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Director's Corner

Marjorie Lee White, MD, MPPM,
MA

PAST – PRESENT – FUTURE

I've been reflecting on the past keeping in mind that the past is often reflective of the present and may be predictive of the future. We've made so much progress in our mission – and we've lots more to do. Please see our [annual report](#) for details of our most recent past. I'd particularly point out our thank you list!

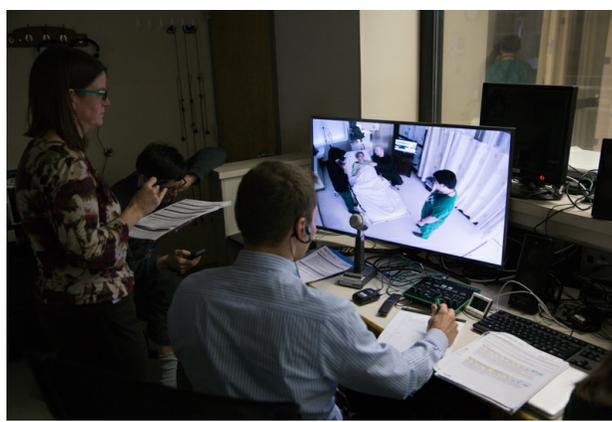
Neurology Interprofessional Simulation Pilot

John Rinker, MD, Wolfgang Muhlhofer, MD
& Amy Amara, MD

We've turned to the present and hit the ground running at OIPS with record numbers of current and future partners attending facilitator development courses, multiple new requests for new courses and partnerships throughout the UAB enterprise. Please reach out if you'd like to be part of this effort.

Your OIPS team is committed to staying up-to-date with best practices for integrating simulation across the healthcare spectrum. With that in mind, our team recently attended the Society for Simulation in Healthcare's International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH) January 28-February 1. We represented UAB by presenting posters, workshops, panels and innovation sessions, and we brought back key lessons learned. You'll hear more about this next month.

We are also doing planning for the future. We've identified top priorities as we move towards integrating simulation into everything we do. Please let us know how we can collaborate with you.



Medical students rotating through their third-year neurology clerkship month will soon have the opportunity to participate in simulation modules to apply their neurologic examination, communication, and clinical reasoning skills. On January 9th, the Department of Neurology partnered with OIPS and senior student volunteers from the School of Nursing to pilot a new simulation module. Amy Amara, MD, PhD and Wolfgang Muhlhofer, MD are the neurology faculty who have collaborated with OIPS educators to develop this simulation experience. In addition to fostering communication skills between physicians and nurses, the exercise aims to focus students' attention on an important aspect of neurological care: recognizing and reacting to an abrupt change in neurological function. Students who participated appreciated the 'live patient' interaction, and students and module leaders both learned from this introduction of simulation to the neurology clerkship. Plans are now in place to refine and expand the neurology-focused modules and incorporate them into the clerkship curriculum on a regular basis.

Announcements



Congratulations to Charlie Prince! Charlie has been elected to serve on the Alabama Modeling and Simulation Council's Board of Directors.

We would also like to congratulate April Belle, Jessica Ellison, Jessica Cisco, Elizabeth Norris, Andres Viles, Emily Vance, Angela Shapshak, and Marjorie Lee White for being a runner up in the Inpatient Quality Education section of National Healthcare Quality Week this past November (2016).

Comprehensive Vascular Access Team (CVAT) Training

The newly formed Comprehensive Vascular Access Team (CVAT) is collaborating with the OIPS procedural simulation team to create on-boarding and maintenance training for specialized vascular access procedures at UAB. This training program will be implemented starting in early February and will include interprofessional learners and facilitators. More information about the CVAT team and their role at UAB is coming soon. Thank you to Brittany Lindsey, Dr. Kierstin Kennedy, Heather Jones, Nancy West, Denise Ennis, and Lisa Bagby for contributing your time and expertise.



Task Assistance Interprofessional Simulations

Todd Peterson, MD



On January 23 and 24, the School of Medicine and School of Nursing partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation experience at the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox. The Task Assistance simulations consisted of over 250 medical and nursing students. Learners participated in scenarios that allowed them to practice the TeamSTEPPS principal of "task assistance" in order to assess, diagnose, and treat the simulated patient. Each simulation experience lasted an hour and allowed participants to focus on clinical principles of cardiac dysrhythmia management while practicing "task assistance." Both nursing and medical students had rave

reviews for the experience. Comments included, "I really liked working with the nursing students;" "This was a great opportunity to apply what we're learning in the cardiac module to a real life situation;" "I really liked the focus of the entire team working together to take care of the patient." We would like to say thank you to the following faculty members who helped to lead this successful event: Harish Doppalapudi, Adam Robinett, Joanna Joly, Chris Roth, Rayan Saab, Greg Payne, April Belle, Tracie White, Kelley Catron, Melanie Hallman, Andres Viles, Penni Watts, Dana Mitchell, and Lacey Wise.

Society of Simulation in Healthcare Research Summit

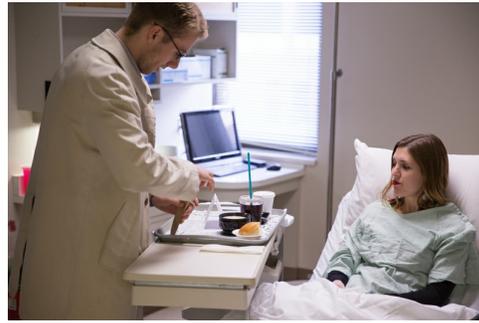
Shilpa Register, OD, PhD, MS

Marjorie Lee White and Shilpa J. Register attended the 2nd Annual SSH Research Summit in Orlando, which kicked off with a keynote speech focusing on the role of patients and patient perspectives in the planning, development, and implementation of effective simulations. Then, we entered into 10 panel presentations and discussions on various aspects of research. Of note, there were two panels focused on assessment that highlighted (1) the importance of rater training and score validity, and (2) protocol development and assessment design based on research goals. Other panels discussed the impact of simulation research in patient safety, QI, technology utilization, and key performance and business indicators. UAB/Children's of Alabama's contributions with INSPIRE and the SimRegistry were highlighted as part of the importance of interprofessional collaborations and data archiving to reduce silos. We enjoyed networking with renowned researchers and leaders in simulation and learned of potential opportunities while sharing UAB's continued impact on simulation.

SPOONS Training Sims

David James, DNP, RN-BC, CCNS & Andres Viles, MSN, RN

We all know the value of a healthy diet. In addition, good, nutritional meals provide an invaluable socializing opportunity. Just think about how many of your greatest memories with friends and family involve a shared meal. However, for some hospitalized patients, meals often are missed or go unfinished. Patients with dementia or physical handicaps may take 2-3 times longer to finish a meal. In order to help busy staff address this need, UAB has implemented a feeding assistance program - SPOONS. The SPOONS program is a volunteer program that aims to ensure vulnerable hospitalized patients enjoy all the benefits of a meal. These volunteers provide socialization, cognitive stimulation, and feeding assistance for at risk patients. These volunteers are able to spend the extra time needed to coach patients into taking that "next bite" or finishing off that bowl of soup.



Traditionally, SPOONS volunteers were trained on the unit. However, it is often difficult to coordinate schedules to ensure volunteers are validated feeding actual patients. To address this challenge, SPOONS coordinators partnered with OIPS to provide simulation training for our SPOONS volunteers. After reviewing a brief presentation and discussing key points of the feeding assistance protocol, volunteers were able to simulate feeding a patient. Meal trays were provided by dietary, and volunteers were able to demonstrate key aspects of the protocol such as hand hygiene, AIDET, and meal coaching. Plus/delta debriefing highlighted key lessons learned for their next patient encounter. The pilot session took place on January 26, 2017 and included student volunteers from the UAB School of Health Professions, College of Arts and Sciences, and a Virginia College nursing student. Adult volunteers from the UAB community also participated in the training. The program was a great success and will serve as a model for future volunteer training sessions. If you know someone who would be interested in being involved with this program please reach out to djames@uabmc.edu or simulation@uab.edu.

SimConnect Journal Club & Lecture Series

Shilpa Register, OD, PhD, MS



To finish off 2016 and ring in 2017, we decided to restructure our SimConnect series to model the translational science progression from bench to bedside. Utilizing McGaghie's article, "Medical Education Research as Translational Science," we have adopted a tiered structure for each module of SimConnect. Our hope is to follow quality research through this progression in the world of simulation. Every 3-4 months, SimConnect will have a specific theme based on the types of medical simulation education interventions with a culminating keynote speaker or event. T1 focuses on interventions completed in the simulation lab; T2 focuses on

interventions in clinic and bedside; and T3 focuses on interventions in clinic and the community. February-April 2017 will focus on T2 simulation interventions and feature Kelley Catron, Laurel Hitchcock and Shawn Galin with a SimConnect reception hosting special guest, Dr. Eduardo Salas on May 24. Please save these dates on your calendar to learn, share and network with simulation friends and family. For SimConnect dates and more information, please visit our [SimConnect website](#).

Gardendale Multispecialty Clinic Mock Exam Room

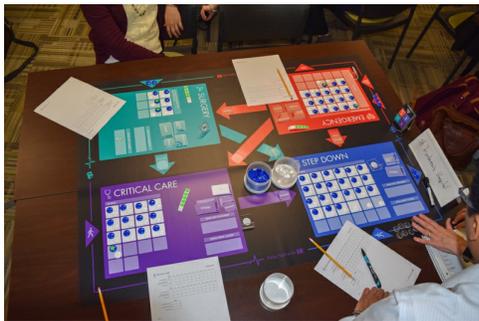
On December 20, the Office of Interprofessional Simulation hosted a mock exam room open house for the new multispecialty clinic space coming to Gardendale later this year. The purpose of this project was to gather feedback from various specialty providers and patients on the configuration/size/layout of an exam room to determine if the room will be appropriate for multi-specialty use. In addition to feedback on the layout of the room, we also gathered information on potential equipment or supplies that would be necessary for certain specialties to operate. The exam room mock-up featured cabinetry, a mobile supply cart, a patient bed provided by MidMark, and a mobile workstation provided by Logiquip.



Participants from varying professions and specialties attended the open house to give feedback, including three standardized patients and two members of the UAB Patient and Family Advisory Council to give special insight from a patient's perspective. Specialties involved include cardiology, neurology, GI, OB/GYN, and orthopedics. Valuable information regarding patient-provider interaction, the logistics involved in rotating several specialties, and equipment preferences were collected and will be considered in the construction and planning of the new Medical Office Building for Gardendale.

Learning Through "Friday Night in the ER"

Randa Hall, MBA, MSHA



During the spring semester, students enrolled in the Master of Science in Health Administration (MSHA) Program participated in the "Friday Night in the ER" simulation as the first component of their Operations Management and Process Improvement course. The instructors, Randa Hall and Dr. Nancy Dunlap, hoped by participating in this simulation that the students would gain a better understanding of the complexities of running a hospital and to understand how systems thinking plays a role in the operations of every healthcare organization. [Read more...](#)

For more information about using "Friday Night in the ER" please email simulation@uab.edu.

Human Worn Partial Task Surgical Simulator - Cut Suit

Ben Whitaker, Clinical Simulation Specialist

Recently, our Clinical Simulation Specialists had the opportunity to participate in a two-day training for the Human Worn Partial Task Surgical Simulator. i.e., the Cut Suit. A representative from our vendor, Strategic Operations, provided the training on how to use the simulator. The suit is designed to safely allow medical providers the opportunity to perform simulated emergency procedures while interacting with a standardized patient wearing the suit. The 35 lb suit fits most adults and allows the actor to walk, run, jump, climb, and drive vehicles. One interesting fact about the suit is that it was created with military applications in mind. It



enables the user to do things like wear uniforms, body armor, and even manipulate firearms.

Beneath the silicone skin, the cut suit's interchangeable organs allow the operator or subject matter expert to create custom wounds. The suit is equipped with a blood pumping system and blood packs to provide realism to scenarios such as an arterial hemorrhage or when inserting a chest tube. A few other examples of the cut suit's procedural capabilities include:

- Surgical airway ricthyroidotomy
- Needle decompression thoracentesis
- Organ hemorrhage control
- Intra-thoracic and intra-abdominal exploration
- Laparotomy

One of the greatest benefits of the cut suit is that all the components are repairable. Any cuts made to the tissues can be fixed and restored for future events. Having the ability to restore and reuse the tissues is advantageous as it allows for the conservation of both money and resources. If you are interested in learning more about the potential use of the Surgical Cut Suit in your simulation curriculum, please contact us at simulation@uab.edu.

OIPS Team Member Highlight - Ambiiir Gray



Ambiiir Gray is an Office Services Specialist with the Office of Interprofessional Simulation. She is originally from Montgomery, Alabama, and she recently graduated from the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health with a concentration in Public Health Preparedness Management and a Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies. Ambiiir is also a Certified BACCHUS Peer Educator, and she is currently applying to graduate schools to start working toward her Master's in Public Health in hopes to one day own a consulting firm and a non-profit. She enjoys sewing, collecting music, movies,

cooking/baking, reading, and traveling, and her favorite food is Mexican. The last book she read was "The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance" by Laurie Garrett, and she is looking forward to starting "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Ambiiir's next vacation will be to New Orleans with her family, including one sister who is currently attending UAB. She can be found on LinkedIn and Facebook.

Important Dates for Simulation Community and/or Facilitator Development

February 6, 2017	SimShare
February 16, 2017	Sim 2
February 22, 2017	SimConnect
March 2, 2017	Sim 1
March 4, 2017	MOCA Course
March 7, 2017	DASH© Series
March 22, 2017	Advanced Debriefing
March 23, 2017	Sim 2
March 29, 2017	SimConnect

For Facilitator Development Opportunities visit
<https://www.uab.edu/simulation/development-opportunities>



Top Rows (left to right): Andres Viles (Simulation Coordinator Senior), Brandon Smith (Clinical Simulation Specialist), Lisa Bagby (Director of Procedural Simulations), Ben Whitaker (Clinical Simulation Specialist), April Belle (Director of In Situ Simulations), Kelly Markham (Administrative Associate), Betty Farley (Program Director III), Brian Mezzell (Program Administrator II), Brad Bertke (Program Coordinator I), David Mathews (Clinical Simulation Equipment Technician), Erin Blanchard (Simulation Educator Senior), Marjorie Lee White (Director)

Seated (left to right): Tyler Burks (Manager - Clinical Simulation Operations - Audio Visual), Amanda Gargus (Clinical Simulation Specialist), Shilpa Register (Director of Research), Dawn Taylor Peterson (Director, Faculty Development & Training), Charlie Prince (Director of Operations)

For more information, please visit us on the web
at <http://www.uab.edu/simulation>



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