Words From The Executive Associate Dean

Welcome to the introductory issue of The Academic! This is planned to be a quarterly publication from the Faculty Development Program within the Office of Academic Affairs. It will provide educational information and news as well as highlighting the accomplishments of our faculty.

Education, is what most would identify as our core function. Without our educational mission and mandate we would never have come into existence as a College of Medicine. Those who expended the time and energy to bring Quillen to fruition clearly viewed their efforts as intended to result in the education of physicians. Thus, excellence in this area of responsibility is perhaps our foremost goal. Of course, excellence in this arena is intimately related to our other missions. Excellent clinical education cannot be delivered without providing excellent clinical care. Excellence in self-directed and lifelong learning is related to the spirit of scientific inquiry that undergirds research.

In each issue we will highlight a specific educational topic. We will also feature the educational efforts of one of our faculty members. We will highlight educational news – including information related to our upcoming accreditation visit in the fall of 2011. We will also list recent educational publications and presentations from our faculty.

Curriculum Reform

Curriculum reform has been an area of intense interest among our faculty over the past two years. Three years ago the dean charged the Medical Student Education Committee (MSEC is QCOM’s curriculum committee) with examining the basic science curriculum and reducing its content by 25%. A working group spent a full year on this activity before making recommendations in the fall of 2008. While the plan did not cut 25% of the content, it did reduce some basic science content for the purpose of including new content not covered in the curriculum. It also proposed organization of material into a more integrated format. Unfortunately 2008 is when the U.S. economy began to falter in a way that significantly impacted state revenues. With the state budget dollars impacted, additional costs expected with the new proposal were not feasible. Thus MSEC, decided to implement changes limited to the first year which could be done without a significant increase in resources. Part of this included offering courses in a block format. The intent of this was to allow students to focus on fewer primary areas at a time – a methodology finding widespread acceptance and success in many schools, including those similar to QCOM. This resulted in the following organization of the first year – see chart on page 2.

The new course, “Profession of Medicine: Patient, Physician, and Society”, serves as a course platform to address multiple areas previously inadequately addressed in our curriculum. Some of these include: patient
centered care, cultural competence, public health, global health, medical ethics, chronic disease management, health care systems, and patient safety. This course also requires a community based service learning activity.

These curricular changes are being carefully evaluated with student evaluations, analysis of grade distributions, comparison of standardized tests, and focus groups of students and faculty. Opportunities to improve these changes have already been identified and several midcourse corrections have been made. Further modifications will be made in the next academic year. MSEC continues to monitor these changes.

While no changes were made in the second year curriculum, an ad hoc committee is currently re-examining the second year to consider possible changes. This group is chaired by Dr. Reid Blackwelder with members including: Drs. Ron Baisden, Earl Brown, Annette Clemmons, Michelle, Duffourc, Rich Feit, Russ Hayman, Paul Kelly, Theresa Lura, and Jamie Reagan (MS1).

Finally changes in the third year curriculum have been approved to be effective in the 2011-2012 academic year. The major change includes moving from six 8 week blocks to eight 6 week blocks. All of the current clerkships (family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics & gynecology, pediatrics, psychiatry, and surgery) will become six week clerkships. Two new clerkships will be added: a medical specialties clerkship and a community medicine clerkship. The medical specialties clerkship will include the two weeks of internal medicine subspecialty and the two weeks surgical subspecialty which were previously included in the eight week clerkships. The remaining two weeks of this six week block will be elective time. This will give junior students an opportunity to explore a specialty of their choosing – something our current third year curriculum does not permit. The community medicine clerkship will be based in Sevier County Tennessee and will be discussed in more detail in a future edition of this newsletter. The Rural Primary Care Track Clerkship will be reduced from 16 weeks to 12 weeks. It substitutes for the family medicine and community medicine clerkships. The remaining clerkships will each be six weeks in duration for rural track students which will greatly simplify rural track scheduling.

As you can see MSEC has been busy! The QCOM curriculum is dynamic with continuing changes to remain relevant and to prepare our medical students to be physicians for the first half of the 21st century.

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<th>Fall</th>
<th>Medical Human Gross Anatomy &amp; Embryology</th>
<th>Communications for Health Professionals</th>
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Dr Festus Adebonojo holds appointments in the Section of Medical Education and the Department of Physiology. He works with first-year medical students as a small group facilitator in the Case-Oriented Learning course. He received his M.D. and residency training at Yale University. Before coming to ETSU as Chair of Pediatrics in 1988, Dr Adebonojo served as Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University and was Chair of Pediatrics at Meharry Medical College; he was Chair of Pediatrics at ETSU for ten years. In 2001, he was honored by the Tennessee Pediatric Society as Senior Pediatrician of the Year.

Dr Martin Eason is an Assistant Professor in the Section of Medical Education, Human Patient Simulation Lab, and the Center for Experiential Learning. He serves as the Course Director for the Intro to Physical Exam course, Co-Director for the Practice of Medicine course, and Co-Director for the Anesthesiology elective. He holds appointments in the departments of Anatomy, Pharmacology, and Surgery. He is the director of the Human Patient Simulation lab, responsible for training of the standardized patients in physical examination skills and developing/implementing clinical scenarios. Dr Eason earned his M.D. degree from the University of Arizona, trained in Anesthesiology at the University of Virginia and is a diplomat of the American Board of Anesthesiology; he also holds a J.D. degree from the University of Louisville and is a member of the Kentucky Bar Association.

Jake Drumm is the Human Patient Simulator Lab Coordinator in the Section of Medical Education, Human Patient Simulation Lab, and the Center for Experiential Learning. He works directly with the simulator director to maintain and manage all aspects of the Simulation Laboratory; initiates use of patient simulator ensuring all systems are operable for the scheduled scenario including programming the simulator experience and enabling of the anesthesia and monitoring systems; monitors patient simulator systems, providing or scheduling needed maintenance; establishes systems for documenting usage and collection of pertinent information.

Dr Richard Feit is an Assistant Professor in the Section of Medical Education. He holds faculty positions in Surgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery; Assistant Clinical Professor in Medical Education integrating basic sciences in the Human Patient Simulator Lab; Adjunct Professor, departments of Physiology and Anatomy; facilitator in The Practice of Medicine and Case-Oriented Learning courses. Dr Feit received his M.D. degree from the Albany Medical College of Union University, New York, and his Surgical Residency and Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship were completed at the Medical College of Virginia.

Dr John Kalbfleisch is the director of the Division of Biometry and Medical Computing in the Section of Medical Education. He serves as the Course Director for Biostatistics and Epidemiology, and Biometry and Medical Computing (I and II) in the biomedical graduate program; provides statistical consultation to faculty, residents, and students, serves on graduate student program committees and is a co-investigator in NIH grants.
**Bill Linne** is the Standardized Patient Program Coordinator in the Section of Medical Education, Standardized Patient (SP) Program, and the Center for Experiential Learning. He is responsible for coordination, selection and training of individuals to fulfill the need of “patients” for the simulation of health problems for all levels of students and all departments of learning; handles all scheduling, training, tracking of hours, scheduling of facilities need for training and testing.

**Dr David Linville** is the Assistant Dean, Director of Operations, and an Assistant Professor in the Section of Medical Education. He serves as Co-Director for The Practice of Medicine course, holds faculty appointments in the departments of Anatomy & Cell Biology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Physical Therapy in the College of Public & Allied Health; assists with the operation of the Center for Experiential Learning including the Human Patient Simulation Lab and standardized patient program; works with the development/integration of basic and clinical science material within the first two years of medical school; he also teaches in Gross Anatomy, Introduction to Physical exam, and other basic science courses. He is an alumnus of the Quillen College of Medicine.

**Jeannine Loum** is an Information Research Technician in the Office of Academic Affairs. She is responsible for management of multiple databases; scans and compiles reports for graded tests; creates and manages templates and reports for online course and clerkship evaluations; coordinates award checks, certificates and plaques for Honors Convocation; compiles clerkship summaries for MSPE/dean’s letters and assists with compilation and production of various Academic Affairs’ publications.

**Heather Love** is Secretary III in the Office of Academic Affairs. She provides secretarial support for The Practice of Medicine and Introduction to Physical Exam Skills courses; assists with preparation/distribution of course material; serves as proctor for exams; coordinates meetings, arranges appointments; serves as contact for faculty, staff and students in tracking technology service requests; serves as secretary for the Human Patient Simulation Lab; serves as receptionist and contact person for the Office of Academic Affairs which includes providing secretarial support to various Academic Affairs’ offices and designated Course Directors; Facility Scheduling web pages; schedules use of classrooms, auditoria, study rooms, teaching labs, computer lab and mezzanine areas.

**Cindy Lybrand** is the Medical Education Coordinator for the Office of Academic Affairs. She coordinates first- and second-year medical curriculum and schedules; coordinates Basic Life Support (BLS) certification course for first-year students; works with third- and fourth-year students in the preparation of documents for application to residency; serves as institutional administrator for student / residency programs use of Electronic Residency Application System (ERAS); coordinates students’ registration and entry of rank list with the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP), works with content development and web publishing.
Sandy Greene is Secretary III in the office of Academic Affairs. She provides support to the Executive Associate Dean as needed and serves as secretary to the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs; assists with the QCOM New Faculty Program and the Faculty Development Program; assists with scheduling faculty training workshops; conducts web-based and library research in support of Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs; compiles student data for analysis and survey purposes; maintains Faculty Development web pages. Provides secretarial support for the Career Explorations course. Provides general secretarial support for coordinators as needed. Responsible for maintaining and purchasing supply inventory. Maintains departmental key inventory and issues keys for access to COM facilities.

Darcy Martin is the Medical Education Coordinator in the Office of Academic Affairs. She coordinates third and fourth year medical curriculum and schedules; preparation of MSPE / Dean’s letters; Honors Convocation Ceremony and reception activities; serves as coordinator for the Student Promotions Committee; serves as liaison with the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) for subject examinations and USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 examination results.

Daniel McLellan is the Data Manager in the office of Academic Affairs. He Manages the student computer labs; administers file server; evaluates/recommends hardware/software purchases for faculty, student computer labs, and project proposals; works on other projects as necessary to support the information technology needs of the College of Medicine.

Lisa Myers is a Medical Education Coordinator in the Section of Medical Education. She coordinates student evaluation of courses, clerkships and senior selectives; also the annual residency survey in the Section of Medical Education; provides staff support for the Medical Student Education Committee (MSEC), is an institution administrator for the AAMC Curriculum Management & Information Tool (CurrMIT) and New Innovations, and program coordinator for Case-Oriented Learning, The Profession of Medicine, The Healers Art, Spanish and Keystone courses.

Dr Ken Olive is the Executive Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs in the Office of Academic Affairs. His responsibilities include oversight and management of medical student education, assuring the integrity of the medical student curriculum, administering academic support functions for the college and providing leadership for the development of medical education research.

Gerry Philpott is the Media Production Coordinator in the Office of Academic Affairs. He is responsible for assisting the College of Medicine faculty, staff, residents and students in the planning and production of educational and promotional materials requiring photography, video preparation and creation. He performs all phases of darkroom work; creates video presentations by the use of recording media and prepares long-range plan for new services and equipment needs. Gerry also assists with multi-media and computer installations and operations.

Did you know:

In 1815 French chemist Michael Eugene Chevreul realized the first link between diabetes and metabolism when he discovered that the urine of a diabetic was identical to grape sugar.
Tom Shafer is the Office Manager in the Office of Academic Affairs. He ensures administrative support and coordination is available to implement the activities and operation of the Office of Academic Affairs; interacts daily with departments and organizations external to Academic Affairs and the university; oversees and implements the Clinical Preceptorship program for first and second-year medical students; and maintains the Academic Affairs budget.

Dr. J. Kelly Smith is Professor Emeritus of Medicine in the Section of Medical Education. He served as former director of the second-year Practicing Medicine and Immunology courses, and currently mentors an elective in Advanced Physical Diagnosis for fourth-year medical students, and assists the Department of Physiology in teaching the relevance of clinical skills to basic physiology. He received his M.D. and residency training at Cornell University, and his research training at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. Since joining ETSU in 1979, Dr. Smith has served in a variety of administrative positions, including Chairman of Internal Medicine, Chief of the divisions of Infectious Diseases and Allergy-Immunology, and Chair of Excellence in Medicine. He is a Laureate of the American College of Physicians and a recipient of the American Association of Medical College’s Humanism in Medicine Award.

Dr. Penny Little Smith is the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs. She is responsible for COM faculty development; assists students with individual learning issues; interfaces with educational consultants, provides documentation of need for outside assessment; supervises PARC (Professional & Academic Resource Center) activities; manages multiple projects undertaken by the Office of Academic Affairs; serves as Academic Affairs liaison with the main campus; has direct responsibilities related to institutional accreditation within the College of Medicine (LCME) as well as ETSU (SACS); serves as consultant for Medical Student Education Committee (MSEC); provides training for medical student tutors; and participates in summer programs for minority students.

Sharon Smith is Office Coordinator in the Office of Academic Affairs. She serves as liaison between the Executive Associate Dean, University departments, administrative offices and divisions, various professional and civic groups and individuals, faculty, staff, students and alumni; researches and/or interprets university policies and procedures for Executive Associate Dean; initiates reports and correspondence requiring Executive associate Dean’s action, edits and assembles support reports and publications and ensures timely submission of paperwork to appropriate department or organization. She coordinates the Executive Associate Dean’s schedule and calendar for daily events including individual faculty and staff meetings, makes travel arrangements for the Executive Associate Dean including liaison for any arrangements for visiting dignitaries, speakers and others; handles all aspects of payroll for Academic Affairs and Section of Medical Education; coordinates Faculty Activities Plan, Faculty Activities Report and Faculty Activities Evaluation (FAP/FAR/FAE) and scholarly activities for the Quillen College of Medicine.

Kevin Vines is the Multi-Media Manager in the Office of Academic Affairs. He provides guidance in the selection of and is responsible for purchasing, installation and maintenance of multi-media technology within classrooms and conference rooms. He provides ongoing training for faculty and staff in the use of multi-media technology.

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