Director's Corner

Marjorie Lee White, MD, MPPM, MA

November 2016 afforded opportunities in all of OIPS' three main focus areas - simulation community building, health-system targeted simulation and university-focused simulation. Two large scale interprofessional simulations with SOM and SON faculty and students ensured that students have direct knowledge and application of two important teamwork tools -- Interprofessional Handoff Simulations

Kelly Dailey, MSN, RN
handoffs and closed loop communication. Audio-recording discharge in situ pilots for the health system also focus on improving communication— in this case with our patients. Please see the stories below for additional information.

Our simulation community building this month focused on research efforts and accreditation as a consortium with Children's of Alabama's Pediatric Simulation Center. A group of interested faculty and staff met to talk about current and future simulation-focused research. We also hosted a three-member team from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare and enjoyed telling them about our program and the work all of you do with us.

As always, I'd be delighted to talk with anyone who is interested in using simulation to improve patient care through education, training, research and systems integration. With you we will See One, Sim Some, Harm None™. Please check us out on our website www.uab.edu/simulation or email me MLWhite@uab.edu.

On November 15 & 16, the School of Medicine and the School of Nursing partnered with OIPS to hold a simulation event at the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox. The interprofessional simulation event consisted of first year medical students and first semester nursing students. Participants utilized the Volker Simulation Sandbox to participate in scenarios highlighting strategies and tools to develop critical thinking skills and communication skills to improve performance and patient safety in the healthcare setting. The TeamSTEPPS® communication skill, "handoff," was the focus for this simulation experience. The event focused on the transfer of information concerning the presenting patient's condition. Students engaged in a one hour simulation experience beginning with a pre-brief where a video clip was shown introducing the "handoff" communication tool. Students then entered a simulation room and participated in two scenarios focusing on a clinical foundation while also practicing the "handoff" communication skill. Following each scenario, students, medical content experts, and nursing content experts debriefed the scenario allowing for participant self-reflection. Evaluations showed overwhelmingly positive feedback that the simulation event was a valuable learning experience. Thanks to Todd Peterson, Amanda Gargus, and the OIPS support staff for making this event possible.

Audio Recording Discharge Simulations
Lisa Bagby, MSN, RN

The Patient and Family Advisory Council requested that UAB Medicine explore the option of providing an audio recording of key elements of patient discharge instructions as patients leave the inpatient environment. A multidisciplinary task force, led by the Office of Patient Experience and Engagement, was convened to draft a policy to guide clinician practice for providing audio recordings. The Office of Interprofessional Simulation (OIPS) was tasked with providing an educational model to provide process familiarization training to staff. The educational model was constructed using the L-S-P-P-D-M (Learn-See-Practice-Prove-Do-Maintain) Procedural Skills Acquisition Framework. A computer based training (CBT) module was created and assigned to the nursing and medical staff of the pilot units. In situ simulation utilizing simulated patients (SPs) was provided to the nursing staff on each pilot unit. Goals of the simulation session included providing the staff with the opportunity for deliberate practice and familiarization with the
process. During the simulation, the staff provided a recording of discharge reminders for the simulated patient. The simulation facilitators and the SP provided feedback to the staff. Additional opportunity for practice was offered. 56 RNs participated in the simulation training which had overwhelmingly positive evaluations. The 90 day pilot of the project began November 15 on HSP3 and P7. Thank you to Karen Harris, Jackie Westbrook, Monique Campbell and Ja-Lin Chen for your work on this process familiarization education.

UAB Simulation Consortium Accreditation Site Visit

Charlie Prince

The UAB Office of Interprofessional Simulation and the Pediatric Simulation Center at Children’s of Alabama have joined forces under the umbrella of the UAB Simulation Consortium to both demonstrate our continued partnership in seeking to improve healthcare through the use of simulation and to seek accreditation from the international accrediting body for simulation organizations, the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH).

After many months of rigorous work, process improvement, and documentation, the UAB Simulation Consortium submitted its application for accreditation as a pilot site for the revised SSH Accreditation Standards in May of 2016. The UAB Simulation Consortium sought accreditation in the following areas: core (required for all), teaching/education, systems integration, and research. Assessment was the only area for which accreditation was not sought at this time, pending further data collection.

After acceptance of the application in May of 2016, a site visit was scheduled for November 17-18, 2016 on location at UAB and Children’s of Alabama. During this two-day visit, three site visitors representing SSH’s Accreditation Committee toured both facilities and met with key stakeholders, users, faculty, and staff of both sim centers. The UAB Simulation Consortium accreditation status is pending at this time.

The UAB Simulation Consortium would like to thank the following people for their contributions and time to host a successful two-day site visit:

Dr. Carlos Estrada, Dr. Loring Rue, Dr. Mitch Cohen, Dr. Robert Rich, Dr. Scott Buchalter, Dr. Emily Boohaker, Dr. Muhamad Almubarak, Dr. Kelley Catron, Dr. Samuel Strachan, Dr. Nathaniel Swinger, Amy Hobbs, Aisha Stanton, Jamie Hammock, Amanda Segars, Liz Kudrika, Abigail Calamatti, Sara Owens, and all of the dedicated members of COA-PSC and OIPS who worked so diligently and tirelessly to make this happen.

November Research Highlights

Shilpa Register, PhD, MS, OD

Sim Research Community Building

On November 3, OIPS hosted the first Simulation Research Community Building event where over 25 faculty and staff participated in advancing and framing simulation research at UAB. Several OIPS research investigators from the UAB Health System (Lisa Bagby, Mary Ann Degges), School of Dentistry (Ken Tilashalski), School of Public Health (Lisa McCormick), School of Health Professions (Michelle Brown), School of Nursing (Penni Watts) and the School of Medicine (Dawn Taylor Peterson, Marjorie Lee White, Shilpa Register, Kim Hendershot) participated to highlight research accomplishments and identify additional needs including utilizing simulation for pre-hospital admission/discharge/self-care patient education, train the trainer for experienced health care providers, investigating impact of simulation in patient care, and time decay/dosing of training.
American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) EPA Poster Session
On Sunday, November 13, Dr. Marjorie Lee White presented "Integration of Simulation Throughout Medical Education to Support Effective Collaboration Within Interprofessional Teams" on behalf of colleagues Dr. Todd Peterson, Dr. Dawn Taylor Peterson and Shilpa Register, PhD at the Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) Across the Continuum Poster Session at Learn Serve Lead 2016: The AAMC Annual Meeting. Almost 50% of the posters at the session involved simulation in some way and opportunities for collaboration will be explored in the future.

Congratulations!
Congratulations to Drs. Michael Barnett, Kim Hendershot and Kerri Bevis for being awarded over $90,000 in General Endowment Fund grants for simulation projects:

"UAB IMPACT (Interprofessional Medical Provider Advanced Communication Training)"
Principal investigator: Michael Barnett, M.D., assistant professor of Medicine in the Division of Gerontology, Geriatrics and Palliative Care
Funded: $65,000

"Advancing a Formal Multidisciplinary Surgical Simulation Curriculum through High Fidelity Laparoscopic Simulation"
Principal investigator: Kerri Bevis, M.D., assistant professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Funded: $74,000

"Surgery Boot Camp: An Intern Prep Course for Students Pursuing a Surgical Residency"
Principal investigator: Kimberly Hendershot, M.D., associate professor of Surgery
Funded: $18,000

Interprofessional Closed Loop Simulations
Todd Peterson, MD

The entire second year medical school class and over 60 of the first year nursing students recently completed another great immersive interprofessional simulation experience in the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox. Over the course of two days, 245 learners participated in the event. The main goal of the exercise was to introduce the concept of closed loop communication, a tool that has been shown to increase the quality and accuracy of interprofessional communication, particularly during complex clinical situations. The students had an opportunity to practice these skills as they cared for a simulated patient with a relatively benign initial presentation who later developed a seizure and a life threatening intracerebral hemorrhage. The evaluations from the students were overwhelmingly positive. Comments included the following: "I enjoyed getting to take care of a patient in a critical situation. The experience reinforced the information that I've learned about stroke, seizures, and treatment for increased intracranial pressure." "I enjoyed collaborating with the medical students. I also liked the unexpectedness of the scenario." We would like to thank the following faculty members for their help: Sara Perez, Victor Sung, Anand Venkatraman, Ikjae Lee, Luke Smelser, Ben McCullough, Michael Lyerly, Angela Shapshak, Todd Peterson, Jan Holt, Bela Patel, Kelly Dailey, Courtney Edwards, Tedra Smith, Tedra Smith, Lisa Pair, and Kendra Weaver. Without their help, the event certainly would not have been possible!

Emergency Medicine Code Training Sims
Will Ferguson, MD
On November 15, the Emergency Medicine Department held a simulation experience at the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox with Dr. Will Ferguson from 8am - 12pm. The Emergency Medicine group consisted of physicians and nurse practitioners from UAB and the UAB /Aristo group along with EM fellows from North Alabama. Participants utilized the manikins at the Volker Simulation Sandbox for adult code training to further hone their Advanced Cardiac Life Support skills. Highlights of the experience included a pragmatic review of 12 lead EKG interpretation and practical application of emergency care. Feedback from the providers was positive and the evaluations implied that simulation training is an efficient way to prepare for medical emergencies. The providers were also given hands on procedural skills in the cadaver lab that afternoon. Thanks to Dr. Will Brooks of the anatomy department for his assistance in the continuing education of our Emergency Medicine providers.

Medical Scientist Training Program Sims
Evida Dennis (GS-3)

On November 28, the Medical Scientist Training Program held a simulation experience at the Volker Hall Simulation Sandbox from 1pm - 3pm. The simulations consisted of students in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), a program that provides training in both medicine and research for MD/PhD students who want to become physician-scientists. MSTP students participated in the simulation experience as part of a course, Continuing Clinical Education, which is designed to provide clinical continuity training throughout the PhD phase of the program. Regular simulation sessions allow MSTP students the opportunity to retain clinical knowledge and facilitate the maintenance of essential clinical skills including team building, communication, and leadership. Highlights of the Nov. 28 experience included an interactive case focused on the assessment and management of a patient with septic shock, facilitated by the UASOM Assistant Dean for students, Dr. Nicholas Van Wagoner. Students were able to take a focused history and physical exam and demonstrate proper diagnosis and management of septic shock. Evaluations showed that simulation sessions are an effective way to help MSTP students retain clinical knowledge. In addition, students felt that the experience was valuable, that participation will improve their performance in an actual clinical setting, and highly recommend it to others.

Development Opportunities
Dawn Taylor Peterson, PhD

In 2016, over 130 faculty and staff attended the Sim 1 and Sim 2 workshops sponsored by OIPS. Sim 1 is an interactive five hour workshop designed for all facilitators who are interested in using simulation as a teaching tool. After attending Sim 1, facilitators can attend Sim 2 which provides the opportunity to work in small groups to design, implement, and debrief interprofessional scenarios. In 2017, OIPS will begin to offer Sim 1 and Sim 2 to faculty and staff outside of UAB. If you know individuals from other institutions who are interested in learning more about simulation as a teaching tool, please refer them to our website where they can register for Sim
1 and Sim 2 [http://www.uab.edu/simulation/simeducator-courses](http://www.uab.edu/simulation/simeducator-courses).

If you have already taken Sim 1 and Sim 2 and are interested in additional training, please consider signing up for our Advanced Debriefing Course or the DASH© Series [http://www.uab.edu/simulation/development-opportunities](http://www.uab.edu/simulation/development-opportunities).

Please contact Dawn Taylor Peterson at dtpeterson@uab.edu if you have questions regarding other coursework sponsored by OIPS.

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**Student Teaching Associate Orientation**

**Todd Peterson, MD**

On Thursday, October 27, the OIPS department held an orientation session for a record number of Simulation Teaching Associates. The program, which trains senior medical students to assist in simulations, is currently in its third year. The students will go on to serve as simulated patients, ESPs, and debriefers for a variety of interprofessional events during the academic year. During the orientation event, the students were given lectures on simulation theory, and how to be an effective ESP, debriefer, and simulated patient. They also had the opportunity to use their newfound skills as they put each other through a variety of immersive simulations. This group has a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and we look forward to working with them in the coming year. We would like to express our gratitude to Dawn Taylor Peterson, April Belle, Brandon Smith, and Marjorie Lee White for helping to make the event a success.

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**In Situ Camera Upgrade & Laerdal LLEAP Software**

**Tyler Burks, Clinical Simulation Specialist**

From the Clinical Simulation Specialist’s point of view, an in situ is always a fun challenge. The location could be almost anywhere. So, there is always a question of electrical power access, where to put the laptop, and where to place the camera. Many of our manikins recently got a software update and are now using Laerdal’s LLEAP software. The update included the ability to capture audio and video using a webcam. We saw this as a great opportunity for innovation. By using a few mounts designed for motorcycles, we were able to create a completely portable A/V system using an IV pole. The unit can be easily transported all over the hospital and even out on the sidewalks. It contains an instructor laptop, a camera, and a patient monitor. Now, we can put a manikin in the middle of the West Pavilion Atrium, stand off to the side, and have the ability to control the manikin’s vitals. When the in situ is over we will have captured not only the audio and video, but also a BLS report that includes data like compression depth and the number of ventilations. The current system does use an extension cord to add power, but with the addition of a backup battery pack, we can roll out to the middle of a parking lot and run an in situ as if we were plugged in.

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**OIPS Team Member Highlight - Ben Whitaker**
Ben Whitaker joined the Office of Interprofessional Simulation on October 31 as a Clinical Simulation Specialist. He is originally from Fairfax, Virginia, and he graduated from Liberty University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Promotion. Ben continued his education and earned a Master's degree in Human Services with a focus on Health and Wellness and is excited about applying his knowledge of health science to simulation. Ben loves to spend time at home with his family. He has a wife, a 19-month old son, and an eight pound Chihuahua. Ben also enjoys being outside and hobbies such as hunting, fishing, and growing vegetables in his garden. Since moving to Alabama, Ben has also spent time updating and working on his family’s new house. His favorite food is grilled salmon, and he enjoys watching how-to videos on YouTube. Ben hopes that their next vacation will be a cruise in the Caribbean.

**Important Dates**

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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 (Clinical Simulation Specialist), 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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