



General Assembly – August 7, 2015 – New Orleans, LA

LSUHSC - New Orleans at Lake Charles

Family Medicine Residency Program

Program Director: Alan LeBato, MD

As we end the year I am happy to report the successful completion of our program and board certification for all 8 PGY3's. Robert Bernauer, Jr. is staying in Lake Charles as an Emergency Room physician at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital. Dr. Rebecca Braud is entering the private practice of Family Medicine in Sulphur, LA. Dr. Jaeson Courseault is entering a sports medicine fellowship in Waco, Texas. Dr. Sara Doguet is entering the private practice of Family Medicine in Jennings, LA. She joins our former graduates Dr. James McNally and Dr. Chris Achee. Dr. Whitney Hardy is entering the private practice of Family Medicine (with the Ochsner clinic) in Gretna, LA. Dr. Jessica Langevin will be moving to Michigan with her husband who is active duty in the Coast Guard and has been assigned there. She plans to practice in an urgent care facility as this is not his last move with the Coast Guard. Dr. Ashley Mullins will be practicing as a hospitalist at West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital in Sulphur, LA. Dr. David Palombo will be entering the private practice of Family Medicine in Orange, Texas. The faculty are very pleased with the accomplishments of this group and feel they will all do well in their chosen areas of practice.

We are excited to begin a new intern class this summer. We have 3 PGY1's from LSUNO, one from LSU-Shreveport, and 4 Caribbean graduates (2 from St. Georges and 2 from AUC) and all 4 are Canadian. It promises to be an interesting hockey season. They have started orientation this week and have the usual "deer in the headlights" look that I hope will pass away in the coming months. I have grown accustomed to his first year look during orientation and it no longer keeps me awake all night long. ..just part of the night.

We are excited to welcome a new faculty to our program. Dr. Brian Gamborg, one of my former associates in Sulphur, LA, and a longtime member of the LAFP and LSMS, has left private practice and joined our residency practice on June 1. He brings with him a wealth of clinical knowledge and experience as well as a computer "geek" mind that promises to enhance our resident's education as well as our faculty practice and EHR. We have also welcomed Dr. Caroline Courville to our practice in the past year. Dr. Courville finished her pediatric residency at UAB and married Cliff Courville, a Lake Charles native. Both graduated from medical school at LSUHSC-New Orleans. They have come back to Lake Charles and he has joined our pulmonology group at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital and Caroline has joined our Family Practice Residency faculty. Dr. Unkel has officially retired (and never looked back) after 18 years of working with our residents and Caroline has taken over the pediatric nursery, Peds clinic, and pediatric lecture section for our residents.

Our hospital has agreed to increase of family practice center space and we are adding 5 more exam rooms in the clinic and adding 2 new faculty offices in the building. We are adding 2 additional parking spaces in the resident parking area which still only brings us up to 18 so we are still parking on the grass. Never mind those parking tickets from the hospital "meter maids". The hospital has also agreed to provide all new laptops to the residents that will be theirs when they graduate. The laptops cross over from our clinic to the hospital and can be used for EHR work at both sites. I can't wait to see how many laptops make it the full 3 years.

We are also now officially a Level 3 PCMH. Kudos to Julia Hutchinson, our residency coordinator, and Brandy Sensat, our nurse manager. They have worked over the past year to achieve this certification for our practice and as far as I can tell, we are the only Level 3 PCMH Residency practice in the state.

As for the fishing report: Will whoever is praying for rain in southwest LA please STOP. We have had way too much rain and the fresh water coming down into Big Lake is making the fishing terrible. On top of that, the heat index has topped 100 every day this week in Lake Charles so the only good fishing occurs very early or very late...about the same time the mosquitos are in a frenzy. A bad day of fishing still beats a good day at work...Laissez les bon temps rouler!!!

Respectfully Submitted,
Alan LeBato, MD
Program Director