In January TUC announced the appointment of former Nevada Congresswoman Shelley Berkley to the position of CEO and Senior Provost of Touro's Western Division. Ms. Berkley was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1998 and represented Nevada's first Congressional District from 1999 to 2013. She was the first woman to serve the District and held the position for seven terms. Prior to her election to Congress she served as a member of the Nevada State System of Higher Education's Board of Regents for eight years and previously served in the Nevada State Legislature. Ms. Berkley will replace Dr. Michael Harter as Senior Provost of Touro's Western Division campuses in California and Nevada. We look forward to Ms. Berkley’s building upon the great successes we’ve enjoyed in Touro’s Western Division and the Touro System as a whole.

Dr. Drew Walther was hired as the new Director of Counseling for TUC. Dr. Walther received his BA in Psychology at the University of Maryland, his MA and PhD in Counseling Psychology at UC Santa Barbara and we look forward to his contributions in helping assist our students when counseling needs arise.

Plans continue to convert building H-89 on our campus into a multi-functional clinical facility that will house student health services, student counseling services as well as function as an on-campus site for translational clinical trials, inter-professional clinical training labs and services.

The Library recently introduced a new online bookstore operated by the company Akademos, Inc. Students and faculty can purchase new and used books, as well as eBooks, book rentals, and more.

Expect exciting changes to Lander Hall this spring. The cream-colored building, a namesake for Touro’s founder, Dr. Bernard Lander, is getting a face lift! We are currently in the process of collecting bids to paint the exterior of the building.

**COM News**

**On February 26, 2014** – The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), and the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) announced a single accreditation system for graduate medical education (GME) programs in the U.S. After months of discussion, the allopathic and osteopathic medical communities have committed to work together to prepare future generations of physicians with the highest quality GME, ultimately helping to ensure the quality and safety of health care delivery. The commitment to a single accreditation system comes at a watershed moment for medical education in the U.S.,” said Thomas Nasca, MD, MACP, chief executive officer of the ACGME. “As we move forward into the Next Accreditation System, this uniform path of preparation for practice ensures that the evaluation of and accountability for the competency of all resident physicians – MDs and DOs – will be consistent across all programs.” Nasca added, “A single accreditation system provides the opportunity to introduce and consistently evaluate new physician competencies that are needed to meet patient needs and the health care delivery challenges facing the U.S. over the next decade.”
COM News continued

March 6, 2014 the 9th Annual Teen Life Conference held on campus was led by Yasmin Nibbe, MD. Another successful community outreach activity.

On March 2nd a CME course on *Chronic Pain Management for the Primary Care Setting: a Practical Approach* was highly successful and extremely well received.

In October an exciting Food Day event occurred. This is part of a nationwide celebration and movement for healthy, affordable and sustainable food. Focusing on issues as varied as hunger, nutrition, agriculture policy, environmental ecology, animal welfare and farmworker justice.

In December the AOA site visit team completed a 2 day accreditation visit to OPTI-West. While the review was very positive the final decision awaits the spring AOA Council on OPTI and the Bureau of Education meeting which we anticipate will result in a 5 year continuing accreditation award.

Congratulations to Dr. Alejandro Gugliucci who assumed the role as the Director of Research Development and Sponsored Programs for Touro University California. Dr. Gugliucci has served with distinction on our campus since 1997 as Professor of Biochemistry in the Basic Sciences Department of COM, Research Director and Associate Dean for Research. Dr. Gugliucci has been part of the foundation for our campus since its inception and his mentorship and leadership have been a critical component in shaping and developing our successful research programs.

For the 5th consecutive year TUCOM-CA was recognized for meeting one of its key missions, to provide quality primary care providers. TUCOM-CA was ranked 15th nationally by U.S. News and World Report for having 53.8% of our graduates (from 2010-13) entering primary care residencies.

Student News

The residency match for 2014 is now finalized.

- Overall 68% of the upcoming graduates matched into primary care residencies (a record). Those applying to ACGME residencies had 71% match in primary care.
- The remainder matched across the full spectrum of medical specialties: (Anesthesiology, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Pathology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Psychiatry, Radiology).
- 44% of the residency matches were in California, consistent with our four year running average of 43.5%.
- 62% of the overall matches were in ACGME programs, 30% AOA programs and 8% Military programs.

Congratulations to the Class of 2014 for their excellent match results.

Our students once again exhibited their strong commitment to community service with almost 5000 hours collectively committed. Individually 8 students received Gold status and another 36 received Silver status for the Translating Osteopathic Understanding into Community Health (TOUCH). Student Doctor Thomas Liggett was a Platinum recipient recording the most community service hours (250 hours).
Student News continued

The TUCOM Gold Humanism Honor Society announced its fifth cohort. These individuals were nominated by their peers then further narrowed down by the selection committee based on their embodiment of the ideals of humanism: Compassion, Professionalism, Commitment to highest standard of patient care, ethics and volunteering in the community. Congratulations to this years class:

- Nicholas Becketti, Jamie Brandley, Adam Claessens, Naomi Davidson, Todd Hayano, Justin Hwang, John Kenworthy, Julia Kuznetsova, Fayha Lakhani, Eric Lau, Jason Lee, Christabel May, Shaun Rafael, Courtney Stallings, Jim Yu.

Elaine Ho, OMS 2, President of our TUCOM ACOFP Chapter, was awarded the most improved student club chapter at the national ACOFP meeting.

Sadaf Sareshwala, OMS 2, was elected as Region 9 Director for the American Women’s Association for 2014-15.

Darif Krasnow, OMS 1, has been selected as a Scholar in Medical Student Training in Aging Research (MSTAR) for the summer program at UCLA.

Harjyot Tour, OMS 2, won the student leader of the year award from OPSC and its Board of Directors. Congrats to S/D Tour on her amazing efforts at rejuvenating the OPSC student Club and hosting events this year.

During OPSC’s 2014 Annual Convention the winners of OPSC’s Student Video Contest were announced. Zubin Sedghi, OMS 2, received 1st place award for a video he produced to educate the public about osteopathic medicine.

Alumni News

The new alumni section on the TUC website was developed by Jennifer Whitty, the University Director of Alumni Relations and offers alumni profiles.

Department Updates

Primary Care and Solano County Clinic

- Congratulation to Abraham Pera, DO, as the newly elected Vice President of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California (OPSC) and Patricia Rehfield DO, MPH as new OPSC board member.
- Congratulation to OPSC Physician of the Year-Richard Reimer, DO, neurologist, Adjunct Clinical Faculty for Touro California COM.
- Alesia Wagner, DO, represented the Osteopathic profession and Touro COM as a speaker at the California Association of Physician's Assistants (CAPA) mid-year conference in Napa on February 22. Dr. Wagner spoke on navigating the California Workers’ Compensation highway, discussing the changes and challenges of SB 863 for medical care providers in California.
- Cathy West, MD, will be representing Touro University California in a new statewide preventive medicine/public health initiative spearheaded by the California Academy of Preventive Medicine.
- Congratulations to Alesia Wagner DO, on completing her year as OPSC President. Dr. Wagner will remain on the OPSC board as immediate past president.
Department Updates continued

OMM
- Dr. Melissa Pearce, participating in the Costin leadership development program will study Reducing Inflammation with Osteopathic Therapy (RIOT) as part of her program.
- Dr. Mitch Hiserote served on the teaching faculty of the Osteopathic Cranial Association as both a presenter and table trainer for their course in Florida. Dr. Hiserote is the first member from our faculty to be invited to serve as faculty for this national forum.

Basic Sciences
- The anatomy faculty in collaboration with Dr. Pera implemented a newly designed integrated-computer-based x-ray, CT and MRI radiology component to the curriculum that synchronizes with real-time ultrasound enhancing the OMS1 and OMS2 clinical-learning-experience for each anatomical region.

Global Health
- Since the program started in 2004, 446 COM students have participated in this wonderful experience, with 40 students participating this year through externships and international clinical rotations.
- This past year two new sites were added – Gondor University in Ethiopia and the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) in Mexico.
- This year we are initiating a Global Health Pathway Certificate Program for students interested in expanding their education in Global Health.
- A new course “Fundamentals of Global Health” is now offered in the Fall semester. The course is open to first and second year students interested in applying for the Certificate of Global Health.

Research
- The Department of Research-COM and the Office of Sponsored Programs have moved to Lander Hall Room 232 which also includes converting Room 236 as a secured research storage space. Room 238 has also been developed for housing the poster printer and they plan to purchase 1-2 freezers and general lab supplies that will also be located in Room 238.
- The Office of Sponsored Programs is proud to report that 6 federal grant submissions have already been processed in 2014. Touro California-COM has had a good presence in the seed grants program and news from those awards should become available soon.
- Congratulations Dr. Miriam Gochin who has collaborated with Dr. Joseph Wu at New York Medical School to receive seed funding for a grant on Prostate Cancer Prevention mechanisms and targets by resveratrol. This is significant given this is the first cycle of the internal Touro Seed Funding Grant Program and exemplifies the collaborative nature that we are aspiring toward throughout the Touro system.
Research continued

Recent manuscripts published:

Recent manuscripts published continued


Student research at OPSC

- Student Dr. Michelle Burk (OMSI) represented us at OPSC in San Diego on February 7, 2014, she presented a poster of her research work on campus.

Faculty development

- Dr. Gugliucci gave a Faculty Development session, hosted by the PCD department on: Writing an abstract, making and presenting a poster: 101. The session was enthusiastically attended by faculty from several departments.

Recognition

- Dr. Gugliucci was selected as an expert in paraoxonase 1 by the NHBLI of the NIH and traveled to Bethesda in March for the evaluation of a PPG (Project Program Grant).
- Dr. Gugliucci was appointed as the campus representative for the Biomedical and Health Sciences Research Council of the Touro College and University system.
Upcoming Events

Research Day April 30th
Dr. Ira Schwartz, Professor and Chairman of Microbiology and Immunology at NYMC and head of the Touro-wide research task force, will be the keynote speaker.

A campus wide Interprofessional Education (IPE) Event is scheduled for April 30th which will feature Dr. Nathan Wolfe. Dr. Wolfe has authored the book *Viral Storm* and has been recognized by Time Magazine in 2011 as one of the top 100 Most Influential People in the World.

The COM Class of 2016 Pinning Ceremony is scheduled for May 16th.

The COM Class of 2014 Commencement Ceremony will be held at the Marriott Marquis Hotel Ballroom, 55 Fourth Street in San Francisco, on May 23rd beginning at 10 a.m.

The COM Class of 2004 are scheduled to return to campus on June 20-22nd to celebrate their 10 year reunion.

1310 Club Drive, Vallejo CA. 94592