GIMS 2015 Service of the Year!

General Internal Medicine Service (GIMS) was awarded 2015 Service of the Year at Department of Medicine’s First Annual Awards Ceremony December 17, 2015 “For extraordinary patient care, unwavering professionalism, passion for quality and excellence, exceptional teamwork, and dedication to the ideals of Walter Reed”.

Our Students, Residents, and Interns are very fortunate to work and train with all of the amazing members of General Internal Medicine Service (GIMS), which is the largest department at Walter Reed, and now, the most distinguished department in the Department of Medicine (DOM).

The Department of Medicine acknowledged “the efforts and accomplishments of our Department of Medicine staff...” Dr. J. Anthony Nations, Chief of DOM, went on to express how proud he was of what “we have accomplished together”, and how the DOM “leadership team wanted to celebrate some of the outstanding professionals on our staff who have made our successes possible.” SFC Purnell did an amazing job setting the tone for the ceremony and presented some of the awards. Dr. Rose Ressner and Ms. Terri LaVoie, Assistant DOM Chiefs, and Dr. Pangaro, Chair of the Uniformed Services University Department of Medicine, representing our academic medical center partner in Unity of Effort, also handed out awards.

To read about the other 15 awardees, including DOM Employees of the Year, and Special Achievement Awardees, see page pp 15-18

Welcome to the SECOND YEAR of the “GME Newsletter”

“esprit de corps” This is your forum. Throughout this newsletter, you will read about the incredible impact you, our colleagues, in the Department of Medicine at Walter Reed and at F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine - Uniformed Services University are making on research, academics, clinical care, and leadership. You’ll notice heartfelt, personal stories of extraordinary patient care, hard work, and community service. The breadth and depth of accomplishments and quality of patient care at the Nation’s Flagship of our Military Health System are astonishing.

The very same students, interns, residents, staff, program administrators, and faculty who have achieved these accomplishments are also the contributing writers and contributing photographers (and yes, that includes selfies). To borrow President Lincoln’s phrase, this newsletter truly is a publication “OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE” of dom gme.

Sincerely, Sean M. Lynch
Editor, Walter Reed DOM GME Snapshot
DERMATOLOGY Shines with Two of its Stars

CPT Kara Hoverson Radiates Success!!

CPT Kara Hoverson, a first year Dermatology Resident, made an oral presentation and poster at the Cosmetic Surgery Forum conference in Las Vegas, NV, in early December.

“Calciphylaxis with Pseudoxanthoma elasticum-like changes”

Dr. Kara Hoverson, M.D. PGY-2, National Capital Consortium Dermatology Residency
Dr. Wendi Wohltmann, M.D Dermatopathologist, Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center

Click here to see the full poster

Also, Dr. Hoverson, along with two of her prior colleagues at Army and Navy facilities in Hawaii, recently published an article in International Journal of Dermatology.

“Clinicopathologic Challenge: A Scaly Eruption on the Body”

Julia Kwan1, MD, Kara Hoverson2, MD, and Navin S. Arora3, DO, FAAD

1 Dermatology Service, Naval Health Clinic Hawaii, Joint Base Pearl Harbor–Hickham, Honolulu, HI, USA
2 Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD, USA
3 Dermatology Service, Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI, USA

Click here to read the full article

Congratulations Kara!!

Brilliant Performance by CPT Christopher Lowe Results in World Congress Scholarship!!

CPT Christopher Lowe was accepted for a case presentation at the 23rd World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver BC Canada back in June 2015. He received a scholarship from the Henry Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine to travel to the meeting and give the presentation. The case we saw at Walter Reed and was "Primary Cutaneous Zygomycosis in an Extremely Preterm Infant." The meeting occurs once every 4 years and accepts abstracts from Dermatologists from all over the world. Dr. Lowe’s abstract was chosen for an oral case presentation.

The very same CPT Lowe (PGY-4), who was the first chief resident for Dermatology this academic year, has been selected into the Dermatopathology Fellowship at USUHS/Walter Reed.

Derm means business!!

ALSO

CPT Thomas Lam, CPT Christopher Lowe, and the Service Chief for Dermatology, LTC Jason Marquart, published an article in Dermatologic Surgery in September, in the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery, Inc. Published by Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc.

Secondary Intention Healing and Purse-String Closures
Thomas K. Lam, MD,* Christopher Lowe, MD,* Ryan Johnson, MD,† and Jason D. Marquart, MD, FACMS, FAAD*

To read the full article: https://learning.usuhs.edu/x/FbRLHw

Clinical Pearls
INTERNAL MEDICINE

Important educational research from fellows and faculty of the Walter Reed General Internal Medicine Fellowship group.

“Characteristics of Highly Rated Internal Medicine Attendings Before and After the 2004 Work-Hour Restrictions.”

MILITARY MEDICINE, 181, 1:76, 2016.

MAJ Renee Mallory, MC USA
COL Jeffrey L. Jackson, MC USA (Ret.)
COL Donald Mondragon, MC USA
COL Christos Hatzigeorgiou, MC USA
LTC(P) Kent J. DeZee, MC USA
LTC David Greenburg, MC USA
COL Patrick G. O’Malley, MC USA

ABSTRACT Objectives: To describe the characteristics of top-rated Internal Medicine attendings and whether they changed after implementation of the 2004 work-hour restrictions. Methods: Mixed methods study of resident ratings of medicine attendings (Period 1: 1994–1996, n = 250 and Period 2: 2007–2009, n = 152). Residents evaluated 17 attending characteristics. The top 25% of “overall” ratings were classified as “highly rated.” Two free-text questions included “What was your attending’s best characteristic?” and “How could your attending best improve?” and were coded in duplicate, using grounded qualitative methods.

Click here to read the full article

UNITY OF EFFORT

This publication was collaboration between medical students at USUHS, Charles Meyer and Nicole Behm, Walter Reed IM Resident Emily Brown, and Infectious Diseases Fellow Nate Copeland.

Congratulations to all of you on getting this case report published, and thanks very much to LCDR Sklar (NMRC ID Staff) for his mentorship.

Timothy J. Whitman
CAPT US Navy
Infectious Diseases Program Director

Case Report

“An Adverse Drug Reaction to Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole Revealing Primary HIV: A Case Report and Literature Review”

Case Reports in Infectious Diseases
Volume 2015, Article ID 691010

Charles Meyer,1 Nicole Behm,1 Emily Brown,1 Nathanial K. Copeland,2,3 and Marvin J. Sklar2,3

1Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA
2Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD 20889, USA
3Naval Medical Research Center, Silver Spring, MD 20910, USA

Click here to read the entire case report

Library Corner:

Workshops:
Darnall Medical Library is now providing more workshops than ever! Go the library’s homepage (https://wrnmmc.libguides.com/home) to check out and register for our workshops. You’ll find classes on PubMed, EndNote, Mobile Apps, Systematic Reviews, Designing Scientific Presentations, Preparing Your Manuscript for Publication, and more!

New Resources:
Darnall Medical Library now subscribes to JAMAevidence! JAMAevidence is a key resource used to assist in your critical appraisal of the medical literature. JAMAevidence includes the Users’ Guides to the Medical Literature, The Rational Clinical Examination, Care at the Close of Life, Education Guides, and Calculators.
ENS Puri, we are thrilled and honored to have you join our Internal Medicine Residency team, here at the President’s Hospital.

By ENS Vinita Puri

Every fall at USUHS, the fourth-year medical students along with students from other disciplines complete a rigorous field training exercise known as Operation Bushmaster. Leadership, stress management, and teamwork are tested alongside with the ability to practice tactical field medicine as the students are "deployed" to a notional country. As a USUHS medical student within the U.S. Public Health Service set to provide domestic care to underserved Native American populations through the Indian Health Service post residency, I initially was not sure how much I would be able to gain from this field exercise. Through long days and rotating leadership positions, I was thankfully drawn out of my comfort zone. I developed leadership skills I didn’t know I had and became more versed with how to manage various field specific medical conditions, not unlike practicing medicine in underserved, low resource areas that I know I will be entering in the near future. The experience was truly memorable, fun, and a win for my personal and professional growth.

As I felt a sense of accomplishment upon completion of this exercise, I began to think about how else I could use my elective time during the "relaxed" fourth year of medical school to similarly enhance my skills and knowledge base to prepare for my future practice on the reservations. In browsing our fourth year course catalogue, I came across a rotation entitled Integrative Medicine that I had never heard of before. I contacted the rotation coordinator, found out I would be the first student to rotate through the Integrative Health and Wellness Clinic (part of Internal Medicine here at Walter Reed), and immediately signed up. It’s now week two of four and I have already participated in a wide variety of activities ranging from nutrition counseling for weight loss and weight gain, diabetes and pre-diabetes education classes, classes for non-medical treatment of chronic pain and sleep improvement, and meditation, deep breathing exercises, and dance/movement therapy for stress reduction. In particular, I find myself faced with very realistic and common challenges as I hear patients discuss their desires to take control of their weight and diabetes. And as I soon make the leap from medical student to intern, I know I will personally benefit from some of the stress management techniques and nutrition counseling I have learned. Two more wins of hopefully many more to come. My development as a budding physician has been immense over the last three and a half years; my recent practical mindfulness of the role contextual factors play in each patient’s health has certainly enhanced my preparation for patient care. I cannot wait to transition into practicing medicine at Walter Reed as a physician and collaborate with the other phenomenal healthcare providers, including the wonderful staff in the Integrative Health and Wellness Clinic!

"Being immersed in a clinic whose mission is to improve overall wellness through multiple non-pharmacological avenues has allowed me to jump into a creative mindset..."

Low and behold between the time I signed up for the rotation and the time I actually arrived to the clinic, I found out I matched into Internal Medicine here at Walter Reed for July 2016. I am not only excited to come to this training program and stay in my hometown of Montgomery County, Maryland, but I am also very thankful for the resource awareness my current rotation in the wellness clinic has given me. I can now educate my soon-to-be colleagues about this clinic and its services as we all begin to take care of patients within Internal Medicine.

To Learn More

If you would like to learn more about Integrative Health and Wellness Service, click here, or contact CAPT Moira G. McGuire, NC, USPHS, Assistant Chief, Internal Medicine, Lead, Integrative Health & Wellness, at moira.g.mcguire.mil@mail.mil, (301) 319-8755, or, to schedule an appointment, (301-295-0105).
“Stanford Faculty Development” Program for faculty offered at Walter Reed Bethesda and DoD teaching hospitals around the country.

Since 1987 the USU Department of Medicine has run the “Stanford Faculty Development” Program for faculty at Bethesda, Walter Reed and DoD teaching hospitals around the country. The program was developed at Stanford University School of Medicine where program leaders have gone for in-residence training. Dr Pangaro, Chair of the USU Department of Medicine has led the course here since 1987, and several hundred military faculty and fellows from all specialties have taken the seven seminars under his leadership.

Topics include key elements in teaching and leadership such as setting goal, evaluating accurately, giving feedback, fostering self-directed learning and establishing an effective learning climate. The courses uses a “micro training” model with short lectures, role play and videotaped examples to enhance versatility as a teacher and improve our ability to analyze and evaluate teaching effectiveness. Participants are very active in the sessions, and enthusiastic about these small group seminars, and here at Bethesda Dr Pangaro and LTC Joshua Hartzell often have a waiting list for their annual courses held in the fall and winter.

- Dr. Pangaro
Louis N. Pangaro, MD, MACP
COL (ret.) MC USA
Professor and Chairman
Department of Medicine (MED)
F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine
- “America’s Medical School”
Uniformed Services University

Please contact Dr. Pangaro or Dr. Hartzell for more information.

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Photo: Big thanks to Iron Med organizers: (L-R) CPT Sarah Ordway, LT Alison Lane, LT Brett Sadowski, and LT Krystle Salazar

USU Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Military Medical Specialty Night

The annual USU Specialty night, hosted by the USU Gamma (Γ) chapter of AOA, was a big success. Over 40 GME programs representing all three services and many different MTFs filled the USU cafeteria on Wed 2 Dec 2015. Over 150 students from 15 different medical schools came to the event to meet programs directors and investigate career opportunities in the Medical Departments of their services. The WRB Department of Internal Medicine ran another successful IronMed challenge that drew large crowds to their specialty table.

Joseph Lopreiato MD, MPH
CAPT, MC, USN (ret)
Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine
USUHS

Multiple Walter Reed IM subspecialties were represented at AOA specialty night, including more arthrocentesis hands-on demonstrations from LTC Edison, CAPT Wagler, and LT Eickhoff for medical students.

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Photo: Students taking the Walter Reed “Iron Med” Challenge
Two Renowned Institutions Join Forces to Educate Our Residents

National Institute of Health and Walter Reed make a joint effort to advance resident education.

We truly value the opportunities for clinical training and research exposure at NIH/NCI, and will continue to look for opportunities for our residents to explore their interests. The feedback from our Resident on the Hematology rotation is impressive. While not a replacement for our clinical hematology/oncology rotation at Walter Reed, this rotation is a valuable elective opportunity for upper level residents wishing to explore further their interests in hematology and infectious disease (and possibly critical care).

Many thanks to Dr. Georg Aue and COL(ret) Charlie Bolan and your faculty for making this rotation possible and rewarding for our residents. We will work to make sure that residents planning their future schedules are aware of this possibility going forward.

This is an excellent example of Unity of Effort between our institutions going forward.

- Captain Shimeall

To learn more about research and training at NIH:
http://www.nih.gov/research-training/training-opportunities

VIDEO LINKS:

Orient Express
– a 3 minute faculty orientation:
Thanks for teaching our students!

IM Medicine Clerkship 2016 Unboxing
Check out this silly/fun video for the students where we “unbox” the clerkship

Morning Report Morsels

ACADEMICS AT SEA
IN THE MILITARY, ACADEMICS KNOW NO BOUNDS: LAND, AIR, and at SEA

On the USNS Comfort this past summer, Commander Sean McKay (Walter Reed Pulmonary/Critical Care Faculty) and Commander Dylan Wessman (NMC San Diego Cardiology Faculty), and Commander John Devlin (NMCP) ensured our IM Residents did not miss an academic beat while serving at Sea in Central and South America as part of Operation Continuing Promise 2015.

These two valued leaders took on the administrative and academic duties with distinction in a joint effort. The academic program included Global Health, Infectious Disease, Women’s Health, Nutrition, Case Conference, and Post Rotation Evaluation.

Thank you CDR McKay, CDR Devlin, and CDR Wessman for the tremendous effort you made to ensure our residents benefitted from the CP 2015 experience.

To see more, please visit the Facebook page for the USNS Comfort: https://www.facebook.com/novycp
Dear R3,
I have over 40 patients on my clinic panel. And they all expect me to be their doctor. Yes, I have a good-looking white coat and great initials behind my name but I really don’t know what I’m supposed to do. Or how to do it. Help, please?

Dear Hopelessly Confused,
Have no fear, you’re not alone. For starters, we’ll address the “why” for doing good panel management. Let’s look back at the Hippocratic Oath. Yes, those words we repeated so many moons ago. Before we saw our first patient or perhaps even owned a stethoscope.

These words, spoken along with thousands of other physicians through the ages, still ring true today and give us guidance no matter the situation.

“I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures which are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.”

Think of clinic like a marathon race. Slow and steady. Not like the inpatient sprint to make diagnosis or discharge patients. Sometimes it takes more than one clinic visit to make a diagnosis and that’s OK. Because you’re their doctor, you will develop a long term relationship with them – you can call or Relay Health them to see how they’re doing. And if you’re still confused about something, then talk with your colleagues! If it doesn’t feel right, then investigate! Don’t assume that another doctor is taking care of the issue. YOU are their primary care doctor, their advocate. NOT the Cardiologist or Endocrinologist.

“I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon’s knife or the chemist’s drug.”

As a primary care physician to a patient, you’re not just treating illnesses, you’re preventing them! This includes everything from diabetes to hip fractures. Take into consideration the patient’s gender, age, social situation, and access to healthcare. For older patients, know their family members and touch base with them every few months. Find those things that are preventing your patients towards practicing a healthy lifestyle. Get to know your social workers, your nurses and what services are provided at Walter Reed.

Stay tuned for the “how” of what to do... we’ll address that in the next installment.

We are now open for business. Please send your trials and tribulations – R3 may be able to provide some sound advice ;) click on any Dear R3

DID YOU KNOW:
It is a very interesting story how and why Pauline Phillips began her “Dear Abby” column. Here is a link to read about it: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pauline_Phillips](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pauline_Phillips)

“The letters that Phillips and her sister each picked for publication were meant to give the public glimpses of "the most intimate of human difficulties," which contributed to their immediate acceptance.”
The Navy ACP hosted first in-person chapter meeting in three years on the NSA Bethesda Campus

Winners:

LT Ian Grasso - podium presentation of clinical vignette: “Systemic lead toxicity secondary to extra-articular retained shrapnel presenting with jaundice and hepatitis”

LT Sara Robinson - poster presentation: “Posterior Reversible Encephalopathy Syndrome (PRES) in a Young Adult as a Presentation of a Pediatric Nephrotic Disease”

WR Resident of the year:
LT Nicholas Fiacco

WR Staff of the year:
LCDR Mary Andrews

Thank you to Walter Reed Bethesda post-er judges and GIM Faculty Dr. Gretta Diemer and LCDR Chuck Eisenberg, as well as podium judge: Dr. Angeline Lazarus, Staff Pulmonologist and prior Navy ACP Governor.

Doctor’s Dilemma (medical knowledge ‘Jeopardy-style’ competition) – While the Walter Reed Bethesda team lost a close match after leading going into the final Jeopardy round, we are delighted to be able to participate in the first Navy ACP face-face Jeopardy competition since 2012 (we’ll do our best to get the Admiral’s Cup back next year!)

Walter Reed Rheumatology Fellows, MAJ Vanya Wagler (DO) and LT Jeff Eickhoff also presented a well-received arthrocentesis workshop at the Navy Chapter ACP meeting.

Rheumatology was well represented at the Navy Chapter ACP Meeting.

MAJ Christopher Tracy also gave the following lecture at the Navy Chapter of the ACP:

Rheumatology's MAJ Chris Tracy presenting at Navy ACP 2015

Walter Reed’s Doctor’s Dilemma (jeopardy) Team: LT Brett Sadowski, LT Ben Kurth, LT Mickey Skaret

Dr. Wagler and Dr. Eickhoff demonstrating expert technique at Navy ACP arthrocentesis workshop

NAVY ACP

The Navy ACP hosted first in-person chapter meeting in three years on the NSA Bethesda Campus on 4-5 December, taking advantage of two outstanding venues at Uniformed Services University and the NSA Bethesda USO facility. The meeting was well-attended with over 100 participants including internists from across the Navy and residents from all Navy internal medicine training programs.

It’s very exciting to get back to a face-to-face meeting and hopefully the other services can follow suit going forward.

Congratulations to Navy ACP Chapter Governor CAPT Mike Keith (middle) and meeting chairs LCDR Andy Philip (right) and LCDR Casey Flanagan (left) for pushing this forward in the face of so much uncertainty, and for an outstanding meeting!
This year’s Army ACP meeting was held via webinar 04DEC2015. There were six connecting sites comprised from Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Madigan Army Medical Center, San Antonio Military Medical Center, Tripler Army Medical Center, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Meeting highlights included a keynote address with CME accreditation from former Walter Reed Chief of Medicine and current Chief Medical Officer for MEDSTAR Washington Hospital Center COL(ret) Dr. Gregory Argyros, MACP, entitled, “Establishment of an Ebola Treatment Center - How to go From Nothing to a Federally-Designated Program in 30 Days.” Additional highlights include the resident research abstract competition, whereby each residency program from the contributing medical centers presented via podium their site selected research abstract, with Benjamin Morang from William Beaumont Army Medical Center declared as the winner amongst the judges. He will now have the opportunity to present his research at the upcoming national ACP meeting in Washington DC. The Army ACP meeting concluded with the third annual Army Doctor’s Dilemma competition with the team comprised of CPT Michael McMahon (PGY3), CPT Ryan Jones (PGY3), and CPT Joseph Maciuba (PGY1) from Walter Reed National Military Medical Center outscoring the other five competing medical centers in the medically oriented Jeopardy-like competition. We are thankful for all participants and congratulate all competitors.

- CPT Derek Forsthoefel, Program Chair

Photo: Doctor’s Dilemma (jeopardy competition) – virtual – “we one” Army ACP “A Team” Members, CPT Michael McMahon (PGY3), CPT Ryan Jones (PGY3), and CPT Joseph Maciuba (PGY1) will go to take on International finalist teams at the National IM 2016 Meeting in Washington, DC!

Thanks COL Bill Kelly and CPT Adam Barelski for orchestrating another highly successful (and innovative) Army Webinar Doctor’s Dilemma competition, in spite of some very challenging VTC glitches. The fact that such a competition is even possible is mind-boggling to begin with.

Also, a special thanks to all of the members who volunteered to work the phone bank (see photo).

You pulled it off with aplomb and style.

- CAPT Bill Shimeall
IM Program Director
Walter Reed

“[Extending our congratulations to all of the teams / MTFs represented] - ALL of their residents were very smart, highly professional, and incredibly good sports! They should be proud.

The final jeopardy question with the cavitary lung lesions -- and micro slide with branching filamentous gram positive rods that were acid-fast - was no-cardea.”

- COL “Bill” Kelly
Clerkship Director
"America’s Medical School"
USUHS—Department of Medicine (MED)
Walter Reed Action Group (WRAG) Volunteers

Walter Reed IM Interns and Residents Help Mentor Young Adults at Thomas Edison High School’s Academy of Health Professions’ Medical Science Program

[Here are some pictures of the stellar...intern/residents who volunteered to mentor and teach a group of 11th-12th graders at the Thomas Edison High School’s Academy of Health Professions’ Medical Science program.... They explained why they were interested in medicine and answered questions about following this career path. They also taught about the neurology, cardiology, gastroenterology/genitourinary and radiologic assessments in a hands-on laboratory. Thank you Cynthia Philip (PGY-2), Joe Maciuba (PGY-1) and Tom Mellor (PGY-2) for representing our program and the medical profession! Many thanks to Dr. Ritter, Dr. Soh and Dr. Mai who have been staffing residents at the Arlington Free Clinic

- Sarah Ordway

Excerpt from letter to General Clark

...I would like to express our appreciation [for] the efforts of the Internal Medicine Department at WRNMMC over the past four years, to promote careers, skills and academic prowess to our [student] interns and future medical professionals....Three Internal Medicine doctors, Dr. Joe Maciuba, Dr. Cynthia Philip and Dr. Tom Mellor did outstanding military medical career presentations and medical skills rotations...

- With Sincere Gratitude, Kristine Mansky, R.N.

Click to read the full text

“WRAG (Walter Reed Action Group) is a group of health students and medical residents who are dedicated to service, volunteering to help address the health needs of under-served populations including children, disabled, elderly and homeless”

Photos:
A. CPT Joe Maciuba talks with students
B. LT Tom Mellor giving instruction to Thomas Edison students
C. LT Tom Mellor looks on as a student performs a cardiac exam
D. Residents Tom Mellor, Joe Maciuba, and Cynthia Philip pose with Thomas Edison students

Click to see the Winter WRAG Flyer
Click to SIGN UP
On 10 December 2015 the Walter Reed Internal Medicine Program hosted its annual holiday party at Maggiano’s in beautiful downtown Friendship Heights. Attendance was excellent thanks to our gracious fellow support from Cardiology (LCDR Hampton Crimm), Pulmonary/Critical Care (Capt Chuck Stahlmann), and ID (MAJ Mackenzie Morgan) who relived their residency glory years to be house staff that evening. An excellent dinner was followed by presentation of the USU Department of Medicine Leonard Teaching Awards by Dr. Kelly and Dr. Pangaro. The program congratulated this year’s award winners: Dr. Chin Hee Kim, LT Patricia Hogan, LT Christa Eickhoff, LT Alison Lane, CPT Alex Dew, MAJ Christina Brzezniak, Dr. Ronald Kramer, and LTC John Sherner. After dinner was cleared away and awards had been presented the dance floor was packed, led by an intrepid intern class and later to be graced by Dr. Shimeall himself. We look forward to seeing everyone again at the Lampoon later this year!

- LT “Andy” Miller

A HUGE thank you to the three social chairs:
Laura Gilbert, Jed Mangal, Andy Miller!!

Dr. Pangaro and CDR Nations were honored to hand out the awards to the well-deserving staff:

James J. Leonard – Excellence in Teaching – Staff Awards
Dr. Chin Hee Kim, MAJ Christina Brzezniak (Heme/Onc), Dr. Ronald Kramer (Sleep) and LTC John Sherner (Pulmonary). Dr. John Massey (GIMC) and Dr. Jason Blaylock also were recognized with certificates from the prior 2013-2014 period.

James J. Leonard – HOUSE Staff Excellence in Teaching
LT Patricia Hogan, LT Christa Eickhoff, LT Alison Lane, and CPT Alex Dew

Background on the Award:
Dr. James J. Leonard II (17JUN1924 – 16DEC2005)
“His leadership in developing the careers of a generation of doctors and educational leaders at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, USUHS [first Chair of Department of Medicine, 1977], Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda [as Chief], and Wilford Hall Air Force Medical Center had helped shape the character and quality of the practice of medicine through the next century”

Fun Fact: CAPT Shimeall gave his first morning report case presentation to Dr. Leonard in 1995.

Based on anonymous surveys, “Medical Students Love Internal Medicine!”
Dr. Kelly also made special note at the Awards presentation that the Internal Medicine Clerkship scored the highest overall among ALL USU specialties!! (Source: AAMC USU 2014 Survey)

During the Holiday Party, the IM Residency Education Committee officially presented a gift to the Residents…
What was it you ask? A New Refrigerator
Why pray tell did they gift them a refrigerator out of all things?!
: Read the anonymous feedback below.

The anonymous feedback (link available for residents to provide anytime):
“Please provide your anonymous feedback in the box below. : Would appreciate two things from the treasury secretary….have a sign-up sheet for bids to raise funds for a second mini-fridge for the resident room (it’s constantly jammed to the brim)...”

The principle is that WE listen to our learner’s feedback!!!
Read about our Dynamic GME Duo below.

The Dynamic Duo:
By Mrs. Chaconia Agyenkwah

It was spring 2007, and I was about to fill a position in the Dermatology Department as the new full time Residency Program Administrator, a promotion from my former position as an Administrative Support Assistant in Pastoral Care. I was excited, nervous, but most of all confident in my ability to become a sponge for the training needed to manage a graduate medical education residency program. I felt prepared and ready to take on the world, but the piles of duties, files, binders and ACGME regulations came crashing towards me like a freight train without brakes, I was in for one crazy ride. There was so much to learn, like what’s a TAD or better yet a TDY? Why are first year residents PGY-2’s, instead of PGY-1’s? What’s a “Cross-Org” or a “Line of Accounting”? Who and what were the ACGME, and why are we running around like chickens with our heads cut off preparing for their visit to our top notch program? Almost a decade later, the answers to the questions above, are ones given without batting an eye.

Fast forward to summer 2013; when the most rewarding event happened. My Mom, Mrs. Bernadette “Bernie” Roach was hired as the Residency Program Support Coordinator for Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry! She has since worked for Neurology and is currently adapting to life in the robust Internal Medicine program. I remember thinking that the day had finally come, where I would become the teacher, and she would be the student; after all, she had the pleasure of holding that role for my entire life. It was like looking into a mirror, she was excited and eager to learn but she was nervous about all the information flying at her at once. With a social butterfly for a daughter; she would also soon become overwhelmed with a friendly swarm of people to meet, greet, and become acquainted with outside of her department(s); many who couldn’t believe that she was my mother and not my sister. In addition, we somehow frequently show up to work wearing the same colors, (as you will see in the picture); and we don’t even live together! However, I digress, with over 20 years of experience working alongside lawyers at Skadden, Arps, Meagher, & Flom; the graduate medical education department at Walter Reed was totally out of her professional wheelhouse. I often giggled at her baffled expressions, but soon felt an enormous sense of pride when she hit the ground running and turned the tides, educating myself and others on processes that we had not yet been required to execute.

What we have both learned as we navigate our way through each academic year is that you never stop learning, and growing, and that type of passion should flow through out our personal, as well as our professional relationships. Graduate Medical Education is just another stop on this road we call life, a path in which we have chosen to better ourselves, to soak up as much knowledge from our peers and those whom have come before us. We are not the first generation to improve system-based practices, professionalism, or any other milestone set before us, and I guarantee you we won’t be the last.

On behalf of ourselves, and perhaps many other Program Administrators, we want you to understand the significance of our smiling faces, the amount of hugs, expressions of gratitude, or kisses will ever repay them...

“I owe everything I am, and am becoming, to my parents; they encouraged me and taught me to be eager to learn, to be courageous, and to never be afraid to be a leader. They, like so many, have gone unnoticed or underappreciated and no amount of hugs, expressions of gratitude, or kisses will ever repay them…”

DID YOU KNOW?
We have a Mother/Daughter pair of Program Administrators in IM and Derm, respectively?
Read about our Dynamic GME Duo below.
Dear colleagues,

I wanted to send a quick shout out to recognize people that came in despite knee/thigh deep snow [during the blizzard from 22 January on] CHCS going down, round the clock cafeteria food, and kept the heme-onc service going strong over the weekend --

Dr. Olson (5-west fellow), Dr. Julia Cheringal (consult fellow), Dr. Gilda Bobele (resident), Dr. Travis Weaver (intern) and Dr. Jane Whitney (intern), 5-west nursing staff (many of whom slept here to work their shifts), LTC Sano and Frank Grollman (pharmacy) -- who were here over the weekend.

Dr. Shimeall and chiefs -- I know you know this already, but your housestaff were amazing this past weekend.

Your dedication to our patients is tremendous and I am so honored (and humbled) to be working with you.

Best wishes,
Mary

Mary Kwok, MD, FACP
MAJ, MC, USA
Hematology-Oncology
Murtha Cancer Center, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
Associate Training Program Director, Hematology Oncology Fellowship

Dr. Kwok (Mary),

Thank you for taking the time to recognize everyone's efforts in stepping up to challenge to meet our patients' needs. The chiefs and I have received incredible feedback about all of our inpatient and consulting teams who made the extra efforts through the storm to ensure care. I couldn't agree more, and am honored to work with such a dedicated interdisciplinary team. Strong work everyone!

V/r,
Bill Shimeall

A HEROIC EFFORT

Sir,

Below is a list of residents who went to great lengths to fulfill their duty to our patients over the weekend. Some of them stayed in the hospital from Friday morning until Monday evening to ensure their patients were properly covered (>80+ hours in the hospital). Some residents came in the day before their shifts started, knowing that it would be difficult to get into the hospital given the weather forecasts. A number of residents volunteered to help out because they lived close by, despite not being scheduled to work. They worked together to alternate shifts so they could stay compliant with duty hours. And not once did I hear anyone complain about it.

Gilda Bobele
Scott Snyder
Cynthia Philip
Taryn Cazzolli
Tom Melior
Deron Davis
Pitter Hogan

Stacey McClintick
Ben Kurth
Bob Chiaruttini
Jed Mangal
Shannon Wood
Joel Finny

I know some of the residents at outside hospitals also stayed for days to make sure their patients were cared for, but I don't have as much visibility on them.

Overall, it was a heroic effort.

V/r,
Adam

Adam Barelski, MD
CPT, MC, USA
Chief Resident, Army
NCC Internal Medicine
Walter Reed Bethesda

OUTSTANDING MICU TEAM

All,

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the outstanding Physicians I had the opportunity to work with during snowzilla. These physicians never complained about sleeping on a cot, eating cafeteria food or being away from family and friends.

Dr. Kurth
Dr. Hussell
Dr. Ukeje
Dr. Sullivan

Dr. Bhatt
Dr. Londeree
Dr. Warren

v/r,
Paul A. Clark, D.O.
MAJ, MC, USA
Critical Care Medicine
Director Medical Intensive Care Unit

MEDICINE CLERKSHIP BLIZZARD 2016

Medicine Clerkship Blizzard 2016
To get a sense of the conditions during the blizzard, check out this 2016 Medicine Clerkship video by Dr. Kelly (click above title)
As none of us came to Walter Reed Bethesda for the money, it doesn’t hurt…

**FACTORY RECENTLY ELECTED TO FELLOWSHIPS**

**LCDR Mary Andrews**, MC, USN, FACP (USU Medicine Inpatient Clerkship Director and General Internist, Walter Reed Bethesda)

**CAPT Robert Browning**, MC, USN, FACP (Walter Reed Bethesda Pulmonary/Critical Care Faculty and Interventional Bronchoscopist)

**LCDR Jeffrey Levine**, MC, USN, FACP is a prior residency graduate of NNMC Internal Medicine Residency and currently a staff internist at Naval Hospital Yokosuka.

**CPT Edward Hulten**, MC USA FACP (Cardiology)

**LTC Jacob Collen**, MC, USA FACP (Sleep Medicine Program Director)

**MAJ Brian Cohee**, MD FACP (Off-site faculty at LRMC)

**CPT Renee Mallory**, MD FACP (General Internal Medicine Service)

**MAJ Adam B Mehring**, MC USA FACP (prior General Internal Medicine Service)

Even though None of Us Came to Walter Reed Bethesda for the Money, It Doesn’t Hurt…

**BASIC ALLOWANCE HOUSING RATES AND MASS TRANSIT BENEFITS INCREASE FOR NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA**

New Basic Allowance Housing (BAH) rates increased favorably for DC Metro Area.

News Flash! BAH (tax free) for Washington DC is going up (3.5% increase over 2015), which when compared to other military IM training sites, is greater than Honolulu (-8.6%), Gulfport, MS (-3.1%), El Paso (0.1%), Wright-Patterson, OH (-0.1%) Portsmouth (0.4%) or San Diego (2.3%); not as great as Takoma (6.5%) or Fort Gordon (6.3%); and similar to San Antonio (3.7%).

Statistically speaking, though, when the baseline is as high as we already receive here in the D.C. area, similar absolute increases in BAH’s result in higher percentage increase than locales with lower BAH rates as a reference point.

**DC Metro Area:**

- **w/ dependents:**
  - O3 - $2700; O4 $3108
  - O3 - $2523; O4 $2673

**ALSO**

The Mass Transit Benefit Increase to a New MAXIMUM Benefit of $255. The average transit benefit amount in the national capital region is $178.09, which means this should cover most of your commute to work if you decide to start using the benefit.

**URL:** https://apps2.capmed.mil/postmaster/viewdetails.aspx?
view=View&nobuttons=true&id=27176

**Brief Summary:** Released Date: 01/05/2016

**FEEDBACK**

We recently received the following comment in anonymous feedback from the MICU.

"Dr. Sherner is an excellent example of a great attending. Great teaching points were made during rounds. Dr. Sherner also created a warm and welcoming learning environment."

Thank you for all that you do for the residents and GME in the Department overall.

**FEEDBACK FRIDAYS**

Remember #FBF (Feedback Fridays) – talk to Adam and Ben

**WARNING**

In the medical profession, you are supposed to be an expert and perform well on board exams. As you succeed, you may want to be mindful of the “earned dogmatism” effect:

“Research from Loyola University of Chicago suggests that being an expert can make you more closed-minded -- and therefore less creative -- in your thinking. The study found that people who perceive themselves to be experts tend to be less open to new ideas and alternative viewpoints. The findings illustrate what’s known as the ‘earned dogmatism’ effect — the tendency to think in a more closed-minded, or dogmatic, way when we consider ourselves to be an expert...” - Huffington Post

To read the full article: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/expert-closed-minded_563369bbe4b00aa54a4db53a](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/expert-closed-minded_563369bbe4b00aa54a4db53a)


Congratulations LT Azah on your new post!! We are proud of you.

American College of Physicians elects LT Ayeetin Azah, IM PGY-1 Resident, to serve a two-year term as a representative to the ACP Council of Resident/Fellow Members (CRFM). The College’s governing body, the Board of Regents, will approve her appointment at its meeting on May 3, 2016.
Department of Medicine Holds Its FIRST ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

On December 17, 2015, the Department of Medicine (DOM) held its first annual employee of the year awards event in Clark Auditorium to recognize its superior performers for 2015. Forty-nine of the more than 890 employees of the Department of Medicine’s were nominated for awards, and 15 of them were recognized in 6 categories during the ceremony.

Awards were also handed out to staff from Department of Medicine (MED), F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University. Dr. Pangaro, Chair of the Uniformed Services University Department of Medicine, handed out awards.

Congratulations to the 15 Awardees

Employee of the Year Award Winners:  
(GME Personnel in bold)  
Enlisted Person of the Year - SSG Tonya Ross, Pulmonology  
Admin Support of the Year - Ms Monica Gomes, Warrior Clinic  
Provider of the Year - Eugene Soh, Cardiology Faculty (see story below)  
Clinical Support Person of the Year - Ryan Torres of Infectious Disease  
Technician of the Year - Ms Jennifer Gay of Executive Medicine  
Business Manager of the Year: Ms. Rosemary Roman

Special Achievement Award Winners:  
For extraordinary dedication to your craft, unwavering professionalism, cooperation with your coworkers, passion for excellence, teamwork, and dedication to the ideals of Walter Reed.”

(GME Personnel in bold)  
Heidi Zouras of Gastroenterology  
Erinade Alcius of Dermatology  
Jennifer Washington of Nephrology  
Ms Margerite Glover of Allergy  
Jeannie Williams of HemOnc  
HN Daniel Sparks of Endocrinology  
Sgt Jerald Burley of Optometry  
Sean Lynch, Graduate Medical Education, Internal Medicine

Well-deserved recognition

DOM Awards Ceremony Awardees

DOM Awards continued on next page

Highlights

Here is what they had to say about the Business Manager OF THE YEAR, Ms. Rosemary Roman:

“DOM is fortunate to have a superlative group of 10 Administrators who manage the business functions of our 15 Services, and today we will recognize just one of them. Our winner has earned an extraordinary level of respect and admiration from not only his/her peers but also from across the Command. Knowledgeable of just about anything, revered and beloved by just about everyone, I am pleased to award the Department of Medicine’s 2015 Administrator of the Year to Dermatology and Rheumatology’s esteemed Ms Rosemary Roman.” Photo: Ms. Roman shown with Dr. Kelly, USUHS Faculty Person of the Year, 2015.

One of the Special Achievement Awards went to Sean Lynch:

Sean Lynch was awarded the 2015 Special Achievement award for his creation and publication of the Walter Reed DOM GME Snapshot newsletter (this newsletter), which celebrated its first anniversary this month. The GME newsletter started off as a three-page Word document and, just 8 issues later, it has grown into a substantial and designed publication with a budget of zero dollars. The residents, faculty, staff, fellows, and administrators among the 12 GME and Fellowship programs in DOM are the contributing authors and contributing photographers (and, yes, that includes selfies). Photo: Dr. Nation presenting Sean Lynch with the Special Achievement Award for creating and publishing the “GME Newsletter”
Department of Medicine Holds Its FIRST ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

Service of the Year—Internal Medicine

Dr Nations presented the final and most prestigious award for Service of the Year...

Here is an excerpt:

“There are a handful of famous medical centers in this area…. you know their names. But there is only ONE Walter Reed and all of us are fortunate to pass some portion of our careers in these hallowed halls. And in this revered institution, the Department of Medicine is the largest department, with almost 900 extraordinary employees…… 49 of its best sitting right here in these front rows.

Our 15 Services provide medical care and an almost implausible variety of medical procedures and services to over 25,000 patients a month.

All of our 15 clinics have performed in admirable fashion this year, especially over the last 6 months and choosing just one is no easy task. But in this instance, one is the most deserving of all.

I am pleased to announce the winner of the 2015 Service of the year to ……………..the men and women, active duty, civilian and contract workers of……..Internal Medicine. “

Provider of the Year – Dr. Eugene Soh

“Our winner has demonstrated leadership, a high level of clinical skill, and truly served as a pioneer in his Service. He assumed the role of Assistant Chief of his Service and rapidly went to work at enhancing efficiency, resulting in significantly improved patient through-put and workload. He led the charge to bring an exciting and new interventional technology to Walter Reed in the form of transcatheter aortic valve replacement, and as a result his Service is the first joint Department of Defense medical facility to perform this procedure. Click here to read the NSA Bethesda Journal Article. Also, see the story below about the 90-year old recipient of the intervention, Navy Chaplain Chambers.

A Heartfelt Story behind Dr. Eugene Soh’s Provider of the Year 2015 Award.

LTC Eugene Soh, Cardiology performed the first new interventional technology to Walter Reed in the form of transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), on 90-year-old Korean War Veteran and retired Navy Chaplain Samuel “Dave” Chambers (PHOTOS left and bottom). His primary care provider, Dr. Shimeall, explained that “open heart surgery was not an option; the TAVR procedure was the best option available to provide him with a better chance of an improved quality of life.”

In addition to the procedure being a first, and a complete success, our 90-year-old Mr. Chambers also had a reduced recover period; instead of spending the typical three weeks in the hospital recovering from open heart surgery, he recovered in just three days!! The quick recovery period (and this even being a possibility) was due to the gentle nature of the procedure; instead of open heart surgery, LTC Soh and his operating team simply entered a major blood vessel with a catheter, and threaded a balloon mounted with the device up to the aorta to inflate and deploy the device at the proper location.

Our patients are the best teachers and most treasured resource for medical education at Walter Reed Bethesda. Chaplain Chambers reminds us of the tremendous honor and privilege that it is to care for those that have served their country and fellow humankind with selfless service and dignity.

To learn about the amazing story behind this photograph (LEFT) of Chaplain Samuel “Dave” Chambers, CAPT(ret), USN, while serving in the Korean War, go to: http://koreanwar-educator.org/memoirs/chambers_s_dave/index.htm

Footnote: Chaplain Chambers provided permission to include his name and historical link for this feature.
Service of the Year—Internal Medicine

The award is "for extraordinary patient care, unwavering professionalism, passion for quality and excellence, exceptional teamwork, and dedication to the ideals of Walter Reed".

Aside from the passion and hard work shown by GIMS staff every day, here are just a few clinical reasons why GIMS won the 2015 Service of the Year award:

- Expanded Acupuncture provider numbers so that capacity increased from 2-3
- Decreased 3rd next for FTR to below 7 days
- Half days each week to an avg of 8 half days each week, enabling us to provide this highly desired modality of treatment to many more of our beneficiaries.
- Revamped our clinic templates leading to a 15% available increase in appointments.
- Worked to decrease our 3rd next available metric for acute care for 4 days to 0.53 average days over the past few months.
- Reduced our open encounters by 90% over a 90 day period....

GIMS was also recognized for its robust INTERDISCIPLINARY programs

GIMS – Robust NP and PA Education - [In addition to General Internal Medicine Service (GIMS), providing the training ground for our 93 IM Residents,] GIMS also has a robust program in support for Allied Health Professional Training. For more than ten years, the Internal Medicine Department has been a sought-after rotation site for students from eight different civilian programs, two civilian nurse practitioner programs, and the DNP Family Nurse Practitioner Program at USUHS. Last year, we began serving as a "shadowing site" for the Army's IPAP Physician Assistant Program. In academic year 2014-2015 we helped train more than fifteen young professionals, and for this year that number will exceed twenty. The program is coordinated by PA Paul Cauchon, PA-C, CP, retired Navy, with the constant and enthusiastic support of Ms. Jennifer Thorp RPA-C, Ms. Marie Austin, CRNP, and Dr. McGuigan-Shuster, CAPT(sel), MC, USNR.
“America's Medical School”

Awards given to personnel from Department of Medicine (MED), F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine - "America's Medical School," Uniformed Services University.

UNITY OF EFFORT PERSONNEL OF THE YEAR, 2015

The awards were presented by Dr. Louis N. Pangaro, COL (ret.) MC USA, Professor and Chairman

Annette Cunningham
Clinical Research Unit Administrative Support Person of the Year, 2015

As the Clinical Research Unit (CRU) administrative support person, Ms. Cunningham's actions have directly contributed to extending the research capability of the Uniformed Services University by working closely with the CRU managers to coordinate logistical support for researchers and patients across USU, WRNMMC and the WRAIR. Her knowledge and experience in logistical support and scheduling proved invaluable during the coordination of a phlebotomy training session for TBI study researchers, assistant researchers and patients, regular meetings with researchers and staff, and the scheduling of the CRU research facility across multiple studies, all while maintaining the utmost professionalism with all researchers, staff, and patients, utilizing the CRU. Ms. Cunningham’s actions have served to help broaden the scope of research at USU and to foster a collegial environment across the NCC military and civilian research community.

Olukemi “Kemi” Omotoyinbo
National Clerkship Coordinator of the Year, 2015

Ms. Omotoyinbo successfully administers the Clerkship across our seven teaching hospitals including facile use or the electronic learning management system including issuing weekly announcements as directed and uploading materials. She monitors students’ assignment completion and finalizes draft grade narratives three times a year for a total of 140 off-site students. She has setup quarterly coordination calls with our administrators at these other sites to ensure supplies are present and deadlines are met. At Walter Reed, she drafts clinic schedules and contributes to a pleasant, warm, and effective new student orientation. Ms. Omotoyinbo is dedicated to our students—our core departmental mission. Her efforts continue to be an integral part of delivering a consistently high quality curriculum across sites. Ms. Omotoyinbo has proven herself to be a critical member of our team. Her diligent work and attention to detail directly contributed to the success of the Internal Medicine Clerkship.

Cheryl Markham
Civilian of the Year, 2015

Ms. Markham consistently sets the standard for program administrators at USUHS. Her organizational skills have been critical in the success of delivering the pre-clerkship clinical skills curriculum, and her expert input has had a positive impact on several ongoing curricular reforms to include a longitudinal experience for the pre-clerkship students. She consistently displays unparalleled professionalism and patience working tirelessly with national teaching faculty, staff, and students to ensure the successful accomplishment of all program goals and objectives. She successfully administers two separate and distinct courses simultaneously, coordinating the schedules and teaching responsibilities for over 200 clinical faculty and over 340 students in two separate classes across multiple educational facilities in the National Capital Area. Her work ethic is a role model for the department, and her devotion to finding solutions to problems is an integral part of delivering a consistently high quality curriculum.

William F. Kelly, COL, MC, USA
Faculty Person of the Year, 2015

Colonel Kelly is the senior educational program leader at SUHS, and the linchpin of all of our clinical rotations. His knowledge of medical education at USU enabled him to serve as a key member in preparation for our recent LCME accreditation visit. He has an impact at the UME, GME, and CME level, nationally and internationally. COL Kelly has been recognized by the students repeatedly as a role model and for designing outstanding educational programs— he won an award for Best Module Director for the initial implementation of the CPR module from the Class of 2015 (many of his innovations persist in both CPR and all modules); he received the Best Clerkship award from the Class of 2016; he received the William P. Clements award from the Class of 2014, the highest award the graduating medical school class can bestow on a faculty member. Colonel Kelly is a member of the USUHS School of Medicine Executive Curriculum Committee as well as the Clerkship Subcommittee, and he continues to design curriculum for Intro to Clinical Reasoning, the CPR module, and Selective clerkships. At WRNMMC, Colonel Kelly runs the Education Committee for the Internal Medicine Residency Program for nearly 90 residents, and he is a key member of the Pulmonary fellowship training program, supervising residents and fellows in their Pulmonary training.

A big THANK YOU to the folks who organized and ran the First Annual DOM Awards Ceremony, including Dr. Nations, Mr. Ron Burleson, Dr. “Rose” Ressner, Mr Ted Mueller, Mr. Donald Gordon, Ms. Terri Lavoie, SFC Parrish Purnell, and Ms. Jennifer Washington!!

THE END
**SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN MILITARY MEDICINE LEADERSHIP**

**NEW SURGEON GENERAL IN THE AIRFORCE, ARMY AND NAVY AND NEW DIRECTOR, DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY.**

We have significant change in Military Medicine leadership as we approach the New Year. In the last six months we have seen new Surgeons General in the Air Force, Army and Navy, and a new Director, Defense Health Agency.

Below are important messages from and backgrounds of these Leaders who will continue to shape our Military Health System.

**Director, Defense Health Agency**

VADM Bono stepped up from Director, NCRMD to replace AF Lt. Gen. Douglas Robb to become Director, Defense Health Agency in October. Her bio can be viewed here:

http://www.health.mil/About-MHS/Leadership-Biographies/Vice-Admiral-Raquel-C-Bono

**Navy Surgeon General**

VADM Forrest Faison, our 38th Navy Surgeon General, to replace VADM Nathan. VADM Faison is a USU grad and trained as a pediatrician. His bio can be viewed here:


VADM Faison’s message as he assumes the watch as the 38th Surgeon General in the Navy:

**Subject: ASSUMING THE WATCH**

*Shipmates:*

*It is my privilege and honor to have assumed the watch as your 38th Surgeon General. I am humbled to lead such an amazing organization of more than 63,000 active duty, reserve, civilian and contract personnel. I am incredibly proud of the tremendous impact Navy Medicine has made and continues to make throughout our history. I look forward to serving with you as we lead Navy Medicine into the future and supporting our Navy and Marine Corps team, their families, and those who depend on us.*

VADM Forrest Faison

C. Forrest Faison III, M.D.
VADM MC USN
Surgeon General, U.S. Navy
Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

**Army Surgeon General**

LTG West replaces LTG Horoho as Surgeon General. The Army recently selected LTG Nadja West, who is well known to the Walter Reed community as a former Deputy Commander for Integration here at Bethesda prior to BRAC in 2011. Below, are links to her 1st Day Brief, and two links detailing her historic appointment and bio.

1st Day Brief: https://learning.usuhs.edu/x/X2JSTD

Historic appointments:
http://www.armytimes.com/story/military/pentagon/2015/12/14/army-welcomes-new-surgeon-general/77287932/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nadja_West

**Air Force Surgeon General**

Finally, Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Mark A. Ediger became the latest Surgeon General of the Air Force in July, replacing Lt. Gen. Thomas Travis in July. His bio can be viewed here.


**PROMOTIONS AT WALTER REED**

*Shipmates, Wingmen, Battle Buddies, and Teammates,*

...the Army released the 2016 Medical Corps and Dental Corps Colonel selection list. Please join me in congratulating the following officers who have been selected for promotion to Colonel:

**LTC Eugenie Soh, Cardiology**
**LTC Matthew Jezior, Cardiology**
**LTC Jeff Mikita, Simulations/Pulmonary/Critical Care Faculty**
**LTC Linda Huffer, Cardiology**
**LTC Joseph Lee, Cardiology**
**[LTC Jon Meyerle, Dermatology]**

Promotion to Colonel/Captain is a significant accomplishment and represents the potential of these officers to serve at the highest levels of Military Medicine. Well Done!

- COL Heimall
  Michael S. Heimall
  Colonel, US Army
  Interim Director
  Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
ON-GOING EVENTS

Third Thursday of Every Month
1200 – 1300, in IM Noon Report Conference Room (America Building 2525 A-C)
IM Quality Improvement Review Conference (QIRC)

Every Friday
Dec schedule, Location: IM Noon Report Conference Room (America Building 2525 A-C) Please contact the Activity Director, MAJ Mary Kwok, MC, USA, mary.l.kwok.mil@mail.mil for updates.
CPC or IM Grand Rounds https://learning.usuhs.edu/x/LakIOu
Grand Rounds schedule/speakers (now to December 2015)

Every Friday
0900 – 1000 (usually Lecture Hall A, B, or C)
Click here to view the complete Fall-Winter 2015 schedule
If you have any questions, you can contact Ms. Rhonda Stout at (301) 295-9602
USUHS Department of Medicine Faculty Research Seminars

Various
In addition to the usual PubMed and citation management workshops, they will also offer workshops on Time Saving Tips for Researchers, Systematic Reviews, and Preparing Your Manuscript for Publication.“
Darnall Medical Library Workshops

LONG-TERM PLANNING

9 April, 2016, at Harbor Hospital, 3001 S Hanover St, Baltimore, MD 21225Hosted by Internal Medicine Interest Group Programs from USUHS, Johns Hopkins, University of Maryland, Georgetown University, George Washington University
Info: http://www.lrc.usuhs.edu/stepstosuccess2016/
Thirteenth Annual
“Medical Students’ Steps to Success Meeting”

17-21 April, 2016,
The Mirage, 3400 S Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89109
APDIM Program Administrators Meeting; APDIM Spring Education Precourse; APDIM Chief Residents Meeting; ASP Accreditation Seminar (For fellowships); APDIM Spring Meeting; MPPDA Meeting
http://www.im.org/p/cm/ld/fid=1233
2016 APDIM Spring Conference

3-4 May: Pre-Courses
5-7 May: Scientific Program, Clinical Skills Center, Exhibit Hall, Walter E Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.
http://im2016.acponline.org/
National ACP Internal Medicine 2016 Meeting

Click here to view current and past publications of Walter Reed DOM GME Snapshot

To share the incredible things our residents, fellows, administrators, and faculty are doing, contact Sean Lynch, Editor, at Sean.M.Lynch36.CTR@mail.mil, or (301) 319-4399