

# UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

## FAMILY MEDICINE NEWS

*March, 2006*

### **Awards & Honors**

Jason Wilbur, MD (Assistant Professor of Family Medicine), received the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine "New Faculty Scholar Award". The program provides scholarships to the STFM Annual Spring Conference for STFM members who in their first two years as full-time faculty exhibit outstanding leadership potential. Since its inception in 1988, this program has supported the attendance of 71 new faculty at the conference. The award is the STFM Foundation's initiative to develop leaders in the discipline. Attendance at national meetings is one way to help develop leaders and leadership skills. The award is for up to \$1,000 and is intended to cover travel and hotel expenses for attendance at the 2006 STFM Annual Spring Conference in San Francisco.

**Heart and Soul** – David Bedell, MD (Associate Professor of Family Medicine) and Michael Maharry, MD (1999 residency graduate and Assistant Professor of Family Medicine) were two of forty individuals recognized by the Iowa City Press Citizen as members of the community who live every day with passion. Below are excerpts from the February 22 issue of the Iowa City Press Citizen recognizing Drs. Bedell and Maharry:

He left the high life to make life better ... Twenty years ago David Bedell went from living in a large house on a lake near Seattle to living in a civil war-ravaged Third World country – and he do so by choice. In 1986, after a few months working in a practice to help pay off student loans, Bedell made a dramatic switch and moved to El Salvador in Central America as a volunteer with Concern America, an international refugee aid organization. He went from house-sitting for a fellow doctor to "staying in a mud hut with a corrugated steel roof", said Bedell. Planning to stay a couple years, Bedell remained in the country until 1994, two years after the civil war ended. He provided relief to refugee camps, developed community health projects and helped train health promoters who were natives of the country and served as physicians assistants. Bedell developed an interest in Spanish-speaking populations after witnessing communication problems while in medical school at the University of Washington. He did part of his residency in an area in eastern Washington with a large Hispanic population, but he wanted to do more. Bedell met his wife, Ruth, in El Salvador, and it is where his three children were born. "I think that's a good payoff," he said. Last November, Bedell received the Michael Doheny Humanitarian Award from Concern America. He said it came as a surprise, but he is proud of his work. That work, in a way, continues today. Bedell directs the Lone Tree Family Practice Center. When he started in 1995, two percent of his patients were Hispanic, he said. Now, about 50 percent are. His past work has increased his cultural sensitivity and allows him to better understand issues facing his patients, he said. "In some ways, I can get some of the appreciativeness," he said.

He models his life on a kids' book ... Not many people would say their role model is a tree, but Michael Maharry is the first to admit that is what he idolizes. But it's just not any tree – the "giving tree". It's a very simple story about giving willingly simply because you have something to give," he said about the Shel Silverstein book. Maharry knows all about giving simply because you have something to give. Aside from being a family physician at University Hospitals and an assistant professor in the College of Medicine, he also is the chairman of the Iowa City Historic Preservation Commission, a fund raiser for the Englert Theatre and Shelter House and a health care provider at the Iowa City Free Medical Clinic. "I have been given the good fortune of a wonderful upbringing, good health and, mostly, positive life course to this point," he said. "I seem to have an internal reminder going off that this good fortune needs to be passed along to patients, learners and those who may need it." Maharry passes along his talent to others on a daily basis. Not only does he serve as a role model to his students and patients, but he also has the opportunity to help preserve the community. After being in Iowa City for more than 13 years – not counting the three years when he was a child – he became interested in local homes and geography. "I have an overly passionate interest in preserving the historic nature of Iowa City neighborhoods," he said. Once older homes are demolished, the individual craftsmanship it took to build them is gone forever, he said. That is why he tries to save them. "I get the satisfaction that others may benefit as a result of what I have helped out with," he said.

### **PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS & PUBLICATIONS**

**Russian Invitation** – Paul James, M.D., Professor and Head, Department of Family Medicine and Iowa Academy of Family Physicians Endowed Chair in Rural Medicine, and Gerald Jogerst, M.D., Professor of Family Medicine, Mary Ristine Brodie Geriatrics Education Professor, and Director of Geriatrics Fellowship will attend the All-Russia Conference devoted to the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Department of Family Medicine at St. Petersburg Medical Academy of Postgraduate Studies May 15-16, 2006. Theme for the conference is “Family Medicine: Science, Practice and Training”. Drs. James and Jogerst will give presentations on “Family Medicine in USA: Priorities of Development” and “Elderly Patients”, respectively. The University of Iowa Department of Family Medicine and Saint Petersburg Medical Academy of Postgraduate Studies (MAPS) collaborated over the past ten years to training family medicine teachers who are now working at MAPS.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Family Medicine Refresher Course** is scheduled **April 4-7** at the Iowa Memorial Union. The course is sponsored by the Department of Family Medicine. The purpose of the course is to provide practicing family physicians a comprehensive overview of clinical issues relevant to contemporary family medicine. Lectures, case presentations, opportunities for questions and answers, a printed course syllabus – all combine to create a fast-moving and useful educational experience. The course should prove especially useful for those preparing themselves for examination by the American Board of Family Practice. Brochures will be mailed in February. For further information contact Pamela Hoogerwerf by telephone phone 319/384-7517 or email: [pamela-hoogerwerf@uiowa.edu](mailto:pamela-hoogerwerf@uiowa.edu).

On line applications are available at [www.uihealthcare.com/depts/med/familymedicine/news/refresher\\_course/index.html](http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/med/familymedicine/news/refresher_course/index.html). For those who did not register on-line last year, you must first CREATE an ACCOUNT. If you registered on-line last year, please use your login ID and password from 2005 to avoid record duplication. If you do not have last year's information, please contact The Center for Conferences at 1-800-551-9029.

**Family Medicine Alumni Reception** is scheduled **April 6**, 5:30-7:30 pm in the North Room of the Iowa Memorial Union. Current and former faculty, residents, staff and friends of the residency program are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served. The reception is held in conjunction with the annual Family Medicine Refresher Course April 4-7, 2006. Invitations were mailed in January. For further information contact Linda Streb Hoover (phone 319/384-7507; email: [linda-hoover@uiowa.edu](mailto:linda-hoover@uiowa.edu)).

**Graduation Banquet** – The 2006 Family Medicine Graduation Banquet is scheduled Saturday, **June 17**, in the Ballroom of the Iowa Memorial Union, with a 6 pm social hour, 7 pm dinner and 8 pm program honoring the 2005 Family Medicine residency and fellowship graduates: Jessica Lutz, DO (family medicine), Carver Nebbe, MD (family medicine-psychiatry) Sharon Steen, MD (family medicine), Andrea Venteicher, MD (family medicine), and Cynthia Weber, Pharm.D. (pharmacy residency).

## RESIDENCY NEWS

**Match** – The Family Medicine Department sponsors three training programs for medical students interested in family medicine careers: a three-year Family Medicine Residency Program, the three-year Pella Rural Track Residency Program and the five-year combined Family Medicine-Psychiatry Residency Program. Candidate interviews were completed weekdays November through January for July 2006 positions. The National Resident Matching Program results will be announced March 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Residency Calendar**

March 7	First-Year Resident Class Meeting; Family Medicine Conference Room; 12:15-1:00 pm
March 14	Second -Year Resident Class Meeting; Family Medicine Conference Room; 12:15-1:00 pm
March 21	Third-Year Resident Class Meeting; Family Medicine Conference Room; 12:15-1:00 pm
March 22	Residency Committee Meeting; Family Medicine Conference Room; 1:00-2:00 pm
March 28	Residency Forum (All Classes Meeting); Family Medicine Conference Room; 12:15-1:00 pm