

VISTA VIEW

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President's Message

"WHAT IS YOUR WHY?"

With this writing, we are well into the new academic year and it seems like a good time to ask our RVU Community to stop and reflect on why we do what we do. This question is not new as it was also asked by the AOA's incoming president, Dr. Robert Juhasz, during his inaugural address in Chicago this past July. He referred to Simon Sinek's book, *Start With Why*, to inspire AOA members to think about *why* they do what they do. I too like Simon Sinek's book and also wanted to utilize his principle to encourage each of us within the RVU Community to think about why we do what we do.

Sinek's thesis is that every organization focuses its work around three basic activities that he displays in three concentric circles, one within the other. He calls it the "Golden Circle." The outer circle is labeled "what," the middle circle encompasses "how," and the inner circle, the bullseye of sorts, is the "why." The "what" describes your functions or tasks, the "how" gives details about how you do those functions, and the "why" gets at the purpose. He goes on to note that, without clarity about the "why" we do what we do, it leaves the organization or individual without a defined focus and purpose. So it seems fitting to have that "gut check" moment of the academic term to ask why I am here, why do I want to contribute to RVU, or even for students to ask why do I want to be a physician. What's your purpose, what's your cause, why do you get out of bed each day to do it? Sinek challenges us to think about the fact that members of our community choose to join, not because of what we do, but because of why we do it.

Some may believe there is no right or wrong answer to these questions on what and how, but there are others who believe that the critical point is that we each need to know WHY we do it. That purpose and drive will propel us forward and keep us focused when there are many distractions. Further, this adamant focus will motivate you through difficult times and will allow you to see the relevancy of your tasks at hand. An additional question I want to add to your reflection time is about the quality of your effort. Why seek excellence and why give more than 100% to achieve our institution's mission? Great institutions and organizations are built on the work of each per-

son who gives extra to move it forward. Great organizations have the luxury of counting on the fact that his/her colleagues will also be giving extra efforts.

Finally, great organizations, like RVU, have special people just like you giving more each day to allow us to experience the successes we have achieved. Our RVU Community is the shining example of how ordinary people achieve extraordinary things because we have a clear purpose, I believe, of why we do what we do. If you have not read his book, I encourage you to give it a review as he uses the science of biology (not psychology, as you might expect) as evidence of how the brain functions for decision-making, which supports decision-making theory of his "Golden Circle."

RVU has developed a strong reputation for accomplishing great things in a short amount of time. With your continued support, and exploring your "why," we will continue to flourish as an outstanding health sciences university.



Cheryl D. Lovell, PhD
President and CEO



Cheryl D. Lovell, PhD on a private tour of a hotel with Colorado Concern, a policy advocacy group of higher education presidents and business CEOs that work together on a number of state legislative issues focused on keeping Colorado competitive and an attractive place to live and work.

Dean's Message

"A TIME OF TRANSITION"

I am honored to have been given the opportunity by members of the Board of RVU to transition from the Interim Dean's position into occupying the Dean's chair on a permanent basis. I know that transitions can be unsettling and, oftentimes, downright difficult, but they are a necessary ingredient for growth and progression.

These times of transition can also be times of great opportunity because they compel great institutions to evaluate all of their methods and resources, then apportion them in different ways. It is a time when new talent is discovered, and entrenched or cumbersome practices may be laid aside. It is a time of resolve, reorganization, or simply rededication to make systems work better. Whatever the motivation, we should welcome—not fear—transition because it mirrors progress.

Consider the excitement and preparation of the upperclasses transitioning from one year to another. They are anticipating those first clinical experiences on patients with real problems or securing an outstanding residency. For the sophomore students, they anticipate moving from the basics to classes that make them think and act like physicians. Now that the Class of 2018 has a few exams under their belt, their transition to the new curriculum is almost complete. They know that, though the journey may seem long, they are on their way to completing it.

RVUCOM's curriculum has seen transitions, as well, and knowing that we lead all Osteopathic Schools in first-time board passage rates, we may see little room for improvement. External pressures, such as those ushered in by the Affordable Care Act, have prompted us to change many of our time-honored teaching methods and subject matter in favor of classes on clinical reasoning and diagnostic skills. Physicians are being forced to rely more on their clinical skills than on expensive technology. In an effort to help our students develop such skills, we transitioned our Grand Rounds program to a more practical format that teaches critical thinking, data management, and medical literature research and review. Our Medical Informatics Department realized future physicians will have to not only know the characteristics of diseases and to diagnose, but they will have to expertly manage the mountain of data that can now be gathered on a patient. They will have to organize and distill information efficiently, gleaned from their examinations and lab data the subtle points that lead to a correct diagnosis.

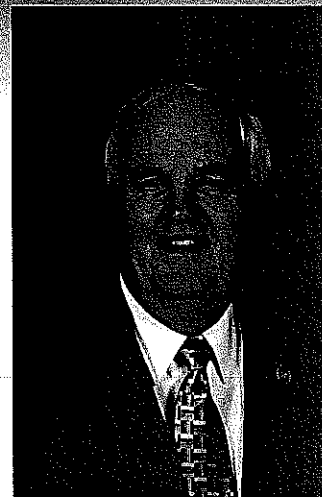
Most scholars agree that it is more important to teach medical students *how* to think, rather than *what* to think. In a society so rich in ways to access information, there is little need for memorization of endless facts. Einstein said he never committed

to memory those things he could look up in a book. In today's world of medicine, we could modify this to say: we need not commit to memory those facts that we could look up in Dynamed or Up To Date. Everything can be accessed electronically, from Asthma to Zoster, with the click of an App. Even our patients can weigh in online about their feelings, criticisms, and suggestions for care. They can benchmark our diagnosis and advice against that of Columbia University or the Mayo Clinic. I seek to keep RVU at the forefront of this technology and to produce physicians who are enhanced by the challenges of a changing healthcare delivery system—not paralyzed by it. We should be proactive in transforming healthcare delivery for every American. Fostering information technology is a key ingredient of that goal.

As the Osteopathic and Allopathic profession transitions toward a Unified Accreditation System, I can assure you that RVU will be ready, because we started our transformation long before the historic "merger" vote in Chicago this past summer. We recognized that there were problems with the clinical competency of some graduating medical students and we wanted to be sure our students were known for being "stethoscope ready" on the first day of residency. This involves a total commitment that affects all four years of instruction and involves thirteen critical skills and behaviors. We will be able to assure and verify to residencies taking our graduates that they are indeed proficient in those thirteen core skills.

It is my desire to make RVUCOM a destination school for every student who wishes to enter the Osteopathic Profession. We will do this not by keeping our skill sets to ourselves, but by sharing our ideas with others. Interactions with schools both in and out of our profession foster cross-pollination of ideas and bring a hybrid vigor of sorts back into the organization.

I see RVUCOM as a convener of resources and ideas that will benefit medical education in general. Those in the healthcare profession may convene about physician workforce issues, scope of practice, or access to healthcare. I seek to bring leaders and policy makers regularly to campus to address our students on subjects critical to their futures. It is important for them to evaluate all sides as they make decisions on where, and in what field, to practice. We must use our visibility as Colorado's second medical school to support and promote this great profession we call Osteopathic Medicine.



Thomas N. Told, DO, FACP -
dist., Dean

RVUCOM Welcomes the Class of 2018!



Orientation week activities for the Class of 2018 began with a service project, followed by several days of introductions, social nights with the Student Government Association (SGA), and culminating with the White Coat Ceremony.

Students, faculty and staff gathered at the Parker Police Department and nearby Railbender Park for the service project: spreading mulch and picking up litter. Discounted supplies were provided by Lowe's and lunch from Big Jim's Ribs was provided by 1st Bank for all of the volunteers.

Parker Recreation estimates that it would have taken four days with a crew of four to complete the work that RVU did in 1.75 hours, therefore saving them 128 man-hours. Captain Ron Combs of the Parker Police Department said, "We greatly enjoyed the opportunity

to work with the Rocky Vista students and were very impressed by their community focus and commitment to the Parker area."

Following the service day, students and families returned to the campus for introductions of faculty and staff, as well as explanations of the curriculum, clubs, policies, and procedures.

The SGA hosted activities to get to know the incoming students, including a social night out at Lodo's and a family-friendly Rockies Game at Coors Field.

The finishing touch was the White Coat Ceremony, held at the Wildlife Experience. Students were ceremoniously coated, then cited the osteopathic oath.

Welcome RVUCOM Class of 2018!



Maxwell Milliron, OMS-I, takes a celebration selfie.



Jay Thompson, OMS-I, on Service Day



Cheryl Lovell, PhD and Sohayla Rostami, OMS-I

Class of 2018 Profile

Selected from 4,910 Applicants

(13.9% increase from last year)

Students Matriculated: 161

(3.3% of applicant pool)

Applicant to Matriculant Ratio: 30:1

Mean Age: 24.7 (range: 21 - 39)

Academics

Cumulative GPA: 3.63

Science GPA: 3.59

Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarships (HPSP)

Recipients: 18 (11%)

Top Feeder Schools

(from 90 colleges and universities represented)

- Colorado State University: 17 (11%)
- University of Colorado: 12 (7%)
- Brigham Young University: 9 (5.6%)

Top Feeder States

(from 32 states represented)

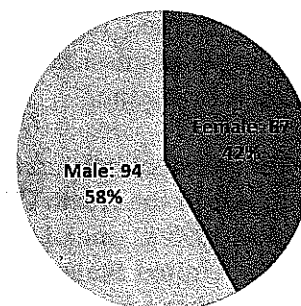
Colorado: 51
(32%)

California: 22
(13.7%)

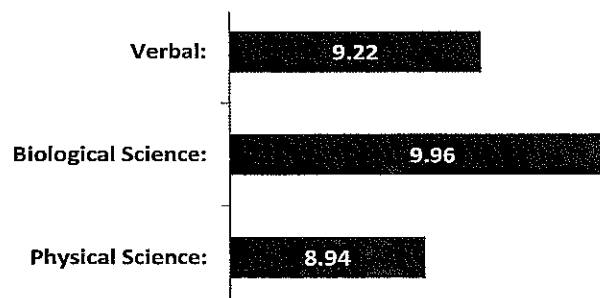
Utah: 12
(7.5%)

Florida: 8
(5%)

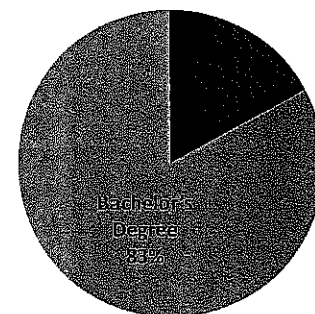
Genders



Average MCAT Score: 28.11



Highest Degree Earned



Diversity Among Students

12 students (8% of the total class) are classified as being part of underrepresented ethnic groups...

This is double the rate of Class of 2017!

RVU Earns HLC and ACS Accreditations

Higher Learning Commission

RVU has been granted regional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), a commission of the North Central Association.

HLC is an independent corporation and one of two commission members of the North Central Association, which was founded in 1895 as one of six regional institutional accreditors in the United States. The commission accredits institutions of higher education in a nineteen-state region and is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

"Regional accreditation is extremely important to the RVU community, as it has historically been viewed as the ultimate hallmark of quality for colleges and universities," said Cheryl Lovell, PhD, RVU President and CEO. "The entire campus and the RVU Board of Trustees were involved in meeting the high standards of HLC. We appreciate their excellent work in bringing this accomplishment to fruition."

American College of Surgeons

RVU has been accredited by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) as a Focused Accredited Education Institute (AEI).

"Excellence in medical education has always been one of the American College of Surgeons' top priorities," stated Anthony LaPorta, MD, FACS, Director of Surgical Simulation and Professor of Surgery and Military Medicine at RVU. "It is a great honor for RVU and its surgical simulation center to be the first osteopathic medical school and one of only two in the Rocky Mountain region."

The overall goals of the ACS-AEI program are to enhance surgical patient safety and support surgeons' maintenance of certification requirements. Also, they strive to address the competencies that all surgeons and surgical residents need to achieve, demonstrate, and enhance access to contemporary surgical education.

RVUCOM Becomes First Medical School in United States to Require ITLS Training



Student Doctors practice their emergency skills on a live patient.

International Trauma Life Support (ITLS) is a global not-for-profit organization dedicated to preventing death and disability from trauma through education and emergency trauma care.

ITLS first became involved with RVUCOM when the school's student chapter of the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians (ACOEP) was

looking for a way to bring training to their members. "As pre-clinical medical students, we don't get many opportunities to learn hands-on skills for trauma care. So we were excited when we came across ITLS," said Ryan Kostka, OMS-III and former ACOEP president.

After the first ITLS certification course, held over a week-

end, a number of the students felt that the training was invaluable and went on to successfully complete the ITLS Instructor Bridge Course, making them certified instructors for the organization.

Because of positive student feedback and recognition of the utility of the training, ITLS certification is now a part of RVUCOM's curriculum. As such, RVUCOM is the first medical school in the United States to establish this certification as a graduation requirement. In this course, student doctors are instructed in the classroom, then practice on live patients at the simulation center. Six of the instructors for this year's course were RVUCOM student doctors from the class of 2016: Zachary Brown, Stephen Edwards, Kristin Harmon, Ryan Kostka, Renee Sanders, and Eric Seger.

A special thank-you goes to the Colorado Chapter of ITLS, William Pfeifer, MD, FACS, and Rebecca Bowden, PhD, Professor and Director of Clinical Assessment and Simulation. Thank you for your help in making this course a reality at RVUCOM!

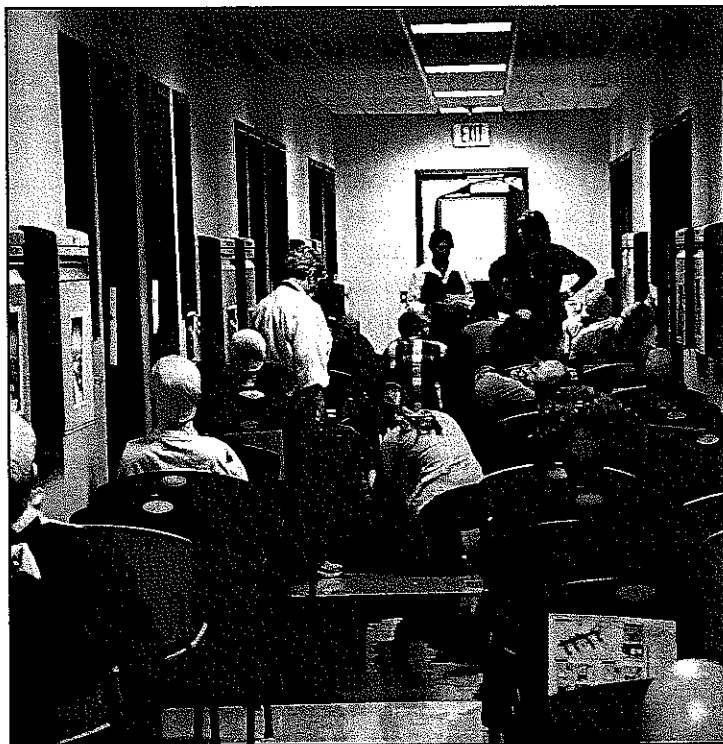
Students Practice Treating In-Flight Medical Emergencies

Have you ever been on a flight and someone suddenly fainted or became ill? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), you probably have as "approximately 1 in 10,000 to 40,000 passengers have had a medical incident during air transport. Of these, approximately 1 in 150,000 requires use of in-flight medical equipment or drugs." With this knowledge and a few personal experiences of treating in-flight medical emergencies, Dr. Camille Bentley, Chair of the Department of Global Medicine, and RVUCOM's Clinical Assessment and Simulation team decided to create this experience for our global medicine students.

On Saturday, July 19th, a hallway in the Simulation Center was transformed into a flight filled with passengers, including RVUCOM student doctors, standardized patients, and simulators. Student doctors were only informed of major types of emergencies that have happened in-flight and of the basic protocols. They were also informed that they would be working with a classmate and they would have a patient to treat.

The simulation began with announcements from the flight attendant. As soon as the airplane was in-flight, some of the passengers started showing symptoms. Symptoms ranged from nausea and fever to shortness of breath. The simulation concluded once student doctors had stabilized their patients and had made a decision on whether the plane needed to turn back or not. Chelsey Barrett Coles,

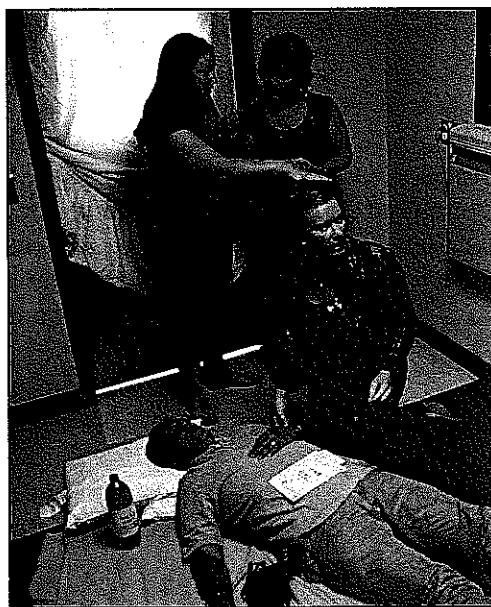
OMS-III, said, "The simulation was an incredibly valuable experience. "Learning to work under pressure, in a confined space, and with limited resources really helped me practice my immediate critical thinking skills." The Global Medicine track will continue to offer this course in the future.



Concerned passengers look on as student doctors tend to an ill passenger.



Samuel Plesner, OMS-III checks a passenger's pulse.



Julia Tanguay, OMS-III, assesses the patient while Kaitlin Ryan, OMS-III, consoles the concerned wife.



Peter Layman, OMS-III, listens to a passenger's lungs.

Developing New GME Programs

By: Thomas Mohr, DO

The Office of Graduate Medical Education (GME) has been busy working on the development of new postgraduate training programs. Here is an update on GME Development:

Swedish Medical Center

We have worked closely with the executive team and the surgical staff at Swedish and are proud to announce that the AOA has awarded accreditation for a new Osteopathic General Surgery Residency program. Final arrangements are being worked out, but the program is expecting to accept its first two surgical residents this fall to start in July 2015. Dr. Emmett McGuire and Dr. Sue Sloan are the Program Directors. The hospital team is excited to launch this program as the surgeons at Swedish are no strangers to GME. In addition to the long-standing Family Medicine residency program there, they have been training military surgery residents for the last decade.

Ogden Regional Medical Center

We have received official notification that the AOA has approved a new Osteopathic Internal Medicine Residency Program at Ogden Regional Medical Center in Ogden, Utah. They will not be starting this program until 2016 at the earliest, but obtaining accreditation was an important step in the process. Scott Mouton, DO, has been named the Founding Program Director and Director of Medical Education.

Lakeview Hospital

We have submitted an application to the AOA for a new Osteopathic Family Medicine Residency program at Lakeview Hospital in Bountiful, Utah. The application will be reviewed in October so the earliest launch date would be July 2016. Brian Rodgers, DO, has been appointed as the Founding Program Director and Director of Medical Education.

Mountain View Hospital

We are in the process of compiling an application for a new Osteopathic Family Medicine Residency Program in Payson, Utah. We hope to submit the application before the first of September for review at the

October AOA cluster meeting. The earliest this program can start would be July 2016. Bill Hough, DO, has been named the Founding Program Director and Director of Medical Education.

Peak Vista Family Medicine Residency

This program was approved last year and received a \$1.2M Teaching Health Center grant from the federal government. Unfortunately, the program had to delay its launch when the Colorado Springs Health Partners pulled out due to an impending sale. Talks are currently under way to determine if the program will be able to launch in the current cycle and accept their inaugural residents in July 2015. Joel Dickerman, DO, is the Residency Director.

Discussions continue with a number of other hospitals and clinical entities such as Anchorage Regional Hospital, Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center, Pioneer Valley and Jordan Valley Hospitals, and the Centura System in Denver. The Medical Center of Aurora will start allowing our residents from Sky Ridge Medical Center to rotate at that institution and, hopefully, that will open up additional opportunities for GME expansion.

As a disclaimer, please understand that the accreditation and launch process are extremely difficult and time-consuming. We are encouraged that hospitals are actively working with us to submit accreditation documents, especially in advance of the GME unification deadline. However, obtaining accreditation does not obligate the hospital to launch the program. Financial issues and physician opposition may still prevent these programs from making it to launch. A great deal of resources, expertise, and effort on the part of RVU and the local physicians are required to turn an accreditation document into reality.

If you are interested in any of these programs, refer to the AOA Opportunities website which will state the timeline for launch if it is known. Do not contact the program directors unless the opportunities website specifically states that they are open for business.

Unification of GME Accreditation

By: Thomas Mohr, DO

At the July meeting of the AOA House of Delegates in Chicago, the profession voted to move forward with the unification of graduate medical education accreditation. This was a hotly contested issue over the last two years that divided the osteopathic community. In the end, the prevailing opinion was that the benefits of a unified accreditation system outweighed the significant concerns.

Those in favor of the proposal cited several points, including:

- 65% of our graduates go into ACGME programs and this number will likely keep going up.
- The unification process will guarantee that osteopathic medicine is indelibly integrated into GME.
- OPP Fellowships will be open to MDs allowing further 'propagation of the faith'.
- If we don't act now, the ACGME will shut out our graduates. There are insufficient DO residencies so our graduates will be without a job.
- Unification will make the lives of our students much easier – no confusing decisions on dual matches.

Those opposed to the proposal cited several points including:

- Lack of information on details of the unification.
- The ACGME will not allow program directors

with AOA Board Certification.

- OPP will no longer have any role in GME.
- ACGME accreditation is so expensive and onerous that many AOA programs will just close.
- ACGME does not recognize the quality of rural and community-based training.
- This is the first domino to fall leading to merger of DO schools and, eventually, DO extinction.

There are now more questions than answers about how this process will move forward. We have been told that all programs accredited by the AOA before July 2015 will receive an expedited 'pre-accreditation' status. RVU and other schools are scrambling to get new programs accredited before this deadline.

The unification process will phase in, starting in 2015 and ending in 2020. No information is available yet as to how that will happen or what effect it will have on osteopathic residents in postgraduate training during that time.

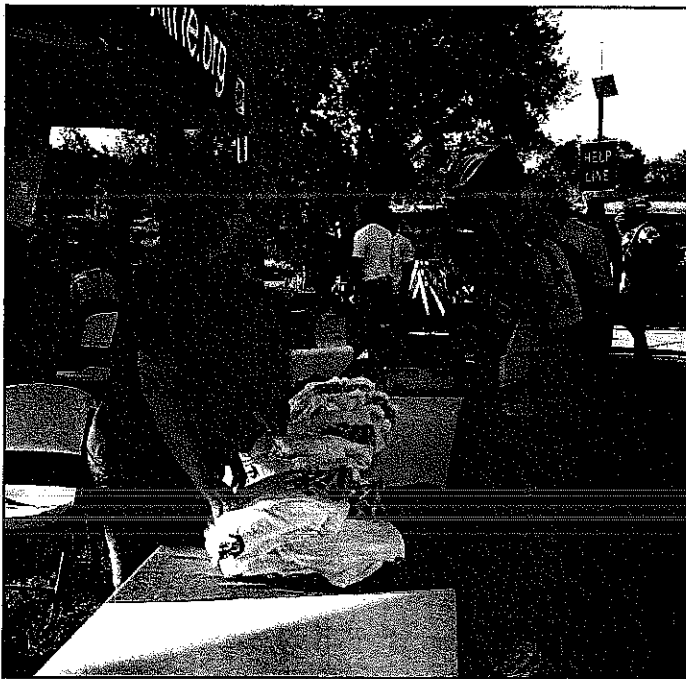
The ACGME is planning to identify and hire a Senior Vice President for Osteopathic Accreditation by October but, thus far, no interviews have taken place. The AOA has nominated their choices for membership on the ACGME Residency Review Committees and the Board of Trustees. These should be announced in the near future.

Cut Suit Sparks Interest of Local Government

Anthony LaPorta, MD, Professor of Clinical Surgery and Course Director of the Military Track, met with members of the Office of Economic Development and International Trade to discuss RVU's advanced ideas on training student doctors with cut suit technology. Specifically, they focused on improving rural capabilities on complex but infrequently seen scenarios in regards to surgical disaster care. Dr. LaPorta said: "It was fascinating to discuss our innovative ideas with the governor's office and how these innovative ideas will work with their plans of enhancing healthcare."



RVU and RVHC Sponsors Annual Bike to Work Day



Julie Rosenthal, Executive Director of Admissions and Marketing, hands out t-shirts during this year's Bike to Work day.

RVU student doctors are trained to look at the whole person when diagnosing and coming up with treatment plans. Two aspects of a patient's life that should be taken into consideration are their surrounding environment and their level of exercise.

In an effort to promote a healthy environment and exercise, Rocky Vista University (RVU) and the Rocky Vista Health Center (RVHC) teamed up with the Town of Parker for their annual Bike to Work Day.

For this event, RVU and RVHC sponsored a breakfast station along the Cherry Creek Trail. Over 400 participants in the event were served an array of breakfast items including burritos, mini quiches, mini smoothies, coffee, donuts, bananas, and other treats.

It is the hope of RVU and RVHC that many people have been inspired to live a healthier lifestyle through the example of this event.

Congratulations to the New Class of 2018 SGA Council

President: Sohayla Rostami	Vice President: Sarah Edgerton
Vice President of Student Welfare: Joey LaPorta	Secretary: Olivia Klinkhammer
Treasurer: Manual "Manny" Lewis	Curriculum Representative: Cynthia Omega
Historian: Janice Chan	Tutoring Representative: Ryan Gibbons
Honor Code Committee Representatives: Cherylene Abalos, Drew Armstrong, Elle Schultz	

Rocky Vista Health Center Updates

The Rocky Vista Health Center (RVHC) welcomes its nine new residents:

- Westin Childs, DO, PGY I
- Yvonne Choe, DO, PGY I
- William Hoskinson, DO, PGY I
- Stacie Kamada, DO, PGY I
- Dennis Keselman, DO, PGY I
- Ronald Kwong, DO, PGY 2
- Julie Imseis-Losh, DO, PGY I
- Rob Lenhart, DO, PGY I
- Sutira Scheef, DO, PGY I

15th Annual Donor Dash Brings Honor to Organ and Tissue Donors

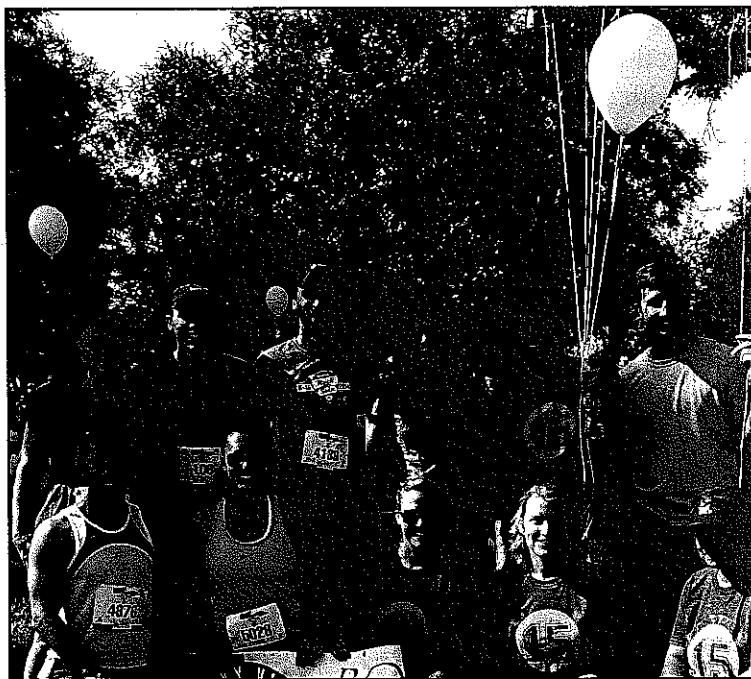
On July 20, 2014 at Washington Park in Denver, RVU student doctors, faculty, and staff walked or ran through this year's 15th annual 5k Donor Dash.

This event honors the lives of organ and tissue donors, celebrates the lives of organ and tissue donor recipients, and recognizes those who continue to wait for a lifesaving transplant.

At the finish, Garrett Baker, OMS-I, took second place in the men's division.

Under the supervision of RVUCOM faculty physicians, student doctors provided complimentary osteopathic manipulation treatments for participants in the event.

Thank you to all who participated in this event and a special thanks to the Wellness Committee for their sponsorship!



RVU student doctors, faculty and staff participants in the 15th annual Donor Dash.

Lions, Tigers and Osteopathy!

RVUCOM student doctors in the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians (ACOP) club, teamed up with the Denver Osteopathic Foundation, the Denver Zoo, and RVUCOM's OPP Fellows to raise awareness about pediatric osteopathy and general safety tips for children.

"This was a great volunteer opportunity for ACOP, because not only were we able to educate parents on how to keep their kids safe in the summer while playing outside, but also because we were able to talk to parents about osteopathic medicine. Many parents didn't know what osteopathy was, so it was great opportunity to spread the word on what we do as osteopathic physicians in training," said Charles Simpkin, OMS-II.

Five-hundred shovels and buckets, filled with activities to educate parents and children on sun safety and osteopathy, were handed out at this event. The event was a success: it was planned as an all-day event, but due to the extremely high traffic in the morning, all 500 buckets were given away by 12:30pm.

Calling All Backpacks

Cheryl Lovell, PhD, President and CEO, invited Rocky Vista University student doctors, faculty, and staff to respond to *A Precious Child's* call for backpacks by participating in their "Fill A Backpack" program. Over \$400 in donations and 65 backpacks were collected.

A Precious Child is a nonprofit organization devoted to making a positive impact in the lives of disadvantaged and displaced children and families in Colorado by improving their quality of life.

Their "Fill A Backpack" program collects backpacks and school supplies for children, giving them a better opportunity to be prepared and to succeed in school.

Dr. Lovell serves on the Advisory Board for *A Precious Child* and greatly appreciates the university's support of this great cause.



ALS Ice Bucket Challenge Strikes RVU

This was a month of warm days and icy cold water. In an effort to spread awareness and raise money for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)—a disease which causes paralysis, muscle fatigue, and respiratory failure—various RVU faculty, staff, and students participated in the popular ALS Ice Bucket Challenge.

Some of the participants included: George Marsh, Front Desk Security; the Classes of 2017 and 2018; Julie Rosenthal, Executive Director of Admissions and Marketing; Gary Pippin, Director of Facilities and Grounds; and Patty

Gordon, Human Resources Manager.

To cap off the challenges, the leadership team was nominated and participated: Thomas N. Told, DO, FACOFD dist, Dean; Peter Freytag, CFO and COO; and Cheryl Lovell, PhD, President and CEO. Anthony LaPorta, MD, FACS, donated \$100 for the opportunity of pouring water on Dr. Lovell.

To see videos of the ALS Ice Bucket Challenges, visit RVU's Facebook page.



The Leadership Team (top), Class of 2017 (middle) and Class of 2018 (bottom)



Julie Rosenthal, Gary Pippin, and Patty Gordon (top), George Marsh, Front Desk Security Officer (bottom)

American Heart Association's Red Bench Project

This summer, American Heart Association kicked off a campaign called "Speak from the Heart" (also known as the Red Bench Project), to raise awareness of heart disease and its devastating effects.

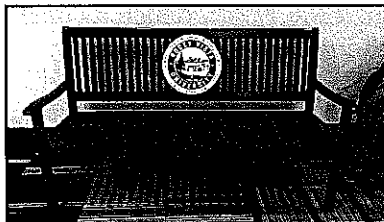
In conjunction with the on-campus Wellness Committee, RVU became a sponsor of the campaign and also the first destination for the Red Bench. Participants

were encouraged to share their stories of how heart disease personally affected them or their loved ones. They could also take selfies or have "groupie" photos taken of them, sitting on the bench.

The Red Bench has since made its way to the University of Denver and will travel to several more colleges and universities in the state.



Alex Bowers, OMS-II; Matthew Naegle, OMS-II; Jessica Tse, OMS-II; Jesse Snider, OMS-II; and Sarah Miller, OMS-II



Michael Keane, OMS-II; Erin Chandler, OMS-II; and Michael Braggano, OMS-II



Rotary Club of Parker Teams Up with RVU

The Rotary Club of Parker sponsored RVU as a Rotary Community Corps (RCC) member, in a joint effort to expand the reach of community service. The Rotary Club chose to sponsor RVU because of the University's commitment to community service and the health of its patients.

On July 25th, RVU hosted the Rotary Club of Parker's Social Evening at the University, which included tours of the campus and interviews with faculty and student doctors.

RVU has created an on-campus club called RCC/RVU for students, faculty, and staff who would like to get involved with the Rotary Club and service projects.

To learn more about RCC/RVU, contact Julie Rosenthal at jrosenthal@rvu.edu.

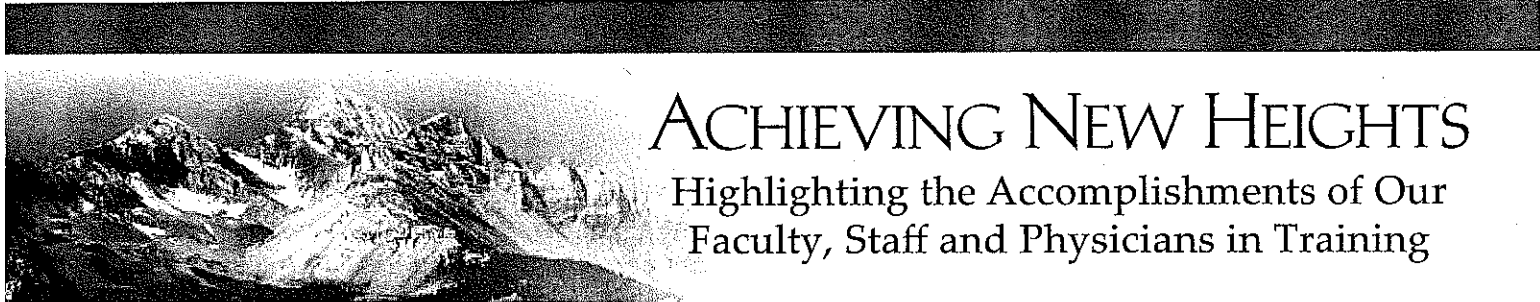
(Photos courtesy of The Lamplighter)

Celebrating a new partnership: Julie Rosenthal, Executive Director of Admissions and Marketing; Vijay Setty, OMS-II; Vinay Setty, OMS-II; Dr. Cheryl Lovell, President; and, Kam Breitenbach, Rotary Club of Parker.



Rotary Club representatives Nathan Goodman, Lindy Blackburn, and Ivo Buck, accepted RVU's ALS Ice Bucket Challenge.





ACHIEVING NEW HEIGHTS

Highlighting the Accomplishments of Our Faculty, Staff and Physicians in Training



Marshal Ash, OMS-I

Marshal Ash, OMS-I, was awarded the National Health Service Corps Scholarship (NHSC). He is the first RVUCOM student ever to receive this award. Only 180 new NHSC Scholarships were given out this year. Marshal will receive four years of tuition and fees, as well as a monthly living stipend. For each year of financial support, he must serve one year at an NHSC-approved site.

Well done, SD Ash!



Rebecca Bowden, PhD

Rebecca Bowden, PhD, recently passed the Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator Board Exam and is now one of 385 certified healthcare simulation educators (CHSE) worldwide. Also, she became a Costin Scholar, which focuses on advanced expertise in teaching, research, management, and leadership skills.

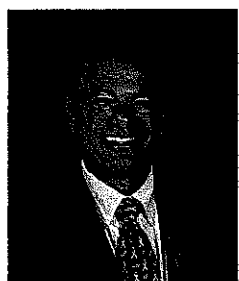
Congratulations on both of these honors, Dr. Bowden!



Amber Heck, PhD

Amber Heck, PhD, was published in the journal, *Medical Science Educator*, with an article entitled "Students' Activities in a Pre-matriculation Course as a Predictor of Initial Academic Performance in Medical School." This article identifies how Summer Pre-matriculation Courses can be used to create data points that may be indicators of future performance and may be useful in identifying "at-risk" students.

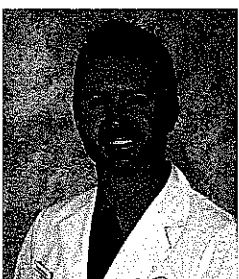
Congratulations, Dr. Heck!



Anthony LaPorta, MD

Anthony LaPorta, MD, has joined the Scientific Committee of New Emergency Medical Services Magazine and will serve as an associate editor for Poland's first Emergency Medical Services Journal. The journal's mission is to create a field for exchanging scientific knowledge in medical rescue. The journal will be published in English and Polish.

Well done, Dr. LaPorta!



Daniel A. VanLeuven, OMS-III

Daniel A. VanLeuven, OMS-III, was the recipient of the American Osteopathic Foundation's (AOF) 2014 Welch Scholars Grant. This grant is awarded annually to one student at each of the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine. Students are selected based on their financial need, academic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities, and commitment to osteopathic medicine.

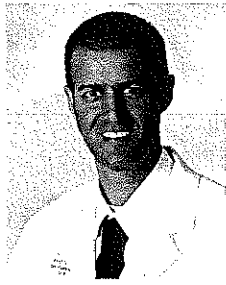
Congratulations, SD VanLeuven!

ACHIEVING NEW HEIGHTS

Highlighting the Accomplishments of Our Faculty, Staff and Physicians in Training



Jacob Ludwig, OMS-V



Jeffrey Summers, OMS-V

Jacob Ludwig, OMS-V and Jeffrey Summers, OMS-V, were published in *The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, with an article entitled "Pierre robin sequence in a neonate with suckling difficulty and weight loss." This article focuses on the effectiveness of osteopathic manipulative treatment to help alleviate difficulties with breathing and latch and suckling in a 15-day-old newborn with Pierre Robin Sequence (PRS).

Congratulations, SD Ludwig and SD Summers!

Students and Faculty Awarded the Helping Hands Grant

The American Psychiatric Foundation awarded the Helping Hands Grant to a group of RVUCOM students and faculty. The team is comprised of: Amber J. Heck, PhD, Associate Professor of Molecular Biology; Kent Roundy, MD, adjunct faculty member; Matthew Bradbury, OMS-IV; Shawn Spencer, OMS-IV; and Paul Meiners, OMS-IV.

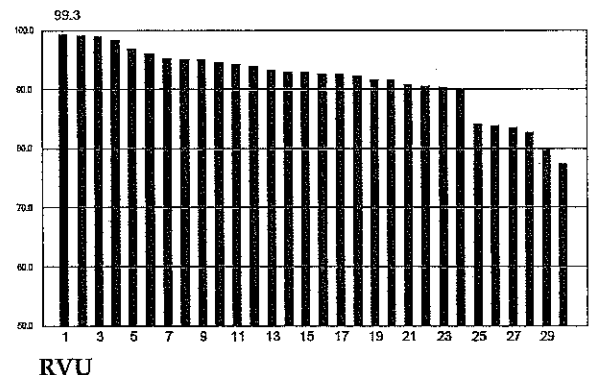
Their project objective is to create an online psycho-educational platform, which can be easily accessed and understood by patients, family members, and caregivers in the area of schizophrenia education. The second part involves collecting and analyzing pre- and post-testing data to determine the impact of the online educational platform on its users.

From the American Psychiatric Foundation website: "The Helping Hands Grant Program provides grants of up to \$5,000 to medical schools for mental health and substance use disorder projects that are created and managed by medical students, particularly in underserved minority communities."

RVUCOM Ranks #1 on First-Time Pass Rate for COMLEX-USA-1

The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners released final statistics from the last academic cycle and RVUCOM is **number one** among all osteopathic medical schools on the first-time pass rate for the COMLEX-USA-1! Additionally, RVUCOM's mean scores are only two points away from being number one for the highest mean scores among all colleges of osteopathic medicine.

Congratulations to our amazing faculty and students!



Updates from the Admissions Department

The Admissions cycle is in full swing with over 2,600 applications received and 69 applicants already interviewed. In addition to processing these applications and offering transcript review and tour days, our admissions team hosted CU Boulder Post Baccalaureate Pre-Health Professions students and CREATE Health Scholars students.

Our admissions team is on the road again with recruiting visits to Brigham Young University, Dixie State University, Southern Utah University, University of Utah, and Utah Valley University.

RVU will be represented at the National Association of Minority Medical Educators (NAMME) in Indianapolis, for the first time at Health Professions Fair at Adams State University in Alamosa, Colorado, as well as at the 12th annual UC Davis Pre-Medical and Pre-Health Professions National Conference.



At left and below, Mark Lea, MD, FACS, Assistant Professor of Structural Medicine, demonstrates cut suits.



At left, Camille Bentley, DO, MPH, FACP, Chair of Global & Community Medicine and Professor of Family Medicine, gives a lecture to CREATE Health Scholar Students.



Updates from the RVU Security Team

By: Andrew Stevens, Security Supervisor

The RVU Security Team would like to welcome the Class of 2018 to our community.

The Security Team strives to keep the RVU community a safe and secure environment. They continue to work hard in keeping RVU current with Clery Act requirements to maintain compliance with Federal regulations.

Security provides the same multitude of services, but now also has a wider-range of resource materials available ranging from substance abuse to domestic violence and sexual assault to victims' rights. Additional information is available in the security office.

As a reminder, we do ask that you keep your RVU issued ID badge on your person at all times. If you lose or misplace your badge, security can give you access into the building by using either of the intercom systems located at the north and south entrances.

Security can be reached any time at 720-875-2892 or on the anonymous tip line at 303-708-8185.

As always, if you see something, say something.

SECURITY CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE: 303-708-8185

Vista View SCALE! Update

By: Jennifer Williams, PhD, Executive Director of Institutional Planning & Assessment



RVU's Strategic Continuous Assessment Leading to Excellence (SCALE!) program continues its work in keeping the institution focused on maintaining the culture and practices that have contributed to nationally-recognized academic and operational successes. The SCALE! team is committed to establishing a strategic approach to continuous improvement that promotes the institution's mission through effective planning, communication, and project development and implementation.

Currently, the SCALE! team is reviewing committee mission and purpose to ensure clear understanding of team member roles and responsibilities and the overall direction, purpose, and implementation of assessment projects and activities. The team's goals include:

- Define how the institution approaches continuous improvement in both academic and operations.
- Collect, analyze, manage, distribute, and use data for continuous improvement.
- Measure progress toward academic and operational goals.
- Assist in performing strategic and operational planning throughout the institution.
- Maintain and support accreditation efforts.
- Communicate outcomes of assessment, planning, and accreditation processes to its varied stakeholder groups.
- Provide recommendations regarding how to use assessment outcomes for improvement.
- Monitor and update the institutional Assessment Plan.



Jennifer Williams, PhD

The SCALE! team is also reviewing assessment projects that have been in the planning stages for a period of time and need implementation and/or resolution. Part of this process includes: establishing timelines and communication avenues for each project; developing a clear understanding of what data exists; mapping them to student learning, program, and institutional priorities; and establishing feedback loops to inform respective parties and gather necessary input (e.g. PDCC, administration, students, etc.).

Finally, the team is examining strategies to "Close the Loop" wherein the committee moves beyond the collection, analysis, and distribution of assessment data to include developing action plans and making recommendations about how to use outcomes for improvement to ensure RVU goals are realized.

The SCALE! program has served and continues to serve as an instrumental vehicle to move the institution forward in achieving our goals.

Welcome to our New Faculty and Staff!



Jacquelyn Kinder, PharmD
*Assistant Professor of
Pharmacology*

Jacquelyn Kinder, PharmD, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, is a Colorado native from Steamboat Springs. She earned her Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Montana and did her residency at the Providence Sacred

Heart Medical Center and Children's Hospital in Spokane, Washington.

As a resident, Dr. Kinder gained experience with clinical rotations in antimicrobial stewardship, pediatrics, internal medicine, critical care, transplant, and cardiology. She also held an adjunct faculty position at the Washington State University School of Pharmacy, where she lectured in therapeutics and led small group case presentations.

Dr. Kinder is excited to be back in Colorado and feels honored to join the RVU community's pursuit in training osteopathic physicians.

In her spare time, Dr. Kinder loves to be outdoors skiing, hiking, running, and camping. An interesting fact about Dr. Kinder is that she won her age group in the 2008 Steamboat Springs Half-Marathon!

Welcome, Dr. Kinder!

Stacey L. Korhonen, CPA

Controller



Stacey Korhonen, Controller, comes to RVU from Green River, Wyoming. She earned her Master of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Wyoming and has over 10 years of experience in accounting.

Her experience began as an auditor for the State of Arizona Office of the Auditor General and then for the public accounting firm, Ernst & Young LLP. From

there, she began working industry accounting at RE/MAX headquarters and Lennar Homes.

Upon joining RVU, Stacey says that she is "excited to be part of a team dedicated to helping individuals attain their professional goals."

In her personal time, Stacey loves spending time fishing and boating with her husband and two kids. An interesting fact about Stacey is that, while she grew up in Wyoming, she has never been to Yellowstone National Park. She plans to change that one day and has it on her bucket list.

Welcome, Stacey!



George Marsh
Front Desk Security Officer

Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, George Marsh joins Rocky Vista University with over 13 years of experience as a Security Officer at Qwest and 1001 17th Street. He has won the Security Officer of the Year award numerous times and also served in the United Army in

Manheim Germany for seven years.

George says that he was excited to join Rocky Vista University "for the opportunity to work in an environment that addresses new advances in medicine."

In addition to greeting us every morning and keeping us all safe at RVU, George has been married for 16 years and has two beautiful children and seven wonderful grandchildren. When not spending time with them you will find George at a sporting event.

Some fun facts about George is that he has 10 brothers and sisters, loves to collect old military items, and was the instigator for all the ICE Bucket Challenges recently executed at RVU.

Welcome, George!

Welcome to our New Faculty and Staff!



Kathryn M. Pate, PhD
Assistant Professor of Physiology

Kathryn M. Pate, PhD, Assistant Professor of Physiology, is originally from Sebastian, Florida. She earned both her BS degree in Zoology with a minor in French and her PhD in Physiology from the University of Florida. Dr. Pate began her teaching career at the University of Florida, teaching veterinary and medical professional students, as well as graduate students, in Gross Anatomy, Respiratory Physiology, and Neuroanatomy. Dr. Pate also taught Anatomy and Physiology to students in the nursing program at the National American University. In addition to her teaching experience, Dr. Pate has contributed to research on the role of redox biology in neurotrauma, radiation and cancer, and osteoarthritis at National Jewish Health, as well as respiratory neurophysiology at the University of Florida.

Teaching is Dr. Pate's passion and she is honored to be a part of Rocky Vista University. Dr. Pate says "The community of faculty and students here at RVU is incredible and I'm honored to be a part of it." When not teaching or researching, Dr. Pate loves to ride and race mountain bikes, rock climb, hike, run trails, and snowboard. An interesting fact about Dr. Pate is that she can speak French fluently!

Welcome, Dr. Pate!



Anthony "Tony" Matti
Front Desk Security Officer

Anthony Matti is a native of Batavia, Illinois and came to Colorado so he could live in a state that would allow him to enjoy his passions of rock climbing, hiking, mountain biking, camping, and just being outdoors.

In addition to his love for the outdoors, Anthony has an associate's degree in Architectural Technology and years of experience in service and security.

Matti served in the United States Marine Corp, which included one tour in Iraq where he coordinated aircraft with ground troops. Anthony was also a security officer for a retirement community that involved eight buildings and roughly 500 residents.

Anthony is excited to be a part of a university that is passionate about training osteopathic physicians.

A little known fact about Anthony is that he has a license in skydiving!

Welcome, Anthony!

Promotions and New Appointments

Rebecca Bowden, PhD, was promoted from Associate Professor of Immunology to Professor of Immunology. Congratulations, Dr. Bowden!

Hannah Golesh, was promoted from Administrative Assistant of Marketing and Admissions to Marketing Assistant. Congratulations, Hannah!

Amber Heck, PhD, was promoted from Assistant Professor of Molecular Biology to Associate Professor of Molecular Biology. Congratulations, Dr. Heck!

Jennifer Montemayor, PhD, was promoted from Assistant Professor of Physiology and Anatomy to Associate Professor of Physiology and Anatomy. Congratulations, Dr. Montemayor!

From the Rocky Vista University Alumni Association



Dear Fellow Alumni,

I hope this finds everyone well and that the academic year is off to a great start! The Alumni Association is ready for an exciting year ahead. First, I would like to thank the inaugural board for establishing the vision and structure for the association. Special thank you to our inaugural alumni president, Dr. Meghan Croteau, class of 2012, for your time and dedication to starting the establishment of the Alumni Association.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Heather Katz and I am honored to serve as the new president of the RVU Alumni Association. I graduated as part of the inaugural class of 2012 and served on many committees and club boards while at Rocky Vista University, including SGA treasurer, Class of 2012 Vice President and President of ACOP and JAMS. Currently, I am chief resident of internal medicine at Broward Health Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I look forward to the growth of the Alumni Association and aiding in connecting our alumni to each other, the current students at RVU, and the community.



*Heather Katz, DO '12, President
of RVU Alumni Association*

The Alumni Association has been hard at work over the past few months. We have established a scholarship in memory of Brandon Trusell, a member of the class of 2013, who tragically lost his life in an accident driving home after his first semester at RVU. Brandon's strong commitment to serve his community will continue to be recognized through this scholarship, as the award recipient must demonstrate this commitment. I would like to congratulate the inaugural recipient of the Brandon Trusell Memorial Scholarship, Sohayla Rostami, OMS-I.

Commitment to service, scholarship, and excellence has been engrained in us as graduates of RVU. Amongst our alumni, we have several chief residents, several publications, and several presentations at national poster competitions. We continue to make a positive impact on our communities throughout the country and overseas. I could not be more proud to be an RVU alum. Please become an official member of RVUCOM Alumni Association and pay your alumni dues, if you have not done so already. We would like to start having RVUCOM alumni events at national conferences so if you have plans to attend these conferences, please let us know. If there is anything else your Alumni Association can do for you, please email me at hkatz@browardhealth.org or contact Julie Rosenthal at jrosenthal@rvu.edu.

Wishes for continued success throughout the year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Heather Katz, DO '12".

Heather Katz, DO '12

CONGRATULATIONS TO RVUCOM ALUMNI ON ALL OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS!

CHIEF RESIDENTS

Tina Maier Baker, DO '12 – Emergency Medicine, Summa Western Reserve Hospital, OH
Jaime Cohen, DO '12 – Pediatrics, Broward Health Medical Center, FL
Romi Coolidge, DO '12 – Internal Medicine, Verde Valley Medical Center, AZ
Maria Crespo, DO '12 – Emergency Medicine, Summa Western Reserve Hospital, OH
Erin Dahlke, DO '12 – Family Medicine, Clarkson Family Medicine Residency, NE
Kelly Dewey, DO '12 – Emergency Medicine, Texas A&M Christus Spohn, TX
Lia Fiallos, DO '12 – Family Medicine, St. Anthony North, CO
Kristin Herbert, DO '12 – Pediatrics, Palms West Hospital, FL
Heather Katz, DO '12 – Internal Medicine, Broward Health Medical Center, FL
Michelle Kowalis, DO '12 – Internal Medicine, Parkview Medical Center, CO
Rebecca Lewis, DO '12 – Family Medicine, St. Anthony Family Medicine Residency, OK
Ashley Lomax-Walker, DO '12 – Family Medicine, Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma, OK
Ryan Parks, DO '12 – Family Medicine, Sandusky: Firelands Regional Medical Center, OH
Justin Rose, DO '12 – Emergency Medicine, University of Kentucky, KY
Sandy Stuetelberg, DO '12 – Internal Medicine, Plaza Medical Center, TX
Justin Walker, DO '12 – Family Medicine, Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma, OK

PUBLICATIONS

DuPree C, Blair K, Steele S, Martin M. "Laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy in patients with preexisting gastroesophageal reflux disease: a national analysis. *JAMA Surg.* 2014 Apr;149(4):328-34

Katz H, Bray N, Montague N, Berman B. *A Rare Presentation of Plasmablastic Lymphoma in a HIV-negative Male Status-post Liver Transplantation.* American Journal of Cancer Case Reports. 2014. Vol 2. No 1.

Rivera N, Katz H, Weisbaum G, Guarneri R, Bray N, and Constanza-Guaqueta D. *Solitary Metastasis to the Small Bowel from Primary Adenocarcinoma of the Lung.* Journal of Gastrointestinal Cancer. 2013.

Scherbak D, Wyckoff R, Singarajah C. Azathioprine associated acute respiratory distress syndrome: case report and literature review. *Southwest J Pulm Crit Care.* 2014;9(2):94-100.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Kavanaugh A, Cohen J, Davis J. Dead Man Walking: Benefits of Therapeutic Hypothermia Post Drowning. Poster presented at the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians Spring Conference 2014. Kansas City, MO.

Katz H, Rose C, Rivera N, Berman B. Primary Effusion Lymphoma Presenting as a Paracardial Mass. Poster presented at the American College of Physicians, Florida Chapter Annual Meeting 2014. Fort Lauderdale, FL

Katz H, Turse E, Wang H. Imatinib Resistant GIST: A Rare Case of Anaplastic Transformation and Metastasis. Poster presented at the American College of Gastroenterologists: Annual Meeting 2013. San Diego, CA

ENGAGEMENTS

Congratulations to Kelly Buerger, DO '12 on her engagement to Dr. Tanner Tollett! We wish you a lifetime of happiness together!

BIRTHS

Congratulations to Tina Baker, DO '12, and her husband on the birth of her daughter, Lily.
Congratulations to Matthew Lute, DO '12, and his wife on the birth of his son, Elijah.
Congratulations to Spencer Shirk, DO '13, and his wife on the birth of his son, Lincoln.

ATTENDING STATUS

Romi Coolidge, DO '12 has signed on as an Internal Medicine physician at Verde Valley Medical Center in Arizona. She is the first resident they have ever hired to become an attending! Congratulations, Dr. Coolidge!

Michelle Kowalis, DO '12 has signed on as an Internal Medicine physician in Pueblo, Colorado, starting in August, 2015. Congratulations, Dr. Kowalis!

Rebecca Lewis, DO '12 has signed on as a Family Medicine physician with Woodward Regional Hospital in Woodward, Oklahoma. Congratulations, Dr. Lewis!

DEPLOYMENT

Dr. Wayne Schmidt, CPT, FS, MC '12 is currently serving in Iraq as a Flight Surgeon. We wish Dr. Schmidt a safe return and thank you for your service!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rebecca D. Lewis, DO '12 is currently serving as the Resident Academic Board Member to national ACOFP.

Kristin Knowles, DO '12 won 2nd place in the clinical pathologic case competition at the Fall 2013 National ACOFP Conference.

Ryan Parks, DO '12 was awarded Outstanding Graduate Medical Education Trainee Physician 2014

Kabeer Shah, DO '14 was featured in *The DO* in an article entitled "Q&A: 2014 DO Grads Talk Specialties, Policy and Work-Life Balance." In this article, five recent doctor of osteopathic medicine graduates from medical schools across the country were interviewed about their thoughts on the current state of medicine. These graduates also offered advice for current medical students and shed some insights in choosing a residency.

Jerry McQuain, DO '12 was featured in Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital's Newsletter, *The Pulse* regarding his role as the residents' primary liaison to hospital leadership.

INAUGURAL RECIPIENT OF THE RVU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BRANDON TRUSELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sohayla Rostami, OMS-I

Dear Rocky Vista University Alumni Association,

I would like to begin by sharing how honored I am to be a Student Doctor at Rocky Vista University where I am privileged to learn about medicine from knowledgeable faculty and alongside talented classmates. I especially extend my gratitude to the RVU Alumni Association for considering my application for the Brandon Trusell Service Scholarship and further honoring me by selecting me for this award.

I understand the unfortunate event that occurred for the Trusell family is the reason why this scholarship is in place and, while Brandon and his dear sister are no longer with us, I hope to carry their memory forward through my medical education and career.

Please accept my deepest appreciation for this opportunity.

Sincerely,



Sohayla Rostami



2014 Brandon Trusell Memorial
Scholarship Recipient

The Brandon Trusell Memorial Scholarship

The Brandon Trusell Memorial Scholarship is awarded to incoming students who have demonstrated a commitment to service. It is a one-year award that provides the recipient with a tuition waiver of \$5,000.

The scholarship was established in memory of Brandon Trusell, a member of the Class of 2013 who tragically lost his life during his first year of medical school.

To donate to the Brandon Trusell Memorial Scholarship fund or to the general Alumni fund, please email alumni@rvu.edu. Remember that the RVU Alumni Association is a non-profit organization, therefore your donation may be tax deductible.

Save the Date!

ROCKY VISTA UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES ITS ANNUAL

MILITARY APPRECIATION CEREMONY & RECEPTION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2014

4:00 TO 5:00 P.M. - CAMPUS TOURS & PHOTOGRAPHS (RM. 122)

5:00 TO 7:00 P.M. - PRESENTATION & RECEPTION

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE AND HONOR OUR FUTURE MILITARY PHYSICIANS
AND NUMEROUS MILITARY DIGNITARIES WITH A PRESENTATION IN THE
LARGE AUDITORIUM FOLLOWED BY A COCKTAIL RECEPTION.

RVUCOM HAS EARNED THE DISTINCTION OF HAVING AMONG THE
HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT DOCTORS ON MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS
OF ANY CIVILIAN MEDICAL SCHOOL.



Rocky Vista University SGA and
Student Clubs and Organizations
Present the Annual

Fall Festival

October 25, 2014

The Vista View is published by the Rocky Vista University
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8401 S. Chambers Road, Parker, CO 80134
720.875.2800

To make comments, suggestions, submissions, or to be added to the newsletter mailing list, please email marketing@rvu.edu

RVU MISSION

Rocky Vista University provides quality healthcare education while inspiring students to serve with compassion, integrity and excellence.