

Chair's Column



We in the Department of Family Medicine have grown through our departmental youth and adolescence to be, by all metrics, a leading Family Medicine department in the country. But there are areas in which we must continue to improve -- and on the top of the list is redoubling our efforts to expand the diversity of our residents, faculty and staff. To me it is clear that for us to move to the next level of patient care, teaching and research – we aspire to make our department look more like the community we serve.

Recently, thanks to the work of many residents, faculty members and administrative staff, we have made some progress in policy, implementation science, research and staffing.

First, we have implemented a department wide diversity policy [<http://www.bu.edu/familymed/about-us/dfm-mission-statement/>], and a departmental diversity committee that will serve to institutionalize within the DFM a set of policies that will help us move forward.

Second, last month we submitted a large federal grant designed to develop a model to promote diversity in the workforce. The program will support recruiting and retaining underrepresented minority health professionals, conduct research on ways to improve diversity among the health workforce, and organize a concentrated effort among high schools and colleges to create opportunities for local students to pursue health careers.

Third, I just returned from the European Congress on Preconception Health where we presented “Gabby”, a computer generated system designed to improve disparities in MCH outcomes that is now being prepared for dissemination to federally funded Healthy Start sites. The Kellogg foundation is funding development of “Gabe”, an innovative health system for African American men.

Finally, we are working with Thea James MD, BMC’s Vice President for Mission, and with senior BMC leadership to create a faculty position designed to focus on these important issues. You will hear more about this in the weeks ahead.

Please contact me, or Laura Goldman, the chair of the diversity committee, if you are interested in participating in any of these activities or if you have ideas about how to move the DFM forward in this important way.

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Highlights & Achievements

BECAUSE LIFE ISN'T A SPECTATOR SPORT.

Introducing
Sports Medicine &
Related Services



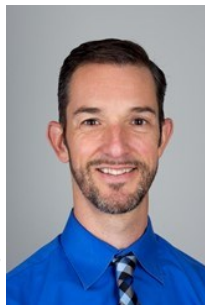
Congratulations to **Doug Comeau** and colleagues on the new Sports Medicine promotional campaign.

Click [here](#) to read more.

The Lesotho Committee of Higher Education informed the Lesotho Family Medicine Training group that it has been granted full accreditation of 5 years. A big THANK YOU & CONGRATULATIONS to the FTSTP team for this great achievement!

Our very own **Ted Constan**, in his previous role as chief of staff for former Massachusetts Senate President Tom Birmingham, helped MA win the marriage equality fight. For a full history, click [here](#).

Congratulations to **Ellen Highfield** on the acceptance of her manuscript entitled "*Does Acupuncture Treatment Impact the Utilization of Other Hospital Services at an Urban Safety-Net Hospital?*" for publication in *Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine*.



Congratulations to **Ethan Brackett, MD** – a graduate of our very first residency class – is part of the new Family services that opened at Fenway Health Center. Family services saw their first patients on January 4th!



Nidhi Lal, MD led an Infant Delivery Workshop and Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics Workshop at the New England Conference on Global and Community Health for Trainees Schedule at Massachusetts Medical Society on 1/9/2016. Her co-presenter was Jonathan Steer, MD from OBGYN.

BECKER'S

Hospital Review

Integrative Medicine 2015 Highlights: New clinical partnerships, innovative research projects, and a novel program that support the education of integrative health care providers!

Congratulations to **Toyin Ajayi**, a graduate of the BU-FMRP, who has been named Chief Medical Officer of the Commonwealth Care Alliance. Click [here](#) to read the full story.

Highlights & Achievements

BU FM Global Health Collaborative

Congratulations to the BU FM Global Health Collaborative (GHC), which celebrated the inauguration of the first Family Medicine Center of its kind in Hue, Vietnam on October 12, 2015. The new center, located at the Hue University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMP), has become a state-of-the-art model for the rest of Vietnam. The grand opening of Hue FMC represents the nearly 20 years of dedication and close collaboration between the Hue UMP faculty and BU FM GHC in ensuring the improvement of access to primary care.

Many attended the momentous event, including Professor Le Ngoc Trong, former Deputy Minister of Health and President of the Vietnam Family Physician Association, Professor Nguyen Dung, Vice Chairman of the People's Committee of Thua Thien Hue Province, and Dr. Jeffrey Markuns, Executive Director of the BU GHC.



"This Center will be the pilot model of our university in not only training but also technology transfer," said Professor Cao Ngoc Thanh, Rector of the Hue UMP. "At the same time, it provides the activities related to family medicine in the primary healthcare system."

BU FM Lesotho-Boston Health Alliance



Congratulations to the BU FM Lesotho-Boston Health Alliance (LeBoHA) for becoming the first and only fully accredited higher education institution in Lesotho for its Family Medicine Specialty Training Program (FMSTP)! The Council on Higher Education, which regulates all higher education programs in Lesotho, found that LeBoHA emphasizes how medical trainings are essential to strengthening the health care system of the Southern African country.

"LeBoHA demonstrates that it has the ability to respond to future challenges appropriately," states the CHE final report on LeBoHA. "It created the basis of a decentralized learning platform not only for family medicine, but also for the whole new medical school for Lesotho."

With the continuous support of the BU FM Global Health Collaborative (GHC), the FMSTP continues to provide the high quality clinical, management and public health training needed for graduates to serve as leaders in Lesotho's district hospitals and to successfully manage community-oriented practices. LeBoHA will continue to operate as a fully accredited institution for the next six years.

To find out how you can get involved with the GHC, contact Dr. Laura Goldman at lagoldma@bu.edu.

Recent Faculty Appointments



Stephen Huang, MD



Rebecca Lara, MD

The Program for **Integrative Medicine and Health Disparities** launched a Pilot resiliency and mindfulness training program for 300 BMC employees in the first half of 2016 called **Breathe Move Connect (B-M-C)**.

The purpose of the **Breathe Move Connect** initiative is to use mindfulness techniques to aid in the resiliency and well-being of the BMC healthcare workforce. Throughout this program employees will learn skills to manage stress, build resiliency and increase their well-being, ultimately leading to improved patient care.

The Pilot features content and best practices from the Program's research and interventions, and is a collaborative effort with Human Resources and the Wellness Committee, and is led by our own staff of designers, facilitators, and evaluators. The larger goal is to bring training to every employee across BMC. All Family Medicine staff are welcome to participate!

[Sign up](#) for an informational session led by **Rob Saper** or **Paula Gardiner** over the coming weeks.

Upcoming Events

Match Day
March 18th

Mass AFP Meeting and Spring Refresher
March 18-19

Committee Report-Outs at 8:00am Faculty Meeting
March 29th

MA AFP FM Advocacy Day at the State House
April 6th

Patriot's Day
April 18th

STFM Annual Spring Conference, Minneapolis, MN
April 30th-May 4th

Welcome new faculty!



Jessica Gray, MD



TuMai Tran, MD



Aileen Roman, MD

Instructor-led Training Opportunities are being offered by IS&T on topics such as BUworks, Basic Video Editing, Blackboard Learn, Classroom Technology Equipment, Skype for Business/Lync, Microsoft Excel 2013, Microsoft PowerPoint, NVivo, Qualtrics, Wordpress, & Research Computing.

For more information and to sign up click [here](#)!

Faculty Publications & Presentations

GLOBAL ADVANCES IN HEALTH AND MEDICINE



“Circles” by Katherine Gergen Barnett

This poetry piece was published in Global Advances in Health and Medicine. Click [here](#) to read more.

“Emergency Department Visits for Adverse Events Related to Dietary Supplements”

In the NEJM article on dietary supplement adverse events in the ED; (among the 39 citations listed, four of them were first authored papers of **Paula Gardiner** in the DFM). It's a powerful sign of the impact of her work. Congratulations Paula! To read the full article [here](#).



“We’re all in this together: A qualitative study of predominantly low income minority participants in a yoga trial for chronic low back pain.”

By: Julia E. Keosaian, Chelsey M. Lemaster, Danielle Dresner, Margo E. Godersky, Ruth Paris

Click [here](#) to read more.

“Group Medical Visits: The Future

By: Katherine Gergen Barnett

Click [here](#) to read more.



“Development of a Family Medicine Specialty Training Program (FMSTP) in Lesotho” was accepted for ORAL presentation at the CUGH 2016 conference which will be held in San Francisco, CA from April 9 to 11, 2016.

Are you conducting research with or on community health centers? Do you have an exceptional program that has improved care or reduced costs and can be replicated by other community health centers?

Consider submitting a poster abstract for the upcoming NACHC Community Health Institute!

Click [here](#) for more details.

Residency Highlights

Shout outs to:

Nikki Jackson for representing DFM residency at a BMC workgroup tasked with improving the BMC curriculum on social determinants of health .

Maria Wusu and **Marielle Baldwin** for their leadership of the DFM resident group who is also working on this issue!



Nikki Jackson



Maria Wusu



Marielle Baldwin



Sara Schlotterbeck

Medical residents seek to access prescription date

In the Boston Globe our very own **Sara Schlotterbeck, MD!**
Click [here](#) to read more!

Medical Student Education

STFM Academic Coordinators Group at the STFM Medical Student Educator



Workshop on Flipping a Classroom from the STFM MSE Conference



New Beginnings in the DFM Family



Congratulations to Gabe Johnson and family! Welcome baby Lucille "Lucy" born on January 31st!



Congratulations to Mansa Semenya and Fredrick Gitangu! They got married in Nashville, TN on August 28th & 29th!



Amola Shertukde and Jignesh Bhakta got married on November 11th! A big congratulations from your DFM family!

