

in our family



The alumni newsletter of the University of Wisconsin Department of Family Medicine and Community Health | Fall 2018

From Learners to Leaders

A Q&A with four family medicine chairs who have roots in our department

CYNTHIA HAQ, MD



Resident alumna
(Madison '87);
Chair, University of
California, Irvine
Department of Family
Medicine

Your most valuable experience at DFMCH?

When I was a resident, there were no work hour restrictions. I didn't know if I could survive my R1 year with two children ages one and five, and another on the way. Dr. Marc Hansen supported me taking parenting leave, extending the final two years of residency into three, and sharing a position. It saved my sanity and my career!

Whose influence still resonates?

Dr. Gene Farley was my hero and icon. He taught us to always think of the patient in the context of their family, and to remember those who might not be coming in for visits. He and Dr. Hansen supported me creating a pediatric elective in child survival in Uganda,

which shaped my career in global health. Dr. Ken Kushner stimulated my interest in doctor-patient communication, patient-centered practice and deep reflection.

What is your biggest accomplishment?

As a family physician in Belleville, Wisconsin, for 19 years, I had the privilege to care for patients from community to delivery suite to hospital ICU, and for up to five generations. This provided me with a baseline of the best of family medicine, and enabled me to extend the concept to medically underserved populations in rural and urban U.S. and many low-income nations.

Your biggest rewards and challenges now?

I'm fortunate to be working with faculty, residents and staff with deep commitments to diverse, medically underserved populations. My biggest challenge is balancing many competing priorities. How can we simultaneously provide the best possible care for patients, exemplary education for learners, expand scholarly pursuits and balance the budget?

JAMES PACALA, MD, MS



Resident alumnus
(Madison '88);
Chair, University of
Minnesota Department
of Family Medicine and
Community Health

Your most valuable experience at DFMCH?

Being around people who were supportive and showed grace under pressure. Dr. Marc Hansen set the tone; he never seemed to get ruffled, but he was intensely devoted to the program and to patients. The clinical training was outstanding, especially in obstetrics.

Whose influence still resonates?

Dr. Pat McBride. We met the first day of my residency, and one day he asked me if I would help him on a new grant on cholesterol screening in primary care. It ended up being a seminal experience. That work led to my very first publication.

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Department of Family Medicine
and Community Health
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

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Madison alumna advocates for breastfeeding mothers page 8

Dr. Byron Crouse retires page 11



Dear Friends,

Happy fall and welcome to *In Our Family*. Our lead story focuses on four chairs of family medicine departments— Drs. Cindy Haq,

James Pacala, Elissa Palmer and David Rakel—who have roots in the DFMCH as either residency program alumni or faculty.

We also profile Dr. Nadine Nixon, an Eau Claire residency alumna who recently returned as a member of the program's teaching faculty.

You'll find out where our newest graduates are practicing, and meet one who has a focus on supporting breastfeeding mothers.

Finally, we catch up with the class of 1998, and honor the retirement of Dr. Byron Crouse, a long-time faculty member and associate dean for rural and community health at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH).

As always, please stay in touch. We want to hear from you, too!

Valerie Gilchrist, MD

Millard Professor in Community Health Chair, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

News Briefs

Dr. Randy Brown Leads State's First Addiction Hotline

DFMCH Associate Professor **Randall Brown, MD, PhD, FASAM**, oversees the new University of Wisconsin Addiction Consultation Hotline, which offers daily on-call help to providers who seek support for patients with substance-abuse problems. **More at: go.wisc.edu/7p0h6x**



AAFP Names FMIG a Program of Excellence

For the fourth year in a row, the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) named the SMPH's Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) a Program of Excellence for its exemplary efforts to grow and support interest in family medicine. **More at: go.wisc.edu/39ox00**



Dr. Valerie Gilchrist Receives STFM Bishop Award

The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) presented DFMCH Chair **Valerie Gilchrist, MD**, with its prestigious 2018 F. Marian Bishop Leadership Award. The award honors individuals who have significantly enhanced the credibility of family medicine through a sustained, long-term commitment to family medicine in academic settings. **More at: go.wisc.edu/6y3h05**



Dr. Jonathan Temte Receives AAFP Public Health Award

DFMCH Professor **Jonathan Temte, MD, PhD**, received the AAFP's 2018 Public Health Award for his contributions to the health of the American public through leadership, service and research. **More at: go.wisc.edu/461386**



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Cultivating Balance

Eau Claire alumna Dr. Nadine Nixon returns to program as teaching faculty

“**E**au Claire is the right size. It’s one of the reasons I came back. I love this part of Wisconsin.”

For **Nadine Nixon, MD** (SMPH ’07, Eau Claire ’10), seven years of rural practice in northwest Wisconsin laid the groundwork for the next stage in her career: the newest member of the Eau Claire program’s teaching faculty at Prevea Health Family Medicine.

OUTSTANDING MENTORS

After earning her MD from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Dr. Nixon knew she wanted to stay in Wisconsin for family medicine residency. She was impressed by the Eau Claire program’s clinical facilities, including a patient simulation laboratory, located at Chippewa Valley Technical College’s Health Education Center.

She also found the faculty and residents to be knowledgeable and supportive. “The whole environment—and the OB program in particular—was so positive,” she recalls.

Residency program director **Joan Hamblin, MD**, and now-retired medical director **Dennis Breen, MD**, were outstanding mentors. “Dr. Hamblin holds the bar high, but she shows you how to get there,” Dr. Nixon notes. “Dr. Breen was calm, level-headed and conscientious.” (Dr. Nixon helped nominate Dr. Breen for his 2009 DFMCH Faculty Excellence Award.)

FULL-SPECTRUM PRACTICE

After graduation, Dr. Nixon practiced at three Mayo Clinic Health System clinics in northwest Wisconsin: first in Rice Lake, then in Barron and finally in Cameron.

In each, she practiced full-spectrum family medicine with obstetrics. In Rice Lake, she also did some hospitalist work; in Barron, she provided occupational medicine to employees at the nearby Jennie-O® Turkey Store and cared for people from the community’s sizable Somali population.

The latter experience resonated with Dr. Nixon, who taught secondary school in Tanzania as a Peace Corps volunteer before medical school. Exchanging greetings in Swahili with those who had escaped Somalia through Kenya—where the language is commonly spoken—made patient encounters particularly meaningful. “I had an understanding not everyone would have,” she reflects.

‘FOSTER AND MAINTAIN COMPASSION’

Dr. Nixon joined the Eau Claire faculty at Prevea Health Family Medicine in September 2017, staffing residents, rounding in the hospital and seeing her own patients in clinic. She loves teaching residents motivational interviewing techniques and being a model of good health, so they can be the same for their patients.

We need to foster and maintain compassion, and you can’t do that if you’re not doing it for yourself.

*—Eau Claire faculty
Nadine Nixon, MD*



PREVEA HEALTH

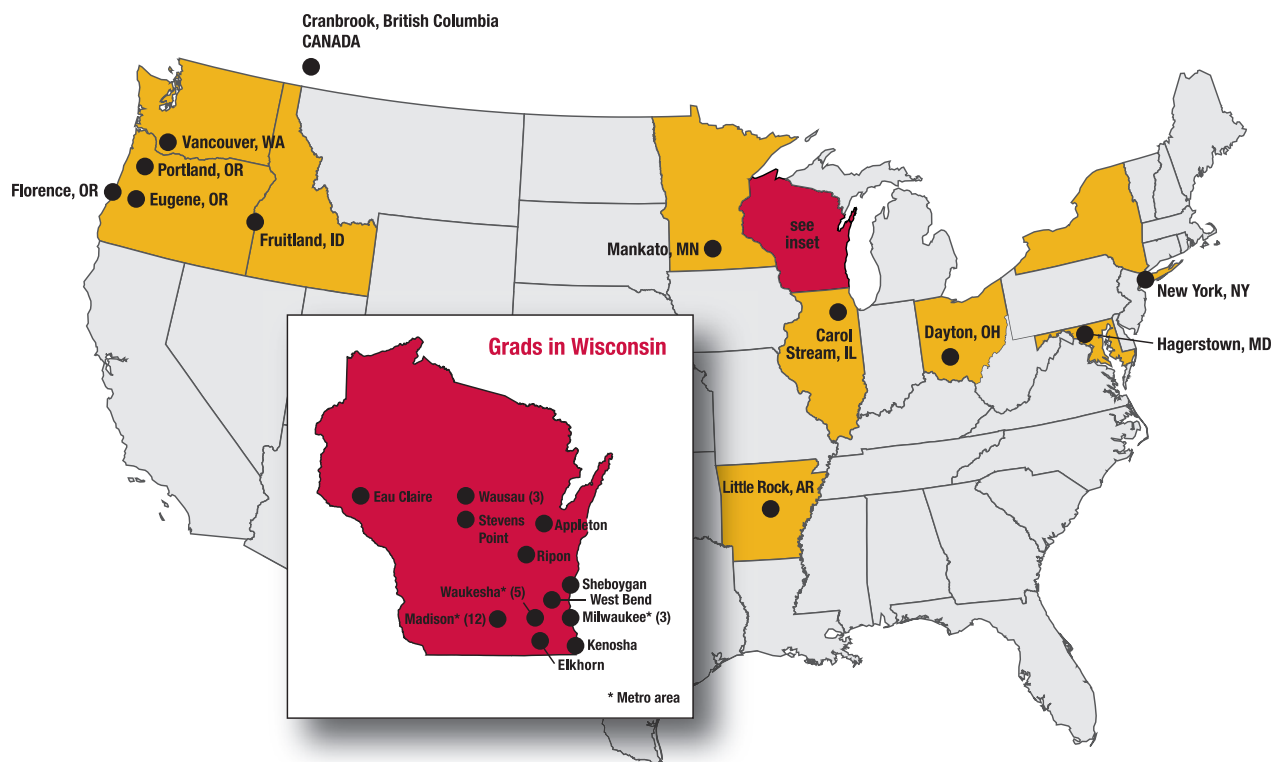
Eau Claire faculty member Nadine Nixon, MD, teaches practice management skills that have benefits beyond the clinic.

She also oversees the program’s maternity and practice management curricula, explaining that practice management includes documentation, coding and billing—but also professionalism and work-life balance. Those are critical skills to master in residency, she says. “Doing it right from the beginning can really help in the long run, since burnout is such a huge problem.”

In her free time, she likes to visit the Boundary Waters and work in her garden. (She has a certificate from the UW–Extension Master Gardener Program in Barron.) Living and working in Eau Claire makes it possible to have those outlets.

“We need to foster and maintain compassion, and you can’t do that if you’re not doing it for yourself,” she says. “We need to talk about it and help each other.”

Meet the 2018 Graduates



DFMCH residents who graduated in 2018 are in 12 Wisconsin metro areas, nine additional states and one Canadian province. Is one near you?

DFMCH-Sponsored Residency Programs

BARABOO RTT



Mathew Herbst, MD
SSM Health
Dean Medical
Group
(Waunakee, WI)



Paul Stevens, MD
ThedaCare
Physicians
Appleton North
(Appleton, WI)

EAU CLAIRE RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Michael Albano, DO
OakLeaf Clinics
Pine Grove Family
Medicine
(Eau Claire, WI)



Krissi Danielsson, MD
PeaceHealth
Medical Group
(Florence, OR)



Michael Dawson, MD
Associates
Medical Clinic
(Cranbrook, British
Columbia, Canada)



**Amy Jo Sorenson,
DO, MBA**
Mankato Clinic
(North Mankato, MN)

MADISON RESIDENCY PROGRAM



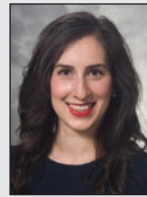
Matthew Brown, MD
UW Primary Care Sports
Medicine Fellowship
(Madison, WI)



Anna Chase, MD
UW DFMCH Academic
Fellowship
(Madison, WI)



Lydia Chen, MD
Amita Health
Medical Group
(Carol Stream, IL)



Allison Couture, DO
UW Health
Verona Clinic
(Verona, WI)



Milap Dubal, MD
UW DFMCH
Academic Fellowship
(Madison, WI)



Divneet Kaur, MD
Mid County Health
Center; Multnomah Public
Health Department
(Portland, OR)



Yoshito Kosai, MD
UW DFMCH Integrative
Health Fellowship
(Madison, WI)



Lucas Kuehn, MD
SSM Health
Waunakee Clinic
(Waunakee, WI)



**Steven Dylan
Ledford, DO**
Group Health Cooperative
SCW Hatchery Hill Clinic
(Fitchburg, WI)



Michele Malloy, MD
UW Health Odana
Atrium Clinic
(Madison, WI)



Katherine McCreary, MD
UW Health
Fitchburg Clinic
(Fitchburg, WI)



Tina Ozbeki, MD
Prevea Sheboygan
Health Center
(Sheboygan, WI)



Mukund Premkumar, MD
CityMD
Columbus Circle
(New York, NY)



Lauren Walsh, MD, MPH
Aurora Lakeland Rural
Training Track Family
Medicine Residency
(Elkhorn, WI)

WAUSAU RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Hamid Assadi, MD
Aspirus Wausau
Hospital Hospitalists
(Wausau, WI)



David Cao, MD
Aspirus Wausau
Hospital Hospitalists
(Wausau, WI)



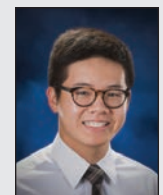
Danielle Fenske, DO
Ripon Medical
Center Clinic
(Ripon, WI)



Rose Griffin, MD
Meritus Family
Medicine
(Hagerstown, MD)



Sean Huff, DO
Ascension St.
Michael's Hospital
(Stevens Point, WI)



Justin Hwang, DO
Aspirus Wausau
Family Medicine
(Wausau, WI)

Academic Partner Residency Programs

MILWAUKEE RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Jonathan Blaza, MD
Kettering Health
Network
(Dayton, OH)



Scott Chandler, DO
PeaceHealth Sports
Medicine Fellowship
(Vancouver, WA)



Christopher Cook, DO
Aurora Health Care
(Kenosha, WI)



Kristin Dement, DO
Wheaton Franciscan
Healthcare
(Franklin, WI)



Devin Lee, MD
PeaceHealth
Medical Group
(Eugene, OR)



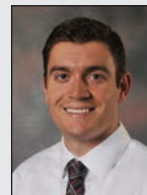
Raheel Mody, DO
Aurora Health Care
(West Bend, WI)



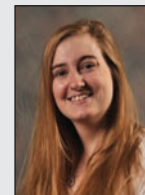
Sara Nixon, MD
Sixteenth Street
Community Health Center
(Milwaukee, WI)



Caleb Patee, DO
St. Alphonsus
Medical Group
(Fruitland, ID)



Christopher Peters, DO
ProHealth Medical Group
(Sussex, WI)

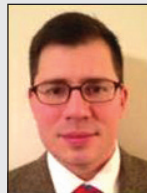


Sarah Ward, MD
Off-cycle; practice
plans undecided at
time of publication

WAUKESHA RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Stefen Barton, MD
Group Health Cooperative
SCW Capitol Clinic
(Madison, WI)



Christopher Bermudez, MD
Aurora Health Care
(Muskego, WI)



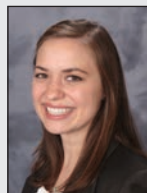
Jessica Buchberger, DO
ProHealth Care, Inc.
(New Berlin, WI)



Patrick Daley, MD
Aurora Health Care
(Muskego, WI)



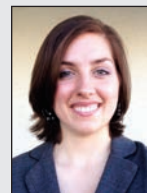
Kristen Fox, MD
Waukesha Family
Medicine Residency
Program
(Waukesha, WI)



Kathryn Hughes, MD
ProHealth Care, Inc.
(Big Bend, WI)



Christina Lyon, DO
Little Rock AFB Family
Health Clinic
(Little Rock, AR)



Lauren Mixtacki, MD
UW Health
Sun Prairie Clinic
(Sun Prairie, WI)

Fellowships



Dagoberto Cortez, MS (CIHR)
Visiting scholar, University of Texas-Austin (Austin, TX)



Maireni Cruz, MD (AM)
Addiction medicine specialist, Heywood Medical Group/Hospital (Gardner, MA)



Todd Domeyer, MD (PCSM)
Family medicine and primary care sports medicine physician, Prevea Health (Sheboygan, WI)



Vernon Grant, PhD (PCR)
Assistant research professor, Center for American Indian and Rural Health Equity, Montana State University (Bozeman, MT)



Mara Motley, MD (IH)
Physician, Erie Family Health Center (Chicago, IL)



Rachel Sippy, MPH, PhD (CIHR)
Joint postdoctoral associate, University of Florida and SUNY-Upstate Medical University (Gainesville, FL, and Syracuse, NY)



Michael Rountree, MD (AM)
Addiction medicine medical director, VA Loveland Community Outpatient Clinic (Loveland, CO)



Emily Torell, MD (A)
Outpatient family physician, Indian Health Board Federally Qualified Health Center (Minneapolis, MN)

DFMCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

A = Academic **AM** = Addiction medicine **CIHR** = Complementary and integrative health research **IH** = Integrative health
PCR = Primary care research **PCSM** = Primary care sports medicine

Congratulations to the Class of 2018 Graduation Award Winners!

DFMCH-SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Baraboo RTT

- **Chief Resident Leadership Awards:** Mathew Herbst, MD, and Paul Stevens, MD

Madison Residency Program

- **Chief Resident Leadership Awards:** Anna Chase, MD; Allison Couture, DO; Katherine McCreary, MD; Lauren Walsh, MD
- **Resident Teacher Award:** Divneet Kaur, MD

Wausau Residency Program

- **Dr. Russell Clayton Esprit de Corps Award:** Hamid Assadi, MD
- **Outstanding Teaching Award:** Danielle Fenske, DO

ACADEMIC PARTNER PROGRAMS

Milwaukee Residency Program

- **Heip Trieu Memorial Award for Patient Dedication:** Jonathan Blaza, MD
- **Golden Find Award:** Scott Chandler, DO, and Kristin Dement, DO

- **Len and Jeannine Perushek Award:** Sara Nixon, MD

- **Service to the Residency Award:** Christopher Peters, DO

- **Chief Residents Award:** Caleb Patee, DO, and Sara Nixon, MD

- **STFM Certificate:** Scott Chandler, DO

Waukesha Residency Program

- **Chief Resident Awards:** Christopher Bermudez, MD, and Christina Lyon, DO

- **STFM Teaching Awards:** Kristen Fox, MD, and Lauren Mixtacki, MD

Supporting Breastfeeding Mothers

Madison alumna Dr. Michele Malloy advocates in the clinic and the profession

Michele Malloy, MD (SMPH '15, Madison '18), realized that family medicine was the specialty for her before she even got to medical school.

As an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she was fascinated by the science of cancer mechanisms. She double-majored in biomedical engineering and Spanish, and thought she might become an oncologist.

But while serving as an Americorps member at Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers in Milwaukee, she worked closely with certified nurse midwives to support the Centering Pregnancy program, which provides group prenatal visits for pregnant women, and develop patient educational materials for women's health.

ABM Clinical Protocol #26: Persistent Pain with Breastfeeding

Dr. Malloy and Dr. Eglash are co-authors on an ABM clinical protocol that provides evidence-based guidance for diagnosing, evaluating and managing breastfeeding women with persistent nipple and breast pain.

The protocol was published in the March 2016 issue of *Breastfeeding Medicine*.

For more information about this and other ABM protocols, visit bfmed.org/protocols.

"I really liked the continuity of taking care of a woman when she's pregnant, being with her during the birth process, and supporting her as she feeds her baby, raises the child and grows her family," she recalls.

AN EMERGING INTEREST IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

While a first-year student at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), she met **Anne Eglash, MD**, a DFMCH clinical professor, co-founder of the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine (ABM) and international expert on breastfeeding.

Dr. Eglash invited her to help develop a new ABM clinical protocol on managing persistent pain with breastfeeding (see sidebar below). It was the beginning of a mentoring relationship that continues today.

In her third year, Dr. Malloy entered the SMPH's Training in Urban Medicine and Public Health (TRIUMPH) program, which focuses on medically underserved urban populations and health disparities.

She also co-led Medical Students Offering Maternal Support (MOMS), an SMPH program in which students partner with pregnant women who have limited community support through pregnancy, labor and birth. She worked to organize the MOMS curriculum so it would provide comprehensive information that students might not otherwise get, in a sustainable structure they could easily access.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE

In 2015, Dr. Malloy began residency at the DFMCH's Madison program and established her continuity clinic at the UW Health Northeast Family Medical Center.



Madison alumna Michele Malloy, MD, has had interests in community-based women's health since before entering medical school.

There, she created dot phrases, problem lists, notes templates and educational materials in the electronic health record (EHR) to structure breastfeeding assessment and support for patients.

"[The EHR optimizations] cue physicians on breastfeeding topics and make them aware of available resources," she explains. "It's a way to work with the system to improve it."

With DFMCH Associate Professor (CHS) **Jennifer Edgoose, MD, MPH**, she also engaged with community leaders and patients on ways to empower breastfeeding women, especially those of color.

And in March 2016, the clinical protocol on breastfeeding pain she began in medical school with Dr. Eglash was published in the journal *Breastfeeding Medicine*.

Continues on page 9

LEARNERS TO LEADERS (continued)

What is your biggest accomplishment?

My research on risk assessment for managing geriatric patients in primary care has, in a small way, helped influence practice and policy. I can look at certain lines in the Affordable Care Act and know I had a hand in work that led to that. I'm also fortunate to have been president of the American Geriatrics Society and now chair of my department. In both positions, I attempt to be calm under pressure and emulate the style of people I interacted with while a resident.

Your biggest rewards and challenges now?

I have broad experiences in clinical work, education, research and policy, and I get to use all of them. That's fundamentally a family medicine outlook. The challenge is balancing vision and management.

ELISSA PALMER, MD



Resident alumna (Madison '89); Chair, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Department of Family and Community Medicine

Your most valuable experience at DFMCH?

Being paired with another resident, Dr. Mark Josefski, all three years. It was as if we were a mini-practice—the ultimate in continuity for our patients. Challenging rotations, diverse patients, every third night call—after that I could conquer anything.

Whose influence still resonates?

Dr. Marc Hansen demanded excellence while allowing me to pursue my interest in genetics. Dr. Jim Davis encouraged us to pause and think about treatment evidence. Drs. Lou Sanner, Jim Damos, Jan Byrd and John Beasley excited my interest in obstetrics. Dr. David Lonsdorf brought the practicality of clinical practice while Dr. William Schwab supported my decision for rural practice. And Dr. Rich Roberts showed us to lead beyond our locale and ignited my interest in WONCA.

What is your biggest accomplishment?

Positions in rural practice, program director, chair (since 2007), senior associate dean clinical affairs, and board member and president of national organizations. I am proud to play a part in helping to change the world through clinical practice, research, advocacy, and education of medical students, residents and fellows, while being honored with the trust of my patients.

Your biggest rewards and challenges now?

One of the most enjoyable things as a chair is to see everyone succeed and advance. There are limitless opportunities that continue to present themselves, creating enormous excitement and vision for our department and the future. The challenge is trying to implement Einstein's theory of relativity to slow time and accomplish more—and in lieu of that, prioritizing, garnering resources and nicely saying, "Maybe in the future."

DAVID RAKEL, MD



DFMCH faculty; Chair, University of New Mexico Department of Family and Community Medicine

Your most valuable experience at DFMCH?

Having people around you with a similar mission and vision, but enough cognitive diversity to make you smarter and wiser. I like the bigger picture, but people with a passion for statistics or research methodology taught me how important metrics were. You need both.

Whose influence still resonates?

Dr. Bruce Barrett taught me about social justice, ethics and research. Dr. John Frey recruited me to Wisconsin and has been whispering in my ear ever since. Dr. Cindy Haq, whom I admire as a human being and strive to be more like. Dr. Pat McBride was a wonderful mentor. And Dr. Valerie Gilchrist taught me about leadership.

What is your biggest accomplishment?

The UW integrative medicine program. I and three other smart, passionate, strategic people with no budget built clinical services, a fellowship and a research focus, including a contract with the Veterans Health Administration.

Your biggest rewards and challenges now?

Supporting good people doing good work. I'm especially proud of our Milagro Clinic, which helps pregnant women overcome addiction. What's challenging is that people's value is greater than what I can pay them. But this makes us work better with communities, the legislature and other departments to collectively achieve healthy outcomes.

MALLOY (continued)

A COMMUNITY FOCUS

Today, Dr. Malloy is a DFMCH clinical assistant professor, practicing family medicine with obstetrics at the UW Health Odana Atrium Clinic in Madison.

The key to a successful community collaboration is to focus on the community's assets and goals.

—Madison alum, new faculty member Michele Malloy, MD

She still collaborates with Dr. Eglash, and by early 2019, plans to offer lactation-specific care in her clinic one half-day per week.

"I've learned that the key to a successful community collaboration is to focus on the community's assets and goals," she says. "Stakeholders, priorities, successes and barriers can all shift, so I respect that this work takes time."

Catching Up: The Class of 1998

Eau Claire

Gregory Melby, MD, has been practicing at a Veterans Health Administration primary care clinic in the rural community of The Dalles, Oregon, for seven years.



American Board of Clinical Lipidology. In addition to her virtual concierge practice focused on heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease prevention, she serves on the board of directors of the Human Health Initiative, a nonprofit foundation that aims to prevent and reverse dietary and lifestyle-related diseases through education.

Milwaukee

David Kunstman, MD, is the UW Health Medical Director for Ambulatory Informatics and has his outpatient family medicine practice at UW Health Odana Atrium in Madison, Wisconsin.



Fox Valley

Amy Servais, MD, is one of eight founders of Primary Care Associates of Appleton, an independent primary care clinic in Appleton, Wisconsin. Since its founding in 2000, the clinic has grown to include 16 family physicians, six internal medicine physicians and six advanced practice providers.



I followed in Dr. Pat McBride's footsteps, focusing my career on heart disease and diabetes prevention. I spent many hours during medical school and residency with him discussing dreams of a future career with a focus on preventive cardiology.

—Tara Dall, MD

Dr. Dennis Baumgartner was a true mentor for me. I've always hoped that I could be as skilled as him in my own practice. When times were tough, I always knew Dennis had my back and was a welcoming ear for when it was needed.

—David Kunstman, MD

Cheryl Goeckermann, MD, has practiced at SSM Health Dean Medical Group in Baraboo, Wisconsin, for 20 years. She delivers babies, sees patients in the clinic and nursing home and teaches residents in the DFMCH's Baraboo Rural Training Track (RTT). She also enjoys a successful job share with Shari Munneke, MD (Baraboo '95).



Brian Meeker, DO, is the medical director of Virginia Gay Hospital and Clinics in Vinton, Iowa. He oversees one of the largest primary-care practices in Iowa that serves a rural area. He has a special interest in endoscopy and has served on the board of directors of the American Association for Primary Care Endoscopy.



Madison

Tara Dall, MD, is an expert in the use of biomarkers to detect heart disease and diabetes risk, and was in the first class of physicians to become certified by the



STAY IN TOUCH!

Got news or updates? Share them at: fammed.wisc.edu/alumni/alumni-form

PROFILE: KAREN PRIDHAM, NURSING LEADER AND EARLY DFMCH COLLABORATOR



ALEXANDER ANDRE, UW SCHOOL OF NURSING

UW–Madison recently profiled Karen Pridham, an emeritus professor of nursing who had an important role in our department's early years.

In the late 1960s, Pridham and Dr. Marc Hansen led a nurse-physician (N-P) program at the University Family Health Service, the multi-specialty primary-care service that preceded the Madison Family Practice Residency Program.

Pridham went on to earn her tenure appointment in the UW School of Nursing, but remained on our faculty and became tenure-tracked in 1974 after the Department of Family Medicine and Practice became a formal academic department. Our clinics were the first to add nurses who had trained in the N-P program; Pridham continued to work with them there until the early 1980s.

Read more about Pridham's legendary career at: go.wisc.edu/0od4k7

Dr. Byron Crouse Retires

Reflections from the builder of Wisconsin's rural physician pipeline

A part of **Byron Crouse, MD**, never really left his first medical practice in rural Spooner, Wisconsin.

Throughout his 17-year career at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH)—most recently as the associate dean for rural and community health—Dr. Crouse has kept a steady focus on developing future physicians to serve rural areas of the state and nation.

RURAL ROTATION ROOTS

A graduate of Mayo Medical School in Rochester, Minnesota, and the Duluth Family Practice Residency Program, Dr. Crouse began his academic career as the assistant director of the Family Medicine Residency Program at the University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth, and later became the first head of that school's Department of Family Medicine.

In 2001, he joined the DFMCH as a professor (CHS), and the SMPH as its first assistant dean for rural and community health.

In 2007, the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM) launched with him as director—a position he held until his spring 2018 retirement.

Functioning as a “school within a school,” WARM provides trainees with a rural-focused curriculum and required clerkships at rural sites throughout the state.

“I first met Byron Crouse at the WARM Symposium before I was in medical school, and I found his passion and calm demeanor comforting; he helped convince me to apply as a WARM student,” recalls **Mathew Herbst, MD** (SMPH '15, Baraboo '18).

Of the 55 WARM graduates who are now practicing medicine, 89 percent (49) are doing so in Wisconsin, 47 percent (26) in rural Wisconsin, and 35 percent (19) in their hometowns.

RURAL RESIDENCY CAPACITY

Dr. Crouse's work also addressed the role of physicians' residency locations in where they choose to work. One study found that 76 percent of rural track residency program graduates entered rural practice.

In 2010, the Wisconsin legislature provided funding for the Wisconsin Rural Physician Residency Assistance Program (WRPRAP), which distributes grants to rural hospitals and educational institutions statewide to develop rural residency programs, tracks and rotations. Administered by the DFMCH, WRPRAP was first led by DFMCH Vice Chair for Education **William Schwab, MD**, and then—starting in 2011—by Dr. Crouse.

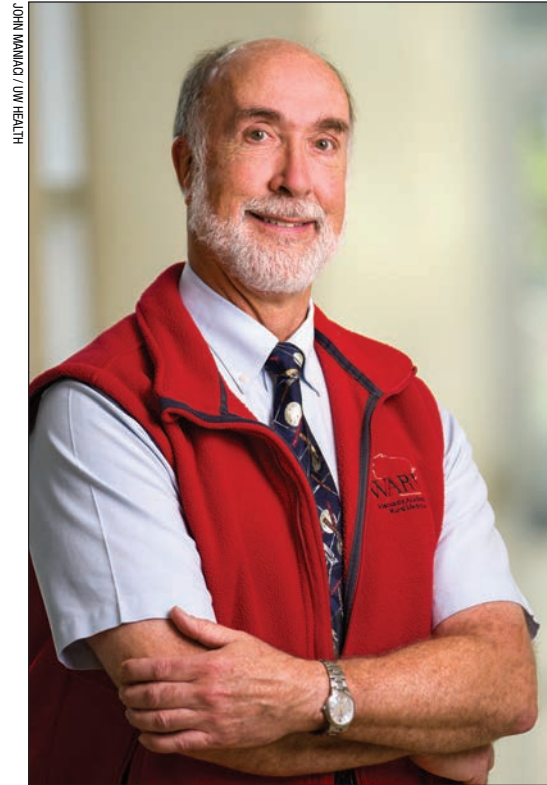
To date, WRPRAP has awarded 74 grants and helped establish 36 new first-year rural resident and fellowship positions in six specialties critically needed in rural communities.

I love science, I love working with people, and I want to make a difference.

—Byron Crouse, MD

A LEGACY OF PARTNERSHIPS

Dr. Crouse is proud to have brought together statewide partners to help strengthen the rural physician pipeline, work that “exemplifies the Wisconsin Idea,” he says.



Byron Crouse, MD, led programs to educate physicians to serve rural areas of Wisconsin and the nation.

Now living north of Rice Lake, Wisconsin—25 miles from where he first practiced—he plans to remain engaged in the community, including volunteering for community medical education projects and “hammering some nails” for Habitat for Humanity.

Dr. Crouse adds, “I’m not much different from some of the medical students who talk with me about careers in rural medicine. I love science, I love working with people, and I want to make a difference.”

Adapted from Quarterly, the SMPH alumni magazine. Full story at: go.wisc.edu/b5gq8c



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