Farewell from Director of RPAP and MetroPAP

Dear Colleagues,

This is my farewell column in the RPAP and MetroPAP newsletter as I will have retired when you receive this edition. It has been an honor to direct this program. My role has allowed me to spend time in many clinics and hospitals in rural Minnesota, seeing frontline care delivered. As a family physician I enjoyed visiting rural settings and teaching and evaluating students within such settings. In my previous work in health policy I knew the statistics demonstrating the high standards of health care in Minnesota and my RPAP role allowed me to directly observe how and why we have such good outcomes across the state.

Rural community physicians and healthcare providers devote themselves to educating RPAP students and mentoring them. They open their practices, homes and communities to our students to truly nurture student interest in rural medicine and primary care. Many of you serve as preceptors and report to me that this responsibility is “paying it forward” for all the guidance, care and mentoring you received as an RPAP student. This huge contribution allows RPAP to thrive and grow.

Since 2010 we have added urban underserved inner city healthcare settings for our sister cohort of MetroPAP students to complete the curriculum. Their preceptors have engaged students in the challenges and the satisfactions of caring for patients who live in poverty.

Our students are an amazing cohort of curious, compassionate learners who choose to apply to RPAP and MetroPAP because they are thoughtful about exploring future career paths in rural or urban underserved medicine. During their time in RPAP and MetroPAP we see their identity as future physicians emerge. It is awesome to track them from their first days in these programs to the end and watch their maturation process.

One of the enduring strengths of these programs is the collaboration between our academic faculty and staff and community health professionals and administrators who join together to provide this rich learning opportunity for our students. We have a very committed RPAP/MetroPAP staff team who are drawn to this work because of the clear mission to develop future physicians who
will serve in rural and urban underserved settings. Our RPAP alumni and our community partners’ commitment to the programs create a solid sustainable base for growth and development as healthcare and physician education evolves. My thanks to all of you for providing this legacy.

With warm regards,
Kathleen Brooks, MD, MBA, MPA

Dr. Brooks Retirement

The following are excerpts from the beautiful scrapbook she was presented with of her time with RPAP filled with many memories and photos. Best wishes, Dr. Brooks!

Getting to know Kathy as a colleague over these last few months has only underscored for me what a national and international treasure she has been for advancing LICs both here and throughout the world—she will surely be missed, but I am also certain that we will try to build upon her legacy as we work to provide the concept she has nurtured around longitudinal learning to all of our students here at the University of Minnesota. With best wishes for a joyful next phase. Bob Englander, MD

May you have the hindsight to know where you’ve been, the foresight to know where you’re going, and the insight to know when you’re going too far. ~ Irish Proverb, Julie Ansell

I have always valued Kathy’s broad knowledge of medical education that spans across the continuum of learners. She is thoughtful, insightful, articulate and adds value to every education discussion. Mark Rosenberg, MD

Kathy: Although when we have contact each other it is almost never good news, I always look forward to our conversations. I admire your thoughtful and reflective approach to student situations. Your experience and insights are amazing. I aspire to be in your same class! Michael Kim, MD – Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

In all of our professional lives we run into people who simply make us better at what we do. Dr. Brooks is one of those people. She’s always asking the penetrating question, asking us to think just a little deeper, or take a slightly different spin. In all of our professional lives we get to work with people who make our work just a little more interesting. How many times have you heard Kathy say, “Did you read that piece on…., Have you thought about…., What if you did…?” In all of our professional lives we are blessed with people who draw us in, and let us be part of who they are. Kathy reveals herself and asks what we think in so many ways. She’s always looking for ways to work and think and be better. It makes us want to do the same. In all of our professional lives we should have a Kathy Brooks. I did and it makes me smile. Tom Gilliam

Thank you for all you’ve done to further the mission of one of the jewels in the crown of the U of M Medical School. Minnesota, the nation, and the world owe you a debt of gratitude. I am proud to include myself among the alum of this amazing and life-changing program. Jon Hallberg, MD
Orientation 2016
On October 3-5, the Class of 2016-17 participated in Orientation activities to prepare them for spending 9 months in rural and underserved communities.

The incoming class of 40 students was immersed in skills stations to train them on patient interactions, surgery basics, emergency room tactics, obstetrics, and research skills. Along with our RPAP/MetroPAP Faculty, thirteen external professionals from different departments across the University of Minnesota, including several RPAP alumni and preceptors, taught during the three days. Students also participated in BioMedical Library resource training to prepare them for their Evidence-Based Medicine project, SNAPPS, and case presentations.

We wish the 2016-17 class all the best in their experiences throughout the year.

Orientation concluded with an Awards Luncheon to honor the Student and Preceptor Achievement Award winners from the Class of 2015-16:

Student Achievement Award – Laura McDowell – Chisholm
Student Achievement Award – Lucas Boyle – MetroPAP Creekside
Specialty Preceptor Achievement Award – Dr. Derek Beyer – OBGYN Preceptor – Grand Rapids
Preceptor Achievement Award – Dr. Bill Durie – Primary Preceptor – Chisholm (not pictured)

University of Minnesota Medical School #1 in Nation - Family Medicine Graduates

The University of Minnesota Medical School remains the number one school in the nation for the number of graduates entering Family Medicine. Department head Macaran Baird, MD, MS.

Dr. Baird says “the U of M’s program produced 42 Family Medicine graduates in 2015 and was one of just ten U.S. schools with 30 or more graduates entering the specialty”.

We are proud to say that 20 of those are RPAP/MetroPAP alumni!

* October 21, 2016 press release from the American Academy of Family Physicians
John Wilson, MD (Grand Marais 1974-75)
“The RPAP experience was a transformative experience in my career, and undoubtedly the crowning experience in medical school. It was where the change from student to doctor took place.”

Teresa Vrabel Sonier (Willmar 1985-86)
Dr. Sonier retired from the Hennepin County Medical Center this past summer.

David Salter (Moose Lake 1986-87)
Helped to develop a longitudinal model (LIC- Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship) for training 3rd year med students from the University of Colorado Denver Medical School. “This model is similar to the longitudinal training that I was fortunate to be a part of in RPAP.”

Anthony Amon (Blue Earth 1989-90)
“I have been in Willmar for 22 years, still an independent practice, celebrated 25 years of marriage in 2016, have 4 children – my oldest started medical school last fall at UMD.”

Jay Kennedy (Marshall 1997-98)
Now serving veterans of recent wars in a VA clinic providing ongoing service for traumatic brain injury, post traumatic stress disorder and other behavioral health disorders, chronic pain and sequelae of traumatic musculoskeletal injuries as well as “normal” health care. Married Jodi in 2000 and has 2 children. “I still enjoy caving, backpacking, camping and other wilderness medicine activities. I am very active teaching cave rescue techniques at the national level, have served as a National Cave Rescue Commission instructor for several years.”

Teresa Devine (Buffalo 2011-12)
Dr. Devine finished her Residency last summer and started full spectrum family medicine in Monticello last fall.
Meet our Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) 2016 Inductees

GHHS recognizes medical students, residents and faculty who consistently model humanistic values, such as integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect and empathy. Medical students are nominated by their peers during their third year of study. Those students selected for membership in the GHHS were chosen by their classmates because of their commitment to humanistic, patient-centered care and upholding the science and art of medicine. Congratulations to these RPAP and MetroPAP students:

• Lucas W. Boyle • Sarah M. Carlson • Simone H. Childs-Walker • Rachel K. Harlos • Robin A. Sautter
• Emma Sieling • Maria A. Wilczek

Meet our Newest Staff

Patty Bailey, Executive Assistant and Office Coordinator
Other Activities: I have logged many hours of volunteer work over my life. Most recently I volunteered with my niece and nephews at Feed My Starving Children.
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would be a pediatric nurse because of the wonderful care my son and I received at the hospital when he was born this past year.

RPAP Faculty

Nancy J. Baker, MD, Interim Director, Faculty
Other Activities: I continue my service on the AAFP Foundation’s Center for the History of Family Medicine Board of Curators. I am an Associate Medical Director and physician provider at Our Lady of Peace Hospice. I am not precepting at this time.
If I wasn’t in my current position: If I could do anything else I wanted, I would be a poet.

Ray Christensen, MD, Associate Director
Other Activities: I have held many leadership positions in medical associations and am very involved in Minnesota Masonic activities. I also like spending time with my grandchildren.
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would be a politician.

Darin Brink, MD, Faculty
Other Activities: I am Faculty at the St. Joseph’s Hospital Family Medicine Residency and work at the Bethesda Clinic, St. Paul.
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would travel more to visit my children and other family.

Javad Keyhani, MD, Faculty
Other Activities: I precept at Broadway Family Medicine/North Memorial Residency and also do Rural ER weekly in Montevideo Minnesota.
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would consider a job in theater, ministry or in a non-profit. If I didn't do Family Medicine I would have done Emergency Medicine and work at an academic center.

Keith Stelter, MD, MMM, Faculty
Other Activities: In addition to my duties as associate program director of Mankato Residency and RPAP, I serve on the Minnesota Medical Association Board of Trustees and serve as Chair of the American Board of Family Medicine. I also enjoy working for Habitat for Humanity.
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would be doing volunteer medical work overseas, and traveling to understand Fair Trade practices.

Ruth Westra, DO, MPH, Faculty
Other Activities: I precept at Gateway Family Health Clinic, Moose Lake MN (one day a week) and at Duluth Family Medicine Residency Program.
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would be biking across the US.

RPAP Staff

Brinsley Davis, Program Specialist
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would be a community organizer.
Other Activities: I work with my local Parent Teacher Organization to coordinate the annual Talent Show.

Katy Frederickson, Program Associate
Other Activities: I am pursuing a MBA in Rural Healthcare Administration.
If I wasn’t in my current position: I would be working with my parents on growing their organic berry farm.

Pat Schommer, MA, Administrative Director
Other Activities: Currently, I volunteer for the Lyric Theater in Anoka, and the Fairview Hospice, and live on the Mississippi River.
If I wasn’t in my current position: --which I do love--I would certainly be busy, doing more of the same I enjoy now. Having more availability to serve others as a death doula or an 11th hour volunteer, is one of my goals. Traveling, reading, crafting, and watching water and its inhabitants (especially eagles) would happen more frequently.
How Your Smart Phone Can Make You and Your Patients Smarter – April 14-15, 2016. MAFP Spring Refresher mainstage, Minneapolis, MN “by Dr. Baker

A Multi-Year RPAP Community Health Project: Preventative Health Care for the Amish – May 1-4, 2016 STFM annual meeting, Minneapolis, MN “by Dr. Baker

Amish Preventative Health Care: An Example of a Required Community Health Project – October 16-19, 2016 CLIC International meeting, Toronto, Quebec, Canada “by Dr. Baker and Dr. Brooks

Lessons Learned as a Family Physician – November 10, 2016 St. Olaf College Pre-Med Alumni event, Minneapolis, MN “by Dr. Baker

A 4-Step Model to Build Longitudinal Integrated Clerkships: LIC 101 Planning and Administrations – October 2016. University of Toronto. Toronto, ON Canada “by Dr. Brooks and David Hirsh

The Educational Benefits of Longitudinal Integrated Clerkships – June 2016. University of Vermont College of Medicine faculty and staff noon conference. Burlington, VT “by Dr. Brooks

Longitudinal Integrated Clerkships: Student Conversation – June 2016. University of Vermont College of Medicine faculty and staff noon conference. Burlington, VT “by Dr. Brooks

Truth-Telling in Student Clinical Assessments, Challenges in the Collaboration of Community Preceptors and Academic Faculty – May 2016. Harvard Macy Institute Program for Educators in the Health Professions. Boston, MA “by Dr. Brooks

A Challenge of Creating LICs in Metropolitan Settings with Many Traditional Block Rotations – October 2016. CLIC Conference. Toronto, ON Canada “by Dr. Brooks, A. Periera, P. Hobday, N. Ercan-Fang


The Minnesota Rural Physician Associate Program Experience – February 2016. The Alabama Academic Family Medicine Council. Tuscaloosa, AL “by Dr. Brooks

Longitudinal Integrated Clerkships – February 2016. University of Alabama School of Medicine. Birmingham, AL “by Dr. Brooks and David Hirsh

The CLIC Think Tank Session: Problems of Scaling, LIC 2.0 and What’s Next for Educational Redesign – October 2016. The CLIC Conference, Workshop. Toronto, ON Canada “by Dr. Brooks and David Hirsh

The Challenge of Creating LICs in Metropolitan Settings with Many Traditional Block Rotations – October 2016. CLIC Conference. Toronto, ON Canada “by Dr. Brooks, A. Periera, P. Hobday, N. Ercan-Fang

Designing Optimal Recruitment and Selection Process for Students with a Menu of LICs – October 2016. CLIC Conference. Toronto, ON Canada “by Dr. Brooks, A. Periera, P. Hobday, N. Ercan-Fang

Physician Wellness – RPAP Visit “by Dr. Keyhani

Woman’s Preventative Health: 50 is the New 40 – October 1, 2016. Minnesota Osteopathic Medical Society. Inn on Canal Park, Duluth, MN “by Dr. Westra

Teaching Female/Male Clinical Exams to First-Year Medical Students – May 5, 2016. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN “by Dr. Westra and January 29, 2016. Conference on Medical Student Education. Phoenix, AZ “by Dr. Westra, J. Pearson, S. Palmquist

The Preceptor Faculty Development Collaborative: A Multi-Institutional Approach – May 3, 2016. STFM Annual Conference. Minneapolis, MN “by Dr. Westra, Dr. Brink, Dr. Brocato, Dr. Crouse

Interprofessional Rural Community Experience – May 3, 2016. STFM Annual Conference. Minneapolis, MN “by Dr. Westra, Meg Little, Paul Ranelli


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Request for RPAP/MetroPAP News and Pictures

Any updates to your home, family, residency, or practice status? Any publications that reference your RPAP experience? Any fun photos?

Please let us know!

rpapumn@umn.edu

You may also keep in touch through the RPAP Facebook page: www.facebook.com/rpapumn