Chief Resident

This past August, for the first time since George W. Bush sat in the oval office and Michael Phelps was swimming his way to a seventh Beijing gold, the position of Chief Pharmacy Resident at UF Health Shands Hospital was filled by a resident outside of the genus Gorilla. Following the most successful seven-year term in chief resident history, beloved PGY8 Ralphie G. Rilla stepped down from his position in leadership, and current PGY2 Shawn Griffin was selected to fill the role.

Among his many responsibilities within the new Chief Pharmacy Resident position, Shawn primarily serves as official liaison between residents and the Residency Executive Committee. Shawn is also responsible for coordination of monthly leadership journal clubs, reporting of resident duty hours, participation in on-site interviews for future PGY1 and PGY2 candidates, attendance at monthly pharmacy leadership meetings, and preparation of several components of the resident calendar. These components include the on-call schedule, the resident staffing calendar, and future resident orientation.

Pharmacy and The Power of Together

On May 20th of this year UF Health launched a new five-year strategic plan entitled The Power of Together. The new plan seeks to build upon the momentum created by the first plan, Forward Together. The fundamental idea of Forward Together was that great things would happen if faculty, staff, hospital administration, and UF leadership came together to work collaboratively with a commitment to excellence. Subsequently UF Health has experienced improved quality of patient care, increased
Pharmacy and The Power of Together- cont.
clinical volumes, construction of new buildings, growth in NIH funding, and curricular innovations in each college. In the last two months alone, three high impact research awards have been funded at UF Health totaling over 40 million dollars. This success has created an environment even more attractive for new faculty, students, and philanthropic support which will continue to stimulate additional growth.

In 2013, the Florida Legislature designated UF a “preeminent university,” with the goal of lifting UF to a top 10 public university in the nation. The new strategic plan suggests, “we get there through the Power of Together. That is, by coordinating our UF Health faculty, staff, students and administrators as a functionally integrated team we create a positive feedback loop among our missions that expands the scale, scope and stature of UF Health.” The plan breaks down to four mission-based goals involving patient care, research, education, and community engagement.

The Department of Pharmacy is well positioned to support the goals of the Power of Together. Pharmacy can contribute specifically to the majority of the patient care goals laid out in the strategic plan on a daily basis by continuing to provide quality patient care and seeking innovative improvements. One specific mission-based goal is to “deliver exceptional service, value, and quality to every patient at every encounter.” Currently, the main pharmacy service provided to every patient is order verification and accurate dispensing and delivery of medication to nurses at the bedside. Tom Johns, the Director of the Department of Pharmacy, suggests pharmacy has room to expand its role in the near future via expanding pharmacokinetic consults, high-risk medication counseling, and medication reconciliation.

In addition to the patient care goals, the Department can provide support to the education and research goals. Collaboration with UF’s College of Pharmacy promotes interprofessional and team learning through programs that are nationally recognized for excellence and innovation.

Chief Resident - cont.
Since taking the position, Shawn has successfully coordinated several changes to the current resident program structure, including organization of a monthly resident lunch forum with the Director of Pharmacy and arrangement of an exchange opportunity for our current residents at UF Health Jacksonville later this year. Additionally, he has facilitated committee appointments within the residency class and led efforts towards task coordination of the residents at ASHP’s Midyear Clinical Meeting in New Orleans this December.

A quick look at Chief approval ratings over the past seven years would lead anyone to believe it unrealistic that a single resident could fill the large shoes left vacant by Ralphie at the end of his term. In reviewing the changes for which Ralphie was responsible during his tenure, however, it was recently discovered that he actually spent most of the last seven years fudging away in the resident office and never actually accomplished a single task. Conversely, during his first three months in the Chief Resident position, Shawn has exceeded all expectations and has made the transition to Shands life as seamless as possible for the incoming resident class. We all look forward to the coming year with Shawn at the helm as the voice of the residents.

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Lucas Orth, PGY1
Teaching Certificate Program

Growing up, Karen Sando, PharmD, BCACP, CDE, always enjoyed creative learning and applications in the arts and sciences, and carries forth the same ideology today through teaching. As the new director for the University of Florida (UF) College of Pharmacy (COP) Teaching Certificate Program (TCP), she has transformed the program by helping deliver innovative ways to teach.

Dr. Sando first developed an interest in effective teaching methods after attending a 15 day in-depth course on best practices for health professional education at the prestigious Harvard Macy Institute. She emerged completely inspired by the principles and concepts taught as they effectively aligned to her ultimate teaching aspirations. During her residency at UF, Dr. Sando matriculated through the TCP, and has since identified several areas for improvement. Rather than having TCP participants watch the same lectures with the same content and maintain the same TCP portfolio to achieve the teaching certificate, this year, Dr. Sando has added more contemporary topics, such as navigating difficult learners, and has integrated technology as a platform to deliver teaching tools through programs such as the “Big Blue Button”, similar to Adobe Connect or other active learning platforms. The Teaching Certificate Program has been with the COP for around 10 years, and this year boasts 45 participants; over double the participants from the year before.

In addition to being the director of the UF TCP, Dr. Sando also serves as the coordinator for the Pharmaceutical Skills Lab Course for 1st year pharmacy students, teaches ambulatory care topics in the Pharmacotherapy course series in the UF COP curriculum, maintains a practice site at UF Health Family Medicine at Old Town, and directs a PGY-2 ambulatory care residency program. Prior to 2015, the Pharmaceutical Skills Lab Course for 1st year pharmacy students did not exist. The UF COP has introduced a new curriculum, emphasizing active learning and skill development. Dr. Sando has spent the past year developing and formulating the course structure using the tools she learned from the Harvard Macy Institute, with the purpose of teaching practical, experiential skills applicable to various pharmacy settings such as community practice.

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Pharmacy and The Power of Together- cont.

In addition to the education goals, the pharmacy residency program is able to contribute to the research driven goals in the new five year strategic plan.

The Power of Together is place to help UF gain increased reputational stature and distinction among our peers and the Department of Pharmacy will play an important role in cornerstone components. More details can be found by accessing the five year strategic plan via UF Health’s website. ■

Max Smith, PGY1
Teaching Certificate Program- cntd.
The course successfully utilizes technology to expose pharmacy students to real clinical practice. For example, UF was the first pharmacy school to pilot a program called “Shadow Health”. Shadow Health allows pharmacy students to interact with a virtual patient by practicing different clinical scenarios through verbal feedback, patient assessment, and physical exams. The program has been well-received and students feel more confident with their ability to interact and evaluate patients to optimize patient care. The Pharmaceutical Skills Lab Course for 1st year pharmacy students also gives teaching-assistant opportunities for TCP participants, allowing TCP participants to collaborate with one another, pharmacy students, and skills lab coordinators, while helping shape the TCP participants’ individual teaching philosophies.

Dr. Sando’s own teaching philosophy stems from athletic principles; coaching and giving one-on-one feedback and instruction to nurture learners to mature and develop their own knowledge. Ultimately, she believes that because no two students are alike, and hopes that this TCP will introduce the necessary tools to equip participants on how to adapt their teaching approaches to different learners, and empower participants to be successful in any teaching arena, whether in the clinical, academic or graduate setting.

Upon attainment of the UF COP teaching certificate, Dr. Sando hopes to impart some insight to the TCP participants this year, “If you love educating patients, find innovative ways to pass on your message. Find your passion, and use it for good.”

Debbie Liang, PGY2 Critical Care

Ralphie’s Take…

Since retiring as Chief Resident, I have had a lot of time to catch up on television including my favorite series—Game of Thrones. While sitting on my very own throne in King’s Landing (G548), I witnessed the new resident group take on an epic adventure – The Quest for the Desks.

Margaery Tyrell (Kyle) immediately chose the desk in the far corner because it was the one she wanted (and she always gets her way). Tyrion Lannister (Shawn) selected a centrally-located desk to give him the most opportunities to form strategic alliances. Jon Snow (Max), with Sam Tarly (Jarred) following close behind him, picked the two desks in the northern most corner closest to the “Wall.” Melisandre (Sasha) chose the desk with the most occupied electrical outlets behind it because it presented the largest fire hazard risk. Cersei Lannister (Amy) chose the desk unlike the others, because she doesn’t conform to the expectations of others. Rob Stark (Luke) picked the desk between two of his families biggest rivals so he could keep his eyes on them. Sansa Stark (Debbie), chose the desk by the door, as she knows she often needs a means of escape from a room of enemies. Lady Tyrell (Lacie) had more pressing matters to attend to in Highgarden (the DI Center) and could not be bothered to remain in King’s Landing.

The Quest for the Desks represents only the first of many journeys the residents will embark on this year that will require them to work cohesively together. I, for one, believe that this group will get along famously, or at least better than their Game of Thrones counterparts… but I guess that’s not saying much. Whatever. Winter is coming.

Ralphie G. Rilla
New Practitioner Welcome

Ginger Gamble, PharmD, MSCR, is our new Emergency Medicine Clinical Specialist. She grew up in Wilson, NC, and completed her undergraduate education at UNC, where she double majored in Biology and Spanish. Throughout her undergraduate experience, she even studied abroad in Spain for 6 months and is fluent in conversational Spanish. Growing up, she always knew she was interested in the medical field, and especially in the area of medications and treatment. While in the process of applying to medical school, her mentor asked her why she was applying to medical school when she was mostly interested in medications and their mechanisms of action. This helped her realize that pharmacy was her true passion. Therefore, she changed course and soon started pharmacy school at Campbell University in St. Buies Creek, NC.

Throughout pharmacy school, she was unsure of what area of pharmacy she wanted to pursue. One of her biggest influences at the time was Larry Swanson, a Director of Pharmacy Practice, who was very supportive and motivational, and who pushed her to explore all her options. She enjoyed working in retail and considered pursuing a career in industry. 

Visit from The Joint Commission

The Joint Commission (TJC) is an organization which accredits more than 20,000 healthcare organizations. The mission of this organization is to continuously improve care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. All member healthcare organizations are subject to a three-year accreditation cycle. As a condition of licensure and receipt of Medicare & Medicaid reimbursement, healthcare organizations must be prepared for an unannounced TJC visit.

On Monday July 6th 2015, UF Health Shands Hospital received its “surprise” week-long visit from TJC. The visit had been anticipated for some time and necessary measures had been taken in preparation. Dr. Thomas Johns participated as an escort for the TJC surveyors and ensured that they were taken to all desired areas of the facility. Drs. Lisa Thames and Ben Staley participated as scribes and conveyed information regarding the findings of TJC. It is a pleasure to report that the pharmacy department did not receive any citations related to medication management. This wonderful news can be attributed to the pharmacy department leadership and our quality assurance pharmacy technician(s) for actively engaging in survey-ready mode.

I believe if one message can be conveyed here it is that we are proud of our pharmacy team and their continued vigilance in remaining prepared for any future surveys.

Jarred Bowden, PGY1

Continued on page 6
New Practitioner Welcome- cont.

At the time, Campbell University offered a joint PharmD and Clinical Research Program, which she decided to complete while exploring her options. It was during her rotations at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC, however, that her desire to do a PGY1 was sparked. She absolutely loved rounding, seeing critically ill patients and developing a relationship with the medical team, which she states is the “perfect marriage between medicine and pharmacy.”

She then came to UF Health – Shands Hospital to complete her PGY1 followed by a PGY2 in Critical Care. According to Ginger, it was the people in the pharmacy department that made her want to do a PGY1 here. What she loves most about Shands is the progressiveness of clinical pharmacy, the relationships between physicians and clinical pharmacists, as well as the ability to talk with clinicians and help direct patient care. Clinicians respect pharmacy, allowing the relationship between both parties to be stronger than in other areas of the country. After having completed two years of residency, her advice for the current residents is to remember that “if it’s worth doing, do it right. Work as hard as you can and learn as much as you can. [Remember] there’s a safety net behind you where you can make decisions and implement ideas, [so] get outside of your comfort zone while you have a preceptor!”

Ginger decided to pursue her current position because it enables her to see every type of critically ill patient. She loves all of the people in the ED, from the fantastic physicians with whom she has a collaborative practice, to the ED administrators and nursing staff who are very friendly and hands-on. When asked about her personal and professional goals, Ginger stated that she would like to be more present at home post-residency life, get her residency projects published, become more involved in residency training and research, and look for ways to help pharmacy practice in the ED. Her most prized personal and professional accomplishments include: getting married and having a good marriage at the end of residency, obtaining her current job, and feeling a warm welcome from the ED staff.

Her lifelong dream is to see the world, including all 50 states and all 7 continents. So far, she has been to North America, Europe (including Spain, Portugal, and London), Africa (including Morocco where she spent a night in the Sahara and rode camels), and Australia (including Melbourne and Sydney). She has also been to 33 states, Mexico, the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, and the Bahamas. When asked if she could pick up and go somewhere tomorrow, she stated she would go to Santorini, Greece.

Welcome to your new position here Ginger! We are happy to keep you at Shands and we wish you a long and prosperous career! ■

Sasha Premraj, PGY1
Recent Publications


Posters

G Udeani, DJ Guervil, LB Johnson, KS Kaye. Ceftaroline Fosamil for the Treatment of Hospital-acquired Pneumonia (HAP) and Ventilator-associated Pneumonia (VAP): CAPTURE Study Experience. Poster presented at ID WEEK; October 2015; San Diego, CA.
Where Are They Now?

_In professional news..._

**Jen Bushwitz** is the co-creator of a web-based educational series offered by Pharmacotherapy of Neurocritical Care. The link to the webinar series is: [https://www.pathlms.com/ncsondemand/courses/1622](https://www.pathlms.com/ncsondemand/courses/1622)

**Hedva Barenholtz Levy** was re-elected to the Board of Directors of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) for a 2-year term.

**Lisa Thames** was invited to speak at the ASHP Pediatric Board Certification Review Course titled “Medication Errors and Practice Management” in Denver CO in June 2015.

**On a more personal note...**

**Kate DeSear** had a baby girl “Finley Elizabeth” on September 17, 2015.

**Carrie Lagasse** had a baby girl “Hannah Katherine” on October 27th, 2015.

*If there is any news you would like to share, personal or professional, please let us know.*

Email your update to shandspharm@shands.ufl.edu

Director’s Corner

**Resident Selection**

Ken Klinker and Sam Borgert have been the long time faces of Antimicrobial Stewardship at UF Health Shands hospital but a new face will soon be added to the group. Ken Klinker, the Residency Program Director for Infectious Diseases, has taken a non-tenure, clinical faculty position in which he will collaborate with other faculty members to provide instruction on Infectious Diseases at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy. His responsibilities will center on helping pharmacy students develop a baseline understanding of Infectious Diseases in the classroom and during experiential practice. In addition, he will continue to provide service to the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at UF Health Shands through direct patient care, committee affiliation, resident training, and collaboration with medical staff to establish best practice for common Infectious Diseases.

In asking Ken what he was most excited about when transitioning into his new faculty role he replied, “The opportunity to grow as a teacher and researcher. The College of Pharmacy will provide me with tools to improve my ability to provide instruction within the classroom and practice. While in practice, I have been able to touch on these experiences, but look forward to learning different styles of teaching (e.g. Team Based Learning). In addition, the UF College of Pharmacy is a premier research facility. There are many opportunities to develop research skills and collaborate with other faculty members.”

Ken believes there are many benefits that will come with the new role as faculty. First, there is the addition of a third ID pharmacist. This person will bring a new perspective to problem solving and patient management, thereby, expanding the opportunity to learn different skills. Second, this will open up other avenues within academia to broaden opportunities experienced by PGY2 ID residents. The third ID pharmacist, Veena Venugopalan, will be starting in January where Ken will take over his new role and move into his new office. ■

_Lacie McKamey, PGY2 Infectious Disease_
Residents and Preceptors Having Fun!

International Night

Halloween

Cinnie Springs