PFA Hosts Spouse Networking Event

PFA Welcomes Students & Their Spouses

The Parents & Family Association (PFA) Advisory Council works in close contact with its student representatives to plan activities that will be beneficial to all students. In the fall of 2014, the PFA sponsored its first Spouses Networking reception for all medical students and their significant others.

The event was attended by over 50 students and their guests. The attendees enjoyed appetizers, beverages and a drawing to win gift cards to restaurants and shopping in the Omaha area.

Most importantly, the students were able to bring spouses together to start building a support network.

Attendees spanned all four years of medical school, so the event also provided a unique opportunity for networking across the grades.

Special guests included PFA Advisory Council members and College of Medicine dean, Bradley Britigan, M.D. and his wife, Denise Britigan, Ph.D.

Class of 2018 Earns White Coats

Ceremony & Reception Held at Joslyn Art Museum

August 22 marked the annual College of Medicine white coat professionalism ceremony, a tradition that has outstanding support from the College of Medicine alumni. Each year, alumni sponsor all the white coats for the students, in addition to a reception for the students and their families following the ceremony. This year’s ceremony was held at the Joslyn Art Museum, where 131 new College of Medicine students donned their white coats for the first time.

Speakers at the ceremony included:
• College of Medicine dean Bradley Britigan, M.D.
• Fourth year medical student Sarah Synovec
• Robert Wigton, M.D., who presented the History of the College of Medicine
• College of Medicine Alumni Chapter president William Vosik, M.D. ’67

There ceremony was emceed by Gerald Moore, M.D., senior associate dean for academic affairs.

see White Coat pg 5
I’m hopeful all had a wonderful and safe holiday season. Second semester is around the corner with new and exciting challenges ahead. First semester brought unique experiences and challenges for UNMC. As the whole world watched, “extraordinary care” and treatment were provided to three Ebola patients in the Bio-containment Unit. UNMC has been on the global stage in setting standards and providing education and leadership for Ebola care to health care leaders across the country, as well as clinicians and the general public.

TIME magazine voted Ebola Fighters as “Person of the Year” for 2014 and the Omaha World-Herald has chosen Nebraska Ebola Fighters as “Midlanders of the Year” for 2014. Well deserved honors for a dedicated team of UNMC physicians, nurses, scientists, researchers, therapists, technicians, and especially, the leadership team. Congratulations to all who participated in the care of these patients and their families.

New to UNMC College of Medicine Parent & Family Association Advisory Committee for the class of 2018 are Wendi Grogan (Omaha), Staci Cannon (Kearney), and Greg and Sheria Post (Lincoln).

Best wishes to all medical students as you finish this academic year, preparing for exams, travel, interviews, rotations, and all other activities in which you are involved.

Sincerely,

Joan Nelson, BSN, RN
President
College of Medicine Parents & Family Association
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Part of the Match Day tradition is students mark their residency on a map, in front of their classmates, family, and friends.

M4 Parents: Match Day is March 20, 2015

Students to Learn Residency Placements

This is an important reminder to the families of fourth year medical students (M4s), UNMC College of Medicine’s “Match Day” ceremony will be one of several held nationwide on that day.

This year, Match Day will be held on Friday, March 20, 2015 at the UNMC Truhslen Campus Events Center beginning at 11:00 AM.

During the past several months and in the weeks ahead, the M4 students have been very busy setting up meetings and traveling across the country interviewing with multiple residency programs.

After completing their interviews, each student registers with the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP), a company that manages a national computer database on the students and the various residency programs. The students rank and upload their medical program preferences with the NRMP. Similarly, each medical program ranks the M4 applicants interviewed in their preferred order. The NRMP service then sorts the data and pairs up the student applicants with the medical programs according to the preferences of both parties.

The results are generated on Match Day and the students find out their location of residency. Neither the applicant nor the medical programs are allowed to discuss ranking or commitment prior to Match Day.

You are invited to participate in this exciting event in your student’s education as their next destination is determined and they become deeply involved in preparation for their residency assignment.

This is a culmination of four years of very hard work by the students and is an exciting, and sometimes stressful, day for them.

In addition, the Match Day ceremony is planned and executed entirely by the students, which means there are often surprises in store for families. You won’t want to miss it!

Please join us in wishing the M4 students the best!
“I am honored and humbled to be a medical student here at UNMC and try to not take the many opportunities I am given for granted.”

-Hugh Hiller

Student Feature:
Hugh Hiller, M2

Editor’s Note: This article originally appeared in InterCOM, a publication from the UNMC College of Medicine.

In his own words: I was born in Rock Springs, Wyo. into a wonderful family. We moved around a lot while I was a kid, living in Laramie, Wyo., and Tucson, Ariz. My parents finally moved back to Scottsbluff a few years ago after my dad retired from his careers as a professor of agriculture and a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Special Forces.

I owe the majority of my academic success to my mother, who is still the smartest woman I know and without a doubt the best cook. I have an older sister who is a first lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps and is stationed at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio. She is my hero and biggest role model.

After graduating from Creighton University in 2013, I was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and will proudly serve as a physician in the Army Medical Corps when I graduate from medical school. I am honored and humbled to be a medical student here at UNMC and try to not take the many opportunities I am given for granted.

Activities:
• President and co-founder of the UNMC Military Medicine Interest Group
• Philanthropy chair, College of Medicine Class of 2017
• Board member, Emergency Medicine Interest Group
• Member of an intramural volleyball team (Ace Inhibitors) and a broom ball team (Broom Shakalaka)

Hobbies:
I love running and anything that involves athletic activity. When possible, I enjoy cooking on weekends while listening to old country music. If there is a rodeo within 100 miles and I don’t have a test the next day, I’ll be in the front row.

Staying Balanced:
I am a firm believer that in order to stay sane in medical school, there have to be certain things you refuse to give up no matter how busy life gets. For me, physical activity is a must. I try to start every day in the gym. I also talk to my family at least once a day even if only for a few minutes.

Three things people may not know about you:
• I worked in a body shop in Tucson that rebuilt classic cars that were often purchased by owners of professional sports teams and foreign dignitaries.
• If you ever need to sling-load a Humvee to the bottom of a helicopter, I am your guy. I had the opportunity to learn this valuable skill at the U.S. Army Sabalauski Air Assault School while I was in college.
• I have no self-control when it comes to a bowl of cookie dough, a pen of good bucking horses, or a showroom of classic cars.

Second year medical student Hugh Hiller. Hugh is a 2009 graduate of Salpointe Catholic High School, in Tucson, Ariz., and a 2013 graduate of Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., where he majored in biology with a minor in military science.
UNMC News Briefs

UNMC, Nebraska Medicine Share Ebola Expertise
UNMC has gained national and international attention for the treatment of three patients brought to the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit for treatment for the Ebola virus (a fourth patient is currently under observation in the unit after a high risk exposure - so far this patient is not ill). Based on this experience and with knowledge from the experts working in the Biocontainment Unit, UNMC and its primary clinical partner, Nebraska Medicine, have launched two free online Ebola education courses. The downloadable courses provide easy-to-understand instruction and resources for health care professionals, as well as the general public. Read more information and instructions on how to download the courses.

UNMC, Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital team on new program, services
UNMC and its clinical partner, Nebraska Medicine, have entered into an agreement with Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital to provide physician and academic services at a new Madonna rehabilitation and long-term care hospital being built in west Omaha. Madonna's Omaha campus also will become the primary training site for a new, UNMC-supported residency program in physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R), the first such program in Nebraska and one of the few in the upper Midwest region. As part of the agreement, UNMC will develop a new department of physical medicine and rehabilitation within its College of Medicine. Read more.

Ground Broken on New UNMC Outpatient, Surgery Center
On Friday, November 14, ground was officially broken on the Lauritzen Outpatient Center & Fritch Surgery Center, which is currently under construction at 41st and Emile streets on the UNMC campus. The Fritch Surgery Center is a suite of 10 state-of-the-art operating rooms specifically designed for outpatient procedures. Four of the operating rooms will be dedicated to ophthalmic surgery affiliated with the Truhlsen Eye Institute. The Lauritzen Outpatient Center also will house a number of outpatient clinics, which are currently located in different areas around the medical center campus. The building's top floor, supported by a gift from Ruth and Bill Scott, will house UNMC Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation research laboratories and educational space. Read more about the project and the donors who helped make it happen.

White Coat Continued from pg 1

The class is another exceptional and highly-qualified group of students. Here are some interesting facts about the class of 2018:

• A total of 1,612 students applied, including 285 Nebraskans.
• Only 8 percent of the total applicant pool was accepted.
• The entering class is comprised of 105 Nebraskans, about 82%.
• The students had a 3.78 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) and a 3.71 GPA in science classes.
• Some of the undergraduate majors of this class include: anthropology, biology, biochemistry, religion, physics, political science, biomedical engineering, molecular biology, neuroscience, nursing and nutrition, among others.

College of Medicine
Legacy Families
Did you get your picture taken as part of the College of Medicine legacy families tradition?

If so, your pictures are available online on the College of Medicine Alumni Chapter’s Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/unmcMedicinealumni

M1 Alexander Caniglia with his parents Ron Caniglia, M.D. ’87 and Bonnie Caniglia.
"There’s An App For That"

App Puts UNMC Resources at Student Fingertips

The UNMC Student Senate led the charge on campus to develop a UNMC mobile app for students, faculty and staff.

The mobile app became available for download in the summer of 2014.

“Our Student Senate envisions the app will provide our students at UNMC an integral resource for centralized information and communication,” said Student Senate President Krupa Savalia.

The Student Senate is continually collecting input for future releases of the app. “We look forward to constructive feedback in the months to come as we optimize this app, which was made in partnership between the Student Senate, ITS and our administration.”

The app was design by UNMC ITS in collaboration with the Student Senate.

Features include:
- Easy access to emergency numbers and the UNMC Hotline.
- A link to UNMC news, sortable and searchable by college.
- A campus events calendar, sortable and searchable by college.
- A classified ads board for books, instruments, housing options and other items.
- Easy access to the public directory for students, faculty, staff and administrators.
- A tool to provide feedback on campus activities and issues.
- An interactive campus map.
- Room schedules for the Sorrell Educational Rooms.
- Access to the McGoogan Library’s catalog.
- Access to Blackboard Learn material
- Access to your own student records.
- A sports feed on University of Nebraska teams, as well as the Creighton Bluejays.
- A link to campus student health services, including phone numbers, hours and other information.
- Access to UNMC videos.
- Easy access to UNMC student and university-wide policies and procedures.
- Links to UNMC social media and UNMC Care (campus records).

More information about the app can be viewed at www.unmc.edu/mobile.

The app is available for download in the App Store or from Google Play.

Calendar

PFA Advisory Council Meeting
February 10 | 6:30 p.m.
UNMC Alumni House

Match Day
March 20 | 11 a.m.
UNMC Truhlsen Campus Events Center

Spring Recess M1 & M2
March 16 - 22

Spring Recess M3 & M4
March 30 - April 5

Nebraska Science Festival
April 10 -18
Omaha, NE

Honors Convocation & Hooding Ceremony (M4)
May 8 | 2 p.m.
Holland Performing Arts Center

Commencement
May 9 | 9 a.m.
Ralston Arena

PFA Advisory Council Meeting
June 9 | 6:30 p.m.
UNMC Alumni House
Contact Us

The Parents & Family Association Advisory Council gets administrative support from the UNMC Alumni Relations Office. For more information about our organization, contact Roxanna Jokela, Alumni Director at 402.559.4378 or rjokela@unmc.edu.


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Kent & Rochelle Forney
Stephen Brennan, Ph.D.

Student Graduation Year
2015
2016
2016
2015
2015
2016
2017
2017
2016

Thank You!

In the fall of 2014, the PFA Advisory Council sent its annual solicitation to parents seeking contributions to support the activities in the year ahead. We truly appreciate all the support we received. Your generous donations will go a long way to support our activities that benefit all medical students!