



I would like to introduce the first Semi-Annual Newsletter from the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology, College of Human Medicine, at Michigan State University. 2008 saw significant growth and accomplishment within the Department with the expansion of the Department to Grand Rapids, MI, the addition of Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, MI as our seventh Community Campus, the development of Medical student and Resident education programs and the expansion of Research in Women's Health. The growth of the Department capitalizes on the opportunities found with having a nationally recognized community based medical

school in the College of Human Medicine and its many partners within the University and across the country. Please join me in welcoming several new members that joined the Department in 2008 including Louis Candiotti, Daniel Farkas, PhD, Barbara Luke, PhD, Henry Moon, MD, Eric Jentoft, MD, Jennifer Raffo, Craig Webb PhD, and Julie Wirth, PhD. They have each already contributed significantly to the expanded depth and breadth of the administrative, educational and research mission of the Department. I hope the Newsletter entices you to learn more about the Department and would ask that you spend just a few moments to view our new website (<http://obgyn.msu.edu/>) to appreciate in more detail these new developments.



Richard E. Leach, MD
Professor and Chair
Department of Obstetrics and
Gynecology and
Reproductive Biology

Inside this issue:

COMMUNITY BASED FACULTY	1
MSU AFFILIATED OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY RESIDENCY NETWORK	2
MSU Undergraduate Medical Education Committee	2
PREVIEW: RESEARCH FACULTY	3
PUBLICATIONS	4

Community Based Faculty: Success of our Students

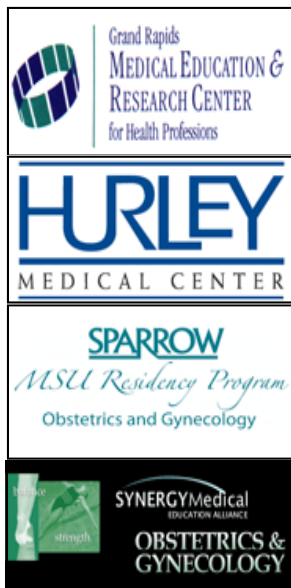
The Department has over 300 Community Base Faculty distributed across our 6 campuses including , East Lansing, Flint, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Marquette and Saginaw. Beginning July of 2009, 3rd year students will start Block III Obstetrics and Gynecology Rotation at Munson Medical center in Traverse City, MI. We have begun working with Dr. Daniel Webster, the Community Assistant Dean in Traverse City to develop curriculum. The committed Community Based Faculty are responsible for the outstanding student training , performance and selection of Obstetrics and Gynecology as a career. 30 faculty members have been selected for the prestigious recognition as Best Doctors in America® and is just one indication of the quality of training and mentoring the students receive during their Block III rotation. The NBME has just released the Year 3 Obstetric and Gynecology scores for 2007-2008 and the mean MSU-CHM Score was 76.2 compared to national mean of 72.8. Congratulations to all.





Louis Candiotti.
Chief Department
Administrator

Mr. Candiotti comes from the University of Michigan, where he served as Administrator in the Department of Pediatrics for eight years. He has extensive experience in clinical program development, including strategic planning, financial management, operations, contracting, customer service and human resource management. His unique background in research program management brings an important facet to the department's new research initiatives.



MSU CHM
Affiliated Obstetrics and
Gynecology Residency
Network

MSU Undergraduate Medical Education Committee (UMEC)

The Department UMEC is composed of the 3rd year Medical Student Clerkship Directors from each of the six Community Campuses. Together with the clerkship assistants, the Directors are instrumental in the day to day training of medical students and we are indebted for their tired less work. We wel-

come Drs. Henry Moon and Eric Jentoft, as Clerkship Director at the Saginaw and Marquette Campuses respectively. They both bring tremendous experience and familiarity with our clerkship organization. The number of students in clerkship will be increasing by roughly 50 students in the coming year

with the expansion of CHM to Grand Rapids. Third year students will be starting their first rotations in the Traverse City Campus this summer. The revised curriculum and additional teaching resources can be viewed on the web-site.

Affiliated Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Network (AORGN)

Our four MSU affiliated Residency programs formed AORGN this year to enhance the residency training experience though collaboration on mutually beneficial educational and research programs. In those programs AORGN represents the involvement over 70 residents, one of the largest in the country.

Patricia Obando, PhD, Director of Medical Education for the Department and the leadership of the Network Programs including Stephen Rechner, MD; Grand Rapids Medical Education & Research Center, John Hebert, MD; Hurley Medical Education, Mathew Allswede, MD; Sparrow Residency Program and Henry Moon, MD; Synergy Educational Alliance implemented several programs currently underway.

1. AORGN Curriculum Development included online research modules, creation of a simulation network, inclusion of 35 short videos on basic Ob/Gyn procedures and maneuvers along with text and self-

assessments. Details can be found on our website (<http://obgyn.msu.edu/residency/index.asp>)

2. The 1ST Annual AORGN Research Banquet following the ACOG Michigan Section Junior Fellow Research Day provided an opportunity for residents from the network programs to gather for fellowship and networking. Over 83 residents and faculty attended to hear Dr. Alan De Cherney, Director of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Section at NICHD, speak on "The future of Obstetrical and Gynecologic Practice."

3. AORGN Basic Science Course began this fall. The purchase of Lifesize Teleconference equipment provides the ability to broadcast Basic Science lectures to second year residents with the opportunity to broadcast other conferences and meetings across the state. This optimizes resident scheduling with the 80 hour workweek and minimize travel in inclement weather.

4. AORGN Resident Research

Program. Under the Direction of LeeAnne Roman, PhD and Jennifer Raffo, a pilot program has been implemented to provide residents with research projects that are rooted in Perinatal Risk Data .

5. The MSU Archive for Research on Child Health (ARCH) Pilot Study has began in the Sparrow Resident Practice under the Direction of Nigel Paneth, PhD and Lynette Berry. Close collaboration between ARCH researchers and Dr. Matt Allswede and Clinic managers is providing an opportunity for cutting edge research to be conducted on site. We hope to roll out this study in other AORGN sites in the coming year.

6. Michigan Families Medicaid Project (MFMP), a collaborative effort between Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and Michigan State University will be conducting screening and quality improvement studies to determine the impact of prenatal interventions and risk identification to birth outcome.

Research Faculty 2008

Daniel H. Farkas, Ph.D., HCLD Professor. Dr. Farkas is Vice President, Clinical Diagnostics, for Sequenom Center for Molecular Medicine, Grand Rapids MI. Internationally respected leader in the field of molecular diagnostics and has published widely on the subject. He is a fellow of the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Molecular Diagnostics, Biotechnology Healthcare, and Diagnostic Molecular Pathology. He was se-

lected by his peers as the 2007 recipient of the Association for Molecular Pathology Leadership Award.

Barbara Luke, ScD, MPH. Professor with joint appointment in the Department of Epidemiology. Dr. Luke is a reproductive epidemiologist. During the past fifteen years her research has focused on improving outcomes in multiple births through both clinical and vital statistics research. Dr. Luke is collaborating with the Society for Assisted

Reproductive Technology (SART) in the development of a series of projects to evaluate the health of men, women, and their children after infertility treatment, including linkage of the SART database with State Birth Defects and Cancer Registries. She is the recipient of the 2005 Agnes Higgins Award from the March of Dimes for distinguished lifetime achievement in maternal-fetal nutrition.

Daniel H. Farkas, Ph.D.



Barbara Luke, Ph.D.



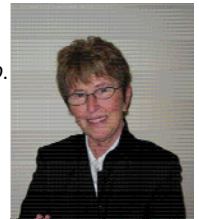
LeeAnne Roman PhD, Associate Professor. Dr. Roman leads the Michigan Families Medicaid Project (MFMP), a multi-disciplinary team of investigators that has assisted the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) for four years in its efforts to improve enhanced prenatal and infant services for Medicaid eligible women and their infants. She and colleagues are completing analysis analyses of a randomized clinical trial

comparing a Nurse-Community Health Worker Team home visiting model with community implementation of the Michigan Department of Community Health enhanced services program.

Craig P. Webb, PhD, Associate Professor. Dr. Webb is Director of the Program of Translational Medicine at the Van Andel Institute, Grand Rapids, MI. Launched in 2006, the Program

focuses on the development of molecular biomarker strategies with clinical implications to implement molecular-based approaches in medicine. This resource is being used to test biomarker-driven predictive models (and the identified drugs) in a more systematic fashion and to evaluate novel targeted agents in partnership with industrial sponsors and academic centers.

LeeAnne Roman, Ph.D.



Craig P. Webb, Ph.D.



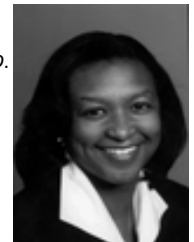
Karen Williams PhD, Assistant Professor. Dr. Williams research focuses on community-based participatory research and women's health policy. Dr. Williams has designed a breast and cervical cancer prevention intervention **Kin KeeperSM**. It is a female familial model that incorporates a cancer literacy assessment and most recently has been translated into Spanish and Arabic. Dr. Williams and team are funded by NIH and Susan G. Komen for the Cure to imple-

ment the Kin KeeperSM model in Grand Rapids, Detroit and Dearborn. They were honored with the R. Davilene Carter Presidential Award for best paper given at the American Association for Cancer Education 2008 Annual meeting.

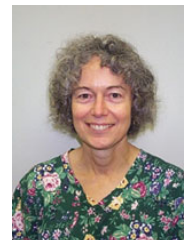
Julie Wirth PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, with joint appointment in Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology. Dr Wirth's current research focus is

the study of exposures to metals and organochlorines and male reproductive health. She also is expert in research on environmental chemicals and human health generally, and is studying gene-environment interactions using epidemiological and microbiological research approaches. Dr. Wirth helps to link the department faculty and students with the Michigan Department of Community Health's epidemiological research activities

Karen P. Williams PhD.



Julie Wirth, Ph.D.





Manuscripts 2008

Manuscripts

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