2017
YEAR IN REVIEW
Rowan University
SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (SOM) continues our commitment to address the needs of the state and the nation. Through our growth in undergraduate and graduate medical education, our expanding research enterprise, and transformative clinical services, SOM is advancing the health of the communities we serve. Over half of SOM graduates pursue their careers in New Jersey, and over 80 percent of our student body are from the State. Our student body is reflective of our commitment to diversity, with over 23 percent of our students from groups underrepresented in medicine. With $18 million in extramural grant funding, we lead the way in discovery in areas such as neuroscience, aging and cancer. Rowan Medicine, our clinical enterprise, continues to provide excellent care for our patients, through innovative and integrated care. SOM’s talented faculty, staff, students, residents, and alumni continue to advance our great mission. Our success is evident every day in all that we do, and as Dean, I am proud to share with you a few highlights of this past year.

My best regards,

Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, MACOI, FACP
Dean
Congratulations to the SOM faculty who earned promotions this year.
• SOM welcomed 24 high-achieving high school students from nine area schools during the BASIE (Recognizing Achievement and Inspiring Student Excellence) program, supported by the Kail and Caselle Foundation. BASIE is a tuition-free, one-week science enrichment program that gives high school seniors an opportunity to get hands-on experience under the guidance of physicians, faculty and research scientists.

• SOM doctors continue to share their knowledge and expertise with the outside world. Dr. Jennifer Caudle is a medical correspondent and regularly appears on national and local television programming, including The Dr. Oz Show, Fox News, CBS News, CNN and MSNBC. Several faculty members traveled to China throughout the year to promote primary care and osteopathic manipulative medicine education and training. Participating doctors include Dr. Ashok Gupta, Dr. Todd O'Dell, Dr. Joshua Corson and Dr. Pamela Johnson Cooker from Family Medicine, and Dr. Bijal Bhjilalji Chastain from the NeuroMusculoskeletal Institute.

• Dr. William Reiman and Dr. Theresa Schell were promoted to the rank of Professor Emeritus.

• The Department of Cell Biology has updated its name to the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience, reflecting an exciting new direction for the department under its chairperson, Dr. Barry Waterhouse.

• Dr. Ronald E. Ayres was appointed as the Acting Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Ayres is well known to the SOM community, having served as chair of that department from 2000-10.

• Thanks to generous and loyal donors, 111 awards totaling more than $160,000 were presented to students attending the Office of Advancement’s Annual Scholarship Luncheon on March 17.

• Students celebrated their matches from both the National Resident Matching Program and the American Osteopathic Association’s Medical School Match Day celebration on March 17. More than half of the students matched to primary care residencies in family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine or obstetric-gynecology, 70 of whom will train at New Jersey based-residencies.

• U.S. News & World Report includes Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine among America’s top medical school for both Primary Care and Geriatrics.

• The complexities of biomedical research were on full display at the 21st Annual Stratford Campus Research Day on May 4. The annual event included lectures and poster projects.

• Commencement celebrates the next generation of physicians and researchers. 157 students graduated from the School of Osteopathic Medicine and 81 students received degrees from the School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences on May 13.

• On June 30, Rowan Medicine received accreditation from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) that the Hammonton, Mount Laurel and Stratford Family Medicine offices are recognized at Level 3 accredited Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH). The offices joined the overall office, which was named a Level 3 NCQA PCMH in October 2016. This is a tremendous accomplishment that resulted from many hours of preparation and work by the faculty and staff of the Departments of Family Medicine and Managed Care.

• Full-time, part-time and volunteer faculty on such topics as curriculum, admissions, faculty affairs, research and student academic progress.

• We were lucky to experience this year’s Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition (OMEE) of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) in our backyard, just across the river in Philadelphia. SOM enjoyed a strong representation of faculty staff, students and alumni due to its close proximity.

• SOM-sponsored a continuing medical education conference at the Kalamazoo Resort & Convention Center in Pocasset Manor, PA. The sessions were led by SOM faculty and centered on business, wellness and medical health topics.

• The Department of Psychiatry recently appointed a new Vice Chair for Clinical Services, Dr. Walter Khoury. As Vice Chair, Dr. Khoury will oversee the department’s clinical operations.


• The Stratford campus celebrated the holiday season at the Annual Unity Tree Lighting ceremony. As is tradition, students, staff and faculty shared in the celebration with preschool and elementary-age children from the Stratford Borough school district and enjoyed holiday performances from both the children’s and Rowan University’s Brass Ensemble. The celebration also marked the culmination of toy and food drives to benefit the local community.

• Pamela M. Baehre, EdD, MPH, FAAN, was promoted to Associate Dean for Assessment. Dr. Baehre has served at SOM for 28 years and is recognized as a leader in medical education leadership and assessment.

• The Department of Family Medicine learned it had become the first department at SOM to receive initial ACGME accreditation since the agency was responsible for overseeing both osteopathic and allopathic graduate medical education announced the new, unified system.