Dear Faculty, Students and Staff,

Welcome, October! Read ahead for all that’s been happening in Stratford these past few weeks.

Event Celebrates Generosity and Vision in Geriatric Care and Education

Over 200 people joined Rowan faculty and staff to celebrate three milestones on Tuesday, September 30th: the establishment of the Department of Geriatrics and Gerontology; the investiture of Dr. Anita Chopra, Professor of Medicine and Director of the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging (NJISA) as the William G. Rohrer Endowed Chair in Geriatrics; and the establishment of the Endowed Professorship in Geriatrics.

Nationally recognized for expertise in geriatrics and gerontology, RowanSOM and the NJISA are further distinguished by the establishment of the department and its faculty endowments, thanks to the generous support of the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation and many corporations, foundations and individuals in our community. RowanSOM is the 13th medical school in the United States – and the first in New Jersey – to establish a distinct department of Geriatrics and Gerontology. Over the course of three decades, the NJISA and RowanSOM have set high standards for geriatric care, educating thousands of health care professionals about the unique needs of older adults and garnering more than $28.5 million in funding from government, foundation and other sources.

The establishment of the Endowed Chair in Geriatrics is only the second endowed chair in RowanSOM’s history. The endowment will provide a perpetual funding source to support geriatric research, clinical care and educational programs and, when combined with two RowanSOM endowments already established by the William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation, will result in a fund of more than $2 million.
On Thursday, October 16th, alumni, house staff, students, faculty and friends gathered at the RowanSOM alumni reception at the American College of Osteopathic Internists (ACOI) Convention, held in Baltimore, MD. The reception, which attracted the largest attendance ever for this event, featured networking, an update about the school and the honoring of Dr. Judith Lightfoot, who was appointed as President of the ACOI at the convention. Dr. Lightfoot received the Dean's Special Recognition Award for her commitment to patient care, teaching and student mentorship, her special contributions to advance the mission of RowanSOM and her appointment to President of the ACOI. Dr. Lightfoot completed her residency training at RowanSOM. RowanSOM has contributed three faculty who served as past presidents of ACOI: Dr. James Giudice, Professor of Medicine; Dr. Thomas Morley, Professor of Medicine and Chief of Division of Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine; and me.

The RowanSOM Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institution (OPTI) of New Jersey also received accolades at the ACOI Convention. Dr. Joanne Kaiser-Smith, Associate Professor of Medicine and Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education (GME), was reappointed to the ACOI Board of Directors for a three-year term. Dr. Joan Wiley, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine, was the recipient of the Resident's Humanism and Teaching Award. Dr. Wiley is a 2008 graduate of RowanSOM and completed all of her post-doctoral training at the RowanSOM OPTI of New Jersey, where she was chief resident intern and fellow. Additionally, Dr. Kena Shah, an internal medicine resident, placed third in the poster competition. The RowanSOM/Kennedy/Lourdes internal medicine residency program also placed first in the resident medical jeopardy competition.

Community Grand Rounds Features a Familiar Face

Our own Dr. John Bertagnolli, Associate Professor of Family Medicine and a 1983 SOM graduate, presented the first Community Grand Rounds of the academic year on Tuesday, October 7th. Dr. Bertagnolli presented “House Calls: From Hammonton to Kingston,” and provided insight into his medical missionary work in Jamaica as well as care of the homebound patients in our region. Dr. Bertagnolli has practiced medicine for 30 years, joining the RowanSOM Department of Family Medicine in 1998. He is well known for his weekly house calls to homebound patients of all ages, as well as an annual missionary trip to Kingston, Jamaica, where medical students and residents accompany him.
Annual Student and Alumni Fall Festival Offers Fun for All Ages

The annual Student and Alumni Fall Festival moved to a new venue this year – the parking lot outside of the University Doctors Pavilion on Saturday, October 18th. Students, alumni, family, friends and community members enjoyed complimentary food and refreshments, carnival-style activities, moon bounce, pumpkin painting, pie toss, balloon darts and skill games. RowanSOM students also provided free health screenings and information. All proceeds from the event benefit participating student clubs and classes. The Student Osteopathic Surgical Association (SOSA), in conjunction with the RowanSOM Alumni Association, sponsors the Fall Festival.

Top left: Members of the Class of 2017 organized a pie toss. L-r: William Weeks ’17, Ronak Mistry ’17 and Nicole Gentile ’17 toss pies with Dr. Kathryn Lambert, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and her two daughters.

Bottom left: The Student Pediatric Medical Association (SPMA) offered face painting. L-r: Lauren Matera ’17 paints Scott Ventre ’18.

Right: The Osteo Head, Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat Club (OHEENT) oversaw the putting green. Mohammed Beizaeipour ’17 puts while L-r: Omry Zuckerman ’17 and Rafay Khan ’17 observe.
17th Annual RowanSOM Golf Classic a Success

Students, alumni, faculty, parents and friends all came out to the Harbor Pines Golf Club in Egg Harbor Township, NJ for the 17th Annual RowanSOM Golf Classic held on Sunday, September 28th. The student-run golf outing featured a continental breakfast and scramble-format tournament, followed by an awards luncheon. Proceeds raised benefit student scholarships at RowanSOM.

L-r: Raymond Isenburg ’17; Tim Cheung ’17; Timothy Tsai ’17 and Vincent Marchese ’17 won the tournament.

Dr. Carl E. Hock, Senior Associate Dean for Research and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, plans his next shot.

Nurse Midwife Receives March of Dimes ‘Born to Shine’ Award

Diane Hargis-Reynolds, CNM, MSN, Assistant Professor, Ob/Gyn, a certified nurse midwife with The University Doctors, was honored for making a difference in the field of maternal and pediatric healthcare at the 2014 March of Dimes ‘Born to Shine’ Gala on October 18th. She was one of six healthcare professionals from our region honored at the event.

Free Flu Vaccines

Flu shots for faculty and staff will also be available in the Academic Center Atrium on:
Tuesday, November 11th • 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Please bring your ID badge

Interprofessional Grand Rounds

“Young Athlete with a Concussion: An Interprofessional Approach to Treatment

Tuesday, November 4
4:30 pm to 5:30 pm • Registration and Dinner
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm • Program and Q&A Session
Academic Center, Multipurpose Room
Moderator: Richard Jermy, DO, FAAPMR, Chair Department of Rehabilitation Medicine
Director, NeuroMusculoskeletal Institute, (NMI)
Please contact Lisa Cardello 856-566-6916 or cardello@rowan.edu

Upcoming Events

AOA OMED RowanSOM Reception
Monday, October 27 • 5 to 7:30 pm
Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Willow Room

RowanSOM Alumni Association Retreat
Saturday, November 15 • 8 am to 1 pm
Academic Center, Top Docs Cafe

FED (Faculty Education and Development Series: Presenting with Prezi
Friday, November 21 • 12 to 1 pm
Academic Center Room 343
Refreshments will be provided.
please contact Lisa Cardello 856-566-6916 or cardello@rowan.edu

Flu shots for faculty and staff will also be available in the Academic Center Atrium on:
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Upcoming Events, cont’d

Dean’s Forum
Wednesday, November 5 • 10:00 am
Top Docs Café, Academic Center
RSVP by Friday, October 31st at 856-566-6207 or email sominfo@rowan.edu

The D. Walter Cohen, DDS,
Promoting Wellness Through Collaboration
The Integration of Dental and Medical Conference
November 13 – 15
Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue
4200 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131
Presentations by Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, Dean, RowanSOM and
John E. Maupin, Jr., DDS, MBA, President and CEO
Morehouse School of Medicine
To register or for more information visit
www.amerihealthcaritaspartnership.org

Alumni Visiting Professor Lecture
Where Everybody Knows Your Name: The Benefits of Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Physicians
Thursday, November 6 • 12 Noon
Multi-Purpose Room, Stratford Campus
Mitchell Gittleman, DO ’96

Community Grand Rounds Lecture
Ethnic Disparities in Pregnancy Outcomes: The Role of Nutrition and Inflammation
Monday, November 17 • 12 Noon
Multi-Purpose Room, Stratford Campus
Xinhua Chen, MD, Associate Professor, OB/GYN

My best regards,

Dr. Thomas A. Cavalieri, Dean