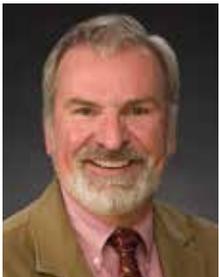


Alumni Connections



GREETINGS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

A time of change: New graduates, new facilities, new programs



We recently entered that exciting time of the year at Methodist Health System when we graduate a group of trainees, advance all current learners to the next year, and enroll a new group of first-year residents and fellows. It is always bittersweet.

While it's thrilling to launch a new cadre of graduates completing their residencies or fellowships, it's emotionally difficult to say goodbye to newly certified doctors with whom we have enjoyed working over the years.

The pages to follow will provide updates for you from some of our training programs. At the institutional level:

- We broke ground on a new patient care tower at Methodist Mansfield Medical Center in March.
- The new Methodist Richardson Medical Center opened in April.
- The Charles A. Sammons Tower for emergency, trauma, and critical care at Methodist Dallas Medical Center opened in July.
- We received notification from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education of entering the New Accreditation System for our institutional accreditation.

We also held our graduation ceremonies at the Dallas Marriott City Center at the Plaza of the Americas on June 14. It was a fun, well-attended, and moving ceremony during which we presented awards and certificates of completion.

We hope you will drop by the Graduate Medical Education office at Methodist on your next visit to Dallas.

Best wishes to you and your families,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Cullison".

Sam Cullison, MD, Designated Institutional Officer and Vice President Graduate Medical Education

2014 celebration honors 27 resident graduates

On the evening of Saturday, June 14, Methodist Health System Graduate Medical Education (GME) held its annual graduation celebration at the Dallas Marriott City Center Plaza of the Americas convention center.

The event was well attended by those residents and fellows completing their training programs along with their families, teaching faculty, Methodist staff, and junior trainees.

Along with the usual number of graduates from our family medicine (6), general surgery (2 plus 4 transitional), internal medicine (9), OB-GYN (3), and hepatopancreaticobiliary (1) programs, this year we also celebrated our first-ever fellows from the new gastroenterology (1), nephrology (2), and surgical critical care (1) programs.

Methodist President and CEO Stephen L. Mansfield, PhD, FACHE, and his wife, Marilyn, attended the event, representing the health system's senior administration. Dr. Mansfield congratulated the graduates during his welcoming address. GME is fortunate to enjoy strong support from Methodist, and attendance by our leader is a superb example of this continued tradition.



The OB-GYN residency program coordinator, faculty, and outgoing residents celebrate at the graduation awards banquet on July 14 at the Dallas Marriot City Center.



Nephrology graduate fellows Mandeep Singh, MD (left), and Luis Torres, MD (right), are congratulated by program director Roberto Collazo-Maldonado, MD, at the GME Program's graduation ceremony.

RESIDENCY PROGRAM UPDATES

Read on to see how Methodist Health System's residency and fellowship programs are growing and contributing to the education of health care professionals.

Family medicine

This summer we wished the Methodist Family Medicine Residency Program graduates well as they moved forward into outpatient group practices, urgent care, and a sports medicine fellowship. We celebrated their many accomplishments at our annual resident roast.

We're now excited to work with our incoming interns:

- **Erin Donaldson**, DO, University of North Texas Health Science Center
- **Shaun Garff**, DO, A.T. Still University School of Medicine
- **Josh Martak**, MD, St. Louis University School of Medicine
- **Annie Nguyen**, MD, UT Southwestern Medical Center
- **Devin Sessions**, MD, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- **Kim Tran**, MD, UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Our program also had a strong showing at the Texas Academy of

Family Physicians (TAFP) research event in June (see photo below). **Khadija Kabani**, DO, assistant osteopathic director, won first prize in the Fellows and Residents section for her poster, "Does Using a Simple, Short, Engaging Video Improve Patient Knowledge and Change Attitudes on the Appropriate Use of Antibiotics for URIs?"

Congratulations also go to Dr. Tran, who won the highest honor of the evening — a \$1,000 TAFP scholarship.

Gastroenterology

Methodist's gastroenterology (GI) fellowship program continues to grow. We started with our first fellow in January 2012, and we have added two additional fellows in the last three years. Our first fellow **Jeffrey Ellison**, MD, will graduate at the end of this calendar year. He plans to practice GI in north-western Arkansas.

In July we added two new first-year fellows: **Alex Myint**, MD, joins us from the University of Colorado, and **Stephen Steele**, MD, comes to us from the University of Texas at San Antonio. All our fellows continue to be active in learning how to care for GI and liver patients.

Additionally, the fellows have participated in research and have been published.

General surgery

We recently had two residents graduate from our general surgery residency program, **Jeremy Albin**, MD, and

Jason Murry, MD. Dr. Albin came from the University of Nebraska and is going into private practice in Nebraska. Dr. Murry came from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and is now doing a surgical critical care fellowship in California at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Our two new categorical residents are **Karalyn Bentley-Kumar**, MD, from the University of Oklahoma, and **Jonathan Dang**, MD, from Texas A&M University. Our surgery program has expanded to include the newly required American Board of Surgery Flexible Endoscopy curriculum. **Anand Lodha**, MD, is directing the skills simulation lab. **Vanessa Shifflette**, MD, and **Darryl Amos**, MD, are teaching robotic surgery.

Dr. Amos graduated from the surgical critical care fellowship June 30, and we welcomed our new fellow, **Van Johnson**, MD, for the 2014–15 academic year.

Internal medicine

The Internal Medicine Residency Program welcomed nine new first-year residents July 1 after proudly graduating eight PGY-3 residents in June. The graduates and their future plans are as follows:

- Chief Resident **Josh Evans**, DO, internal medicine, Bowie
- Chief Resident **Salman Raheem**, DO, academic hospitalist, Methodist Dallas Medical Center
- **Ahsan Choudhury**, DO, academic hospitalist, Methodist Dallas



Ronya Green, MD, director of medical students for the Family Medicine Residency Program, was recently appointed to the Communications Committee of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine.

- **Valerie DeLuca**, DO, internal medicine, Eastland
- **Andrew Heymann**, MD, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- **Vil Tano**, MD, hospitalist, Willis Knighton Hospital, Shreveport, Louisiana
- **Sheeba Varughese**, DO, hematology/oncology fellowship, Louisiana State University Medical Center, Shreveport
- **Javad Vaziri**, DO, critical care fellowship, St. Louis University.

Since February, our residents and faculty presented 21 research projects or clinical vignettes at the following meetings:

- Southern Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, New Orleans
- Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting, Las Vegas
- Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, San Diego
- American College of Physicians North Texas Regional Annual Meeting, Dallas
- Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Quality Summit, Dallas.

Three of our faculty members have also received recognition:

- **Isitri Modak**, MD, has been named to the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine Education Committee and will serve for the next two years.
- **Leslie Cler**, MD, has been

named the director of utilization management for Methodist.

- **Stephen Hines**, MD, is completing a six-month faculty development fellowship through the Harvard Medical School Center for Palliative Medicine.

New specialty faculty-led clinics will be opening at the Methodist Dallas Golden Cross Academic Clinic:

- Palliative care clinic, led by Dr. Hines
- Infectious diseases, led by **Leigh Hunter**, MD
- Readmission reduction clinic for high-risk hospital discharges, led by Drs. Modak and Cler.



Former OB-GYN residency director and department chairman **Stephen Patrick**, MD (second from left), now serves as a full-time medical missionary in Guatemala, but returns to Dallas every six to eight weeks to help with medical education. Current residents (from left) **Karen Edwards-Key**, MD; **Elayna Brooks**, MD; **Kristin Owens**, MD; and **Eduardo Jaramillo**, MD, and residency program graduate **Humberto De Los Santos**, MD, welcome him back to Methodist this past July.

Nephrology

Our nephrology fellowship program graduated its first fellows: **Mandeep Singh**, MD, and **Luis Torres**, MD. Under program director **Roberto Collazo-Maldonado**, MD, they completed two years of clinical training in nephrology and are board-eligible for the subspecialty certification. We are proud of their accomplishments and wish them the best in their careers.

Randolph Torres, MD, received his promotion to second year of training. He will be joined by our new, enthusiastic first-year fellows, **Nilson Feliz**, MD, from Universidad

Autónoma de Guadalajara School of Medicine in Mexico, and **Manuel Fernandez-Palmer**, MD, from Universidad Iberoamericana School of Medicine in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, both of whom started their fellowships July 1.

OB-GYN

We were off to an exciting year as we welcomed our three new interns, **Karen Edwards-Key**, MD, Texas Tech University; **Jacob Garcia**, MD, UT Southwestern; and **Kristin Owens**, MD, the University of Arkansas, at a party at The Lot in East Dallas.

In June, we graduated **David**

Banh, MD; **Leora Cavazos Collins**, MD; and **Melodi Reese-Holley**, MD. Dr. Banh joined the academic practice of Texas Tech at Midland/Odessa. Dr. Collins will be practicing in Denton. Dr. Reese-Holley stayed with us here at Methodist Dallas Medical Center, joining the practice of **Patricia LaRue**, MD; **Theresa Patton**, MD; and **Kecia Foxworth**, MD, all former graduates of this program.

We have successfully implemented a

urogynecology rotation with **Brian Feagins**, MD, at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital.

With assistance from our newest faculty member, **Courtney Rhoades**, DO, we are establishing a robotic surgical curriculum aimed at providing our graduates with necessary skills and training to acquire privileges upon graduation. Lastly, we are attempting to establish international rotations with assistance from members of our staff already performing such work on a regular basis.



Methodist Health System Family Medicine Residency Program residents (from left) **Bruce Kinney**, DO; **Chanida Supavong**, DO; **Anastasia Benson**, DO; **Jessica Bischoff**, DO; **Gabriela Aguayo Arias**, MD; and **Chad Nyland**, DO, presented at the program's 19th annual Research Day at Methodist Charlton Medical Center in June. Drs. Aguayo Arias, Benson, and Kinney shared research titled "Changing the Stigma of HIV Screening: The Effects of HIV Awareness Campaigns on HIV Screening in an Urban Family Medicine Clinic." "Physical Activity and Relationship to Mood in Children and Adolescents" was the title of Drs. Bischoff, Nyland, and Supavong's presentation.



Methodist Richardson Medical Center Atrium



Physician Office Building II planned for the Methodist Mansfield campus



*Then Methodist Dallas President Laura Irvine, FACHE, with (from left) Program Director of General Surgery **Ernest Dunn, MD**; Medical Director of Emergency Services **Robert Simonson, DO**; and Medical Director of Trauma Services **Michael Truitt, MD**, at the Sammons Tower grand opening celebration.*

Thank you for helping us grow and serve

Since April 2014, Methodist Health System has opened the new Methodist Richardson Medical Center at Renner Road and the President George Bush Highway (MethodistHealthSystem.org/Richardson) and the Charles A. Sammons Tower at Methodist Dallas Medical Center (MethodistHealthSystem.org/SammonsTower). This fall we'll top out a second patient care tower at Methodist Mansfield Medical Center (MethodistHealthSystem.org/MansfieldExpansion).

Methodist Mansfield's campus will also be home to a new physician office building, and the Methodist Richardson campus on Campbell Road has been converted to the Methodist Richardson – Campus for Continuing Care, home of services provided by Methodist Richardson such as physical therapy, behavioral health, wound care and hyperbaric medicine, and emergency, and of other post-acute services offered by independent third parties.

"We've had so much to celebrate, and we're grateful to the many physicians on our medical staff who have supported these transitions both with their expertise and their financial support," says Pam Stoyanoff, Methodist executive vice president/chief operating officer. "We're proud to offer world-class facilities where physicians can learn, teach, and continue to save and improve lives according to our mission."

JOIN OUR TEAM. If you're interested in returning to Methodist Health System as a member of our medical staff, call Susan Hellman or Kay Wysong, directors of physician recruiting, at 214-947-7140.

Alumni Connections

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Alumni Connections is published as a courtesy for the former residents of the Graduate Medical Education program at Methodist Health System, 1441 N. Beckley Ave., Dallas, TX 75203, 214-947-2342, MethodistHealthSystem.org/GME.

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