Magen
Issues
a Call
to Action

MSU-COM Dean Myron S. Magen said that the hemorrhage of osteopathic physicians seeking graduate medical education outside the profession is increasing and that immediate changes and active leadership are needed to stop it.

The dean gave his call to action at a special November symposium on the future of osteopathic graduate medical education, sponsored by the MSU-COM Student Council, in collaboration with the Class of 1992.

"We are victims of our own success," Magen said. "We are beset, bedevilled and bedraggled and all because—purposefully, accidentally, consciously, unconsciously—we did something right."

Magen said that the overwhelming success enjoyed by the osteopathic profession prevented the problems of graduate medical education from coming to light until serious damage had been done. Although the American Osteopathic Association’s Board of Trustees has launched several initiatives to address the drain of osteopathic physicians into allopathic graduate education, Magen is concerned that the efforts are too little, too late. Students and recent graduates still perceive AOA programs to be of lesser quality than ACCME programs, to more likely be service, rather than teaching-oriented, to pay less and to be less flexible geographically, said the dean.

"In the minds of an increasing number of our students, we as a profession are not in the ball game," Magen said. "Granted, the playing field is not level and we go into the game with a marked disadvantage, we are a distant second (to human medicine) in the game of CME."

Magen offered a range of solutions to improve osteopathic CME. Many of the dean’s ideas centered on improving the relationships of AOA with its members, its committees and with its colleague organizations. He also urged the development of consortia like the Michigan COGME plan which has been successful in filling positions and providing residents the high quality training they seek.

Magen said that the profession must go beyond its competitive concern regarding allopathic residencies, and concentrate on providing quality education for those that remain in the profession.

"We must wake up to the realization that medical education is expensive and quality education is very expensive," Magen said.

The dean cited a recent article in Academic Medicine that described osteopathic graduates as an "untapped reservoir of physician talent" that should be increasingly recruited for internal medicine residency positions, which have not been filled in recent years. Because osteopathic physicians score well on the internal medicine certifying boards, D.O.s are a "potential pool" to fill these positions.

Magen called for constructive action and leadership that will look at the big picture.

"It is time to value quality and to set standards of excellence in all we do, so that we earn and deserve the respect of the next generation."

Also speaking at the symposium were AOA President Mitchell Kosavac and Christopher Meyer, vice president for medical education at Flint Osteopathic Hospital. Following the formal presentations, a panel discussion with the audience included input from Douglas Wood, MSU-COM associate dean, Howard Teitelbaum, professor of community health science and Dennis Lemanski, director of medical education at Riverside Osteopathic Hospital.

In This Issue

CME at Lansing General Hospital

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Research for Disabled Children

The MSU-COM Dean Search
The College of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University offers a robust curriculum designed to prepare students for a successful career in medicine. The program emphasizes hands-on learning and clinical experience, with a focus on integrative and patient-centered care.

The curriculum is structured to provide a comprehensive foundation in the basic sciences, as well as in the clinical and behavioral sciences. Students are exposed to a variety of clinical settings early in their education, allowing them to develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success in their future careers.

The College of Osteopathic Medicine is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive community, and is dedicated to preparing future physicians who are committed to serving their communities and improving the health of all patients.

Overall, the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University is an excellent choice for students who are passionate about medicine and are committed to making a difference in the lives of their patients.
Dear C. O.,

Hospital with regard to the

hospital.

The problem is that the

hospital is not accepting

complaints at this time.

We are currently working on

solving the issue.

John A. Peter

Executive Director

Hospital Administration

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February 22-24, 1999
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A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO
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Brain Injury to Employment
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INCREASED BRIEF LIVE LONGER
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