TUSPM Joins Surgical Mission Trip To Nicaragua

BY GIAVANNA IPPOLITO

Our lower extremities are the active agents which allow us to effortlessly travel from point A to point B. When one is in need of podiatric care in America, or any sort of medical need, many have the ability and means to seek aid in an emergency.

Envision how difficult this task would become with severely neglected congenital issues and deformities plaguing us without income to cover travel expenses, medical help to be had, or even shoes to be worn in the middle of a rural Nicaraguan village, with no running water and metal shacks as our homes.

Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine was made aware of these harsh conditions through several avenues.

The United Methodist Church of Mamaroneck, New York, which conducted the mission trip, are open to people of any religious denomination and field of medical practice, and welcome all who wish to assist in bettering the lives of this community.

Adjunct faculty member Dr. Jeffrey Siegel and his colleague Dr. Charles Morelli, whom both had conducted mission trips to Nicaragua for the past seven years, and Alumni Association Board Secretary Dr. Sharmila Das-Wattley knew immediately that they all should assist in the experience, sharing their skills as podiatric professionals.

“Each one of us, I believe, had our own motivation,” explained Dr. Das-Wattley. “Some gave their time and physical efforts, others gave of their skill, and others went to learn.”

“The reality is that the portrait of poverty is the same no matter where one travels on earth,” Dr. Siegel said. “It is crystal clear that we are just one of thousands of missionary teams’ world-wide providing humanitarian aid.”

Immediately the hearts and hands of these doctors, third-year students James Morrow and Morgan Houston, and fourth-year Surgical Resident Kate Paskey were prepared to begin their first TUSPM mission trip, with the help of the TUSPM Alumni Association, traveling 1,972 miles in the middle of February to relieve those in desperate need in Leon, Nicaragua.

“There were no expectations from us, but they pleaded that we do whatever we can to help these people in need” said Dr. Das-Wattley.

The TUSPM Alumni Association Board assisted with the student’s expenses in order to complete the mission trip and expressed hopes for this project to become continual at TUSPM.

“They are being given the opportunity to screen patients who don’t have access to podiatric health care at birth, so these students will be able to see pathology that we don’t normally encounter,” said Alumni Board President Dr. Richard Adler. “As an Alumni Board member, I was happy to help these students make the trip, and I hope we can continue this program. As a practicing podiatrist, I’m a little jealous!”

For seven days, doctors and students joined forces through their generosity and wisdom at HEODRA Hospital in Leon, Nicaragua and endured long, reconstructive surgical procedures spanning 10-15 hour workdays. TUSPM representatives served as the Surgical Team for the mission trip.

“On the first day, there were no less than 50 full families from all over Central America sleeping on hot, humid, filthy lobby floors, curled in a ball waiting for us to help,” Dr. Siegel explained. “They had been waiting days and traveled hundreds of miles and had nowhere else to stay.”

continued on page 12
Greetings,

While springtime is upon us in Philadelphia, we at TUSPM are continuing our state of excellence while watching new buds of progress arise.

As mentioned in our winter 2010 issue, the Board of Trustees at Temple University has approved the issuance of TUSPM degrees to graduates of our School when it was the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine.

This “official” welcoming of our alumni into the Temple family has deemed successful in more ways than one. Hundreds of alumni have reached out to our Alumni Relations Office inquiring about diplomas, courtesy of TUSPM, with a request to donate a gift of any amount to various TUSPM endowed scholarship funds. We have had the chance to reconnect with alumni who we have not communicated with since their time at 8th and Race streets. Through their generosity and excitement about this project, we have gratefully received over $5,600.00 for scholarships and we possess the joy of knowing TUSPM diplomas are now being displayed in the homes and offices of our wonderful alumni.

In this issue of Strides, our alumni, students, faculty and staff are reaching ever soaring heights of accomplishments and accolades. A few of these include our students, faculty and alumni who have flown to Nicaragua and completed a mission trip. Several of our alumni and faculty have been published in journals, websites, magazines, and online videos as well as winning awards and accepting new positions within Podiatric associations. Our students and faculty were the active voices behind Philadelphia announcing November 14th as “World Diabetes Day” and have been featured on Channel 6 ABC and KYW1060 for their innovative ideas.

The Foot and Ankle Institute have also been continuing their standards of excellence through several avenues. We have fully implemented Electronic Medical Records, Digital Radiography, and Ultrasound, and patient records are soaring here and in the Wound Care Center. A fresh look to the clinic has been brought to life through new lighting, walls and carpets, treatment chairs and a new phone system to assure all patients are being scheduled; we receive hundreds of calls per day. The Physical Therapy Department is also experiencing high volumes as 15 or more patients are being seen daily by our Physical Therapist.

As our school continues to see successes and praise, our students continue to see a shortage in medical rotations, which are an unparalleled staple in their education. We ask you, our constant supporters, if you are aware of medical rotations within hospitals, private practice, emergency rooms, clinics and MD offices that become available; we would greatly appreciate any information or help that can be offered.

Thank you for continuing to support our institution, our students, and our profession through your personal investments and in-kind donations and as always, we welcome you to your alma mater with open arms.
WE COULD ALWAYS HAVE MOORE SHOES AT TUSPM

BY JULIE CLARKE

During the holiday months, the TUSPM community welcomed one particular festive decoration that was slightly off the beaten path. On December 7, 2010, Moore College of Art and Design donated a large scale boot to the school’s Center for the History of Foot Care and Footwear, fondly known as The Shoe Museum. The boot came from a series which was designed and fabricated by Moore alumna Darla Jackson ’03 as part of the college’s 160th anniversary. She was commissioned to create the unique pieces of art by the Anniversary Alumnae Committee who first proposed the idea to have alumnae create some kind of shoe to represent the varied journeys Moore alumnae have taken over the 16 decades the school has been in existence.

After being created, the boots were given to various Moore alumnae to be decorated. The former students were inspired by the theme of following in someone’s footsteps and were permitted to use any medium to express their individual ideas. In all, twelve boots were completed by fourteen alumnae and installed in offices, hotels, and public buildings throughout the Philadelphia area for one year, including The Four Seasons Hotel, The Shops at Liberty Place, and The Philadelphia Inquirer Building.

TUSPM’s new boot was created by Jane Walentas ’66, and was originally displayed at Moore’s Widner Gallery at 20th and The Parkway before making the main lobby at the podiatry school its permanent home. The boot is entitled “Step by Step: 1966-Present” and is roller-skate shaped. It was decorated using sepia toned photos printed on an ink jet printer, acrylic paint, aluminum leaf covered metal grommets, applasty tacts, and satin ribbon.

“It was our wish that more people would be able to enjoy the artistry and scale of these wonderful sculptures,” said Moore’s Alumnae Affairs Director, Doris Chorney. “TUSPM provides a unique venue for these sculptures, a place where the focus is on our feet!” Chorney hoped that TUSPM’s staff, students, faculty, and visitors will be able to enjoy Moore’s footsteps for years to come.

BOARD OF VISITORS PROFILE: New Members for 2010

BY GIAVANNA IPPOLITO

The Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine announced the appointment of four new members to their Board of Visitors in 2010.

In addition to the twenty-one distinguished members of the Board of Visitors the new members, Dr. Mary E. Crawford, SuEllen Dercher, Dr. Eugene M. Smolens, and Dr. Michael F. Zarro, will bring innovative insights and professional connections along with their continuing generosity and plans for Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine Board.

New members include:

Dr. Mary E. Crawford of Everett, Washington is employed at the Ankle & Foot Clinic of Everett as an Ankle and Foot Surgeon. Dr. Crawford’s specialty is reconstructive foot and ankle surgery. She is one of four physicians practicing at the clinic. Professional affiliations of Dr. Crawford’s include membership of the American Podiatric Medical Association, fellowship within the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, and Chair of the Board of Medical Advisors for the Northwest Podiatric Foundation for Education and Research.

Mrs. SuEllen Dercher of Upper Darby, Pennsylvania has been the President and owner of Gordon Laboratories for twenty-three years. Gordon Laboratories had been a manufacturer of professional pharmaceutical specialties since 1950, including topical podiatric products. Dercher is a Corporate Sponsor and Liaison for the American Academy of Podiatric Practice Management and a current and founding member of the American Podiatric Medical Students’ Association.

Dr. Eugene M. Smolens of Wayne, Pennsylvania is a practicing Geriatric Podiatrist at Life Care Podiatry, P.C., as well as having a Private Practice; he has been practicing in the greater Philadelphia area since 1977. Dr. Smolens is a member of the Temple University Hospital Board of Governors, member of the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association and American Podiatric Medical Association.

Dr. Michael F. Zarro of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is employed as Podiatrist for the Podiatric Medicine & Surgical Associates, Staff Podiatrist for Student Health Services at the University of Pennsylvania, and Adjunct Clinical Instructor for Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine. Dr. Zarro’s professional affiliations include membership of the Philadelphia County Podiatric Medical Association and the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association, as well as fellowship within the American Society of Podiatric Medicine.
**TUSPM FORENSICS CLUB UPDATE**

**BY MIKE SGANGA, TUSPM FORENSICS CLUB PRESIDENT**

In the winter 2010 issue of Strides, 3rd year student Michael Sganga and Assistant Professor Dr. Arthur Washburn began to spread the word about the first Forensic Podiatry Club in the country, which they initiated in the fall of 2010.

“We are an educational and professional group dedicated to furthering podiatric medicine in new ways,” explained Sganga. “We want to be able to present ourselves legally as specialists of the foot and ankle and assist in criminal cases much like forensic dentistry has done.” Sganga and Dr. Washburn hope to conduct educational lectures, workshops, and discussions throughout each academic year.

With the wonderful support of TUSPM students and faculty, the Forensic Podiatry Club has received an array of local press coverage, such as an article in the Temple Times, an interview by KYW CBS News Radio, and a video interview by Channel 6ABC. The club has grown drastically in 3 months, now holding 80 members who are students and professors.

“It is a two-way education, we are showing students and those involved that Forensic Podiatry is out there while at the same time we are showing that podiatry is a true medical specialty that commands the highest level of respect when dealing with the foot and ankle,” said Sganga. “While working with many disciplines in the community, we hope to carve out a niche for podiatrists and further validate podiatry as a specialty.”

As the Forensic Podiatry Club is in its beginning efforts, we ask all alumni and friends who are interested in the field to contact Mike Sganga and are welcomed to attend the next meeting, to be announced.

michael.sganga@temple.edu

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**TUSPM MARTIAL ARTS CLUB (TMA)**

**BY RIKHIL PATEL, TUSPM MARTIAL ARTS CLUB PRESIDENT**

The TUSPM Martial Arts Club (TMA) was founded to merge studying anatomy while getting the workout that students claim they don’t have time for. The Martial Arts Club, or “Fight Club” as it has been nicknamed, is led by myself, Rikhil Patel, and fellow 2nd year student, Joseph DiStefano.

We, being black belts in our respective disciplines, are able to teach various techniques of different martial arts to our classmates. We provide a non-contact martial arts workout and social outlet for anyone interested to have fun. The club has grown from 5 people training in an apartment to 30 members strong with club dues, elected officers, and a wide variety of striking pads.

The use of anatomical terms in our commands keeps our surgical minds fresh while promoting martial arts appreciation. For example, “Plantarflex your toes and extend your knee as you hit the sternum with the dorsum of your foot.” A typical session will start with cardio & stretching, then going through basic punches, kicks, or blocks, and finally doing challenges that test our physical fitness.

Search for our Facebook group to see videos and photos of us in action! Contact us at tuspmTMA@gmail.com with any questions.

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Members of the Martial Arts Club 2010-2011

Michael Sganga and Dr. Arthur Washburn
BY JULIE CLARKE

Marisse Lardizabal is currently a third year student at TUSPM; fashion-forward and a champion for Diabetic advocacy, Lardizabal is at the forefront of the changing face of the next generation of Podiatrists.

Born in New York City, Lardizabal completed her undergraduate degree at Arizona State University. After initially deciding to enter Pre-medicine she switched to major in Art History, feeling a strong desire to pursue her love for the aesthetic. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 2004, Lardizabal moved to Los Angeles, turning her passion for art and design into a career in the fashion industry.

Although she loved the fast paced life of the West Coast, she dealt with an underlying uncertainty concerning her long term career goals.

“I was unsure of what I wanted to do and I was starting to desire something more stable,” said Lardizabal. Remembering her initial love for the sciences, Lardizabal moved back to Arizona and enrolled in pre-requisites for medical school at her alma mater.

After taking the MCATS, the next step was deciding what type of medicine she was to study. She eventually chose podiatry for a few reasons. “Although podiatry is a specific field, it offers the opportunity to treat the whole patient more than with other specialties,” notes Lardizabal. “If our lower extremities aren’t functioning properly, our whole body can be thrown off kilter.” After working in the often hectic fashion industry, Lardizabal also was also able to appreciate the fact that podiatry offers the opportunity to control the pace at which you work, which offers the possibility to balance work and lifestyle.

After applying, Lardizabal was accepted into all of the Podiatric Schools to which she applied, including one in her home state of Arizona. Temple, however, was always her first choice. “Besides the fact that moving across the country seemed exciting, I picked Temple for its excellent reputation and accreditations, as well as the number of hospitals that exist in the Philly metropolitan area, which means a better chance of securing a residency.”

From her first days at TUSPM, one particular issue that Lardizabal took note of in the Podiatric community was the growing diabetic population and their need for sufficient foot care. Lardizabal has watched her diabetic grandfather follow a strict routine when it came to caring for his disease. He is surrounded by a supportive family, stays up to date on his treatment, and knows the warning signs should something go wrong. However, Lardizabal came to find that not all diabetics are as vigilant as her grandfather. This fact was made crystal clear in the VA hospital where she has been completing her clinical work; she estimated that over half of the patients she saw daily had diabetes.

“When I started my work there, I really wanted to find a practical way to make a difference in the lives of this group of patients,” remarked Lardizabal. “I try to give them as much advice as I can when it comes to taking care of their overall health, especially how to regularly check for sores on their feet.”

As a future Podiatrist, she sees the issues surrounding diabetes as imperative facts to have a firm grasp on. “It’s an issue that isn’t going anywhere,” says Lardizabal. “People can no longer think it will never happen to them because it can and it will.”

One way to increase this awareness, in Lardizabal’s opinion, is to have more class time dedicated to learning about diabetes and how it affects the lower extremities. “I think that learning hands on from working with patients is an excellent learning tool,” she said. “But it might be helpful to learn how to conduct a thorough diabetic work up before starting to interact with patients.” For Lardizabal, each day is an experience to learn something new as the patients she meets are as the issues that ail them.

Currently, Lardizabal is president of TUSPM’s Diabetes Awareness Club, a role which allowed her to be present at such events as Fabulously Fit and the November signing of the Diabetes Proclamation at City Hall, which officially declared November 14th as World Diabetes Day. “It was a great experience, I felt privileged to be part of such a huge event,” says Lardizabal.

After graduation, she would like to move back to the Arizona area and work in a hospital setting so she can establish relationships with other doctors in various specialties. “I love Philly, but I definitely miss my family and the warm Arizona weather, especially after this crazy east coast winter.”

Although she is incredibly dedicated to the podiatric cause, she admits that she has had a hard time letting go of her fashion-forward past. At 5’0 she loves to wear the sky-high heels she so often tells her patients to shy away from. “I tell my patients, high heels are like McDonalds: fine in moderation!”
TUSPM STUDENTS WIN AWARD

Dr. Kathya Zinszer, Luke Vetti (TUSPM class of 2012), and Ushita Patel (TUSPM class of 2012) with their poster entitled “A Novel Topical Therapy for Pyoderma Gangrenosum using Compounded Hydrolyzed Type I Bovine Collagen.” Their poster was presented at the American Professional Wound Care Association’s 2011 National Clinical Conference from March 31 - April 3 and won 2nd place in the poster abstract competition.

JEOPARDY

On March 21, 2011 a $200 question on Channel 6 ABC’s Jeopardy was concerning TUSPM. The question was “A museum at Temple University’s School of Podiatric Medicine has some 900 pairs of these in its collection” and the answer was “shoes”, in reference to the TUSPM Shoe Museum.

TALON-TEMPLE ADVOCATES LEGISLATIVE OUTREACH NETWORK

BY JULIE CLARKE

As members of the Temple University community, we are dedicated to supporting the historic mission of our University through advocacy and action. We, along with Temple’s students, faculty, alumni, family and friends, will work with elected leaders and community groups to ensure the university’s efforts and accomplishments are known across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States. Attending legislative briefings, writing letters to our elected officials, and making phone calls and meeting with legislative leaders are some of the ways we support the important work Temple does for our communities, the commonwealth and the nation.

Temple University is currently in the process of creating our steering committee for Temple Advocates Legislative Outreach Network (TALON), a group of dedicated individuals who can utilize their professional abilities and personal relationships to help ensure the success of Temple University. Members of the Steering Committee will assist the university in:

• Promoting the mission of Temple University in the local community.
• Assisting with recruiting new TALON members.
• As needed, organizing local legislative briefings in their community in conjunction with the office of Government, Community and Public Affairs.
• Contacting local legislators with information about Temple University issues at the Statehouse.

Interested in getting involved? Contact Temple University’s Office of Government, Community and Public Affairs at www.temple.edu/government. Use this website to update yourself on public policy concerning potential budget cuts, sign Temple’s petition to keep tuition cuts down, and more.

THE WACHMAN SOCIETY

Established in 2006 by Temple University in tribute to Marvin and Adeline Wachman, the Wachman Society recognizes individuals who have made gifts to the university for 25 or more consecutive years. The Wachman Society is currently more than 450 members strong. We are proud to acknowledge our alumni who are members:

- Richard E. Adler, DPM and Mrs. Aileen Adler
- Andrew J. Delgado, DPM
- Gary J. Friend, DPM
- Drs. Arthur and Myra Helfand
- Angelo S. Monaco, DPM and Mrs. Marcy Monaco
- James C. White, DPM and Mrs. Nancy L. White
In April 2010, The Board of Trustees for Temple University approved the issuance of TUSPM degrees to graduates of the School when it was known as the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine (PCPM).

There is no charge for the diploma, but we are accepting donations of any amount to our TUSPM endowed scholarship funds.

To receive your new diploma, please contact Giavanna Ippolito, Assistant Director of Communications, at (215) 625-5249 or Gippolito@tuspm.temple.edu.
TUSPM WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING GENEROUS DONORS FOR THEIR GIFTS AND PLEDGE PAYMENTS (October 31, 2010 – April 1, 2011)

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Harold D. Schoenhaus, D.P.M. ’70 and Cheryl Schoenhaus
Jack Maynard Schreffler, D.P.M. ’96 and Joyce Ann Schreffler
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George F. Wallace, D.P.M. ’81
Please note that we made every effort to include all donors who made gifts, new pledges, or payments on existing pledges. If for some reason we have omitted your name, please accept our sincerest apologies, and please contact us so that we may include you in the next issue.
DR. KRISTA ARCHER, DPM ’03
Source: http://drkristaarcher.com/
Dr. Krista Archer has been featured on Good Morning America Health several times, regarding such topics as winter footwear and cosmetic foot surgery. Her website features links to each interview.

DR. DESMOND BELL, DPM ’95
Source: PM News, January 8th issue # 4, 058
Dr. Desmond Bell, who lives in Jacksonville, runs a foundation called Save a Leg, Save a Life. A certified wound specialist. Bell is passionate about saving limbs because he said there is a direct correlation between life expectancy and amputation. He said that the life expectancy of most amputees drops by 40% in three years.

DR. PHILLIP J. BRESNAHAN, DPM, ’85, FACULTY
Source: http://www.rrstar.com/healthyrockford/x1705417947/Flat-feet-can-cause-health-problems-later-in-life#ap
Dr. Philip J. Bresnahan, DPM, assistant professor of podiatric medicine at TUSPM was featured in the Rockford Register Star in an article titled Flat Feet can cause problems later in life where he discusses a surgical procedure that can be performed during childhood which can help correct flat feet for children.

DR. SHARMILA DAS-WATTLEY, DPM ’97 AND DR. ERIC J. ROBERTS, DPM ’09
Dr. Das-Wattley and Dr. Roberts were featured in the Journal of Foot and Ankle Surgery for their article, Synovial Sarcoma Arising in the Foot: Case Report.

DR. ROBERT HERPEN, DPM ’80 FACULTY
November 3, 2010 - The Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association (PPMA) has named Dr. Robert Herpen their President. His position as President will run from November 2010 until November 2011. The PPMA currently represents more than 850 Doctors of Podiatric Medicine (or podiatrists) across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and had celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2009. As President, Herpen will represent the state society at functions alongside the PMS and POA. His prime objective is to meet the increasing demand for residency programs for graduates.

DR. JAMES MCGUIRE, DPM, PT, CPED, FAPWCA ’81, FACULTY
Source: Advances in Skin & Wound Care: The Journal for Prevention and Healing, December 2010 , Volume 23 Number 12 ("photo credit Kathleen A. Greaves)
Dr. James McGuire was winner of the 2010 Roberta S. Abruzzese Publishing Award for “Transitional Off-loading: An Evidence-Based Approach to Pressure Redistribution in the Diabetic Foot,” published in the April 2010 issue of Advances in Skin & Wound Care. Dr. McGuire is certified in wound care by the Council for Medical Education and Testing; is associate professor, Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine, Department of Podiatric Medicine and Orthopedics, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Director, Leonard S. Abrams Center for Advanced Wound Healing, Philadelphia. This award was supported by an educational grant from Advances in Skin & Wound Care.

DR. JAY SCHNITZER, DPM ’71
Dr. Jay Schnitzer has received the “Man of The Year” award from The National Kidney Foundation of Delaware Valley. Schnitzer received a transplanted kidney in 2009 from a patient he had operated on. Since that time, he has reached out to dialysis patients, post-transplant patients, and has taken part in many focus groups concerning kidney disease and the lower extremity.
DR. JAY SCHNITZER, DPM
’71 AND DR. IVY U. OZUZU,
DPM ’08
Dr. Schnitzer and Dr. Ozuzu were featured in the Journal of Foot and Ankle Surgery for their case report, An Unusual Presentation of Spitz Lesion on an Adolescent’s Foot

DR. JINSUP SONG, DPM, PHD ’97, FACULTY
Featured in PRNewsWire.com for Stride Rite’s In-Depth Multi-Phase Research Study, which has revealed significant findings on how shoe design effects child development (http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/stride-rites-in-depth-multi-phase-research-study-reveals-significant-findings-on-how-shoe-design-affects-child-development-114928709.html)

DR. BILL RELERFORD,
DPM ’88
Dr. Bill Releford was featured on the website BlackNews.com for the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program at the Los Angeles Convention Center for the 3rd Annual African-American Men’s Health Empowerment Summit & Job Fair. The Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program seeks to reduce health care disparities among African American men through screening, educating and referring men to the doctor. Since its inception, the program has screened over 25,000 men in over 26 cities in 450 black owned barbershops. About Dr. Bill Releford Dr. Bill J. Releford, a podiatric surgeon based in Los Angeles. He established the Diabetic Foot Institute in Inglewood. He specializes in diabetic limb salvage to help reduce diabetes-related amputations among African Americans.

DR. NATHAN THOMAS,
DPM ’83
Source: PM News, December 16th issue # 4, 308
Dr. Nathan Thomas has been appointed by Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer to the state’s Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Thomas also serves as the president of the Montana Podiatric Medical Association.

DR. TRACEY VLAVHOVIC,
DPM ’00, FACULTY

DR. KATHYA ZINSZER,
DPM ’95, FACULTY

IN MEMORIAM

1940s
Norman Charles MacMath, D.P.M. ‘42
Edith Earle, D.P.M. ‘43

1980s
Donna Theresa Landi, D.P.M. ‘80

Become a mentor for TUSPM students!

Apply to be a mentor through:
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• If you are a member, sign in. If not, create an account with myowlspacemcom
• Once signed in, click on “Online Community” on the top left
• Click on “Mentor Directory” on the left hand side
• Prospective mentors must fill out “Edit Personal Information”
• To search fellow members, choose “Podiatrist” under the “Occupation” drop down menu

For questions regarding the program, contact Dr. Raymond DiPrimio at RDiprimio@tuspm.temple.edu
As the team brought their knowledge and skills in order to practice and save, their surroundings were one of a foreign nature. “The working conditions in the OR and Triage was naturally not what we were used to in the U.S. and this was to be expected. Conditions were dirty with maggots on the floor and patients were feeding chickens in the waiting areas,” explained Dr. Das-Wattley. “Given all of that, our team worked alongside the Nicaraguan Orthopedic residents and all were eager to learn.”

Student James Morrow said, “The medical supplies at our disposal were limited by what we could bring in our suitcases, yet the surgical opportunities seemed limitless.”

Alongside TUSPM were several other volunteers from varying medical disciplines, including an ER nurse practitioner and her brother who was an Ultrasound Technician, a retired Yale Internal Medicine doctor and a medical student with Master of Science in Public Health. There were also members of the United Methodist Church of Mamaroneck, NY present, including a Google executive.

Over the course of one week within an extremely rural setting, the team examined 50 patients and performed surgeries on over 20 patients. Alongside the Podiatric Foot and Ankle Surgeons, TUSPM students and resident, there were several other doctors who screened and treated patients’ offsite in several rural clinics including an OBGYN, a Primary Care doctor, and a Dermatologist.

Third year student Morgan Houston said, “We were able to see cases that we have only so far seen in textbooks or lectures.”

“The mission of the Church was to build a 16 x16 square foot house in 4 days for a family of five. They purchased the land, building supplies and labor,” explained Dr. Siegel. “They had been living in a corrugated metal shack with a dirt floor. A construction crew, along with many villagers, built the home and septic sewer system.”

Although the mission of this trip was set forth to physically help those in dire need, those who attended found themselves entering a spiritual and cultural experience.

“Traveling to a foreign country with limited resources and obvious language barriers, there was an immediate and overwhelming sense of harmony among the surgical team, made up of both Northern and Central Americans,” Paskey said. “This was an extremely humbling, emotional, and educational experience that I am very thankful to have been a part of during my final year of surgical training.”

During the limited time when the team was not performing surgeries, TUSPM’s team cooked with the people in the village, hauled water and supplies, read the Bible at the church service and gave out free clothes and toys, which the church donated. They also played with local children and watched the sunset on the Nicaraguan beach.

Although this selfless work performed merely scraped the surface of the needs this Nicaraguan village possesses, the TUSPM team has inspired talk of more mission trips to be planned with an increased size of their team and efforts.

“This opportunity, presented by the Church, will surely cause a ripple effect and it gave students a chance to see there is more to learning than just didactics,” said Assistant Professor Dr. Kathya Zinszer.

“The surgical exposure had little to do with this trip. It taught me more about what kind of a practitioner and individual I would like to be in the future,” Dr. Das-Wattley said. “It was a spiritual experience and it reminded me of how fortunate I am. I was born in India and from a privileged background but have seen poverty around me. Living in the US you tend to forget about that.”

The students especially found that the mark left on their podiatric medicine training and hearts through this trip was unparalleled.

“During our journey home, one of the women said to me, ‘You will be unpacking for weeks,’ said Paskey. “I realize now she didn’t mean my luggage.”
During the fall 2010 semester, The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Institute (IEI) presented an award to Temple University students and faculty during their 13th annual Innovative Idea Competition Awards Ceremony at Alter Hall. Participants from eleven Temple colleges entered their projects for review by the IEI.

The Innovative Idea Competition allows the opportunity for groundbreaking ideas and partnerships to collide in the hopes of creating new technology and business ventures.

Partnerships within these applicants included TUSPM alumni and Assistant Professor Dr. Jason Piraino and Mike Mittelman from the Fox School of Business.

Within the award category for graduate and undergraduate tracks, Dr. Piraino and Mittelman received 2nd place within the upper track for their collaboration project, Angulous Orthopaedics. Dr. Piraino and Mittelman were also honored in accepting 1st place for the People’s Choice Award, which was conducted via live voting at the awards ceremony.

In May 2009, our Radiology Department at TUSPM ceased full time darkroom operations and entered the digital age of image processing as we contracted with the computer based 20/20 imaging company. Except for occasional lapses, we rarely use film based radiographs any longer.

There are several advantages to the new digital system. First is the cost efficiency; after the initial startup cost, we no longer need to purchase x-ray films, developer and fixer chemicals, film envelopes, index stamping cards or multi-colored tape for film identification. Money is also saved on film storage costs, which can be expensive for off-site areas. Medical records department space is limited and filled up rapidly. Our closest estimate is that in one year, the system will have more than paid for itself.

The image quality with the digital system is superb and any image can be enhanced and improved by changing the contrast and/or density with the computer. Radiographs no longer need to be repeated due to overexposure or underexposure. Angles can be easily measured on the monitor screen; we can zoom in, or magnify, any part of the foot or ankle. There is no longer a need for a view box, hot light, or magnifying glass.

Also, radiographic images no longer get “lost”; by typing in the patient’s name or chart number, the images can be almost instantly retrieved on screen. Patient’s image copies can be easily and inexpensively made on CDs or paper print outs.

After some initial trial and error periods with the new digital system and teaching its use to our bright students, Radiology Supervisor Mary Oehler and I are very happy with our new improved Radiology Department. Wilhelm Roentgen would be proud to see how far X-ray Technology has progressed in our 21st century.
A very dynamic yet active Alumni organization which hosts convenient meetings to fit your schedule.

Here’s YOUR personal invite... make an impact, shape school policy, be a part of student life, raise a small fortune for student scholarship.

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TUSPM Class of 2013 was given their clinical white coats on April 1, 2011 during the Rite of Passage ceremony at Mitten Hall on Temple University’s main campus. To see more photos, please visit Temple Podiatry’s Facebook page (facebook.com/temple.podiatry).
Save the Date: October 1-2, 2011
3rd Annual TUSPM Alumni Foot and Ankle Seminar
148 North 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Speakers include, but are not limited to:

Adam Landsman, DPM, PhD
Nicholas Romansky, DPM
Jennifer Sloan, MD
Ron Raducanu, DPM
Michael Kerzner, DPM
Philip Demp, DPM
Jay Schnitzer, DPM
Robert Floros, DPM
Gregory Goodworth, MD
Ben Overly, DPM
Karen Langone, DPM
Rita Yates, DPM
Tracy Vlahovic, DPM
Sharmila Das-Wattley, DPM
Bradley Bakotic, DPM, DO

• 16 CME Credits
• Workshops will be available
• PA Radiation Safety course given

If you are willing to present at the Seminar, we ask that you provide us with the following information and send via email to alumni.seminar@temple.edu:

Name, Address, Telephone/Mobile, Email, Lecture Title, Description of Lecture, Attached CV

For more information, email Dr. Possanza at alumni.seminar@temple.edu
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UPCOMING EVENTS
Join us at these upcoming events and conferences:

TUSPM Alumni Association Meeting
TUSPM, 148 North 8th Street, Philadelphia PA 19107
July 23, 2011

2011 APMA National Annual Scientific Meeting
Boston, MA
July 28-31, 2011

Classes begin - 2nd year class
August 15, 2011

Classes begin - 1st year class
August 22, 2011

TUSPM Alumni Association Meeting
TUSPM, 148 North 8th Street, Philadelphia PA 19107
August 27, 2011

TUSPM Board of Visitors Meeting
TUSPM, 148 North 8th Street, Philadelphia PA 19107
September 30, 2011

3rd Annual TUSPM Alumni Foot and Ankle Seminar
TUSPM, 148 North 8th Street, Philadelphia PA 19107
October 1-2, 2011