Eldridge MD, Pediatrics; Clinton Faulk MD, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation; Kristy Simeonsson MD MPH, Pediatrics and Public Health; Brian Shewchuk PhD, Biochemistry, and Michael Lang MD (Brody alum, 2004), Psychiatry and Internal Medicine.

On March 21st, Brody’s Office of Medical Education and Office of Faculty Development will co-host our 4th Medical Education Research Day. Dr. David Sloan will be our keynote speaker. Faculty from all four health sciences schools will be participating and judging. VMG physicians and Vidant Medical Center residents will also be participating. LINC Scholars and Research Track Scholars will be assisting with educational workshops in the morning.

Our newest cohort of faculty who joined the school within the last year are off and running in their participation in the year-long Leadership in Academic Medicine Program (LAMP), with regular sessions offered to help them develop their new roles as teachers, scholars, and university citizens.

Richard Klindworth, of ECU News Services, is offering a new faculty professional development program on Media Training for Brody faculty.

**Diversity and Inclusion**
The Office of Diversity Affairs continued their outreach to institutions in the UNC system, visiting North Carolina Central University in November where they spoke with students interested in possible careers in medicine. Other trips are in the works for the spring semester.
Dr. Kendall Campbell, Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion, and Michael Denning, EC Scholar and Early Assurance student ECU’s Honors College, traveled to Washington, DC to attend a conference on The Growing Absence of Black Men in Medicine and Science: An American Crisis workshop sponsored by the National Academy of Medicine. The photo below is of Dr. Campbell (kneeling) along with a few student attendees and EC scholar Michael Denning on the far right.

On Saturday, January 27th, the Brody Chapter of the Student National Medical Association hosted The 34th Annual Dr. Andrew A. Best, MD Senior Recognition Banquet with the theme of The Harlem Renaissance: Celebrating Enlightenment. The night consisted of celebrating the senior students, spoken word, dinner and a tribute to Dr. Andrew A. Best, MD. This year's winner of the Andrew A. Best, MD Scholarship is Student Doctor Jaleeka Rudd. The two winners of the North Carolina Minority Medical Grant are Student Doctors Joshua Jackson and Ismail Kassim.

The Brody Chapter of the Student National Medical Association also hosted their annual Pre-Medical Student Conference on November 11th. The theme was Diversifying the Face of Medicine. Over 80 students from across the state and their parents/guardians came to learn more about med school and the medical school process. The Office of Diversity Affairs has hosted an M4 Research & Writing Elective on URMM in Academic Medicine course in which two students, Student Doctor Jennifer Okpala and Student Doctor Nnenna Akaronu have participated so far.

The Office of Diversity Affairs along with the Department of Bioethics and Interdisciplinary Studies and the Military Medicine Interest Group hosted an event entitled "Pushing Past Stereotypes: Deconstructing Islamophobia and Best Practice for Muslim Patients" on January 16. Speaker Anderson Al Wazni, MSW facilitated a discussion on the current role of Muslims in society, the societal biases and negative perceptions that exist about Muslims and how to dismantle Islamophobia.

The Office of Diversity Affairs recently completed a search for the Director of Pipelines. This position will allow for a longitudinal approach to increasing numbers of underrepresented and disadvantaged students to the school of medicine, in keeping with our mission. The Office of Diversity Affairs has also secured space for a Learning Center that will be overseen by the Director of Pipelines.
Student Affairs
Drs. Susan Schmidt and Amanda Higginson (our Associate and Assistant Deans for Student Affairs) will be presenting their work with student preparation for residency interviews ‘Best Practices in Standardized Video Interviews’ at the AAMC Continuum Connections Conference in Orlando, FL in April 2018. This presentation is a joint venture with colleagues at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California.

Plans are underway for another outstanding Match Day at the Brody School of Medicine. Our senior students will find out their ultimate Match locations on Friday, March 16th at noon. We have three students who were in ‘early’ matches (military and ophthalmology) who have already celebrated successful matches!

Continuing Medical Education
Brody’s CME program collaborated with Eastern AHEC, the BSOM Department of Public Health, and Vidant Health on an interprofessional Rural Health Symposium on November 16 and 17 designed to address health and healthcare issues of our rural population. Participants came from 27 counties and 59 organizations. Topics included aging populations, health disparities, transportation solutions, telehealth, integrated care, community food resources, school based care, workforce diversity, and more. Numerous connections were made among participants from the university and the community with goals to work together to address challenges of our region. (https://news.ecu.edu/2017/11/28/challenges-andopportunities/)

Education about the opiate crisis and safe prescribing has been offered by the Office of Continuing Education, with over 20 conferences and teaching sessions to increase the knowledge of physicians and other prescribing providers on the safe use of opiates as well as alternatives to treat pain. Over 1,000 providers have participated in the opiate education sessions offered by the ECU CME office.

Brody’s CME program presented a Military Women’s Health Symposium on August 23 addressing health issues experienced by women who have served, or who are currently serving, in the military. Clinical and research experts from ECU discussed orthopedic and pelvic issues as well as headaches and mental health conditions such as PTSD and depression. (http://www.reflector.com/News/2017/08/24/Military-serviceraises-special-health-care-needs-for-women.html)

Simulation
The BSOM Interprofessional Clinical Simulation Program continues to grow and gain recognition for its educational activities. The Simulation Center had over 5600 learners the first half of FY17, an increase of over 1600 learners from the same period last year. The Simulation Center expects over 10,000 learner encounters this year, compared to 8,200 last year.

The CSC has added a self-study program and equipment for medical students to learn basic clinical skills such as auscultation, ultrasound, suturing, and eye and ear exams. VMC nurses continue to collaborate in the instruction of medical students during their Doctoring course skills sessions, and during clinical clerkship simulations. Weekly interprofessional education Internal Medicine/Critical Care simulation sessions are now incorporating nursing and respiratory students from Pitt Community College and Vidant Medical Center Emergency Response Team nurses.

The CSC helped medical student groups coordinate a program using the Osprey MV-22 military transport simulator and the annual Emergency Medicine Interest Group Disaster Day, which simulated a mass casualty event. Both of these programs received local media coverage.
BSOM Clinical Simulation Center is developing a partnership with Pitt County EMS to assess CPR responses in Pitt County High Schools. The program was piloted in December at North Pitt High School. These simulations will continue in the spring, adding a transport component to the Vidant Emergency Department.

The Simulation program is working on development of a 10-week Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) course to prepare faculty and staff to obtain CHSE certification, a designation given by the Society of Simulation in Healthcare (SSH). A simulation facilitator/educator module is being developed in collaboration with the College of Nursing and VMC Center for Learning and Performance to enhance the ability of faculty members to educate using simulation-based educational modalities.

Clinical Simulation Program faculty and staff presented several topics related to faculty development, CHSE preparation, IPE, and simulation policies and procedures at the January 2018 International Society of Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH) Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA. Notably, David Schiller, the BSOM Simulation Operations Specialist, passed the Certified Healthcare Simulation Operations Specialist (CHSOS) exam administered by the SSH.

The mobile Healthcare Simulation Unit (HSU) was a featured attraction at the regional Pediatric Neonatal Clinical Update meeting at the Hilton Greenville on November 3, 2017. There, over 150 providers saw the HSU in action. The CSC also piloted a mobile simulation event with Outer Banks Hospital and Dare County EMS in Nags Head, NC, using the Healthcare Simulation Unit. This is an important partnership as the Outer Banks emergency department is affiliated with the ECU/VMC emergency department. The Simulation Program has collaborated with Eastern AHEC, the School of Dental Medicine, and the College of Business to develop a novel course to meet the newly mandated NC dental sedation license educational requirements. The next program associated with this grant-funded project is scheduled in Elizabeth City, NC, using the mobile Healthcare Simulation Unit (HSU). The Simulation Center is also developing a program in collaboration with the NC Athletic Trainers Association.

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**Research**

- **Developing methods to cultivate human immune cells.** Mark Mannie, PhD (Microbiology) received a grant from the NC Biotechnology Center to develop reagents and strategies for growing human regulatory T cells outside the body.

- **Brody Brothers Endowment funds seven seed grants from BSOM faculty (total awards = $254,426).**
  - Mark Mannie, PhD (Microbiology) - Tolerogenic vaccination in multiple sclerosis
  - Joseph McClung, PhD (Physiology), Dean Yamaguchi, MD (Cardiovascular Sciences) and Darrell Neufer, PhD (Physiology) - Omics to identify biomarkers and validate bioenergetic pathways for therapeutic intervention in peripheral arterial disease
  - Kym Gowdy, PhD (Pharmacology) - Novel role of immune cell specialized pro-resolving mediators in ozone induced lung injury
  - Myon Hee Lee, PhD (Medicine) and Barbara Mueller-Borer, PhD (Biomedical Engineering) - Pumilio 2 as a potential target for bone marrow adiposity
  - Rukiyah Van Dross, PhD (Pharmacology) and Kym Gowdy, PhD (Pharmacology) - 15D-PMJ2 as a potent damp Inducer in melanoma
• Nasreen Vohra, MD (Surgery) and Kathryn Verbanac, PhD (Surgery) - Understanding the biology of metastases in breast cancer through molecular characterization of human tumor, sentinel and non-sentinel nodes sets
• Karen Litwa, PhD (Anatomy/Cell Biology) - The environmental toxicant fluoxetine drives autism synaptic pathology

❖ Tracking Gen X in the drinking water of Eastern NC. Jamie DeWitt, PhD (Pharmacology), David Collier, MD PhD (Pediatrics) and Suzanne Lea, PhD (Public Health) are collaborating with investigators at NCSU on an NIH grant to study the effects of Gen X in the drinking water of Eastern NC. GenX is a chemical by-product of non-stick cookware production.

❖ Studying ways to disrupt adult leukemia virus. Isabelle Lemasson, PhD (Microbiology) received an NIH grant to study methods for disrupting the actions of Human T-cell Leukemia Virus type 1 (HTLV-1). The virus causes a fatal malignancy known as adult T-cell leukemia (ATL) and a progressive neurological disorder known as HTLV-1 associated myelopathy/tropical spastic paraparesis (HAM/TSP).

❖ Advising the FDA. Walter Pories, MD (Surgery) has been appointed to the FDA Advisory Committee for Devices and Radiologic Health

❖ Graduate Student Successes. Korin Leffler (Pharmacology) received a Travel Award from the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics to attend the 2018 Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego; Christine Psaltis (Pharmacology) received a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Diversity Enrichment Grant that will support supplies and travel for two years.

❖ Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship. Stephanie Pitts, PhD (Public Health) will receive an ECU Scholar-Teacher Award at an ECU-wide recognition event on April 9, 2018.

Community Service

❖ In November, the Brody School of Medicine hosted the annual Pre-Medical Educational Conference. Presented by the Student National Medical Association, the conference served as a learning resource for underrepresented pre-medical students, their families and guidance counselors. Participants were provided with information and tips for applying to medical school and given tours of various Brody labs.

❖ The Public Health Graduate Student Organization and Public Health Interest Group worked together to organize a toy drive on the Brody campus this holiday season. Donations benefitted pediatric patients of the Maynard Children’s Hospital.

❖ Dr. Sy Saeed, chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, was interviewed by the Daily Reflector on mental health concerns during the holiday season. Depression and seasonal affective disorder are common medical conditions that can be triggered by stress occurring during holidays. Travel, gift expenses, and family are common causes of holiday stress.
WITN, WNCT, and WCTI interviewed Dr. Ted Delbridge, Chair of Emergency Medicine, about the dangers associated with sledding. Accidents can be particularly severe when a sled or inner tube is tied to the back of a vehicle or 4-wheeler and pulled at high speeds. Delbridge recommends sledding on hills that don’t end on a street, avoiding head first sledding, and wearing a helmet if higher speeds are expected.

Clinical Practice

ECU Physicians had a bottom-line loss of ($4.2M) in the first six months of fiscal year 18 (July – December 2017). Some of the loss is due to an upgrade done on the EPIC Electronic Health Record (EHR) in August, resulting in patient care appointments being reduced over a two week period. In October, due to an error at EPIC, one of the managed care plans was eliminated from the patient’s financial information, resulting in those patient’s accounts moving into self-pay. This was caught fairly quickly, but did cause a delay in some patient’s accounts for 3-4 weeks. ECU Physicians budgets for a loss during the first half of a new fiscal year, due to new faculty hires, established faculty departures, graduating residents and fellows leaving and faculty and staff vacations and the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

ECU Physicians is scheduled to receive a UPL payment for the FY 16 reconciliation in late February 2018 and a FY 18 Quarter 1 UPL payment in March 2018. We estimate those two payments to be approximately $5.5M - $6M.

ECU Physicians cash reserves at the end of December 2017 were $53.4M or 121.4 days of cash on hand. The ECU Physicians Board encourages ECU Physicians to have 90 days of cash on hand at all times.