Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

Many things have been happening on the Stratford Campus this past month, not the least of which was the announcement of our new name come July 1st. Read below to see what has kept our students, faculty and staff busy in February.

SOM NAME ADOPTED BY ROWAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I am pleased to announce that, on February 13th, Rowan University’s Board of Trustees adopted a new name for the School of Osteopathic Medicine—Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine.

The Communication Integration Team explored several naming and identity system options for the school for when its transfer is effective, July 1st.

The decision to call the school Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, or RowanSOM informally and in secondary references, firmly incorporates SOM into Rowan and takes advantage of Rowan's regional and growing national reputation.

"Such a transition as moving one school to another is hardly ever seamless but the adoption of the new name gives everyone on both campuses a sense of belonging," Rowan President Ali Houshmand said.

The new name reflects a bonding of the schools, both well-established and complementary of one another. The name captures both SOM’s rich history and its exciting future as part of Rowan University.

At the same meeting, the Rowan board formally approved the University’s master plan and voted to expand the existing Academic Center at RowanSOM as part of its submission under the state’s ‘Building our Future’ bond act.

Graphical standards, developed through cooperation of staff at Rowan and SOM, will be used in signage, websites, business cards, stationery, and much more. A distinct lab coat patch is still in development.

For more information, visit the Rowan website at http://www.rowan.edu/today/news/index/PR/3316.

OSTEOPATHIC MATCH DAY

More than half of the Class of 2013 gathered on Monday, February 11th to celebrate their success in the National Osteopathic Match. A special luncheon program was provided. Students were congratulated by me and Dr. Kathryn Lambert, associate professor, Family Medicine and acting assistant dean, Student Affairs. Several faculty and staff were also in attendance to mark this joyous occasion. Thirty-one of the matched students will continue their education in New Jersey, 23 of whom were matched into programs in Internal Medicine, Orthopedics, Emergency Medicine, Internal Medicine/Emergency Medicine and ENT in the combined Kennedy-Lourdes-SOM program.

A match celebration for all members of the Class of 2013 will be held on Friday, March 15th, when results from the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) for allopathic GME programs are announced.

1. Cassandra Dorvil ’13 and Sergio Pulido ’13 share a hug and congratulate each other on matching to osteopathic programs. 2. L-r: Purvaja Naik ’13, Dewan Fahima ’13 and Keyonna Proctor ’13 are all smiles at the Osteopathic Match Day celebration.
COMMUNITY GRAND ROUNDS PROGRAM

On February 19th, a record number of students attended the Community Grand Rounds program, “Introduction to the Medical Examiner – with an Emphasis on Violence Prevention as a Medical Issue” by guest speaker Dr. Roger A. Mitchell, Jr. Dr. Mitchell is a UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School graduate and currently serves as the medical examiner for the northern and southern territories of New Jersey. He previously held positions with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences in Texas.

Additional Community Grand Rounds programs are scheduled for April 2nd and April 15th.

FAMILY MEDICINE PRESENTS ‘TAR WARS’ TO LOCAL STUDENTS

Each day, more than 3,500 children in the USA try their first cigarette; another 1,000 will become new regular, daily smokers. To help prevent children from becoming part of that statistic, Dr. Richard Weiss, assistant professor, Family Medicine, along with three SOM students and a Family Medicine resident, recently visited the Yellin School in Stratford to present ‘Tar Wars’ to students. ‘Tar Wars’ is an interactive school-based tobacco-free education program for 4th and 5th graders sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians. The program encourages children to think and talk about the effects and costs of tobacco use, as well as how the tobacco industry’s marketing efforts directly reach and influence them.

RELAY FOR LIFE RAISES $9,400 IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

Friday, January 25th through Saturday, January 26th, the SOM and the Graduate School (GSBS) Colleges against Cancer teamed up with the American Cancer Society (ACS) to hold the Second Annual Relay for Life in Stratford. Relay is a 12-hour overnight event that raises money for cancer research and patient support, and provides an opportunity to remember cancer survivors, those battling the disease and those who lost the fight.

More than 150 students, faculty, staff, family and friends formed teams to take turns walking the indoor track and participating in activities such as carnival games, relay races and salsa dancing. Chad Juros, a magician and two-time cancer survivor, and the band Eleven Dollar Bills entertained participants. The night raised $9,400, which will go to local chapters of the ACS to support cancer research, educational awareness, patient advocacy and survivor services.
RELAY FOR LIFE RAISES $9,400 IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER, continued

IMPROV FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

Twenty medical students recently participated in the first-ever Improv for Medical Students event held at SOM, sponsored by SOM’s Medical Humanities and Ethics Society. The class was designed to get medical students to think on their feet. The improv exercises focused on listening, understanding, and working with peers, and helped to refine overall communication, public speaking, and flexibility in high-pressured situations. The students who participated found the class to be a beneficial supplement to their education, since many know that expecting the unexpected and dealing with unpredictable circumstances occur regularly in the medical field.
HELP “SAVE A CHILD’S HEART” EVENT RAISES $2,600 FOR CHARITY

Comedy, music, prizes and delicious food were on the bill for the annual “Save a Child’s Heart” music and comedy night on February 13th. The charity event raised money for the Israeli-based humanitarian organization that provides free, live-saving heart surgery to children from developing nations. The event was sponsored by the Jewish Osteopathic Medical Association (JOMA) in conjunction with International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA), Student Osteopathic Internal Medical Association (SOIMA), Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA), American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA), Student Pediatric Medical Association (SPMA), National Osteopathic Women's Physician Association (NOWPA), American College of Family Physicians (ACOFP), Medical Students for Choice (MSFC), and the Cardiology Club.

The night featured the stand-up routines of two of Philadelphia’s top comedians, Vince Valentine and Alex Grubard, as well as performances by our own talented students. The event also featured dinner and a flower sale.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF INDIAN ORIGIN (AAPI)

THIRD ANNUAL CULTURAL EVENT & DINNER PROGRAM

The American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) hosted the Third Annual Cultural Event & Dinner Program on January 31st. The event, which attracted over 200 people, raised $1,000 for Operation Smile, a medical charity that provides cleft lip and palate repair surgeries for children worldwide. The evening was filled with music and performances by talented students and faculty, as well as a dinner that featured traditional Indian dishes, and a raffle of fun prizes.

The night ended with a surprise flash mob style Indian dance by SOM’s very own faculty and staff. Pictured are the members of the faculty/staff Dance Crew along with their coaches. L-r: Priya B. Patel ’15, Dean Micciche, director for Alumni and Student Affairs; Sterling Crawford, program assistant, Academic Affairs; Dr. Russell Griesback, Dr. Deborah Podolin, Dr. Gregory Sayegh, fellow, Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, (OMM), NeuroMusculoskeletal Institute (NMI); Dr. Kathryn Lambert, Dr. Sajid Surve, assistant professor, Rehabilitation Medicine and OMM, NMI; Shelly Uppal, GSBS; Marisol Flores-Young, staff assistant, Admissions (Not pictured: Erin Michel, program assistant).
FREE SCREENINGS OFFERED IN RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In recognition of Black History Month, members of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) offered free blood pressure screenings to the Stratford campus and local community.

Dr. Marita Lind, assistant professor, Pediatrics, CARES Institute has her blood pressure checked by Cynthia Lamour ’15.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH DINNER CELEBRATION – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013
6:30 pm
Academic Center, Multi-Purpose Room

ANNUAL STUDENT MEDICINE BALL – SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2013
7 pm
The Mansion on Main Street, Voorhees, NJ

DEAN’S FORUM – TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013
10 am
Academic Center, Top Docs’ Café

ACCEPTED STUDENTS’ DAY – FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2013
8:30 am to 5 pm
Academic Center, Multi-Purpose Room

SOM MATCH CELEBRATION - 2013 NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM (NRMP) MATCH DAY – FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2013
11:45 am to 2 pm
Academic Center, Multi-Purpose Room

RESEARCH DAY – THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013
10 am to 3 pm
Academic Center, Multi-Purpose Room and Auditorium

INTER-PROFESSIONAL GRAND ROUNDS – THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013
4:30 pm
Academic Center, Auditorium

My best regards,

Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, FACOI, FACP, AGSF
Dean