

COM Newsletter

Fall 2016

From the office
of the Dean

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Campus News

- This summer both the COM and COP Academic buildings received a facelift with the painting of the exterior of the building.



Pre Facelift



Post Facelift

- In October we unveiled our new Green Room recording studio. This will enhance our ability to record presentations for flipped classroom presentations.
- In August we expanded our ultrasound team based learning suite in Lander Hall.



COM NEWS

- On May 31 we graduated our 15th COM class of 129 students and our 6th MSMHS class of 14 students. *Congratulations to the following student awardees*
 - * Robert Armstrong, DO 2016 - Outstanding DO Graduate.
 - * Caitlin Blau, DO 2016 - Outstanding Student in Manipulative Medicine.
 - * Cintya Schweisberger, DO 2016 - Outstanding Student in Basic Sciences.
 - * Caitlin Macmillin, DO 2016 - Bernard I. Zeliger Leadership/ Service Award
 - * Ariff Moolla, DO 2016 Pediatrics Award.
 - * John Burk, DO and Cuong Quach, DO Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Predoctoral Fellows, graduates for 2016.
 - * Celia Chao, DO and Atif Saleem, DO first recipients of the Global Health Pathway Certificate.



- The COM Class of 2016 completed their residency match with 57% of matched students pursuing primary care. Our three year rolling average is 60%, both totals leading California medical schools and for the seventh consecutive year placing us in the top 15 nationally for students choosing a primary care residency.
- On August 28, 2016 the Class of 2020 was welcomed to the practice of medicine through the inspiring keynote address by AOA President Boyd Buser and welcoming speech by Student Doctor Kristoffer Chin President of the COM Student Executive Council. We also wish to give an extra thanks to Dr. Pera for speaking on behalf of the OPSC, Kathleen Creason Executive Director of the OPSC and the OPSC as a whole for their great generosity in providing our students with their White Coats.
- The New class of 2020 has set a new record. 79% of the 135 students in the class are from California and they have set a new standard for academic rigor by collectively achieving the highest MCAT 30.9 (510.5 on new format) and GPA 3.57 in the history of our institution.
- COM has achieved accreditation milestones. We received confirmation from the AOA for a 3 year Accreditation/ Level 3 Accreditation with Commendation as a Category 1 CME sponsor. Additionally, in March 2016 the Accreditation Council for the Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) approved our CME program with a Provisional Accreditation until March 21, 2018. Congratulations to Sarah Passage CME Coordinator for your work towards both these accomplishments.
- Welcome to Howard Feinberg, DO who started in July as our new Regional Director of Medical Education and Clerkship Performance in the Clinical Education Department. Dr. Feinberg comes to us from the Pikeville College of Osteopathic Medicine where he served as Clinical Professor and formerly as Director of Medical Education for Northern Kentucky and Dean of the Pikeville COM.
- We once again thank David Steinberg, MD founder of Steinberg Diagnostic Medical Imaging in Las Vegas for his generosity in donating a portable ultrasound machine to our academic program. In January Dr. Steinberg donated a DEXA machine for our Metabolic Research Facility in H89. Thank you once again Dr. Steinberg.
- Touro student body continued its reign at the Stanford Ultrafest program. 80 OMS 1 & 2 students participated in a session that included evaluation of abdominal aorta, cardiac windows, deep venous system and ultrasound guided access.
- The Preclinical and Clinical Education Department held their well-received 3rd Annual Faculty Development Symposium on Sept. 25th and 26th which was attended by many including our enthusiastic local and national preceptors.
- The Office of Continuing Medical Education and Dr. Jay Shubrook held a well-attended and orchestrated Conference on “*Diabetes: High Impact Management for Clinicians*” on Nov. 6, 2016.



- Dr. Grace Jones and Dr. Clipper Young led TUC faculty and students in the highly successful Solano County Food Oasis Event which focused on the local food deserts in Solano County. The Oasis event showcased county healthcare programs, health screenings, diabetes education and prevention, health/nutrition education, OMT, food samples and food produce.

STUDENT NEWS

- Congratulations to the following students:
 - * Marissa Haberlach OMS III recipient of the Northwest Osteopathic Medical Foundation Scholarship.
 - * Amritha Parthasarathy OMS I recipient of Napa Solano Medical Society Scholarship.
 - * Jeffrey Lin OMS II recipient of Napa Solano Medical Society Scholarship.
 - * Olivia Kingsford OMS III recipient of Napa Solano Medical Society Scholarship.
 - * Katherine Specht OMS IV recipient of Napa Solano Medical Society Scholarship.
 - * Imran Masood OMS IV recipient Pediatric Distinguished Student Award.

Department Updates

OMM



- We are pleased to announce Stacey Pierce-Talsma, DO was selected as the new Chair of the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM). Dr. Pierce-Talsma replaced Dr. Mitchell Hiserote who has stepped down from this role after serving admirably the past two years. Prior to joining Touro in 2015, Dr. Pierce-Talsma was on faculty at University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine where she was the Program Director of the NMM/OMM +1 Residency Program. Dr. Pierce-Talsma is also a recent graduate of the Ohio University Heritage college of Osteopathic Medicine OUCOM/NYIT Health Policy Fellowship. It is truly our great fortune to have such an accomplished individual to take the lead of our OMM department.
- Dr. Pierce-Talsma presented at OMED on “YOGA for Low Back Pain and Rehabilitation which was featured in “The DO” - <http://thedo.osteopathic.org/2016/09/how-yoga-can-help-your-patients-with-low-back-pain/>
- Welcome Nicole Peña, DO as Assistant Professor as OMM. Prior to joining our faculty Dr. Peña, a graduate of Touro COM New York, was Chief Resident in OMM/NMM at St. Barnabas Hospital where she was also Intern of the Year.
- Dr. Victor Nuño was acknowledged by the NBOME for his work on the OPP/OMM Item writing workshop.
- Melissa Pearce, DO has been selected as a Clinical Decision-Making case writer and reviewer as well as a CDM rater for the NBOME. For the OPSC she is serving as Chair of the Education Committee and was recruited for the CME Task Force.
- Melissa Pearce, DO was accepted for the University of California San Francisco Northern California Faculty Development Fellowship Program (UCSF NCFDFP).



Basic Sciences



- Welcome Andrea Taylor PhD, Professor in Anatomy. Prior to joining our faculty Dr. Taylor was an Associate Professor with tenure in both the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Duke University School of Medicine and the Department of Evolutionary Anthropology in the Graduate School at Duke University.
- Under the leadership of Alan Miller, PhD the Master of Science in Medical Health Sciences expanded its class from 15 to 63 students. This underscores the tremendous success this program has provided in training students for a future in the health sciences with an emphasis on osteopathic medicine.
- Dr. Murakami was acknowledged by the NBOME for his work on the COMAT foundational Biomedical Sciences Task Force.
- Joel Talsma, MS and Stacey Pierce-Talsma, DO were highlighted in “The DO” for their elective course “Anatomical Application Through Yoga” <http://thedo.osteopathic.org/2016/06/strike-a-pose-tucom-students-learn-anatomy-through-yoga/>.

Primary Care

- Alesia Wagner, DO received the prestigious 2016 W. Douglas Ward PhD Educator of the Year award from the American Osteopathic Foundation.
- Dr. Alesia Wagner was acknowledged by the NBOME for her work on the Clinical Decision making workshop.
- Patricia Rehfield, DO, MPH represented TUC at the COPE (Coalition on Physician Education and Substance Use Disorders) as well as representing our campus at the Solano County Opioid Leadership Meeting.
- Dr. Rehfield was acknowledged by the NBOME for her work for the COMLEX-USA Item writing workshop.
- Tami Hendriksz, DO was Program Chair for the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians at the 2016 OMED conference and was acknowledged by the NBOME for her work on the COMAT item review Primary Care.
- Dr. Shubrook and his diabetes prevention team have trained over 250 Touro coaches in the Diabetes Prevention Program. They have partnered with Solano County Public Health and 11 cohorts currently in training. This team effort has put Solano County on top in California for DPP community cohorts per capita.
- Jay Shubrook, D.O. received a grant from Sutter Solano Hospital for \$150,000 to establish a mobile healthcare clinic and classroom to provide direct diabetes preventions and diabetes education services for the people in Solano County.
- Welcome Clipper Young, PharmD who moved to COM from the COP this summer. Dr. Young is a graduate of the Touro COP program and is working with Dr. Shubrook and his inter-professional team in the county diabetes clinics and the diabetes clinical trials.
- James Foy, DO was acknowledged by the NBOME for his many contributions to NBOME including but not limited to his work on Item writing, Exam Content Review, National Faculty Conclave, and COMLEX-USA Advisory Committee work.



Global Program

- Under the leadership of Dr. Alissa Farrell and coordination of Eiman Mahmoud, M.D. the Global health program students carry out Neonatal resuscitations training in Assendabo, Ethiopia. The program, now in its 3rd consecutive year, utilizes the “Helping babies breathe” curriculum to deliver training and assess the impact of community based health education in a multidisciplinary format. Basic Sciences.

Pre Clinical Education

- In September COM welcomed Mr. John Ligda as its new Academic Systems and Data Manager.
- H. Eduardo Velasco, MD, MSc, PhD was acknowledged by the NBOME for his work for the Advanced Items and COMLEX-USA Item Writing workshop held in August.

Research News

- Walter Hartwig, PhD, Glenn Davis, MS were awarded AOA grant for \$100,000 titled “Patient experience of osteopathic physician distinction and empathy.”
- Andrea Taylor, PhD and Dr. Anand Joshi (Duke University SOM) and were awarded grant from Spine Invention Society for \$51,256 for “Establishing the pathways of the medical thoracic duct rami: a pilot study to define the course of the medial branch nerves as a prerequisite to diagnose and treat zygapophyseal joint pain at the T4-T8 levels.”
- Stacey Pierce-Talsma, DO, Heather Ferrill, DO (RVUCOM), Doris Newman, DO (NSUCOM) were awarded an AACOM/OHF grant for \$10,000 titled “Pilot Implementation of an Osteopathic Principles and Practices Survey & Faculty Development Program to Increase the use of Osteopathic Principles and Practices in Core Clinical Clerkships”.
- We have successfully launched our NIH funded study (TUC and UC Davis) “Adverse metabolic effects of dietary sugar- ad libitum versus energy balanced diets.” We have completed the first two cohorts with an interdisciplinary

team that includes Drs. Schwarz, Mulligan, Shubrook, Hendriksz, Photenhauer, Jones, Clearfield, PA Dugan and RNs Johnson and Moore-Harper.

- We have been awarded three clinical pharma trials in diabetes two of which are focused on children which will include PIs of Drs. Shubrook, Malouf and Hendriksz. While the adult trial will include PIs Drs. Shubrook, Photenhauer, Young and PA Dugan.
- Another grant to investigate Fingerprint asymmetry to predict type 2 diabetes is an ongoing collaboration between TUCOM and Ohio University.
- Nine students were honored for their research efforts during the 2016 Poster Session held during OMED 2016. Two students received research awards:
 - * Paul Shiu OMS I First Place Basic Science Category for “Distinct Kinase Activation among Ras Isoforms”
 - * Doh June Park MS Second Place Basic Science Category for “The mechanism of swapped domain constructs as fusion inhibitors if HIV infection”.
- Hiroe Hu, OMS II and Mohammad Khorsand, OMS II received First Place for their work on the *WARM project (Wellness, Academics, Resilience, Mindfulness)* at the ACOFP 40th Annual Convention.
- A collaboration was established in 2014 between Dr. Ma Eugenia Garay (Chair, Dept. of Medical Sciences, Guanajuato University Mexico) and Dr. Gugliucci (Touro University California) to co-mentor and train PhD students. Reyna Rodriguez Mortera, dietitian and MS, is our first student and she has completed a 1 month internship in September 2016 at Dr. Gugliucci’s Laboratory as part of her PhD requirements for her thesis on “AGEs and RAGE and their role in CVD risk in adolescents with and without obesity”.
- Welcome to Sally Chiu PhD who joined the Schwarz lab as an Executive Clinical Research Coordinator.

PUBLICATIONS

- Gugliucci A, Lustig R, Caccavello R, Erkin-Cakmak, Noworolski S, Tai V, Mulligan K, Schwarz JM. Short Term isocaloric fructose restriction lowers apoC-III and yields less atherogenic lipoprotein profiles in children with obesity and metabolic syndrome. *Atherosclerosis* 2016.
- De Groot M, Crick K, Saha M, Shubrook J. Lifetime Duration of Depressive Disorders in Patients with T2DM. *Diabetes Care* 2016 Oct; dc161145. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2337/dc16-1145>.
- Jones D, Scharfenberg B, Perkins J, Childers K, Shubrook J. Glycated Hemoglobin testing to identify undiagnosed diabetes mellitus in the inpatient setting. *JAOA* 2016;116:350.
- Morris M, Ludwar BC, Swingle E, Mamo MN, Shubrook JH. A New Method to Assess Asymmetry in Fingerprints Could Be Used as an Early Indicator of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology* 2016. 1:1-8.
- Levine M, Osei D, Cimino JJ, Liu C, Philips B, Shubrook J, Jing X. Performance Comparison between Two Solutions for Filtering Data Sets with Hierarchical Structures. *Journal of Computer Engineering and Information Technology* 2016.
- Johnson, E, Warren F, Skolnik N, Shubrook J. Updated American Diabetes Association Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes: What does this mean to me? *Journal of Family Practice* May 2016.
- Skolnik N, Warren, F, Johnson E, Pfothenauer K, Shubrook JH. Highlights of the updated 2016 American Diabetes Association Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes. *Osteopathic Family Physician* May/June 2016.
- Young C, Dugan J, Pfothenauer K, Shubrook J Pharmacologic management of type 2 diabetes mellitus: Part 1. *AHC Media: Continuing Medical Education Publishing* 2016 <http://www.ahcmedia.com/138807-pharmacologic-management-of-type-2-diabetes-mellitus-part-1>.
- Gugliucci A. Mechanisms Linking Aging Diseases and-Biological-Age Estimation. 2016. <http://www.crcpress.com/Mechanisms-Linking-Aging-Diseases-and-Biological-Age-Estimation/Zapico/p/boo/978149870969>.
- Haberlach M, Chirangi B, Mahmoud E, Lehman A. *Annals of Global Health*. May-June, 2016, Volume 82, Issue 3, Page 344. Factors influencing staff recruitment and retention in Tanzania district hospital based on preliminary

needs assessment. *M Annals of Global Health*, Vol. 82, Issue 3, p360-361.

- Mitchell M, Mohammed D, Lehman A, Mahmoud E, C. Bweri C. Neonatal resuscitation in low resource settings: Challenges to implementation at a district hospital level in Tanzania *Annals of Global Health*, Vol. 82, Issue 3, p515. May 2016.
- Atefi Y, Chen S, Farrell A, Mahmoud E. Impact of helping babies breathe training on the change in knowledge, attitude and practice among community health care workers in Jimma region, Ethiopia. *Annals of Global Health*, 2016 May-June Volume 82, Issue 3.
- Lin C, Imansjah A, Lin A, Chen Y-C. A comparison between Fried Frailty Score and serum albumin levels in Taiwanese patients with ESRD on hemodialysis. *Annals of Global Health*, Volume 82, Issue 3, May-June 2016, Page 468.
- Truong D, Peng G, Chien L-C, Lin A. Increased risk of hepatotoxicity and hyperuricemia in elderly Taiwanese multidrug-resistant tuberculosis patients taking pyrazinamide. *Annals of Global Health*, Volume 82, Issue 3, May-June 2016, Page 471.
- Cheng S, Lin A, Chien L.C. Trends of comorbidities in Taiwanese patients infected with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis in seeking favorable treatment outcomes. *Annals of Global Health*, Volume 82, Issue 3, May-June 2016, Pages 334-335.
- Hsieh V, Zhou W, Lin A, Chen C.M Examining the frequency of colorectal cancer screening in colorectal cancer patients at a community hospital setting in Taiwan. *Annals of Global Health*, Volume 82, Issue 3, May-June 2016, Page 46.
- Lee M, Lin A, Chen Y.C. A Study on the incidence of AV shunt thrombosis during hemodialysis in a community hospital in Taiwan - Does more cannulation sites lead to decreased incidence of AV shunt thrombosis? *Annals of Global Health*, Volume 82, Issue 3, May-June 2016, Pages 467-468.
- Noonan A, Velasco HE, Wagner F. Improving the health of African Americans in the USA: An overdue opportunity for social justice. *Public Health Reviews* 2016 37:1.

Presentations

- Murakami S, Kang C. Co morbidities essential for comparative genomics of Alzheimer disease genes. OMED September 2016 Anaheim.
- Murakami S, Halperin A. The movement of biological evidence through medical education and policies of aging. 2016 Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
- Velasco HE. Public Health Competencies in Osteopathic medicine Curricula: From Program Learning Objectives to Entrustable Professional Activities and Milestones APHA October 31, 2016.
- Velasco HE. An Innovative approach to health situation analysis in four Latin American countries ASIS ARMAR7 November 1, 2016.
- Mahmoud E, Bekele A, Rashed M, Saleem A, Lin A, Velasco E. Descriptive Analysis of Cervical Cancer Cases at Jimma University Hospital -Ethiopia. 26th Annual Research Conference -"Bridging Research, community service and Technology". University of Gondar-Ethiopia, June 24th 2016.
- Liu B, Mak J, Felicia Han, Lin A, Chen Y-Z. Comparison Between Fried Frailty Score and Established Prognostic Factors in Predicting Mortality of Hemodialysis Patients in Taiwan. AOA 120th Annual Meeting and BIOMEA 18th Annual International meeting. October 19-20, 2016, Anaheim, CA.
- Young E, Liu B, Wan V, Lin T-L, Lin A, Chen Y-Z. Effectiveness of Taipei Hospital's CKD Education Program on Chronic Kidney Disease Patients' Renal Failure Outcomes. AOA 120th Annual Meeting and BIOMEA 18th Annual International meeting. September 17-20, 2016, Anaheim, CA.
- Liu E, Lee S, Lin A. Epidemiological study of risk factors and comorbidities in hemodialysis patients at Taipei Hospital in Taiwan: A fixed cohort survey, 2010-2014. AOA 120th Annual Meeting and BIOMEA 18th Annual

International meeting. September 17-20, 2016, Anaheim, CA.

- Velasco HE. Identifying the health priorities of Hispanics in the United States: Advancing the right to health for the largest ethnic minority. ASIS ARNAR7 November 2, 2016.
- Gugliucci A. "Antioxidant clinical trials failed to reduce CV outcomes: the end of the oxidative stress hypothesis?" 2016 American Association of Oil Chemists 107th Annual Meeting.
- Gugliucci A. "Metabolic Syndrome: Why children are getting it" Universidad de Guanajuato, Mexico City May 2016.
- Gugliucci A. "Fructose restriction lowers apo CIII levels and yields less atherogenic lipid profiles in children with obesity and the metabolic syndrome" at the 21st Annual Meeting of the Israeli Society for Research, Prevention and Treatment of Atherosclerosis, October 27-30th, Haifa, Israel.
- Gugliucci A: Fructose, the Atherogenic Dyslipidemia Complex and Metabolic Syndrome NYMC Pharmacology Seminar series Wednesday, September 21, 2016.
- Dr. Gugliucci co-organized the 2nd international symposium on AGEs and disease (along with Mount Sinai, Madrid, Chile and Guanajuato Universities) held in Santiago, Chile, September 26-28 2016. This meeting is conducted in Spanish with the specific purpose of extending the knowledge generated by our research in Latin America. The first meeting was held in Guanajuato in 2014 with great success which spurred the event to become a biennial tradition. Dr. Gugliucci presented 2 seminars at this meeting:
 - * Controversies about food AGEs: are they really toxic.
 - * Fructose as AGE generator: enteral and hepatic actions.

