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General Assembly – July 26, 2024 – Destin, FL

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**LSUHSC - New Orleans at Bogalusa**  
**Family Medicine Residency Program**  
Program Director: Frederick Stone, MD, MPH

The LSU Rural Family Medicine Residency Program in Bogalusa continues to strive for excellence and look for innovative solutions in the midst of an evolving healthcare landscape both locally and nationally.

We proudly graduated five family physicians in 2024: Saadia Ibrahim MD, Rebecca Lee MD, Kiara Phelps MD, Phuongmai Tran MD and A. Johnston Waring, MD. Three of the five graduates plan to stay and practice in Louisiana (Bogalusa, Baton Rouge and Hammond).

Moreover, we are pleased to welcome seven new residents to our program scheduled to begin training on July 1, 2024. The new residents are: Josiah Cole MD, Blessing Ebong MD, Katy Gaspard MD, Rachel Johnson MD, Brennen Murphy MD, Ally Noyes MD and Mallory Knight Varnado MD.

We are currently in the process of increasing our cohort of residents from 6 to 7 in each class, bringing our total to 21 residents in 2025.

The chief residents for the new academic year are Darryl Gaudet DO and Timilehin Oluseye MD.

Our new program director, Frederick Stone, MD started on March 1, 2024. He has 27 years of faculty experience, working with rural programs in Tennessee and Missouri. He has urban experience in Arizona and was the founding program director of a new family medicine residency in Flagstaff, Arizona. He also served as the first program director of a new residency in Sumter, South Carolina. Dr. Stone completed a rural family medicine fellowship at East Tennessee State University and a family medicine-obstetrics fellowship with Tacoma Family Medicine, affiliated with the University of Washington. He practices full spectrum family medicine, including hospital medicine, nursing home and delivering babies.

We continue to actively recruit for additional core faculty. Dr. Emilio Russo is currently serving as Department Chairman with the LSU Health Sciences Center Department of Family Medicine.

Our partnership with the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System and Our Lady of the Angels Hospital continues to be strong and the support of both the health system and the local hospital are critical to our continued success.

Our program continues to strive to expand its footprint in the community with engagement including presentations to the Council on Aging, church organizations and various health fairs in the community. Moreover, we have partnered with the Bogalusa School System working toward an ongoing presence in the elementary, middle and high school setting. Recently, we partnered with AHEC of Southeast Louisiana to participate in a “Future Health Heroes Short White Coat Ceremony” at a local elementary school. The “Rainbow of Short White Coats” is an initiative designed to inspire students to one day pursue a clinical career path. This initiative targets students from early learning centers, head start, elementary, and high school students. In addition, we were able to launch the mobile clinic in November 2023. We worked with the several local organizations to provide care to vulnerable populations.

Our residents provide pre-participation sports medicine physicals to student athletes in the Washington Parish area, serving four schools and over 400 athletes. During football season, we provide sideline coverage for the home football games for a number of these same athletes as a community service at no cost to the local schools.

# Family Medicine Residency Program Director Reports, continued

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We are happy to announce that we were able to take our first trip back to Peru in over 3 years. We have also developed a Global Health Track to foster the development of history taking and physical exam skills to develop the expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of common conditions and diseases with particular focus on the diseases of poverty in varied contexts, to enhance cost-conscious care and to strengthen management skills in preparation for work in underserved areas. In addition, the track aims to foster career development, mature residents' skills in cultural humility and advocacy of underserved populations, as well as, to contribute original research to global health education. In addition, we were able to send a resident to Chile on a global health rotation.

During the past year, our residents and faculty have continued to participate in scholarly activity and quality improvement projects. We had five posters accepted for the regional LAFP Annual Assembly and Exhibition poster presentation. One of the posters, "Amniotic Fluid Embolism: Mediating Risk of an Insidious Diagnosis in the Rural Setting" won first place. In addition, two e-posters were accepted and we gave two on-site presentations at the national AAFP FMX (Family Medicine Experience) Annual Conference. Presentations were given on "A Unique Case of Pharyngitis with Cervical Lymphadenopathy, and then Progressive Dysphagia" and "A Case of Phlegmasia Cerulea Dolens in the Setting of Circulatory Failure, Sepsis, and Shock". An article by a faculty member and resident was accepted for PubMed publication on "Things We Do for No Reason: using lactate as our resuscitation guide in sepsis (PMID-37455371). Our program continues to work with the Southern Area Patient Oriented Research Organization (SAPORO) on quality improvement initiatives for our program. Currently, they are working on Point of Care Ultrasound training and development.

Over the past year, we have also enjoyed a few fun activities in order to help develop outside interests and relationships, including an intern welcome party, an LSU football game, a goat roast/BBQ, Thanksgiving and Christmas potluck lunch, annual crawfish boil, and a recurring residency program book club. We had our residency retreat in March at the Fountainebleau State Park which included leadership training and teambuilding activities.

Our program was selected to participate in the AAFP Resident Well-Being and Burnout Prevention Echo Project. This project is part of the "Physician Health First: Building Resiliency Intersectionally during Graduate Education (BRIDGE) program, which is made possible through a cooperative agreement with HRSA. The goal is to increase the use of evidence-based strategies for well-being and decrease the effect of burnout on residents' experience in residency.

During the past year there has been a collaborative effort from all of the South Louisiana Family Medicine residency programs to develop a Residency Learning Network, with the purpose of collaborating on best practices and faculty development. A charter has been developed, and an initial survey of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats is underway to inform future agenda topics and to create faculty development opportunities.

As a program, we continue to take pride in the privilege we share in caring for our community and its vulnerable yet resilient community, striving for both excellence and compassion.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Frederick Stone, MD, MPH  
Program Director**