



# In Touch

Physician Leadership Development Program Newsletter

Fall 2015

Vol. 3 Issue 1



|  |   |
|--|---|
| Celebrating the Class of 2015                                    | 1 |
| PLDP student updates   | 1 |
| Alumni updates   | 2 |
| The Ladder comes to Dayton                                       | 2 |
| Quality improvement processes, Prakash Vemulapalli, M.D., M.B.A. | 3 |
| In Review: PLDP fall events                                      | 4 |

## Celebrating the Class of 2015



**Betty Cheney, M.D., M.P.H.**

Congratulations to the newest alumna of the Physician Leadership Development Program! Betty Cheney received her MD degree alongside 94 of her colleagues during the 35th Boonshoft School of Medicine Commencement and Hooding Ceremony on May 22, 2015. She was honored at commencement with the 2015 USPHS Excellence in Public Health Award.

Betty completed her MPH degree in 2013, in 2014 was inducted into the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health, and in 2015 was the first recipient of the Delta Omega Dr. John D. and Gretchen H. Bullock Endowed Public Health/Medicine Award. Betty was a 2013 inductee into the Boonshoft School of Medicine chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Betty matched into the pediatrics residency at the University of Florida Health Shands Hospital in Orlando.

## PLDP student updates



**Rebecca Beesley, M.P.H., (Class of 2016)** received the John C. Gillen Award for Family Medicine for her performance during her third-year clerkship.



**Neil Knight (Class of 2018)** is the graduate assistant for the PLDP program fall semester 2015. He was recently selected to cochair the student-led LCME accreditation process at Boonshoft School of Medicine.



**Chait Bukkapatnam (Class of 2018)** is a graduate assistant for the M.B.A. program during the 2015-16 academic year.



**Jasmin Scott-Hawkins, M.P.H. (Class of 2016)** received the 12th Annual Oliver Goldsmith, M.D., Scholarship for the Promotion and Advancement of Culturally Responsive Care in May

2015. She also received two awards in October 2015: an American Psychiatric Association (APA) Minority Medical Student Travel Scholarship and an American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) Life Members Mentorship Grant.



**Nicole Craker, M.P.H., (Class of 2016)** is one of 19 students nationally to receive the AMA 2015 Physicians of Tomorrow Award. She is the fourth BSOM and the second PLDP student since 2012

to receive this prestigious award. Nikki also received the James B. Peoples Silver Scalpel Award for her performance during her third-year clerkship.

### Physician Leadership Development Program

Center for Global Health  
3123 Research Blvd.  
Suite 200  
Kettering, OH 45420

#### Sabrina Neeley, Ph.D., M.P.H.

PLDP Program Director  
Tel: 937.775.3316  
sabrina.neeley@wright.edu

#### Carla Lachecki, M.A.

PLDP Program Coordinator  
Tel: 937.258.5554  
carla.lachecki@wright.edu

[medicine.wright.edu/pldp](http://medicine.wright.edu/pldp)

## Alumni updates



**Brad Haverkos, M.D., M.P.H., ('09)** is an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado.



**Breanna Bolivar, M.D., M.P.H., ('12)** is the chief resident in OB/Gyn at Mountain Area Health Education Center in Asheville, North Carolina.



**Kelly Estes, M.D., M.P.H., ('12)** served as chief resident this past year at University of Virginia in Emergency Medicine. She is now on to a sports medicine fellowship at The Ohio State University.



**Chad Garven, M.D., M.P.H., ('12)** served as co-chief resident this past year at Trident/MUSC Family Medicine Residency in Charleston, SC. He is now working in Cleveland, OH for a Federally Qualified Health Center.



**Thomas Hagele, M.D., M.B.A., ('12)** is chief resident at University of South Florida in dermatology. He will be working in the rural area of Licking County, Ohio next year after residency.



**Pooja Lahoti, M.D., M.B.A., ('12)** is practicing family medicine at American Health Network of Ohio, Delaware, Ohio.



**Colleen Badke, M.D., M.P.H., ('13)** will be the chief resident at Northwestern McGaw/Lurie Children's Hospital in 2016.



**Shamie Das, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., ('13)** is the Emergency Medicine Resident Representative for Emory University in the Georgia College of Emergency Physicians. He is also the chair of the Resident and Fellow Section of the Medical Association of Georgia.



**Lakshman Swamy, M.D., M.B.A., ('13)** will be the chief medical resident and VA chief in internal medicine at Boston University's medical center and will be cochair of the IHI National Forum in December.

## The Ladder: Lift as you climb, build as



**Dayton Leadership met with Dr. Crichlow (second from left) in November.**

Inspired by a presentation given at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine conference, Wright State family medicine residents Dr. Meaghan Ebetino (M.D, M.P.H. and PLDP alumna) and Dr. Ace Choksy decided to bring to Dayton a new mentoring organization called The Ladder. Dr. Choksy explains his motivation for bringing The Ladder to Dayton. "This is what our North Dayton Five Rivers community needs. Kids need a place to belong to and feel the love and support. They need to be exposed to what's out there in the medical world. The Ladder will attempt to encourage these kids to experience a new medical world that they haven't seen before."

Many current and former PLDP students are involved with organizing and coordinating The Ladder. Dr. Ebetino serves as co-chair, and current PLDP students Nick Christian, Michael Robertson, and Kara Yutzy serve on the leadership board. PLDP is pleased to have a presence in this organization which will positively affect so many lives.

Therese Zink, M.D., chair of the Family Medicine Department at Wright State, says, "The Ladder based at the WSU Family Medicine Residency clinic (Five Rivers) near Good Samaritan gives us the opportunity to foster relationships in the community and grow the next generation of health care professionals to serve the region."

The Ladder was founded by Dr. Renee Crichlow, a family physician working in the underserved area of northern Minneapolis where she noticed a disturbing trend. Although many of her young patients said they wanted to be a doctor when they grow up, as a member of the admissions committee at the medical school level, she did not see any of them coming through the application process to get into medical school.

Not willing to let the matter slide, she investigated the situation further. She came to realize that although these young patients of hers wanted to become doctors or other healthcare workers, they did not have role models in their lives to show them the path to fulfill their dream. The Ladder sprang up as a way to fill the gap for these young patients.

At a visit to Dayton in November, Dr. Crichlow explained how the program works. The Ladder encourages young people in the community to envision themselves in future health care careers. Medical "scholars" from all age groups, from 9-99 years of age, may attend the Saturday meetings to learn about health topics. Health care professionals of all levels of education are also invited to attend. Physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, medical students, undergraduate students, and middle, junior, and high school students interact with one another in a type of cascading mentorship.

## you grow

At the beginning of meetings, the attendees “build the ladder,” meaning that they line up from highest level of training to lowest level of grade school. Numbering off splits attendees into intergenerational groups that sit together to share a meal and talk about quotes selected for discussion that day.

The last part of the meeting includes the learning activity, a fun and interactive way to learn new medical skills. “The learning activity is the part of the day where the younger students get even more excited about medicine. They get exposure to fun medical tools that they otherwise would not know about, and it keeps them interested in moving towards a career in medicine,” says Kara Yutzky (M.D./M.P.H. candidate, class of 2018).

The Ladder has already garnered quite a bit of interest in the Wright State community, and it is easy to see why. This program has great potential to influence not only the future of the young people who choose to

participate but provide a unique experience for medical scholars who choose to serve as mentors.

Allie Lawson (M.D./M.P.H. candidate, class of 2018) plans to volunteer with The Ladder. “I am interested in working with The Ladder because it is an opportunity to directly engage with the community and talk about health issues in a non-clinic setting. Because you don’t have the pressure of the white coat, you can engage in deeper discussions about health issues and have more time for education.”

Health profession students and health care professionals interested in participating in The Ladder are encouraged to contact the program recruitment chairs, Michael Robertson, robertson.37@wright.edu or Nick Christian, christian.51@wright.edu.

### Prakash Vemulapalli, M.D., M.B.A., PLDP Class of 2012

## Introducing quality improvement processes at New York Presbyterian University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell



As an M.B.A. graduate from the PLDP, I’ve always been interested in innovation, technology adoption, and systems solutions within health care. However, my residency in emergency medicine at New York Presbyterian Hospital Columbia and Cornell lacked a process for residents to lead quality

improvement projects and incorporate new technologies into practice.

Our leadership and faculty advisors understood the importance of this work, and together we founded the iLAB at NYP in 2012. My co-residents and senior EM leadership developed a new framework, structure, and process to empower physicians, nurses, and staff to safely and efficiently develop, test, monitor, and improve innovative solutions for NYP. Specifically, we operationalized two key models: minimally viable solutions (MVS) and the plan-do-study-act (PDSA) models.

We adopted the MVS from the tech world. It involves designing the simplest possible solution to a problem and metrics for success prior to meeting with senior leadership.

Following approval, the PDSA model was used to implement a limited trial, usually concurrent to existing processes or technology, followed by review and further improvements.

Our team has successfully led several projects in the Cornell emergency room in reducing waiting times by 34 percent, introducing point-of-care testing carts which reduced time to CT scans by 30 minutes, and helped design a new fast-track for stable

patients that reduced average length of stay for those patients by one hour.

We proposed and are currently studying new tablet-based mobility solutions for providers in both the Columbia and Cornell emergency rooms. We’re looking to test new solutions around EKGs and discharge and follow-up solutions next. We see many opportunities for further innovation.

We’ve also spread this iLAB model to the global health world, when members of the iLAB team designed, implemented, and executed a large mobile health and chronic disease screening project at the Kumbh Mela in India. The Kumbh Mela is one of the largest human gatherings in the world and happens every few years in one of four cities in India. For example, in 2013, roughly 100 million people visited Allahabad over the course of two months.

In 2015, our team partnered with the state of Maharashtra in India to educate providers, designed a new paper form, rolled out a new tablet-based real-time data tool, and provided screening for chronic diseases like oral cancer, hypertension, and diabetes. Our disease surveillance tool captured 37,000 unique entries over 12 days and was able to successfully identify a diarrheal illness outbreak.

The PLDP provides its graduates with incredible training. My M.B.A. training gave me the language and framework to successfully execute several key projects during my residency, but I’m especially grateful for the additional exposure and training with the M.P.H. students.

The intersection between clinical and business worlds will continue to evolve and change dramatically over the next few years, and physicians will increasingly be required to lead those changes to protect patient care in the face of falling reimbursement. Future graduates of the PLDP will increasingly be called on to help lead many of the institutions that they work for through these changes.

## In Review: PLDP events



### **2015 Leadership Conference**

PLDP was a cosponsor of the Boonshoft School of Medicine 4th Annual Leadership Conference, October 17, 2015. More than 90 medical students and faculty attended. Craig Brammer, CEO of the Health Collaborative in Cincinnati, was the keynote speaker. Attendees had the opportunity to learn more about getting involved in various aspects of leadership and being a physician leader.

**Our Mission:** To develop leaders in medicine, health systems, and population health through education, communication, collaboration, advocacy, and experience

**Our Vision:** As students in the Physician Leadership Development Program pursuing integrated degrees in medicine, public health, and business administration, we envision an educational community of global citizens devoted to leadership development, community building, innovation, and advocacy