

Statement from the Chair: Highlights of 2012

Established in 2006, the Department of Geriatrics shares the school's vision of becoming a preeminent community-based medical school that advances new models of academic excellence and community health care. The department holds the strong conviction that an important role for any medical school is service to the people of the community in which it is located.

Faculty members in the Department of Geriatrics advance new models of academic excellence by engaging in team based learning and service learning to expose students, residents, and fellows to the principles and practices of geriatric medicine and gerontology. In addition, the department constantly looks for opportunities to collaborate with community partners to identify and implement innovative approaches that provide optimal care for older adults with multimorbidity.

Some of the highlights of 2012 include:

- Sustaining a successful Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program,
- Enhancing educational activities for medicine residents,
- Maintaining previously implemented educational activities for family medicine residents,
- Continuing faculty participation in all 4 years of medical student education,
- Establishing a collaborative trauma service with the Department of Surgery with the goal of improving care for older adults admitted to Miami Valley Hospital after being injured in falls,
- Growing the geriatric medicine consult service at Miami Valley Hospital,
- Contributing to a successful Medicaid Technical Assistance and Policy Program (MEDTAPP) application, submitted by Dr. Ann Morrison in the Department of Psychiatry, that has provided resources to assist the School of Medicine in strengthening the interdisciplinary approach to improving the care of home bound older adults in the greater Dayton area,
- Participating in the first cohort of the CMS Innovation Advisors Program, and
- Receiving a gift of \$100,000 from the Wyatt Family Foundation to support the department's study of a Person-Centered Medical Home for People Living with Dementia.

Programs in the Department of Geriatrics

This relatively young and small department has one major program, the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship. Two important emerging programs are also described in this report: (1) the Person-Centered Medical Home for People Living with Dementia and (2) the development of a new course, *Issues in Aging*, that represents the first step in the process of creating an anticipated new area of focus in the MPH Public Health Management Concentration.

The Fellowship: Under the capable directorship of Dr. Steven Swedlund, this accredited program graduated one fellow and enrolled three FTE fellows in 2012.

The 2012 graduate of the program, Dr. Kristy Zechiel, has since joined Wright State Physicians. As a part time geriatrician with our group, she works at Miami Valley Hospital on the Trauma C Service, a collaborative effort between the Department of Surgery and the Department of Geriatrics. She also responds to hospital-wide geriatrics consult requests Tuesdays through Thursdays. In both Trauma C and geriatrics consultation activities, Dr. Zechiel provides clinical services and supervises geriatric medicine fellows, internal medicine residents, and medical students.

Two of our three 2012-2013 FTE fellows, Drs. Andy Diller and Laura Bedrossian, are recipients of Kettering Family Scholarships and plan to enter practices in the Dayton area after completing their fellowship training in summer 2013.

The third 2012-2013 FTE fellowship position is shared by two internists who are completing the 12-month fellowship over two years. Dr. Michael Markus has been in practice in Dayton and involved in teaching in the BSOM Department of Medicine for a number of years. Dr. Irina Overman completed a year as Chief Resident in the Department of Medicine. Each of these physicians spends two-month blocks of time in the fellowship alternating with two-month blocks as attending physicians in the Department of Medicine. Both plan to practice geriatric medicine in Dayton after completion of fellowship training July 2014.

The Person-Centered Medical Home for People Living with Dementia: Thanks to a generous gift from the Wyatt Family Foundation and mentoring from staff and colleagues in the CMS Innovation Advisors Program, we have completed pilot work using a PCMH approach to improving care for people with dementia. Our vision is to have a fully operational, financially competitive model of care based on the principles of the PCMH for up to 200 households of people with moderate to severe dementia in the Dayton area by January 2015. When fully operational, our model will meet the CMS 3-part aim of better care, better health,

and lower cost by demonstrating a 25% reduction in emergency department visits, 25% fewer hospital admissions, 25% fewer 30-day hospital readmissions, and 10% more completion of advance care directives than comparable patients receiving usual care. We also aim to create a template for a business plan that any healthcare organization can use to develop, implement, and sustain home-based, person-centered dementia care for people with moderate to severe dementia. Our completed pilot work suggests that 24/7 telephone access to a member of the PCMH team can be delivered for \$ 75.60 / month for a new person with dementia and caregivers, which decreases to \$ 40.47 / month after about three months when trust develops between the caregivers and members of the PCMH team. Additional pilot data showed that 7% of the calls would have resulted in an emergency department visit had there not been access to a PCMH team member. The potential savings from avoiding these visits may more than offset the cost of the 24/7 access. Members of the department, a community advisory board, and the local Alzheimer's Association are working now on final recruitment and enrollment plans.

Developing a New Course on Aging: Along with faculty members from the Department of Community Health and the College of Nursing and Health, the College of Liberal Arts, the School of Professional Psychology, and the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Department of Geriatrics participated in the development of an interdisciplinary course on aging to be offered during spring semester 2013. Discussions with Dr. William Spears and others are underway to create a proposal to offer *Public Health and the Aging Population* as a new area of focus in the MPH Public Health Management Concentration.

Full Time Faculty

The Department of Geriatrics has three full time faculty members. They are Larry Lawhorne, Steven Swedlund, and Gordana Gataric.

Dr. Larry Lawhorne is Professor and Chair of the Department of Geriatrics. He is board certified in Family Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. In addition to serving on the Executive Committee of the Boonshoft School of Medicine and the Board of Directors of Wright State Physicians, he participates in both clinical and teaching activities in the department. Nationally, he was selected as a member of the first cohort in the Innovation Advisor Program sponsored by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). At the state level, he is a consultant with the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center and the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services on a BSOM contract titled *Direct Service Workforce Project: Providing Training and Career Pathways for Ohio's Long-Term Care Workforce*. Locally, he is on the Board of Directors of the Area Agency on Aging and the Alzheimer's Association Miami Valley. He chairs the Montgomery County Frail Elderly Services Advisory Committee and is a member of the Human Services Levy Council for Montgomery County.

Dr. Steven Swedlund is an Assistant Professor and Program Director for the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship. He is board certified in Family Medicine and Geriatrics. Dr. Swedlund was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha in April 2012 and is a past recipient (2010-2011) of the Special Award for Teaching Excellence presented by the Department of Medicine. He is Treasurer of the Ohio Geriatrics Society and is a founding member of the Montgomery County Collaboration Against Abuse Neglect and Exploitation of older adults. His clinical activities include office-based care of older adults as well as care delivery in the home, the hospital, and assisted living and nursing facilities. In addition to his supervisory role in coordinating the educational programs for the fellowship, he delivers sessions on a wide variety of topics and precepts medical students, residents and fellows across the continuum of care.

Dr. Gordana Gataric is an Assistant Professor. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Medical Directors Association (OMDA) and has chaired the poster session for OMDA's annual meeting for the past two years. Her clinical work spans the spectrum of care with emphasis on home visits and the care of older adults in assisted living facilities. She is the physician that the Area Agency on Aging is most likely to call when vulnerable elders require timely assessments in order to apply for Medicaid.

Teaching

The three full time faculty members of the department are involved in teaching learners at all levels of medical education. The table below describes specific activities.

Specific Activities	Participants
ICM 1 and 2	LL, GG, SS
Human Development	LL
SEIM	LL, GG
FM Clerkship Geriatrics TBL	LL, SS
FM Clerkship Home Visits	GG, SS, LL
Service Learning, Alzheimer's Association	LL
Geriatrics Elective, MS4	LL, GG, SS
FM Residents on Geriatrics Rotation	SS, GG, LL
IM Residents on Geriatrics Rotation	GG, SS, LL
End of Life Workshop for all residents, DAGMEC	SS
Geriatric Medicine Fellows	SS, GG, LL
Planning for Issues in Aging, a University course delivered in Spring semester 2013	LL, GG, SS

Key: LL = Larry Lawhorne; GG = Gordana Gataric; SS = Steven Swedlund

Scholarly Activity

Publications:

1. Lawhorne L. The medical director's role in the state survey and dispute resolution. *J Am Med Dir Assoc*. 2013 Jan;14(1):4-5. doi: 10.1016/j.jamda.2012.05.001. Epub 2012 Jun 9.
2. Bharwani G, Parikh PJ, Lawhorne LW, VanVlymen E, Bharwani M. Individualized behavior management program for Alzheimer's/dementia residents using behavior-based ergonomic therapies. *Am J Alzheimers Dis Other Demen*. 2012 May;27(3):188-95. doi: 10.1177/1533317512443869. Epub 2012 Apr 19.
3. Pretorius RW, Gataric G, Swedlund SK, Miller JR. Reducing the risk of adverse drug events in older adults. *Am Fam Physician*. 2013 Mar 1;87(5):331-6.
4. Swedlund SK, Pretorius RW. Education Column: Geriatric home assessment. *STFM Messenger*. March 3, 2012.

Presentations:

1. Lawhorne L. Distinguishing Dementia, Delirium, and Depression in Older Adults. Michigan Department of Health's Annual Conference on Aging. East Lansing, Michigan. May 8, 2012.
2. Lawhorne L. A Patient Centered Home for People with Dementia. Alzheimer's Association International Conference 2012. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. July 16, 2012.
3. Lawhorne L. Medical and Legal Issues in the Care of Older Adults. Annual Salt Fork Geriatrics Conference. October 13, 2012.

Posters:

1. Zechiel K, Gataric G, Swedlund S. Serotonin Syndrome in Older Adults. Ohio Medical Directors Association Annual Meeting. Columbus, Ohio. August 2012.
2. Lawhorne L. Posterior Cerebral Atrophy: An Unusual Case of Dementia in a 58 Year Old Woman. Ohio Medical Directors Association Annual Meeting. Columbus, Ohio. August 2012.

Reviewers:

1. Dr. Lawhorne is on the editorial board and reviews manuscripts for the *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*.
2. Drs. Gataric and Lawhorne review grant proposals for the national Alzheimer's Association.

Grants and Contracts:

1. Lawhorne (PI): Wyatt Family Foundation for Person Centered Dementia Care. \$100,000.
2. Lawhorne (consultant): Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center and the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services on a BSOM contract titled *Direct Service Workforce Project: Providing Training and Career Pathways for Ohio's Long-Term Care Workforce*. \$ 26,958.
3. Lawhorne, Gataric, and Swedlund (co-investigators): *Preparing Tomorrow's Workforce to Care for an Aging Ohio: Focus on Older Adult Medicaid and Dual Eligible Populations* (PI: Ann Morrison, MD). \$ 157,302.
4. Lawhorne. CMS Innovation Advisor Program. \$ 20,000.

Service Activity

In addition to the areas of service already mentioned, members of the faculty were involved in the following activities in 2012:

1. Dr. Gataric served on the BSOM CME Committee and the MVH Quality of Documentation Committee.
2. Dr. Swedlund served on the BSOM Graduate Medical Education Committee and chaired the MVH Patient and Family Education Committee.
3. Dr. Lawhorne is a member of the Clinical Chairs Committee, chaired the BSOM Faculty Development and Advancement Committee, and co-chaired the Search Committee for the Dean of the BSOM.

Patient Care Summary

In 2012, Drs. Gataric, Lawhorne, and Swedlund had an ambulatory practice at the Ollie Davis Building prior to moving to the Medical Office Building on the campus of Wright State University. All three faculty members see patients on home visits, in the hospital (Trauma C and Geriatric Medicine Consults), in assisted living and nursing facilities, and in the hospice setting. Call is shared equally among the three physicians. The department also has a contract to provide medical direction for Acclaim Hospice.

April 30, 2013

Larry W. Lawhorne, MD