Temple podiatric surgeon reflects on recent trip to Haiti

BY RENEE CREE

FOURTH year resident Sebastien Demoiny joined a team of doctors to provide care in the southern part of the country.

“I have been sitting at the Jacmel Aerodrome for over a day waiting for a small Cessna to take me back to Santo Domingo, before heading home to Philadelphia…part of me cannot wait to go home…but a big part of me also wants to stay and continue the work that I have been a part of here.”

So begins a letter from Sebastien Demoiny, a fourth podiatric surgery year resident at the School of Podiatric Medicine and Temple University Hospital, to his family as he accompanied a relief team to the port town of Jacmel, in the southern portion of Haiti, to provide wound care and surgical care to displaced residents.

Demoiny said he and his team did not see any signs of the devastation that awaited them until just a few hundred yards from the airport.

“Schools, churches, stores, and homes were completely destroyed,” he said. “One thing that was immediately noticeable was all of the tents lining the sidewalks. One site had almost 4,000 people living in a giant tent city in an old soccer field.”

Demoiny and his team set up a clinic in their hotel the very first day, treating almost 350 people. Over the course of the week that they were there, the team saw over 1,000 patients.

Demoiny said he felt a little unsure of how he would be helpful at first, as podiatry is such a specialized area. But his medical background came in very handy on a number of cases. In addition, Demoiny is fluent in French, which helped bridge the communication barrier between patient and doctor.

“I got all the wounds, abscesses, and extremity problems, but I also treated a lot of patients with asthma, diarrhea, malaria, and stomach aches,” he said. “There had been so much dust since the earth quake that people were having a lot of respiratory issues and irritated eyes.”

After the earthquake hit, Demoiny said he felt an immediate need to go and help, but was unsure how to go about it. He received a call from an old friend, William Haun, who was planning to head to Haiti with a non-profit group called Haiti Helpers, and asked if he’d like to join them.

“This is a group that has been going to Haiti for the past 10 years, so when William called me, I immediately jumped at the opportunity,” he said.

While there, he said he was struck by how happy and alive the Haitian people were, despite the devastation of their country. Some nights, after the clinic was closed, he said some members of the team went into the giant tent city to play soccer and jump rope with some of the children.

“We were so amazed at how many smiles we saw,” he said. “Every person in this area was affected by the earthquake in some way, yet they were so full of life and joy. Music filled the streets in the evenings, and the people were so grateful for our service.”

He said he plans to go back later this year, because there is still a huge amount of work to be done there. “The people here have a long difficult road ahead of them, and I am humbled to have been a small part of the massive relief effort taking place all over Haiti,” he said.
Greetings,

As 2010 advances, we here at TUSPM are continuing to exceed last years’ successes. The increasing support from our alumni and friends continue to aid TUSPM in serving Philadelphia’s podiatric needs from the education of our students to diligently tending to our patients.

For the last 3 years, we have had the most applicants apply to TUSPM than any of the other schools of podiatric medicine. We are delighted to announce our “match” rate by our students this year is close to 100 percent. Only a few students are in the scramble for residencies and we feel they will be successful in the endeavor. Enrollment and the quality of our students are outstanding; we have the largest and academically best class in over 15 years.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that we now have two DPM/PhDs working in our research department. Dr. Jinsup Song has been awarded an NIH grant in the field of diabetic research. We would also like to welcome Dr. James Furmato, who joined our faculty in 2010, and look forward to his future success.

We have created two clinical skill centers: one in surgery and the other in podiatric medicine. Dr. Howard Palamarchuk has been influential in the Pod-Med skills centers development. Both these labs will continue to elevate our students’ clinical prowess and have been well received by our students.

Our vision of creating a total diabetic limb preservation center at the Foot & Ankle Institute is now closer to being a reality than ever. The architects are designing our facility to be able to achieve our goals. We believe this will be the first podiatric run facility under one roof. It will offer:

- Diabetic wound care
- Offloading
- Lymphedema clinic
- Vascular testing
- Pedorthics
- Multiphase hyperbaric oxygen chamber
- Circulator boot stations
- Gait analysis with sophisticated pressure testing, neurological testing and evaluation
- Reconstructive foot and ankle surgery with specialization in Charcot foot reconstruction
- Full physical therapy services with adjunctive therapies in treating chronic wounds
- MRI and ultra sonographic and digital x-ray evaluations
- Diabetic manifestations of skin diseases
- Diabetic patient education and nutrition
- Consultative services with Temple University vascular surgeons
- Plastic reconstructive surgeons and diabetic specialists.

As you can see, we expanded our podiatric medical services and project our services will be the largest and most complete diabetic/vascular treatment center available anywhere. Our goal is to make the Leonard S. Abrams Center for advanced wound healing not only the most comprehensive and state of the art facility but the place to visit before one ever agrees to an amputation.

As always, thank you to our loyal supporters of TUSPM through cash, personal investments, and in-kind donations. Your kindness during this time of economic hardship is priceless and directly attributed to the success of our students and our overall quest for the highest caliber of podiatrists.

John A. Mattiacci, DPM'70
Dean

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
TEMPLE podiatry students, staff and faculty were joined by Mayor Michael Nutter on Saturday, November 14, 2009, to shine a spotlight on the diabetes epidemic in Philadelphia, which has one of the highest rates of diabetes in the country – roughly 3 percent higher than the national average.

“This epidemic is not just a health matter,” said Dr. Kathya Zinszer, chair of podiatric medicine and orthopedics, and organizer of the event. “It affects our everyday lives by extending into our families, the community, employers and our children, therefore affecting all sections of our Philadelphia community.”

Throughout the day, members of the community were offered free flu vaccines, various health screenings, consultations with medical professionals and several educational workshops on topics such as diabetes and heart disease, exercise and nutrition.

World Diabetes Day is an international campaign started in 1991 and led by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in response to the alarming rise in diabetes around the world.
The most important question on the minds of Podiatric Medical Students today is: “Will there be a residency for me when I graduate?” As student enrollment is rapidly increasing, this question has become a valid concern for many academically qualified, and residency eligible students. Beginning with the graduating Class of 2010, a shortage of Residency positions, for qualified students exists. As of February 3rd, 2010, there are 503 qualified applicants for residency placement on July 1, 2010. The Council of Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) has approved 507 positions, but not all of those positions will be filled, as funding issues and political issues have been encountered. Therefore, of those 507 positions, only 472 are available for graduate placement through the Centralized Application Service for Podiatric Medicine (CASPR) leaving a shortage of 31 positions for this years graduating class!

The Council of Teaching Hospitals (COTH) and APMA have been working vigorously to ensure that every qualified student receives a residency position after graduation from an accredited School of Podiatric Medicine. However, COTH and APMA cannot do it alone. Many Podiatric Physicians, within the last year have taken initiative and created residency programs at their respective hospitals, increasing the number of Residency positions available for qualified students and future colleagues. In addition, existing programs have been pre-approved for an increase in the number of Residents taken per year, several of which have acted on their pre-approval. Due to these combined efforts, the projected shortage has been significantly decreased, and may be decreasing this very minute, but it has not been eliminated! Looking towards the future, the Class of 2011 will have more qualified students for Residency positions than the Class of 2010 and any student who does not match with a program this year can re-enter “match” next year increasing the shortage. As can be easily demonstrated, the snowball effect has begun and it will take your help, and the help of Alumni across the country to bring it to a stop!

The Council of Teaching Hospitals, students and future colleagues are seeking Podiatrists who are willing to create new Residency positions or programs, helping to close this gap. There is an APMA Residency Helpline Number (1-800-372-0775) for those who are interested in doing their part! A Podiatrist can obtain the information they need to create new programs and increase numbers at current programs in order to help solve the looming Residency shortage. Students from all schools of Podiatric Medicine are eternally grateful for the efforts made thus far and for the efforts of those individuals who will be proactive in solving this problem.

Blair Jolley
TUSPM Class of 2011
APMSA HOD Member

Questions? Comments? Please contact: GIlppolito@tuspm.temple.edu or call 215-625-5249.
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY School of Podiatric Medicine’s class of 2012 was given their clinical white coats on April 9, 2010 during TUSPM’s Rite of Passage ceremony. The ceremony’s venue was new this year, occurring at Temple University’s main campus Mitten Hall.

This annual event honors the second-year podiatry students who enter into their clinical work with Temple University’s School of Podiatry Medicine. The title of the event has been called the “Pinning Ceremony” in the past, however this year TUSPM has also referred to the event as the “White Coat Ceremony”. The students were “coated” by our faculty instead of being “pinned” as well.

Dean John Mattiacci welcomed the students, faculty, alumni and friends to the ceremony, which was the largest class in recent history. The guest speakers included Mark Pinker, DPM, and Lisa Staiano-Coico, Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs from Temple University.

Mark Pinker delivered the George A. Sonneborn, M.D. Memorial Lecture, which is given annually to commemorate Dr. Duane Sonneborn, who served TUSPM for 50 years.

TEMPLE PODIATRY SCHOOL CELEBRATES WHITE COAT CEREMONY

CLOAKED IN GREATNESS

JEN MULHERN ’11: STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT

“What are your hopes for TUSPM in the future?”

In 10 years, I would like to see TUSPM at the forefront of Podiatry in the Philadelphia and Tri-state areas. Plans are currently in the works to include a Hyperbaric Oxygen chamber on site, while expanding our Wound Care Center and providing multi-faceted care to our patients. This would include the ability for patients to receive non-invasive vascular studies on-site as well as ultrasound modalities and various other facets of Podiatry that we currently do not offer. It would make TUSPM a “one-stop” shop for any patient need prior to surgical invention, for which other specialties would than collaborate. The steps are currently in place and progress has been made thus far, with the hope that in 10 years, all expansive goals will have been seen to fruition!
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ALUMNI BOOKSHELF

A Father’s Anguish
R.W. Doyen

R.W. Doyen is an author, a business owner, an every man’s man, but above all else, he is a father and husband. Life’s everyday, tedious routines and small issues often get in the way of what’s important, family. If anyone can attest to this, Doyen can. He experienced the ultimate horror any father can every face, his daughter came home to tell him that she was brutally attacked and raped.

Years later, after the pain had lessened and the fear began to slightly subside, R.W. Doyen decided to write about the family tragedy. What has transpired is a fictional representation based on true events of what a father feels after his daughter has been a victim of sexual assault. It is a story of fear, vengeance, law and hope. It is a story of what a family goes through when the most precious gift and blessing of a father and mother, a child, is assaulted and raped. It is a story of A Father’s Anguish.

R.W. Doyen graduated from the University of Maine and then from the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine in Philadelphia. For twenty-four years, he practiced podiatry in Towanda, Pennsylvania. He relocated to North Carolina, founded a sea wall construction company, and began to write about this devastating episode in his life.

To read more or to order: www.fathersanguish.com

NEW FACULTY: James Furmato, DPM

Dr. James Furmato, DPM and TUSPM graduate ’95 joined our staff in 2010. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Podiatric Medicine & Orthopedics Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine.

ALUMNI SEMINAR

THE TUSPM Alumni Association will be holding their 2nd Annual Foot and Ankle Seminar this fall at the School of Podiatric Medicine. The event begins at 7 A.M. on Saturday, October 3, 2010 and continues until 5:30 P.M. on Sunday, October 5, 2010.

“The 2009 Seminar was an overwhelming success. We raised $20,000.00 which will directly benefit our student scholarship fund,” said Richard Adler, DPM ’77., FACFAS and President of the TUSPM Alumni Association and Chairman of the Seminar Committee.

“This October we hope to have an even larger turnout as we have 100 participating doctors and 15 vendors attending the event,” explained Dr. Adler, “We will also have all new faculty and topics to cover. It is our hope that this event will once more become an annual event, as it was in the past.”

Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine is approved by the Council of Podiatric Medicine Education as a sponsor of continuing education in podiatric medicine. Sixteen credits will be awarded for your attendance at this seminar. Net proceeds from the seminar benefit the TUSPM Alumni Association’s Endowed Scholarship Fund.

The early bird registration fee, before September 1, 2010, is $275. After September 1, 2010 the fee is $325 and $375 at the door. The special overnight rate is available at the Hilton Garden Inn for $129.

Registration materials will be mailed. For additional information please email: alumni.seminar@temple.edu.
Do You Have a Fungal Nail Infection?

Example of nail approx. 30% infected

Infected nail must:
- be large toenail
- be more than 10% infected
- be less than 50% infected
- have no black material underneath
- have infection that does not extend to base of toe
- be no thicker than two pennies at the edge of the nail (3 mm)

If your large toenail has a mild to moderate fungal infection of less than 50% of the nail area you may qualify for a clinical research study using a new phototherapy treatment for onychomycosis. This treatment uses no oral or topical medications! Temple Foot and Ankle is currently conducting a year-long research study for subjects diagnosed with mild to moderate fungal nail infections. Individuals must be over 18, in good general health and have at least one large toenail that is at least 10% infected but LESS THAN 50% infected. Up to 7 visits over a 14 month period may be necessary for treatment and evaluation. Qualified individuals may receive up to $375 in compensation for time and travel.

If you feel you may qualify or want more information, please call Temple Foot and Ankle Institute at (215) 625-5366 or email us at clinicaltrials@tuspm.temple.edu

This information is approved by Temple University for public display and is associated with project Temple IRB 12960
Win an all expenses paid trip to the biggest game in pro football

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Here’s What You Get:
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Tickets: 1 for $25; 5 for $100

To Purchase Your Tickets
• Go to http://www.myowlspace.com/giving
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Drawing on December 23, 2010

School of Podiatric Medicine
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For more information please contact the development office at (215) 625-5249 or alumni.drawing@temple.edu

All proceeds will benefit the TUSPM Alumni Association Scholarship Fund
Dr. John A. Marty, Ms, DPM, FACFAS

John A. Marty grew up in a suburb of Pittsburgh, in McCandless Township, PA. He attended Bethany College and majored in Biology. When he graduated from Bethany College in 1976, he enrolled at Duquesne University to major in microbiology.

During his time at Duquesne, he wore many hats working a gamut of jobs – ambulance driver, professor’s assistant, phlebotomist, construction crew, and construction supervisor. At this point, Dr. Marty was uncertain about his future. It wasn’t until his neighbor suggested he consider podiatry as a profession that Dr. Marty was able to pinpoint his career path. She had been on her way to an appointment with her podiatrist, Dr. Cercone, and once Dr. Marty spoke to him, his future soon became very clear. Dr. Marty received his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree from the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine (formerly the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine) in 1983. He performed his surgical residency at Pittsburgh Podiatry Hospital and opened his private practice in Kittanning. At that time, Dr. Marty also married his sweetheart Marion.

He has been in awe of podiatry ever since and strongly believes that “Podiatry is a very important part in the medical/surgical care of the public.” He advocates community outreach and encourages all podiatric physicians to get involved with the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association (PPMA) and its educational arm, the Goldfarb Foundation. Dr. Marty has held several offices within the PPMA, including becoming President in 1996. He has published numerous articles and received the PPMA “Podiatrist of the Year” award in 1999.

In 2001, he received the prestigious “Edward L. McQuaid Award” from PPMA for his endless hours of service for the continuing education of podiatrists. Also he has been serving as President of the Goldfarb Foundation since 1998.

Dr. Marty enjoys practicing in Kittanning and calls it home with his wife Marion, and their two children, John III and Christine. He is a Board Certified, Wound Care Specialist and a Diplomate of the ABPS. His web site can be found at www.drjohnmarty.com.

Leonard Portnoy, DPM, ABPOPPM

Leonard Portnoy grew up in Philadelphia, PA, and attended Olney High School, graduating in 1957. Upon his graduation from high school, Dr. Portnoy attended college and graduated in 1961 from Temple University. He became interested in podiatry while in high school after visiting a podiatrist with a family member. Dr. Portnoy received his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree from the TUSPM—Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine (formerly the PCPM—Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine) in 1967. He performed his residency at the Giuffre Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA, and shortly began a preceptorship at the podiatric office of Dr. Irving Smiler, a past PPMA President, 1976-1977.

Besides his numerous Board/Committee appointments with the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association (PPMA) and other organizations during the years, Dr. Portnoy has been a devout member of the Region Three Scientific Committee since 1974. He has helped to shape what Region Three is today and currently serves as its Chairman (2008), since the passing of its previous Chairman Dr. James Bates. “Region Three is designed to augment the knowledge of those attending and provides an opportunity to interact with colleagues,” says Dr. Portnoy.

He is Board Certified by the ABPOPPM and was on the Board of Trustees for PCPM (now TUSPM) for 21 years. Dr. Portnoy has been practicing in Warminster, PA, and lives there with his wife Renee. They have two children, Lauren and Bradley, and four grandchildren— Jacob, Emma, Ashton, and Ilana. In addition to spending time with his family, he enjoys playing golf frequently.
BOARD OF VISITORS PROFILE: Dr. Angelo S. Monaco

ANGELO S. Monaco, DPM '52 has had a dedicated and commendable history with Temple University and the Podiatric Medicine profession in Philadelphia since 1948. With the extensive list of education, achievements, and professional affiliations which decorate Dr. Monaco’s resume, it is perfectly understandable why he is highly respected within his profession. While he attended Temple University for his undergraduate degree of Liberal Arts and Doctoral education in Podiatry, Dr. Monaco has taught in the Department of Orthopedics and had been an instructor in Clinical Podiatry, as well as being the treasurer of the TUSPM Alumni Association.

Dr. Monaco is a member of TUSPM’s Board of Visitors, which is a distinguished group appointed by the University Board of Trustees. The creation of the Board of Visitors dates back to the birth of the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine, which formerly was the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine. He has also served as an indispensable asset to the PPMA on their Board of Trustees, and Alumni Association Treasurer and President between 1961 through 1968. Dr. Monaco also served as Chairman of the Department of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery and staff member at the Hospital of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Monaco has received a plethora of awards and achievements including the Man of the Year award from the PPMA, PPMA Seminar Award, a Fellow of the American College of Foot Surgeons, the E.L. McQuaid Award, as well as being a member of several Honor Societies in Podiatric Medical School.

As Podiatry has been his passion for over 50 years, his son Stephen followed in his footsteps by also becoming a DPM. As well as becoming a President of the PPMA. In regards to this family achievement, Dr. Monaco told the PPMA: “I believe we are the first father and son to have achieved this honor.”

BREAKING NEWS

The Board of Trustees approved awarding the TUSPM diploma to Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine doctoral graduates. More information pending.

Send us your news or updated contact information to: Gippolito@tuspm.temple.edu or call 215-625-5249.
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UPCOMING EVENTS

3rd Annual James E. Bates, DPM Alumni Reception at Region III
May 7, 2010

TUSPM Commencement Ceremony
Academy of Music at 10:00 A.M.
Friday, May 14, 2010

National 2010 APMA Annual Scientific Meeting –
American Podiatric Medical Association
Washington State Convention & Trade Center
800 Convention Place
Seattle, WA 98101

Alumni Association's Foot & Ankle Seminar at TUSPM
October 2-3, 2010
Benefits Scholarship Endowment