



Hubert-Yeargan Center Happenings

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Our Mission:

"To mentor a future generation of students and health care professionals to become globally experienced, socially responsible, service-oriented citizens so that they may work towards reducing the burden of disease and health inequalities."

Director's Holiday Message

Dear Friends,

Despite the fiscal challenges of the last year, thanks to the generosity of our many supporters, our good fortune in preparing successful grant applications, and the blessing of friendships with our partners around the globe, we have been able to both sustain our initiatives and develop new and exciting opportunities for collaboration.

This year has been a year of many firsts. We have developed a medical student rotation at Xavier University, Philippines; placed our first Fogarty Scholars in Moshi, Tanzania; graduated our first OB Global Health Resident while expanding the program into Emergency Medicine,

Cardiology, and Infectious Diseases; started the development of a Cardiovascular Pulmonary Diseases Center of Excellence in Eldoret, Kenya; opened up two month rotations for Pediatric Residents; sent our first Medicine Residents for three month elective rotations to the Teaching Hospital Karapitiya in Sri Lanka; and started a collaboration with the National University of Rwanda to train maternity providers in emergency obstetric care.

We have been busy! We have assembled a fantastic team, which while small in numbers, has enough energy and enthusiasm to accomplish more than a team ten times its size!



Thanks to all of you for your generous financial support, but most importantly, for your friendship and dedication to the support of our mission.

Ralph Corey, MD

Creating a Cardiovascular Pulmonary Disease Center of Excellence in Eldoret, Kenya

In June, after nine tedious months of proposal development, Moi University School of Medicine, in partnership with Duke University Medical Center and other ASANTE institutions, Indiana and Brown University, was awarded a five-year contract from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to establish a Center of Excellence (COE) in Cardiovascular Pulmonary Disease (CVPD). Sylvester Kimaiyo, MBChB, Principal Investigator at Moi, says CVPD is becoming a leading cause of death in Kenya, and there are very few resources available to fight it. "We hope



COE faculty and staff: from left (top) Jerry Bloomfield, Eric Velazquez, Sylvester Kimaiyo, Joseph Mamlin, Samson Ndege; (bottom) Myra Maghasi, Shamim Ali, Cynthia Binanay

to use this opportunity to conquer heart and lung disease in much the same way we are doing with HIV." The funds will be used to train clinically-savvy investigator

researchers and initially support several studies focused on heart failure, hypertension, and indoor air pollution in Kenya.



Cooking inside huts as depicted above is a major cause of chronic respiratory diseases, particularly for women and young girls.



East Meets West — Chris May at Beijing Hospital

“Several people have asked me to share my most memorable experience of being abroad. I would have to say that it was more of a continuum of experiences I had in building relationships with Chinese residents and faculty. I learned much about China, its people, and customs, as well as the resident’s lives and aspirations. I developed what I trust will be life-long friendships with my Chinese colleagues.

One of my most meaningful

patient encounters was caring for an elderly gentleman with metastatic lung cancer. He was a professor of archaeology and greatly enjoyed my daily visits. We had several interesting discussions concerning the complex relationship between China and America. He was convinced, as am I, that the relationship between our two countries



Chris May, Internal Medicine resident, worked at Beijing Hospital for three months

would be the most important international relationship of the 21st century. We agreed it was of paramount importance to have many young denizens of our countries visit the other’s to build meaningful relationships among everyday people.

I found it difficult to leave my newfound friends, but as my wonderful host, Dr. Chen Hao, explained by way of an ancient Chinese idiom, ‘Even the grandest banquet must come to an end.’ And so it did.”

Reflections on a Rotation in Sri Lanka

“Spending three months in Sri Lanka has not only furthered my interest in pursuing a career in public and global health, but has also helped shaped the focus of my future research interests. I had always thought about working in a hospital abroad, but what I took away from this experience was that these hospitals don’t need a U.S. physician trying to take the place of a Sri Lankan doctor; what they need is a consistent connection to a flow of resources – financial, academic, and institutional – that will advance the way they provide medical care for their population in a sustainable long-term way.

In the first week of being on the Karapitiya Hospital medicine wards, I knew we were going to have a very different environment to practice inpatient medicine than on the eighth floor of Duke Hospital. With so many contrasts between the two hospitals, what struck me most was what we and the Sri Lankan residents ultimately had in common. We struggled with ICU beds being taken and having to

manage patients on the floor, with miscommunications between interns and surgical residents, with attendings demanding workups for esoteric diseases, with nurses who had missed a set of vitals, with junior residents unwilling to discharge patients days after their acute problem had been managed. We shared a social life of talking about our patients, medicine, and the hospital, wishing for more hours in the day to spend with our families and friends.



Neela Goswami, above, and her husband Robi, (not pictured) were our first residents to work at Karapitiya Hospital

The resource limitations we faced on the wards were a

continual reminder of how much more challenging it was to work at Karapitiya. We saw patients die because there weren’t enough ventilators to get them through a COPD flare, from toxic ingestions because the supply of antidote was out.

Then one day I came face-to-face with a much deeper difference between our experiences. We were having tea after rounds when the 2004 tsunami came up in conversation. Two

of the residents had been the interns on call and they began to tell the vivid story of bodies after bodies being brought to the hospital. They only had four ventilators at the time, and even though they knew there was no way to stabilize the hundreds of remaining patients with respiratory distress from aspiration, they desperately did chest compressions on men and women and children for hours, finally realizing the futility. And

then they were left with a 600-bed, 3-story morgue, with cadavers extending way beyond the hospital grounds. In the days that followed, they talked about not only the physical death that pervaded the town, but the hopelessness and resignation that was overwhelming. When international aid agencies came to provide medical help, they said there was such an influx of acetaminophen that in the following weeks, the most frequent admission was for acetaminophen overdose. Even now in 2009, the number of admissions I saw for attempted suicide in three months was more than I’d seen my entire three years at Duke. The background of the civil war between the government and Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), we discovered, was also part of this, as so many young men had died in battle, and mothers and wives were left to pick up the pieces. One of the Sri Lankan men working at the guesthouse where we lived told us about his brother dying in the war; even the mention of the city Jaffna often stirred a distracted blank stare.”

Global Health Residency, a Growing Success

Last year, we launched the inaugural class of the Global Health Residency Program (GHRP). This year the program has seen significant growth in the breadth of departmental engagement, expanding into Cardiology, Emergency Medicine, and Infectious Disease.

The GHRP is a key reason top ranked applicants chose to train at Duke. "We have a much more socially-conscious group of medical students now, and that's translating over into residency programs where they can use the education they receive to address issues related to health disparities world-wide," said Nathan Thielman, MD, MPH, Director of the program.

Five residents and fellows from five disciplines joined the program this summer: Jerry Bloomfield, Cardiology; Erica Casey, Emergency Medicine; Lauren Franz, Psychiatry; Tom Holland, Infectious Diseases and Ruchi Puri, Ob/Gyn.



Global Health Residents
Clockwise from top left: **Brandi Vasquez, Holly Biggs, Erica Casey, Ruchi Puri, Stephen Parker, Tom Holland, and Lauren Franz.**



Maria Almond, center, will begin her field work in Tanzania this year under the mentorship of Julie Adams, former HYC trainee.

The program's multidisciplinary focus allows trainees to utilize innovative approaches from other specialties to better address challenges faced by patients and physicians at our partnering international sites.

Residents will engage in research projects that capture a spirit of creative thinking to positively affect the quality of medical care in resource-poor communities.

Projects include: Development of a Novel, Inexpensive device for the Management of Post-Partum Hemorrhage in Remote Settings; Use and Efficacy of E-Learning during Obstetrics and Gynecology Internship Training in East Africa; and Measuring the Prevalence of Congestive Heart Failure and Rheumatic Heart Disease in Western Kenya using a Portable Echocardiograph Machine.

MedShare International and Duke team up to send supplies to Kenya

In November, the Hubert Yeargan Center, with support from Duke's GH Plus Program, the Duke Global Health Institute, Engineering World Health, and MedShare (an Atlanta-based non-profit organization that redistributes surplus medical supplies to developing countries), sponsored a forty-foot container of medical equipment and supplies to Eldoret. Much of the equipment will be used in the newly built Reily Mother and Baby Hospital at MTRH as well as in the Center of Excellence. The shipment is en route to Kenya and scheduled to reach Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in January 2010.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this possible!

Fogarty Scholars in Moshi, Tanzania

This is the first year that Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center (KCMC) in Moshi, Tanzania has been designated as a Fogarty site. This distinction provides a unique opportunity for highly motivated US medical students and young physician counterparts from KCMC to experience clinical research training under the

mentorship of Duke Faculty.

The term began with an intensive orientation program on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD followed up by a couple days at Duke in July. This will be followed by approximately 10 months of intense research training at KCMC.

Our first scholars for 2009-

2010 are Malavika Prabhu from Stanford and Bariki Mchome, MD, from KCMC. They will be working on a number of projects including a study on the impact of psychosocial issues regarding maternal health, a cervical cancer study, and febrile illness project. They also already helped to spearhead a blood drive at KCMC.



Above, Fogarty scholars Malavika Prabhu (left) and Bariki Mchome (right) with HYC mentor and GHRP Program Director Nathan Thielman, MD, MPH (center)



Blood Drive at KCMC



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*On behalf of our
trainees, and everyone
whose lives their work
has touched,
Thank You for
supporting our
programs!
Happy Holidays!*

Won't You Consider Supporting Our Work? 2009 Statistics in Brief

In the current fiscal environment, health issues are more complex than ever. Please help us to train the next generation of health care providers to care for the global community. This holiday season, won't you please consider making a contribution?



Please make checks payable to:

**Duke University/Hubert-Yeargan Center for Global Health
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Durham, North Carolina 27715**

In 2009, the Hubert-Yeargan Center supported a total of thirty-two trainees. Duke trainees included undergraduates, medical students, residents, and fellows in medicine, psychiatry, cardiology, infectious diseases, emergency medicine, Ob/Gyn, and pediatrics. Trainees from foreign institutions included nurse midwives, medical students, and physicians studying Ob/Gyn, Gastroenterology, Pulmonology, Cardiology, Genome Sciences and Nephrology. Educational exchanges occurred with our partners in Brazil, Tanzania, Thailand, Australia, China, Sri Lanka, Rwanda, Philippines, Kenya, Nicaragua and New Mexico.