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## Director's Corner

Marjorie Lee White, MD,  
MPPM, MA

October marked the first month of OIPS's 2nd fiscal year under my leadership and has served as an opportunity to take stock, gather data from the previous year and celebrate the simulation activity that took place in FY15. We look forward to sharing our lessons learned in FY15 and to putting them into practice in FY16.

## Poverty Simulations

Dawn Taylor Peterson, PhD

I'm thrilled to have the help of two new team members. Tyler Burks joins our team as a simulation specialist, and Wes Ayers joins as our MHSA intern. Both have jumped in and are contributing to our mission of embedding simulation-based techniques and tools in education and training for the UAB community to improve patient care outcomes, education, research and health system efficiency.

Our FY16 goals are ambitious. Dr. Epps is leading our effort to seek accreditation from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. For the health system, we are continuing to expand our in situ and procedural training activity and working to provide space for additional immersive simulation. For the university, we continue to support the poverty sims and additional interprofessional simulation.

You can read more about all of these activities in the newsletter below.

We are interested in partnering with you. Please be in touch or check us out on our website [www.uab.edu/simulation](http://www.uab.edu/simulation).



OIPS is partnering with faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Nursing, the School of Health Professions, the School of Public Health, and the School of Dentistry to offer Poverty Simulations for students this fall. The Poverty Simulation originated in Missouri with the Missouri Association for Community Action. Each simulation can accommodate 80 students who are divided into pre-determined families with the goal of making it through a month of working and paying bills while facing the challenges of a low income family. Each simulation also includes 25 volunteers who act as service providers such as daycare workers, employment office personnel, pawn shop workers, school teachers, and healthcare workers. The simulation is divided into four fifteen minute segments - each representing a week of the month. At the end of the simulation, students break into small interprofessional groups led by trained debriefers to discuss their experience of living the life of a low income family. Four Poverty Simulation sessions will be held this fall. In the spring, OIPS will expand Poverty Simulations to five sessions and will add additional partners in the School of Medicine and School of Optometry.

## Quality Academy

Scott Buchalter, MD



On Sunday, October 1, members of the Fall 2015 UAB Medicine Quality Academy cohort participated in a simulation session at the Center for Patient Safety and Advanced Simulation put on by the Office of Interprofessional Simulation for Innovative Clinical Practice team.

The UAB Medicine Quality Academy was developed by UAB Medicine in partnership with School of Health Professions.

Participants are nominated by UAB Medicine in concert with the School of Health Professions and a multidisciplinary steering team and come from all over UAB Health System. Successful completion of the Quality Academy allows participants to be awarded an Academic Certificate in Healthcare Quality and Safety. Teams from the quality academy work on health system-based quality and safety projects.

The simulation session provided an opportunity for hands-on learning in immersive and procedural simulation methods, which go hand-in-hand with improving quality and safety for our patients. Presentations from OIPS faculty included didactics to introduce the concepts deployed in simulation for individuals, teams and systems as well as an update on simulation activity currently occurring at UAB and beyond. Participants discussed additional uses for simulation in their projects, and some have made plans for future simulation activity in their areas of focus. If you are interested in participating in the Quality Academy in the future, please contact Ashleigh Allgood, Program Manager, at the School of Health Professions, or Scott Buchalter, MD, quality Education Officer for UAB Medicine.



## High Acuity Simulations

Will Sasser, MD

The OIPS held its biannual simulation course "Interprofessional Simulation Experience: Teamwork and Crisis Resource Management" during the week of October 19. The course ran over four days and included six students from the UASOM and over sixty students enrolled in UAB's Accelerated Masters in Nursing Pathway program. Dr. Will Sasser, a member of UAB's Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Division, and Tim Holloway, nursing faculty and OIPS Simulation IP Educator, directed the course with the help of a number of UAB faculty and OIPS staff members. Dr. Penni Watts and Danielle Baker supervised nursing content for the course and assisted in simulation conduction and debriefing.



Focus of the highly anticipated course is on development of tools to assist care providers in care of the acutely ill patient. Emphasis is placed on promoting effective communication between medical students and nursing students. Each day, students participated in a total of four simulation scenarios with opportunity to debrief following each encounter. A large thanks goes out to those who helped run the course including Jabril Cooper, Kelly Dailey, Winter Williams, Christopher Greene, and Chrystal Rutledge.

# UAB Leadership

Marjorie Lee White, MD, MPPM, MA



On September 29, OIPS partnered with the University Events team to host members of the 2015 Leadership UAB group. The mission of Leadership UAB is to enhance the understanding of its members regarding the vision, mission and ongoing endeavors of The University of Alabama at Birmingham so as to foster loyalty and support of UAB and to develop dedicated ambassadors and volunteers who shall serve the University in various capacities. Members from this group visited the Advanced Center for Patient Safety

and Medical Simulation and participated in four hands on exercises including suturing bananas, doing CPR and using an AED, introduction to the operating room and delivering a baby. The experience was highlighted during the end of program evaluation.

## OIPS Team Member Highlight - Tyler Burks

Tyler Burks joined the OIPS team in October as a Clinical Simulation Specialist. He was born in Downey, California and attended UAB for his Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Medicine Technology. In August of that same year, he passed the board exams to earn his NMT credentials. The latest book he read was Terry Goodkind's "Severed Souls," and he is currently reading Stephen King's "11/22/63" and James Kakalios's "The Physics of Super Heroes Spectacular Second Edition." Tyler loves to watch or read anything related to science or science fiction. He also enjoys rebuilding, plumbing, painting, and wiring his home, although, not always by choice. He has a social media presence on Facebook, and his favorite food is fried steak covered in country gravy with mashed potatoes, green beans, corn and soft butter soaked rolls.



## Highlands Emergency Department In Situ Delivery

April Belle, MSN, RN

The Office of Interprofessional Simulation (OIPS) hosted an emergency delivery simulation at UAB Highlands Emergency Department (HED). In an effort to test our hospital system, an in situ (on site) simulation was conducted to ensure the safety of our patients. This effort was coordinated in collaboration with the UAB Clinical Skills Center, Dr. John Woods, Director of Obstetrics Simulation, and the Nursing Leadership at UAB HED, Melissa Callahan and Shannon Coker. Expectant mothers can show up anywhere in our health system: inpatient or outpatient clinics, UAB main campus,

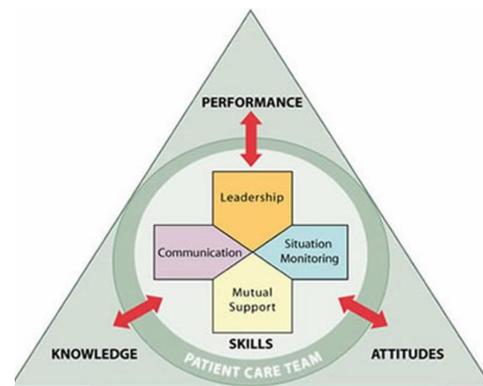
Highlands, and even the urgent care clinic. Our health system should be prepared to respond to the needs of these patients or visitors at any moment.

A simulated patient participated as the expectant mother. She was a guest at UAB Highlands visiting her neighbor in the hospital. Unexpectedly, it was time for the baby to be delivered. She was rushed to the HED, given optimum care, and birthed a healthy simulated baby. This simulation provided an opportunity for practice and improvement regarding the emergency delivery of a healthy baby. This type of simulation also offers the staff a chance to review policies and procedures surrounding low occurring events. OIPS will continue to support perfecting patient care through simulation!

## TeamSTEPPS® Training for Heart-Failure Clinic

Chad Epps, MD

The UAB Heart Failure Clinic is a nurse-managed, population-based, transitional care clinic for heart failure patients recently discharged from UAB Hospital. It is a UAB Nursing academic practice partnership between the School of Nursing and the hospital and is funded by a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Nurse Education Practice Quality Retention Grant. The clinic staff held a retreat on October 20 where OIPS staff presented a primer on TeamSTEPPS skills using a combination of short didactic sessions and interactive team exercises to apply team skills.



TeamSTEPPS (Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety) is an evidence-based healthcare practice methodology designed to optimize team performance across the entire spectrum of the healthcare delivery system to ensure patient safety, satisfaction, and to reduce preventable harm. The methodology is a multi-team system that ensures patient safety through excellent communication skills between participants, strong and committed leadership, in-depth situation monitoring, and a culture of help and mutual support between all team members.

## New Debriefing Workshop

Dawn Taylor Peterson, PhD



As many of you are now finding yourself involved in simulations with multiple groups of students and/or clinicians, we felt the need to design a new course. OIPS is excited to announce a new workshop called Facilitating Interprofessional Debriefings, which is now being offered on a regular basis. Facilitating an interprofessional debriefing with two or more professions can be challenging and rewarding. This workshop is intended for faculty and staff who will lead debriefings with participants from multiple

professions. The workshop focuses on effective structure for interprofessional debriefings as well as negotiation skills for working with co-debriefers. Suggestions and tips for including all participants in the debriefing regardless of profession or skill level are also discussed. There are no pre-requisites for this course. We hope you will visit our registration page and sign up for a time that works best for you.

<http://www.uab.edu/simulation/facilitating-interprofessional-debriefings>

## Master of Science in Health Administration Intern

### Wes Ayres

Hello. I am Wes Ayres, a current first year student in the Masters of Science in Health Administration program in the School of Health Professions. I was given the opportunity to work in the Office Interprofessional Simulation through a work study program, and I have been soaking up as much information from the experience as I can. Even though I have only been working in this department for a short time, it is easy to see how large of a role simulation plays in improving operations in the health system. From training future physicians and nurses to testing a wing of the health system in its preparedness to deal with various codes, the department of simulation is always aiming to improve and teach others. During my time in the work study, I am trying to learn about improving operations through simulation and having the health system better prepared for the difficulties of being one of the largest hospitals. Also during my time, I aim to help the department accurately quantify its benefit to the health system and university. I am looking forward to continuing my learning from the impressive staff for the remaining seven months of the work study.



## CAE iStan Patient Simulator

### Jarrold Young, Clinical Simulation Specialist



The recent arrival of iStan, a patient simulator from CAE Healthcare, adds another top-of-the-line high fidelity simulator to the training curriculum at UAB. Because of his wireless technology, iStan is a versatile patient simulator who can be run from any location. iStan will mimic the human cardiovascular, neurological, and respiratory systems. This patient simulator is controlled via a simulator laptop that gives the facilitator total control over iStan's vitals. Just like other high fidelity simulators on the market,

iStan has the capability to defibrillate and pace with live defibrillators. There are, however, areas where iStan stands out from other patient simulators. One of iStan's stand out features is his fully articulating joints and limbs. He is able to bend and "move" in a more physiologically appropriate way than other simulators on the market. Another major plus for iStan is his ability to work with a ventilator. If you would like for information on iStan, or you are ready to book him for your next simulation, please contact us at [simulation@uab.edu](mailto:simulation@uab.edu) for scheduling and availability.

## Upcoming Events

**November 5 & 12, 2015**

**Poverty Sims**

**November 10 & 11, 2015**

**Interprofessional Education - Neuro  
Module**

**November 17 & 18, 2015**

**Interprofessional Education - FUN  
Module**

**November 18, 2015**

**DASH© Series**

**November 20, 2015**

**Critical Care Orientation Sims**

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