

TO: University of Massachusetts Medical School Faculty

FROM: Terence R. Flotte, MD, Executive Deputy Chancellor, Provost and Dean,
School of Medicine

DATE: July 8, 2010

SUBJECT: Learning Community Mentors selected for AY 2010-11

As we prepare for the launching of our new curriculum on August 11, our medical school has achieved a milestone in curriculum innovation: the naming of our inaugural class of UMass Medical School Learning Community mentors. Our learning community mentors will dedicate their time to our students' professional development through role modeling, clinical teaching and mentorship, as part of our new Learning Communities curriculum. Each Learning Community mentor will be assigned to a group of medical students in year one. These faculty members will continue to guide this group throughout medical school, for a continuity relationship that will serve as the foundation for their educational experience at UMMS.

Selecting this esteemed group of faculty began with a broad call and a competitive application and interview process, with twice as many qualified candidates applying than we needed to fill our 20 positions. After this rigorous review process, and in partnership with our students, educational faculty and Learning Community course leaders, we are pleased to announce our class of 2010-11 Learning Community mentors:

| Mentors | Department |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Angela Beeler, MD | Pediatrics |
| Nancy Bennet, MD, MPH | General Internal Medicine |
| Diane (Dede) Blake, MD | Pediatrics/Adolescent Medicine |
| Jennifer Bram, MD | Pediatrics |
| Lori DiLorenzo, MD | Family Medicine & Community Health |
| William (Jerry) Durbin, MD | Pediatrics/ID |
| Michael Ennis, MD | Family Medicine & Community Health |
| Pang-Yen (P.Y.) Fan, MD | Medicine/Nephrology |
| Phil Fournier, MD | Family Medicine & Community Health |
| Tim Gibson, MD | Pediatrics/Hospitalist |
| Lisa Gussak, MD | Family Medicine/ Hospitalist |
| Tom Halpin, MD | OB/GYN |
| David Hatem, MD | General Internal Medicine |
| Glenn Kershaw, MD | Medicine/Nephrology |
| Sarah McGee, MD, MPH | Medicine/Geriatrics |
| Peter Metz, MD | Psychiatry |

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|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Rick Pieters, MD, MEd | Radiation Oncology |
| Paul Plasky, MD, PhD | Psychiatry |
| Joyce Rosenfeld, MD | Emergency Medicine |
| Rebecca (Becky) Spanagel, MD | General Internal Medicine |

Our 2010 Learning Community mentors represent the full breadth and diversity of our teaching faculty, including nine women and 11 men, members of seven academic departments (Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine & Community Health, Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Radiation Oncology), more than 11 professional concentrations (including geriatrics, adolescent medicine and nephrology), and additional advanced training including master's of public health, master's of education and PhD degrees. Our mentors bring with them distinguished accomplishments and credentials in education, including curricular innovation, course leadership, medical education research and, above all, exceptional reviews from their students. Most importantly, each has been recognized for outstanding patient care and role modeling as a physician and as an educator. With this first cohort of mentors now selected, our Learning Community model will assure the ongoing succession of new mentors, through annual renewable contracts and the expectation of a four-year term of service.

Learning Community mentors will partner with approximately 25 students from each medical school class in one of five 'houses.' Within their houses, these faculty will provide direct teaching for their assigned student cohort and oversee key components of the new Learner-centered Integrated Curriculum (LInC) including Doctoring and Clinical Skills, Physical Diagnosis, Clinical, Longitudinal and Transitional Curricula and overall mentorship of students throughout their medical school experience. Named by the students in recognition of our local communities, our five houses of UMMS learning communities are called Blackstone, Burncoat, Tatnuck, Kelley and Quinsigamond.

Please join us in welcoming our class of 2010-11 mentors to their houses, and to their roles as the founding faculty of our Learning Communities.