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eCHECK-UP

An electronic newsletter for clinical faculty of The Commonwealth Medical College

Winter 2016

TCMC Economic Impact: \$65 Million

The Commonwealth Medical College (TCMC) announced the results of an economic and community impact study which showed that the college contributed \$65 million to northeastern and north central Pennsylvania and the commonwealth as a whole in its fiscal year (FY) 2014. The report was created by Tripp Umbach, a renowned research firm.

"In 10 years, TCMC grew from an idea among friends to an economic engine and significant employer for this region," said President and Dean Steven J. Scheinman, M.D. "When you combine our monetary impact with the thousands of volunteer hours delivered by our students and employees, it's clear we are a valuable benefit to not just to our local area, but the entire commonwealth."



Seen from left are: Atty. John Moses, TCMC board of trustees; Steven J. Scheinman, M.D., TCMC president and dean; Paul Umbach, founder and president, Tripp Umbach; Teri Ooms, executive director, The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development; Robert Durkin, president, The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce; Wico van Genderen, president and chief executive officer, Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce.

Significant findings:

- The economic impact of TCMC operations on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in FY14 equaled \$65.2 million (\$28.4 million direct impact and \$36.9 million indirect impact).
- TCMC supports 263 jobs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including 146 direct full-time equivalent positions representing jobs for 202 people directly employed by TCMC, and 117 indirect full-time equivalent positions.
- The statewide government revenue impact of TCMC equaled almost \$3.3 million in FY14.
- TCMC employees and students generate more than \$1.9 million annually in charitable donations and volunteer services, including almost \$800,000 donated to local charitable organizations and more than \$1.1 million in the value of volunteer time provided to area communities.
- TCMC increases access to education through its Regional Education Academy for Careers in Health – Higher Education Initiative (REACH-HEI), a pipeline program for disadvantaged students in northeastern Pennsylvania who are interested in health-related professions.

TCMC Datebook

Spring 2016 Keystone Symposium

Saturday, April 2
Topic: Opiate Addiction

Revisit Day

Saturday, April 9
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
for newly accepted students

Child Abuse Update A medical/legal event

April 28

Spring Regional Meetings

West

6 p.m., May 18, DiSalvo's Restaurant

Guthrie

6 p.m., May 19, Patterson Building

South

6 p.m., May 24, The Woodlands

North

6 p.m., May 26, TCMC

For more information contact:
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The Commonwealth Medical College

Department of Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development



Pictured Left to Right: Mary Theresa Mazur, Jill Schroth,
Gloria Colosimo and Andrea DiMattia

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eCHECK-UP is a publication of the Department of
Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development.

Newsletters will be published quarterly.
Submit items of interest to editor,
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The Commonwealth Medical College is committed
to non-discrimination in all employment and
educational opportunities.

eCHECK-IN

Updates from the Regional Deans

From the North

The academic year is progressing well, with our third year students switching between the modified LIC (longitudinal integrated curriculum) and blocks in January. Overall, the feedback for the change has been positive from both students and preceptors. The regional team continues to work on optimizing the educational experience, by making minor modifications as needed. In addition, the new elective (wide-ranging) and selective (neurology, pathology and radiology) experiences have been well received by students and preceptors. We hope that this will widen the exposure to different specialties and help with building core clinical skills as well. We wish the fourth year students the best for their interviews and upcoming match.

~Dr. Shubhra Shetty, Regional Associate Dean, North Campus

From the South

We are half way through the academic year and the regional team has been enjoying the bustle of student activity in and around the South campus office and the students are showing great enthusiasm as they move through their block and LIC rotations.

David Rupprecht, a third-year student, is the proud recipient of the 2015 Medical Student Professionalism and Service Award from the American College of Emergency Physicians. David was recognized for his compassion, professional behavior and service to the community within the specialty of emergency medicine. The late Richard O'Brien, M.D., past associate professor of medicine and faculty advisor of TCMC's Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG), nominated Rupprecht for the award because of his dedication to the field. As an EMIG club officer, Rupprecht coordinated the training of nearly 200 local Boy Scouts in CPR and various other first-aid scenarios at two events last spring.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Bhumi Patel, third year medical student, who was the recipient of the 2015 Luzerne County Medical Society Scholarship. We are extremely proud of these outstanding students.

~Dr. Michael Ferraro, Regional Associate Dean, South Campus

From the West

The redesigned third year has been embraced by our students who are very proactive in maximizing learning opportunities and supporting each other. We have a number of new faculty members from the Susquehanna Health (SH), Penn Highlands and the Allenwood prison system, as well as other community partners. We are particularly grateful for the longstanding commitment of all the volunteer clinical faculty members who have helped us create new block rotations as well as modify the LIC. Residents, faculty and staff at the family medicine residency program have worked closely with us to include TCMC students in new block rotations in OB/GYN, pediatrics and adult medicine. We look forward to continued collaborations with members of the Amish community and SH staff, the Project Bald Eagle coalition, and the Susquehanna Community Health and Dental Center, who are supporting community health research projects conducted by our West Campus M1 students. We are especially proud of the way in which our M3 students have arranged formal and informal methods of orienting each other to the various learning environments. Thanks to all!

~Dr. Janet Townsend, Senior Associate Dean for Regional Campuses

From Guthrie

At the end of June, the new Guthrie Campus welcomed 16 TCMC M3 students who volunteered to transfer for their third and fourth years of community-based clinical training. Dwight Stapleton, M.D., is the regional associate dean and Nancy Pease, BBA, serves as the regional education specialist/manager. The Guthrie faculty, already very experienced in medical student and resident education, has embraced the new relationship with TCMC, implementing excellent block rotations and a new longitudinal integrated clerkship. Commitment to the new campus has been exceptional including outstanding attendance at regional faculty development meetings, wonderful leadership by the new clerkship directors/education coordinators, and great support from the medical student administrative staff. By all reports the M3 students are enjoying their clinical placements and learning a great deal. The M3s welcomed the incoming Guthrie M1 students with several activities during Community Week One in the fall.

Submitted by: ~Dr. Janet Townsend, Senior Associate Dean for Regional Campuses

Call for Cases

The Office for Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development is looking for suggestions for case presentations for Continuing Medical Education events. The recent Keystone Symposium on genomics featured several case studies involving genetic testing for cardiac conditions and cancer. Other symposia included case studies on hypertension, infectious diseases and child abuse. Future topics include opiate addiction, substance abuse and cancer.

If any faculty or volunteer clinical faculty have experience with cases that might be interesting and educational for TCMC students, faculty and healthcare professionals in our region, please send a brief synopsis, including the educational component of the case, to: Mary Theresa Mazur, mmazur@tcmc.edu or call 570-504-9678.



Neurosurgery Lecture

The TCMC Chapter of the Neurosurgery Interest Society recently presented a lecture on brain tumors by Leslie Lyness, D.O., a neurosurgeon with Geisinger Community Medical Center, Scranton. The objectives of her lecture included understanding the wide array of brain tumors, treatment options for brain tumors and new trials underway for Glioblastomas.

She is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, where she also completed a neurosurgical residency. In 1996, she was a U.S. Olympian in the sport of field hockey.



Dr. Leslie Lyness, center, was invited by the Neurosurgery Interest Society at TCMC led by Jessica Briscoe, MD2, president and Andrew Tsitsilianos, MD2, vice president.

TURKEY TROT 2015 Raises \$10K

Friends of the Poor, Scranton, is a nonprofit organization that seeks to ease the burden of living in poverty and enhance the quality of life for all who live in the low-income community. The ministry has served the needs of residents in the greater Scranton area for more than 25 years and is an outreach ministry of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Each year, Friends of the Poor hosts a Thanksgiving dinner which serves hundreds of families using donated resources. The proceeds of the TCMC Turkey Trot 5K/10K Run benefit this important event and the work of Friends of the Poor throughout the holiday season. There is also a canned-goods drive in order to stock the shelves at the Friends of the Poor pantry. This year, the TCMC Turkey Trot raised more than \$10,000 which all went towards the Friends of the Poor annual Thanksgiving dinner, serving more than 4,000 local individuals in need.

The Turkey Trot is organized entirely by students as a way for medical students to give back to the local community and to bring people together with a fun event. Families were especially encouraged to participate this year with the addition of the 5k Fun Run/ Walk. As always, there were many activities for children throughout the morning, including the Tiny Trot and arts and crafts stations. After the race, everyone was invited to a celebration at Ale Mary's to reward all of the hard work that was put into running and participating in the event. Overall, the Turkey Trot is an annual community event that seems to become more successful and fun every year!



TCMC Community News

Grand Rounds Schedule

Physician Burnout: Overcoming challenges in the current healthcare environment

February 11
12:15-1:15 p.m., Room 2045

Wasique Mirza, M.D.
The Wright Center

Palliative Care: What's That?

March 10
12:15- 1:15 p.m., Room 2045

Mary Lawhon Triano, CRNP-C, ACHPN
Assistant Professor of Family Medicine
TCMC
and
Jacquelyn Piccolo
TCMC Class of 2016

Translational Medicine

April 14
12:15-1:15 PM, Room 2045

Pamela Lucchesi, Ph.D., FAHA
Chair of Basic Sciences, TCMC

Commencement 2016 Save the Date!

All TCMC faculty are invited to participate in the academic procession at commencement on Sunday, May 8 at 11 am at the FM Kirby Center for the Performing Arts in Wilkes-Barre. If you are interested in participating in the procession, you have the option of processing in your white coat, at no cost, or if you already own academic regalia (gown, hood and cap), you are welcome to wear it. If you would like to wear academic attire, the college will order it for you. The rental fee for the attire is \$62.95.

If you would like to participate in the academic procession, please send your information below and a check, payable to TCMC, for rental regalia to: Mary Theresa Mazur, Manager of Regional Affairs, TCMC, 525 Pine St., Scranton, Pennsylvania, 18509 by March 25. Orders after March 25 cannot be guaranteed!

Academic attire will arrive at TCMC on or about May 2. If you are renting attire, we will send out more information on the pick-up as the date approaches. Attire will need to be paid for at the time of pick-up or prior to pick-up. We will collect the rented attire immediately following the commencement ceremony at the Kirby Center.

Questions for Commencement	
Name:	
Would you like to process?	Yes or No
Do you need academic attire?	Yes or No
If you need rental attire, please tell us:	
Height:	Weight:
Degree (MD, DO, PhD, MS, etc.):	
Alma Mater from highest degree:	

Basic Science Chair Joins TCMC



Pamela Lucchesi, Ph.D., FAHA, has been named the new chair of basic sciences and professor of physiology at TCMC. She brings an extensive background in research, education and curriculum development.

Dr. Lucchesi will be involved in developing opportunities for translational research programs that will result in improved patient care in our community.

Prior to arriving at TCMC, Dr. Lucchesi served for seven years as center director and professor of pediatrics at Nationwide Children's Hospital and Ohio State University. Before that, she was professor of pharmacology at Louisiana State University.

Dr. Lucchesi has 30 years of NIH-funded research in cardiovascular disease and 25 years of experience as a medical-student educator. She is an expert in coronary artery disease and heart failure and is a fellow of the American Heart Association.

Dr. Lucchesi is the author of 90 scholarly publications and five book chapters. She has chaired several study peer-review panels at the NIH and is an associate editor of *Physiology*. She earned a BA in biology from Assumption College and a Ph.D. in biomedical sciences from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, both in Worcester, Massachusetts.