Even though she’s now approaching middle age, Communiqué is getting leaner and greener!

There’s no doubt that the worldwide economic downturn has impacted the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and most of its family. What keeps us healthy in these troubled times is the spirit, the generosity, and the diversification of activity that’s reflected in our college and its constituents. There are challenges. There are cuts. There will be pain. But we can and will weather it together.

With renewed commitment to our most important priorities, the college can find opportunity in the challenges. One of the areas that we’re reassessing is in your hands. We’re exploring how we can retain the best of Communiqué, providing you with the information you need and the images you want to see. At the same time, as stewards of both our finances and our environment, it makes very good sense at this point to look at reducing the amount of paper we use, the amount of transportation required to ship a paper publication, and the ever-increasing costs of production and postage.

You’re going to see a gradual shift from paper to electrons, bearing in mind that many of our alumni prefer a printed publication. But for those of you comfortable reading online, we’ll be ramping up and renovating our Web presence, sprucing up and expanding our electronic newsletter, integrating our information in more usable ways, and offering more in the way of RSS feeds, social media sites, and Twitter-style communication. The paper magazine, now 36 years old, will continue for some time, but you will see changes.

If you’re comfortable curling up with a good screen, please make sure that MSUCOM has your best email address for information and publications by sending it to meghan.tappy@hc.msu.edu, and by indicating your connection to the college (e.g. alumni, faculty, student, staff, clinical faculty, etc.). And because this is your publication, we want to hear your preferences and input about making the Communiqué of the future one that will best meet your needs!

William D. Strampel, D.O., Dean
FEATURES

Going the Distance .................................................. 4-5
How new technology will connect classrooms at our three sites

Introducing the New Director for IIH.............................. 8-9
The Institute of International Health welcomes Reza Nassiri as its new leader.

A Mind for Caring.................................................... 12
Alumna Col. Jill Hendra discusses her commitment to the military and her community.

Solving Mysteries.................................................... 20
Alumnus Steven Pitt explains some of his experiences in forensic psychiatry.

On The Cover:
MSUCOM students
Steve Proper, Tyler Voss,
Tim Larsen, Julia Carp,
Amanda Freschauf,
Nicole Szell with
Dr. Shirley Siew

CONTENTs

Departments

Research .................................................. 10-11
Students .................................................. 13-17
Alumni Network ........................................ 21-22
MOA ..................................................... 23
Development............................................. 24
Calendar of Events........... inside back cover

MSUCOM appreciates the generous and continuing support
for COMMUNIQUÉ offered through the
Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation.
Thank you!
This June will see the official opening of MSUCOM’s expansion sites in southeast Michigan and, with that, 100 students will be in the region starting their first medical course – gross anatomy.

“The gross anatomy laboratory at the Detroit Medical Center (DMC) will be ready for our students, but the laboratory at the Macomb University Center is still under construction,” said Associate Dean for Student Services William Falls, Ph.D. “So, for this year and this year alone, all of our students in southeast Michigan will be taking gross anatomy at the DMC.”

Falls, himself a professor of anatomy, and the rest of the anatomy faculty have been working to make the student experience consistent across each location, especially when it comes to the laboratory section of the course.

“I’m an advocate of hands-on teaching with cadavers for all of our students,” said Falls. “Other tools, such as the online virtual models we provide, are great for review, but there is no substitute for having students working and handling the real thing.”

Another focus has been enabling fellowship and establishing support for the incoming students. “For the lecture section of the course, some of the faculty will be in East Lansing and broadcasting their lectures to the DMC, while others will be at the DMC broadcasting to students in East Lansing. I myself will be down in southeast Michigan for a couple of weeks during the summer, not only to teach our students, but to get to know them. No matter where the lecturer is, there will be faculty present at each location to assist the students.”

Dr. John Fitzsimmons, assistant professor, has been playing a key role in making the teaching preparations for the gross anatomy course in southeast Michigan.

“The one thing we want to make clear is that our class is a course which is using some distance learning technology. It isn’t an online course,” he explained.

“We will be using new things like video conferencing to connect the morning lectures to the other site, but we will also be using online resources like ANGEL, which has provided excellent support to our students for many years now. For the laboratory section of the course, students will be part of their own group with an on-site anatomist.

“Integrating the new technology has been going smoothly,” continued Fitzsimmons. “We’re getting a lot of great technical support. The biggest challenge we face is that for the incoming students in southeast Michigan, we won’t have the usual group of second-year students to tutor students in the course.”

Fortunately, southeast Michigan has a high number of MSUCOM students doing their third- and fourth-year clinical rotations.

“We’ve asked our students in the area if they would be willing to help the incoming southeast students in anatomy,” said Dr. Gillian Bice, who has been working on providing academic support to all the incoming students. “We’ve also asking second-year students who will already be in the area while they are on break from their own classes to help as well. We’ve had a really strong response. More than 90 students have volunteered. Fellow students play an important role in helping new students and making them feel a part of the college.”

As the logistical challenges of the first multi-site class are addressed, all those involved are focused on one shared goal. “The bottom line,” stated Bice, “is we want to do what’s best for our students, wherever they are located.”
by Craig Reed

The opportunities available in southeast Michigan are not limited to the 100 incoming students who will be starting in June. For MSUCOM alumni with practices in this region, it is an opening to fulfill an important osteopathic responsibility — educating the next generation of D.O.s.

“I’ve always been interested in teaching,” said ’96 alumna Laura Kovalcik. “My grandparents were both teachers, and I was considering it as a career path before I became interested in medicine. This is an opportunity to give back to the students. You can learn things from others that a book can’t explain to you.”

Kovalcik is one of the newest faculty for MSUCOM — physicians who, after receiving training in education, bring their years of experience into the classroom to share with our medical students.

“It’s our responsibility as osteopathic physicians to give back and train the upcoming D.O.s,” said ‘86 alumnus Christopher Schnurer, who has been the director of medical education at Mount Clemens Regional Medical Center for three years. “Most of us who will be working with students at the Macomb University Center and Detroit Medical Center have been helping to teach classes during the spring semester.”

Assisting in the classroom helps new faculty hone their skills before they start working with the incoming students at the expansion sites. “We’re called on to demonstrate a lot of things to the students and answer the many questions they have,” said Schnurer. “We have to be well prepared. I’ve been working with students most of my career. I’ve enjoyed interacting with them.”

For ’94 alumnus Jay Danto, becoming a faculty member has allowed him to expand his student involvement. “I almost always have one or two medical students shadowing me in my office, but I’ve wanted to teach more formally as well,” said Danto. When Interim Associate Dean Gary Willyerd invited Danto to join the faculty team, he jumped at the opportunity. “It’s something new that I’m really excited about. I’m working with students in the ‘Doctor-Patient Relationship’ course, which was one of my favorite classes as a student. It’s been 18 years since I took the course and it’s still being taught in the same osteopathic way.”

“It’s been interesting so far,” said Kovalcik, reflecting on her recent experiences with the students. “It’s fun working with them and getting their perspective. Some have previous exposure to medicine before starting classes here, while others are being exposed to it for the first time. You have to keep this in mind as you work with them.”

“I’ve been emphasizing to the students the importance of taking the time to get to know your patients as well as getting them familiar with what looks normal and what does not,” said Danto. “Because I specialize in OMM, I also teach the students not only how to listen to the musculoskeletal system, but how to feel viscera like the lungs as well. How to examine as well as connect with patients is a timeless art. I try to make it clear to the students that I’m there to share my experience and help make them into the best physicians that they can be.”

Sharing a Wealth of Experience

As faculty, Kovalcik shares her years of experience with MSUCOM students.

Danto shares his insights with students during their doctor-patient relationship course.
The addition of distance learning technology to the MSUCOM educational experience brings with it new possibilities as well as challenges. But what is distance learning and what does it take to make it happen seamlessly?

“Essentially, we’re taking existing lecture halls and turning them into broadcast studios,” said Academic Tech Coordinator John McDaniel, who has been working behind the scenes to incorporate distance learning into the classroom. “The challenge with our converted lecture halls is that, instead of having a human crew overseeing everything, it has to be performed using automation as much as possible.”

An earlier form of this technology has been around in the form of videoconferencing, which used special phone lines to connect different locations together. “We’re using Internet Protocol (IP) which is a more affordable system for transmitting data,” said McDaniel. Using the Internet to transmit information does present its own challenges since the traffic can fluctuate greatly from day to day or even hour to hour. “We’re creating a priority channel connecting East Lansing to the expansion sites so we’re minimally affected by the rise and fall of Internet traffic throughout the day,” explained McDaniel. “Otherwise a lecture occurring at 8:00 a.m. will look fine, but as network traffic increases throughout the day, the quality of the sound and picture will deteriorate. So it’s important that we identify chokepoints between us and the far campuses.”

Chokepoints for data traffic are similar to the traffic jams people experience while driving their cars around town. During off-peak times, driving isn’t a problem, but during rush hour, certain roads, that don’t have enough lanes to match demand, back up. “We have been looking at all the devices that connect us to southeast Michigan to find which need to be replaced and updated to maximize our data flow and eliminate chokepoints,” said McDaniel. “We’re striving for consistent data flow.”

Connectivity is only the first thing that needs to be addressed to optimize the distance learning experience. Another consideration is the environment within the lecture rooms. “The technology we’re using really isn’t that exotic. The complexity comes from all the details to make this an ideal learning environment for the students at other locations can follow the lesson in real time.

Thanks to distance technology, faculty can teach from one location . . .
students. There are lighting as well as acoustic issues we face in these rooms, for example,” explained McDaniel. “If a professor is presenting material on a screen, he or she will have the lighting turned down in the room. However, if we want students at the remote sites to be able to see what is going on, we need to have the instructor standing in enough light to be seen, but not so much that the professor is blinded. Another important thing is to make certain the speaker — whether that’s a student at one of the sites, the lecturer or the faculty support — can be heard without all the background noise that occurs within a classroom.”

Most of the remaining anticipated problems are being solved through faculty development. “We’re focused on getting the faculty familiar with the technology,” said McDaniel. “We want them to understand when they need to use their mouse or annotative pen to click on something so everyone at each location can see and hear what’s going on. We’re going to have identical technology at each site so if faculty members who regularly lecture from East Lansing decide to present from the DMC, for example, they will find the same technology in the same location within each room. We’re also offering standardized PowerPoint templates for the faculty that use nicely contrasting colors and fonts that are at the ideal size for the viewing screens at each site.”

With all three sites set up to receive and broadcast lectures, this allows MSUCOM to tap potential faculty in southeast Michigan without them commuting to East Lansing. “This system has been very user friendly so far,” said ’99 alumna Lori Dillard, who will be the site coordinator for Macomb’s OMM classes. “I was doubtful at first that such a setup could work, but I’ve been learning the system this semester and so far there have been very few glitches. By helping the students at the Macomb site, I don’t have to drive all the way to East Lansing to work with the students. This means I can spend quality time with the students while also being able to spend more time in front of my patients.”

With a robust back-up system and a comprehensive support network should any problems surface, McDaniel still expects small glitches will arise. “There will be challenges with making certain classes start on time and end on time, for example. When you are broadcasting to other sites, things have to run on a more precise schedule. We will also have to work out how to get students who want to talk with their instructors not to wait at the front of the room where we’ll be working to get everything ready for the next class,” he said.

As the summer anatomy course approaches, McDaniel and his crew are finishing up the final details for the distance learning aspect. “We go live in June,” he said. “The dean has committed the college to distance education, and we’re about to make this all a reality.”
NEW TO SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

DENISE JONES has joined the MSUCOM expansion site at the Macomb University Center where she is serving as the administrative assistant to Interim Associate Dean Kari Hortos. Jones comes to us from Mount Clemens Regional Medical Center where she served as the executive assistant to the president. “It’s really exciting to be part of MSUCOM’s expansion,” said Jones. “I have lived in Macomb all my life. MSUCOM’s presence in the county means a lot to us.”

EBONEY HOWARD has accepted the position of administrative assistant to Interim Associate Dean Gary Willyerd at the MSUCOM expansion site at the Detroit Medical Center. “I was a medical education coordinator at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital for five years,” said Howard. “I really enjoy working with the students. It gives me a sense of making a difference when I get to coach them through the process. In this new position, I’m going to try to find a lot of ways to offer support to them.”

BARBARA BUTYTER has joined as the new assistant administrative director of MSUCOM’s expansion site at the Detroit Medical Center. Her formal educational background includes a bachelor’s degree from Western Michigan University. She also holds a master’s degree in health services administration from New School University. Prior to joining MSUCOM, her previous position was that of director of behavioral services at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital, a role that encompassed supervision of more than 120 employees. Ms. Butyter has also developed and implemented numerous educational programs for health care professionals.

by Craig Reed

If you’ve been driving around southeast Michigan, you may have seen the MSUCOM billboards on area expressways, drawing attention to the upcoming expansion sites at the Detroit Medical Center and Macomb University Center.

The billboards have helped raise awareness in the community to MSUCOM’s presence, its strengthening commitment to the state, and the expanding opportunities for students interested in osteopathic medicine.

MSUCOM Billboards!
Dr. Siew (center, front) has been teaching pathology to MSUCOM students since 1977.

Where Are They Now?
Shirley Siew

By Craig Reed

For most of MSUCOM’s alumni, Dr. Shirley Siew was a professor for their systems courses and the one who also taught them what they know about pathology. Arriving on campus in 1977, Siew continues to be a core element in teaching MSUCOM students.

“When I first started teaching,” explained Siew, “all you had was a blackboard to work with. Then we got projectors and other equipment which helped in explaining some things during the lecture, but I like most to talk to the students, not to a screen.”

Siew, well known within the student body as an “old school” style instructor, has been honored annually since 1986 with a wide variety of teaching awards from MSUCOM, the College of Human Medicine, and the students she has taught. “There’s nothing wrong with being old school,” said Siew. “I think the students realize I’m trying to train them to become good doctors. Every class is a bit different each year. You get a mixture that reflects the culture of the times.”

Part of Siew’s effort to inspire her students over the decades is captured by phrases her former students remember such as “Don’t look at the clock. Time will pass but will you?”

Siew’s career started while she was attending the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. One of her earliest recognitions was the “Student of the Year” award which was given to her in 1944. She received South Africa’s equivalent to a Ph.D. in 1963 for her thesis focused on rheumatic heart disease and pulmonary complications. In 1970, Siew emigrated to the United States, where she accepted an associate professor position at Indiana University Medical Center. Two years later, Siew moved to the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine where she was an associate professor of pathology as well as an associate pathologist and director of autopsy service at Montefiore Hospital.

While Siew’s main focus is on teaching, her name can be found on numerous publications. Her first one in 1952, titled “Aneurysm of the Hepatic Artery,” was the start of more than 100 publications tied to her with topics ranging from jaundice, electron microscopy and carcinoma of the bladder, to heart disease, male infertility and renal oncocytoma. “I prefer to work on cardio-related topics, but I seem to find myself in quite a few other things as well,” she said.

With no indication of Siew retiring any time soon, incoming students will continue to benefit from her knowledge and experience, and MSUCOM alumni looking to stop by to visit with her don’t have to go far. She’s still working hard in Fee Hall.
MSUCOM is proud to announce the arrival of Reza Nassiri, D.Sc., to the college’s leadership team. Coming from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Nassiri brings with him a commitment and energy to move the college in new and exciting directions.

“In my position in the college,” stated Nassiri, “I wear three distinct hats. The first is as assistant dean in charge of global outreach and international graduate programs. It is my goal to develop master’s degree programs that will enhance the academic credentials of our students. So far, two degree programs are in the process of development. The first is a master’s degree in biomedical sciences which we may expand into a Ph.D. program in the future. The second is a master’s degree in international health which will target professionals interested in understanding the global status of health and healthcare.

“My second hat,” continued Nassiri, “is that of interim director for the Institute of International Health (IIH). In this position, I will be working to expand global international research on any discipline related to health. While IIH will be housed in MSUCOM, I will be meeting with the deans of all the MSU colleges to explore ways we can work with them to foster multidisciplinary research on this campus and obtain more grants supporting this goal.”

Nassiri will also be serving as a professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology. “I made it clear how much I love to teach,” said Nassiri. “I’ll be teaching some courses in pharmacology as well as hematology in which I have extensive experience.”

Nassiri sees this combination of responsibilities plus his experience on the editorial board for four peer-reviewed journals as a unique opportunity to enhance the educational experience for students. “I intend to expand the medical mission opportunities available to our students, especially to places like the Dominican Republic and South Africa where I have taken students in my previous positions. These missions allow students to apply their medical training, get exposure to healthcare conditions outside the United States and gain experience in managing HIV-positive patients, for example, under these circumstances. During my previous medical missions, we had medical roundtables where students could talk about their experiences and what we as a group have done. This format has allowed all my medical missions to produce papers from each participating student.”
AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE: PAT EISELE

By Craig Reed

As the Institute for International Health (IIH) moves ahead under the direction of Dr. Reza Nassiri, sincere thanks needs to be given to those who kept the embers of the institution alive before the appointment of IIH’s newest director. One of those dedicated individuals has been Pat Eisele.

“I have a long history with MSU,” said Eisele. “I graduated from the university in ’76 and started working for MSU in ’78. I’ve spent time working in the College of Agriculture as well as with the students living in Akers Hall.”

In 2000, Eisele joined IIH, where she’s devoted her time and energy keeping the institute humming along. “I’ve spent most of my time helping faculty submit their grants,” explained Eisele. “Submitting a grant can be a very involved process. Depending on who is involved, you may need to acquire as many as 10 signatures, in addition to the plethora of documents needed for the grant. Often the grants have very short deadlines so there’s a lot going on behind the scenes to make certain everything is in order and submitted by the deadline.”

With IIH’s new director now in place, Eisele anticipates a lot of new endeavors. “Dr. Nassiri has a lot of good ideas and changes he wants to bring to the institute,” said Eisele. “I’m excited for the future. I believe it’s important in this day and age to be internationally engaged. I’m glad to see our dean and our college are so committed to expanding our involvement.”
Treating lower back pain is a challenging concern for physicians and their patients, but thanks to researchers like Dr. Peter Reeves, Department of Osteopathic Surgical Specialties, our understanding of the problem continues to grow.

“When I investigate lower back pain,” said Reeves, “I look at it from what we call a ‘systems approach.’ This is a relatively new concept in spinal research. Most researchers focus on the mechanics of the spine, but when you apply principles from systems science, you’re looking at not only the mechanical properties, but also the control elements, namely how the adjacent muscles interact with the spine. To appreciate how the spinal system works, you need to look at how it works within the rest of the body, not just in isolation.”

Reeves also scrutinizes the spine from an engineering perspective. “The spine is very complicated, but looking at the system from an engineer’s viewpoint helps us understand on a different level how the spine is interconnected with the rest of the body. It provides both basic and clinical science perspectives and bridges the gap between them,” he said.

One of Reeves’ current projects addresses how to improve artificial discs for the spine. “We’re comparing the dynamic properties of natural discs versus their artificial counterparts – the differences in their stiffness and damping change under...
spinal loading. We believe that adopting some of the same tools and principles, based on system science, will help improve the design of artificial discs,” he said.

Another arena Reeves is investigating is how to reduce lower back pain without the need for surgery. “The spine acts like an inverted pendulum,” explained Reeves. “To maintain stability, trunk muscles must control the spine. We believe that how people control their spine following injury may be altered in a way that may predispose them to further injury and pain. First, people with lower back pain appear to have slower trunk muscle reflexes. Second, more trunk muscle activation is associated with low back pain, which has been suggested helps stiffen the spine and may represent a protective strategy. However, we know from systems theory that delays in control can destabilize stiff systems.

“We’re interested in training patients to develop more optimal spinal control where they are not holding themselves too stiff or too relaxed,” continued Reeves. “Each person’s spine is a little different, so the optimal level of control will be different. We believe that it may be possible to retrain a patient’s spine control using robot-assisted therapies, and avoid more drastic interventions such as surgery.”

While Reeves has been on campus since 2007, he sees his work here as just beginning, especially when it comes to collaborating with experts in other fields. “The interdisciplinary cooperation here has just been amazing. We’ve been working with researchers in the College of Engineering building robots, the College of Veterinary Medicine looking at horse spines, and have started some preliminary work imaging trunk muscles with experts in radiology and physiology,” he said.

There has been even some discussion with people in the College of Music to investigate repetitive strain injuries in musicians. “People have been very willing to work with us,” said Reeves. “Such collaborative efforts can bring new insights into old problems like lower back pain and bring about a new era of research.”

American Academy of Osteopathy Convention

MSUCOM students and faculty attended this year’s American Academy of Osteopathy Convention held on March 25. Dr. Lisa DeStefano, chairperson for the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, chaired this year’s convention, which was held in Little Rock, Arkansas.
The desire to become a physician can manifest itself for a variety of reasons. For Col. Jill Hendra, ’81 alumna, that reason came in the form of her cousin. “When I was 16, my cousin was drafted for the war in Vietnam,” said Hendra. “He returned home missing a leg and covered in lice. He died from, of all things, a bad blood transfusion shortly after his return. That’s why I went into medicine.”

As a psychiatrist, Hendra has poured much of her energy into public health service, but it wasn’t until she moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1989 that her interest in joining the military was whetted. “Two months after I arrived, Hurricane Hugo hit the region. I saw those affected by the storm were being helped by the Air Guard and flight surgeons. I decided to meet with some of them and made the decision to enlist in the Air Guard so I could do my part.”

Six months after enlisting, Hendra was called up for Operation Desert Storm. “I was deployed for six months. Those of us called up served in places stateside where the active guard was serving before they were deployed overseas,” recalled Hendra. “That was the role of the reservists at the time.”

Hendra’s unique position as the first joint surgeon for both the Air Guard and Army Guard has given her opportunities to address medical issues on the state and national level. “When Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, I helped identify the state of the medical system in the region and deployed people where they were needed the most,” explained Hendra. “Right now, I work within the state of North Carolina, handling the medical issues for troops based in our state going to and coming back from Iraq.”

One of the most pressing medical issues has been helping troops with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). “We’ve been seeing more and more PTSD with those repeatedly deployed,” noted Hendra. “This is where my D.O. training has been the most useful. We can train ourselves to be more emotionally resilient. I’ve helped design a program which is being funded by the Air Guard. The program helps prevent PTSD by teaching people techniques that allow them to better endure. There’s been a lot of interest shown in this program as well as gratitude for our hard work creating it. It’s a wonderful privilege to offer this help.”

Nestled between Hendra’s psychiatric training and military service is her commitment to helping those in her community facing mental crises. “I work at the Behavioral Health Center of Carolinas HealthCare System in Charlotte, which is one of only eight emergency psychiatric centers in the country that offers its services 24 hours a day, every day of the week,” said Hendra. “Most people who come to our center are there because they need immediate help. As the economy continues to suffer, so too do the people. We’re focused on safe, prudent medical care. We see everything from those who have become psychotic due to mis-medication to those who are having suicidal thoughts. By reacting quickly, we can nip a lot of problems before they become more severe.”

Hendra’s activities also led her to establishing her own non-profit organization in 2000 called the Delta Health Foundation. “The foundation’s goals are to help educate people on the medical options available to them and help them to decide how to use their limited medical dollars in the smartest way they can. We help them sort through the piles of medical information out there as well as help them incorporate their spiritual practices as part of their overall wellness. “At times, the work I do can be exhausting,” continued Hendra. “There aren’t enough psychiatrists to match the need, but I do my best to practice what I tell my patients and take good care of myself. There’s an opportunity here to make a huge difference in the lives of others. I don’t see myself ever really retiring. I couldn’t give this up. I love what I do.”
MSUCOM students travel to Haiti
HELP THOSE IN NEED

By Courtney Curran

March was an exciting month for the International Health Project (IHP), an MSUCOM student organization that focuses on healthcare in developing countries. After a successful potluck dinner and cultural celebration at the annual IHP Dinner and Fundraiser, the group used a portion of the money raised toward a medical mission trip during spring break to the Christianville Medical Center in Gressier, Haiti.

During their stay, the students on the medical team had an opportunity to take short classes offered by Dr. James Wilkins, Christianville Medical Center’s medical director. Students also spent time assisting with patient consultations and giving presentations on various tropical diseases, assisting in the pharmacy, gathering vitals on incoming patients, and shadowing physicians. Over the course of the week, the Christianville Medical Center saw approximately 600 patients.

“Healthcare is a basic human right. As the health professionals of the future, we need to recognize this fact and take action together,” IHP President-elect Kyle Martin said, advocating that MSUCOM students should participate in the mission trips. “Short and long-term international medical missions can provide students with a wealth of experiences that expand their perspectives,” he said.

In an increasingly global community, learning how to adapt to other cultures is just as crucial as providing services to underprivileged areas. “International travel gives you a different perspective on healthcare,” commented outgoing IHP President Nisha Hakhunis. “It helps you learn about other patients and gives a broader understanding. You learn a lot and help a lot in their community.”

IHP organizes a variety of trips throughout the year and visits developing countries on many continents. Aside from Haiti, IHP students have also visited Peru, India, Mexico, Poland, Ghana, Guatemala, Zambia, and Costa Rica.

Kyle looks forward to continuing his service to disadvantaged communities around the world. “It is important that we recognize the connections we have with people throughout the world,” he said.
Celebrating a Decade of Service
STUDENT OSTEOPATHIC MANIPULATIVE MEDICINE CLINIC

By Courtney Curran

This year, MSUCOM’s Student Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) Clinic is celebrating its tenth anniversary of service to the community and practical experience for MSUCOM students. The clinic was founded in 1999 by students who wanted to give their classmates opportunities to practice what they were learning in the classroom.

“We used to learn manipulation on other students, and for the most part, everyone was pretty healthy and normal. We thought it would be great to actually use what we were learning on people who were in pain and needed help with musculoskeletal issues,” said Dr. Robert Balbis, ’01 alumnus and clinic co-founder.

Balbis set out to start the clinic during his first year at MSUCOM. “The space was donated by then-Dean Allen Jacobs, and the faculty donated their time and energy. Dr. Norma Baptista, especially, provided a lot of support for the project. Everyone was really excited. The only problem was the time commitment and, as a first-year medical student, that was challenging,” he said. Balbis recruited Dr. Jason Heisler, ’02 alumnus, and with help from Dr. Sarah Strong, ’02 alumna, the effort and time paid off.

“It provided an opportunity not only to the students, but also to the community — a win-win for everyone,” Heisler remarked.

A decade and many students later, the clinic is a well recognized and valued medical resource. Local health care practitioners often refer their indigent patients to the clinic.

“The clinic is a great resource for the community because it’s free, so it doesn’t matter what your background is, your income level, or if you have insurance. The students at MSUCOM will see you,” said second-year Sena Valk.

“Being around patients helps me keep focused on the very reasons, goals, and motivations that inspired me to become a physician. I think every student should keep that in mind so that they don’t lose the main reason why we are studying medicine,” said Mayo Mitsuyo, a first-year student interested in osteopathic manipulative therapy.

“I really enjoy helping our patients. I already like volunteering, and this way I get to improve my technique by working on people I normally wouldn’t get the chance to interact with,” said first-year student Jason Muir.

“The professors always had stories about patients that they really helped,” reflected Balbis. “As students, we were never exposed to that. With the clinic, we had janitors and other staff come in with excruciating back pain. We would practice manipulation on them and they would say, ‘Wow, I haven’t felt this good in 10 years,’ and that really made a difference and cemented what we learned. It really made an impact in our lives as medical students.”

To learn more about the Student OMM Clinic, visit http://studentdoctor.com.msu.edu/omm or e-mail: sommc@msu.edu.
Student Parents Find Support with SPAM

STUDENT PARENTS AT MEDICAL SCHOOL (SPAM)

By Courtney Curran

Student Parents at Medical School (SPAM) was formed in 2003 by Rebekah Lampart, an MSUCOM student, who after having her first child while attending medical school, realized the need for peer support. Since then, SPAM has been a resource to many student parents.

SPAM provides opportunities to participate in fun family activities and access to family resources available on campus. While finding balance between family and school can be challenging, SPAM President Anastasia Arab knows that it is ultimately rewarding.

“It is gratifying that as an executive board member I can help provide members with the resources to ensure they can be great parents without worrying about their ability to manage their responsibilities as medical students,” Anastasia continued.

Medical students with families face unique challenges, but by utilizing available resources and supporting each other, they find a way to be successful in both areas.

“Becoming a mother actually inspired me to pursue my dreams of becoming a physician,” said Anastasia. “I feel that I am setting a wonderful example for my daughter and I hope that I am showing her that no matter what circumstances may be present, with hard work, determination, and the right support system, reaching for and achieving your dreams is possible.”

Resources for Parents

- MSUCOM Office of Student Services
  (517) 353-7741 C-110 East Fee Hall
  http://www.com.msu.edu/ss/index.html

- MSU’s Family Resource Center
  (517) 432-3862 1407 S. Harrison, 225
  http://www.frc.msu.edu
  The mission of the FRC is to help MSU students, staff, and faculty navigate their responsibilities at work, school, and home.

- Student Parents on a Mission
  https://www.msu.edu/user/studentp/SPOM provides an opportunity to network with other student-parents and discover the many resources available at Michigan State University and in the surrounding communities.

- Student Parents Listserv
  STUPAR, the e-mail discussion list for student-parents at Michigan State University, allows student-parents access to resources and information in order to facilitate “networking” on a variety of issues.

- Family Helpers List
  http://www.frc.msu.edu/wp-content/cfForms/babysitters.cfm
  The Michigan State University Family Helpers List is sponsored by the Michigan State University Family Resource Center. The Family Resource Center acts as a clearinghouse for the convenience of student helpers and the clients. A State of Michigan criminal background check is completed on each student who applies.

- Spartan Child Development Center
  http://www.scdc.msu.edu/
  Offers full-time childcare as well as childcare scholarships for students.

Amy and Juan Velazquez ('10) with their baby Gabriel, Travis ('12) and Katie Lee with their son Nicholas, Anastasia Arab ('12) with her daughter Laila, Amy ('12) and Brian Slubowski with their children Reta and Brandon and Carlos Rico ('10) with his children Emma and Mark.
The MSUCOM Student Government Association (SGA) is composed of the presidents of nearly 30 student organizations and an executive board of six students, which oversees the activities of these groups. SGA hosts events, such as the annual Las Vegas Night and Charity Raffle, and the student-faculty social event “Dinner with Docs” and organizes the MSUCOM Alumni Association Picnic.

“Vegas Night is a team effort. It requires the whole college to be involved,” according to SGA Vice President Brad Kasavana.

“This year, with the help of very generous sponsors, we raised $7,000 through Vegas Night for the Cystinosis Research Foundation,” commented Heather Grothous, SGA director of finance.

MSUCOM student organizations and the SGA executive board have had unprecedented involvement in national organizations this year.

Third-year student Katie Perz sat on the National Board of Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents and was named National Student D.O. of the Year at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine meeting. Third-year Jennifer Burlingame was the student representative to the American Osteopathic Foundation, second-year Joe Prinsen was recently elected to Student Osteopathic Medical Association’s national research position, and second-year Stephanie Betts was elected as the osteopathic representative for the American Medical Student Association. Second-year Adam Hunt, outgoing SGA president, was named treasurer of the National Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents, and several students that have applied to join various American Osteopathic Association committees.

“All our successes this year have been built on successes of past SGA executive boards,” reflected Tara Kisnonsky, SGA director of policy and procedures.

“We had great group dynamics and knew we could count on each other for support,” stated Kimberly Watson, SGA director of legislation.

Helping the college and student organizations transition smoothly to a multi-site campus is a primary focus for the current and incoming SGA executive boards. “We are asking current student leadership to promote their organizations and assist in the transition at the different sites,” Adam commented.

Megan Linne, SGA director of administrative services, emphasized, “Integrating students from the Detroit area into the student organizations and encouraging their participation will be an important aspect in enabling those students to become fully immersed into MSUCOM, despite the distance from East Lansing.”

Events like “Dinner with Docs” strengthen the ties between faculty and students. Back row: Jen Gornbein, Robert Marcotte, Nick Brown, Dr. David Kaufman, Dr. Stanley Forfa, Rebecca Trierweiler. Sitting: Jia Zhang, Monica Turner, Shimia Isaac, Dr. Cheryl Doane, Joel Dehaan, Carolyn Dehaan

The faces of the SGA executive board: From left to right: Back row: Kimberly Watson, Brad Kasavana, Megan Linne. Front row: Tara Kisnonsky, Adam Hunt, Heather Grothous
Las Vegas Night
CHARITY RAFFLE

Blackjack, craps, money wheel and roulette tables were busy with individuals trying their luck while raising money to benefit The Cystinosis Research Fund and MSUCOM student organizations at the 2009 Las Vegas Night and Charity Raffle. Presented by the Student Government Association (SGA), the event drew in more than 200 students, faculty, staff, and alumni, along with their friends and families. The “James Bond 007” themed event was held at the Eagle Eye Golf Club in Bath, Michigan on January 16, 2009.

SGA is proud to announce that a donation of $7,000 will be presented to The Cystinosis Research Fund, the largest fund provider of cystinosis research in the world. SGA selected this charity in honor of MSUCOM Class of 2011 student, Rob Beers, whose son, Zacqary, was born with cystinosis. Cystinosis is an inherited metabolic disease that affects various organs in the body including the kidney, muscle, eyes, pancreas, and brain. Considered an “orphan” disease, cystinosis receives little attention and depends on the private sector for funding. The remainder of proceeds from the event will be donated to benefit the MSUCOM student organizations. For more information about the sponsors of the 2009 Las Vegas Night and Charity Raffle, please visit the MSUCOM website at www.com.msu.edu.
On behalf of the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation and the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the 2009 MOCF Ball – “Puttin’ on the Glitz.”

Despite a treacherous Michigan snow storm on the day of the event, nearly 700 guests enjoyed an elegant evening in support of the Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation.

Even though many are facing tough economic times, the strong, dedicated, and loyal support of many organizations and individuals was very evident this year, with the event generating $220,000 in net proceeds, the most ever! These funds will be transferred to the MOCF endowment at MSU, which provides support for student scholarships, community outreach, diversity programs, and educational programs at MSUCOM.

Please mark your calendars for the 2010 MOCF Ball, which has been scheduled for Saturday, February 6, at the Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn.

Thank you to everyone that helped make this year’s event a great success! We look forward to seeing you again next year!
Standing: J.R. Haywood, Ph.D.; Molly Haywood; Jay Goodman, Ph.D.; Sandy Goodman; James Galligan, Ph.D.; Carla Galligan. Seated: Sheila Fink; Gregory Fink, Ph.D.; Debra Jackson; William Jackson, Ph.D.

Due to the generosity of numerous donors, several MSUCOM students were able to attend the event.

CRYSTAL SPONSORS
McLaren Health Care
Michigan Osteopathic College Foundation and Michigan Osteopathic Association
MSU Department of Radiology
MSUCOM Office of the Dean
St. John Health Osteopathic Division – St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospitals

PLATINUM SPONSORS
Detroit Medical Center
Henry Ford Macomb Hospitals
Metro Health Hospital

SILVER SPONSORS
Botsford Hospital
Garden City Hospital
Genesys Regional Medical Center
Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital
MSU Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
MSU Neurology and Ophthalmology
MSU Osteopathic Surgical Specialties
MSU Pharmacology and Toxicology
MSU Psychiatry
Oakwood Southshore Medical Center
Sparrow Health System

BRONZE SPONSORS
American Physicians Assurance
Comdec, Inc.
Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, PLLC
Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies
Mid-Michigan MRI
MSU Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
MSU Internal Medicine
MSU Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine
MSU Physiology
MSUCOM Alumni Association
MSUCOM Community Outreach and Clinical Research
MSUCOM Development
MSUCOM Student Services
Howard S. Rossman, DO – Michigan Institute for Neurological Disorders
St. Joseph Mercy Livingston
Family Residency Program
Wheeler Family Foundation

PATRON SPONSORS
Association Benefits
Hillsdale Community Health Center
Ingham Osteopathic Association
Drs. Harris and Phoebe Mainster
Mercy Health Partners
Michigan Gastroenterology Institute
MidMichigan Health
MSU Family and Community Medicine
MSU Federal Credit Union
MSU Pediatrics
MSU Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
MSUCOM Statewide Campus System
Physicians’ Organization of Western Michigan
Drs. Gerald and Myral Robbins
Tri-County Urologists, PC

Vincent Granowicz, D.O., MOCF Trustee Nancy Granowicz, Barb Riegle, and Senior Associate Dean Gail Riegle, Ph.D.
Forensic psychiatry is a subspecialty of psychiatry that interfaces with the law. For ’86 alumnus Steven Pitt, the interest in this field goes way back. “I was gravitating toward criminal studies as a kid,” said Pitt. “When I observed my first deposition during my residency, I was hooked.

“The vast majority of my time is spent reviewing records and interviewing people,” continued Pitt. “I work on a variety of cases including sexual assault, unsolved crimes, homicides, civil cases and assessing a person’s risk for violence. One case may be a first-degree murder; the next one can be assessing a claim of emotional harm due to alleged sexual harassment.”

Pitt also spends a fair amount of time at court. “Testifying is a contact sport,” stated Pitt. “There will be at least one person there who will be unhappy with my report and opinions, and try to undermine them. In criminal cases, I can be retained by the defense or the prosecution and in civil cases by the defense or the plaintiff, but regardless of who retains me, I am an advocate for my opinion, not the outcome. One thing I do after writing a report is look it over one last time and ask myself, ‘Would I have written the same report if I was retained by the other side?’ The answer should be ‘yes.’ At the end of the day, you must be true to yourself.”

Unlike most individuals in his field, Pitt is frequently consulted by law enforcement due to his unique expertise. He has worked on a number of high profile cases during his career, including the Kobe Bryant case, the Columbine High School massacre, and the JonBenet Ramsey homicide investigation. Yet these aren’t the cases that most intrigue Pitt. “It’s the cases that you don’t hear about in the national news that I often find the most interesting,” said Pitt. “For example, I just recently completed work on a case where a psychotic woman was brought to a mental health facility. After a brief stay, the facility released the woman without informing her family or friends and dropped her off at her home without her keys. She found the front door locked and tried to gain entry by climbing a tree, but ended up falling. An elderly neighbor tried to help her, but the woman was so psychotic she attacked and killed the neighbor. The question I had to answer as I worked through this case was ‘Did the defendant meet the legal standard for insanity at the time of the offense?’ I’d spent hours talking with witnesses, interviewing the defendant, reviewing crime scene photos, visiting the crime scene and writing my report. Claims of insanity are actually very rare in felony cases. Less than one percent of defendants raise the defense and only about a quarter of such pleas are successful.”

While Pitt finds his work both stimulating and rewarding, one of his favorite memories is about his alma mater. “Five years ago, I was asked to speak at MSUCOM’s commencement. That’s something I’ve always wanted to do, and it meant a lot to me. It was a terrific experience.

“I’ve been very fortunate to experience what I have,” explained Pitt. “My advice to anyone going into medicine is to pick something you’re really passionate about and something that will keep you engaged, and make certain you give something back to the community.”
Upcoming Events

September 11  Osteopathic Open Golf Tournament
Eagle Eye Golf Course
Bath, Michigan

September 11-12  Silverfest Weekend

October 14-18  American College of Osteopathic Internists Annual Convention
Tucson, Arizona
Alumni reception to be announced

WHERE ARE YOU?

Please keep us informed of recent moves or changes in your practice. It is important for college reports, grant writing, etc., that we have up-to-date information on our alumni. Changes to your information can be made on the MSUCOM website under the alumni section or by calling (877) 853-3448.

MSUCOM Alumni Office
A310 E. Fee Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
(517) 432-4979 or toll free (877) 853-3448
email: kim.camp@hc.msu.edu
www.com.msu.edu/alumni

Seminar In The Sun

Before Michigan started shedding its piles of winter snow, participants of this year’s Seminar in the Sun were enjoying the fairer weather at the Hotel Riu Santa Fe in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. The annual March event featured 20 hours of “Healthy Lifestyle and Preventive Care: Future Directions” continuing medical education coursework. By night, the 83 alumni, family and friends enjoyed a wide variety of live music shows and entertainment as well as breathtaking views of the Sea of Cortez.

This year’s Seminar in the Sun was at the Hotel Riu Santa Fe in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

Seminar in the Sun featured 20 hours of continuing medical education coursework.

Eugene Conte ('78), Richard Pascucci, Edward Rosick ('93), Laura Hershkowitz ('92), Jayne Martin ('96), Lisa DeStefano ('93), Darrell Grace ('92), and Marsha Billes ('89)

Craig Bethune ('76), Jagneswar Saha ('73), Kamala Saha and Darrell Grace ('92)
Since the 1880s, starting with Dr. Andrew Taylor Still, osteopathic medicine has been playing a role in reshaping medicine. Now osteopathy is on the move as we set up two new sites in southeast Michigan where we’ll be taking medical education a step into the future. We’ll be using some of the most advanced distance learning technology available to connect East Lansing with the southeast sites – linking the incoming first-year students at all three sites in a way that will be unique among our sister medical schools.

Yet the expansion will also tap into one of the college’s most tried and true assets: MSUCOM alumni. By establishing a stronger presence in the region, our students at the two new sites will have the advantage of the incredible pool of MSUCOM alumni who have their practices in the region. As alumni, we have a new opportunity to not only support our college but to share our time and experience with these students in true osteopathic fashion.

Alumni involvement will play a critical role in imbuing our students in southeast Michigan with that “Go Green! Go White!” spirit. There is no substitute for those face-to-face interactions — we all experienced as medical students — which connect us to our mentors, our chosen profession, our college and our university.

Your alumni association will be spending a lot of time welcoming the incoming students at all three locations into our family. I encourage all of you to visit our new sites and see the possibilities they bring. It does a lot to swell the pride in MSUCOM.

Steven Dupuis, D.O., president, MSUCOM Alumni Association Board of Directors

**Capitol House Call**

On Tuesday, March 24, MSUCOM alumni and students attended the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) 12th Annual Capitol House Call in downtown Lansing. Attendees met face-to-face with legislators from their districts and key members of health policy committees to discuss smoke-free Michigan legislation, chiropractic scope of practice, Medicaid and the Michigan budget. More than 100 physicians, students and supporters were in attendance.

**Owosso Alumni Event**

On Wednesday, March 25, 20 alumni, clinical faculty and their family and friends gathered at the Wrought Iron Grill in Owosso, Michigan. Dean William Strampel gave an update on the college’s activities, especially those in southeast Michigan, and answered individual questions while participants socialized and told stories from their MSUCOM days.

**MAOFP**

Alumni and students at the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians conference in January attended the MSUCOM reception on Saturday, January 24. More than 250 alumni and students enjoyed the opportunity to socialize and mingle.

**Pride in MSUCOM**
Much concern is expressed about the lack of experience due to Michigan’s term-limited legislature. Inexperienced legislators seem to lack their own moral compass and vote in concert with the ideological bent of their political parties. In these situations, the Michigan Constitution provides some clear direction. Article 4 prescribes the legislative branch of government. Section 51 states “The public health and general welfare of the people of the state are hereby declared to be matters of primary public concern and the legislature shall pass suitable laws for the protection and promotion of the public health.”

How do these directions correlate with the actions of the Michigan legislature and their consideration of the bill to ban smoking in the workplace last year? The public health argument is certainly incontrovertible. Tobacco is the direct cause of 16.9 percent of all Michigan deaths, and the use of tobacco sharply increases the risk of lung disease, heart disease, respiratory infections, asthma and sudden infant death syndrome. An estimated 2,400 residents die in Michigan each year due to secondhand smoke. There are no public health arguments in favor of smoking.

The general welfare argument, while not incontrovertible, is overwhelmingly compelling. Smoking-related healthcare costs are estimated at $3.4 billion per year in Michigan; $1.1 billion is paid by taxpayers through the Medicaid program. When productivity losses are included with healthcare costs, the social cost for each pack of cigarettes is $10.44. Michigan’s two dollar per pack cigarette tax does not begin to compensate the state for the losses created by smoking that same pack of cigarettes.

The countervailing argument is that requiring smoke-free workplaces will reduce the business for restaurants, bars and casinos. However, studies conducted in the 14 states that have passed a ban on smoking in the workplace have clearly demonstrated that business has not decreased due to a smoking ban and healthcare costs for heart attacks has decreased from 5-60 percent.

The “personal freedom” argument is the most spurious argument offered in defense of smoking in the workplace. This argument is rooted in the ideology that the state should not prohibit an individual’s freedom of choice. This argument has merit if the individual’s choice does not endanger the health or economic condition of others. Clearly, secondhand smoke endangers both the health of bystanders and the economic condition of the taxpayer.

With arguments so overwhelmingly in favor of a bill to prohibit smoking in the workplace, why did the legislature fail to pass it last year? Was legislation that would have such a positive impact on Michigan’s health status and economy really stymied by the inability of legislators to decide whether casinos should be included or excluded from the bill? Not likely.

The reason that the smoking ban did not pass last year is a textbook example of good policy-bad politics. While the policy arguments for the smoking ban are overwhelming, political realities make it difficult for legislators to walk away from major contributors such as the tobacco industry. This is the reason that the excuses for not supporting the smoking ban sound so lame. In reality, there are no policy-based excuses for not supporting the smoking ban.

What is the response to a good policy-bad politics issue? Relentless grassroots advocacy. Legislators need to know that the voters overwhelmingly support the workplace smoking ban and that they will not tolerate excuses for not supporting the bill.

If you want to be a part of improving Michigan’s health, join the Michigan Osteopathic Association in lobbying for a workplace smoking ban. If your state representatives are co-sponsors, contact them and say thank you. If your state representatives are not co-sponsors, contact them and ask them why. Make them aware of your feelings on the topic—and don’t accept lame excuses. The health of Michigan’s citizens is at stake.
Development

Generational Goodwill

by Craig Reed

Giving to MSUCOM can be a family affair – especially when most members are D.O.s, as in the case of the Athens family.

“I’ve been in practice for 54 years now, and still practice on a part-time basis today, said William Athens Sr. “I started out as a country doctor, worked until 10 p.m. most days, but I made it a point to be home for dinner with my wife and four children. I’d talk about the good things about practicing medicine while we were eating together.”

Growing up in this positive medical household led three out of four of his children into medicine, two of whom graduated from MSUCOM.

“I wanted to be a physician since I was a little girl,” said ’78 alumna Ellen Athens. “I have a great admiration for MSUCOM and want it to provide others the same opportunities. I want it to benefit others.” As a family practitioner, Ellen joined her father’s practice not long after completing her residency.

“Our situation is unique,” said ’91 alumnus William Jr., who specializes in orthopedics. “Our dad had a powerful influence on us. We saw how rewarding practicing medicine was for him and how he was helping others.

I love talking to patients, gaining their trust and communicating with them.”

“This profession has allowed me to take care of people,” said Andrew Athens, who graduated from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (CCOM) and joined the Athens family practice shortly after his residency. “I like giving back to the profession through teaching and giving to my alma mater. I want to support future D.O.s.”

Andrew isn’t the only family member transforming his commitment to the profession into generous giving to his college. Ellen and William Jr. are part of MSU’s President’s Club – donors who give $10,000 to the university — and their father has kindly supported CCOM as well as joined MSU’s Beaumont Tower Society – donors who have given between $25,000 to $49,999.

“I’m very proud of MSUCOM,” said William Jr. “The college’s emphasis on the relationship between doctors and their patients, and its commitment to care are important. It makes you want to be a better physician and proud to say that you’re from MSUCOM.”

Pride in your college, a pledge of patronage to the osteopathic profession and the people it serves — these are important pillars to keep MSUCOM strong during tough economic times. With support from the Athens family and others like them, we know the best days of our college have yet to come.
Calendar of Events

June

5-9
CME: “Craniosacral Techniques: Part 3” – 40 hours of Category 1A credit. East Fee Hall, MSU campus. Early bird tuition is $1300; full tuition is $1500. Chairperson is Barbara Briner, D.O. Contact Jan Falls or Meghan Tappy at (517) 353-9714 or fallsj@msu.edu.

June 12
CME: “Sports Medicine Update 2009” - 8 hours of Category 1A credit. Radisson Hotel, Lansing, MI. Early bird tuition is $150; full tuition is $200. Contact Jan Falls or Meghan Tappy at (517) 353-9714 or fallsj@msu.edu.

September

11
Osteopathic Open Golf Tournament – Annual fundraiser to benefit MSUCOM students’ loan funds, educational improvements and MSUCOM Alumni Association - Eagle Eye Golf Course, Bath, MI. Contact Kim Camp at (517) 432-4979 or kim.camp@hc.msu.edu.

11-12
Silverfest Weekend Events – Celebrating the silver anniversary of the Class of 1984 and honoring the Classes of ’74, ’79, ’89, ’94, ’99, ’04. Includes a reception on Friday evening, continuing medical education, and Saturday tailgate prior to the MSU vs. Central Michigan University football game - East Lansing, MI. Contact Kim Camp at (517) 432-4979 or kim.camp@hc.msu.edu.

11-15
CME: “Muscle Energy: Part 1” - 36 hours of Category 1A credit. East Fee Hall, MSU campus. Early bird tuition is $1200; full tuition is $1400; repeat tuition is $1050. Chairperson is Carl Steele, D.O., M.S., P.T. Contact Jan Falls or Meghan Tappy at (517) 353-9714 or fallsj@msu.edu.

October

25-27
CME: “Manual Medicine Related to Sports and Occupational Injuries to the Extremities” - 24 hours of Category 1A credit. East Fee Hall, MSU campus. Early bird tuition is $700; full tuition is $900; repeat tuition is $675. Chairpersons are Jennifer Gilmore, D.O., and Jacob Rowan, D.O. Contact Jan Falls or Meghan Tappy at (517) 353-9714 or fallsj@msu.edu.

9
CME: “Cardiology Update 2009” – 8 hours of Category 1A credit. Marriott, East Lansing, MI. Chairperson is David Strobl, D.O. Contact Jan Falls or Meghan Tappy at (517) 353-9714 or fallsj@msu.edu.

14-18

16-20
CME: “Craniosacral Techniques: Part 2” - 40 hours of Category 1A credit. East Fee Hall, MSU. Early bird tuition is $1300; full tuition is $1500; repeat tuition is $1125. Chairperson is Barbara Briner, D.O. Contact Jan Falls or Meghan Tappy at (517) 353-9714 or fallsj@msu.edu.

23-25
CME: “Integrated Neuromuscular and Myofascial Release” - 20 hours of Category 1A credit. East Fee Hall, MSU. Early bird tuition is $550; full tuition is $750. Chairperson is Lisa DeStefano, D.O. Contact Jan Falls or Meghan Tappy at (517) 353-9714 or fallsj@msu.edu.

For a complete listing of MSUCOM events
check out our Web calendar: www.com.msu.edu and click on “Calendar”
HOPE WE CAN COUNT ON YOUR ATTENDANCE.

Smith College of Osteopathic Medicine

Address Service Requested

☐ Change my name and/or address as indicated.
☐ I received a duplicate copy.
☐ Remove my name from your mailing list.
☐ Stop my paper subscription and send an electronic version to email: ____________________

Please check the appropriate box and return this page to the address above or email meghan.tappy@hc.msu.edu

JOIN US in celebrating the classes of '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, '04

SILVERFEST 2009
September 11-12
MSU vs. Central Michigan University

OSTEOPATHIC OPEN 2009
September 11
Eagle Eye Golf Course

SAVE THE DATE