

Welcome

Joseph F. Kestner, Jr., MD, President of the Board


The Delaware Academy of Medicine was founded in 1930 by fifteen physicians and one dentist when, according to one historian, there were four hospitals in Wilmington, Delaware, each barely on speaking terms with each other. These sixteen founding fathers, and yes in 1930 they were all fathers, had four major priorities. These included providing a meeting place for medical, dental, and other professional groups, the maintenance of a scientific library, the promotion of professional and lay education, and the stimulation of medical research. Today we might add to these priorities by preserving the medical history in Delaware, for it has been observed that a community that forgets its past has no future.

For many years, the Academy of Medicine was housed in a grand old building on Lovering Avenue in Wilmington, Delaware. Also, for many years, the Academy of Medicine had the finest medical library in these parts and likely the finest between Philadelphia and Baltimore. Many of the meetings, which led to the formation of the Wilmington Medical Center (the parent of Christiana Care), took place at the Academy. In the 1970s, discussions and debates, frequently contentious regarding a new hospital, its size, and its locations, were held at the Academy. These discussions and debates resulted in the opening of Christiana Hospital with its own excellent medical library in 1985.

A consequence of the opening of the Christiana Hospital was the slow but progressive shifting of much medical activity from the City of Wilmington to the Christiana Campus. As a result, the location of the Academy on Lovering Avenue became increasingly irrelevant. While there had been medical conferences each week and medical meetings everyday at the Academy, these became fewer and fewer. The center of medicine had moved out of the city.

In the 1990s, some leaders at the Academy began to speak of a possible relocation closer to Christiana Hospital. Late in the 1990s, there was evolving mutual interest among Christiana Care and the Academy of Medicine to merge the Academy's and Hospital's libraries and to collaborate on a modern educational facility that would meet the needs of a growing medical community and expanding educational programs.

These deliberations came to fruition in late 2006 when the Academy's Lewis B. Flinn Library merged with the medical library of Christiana Care as the Lewis B. Flinn Medical Library. Also at that time, the offices of the Academy of Medicine moved to the Christiana Campus and the John Ammon Medical Education Center opened. This is truly a first-rate facility that will serve the education and conference needs of our community for years to come.

In its new home, the Academy of Medicine now turns its energy and attention to the future. The priorities of the Academy continue to be professional and public access to current, reliable, and accurate medical and health information; educational opportunities for professional and public audiences; attention to public health, advocacy and relevant public policy; and the preservation of medical history in Delaware. It is my sincere hope that you will join us in this mission. 



Dr. Joseph F. Kestner, Jr. practices Pulmonary Medicine in New Castle County Delaware.

He graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1968. Following seven years of training and military service he started his practice in Delaware in 1975.

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ACCESS is a periodic publication of the Delaware Academy of Medicine. This publication is available as a pdf at our website: www.delamed.org/news.htm

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Delaware Academy of Medicine Contact Information:

Administration:

Main Office (302) 733-3900
Fax: (302) 733-3949
Reference: (302) 733-1122
Member Services: (302) 733-3952
Email: info@delamed.org
Website: www.delamed.org

Consumer/Patient Health:

Gail P. Gill Library (302) 733-1122
New Castle County (302) 836-2725
Kent County (302) 736-7079
Sussex County (302) 227-2854
Website: www.healthhyde.org

Introduction

The Delaware Academy of Medicine, in partnership with the State of Delaware, is pleased to announce the creation of DelMIRA, the Delaware Medical Information Resource Alliance. DelMIRA is a new state consortium which aims to reduce disparity in access to medical information to healthcare providers and Delaware citizens. In its first year along, DelMIRA will impact 70% of Delaware hospital in-patients and 50% of Delaware health care professionals. The Academy received a \$400,000 grant from the state to launch DelMIRA which will serve as a blueprint for states across the country who are addressing access issues.

This program provides electronic access to the most current patient care and patient education information that is not “freely” available

on the web. By taking advantage of cooperative purchasing discounts, DelMIRA will provide access to licensed resources including OVID e-journals, MDCConsult, Mosby’s Nursing Skills, Ebsco’s Health Business and DynaMed. As an added benefit, some e-content suppliers provide their information to federally qualified health centers serving residents in Wilmington and Newark areas, at no additional cost. The Academy eventually plans to offer similar benefits to other non-acute facilities.

Background

Nationally, community and rural hospital libraries have difficulty obtaining adequate funding for e-resources. Through discussions with Delaware medical librarians, the Academy recognized this trend and studied the disparity in access. We found barriers to access across the State of Delaware.

The Academy and its partners conceived of DelMIRA as an important step toward improving the availability of medical, nursing and allied health clinical information to acute care facilities. State officials, particularly members of the Health Fund Advisory Committee (HFAC), recognized the linkages between a healthier Delaware and improving patient outcomes and quality of care regardless of a clinician’s or patient’s location.

Advocacy


The involvement of both state and hospital partners made funding for DelMIRA a reality in 2007. Jean Winstead, Medical Librarian at Beebe Medical Center was also an important advocate who communicated the importance of reducing the disparities in access across the state. Advocacy also took the form of application preparation, attendance at public hearings and testimony. Dr. Marge White, Vice President for Patient Care Services at Beebe also testified before the HFAC on behalf of DelMIRA.

“Services such as DynaMed allow clinical staff to have the information advantages needed to provide the best patient care possible.”

Initially, this initiative impacts over 2,000 in-patient beds and close to 10,000 healthcare professionals. Currently, licensed resources include the OVID e-journals, MDCConsult, Mosby’s Nursing Skills and

Ebsco’s Health Business and DynaMed. As an added benefit, some e-content suppliers provide their information to federally qualified health centers serving residents in Wilmington and Newark areas, at no additional cost. The Academy plans to extend similar benefits to other non-acute facilities, if it secures additional funding in FY09.

The Future

The Academy is working closely with partners including Beebe Medical Center, Nanticoke Memorial Hospital, Bayhealth, duPont Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, the Delaware Psychiatric Hospital and the Division of Public Health to educate clinicians, patients, and citizens about the availability of these new e-resources. The Academy is also tracking usage patterns and preparing an outreach plan to reach even more citizens across the state. The Academy will be seeking additional funding for FY09 to expand the program. If you have questions about this program, please contact PJ Grier at (302) 733-3937, or send an email to him at the following address: plg@delamed.org. Additional information is also available by visiting our website at www.delamed.org/delmira.htm. 

The Challenge

The cost of medical education has risen substantially over the past two decades. In 1981, the average tuition and fees at public and private U.S. medical schools were \$2,761 and \$8,962, respectively. In 2002, the average tuition and fees at public and private U.S. medical schools was \$14,577 and \$30,960, representing increases of 528% and 345%, respectively.

Our Commitment

The Academy's Student Financial Aid program was established in 1961 to help promote the study of medicine and dentistry. Since that time, nearly 1200 students have received more than \$1.7 million in loans.

The Academy of Medicine has supported hundreds of medical and dental students. To be considered for financial aid, a student must be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident and have one year of residency in Delaware.

These funds are made available through special endowments of the Academy which have been designated for this specific

Student Financial Aid 2007 - At a Glance

- 📖 \$49,500 (amount awarded)
- 📖 16 students (2 dental students / 14 medical students)
- 📖 12 at Thomas Jefferson University
- 📖 2 at Kornberg School of Dentistry, Temple University
- 📖 1 at Harvard Medical School
- 📖 1 at Boston University School of Medicine
- 📖 1 at Drexel University College of Medicine

purpose since the time of the Academy's creation in 1930. Certain endowments support dental students, women entering the field of medicine, and children of practicing Delaware physicians and dentists. Other funds are less restrictive and allow the student loan committee to support any applicant who demonstrates financial need.

Loans are usually in the range of \$2,500 to \$8,000 annually. The amount of funding available is determined by annual loan repayment from previous loan recipients and

endowment fund performance. Since there are a limited number of loans available, preference is given to previous loan recipients who continue to qualify. For additional information please visit our website at www.delamed.org/sfa.htm. 📖

With the cost of medical and dental school increasing annually, even the modest amounts the Academy has available for financial aid makes a difference.

Kristen Nicole Carey Student Financial Aid Recipient

Kristen Carey graduated Summa Cum Laude from Villanova University, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Biology, a Bachelor of Science in Honors, and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. She was named a 2005 Marshall Finalist, a Fulbright Finalist, and the 2005 Phi Kappa Phi Slater Fellow, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Kristen is currently in her third year at Harvard Medical School where she is interested in issues of health care policy and medical ethics. At Harvard, she has had the opportunity to conduct research on end-of-life care for dementia patients, which she presented at the national AGS meeting in May 2007. She was also asked to co-write a chapter on the ethics of embryo adoption, to be published in "The Ethics of Embryo Adoption and the Catholic Tradition."

This publication, edited by Sarah Vaughan-Brakman and Darlene Weaver, will be published later this year.

Kristen, the eldest of three children, has relied on scholarships, grants, and loans to subsidize her undergraduate and graduate educations. She is much indebted to the Delaware Academy and others for their generosity. 📖



Professional Development - Literature & Medicine

Alfred E. Bacon, III M.D., Program Committee Chairperson

Imagine doctors, nurses, receptionists, trustees, administrators, lab techs, and physician assistants, with books in hand, sitting in a circle in a hospital conference



room, cafeteria, or lounge. With the help of a humanities scholar, they are talking about the novel, play, or poem they have read, reflecting together on what it means to them - as people, and as professionals engaged in the enterprise of health care.

Literature & Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care is an award-winning, hospital-based, scholar-led humanities reading and discussion program for health care professionals that benefits both them and their patients. The program is an innovative and cost-effective way to improve patient-caregiver interaction.

In January 2007, the Delaware Humanities Forum introduced the program to the First State, in partnership with the Delaware Academy of Medicine and the Christiana Care Health System in Newark.

These monthly discussions explore selected works of poetry, fiction, drama, and non-fiction that offer health care workers, policy makers, hospital trustees, and other staff an opportunity to reflect on the complex nature of their roles and responsibilities in relation to the patients they serve and the colleagues with whom they work.

Why implement Literature & Medicine?

Although medicine has made great technical progress, the quality of patient-caregiver interactions has generally declined. Patients remain unknown to caregivers, often of a different cultural background, economic status, or religion. Literature, however, allows program participants to experience worlds outside their own understanding. Patients, as well as books, require interpretation and it is

the humanities - the traditionally interpretative disciplines - that offer health care providers an effective way of understanding their patients and their stories.

Who participates?

Small groups - ten to twenty-five members. Participants can be anyone serving in the health care professions, including public health workers, health educators, and policymakers.

Reflecting together on what it means to them - as people, and as professionals engaged in the enterprise of health care

When?

Monthly for six months. Meetings are held during the day and evening and include a light meal and two hours of discussion led by a humanities scholar. The scholar develops a syllabus especially for that group.

Where?

Participants meet in a congenial space that invites them to step outside their professional roles and share their reflections on what they have read. They are encouraged to explore the human dimensions of their work, examine the assumptions they bring to it, and draw connections between the language of medicine and that of human experience.

Participants develop:

- Better communication skills, leading to more effective and satisfying interactions with patients and colleagues
 - Broader perspective on themselves as health care professionals and on the health care system
 - An appreciation of how cultural and socioeconomic perspectives and family history affect patient health and patient care
 - A greater satisfaction with their work and with their understanding of each other
- “In Palliative Care we talk of ‘delivering the patient from their anonymity’. We want to get to know that patient as a person. It is then we have the best chance to bring about ‘Healing’

in whatever form that may take. This is the real business of medicine. Sign me and my palliative care team up.” Dr. John Goodill, Christiana Care Health System

The 2007 Series syllabus covered the following topic areas:

- Patient-Provider Relationships
- Complications & Hard Truths
- Barriers
- Healing When There’s No Cure
- Facing Mortality
- Meanings

The 2008 Series, held at both the Stanton and Wilmington campuses of the Christiana Care Health System, will be lead by Susan Shoemaker and Chaplain Stephen L. Dutton. The 2008 syllabus will feature several selected readings and two books:

A Life in Medicine: An Anthology edited by Robert Coles and Randy Testa with Joseph O’Donnell, Penny Armstrong, and M. Brownell Anderson

One True Thing by Anna Quindlen

How to sign up?

Please contact Cheryl Klecko at 302-733-1961 for more information. You can also email litmed@delamed.org. Signup deadline is November 1, 2007

The Literature and Medicine Series is a partnership of:



DELAWARE Humanities FORUM
Connecting people, cultures and ideas.




CHRISTIANA CARE HEALTH SYSTEM


Member Corner

Arun V. Malhotra, M.D., Membership Committee Chairperson

Looking for the Calendar?

Discover the benefits of membership! By joining the Academy, you will become a part of a community of health care professionals who share a commitment to professional education and service to the community. In addition to access to our library services, you will receive invitations to educational and social events throughout the year. Your membership also provides support for outreach initiatives to the community, including library and internet resources to the statewide, maintaining our medical archives, and supporting the future of the medical community through our student financial aid program for medical and dentistry students. If you are interested in learning more about the benefits of membership, please call Elizabeth Lenz at 302-733-3952 or stop by our offices on the lower level of the John H. Ammon Medical Education Center, across from the Physicians Lounge at Christiana Hospital. It is easy to join or renew an Academy membership at www.delamed.org/membership.htm, or click on “MEMBERS” on the main menu bar on the homepage. Thank you for your involvement and support! 

Save the date for our holiday open house, November 28th from 2-8 pm at our office in Christiana Hospital. Stop by with friends and colleagues to meet our staff and learn more about the benefits of membership.

The Med-Dental Calendar is now in electronic format. The new format will allow you to view the events more freely. The calendar can still be printed out and will allow you to download the events to Microsoft Outlook and your PDA. To view the calendar, please go to www.delamed.org/calendar.htm, or click on “CALENDAR” on the main menu bar on the homepage. You may also call Liz Lenz at 302-733-3952. We apologize for any inconvenience and suggest that you contact the departments if you have any questions about an event. 


Gifts to the Academy

Casscells library gift creates new chapter

Chris and Susan Casscells are opening the next chapter of the Lewis B. Flinn Medical Library by naming the Orthopaedic Medicine Collection in honor of Chris' father, Dr. S. Ward Casscells. Ward Casscells, M.D., an internationally recognized leader in his field, was known as the “father of arthroscopy.” Chris followed in his father's footsteps as an orthopaedic surgeon and has served as a board member of the Delaware Academy during the last 10 years.

Chris and Susan recognize the importance of building an endowment to support the future of the Academy's collections. Their gift is the first toward creating a permanent endowment to secure the future of the Flinn library's collections. A plaque will be located within the library recognizing the donors who participate in this important endeavor.

My father was internationally renowned yet he is rapidly becoming unknown to the current generation of young physicians. With this gift, I am proud to name the orthopaedic library in memory of my father and to support the mission of the Academy.

If you are interested in learning more about this project, please visit our website at www.delamed.org/plaques.htm, or contact Tim Gibbs at 302-733-3919. A list of collection areas is available for sponsorship. Sponsorships can be made to recognize a family member, friend, peer, or professional group. 


GuideStar & Our IRS Records of 990's & Audits

As a part of our on-going commitment to accountability and disclosure, the Academy of Medicine has an entry at GuideStar.org. GuideStar's mission is to revolutionize philanthropy and non-profit practice by providing information that advances transparency, enables users to make better decisions, and encourages charitable giving.



Guidestar enables non-profits to share information about their organization openly and completely. Any non-profit in its database can update its report with information about its mission, programs,

leaders, goals, accomplishments, and needs—for free. Guidestar combines the information that non-profits supply with data from several other sources. You'll find the GuideStar data entry for the Academy of Medicine by visiting www.guidestar.org and typing “Delaware Academy of Medicine” into the search box at the top right corner of the homepage.

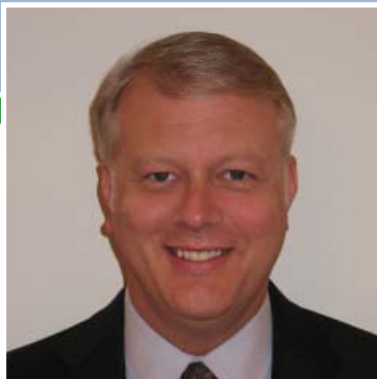
Our 990's for the past 10 years, and audits for the last 3 years, are available at the following address on our website: www.delamed.org/accountability.htm. 

Academy of Medicine Leadership and Staff

An organization as programmatically diverse as the Academy of Medicine is supported by an equally diverse staff and group of associates. In the upcoming issues, we'll provide additional profiles on staff and associates of the Academy. If you see us in the halls of area hospitals, libraries, or other locations say "hello." If you are at the Stanton Campus of Christiana Care, please consider visiting us. We are on the lower level of the new John H. Ammon Medical Education Center directly below the Lewis B. Flinn Medical Library and across the Physician's lounge. 📖

Our Mission: *"To enhance the well being of the community through education and the promotion of public health"*

Tim Gibbs Interim Acting Director Director of Development and Operations



Tim Gibbs, a Delaware native, has worked in the non-profit sector for most of his career. A graduate of Earlham College Tim's Quaker background and values have steered much of his focus on community and social service concerns. He was in the first graduating class from the University of Delaware in non-profit management, and subsequently taught portions of that class. Tim is a member of the national and local chapters of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, a Microsoft Partner, and has an extensive background in multiple technology services and platforms.

In the latter part of the 1980's, Tim was called upon to direct Delaware's first emergency and transitional housing project for people with HIV and AIDS. Subsequently, he was Executive Director of Catalyst Project, a Delaware-based non-profit that focused on the effective and appropriate use of technology in the field of human service delivery. Catalyst worked to bring non-profits up to speed with computers, the internet, and provided training and technical support services. Projects in which Catalyst played a leadership role included the Delaware Helpline Online searchable database, the City of Wilmington's Family Support Partnership online client maintenance system, and DiamondNet – the first network for Delaware area non-profit agencies.

In 2001, the Delaware Academy of Medicine contacted Tim through Catalyst to assist them with technology needs. Tim consulted with the Academy for three years before being hired as the full-time Director of Information Technologies. Since then he has worked extensively in virtually all functional areas of the Academy, and oversaw the relocation project from Wilmington to the Stanton Campus of Christiana Care.

PJ Grier Director of Library and Information Services



PJ Grier is Director of Library and Information Services at the Academy. He is responsible for clinical information delivery for Academy dentists, physicians, participating hospital libraries, and other agencies. They include

Academy customers served by the L.B. Flinn Medical Library located at Christiana Hospital, the Division of Public Health and the Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health, as well as PENN Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia. PJ also directs DelMIRA (Delaware Medical Information Resource Alliance) – a new state consortium designed to reduce the disparity in access to medical information by healthcare professionals. Targeted professionals work in hospitals, community health centers, and the Division of Public Health, statewide.

PJ also operates a statewide consumer health information services program within the county public library systems. This literacy program is a partnership between the Divisions of Public Health and Libraries. Recently, he jointly concluded the consolidation of the L.B. Flinn medical library with the main library of Christiana Hospital last November.

PJ has an information technology background and holds degrees in public administration and library & information science. Previously, he worked for Verizon Communications and as a consultant for a unit of Johnson & Johnson, Inc. He is Jesse Ball duPont Fund Executive Institute graduate, a member of the Medical Library Association's Academy of Health Information Professionals, and a key member of the Delaware Public Health Law Information Project, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

The Academy has identified the following actions to support its mission:

- Address public health and health policy issues thru the expertise and involvement of its members with rural, urban, suburban familiarity and focus
- Provide both professional and lay educational opportunities by coordinating meetings and conferences for other groups operating in areas consistent with our own. For our membership, provide social networking opportunities
- Promote Fellowship and acknowledge excellence in our membership and the medical community
- Deliver Library and Information services throughout the State and work to reduce disparities in access to health information.
- Pursue strategic alliances and partnerships of a mutually beneficial nature
- Provide a neutral environment in which stakeholders and interested parties can conduct conversation and business safely and appropriately
- Maintain the history and archives of medicine in Delaware
- Commit to long term financial strategy and endowment building to assure continuance and continuity of our 77 year commitment to the community.
- Provide Financial Aid to medical and dental students

Robb Mackes DelMIRA Project Coordinator



Robb Mackes received his Masters Degree in Library Science from Kutztown University. Since then he has held medical librarian, and medical library director positions, most recently at Union Hospital in New Jersey.

Robb has been an active member of numerous professional organizations including the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, and the Medical Library Association. Robb has a strong background in the electronic licensing and the copyright issues involved in operating libraries.

Notably, Robb has been involved with the Health Sciences Library Association of New Jersey (HSLNJ) since 1993. The Academy of Medicine is both replicating and partnering with HSLNJ in our own new DelMIRA initiative.

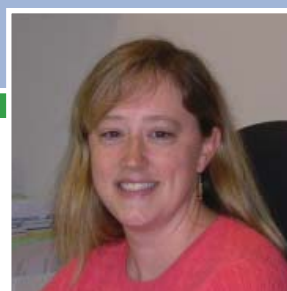
Christopher Shea Archivist



Christopher Shea is the Academy's archivist, a position he has held since October 2005. Before that, he has worked as an archivist for the city of Chester, Pennsylvania, and for the Lighthouse for the Blind in New York City, as well as being a former copy editor for Random House Children's Books. Mr. Shea received his MLS degree from Queens College.

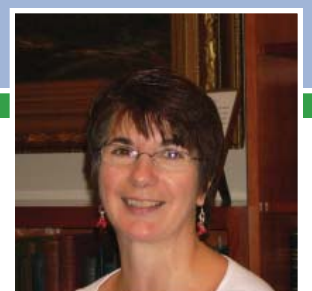
Mr. Shea's duties include overseeing acquisitions, inventory, and preservation for the Academy archive. He also makes its holdings accessible to patrons through reference services, displays, and digital finding aids. Christopher was instrumental in preparing the Academy's history and archives holdings for their move from our old Wilmington location to our new offices in Stanton.

Michelle Joannides Library Technician



Michelle Joannides is a library technician for the Delaware Academy of Medicine. She joined the Academy in April 2007 and is enjoying the camaraderie of her fellow co-workers, along with learning vital skills in the library science field. Michelle has been working on converting our library's records into SIRSI, the state's library catalog system. As well as working part-time at the Academy, she is also a part time graduate student at Drexel University. She expects to graduate with her masters degree in Library and Information Science in March 2009.

Meg Ward Librarian



Meg Ward is a librarian at the Academy. She has worked here since January 2006. She works two days a week at the Academy and spends her remaining time volunteering at Longwood Gardens, tending her own garden, and running a small B&B in Southern Chester County, PA. Formerly, she was Director of the Medical Library at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. She was also Director of the Drug Information Service Center at the University of Minnesota, as well as a reference librarian at the Northwestern University Medical School Library.

Fall 2007

ACCESS

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The Delaware Academy of Medicine
Suite L10
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Newark, DE 19713

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting 2008
Friday, March 8th
Honorable S. Ward Casscells, M.D.
Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

A Colonel in the US Army Reserve, Dr. Casscells was mobilized in 2005 and assisted in the Army's response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, for which he was awarded the Army Achievement Medal. For guiding the Army's avian influenza preparedness, he received the Meritorious Service Medal. In 2006, he was deployed to Iraq as the liaison from Multinational Force- Iraq to Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad. He received the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and was made an Honorary Member of the Iraqi Medical Regiment.

Prior to his appointment as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs on April 16, 2007, Dr. Casscells served as the John Edward Tyson Distinguished Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Public Health at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.



Honorable S. Ward Casscells, M.D.

For more information on our annual meeting visit
www.delamed.org/2008meeting.htm