In order to prepare for the Rural Medical Scholars Program (RMSP), medical students recently had the opportunity to work with medical professionals during a week-long workshop at St. Luke’s Hospital in Duluth. RMSP enables students to hone their medical skills in rural communities throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin by spending time living and working with medical preceptors in a clinical environment.

The skills program was initiated in order to enhance the RMSP experience by preparing students with basic preparation and encourage participation during their experience.

During the week long training, over 22 doctors and nurses at St. Luke’s helped 60 students learn CPR, scrubbing, gowning, gloving, suturing, splinting, casting, blood draws, IV starts, intubation, and how to read imaging from radiology.

Students were able to test their skills during their first rural site visit in January.

Students Participate in Annual Holiday Celebration

First and second year medical students participated in an annual holiday celebration on the Duluth campus. The lunch was sponsored by the Lake Superior Medical Society for faculty, students and staff. Students participated in a secret Santa exchange and enjoyed an afternoon of holiday cheer before winter break.
Those Who Impacted Student Lives are Honored

This fall alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth campus were asked to support the Duluth Medical School Recruitment Fund in honor or memory of someone who made a difference in their life. Thank you to the following people who were honored through gifts to the Duluth Medical School Recruitment Fund.

Dr. Jim Allen  
Gladys Barber  
Dr. James Boulger  
Judy and JoDean Carlson  
Johanna Clevenger

Emily B. F. Davis  
Carl Giffei  
Dr. William Halverson  
All professors who taught from 1974-1976

Dr. Bob Hodapp  
Dr. George Jennings  
Dr. Edward Knych  
Dr. Lillian Repesh

2016 University of Minnesota, Duluth Annual Report

You may have recently received an increased amount of communication from our partners at the University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD). This includes their 2016 Annual Report calendar. If you did not receive a copy and would like one, please contact Reba Copeland at rmarana@umn.edu. Supplies are limited.

Faculty Highlights

- **Dr. James Boulger** published an editorial in *Family Medicine* (Vol.47, No9.) titled "Income Disparity and Student Career Choice".
- **Dr. Barbara Elliott** was recently published in the September edition of *Family, Systems, & Health Journal* with a piece titled "Survivors' coping with intimate partner violence: Insights and limitations."
- **Dr. Jacob Prunu**se received the Inspirational Award at the 2015 Family Medicine Midwest Conference.
- **Dr. Matthew Slattery** and members of his lab have recently been published in three journals including *Free Radical Biology and Medicine*, *Development Biology*, and *PLOS Genetics*.
- **Dr. Sarah Beehler** was awarded a grant by the Minnesota Departments of Health and of Human Services for her work in generations health care initiatives.
- **Dr. Mustafa al’Abasi** was recently published in *Nature* with an article titled “Global research challenges and opportunities for mental health and substance-use disorders”.
- **Dr. Patrick Ward** recently published “The Hidden Vitamin Deficiency” in the December issue of *Bottom Line Health*.
- **Dr. Lester Drewes** received a grant from the University of Minnesota Foundation to fund a Seahorse XFe96 Analyzer and Prep Station Shared Instrument.
- **Dr. Fitzakerly, Dr. Lacher** and student Diandra Little Dog presented two science lesson plans at the annual Minnesota Indian Education Association meeting in November.
- **Dr. Ken Wallace** recently published “Multiple Targets for Drug-Induced Mitochondrial Toxicity” in *Current Medicinal Chemistry*.

To support faculty and student efforts please consider a gift to the University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth campus.
Scholarship Profile

Robin Sautter

Willis E. and Emma E. O'Connor Endowed Scholarship

Anticipated Graduation Date: May 2017
Hometown: Lanesboro, MN
Undergraduate school: Drake University
Major: Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular (B.S.) and Chemistry (B.A.)

Q: What piqued your interest in science and medicine?
A: I was exposed to the world of medicine at a very young age as the daughter of two veterinarian parents. I quickly learned the fragility of life and the impact that medicine has on every person and pet. I was inspired by my parents because they were truly making a difference in their patients’ and pet owners’ lives. I too wanted to build trusting relationships with those I served, and it just so happened that I turned out to be pretty good in the sciences in school too!

Although I am passionate about medicine, I have a second and equal interest in public health. I intend to combine my knowledge as a physician to advocate healthier lifestyles in the community. I look forward to my future exploring the intersection between public health and primary care as a physician.

Q: What unique perspective do you bring to your studies?
A: I have an interest in global health, I have spent extended periods of time living and volunteering in Africa and Asia. These experiences have taught me the importance of cultural humility, something I hope to inspire my colleagues to also remember when working with patients.

Years of Service

Thank you to the following faculty and staff that have dedicated many years of service to make our school a remarkable place!

40 years of service
Gary Davis

35 years of service
Mary Sneve

20 years of service
Jeff Adams, Mary Cannedy-Clarke, Margaret Herbert, Kristine Krafts, Anna Wirta, Olga Zhdkankin

15 years of service
Susan Christensen
Robert Cormier

10 years of service
Sheilagh Amundsen
Barbara Gay

Giving the Gift of Research

Circle of Hope is a not-for-profit organization that helps breast cancer patients who struggle financially from a breast cancer diagnosis. Thanks to a partnership with faculty member Andrew Skildum, Ph.D., Circle of Hope made a significant gift to support breast cancer research at the University of Minnesota, Duluth campus. The check was accepted by Regional Dean Paula Termuhlen, M.D., Andrew Skildum, Ph.D., and Department Chair of Biomedical Sciences Lynne Bemis, Ph.D.

Q: What does it mean to you to receive this scholarship?
A: Although I am not married and do not have any dependents, I carry the burden of paying for all of my education on my own. I know that I will become a stronger person because of this additional responsibility.

Because of my commitment as a board member of the non-profit organization Pamoja Kenya Mentorship Alliance (PAKEMA). I have an obligation to return to Kenya soon. I have dedicated numerous nights and weekends during medical school to furthering the progress of this organization, and I intend to continue my involvement with PAKEMA for many years to come. By receiving this scholarship to help with my medical school costs, I can spend more time focusing on other passions of teaching others and volunteering through the PAKEMA organization.

Q: What unique perspective do you bring to your studies?
A: I have an interest in global health, I have spent extended periods of time living and volunteering in Africa and Asia. These experiences have taught me the importance of cultural humility, something I hope to inspire my colleagues to also remember when working with patients.