



THE CUPOLA

The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center
Cooperstown, New York

Summer 2023
Vol. XXVII No. 2

Update on Bassett's Internal Medicine Residency Program

By Dr. Russell Moore



Dr. Russell Moore

In the fall of 2021, Bassett Medical Center commenced a national search for a new internal medicine program director. This exhaustive search was overseen by the Chief of Medicine, Dr. Kai Mebust, and resulted in two final candidates. The residents were quite involved in the process and weighed in heavily on the final selection. I am happy to say that they chose me. I officially took over as program director on March 1, 2022. After a little more than a year in this role I am pleased to report things

are going well. I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the previous program directors and in particular to Teri Musser, our program coordinator, and to Dr. Edward Bischof, a previous program director.

When I took on the role there had been a trend toward negative survey results from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). While we did not have any formal citations, there were areas of concern that could have progressed to citations. Unresolved citations will ultimately lead to program closure, so my first order of business was to ensure that we did not continue in that direction.

Since the survey questions are often difficult to interpret due to confusing wording, we felt that if the survey questions were better understood our results would improve. With this goal we undertook a program to teach the residents about the ACGME survey. We used a slide deck from the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine to hold weekly sessions led by the chief resident. The slides explained the intent of the questions

and our residents could ask clarifying questions. The result was vastly improved survey results. We resolved all our areas of concern. Implementing the same approach in 2023, we saw even better results.

We have completed our first recruitment cycle with me as program director. Our main goal this year was to maintain our current level of diversity and hopefully increase it. We matched 11 categorical interns plus one medicine preliminary intern all from the top third of our rank list. Our match included one intern from Canada, two from Russia, two from Thailand, three from Nepal, three from Pakistan, and one from the U.S. Everyone arrived on time and started their rotations. Early feedback from senior residents and faculty is that they are doing extremely well.

Update to page 2



Drs. Panisara Faangsard (back to camera), Kai Mebust, Jasvinder Kumar, Navalok Sharma Ghimire, and Hashim Ejaz engaged in rounds on the medicine service.

Message from the President of the Medical Alumni Board of Directors

This summer's weather has wreaked havoc in many parts of the country. I hope all our alumni are well and their workplaces are managing floods, extreme heat, and other challenges.

We are pleased to share another issue of The Cupola. This one features an article from Dr. Russ Moore who provides an update on the Internal Medicine residency program which is an integral part of Bassett and its medical education mission. It is great to read that Dr. Moore and his colleagues are approaching their work in creative ways that are yielding success.

The proof of their work can be seen in the results of the placements of Bassett's outgoing residents



Dr. James A. Murray

who are off to many interesting positions in outstanding medical centers across the U.S. We can be proud of this continuing tradition. Plus I hope you enjoy seeing who the residents and medical students have recognized with year-end awards. Please take note if any of our Bassett alumni are placed in a hospital near you. Be sure to make their acquaintance and welcome them to your community.

My words to the graduating residents (and now to the Columbia-Bassett medical students) are the same I share with all Alumni — remember Bassett, keep in touch, stay safe, and don't forget to send us updates on your families and careers. ■

The Cupola is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett's Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center

Officers

President

James Murray, D.O.
Rochester, N.Y.

Executive Vice President

Anush Patel, M.D.
Cooperstown, N.Y.

Board of Directors

- Madiha Alvi, M.B., B.S.
- Jacqueline A. Bello, M.D.
- Wendy Bergman, M.D.
- Steven S.T. Ching, M.D.
- James T. Dalton, M.D.
- John S. Davis, M.D.
- Merideth S. Davis, M.D.
- Douglas M. DeLong, M.D.
- John Dier, M.D.
- Michael Foltzer, M.D.
- Erin Gillaspie, M.D.
- Peter R. Gray, M.D.
- Elizabeth Jacob, M.D.
- Samir Jha, M.B., B.S.
- Alan J. Kozak, M.D.
- Jing Luan, M.D.
- Erin McKay, D.O.
- Bruce L. McClennan, M.D.
- David E. Newman, M.D.
- Stephanie S. Ocegueda, M.D.
- Beth Olearczyk, M.D.
- Sarah M. Ricketts, M.D.
- Eric Rubin, M.D.
- Timothy Whitaker, M.D.
- Kenneth W. Wilkins, Jr., M.D.
- Rachel Zehr, M.D.

Ex Officio

Tommy Ibrahim, M.D., M.H.A.
Chief Executive Officer

The Cupola is published three times a year. Please send comments and news, including change of address information to: Editor, The Cupola, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Medical Center, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, NY 13326 or e-mail cupola@bassett.org.

Alan J. Kozak, M.D.
Editor

Marianne Bez
Assistant Editor

FLAT Graphics
Design and Production

Our Residency at a Glance

35
Total Residents
(34 Categorical + 1 Prelim.)

100%
ABIM Board Pass Rate

1,810
Admissions by Residents,
2021

31
Total Visa Sponsorships
(13 H-1B + 18 J-1)

Update from page 1

We had a successful fellowship match season as well. Our fourth-year chief resident, Dr. Jimmy Wang, matched in Pulmonary/Critical Care at Dartmouth, one of our third-year chiefs, Dr. Sittinun Thangjui, matched in cardiovascular disease at West Virginia, Dr. Sarina Sharma matched in Endocrinology at Lehigh Valley, and Dr. Anshini Shah matched in Oncology at McGill in Quebec. We are tremendously proud of them and their achievement! Additionally, three residents from the 2022 class stayed on as hospitalists as did another from the 2023 class. Having our residents become faculty remains a goal and we have been successful in this respect.

Moving forward we will continue to focus on improving resident education while maintaining a high level of wellness. This requires close attention and fine balance. I have an open-door policy and make myself available to the residents at all times. I work closely with them, and we have honest conversations. Through these talks we are making small iterative changes that should help move each resident toward independent practice and board passage. Speaking of board passage, 100 percent of graduates that took the boards last year passed, which brought our three-year rolling average to 97 percent. This is well above the national average of 88 percent.

Another area I would like to improve upon is engagement with the Bassett Alumni Association. Many of our residents have an interest in subspecialties and our alumni are a huge and underutilized resource. I ask any of our alumni



Clockwise: Drs. James LaCava with Ben Cruci (internal medicine), Quinn Magiera (transitional year), Ms. Emma Weatherford (Columbia-Bassett), Andrew Hess (transitional year), and Helina Maharjan (internal medicine)

that would be interested in getting more involved with the residents to reach out to me directly.

I am excited to see what the future holds for our Internal Medicine program. I feel that the current cohort of residents is truly special and will ultimately become extremely capable physicians. Some of them will stay local but most will spread out around the country and reflect well on Bassett. I am not only proud to be their program director but grateful that I'm the candidate they chose. ■

Awards Announced

The 2023 Golden Apple Awards were presented at the year-end celebrations of the Departments of Medicine and Surgery. The internal medicine residents selected Dr. Edward Bischof, hospitalist; and the surgical residents chose Dr. Bernadette Ryan, and Dr. Ethan Talbot, for this recognition.

Golden Stethoscope Awards, given by medical students and residents to a senior resident for excellence in teaching, were presented to Dr. Sittinun Thangjui, Medicine resident, and Dr. Levi Smucker, Surgery resident.

Intern of the Year Awards were also bestowed. The Medicine Intern of the Year, selected by the Medicine residents, was Dr. Timur Otajonov. Transitional Year Interns of the Year, selected by the Medicine and Surgery residents were Dr. Alvin Chang, and Dr. Jacob Van Vorst.

Fellowship Educator of the Year Award, selected by the Medicine residents and Transitional Year residents, went to Dr. Ankur Panchal. This year's Outpatient Teaching Award went to Dr. Susan Huffman.

The following physicians were recognized at the graduation ceremony for their long-term service to Bassett Healthcare Network and their commitment to Medical Education: Dr. Carol Beechy, Dr. Nancy Merrell, and Dr. Deborah Sentochnik.

Special recognition and appreciation were bestowed upon Dr. Herbert Marx who has spent many years teaching residents about electrocardiograms.

Columbia-Bassett students selected Dr. Rahima Khatun (Surgery) and Dr. Riddhima Naik (Medicine) to receive this year's Cupola awards. ■

Residents Announce Future Plans



L-R: Internal Medicine graduating residents: Front Row: Drs. Anshini Shah, Anamm Polani, Gayatri Bondi, Vinaya Jaikumar, Ansu Karki, Lintha Shah. Back Row: Drs. Sarina Sharma, Nisarg Thakker, Sittinun Thangjui, Uchit Thapa, Riddhima Naik, Prem Chand.

Members of the house staff have completed their training at Bassett and moved on to new endeavors. Departing residents, their programs at Bassett, and their plans:

Gayatri Bondi, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Chief Medicine Resident, Bassett Medical Center, Cooperstown, N.Y.

Prem Chand, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Hospital Medicine, Kadlec Regional Medical Center, Richland, Wash.

Alvin Chang, M.D. (Transitional Year) Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency, Casa Colina Hospital, Pomona, Calif.

Hashim Ejaz, M.B., B.S. (Transitional Year) Internal Medicine Residency, Bassett Medical Center, Cooperstown, N.Y.

Arjumand Fatima, M.D. (Transitional Year) Diagnostic Radiology Residency, University of Buffalo School of Medicine, Buffalo, N.Y.

Luis Guinand, M.D. (Internal Medicine) Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, Penn.

Elizabeth A. Jacob, M.D. (General Surgery) Minimally-Invasive Surgery Fellowship, Valley Health Hospital, Paramus, N.J.

Vinaya Jaikumar, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Infectious Diseases Fellowship, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, N.H.

Ansu Karki, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Hospital Medicine, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, Maine

Sean Karott, M.D. (Transitional Year) Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency, Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, Penn.

Ashleigh Martinez, M.D. (General Surgery) Emergency Medicine Residency, Wellspan York Hospital, York, Penn.

Nadav Mortman, M.D. (Transitional Year) Diagnostic Radiology Residency, University of Connecticut, Farmington, Conn.

Riddhima Vishwas Naik, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Hospital Medicine, Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, Mass.

Anamm Polani, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Hospital Medicine, Bassett Medical Center, Cooperstown, N.Y.

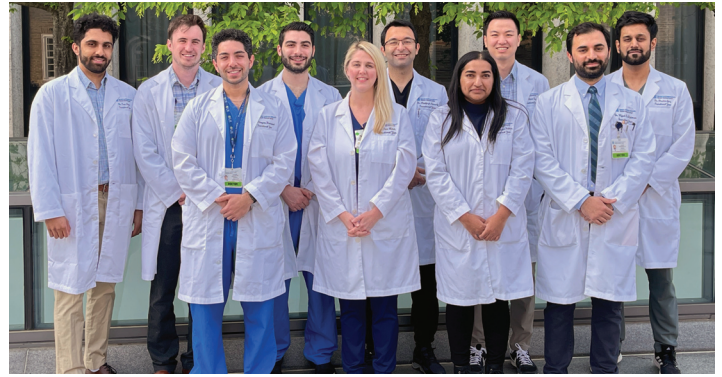
Shayann Ramedani, M.D. (Transitional Year) Anesthesiology Residency, University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y.

Wajeeh Rehman, M.B., B.S. (Transitional Year) Internal Medicine Residency, Bassett Medical Center, Cooperstown, N.Y.

Anshini Shah, M.D. (Internal Medicine) Oncology Fellowship, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Lintha Shah, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Hospital Medicine, Multicare Good Samaritan Hospital, Puyallup, Wash.

Sarina Sharma, M.D. (Internal Medicine) Endocrinology



L-R: The transitional year class 2022-23: Drs. Sean Karott, Jacob Van Vorst, Shayann Ramedani, Nadav Mortman, Tina Walsh, Abolfazl Ahmady, Arjumand Fatima, Alvin Chang, Wajeeh Rehman, and Hashim Ejaz.

Fellowship, Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Penn.

Levi Smucker, M.D. (General Surgery) General Surgery Practice, Goshen Hospital, Goshen, Ind.

Nisarg Thakker, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Hospital Medicine, Bridgeport Hospital Yale New Haven Health, Bridgeport, Conn.

Sittinun Thangjui, M.D. (Internal Medicine) Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.

Uchit Thappa, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine) Hospital Medicine, Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, Mass.

Jacob Van Vorst, D.O., (Transitional Year) Diagnostic Radiology Residency, Norwalk Hospital, Norwalk, Conn.

Tina M. Walsh, D.O. (Transitional Year) Diagnostic Radiology Residency, Albany Medical Center, Albany, N.Y.

Jimmy Wang, M.D. (Internal Medicine) Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, N.H.

Anne Young, M.D. (General Surgery) Minimally-invasive Surgery Fellowship, Scripps Green Hospital, San Diego, Calif. ■



L-R: Graduating Surgery residents Drs. Anne Young, Levi Smucker, and Elizabeth Jacob

THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

Please keep your notes and photos coming!

1950s

Donald Urrea, M.D.

(Rotating resident 1960-61; Medicine resident 1961-62) shared, “The recent heavy rains in our area north of Corning haven’t caused flooding for us but it brought down some trees. I had to get my chainsaw to work.”



The results of Dr. Urrea's hard work

1970s

James Dalton, M.D.

(Medicine resident 1979-83; Attending physician 1988-present; Director of Medical Education 2002-21) Jim and his wife Deb were recently graciously hosted by **Vijay Sekar, M.D.** (Medicine resident 2018-21), wife Preethi Ravindran and their lovely children Ananya and Vehan in their Allentown home. Vijay has just finished his Endocrinology fellowship at Lehigh Valley and joins the faculty there.

1980s

Kenneth Wilkins, M.D.

(Medicine resident 1980-83, Chief resident 1983-84) visited Ukraine in June at the invitation of Dr. Tetiana



Dr. Ken Wilkins visiting a hospital in Terebovlya, Ukraine with doctors from Ckalat and Terebovlya.

Vaschuk, director of a hospital in Volodymyr, a small city in western Ukraine. He writes, “I saw medical facilities ranging from very small service to a medical university in Ternopil. We also visited Kyiv, where we saw an oncology center moved from Mariupol, as well as damage from the early days of the war. In Lviv, we visited a new, state-of-the-art rehabilitation center that would be the envy of medical staff anywhere. I’m hoping to be able to raise money to help with much needed medical supplies. The Ukrainian people are a resilient bunch. It was a privilege to see their medical system and their response to the war. I will admit that hearing air raid sirens outside of a movie theater is a surreal experience.”

1970-75, Attending surgeon 1978-present).

2000s

Melissa (Lukose) Kreso, M.D. (Transitional Year resident 2007-08) has been named Medical Director of Sawgrass Surgery Center, ambulatory surgery center with 11 operating rooms that is part of the University of Rochester Medical Center system.

2010s

Brian Miller, M.D.

(Transitional Year resident 2013-14) currently Assistant Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University, is one of three new members to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC). ■

Bassett Resident Physicians and Nursing Students Build Teamwork

Bassett Healthcare Network, in conjunction with Hartwick College, announced that the two institutions are launching joint simulation labs for first-year Bassett residents and Hartwick nursing students. This is the first time Bassett residents are partnering with nursing students in simulation labs.

In the coming months, 23 first-year resident physicians from Bassett Medical Center Graduate Medical Education (GME) program will work together with summer nursing students from Hartwick, St. Elizabeth’s College of Nursing, SUNY Morrisville, and SUNY Delhi. The Clark Nursing Simulation Lab at Hartwick College will be the site of the exercises.

The group will participate in hands-on training, observation and debriefing as they rotate through three clinical simulations: Transitions of Care/Safe Effective Handoff, Emergent Situations, and Patient/Family Communication.

“Teamwork is the essential foundation for the best patient care. These collaborative simulation labs for a new generation of doctors and nurses build team thinking and hone their practice,” said Dr. Tommy Ibrahim, President and CEO of Bassett Healthcare Network. “We extend our thanks to the professionals who built this exceptional program and enthusiastically support the participation of the nursing students and our residents.”

“We embarked on this alliance with Hartwick College because simulation is a valuable tool for training nurses and physicians in a variety of settings,” said Jill Stoecklin, Bassett’s administrative director of Medical Education and the Medical School. “For simulations to be most effective, it is important for nurses and physicians to create a collaborative partnership. By doing so, we all learn from each other’s experiences and perspectives to provide optimal patient care.” ■

1990s

Theodor Kaufman, M.D.

(Surgery resident 1993-99, Surgery Residency Program director 2015-20, Attending surgeon 2015-20) enjoyed hiking outside of Tucson on Wasson’s Pass, when visiting **James Bordley, M.D.** (Surgery resident



Kaufman with his son Jonathan (born while Kaufman was a resident at Bassett), and friend Holly Conway.

Walter A. Franck Physician Excellence Award



Dr. Tom Huntsman

Dr. Tom Huntsman is the 2023 recipient of Bassett Healthcare Network’s most prestigious recognition for a physician, the Walter A. Franck Physician Excellence Award. The award was established to honor rheumatologist Walter A. Franck, M.D., who retired from Bassett in 2014 after more than four decades of distinguished service. This award recognizes a physician who emulates the lifelong career traits he embodied — service to patients, students,

colleagues, and the community. Physicians are nominated by their peers and the award recipient is determined by a vote of Bassett physicians.

Huntsman is the Division Chief of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and has been at Bassett since 1991.

He earned his medical degree at Bowman Gray School of Medicine (now known as the Wake Forest University School of Medicine) in Winston-Salem, NC. He completed his internship and general surgery residency, six years of training, at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, followed by a two-year combined fellowship in plastic/reconstructive and hand surgery at the University of California at San Francisco. Huntsman is triple-certified for general, hand, and plastic

surgery by the American Board of Surgery, and the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Additionally, Huntsman is known for his many surgical and mentoring missions overseas, performing life-changing procedures on impoverished children who would not otherwise have access to care. Through Resurge (previously known as Interplast) and Medical Missions for Children, he has undertaken trips to 25 countries, from Vietnam to Russia to Mozambique, often in very remote areas, collaborating with and teaching local surgeons.

“We congratulate Dr. Huntsman on this achievement which represents the many colleagues that hold him and his long career at Bassett in high esteem!” said Dr. Elizabeth Redd, president of the Medical Staff.

Huntsman’s name will be added to those of the prior award winners on the plaque hanging near the entrance to the Clark Auditorium. A grant of \$5,000 will be designated to the Bassett program or initiative of his choice.

Previous winners of this award have been Shep Friedman, M.D., Kai Mebust, M.D., Chris Kjolhede, M.D., Raul Monzon, M.D., Erik Riesenfeld, M.D., Raquel Rosen, M.D., Bernadette Ryan, M.D., and James Dalton, M.D. ■



Dr. Tom Huntsman training two physicians while doing scar revision on a burn patient in Thimphu, Bhutan in 2018.

Physician Employment Opportunities in the Bassett Healthcare Network

Thinking of a career move? Do you know another physician seeking a position in an award-winning network of six hospitals and 30 regional sites? Consider these openings in Central New York and Cooperstown.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Anesthesiology | Neurosurgery |
| Cardiology - Non-Invasive and Interventional | Pediatrics |
| Critical Care | Psychiatry - Inpatient and Outpatient |
| Family Medicine | Radiology - General and Interventional |
| Hematology Oncology | Urology |
| Internal Medicine | |

For more information visit:
<https://www.bassett.org/careers/physicians-and-advanced-practice-clinicians> or call Medical Staff Recruitment at 607-547-6982.

Columbia-Bassett Medical School Celebrates Another Graduation

On May 13, 2023, preceding the formal graduation ceremony in New York City, there was a virtual graduation celebration in Cooperstown. This event was attended by several faculty members and family of the graduates. Dr. Robert Sideli, former chief information officer at Columbia University Medical Center presented an address to those present. It was followed by a brief talk by the Senior Associate Dean for the Columbia-Bassett Program Dr. Henry Weil. The Columbia-Bassett graduates were presented by a Bassett faculty member.

Class members were remarkably successful in their residency match. (See details in The Cupola Spring 2023 issue for complete list of placements.) ■



A reminder: Who are the members of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association?

You are past and current interns, residents and fellows. You are former and current members of the senior doctoral staff. And you are students of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School program or students who spent your final two years of medical school at Bassett.

Dr. Curtis Mills, Bassett Senior Attending Physician, Receives National Award for Excellence in Patient Care



Dr. Curtis Mills

Dr. Curtis Mills has received the Ralph O. Claypoole Sr. Memorial Award for Devotion of a Career in Internal Medicine to the Care of Patients from the American College of Physicians (ACP). The award is given annually to an outstanding practitioner of internal medicine whose career has been devoted to the care of patients. The practitioner must be a clinician who is highly respected by peers and colleagues for clinical skills and who has been a role model.

"Bassett Healthcare Network fosters the spirit of all of us privileged to work there, allowing us to accomplish our goals of wonderful, personal patient care. I am grateful to Bassett," said Dr. Mills in recognition of his award.

The award was presented April 27, 2023, at ACP's annual convocation in San Diego. Qualifications for the award include:

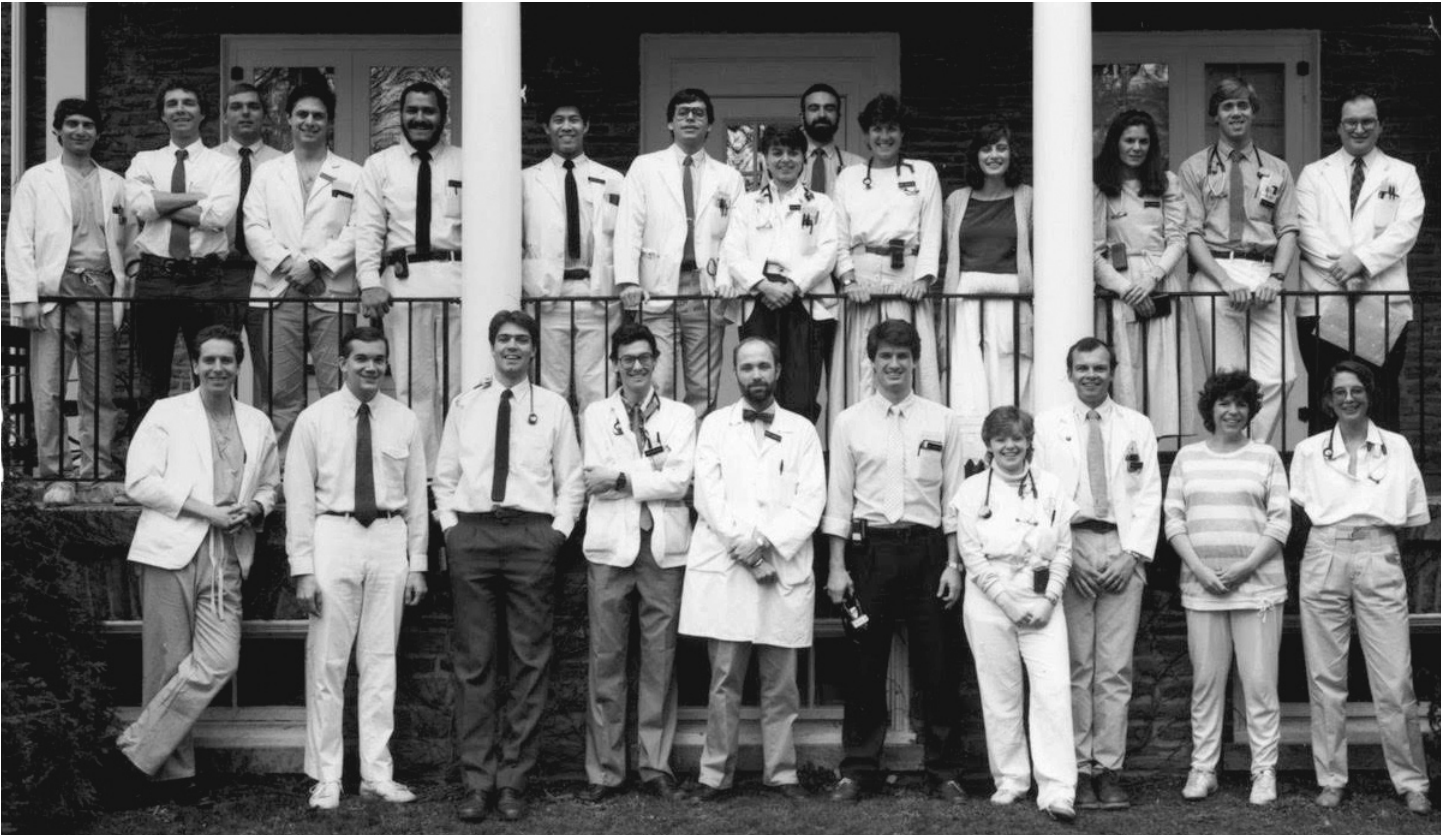
demonstrated excellence in and devotion to the clinical care of patients, service to the needs of underserved communities and underrepresented or marginalized populations, the physician's characteristics as a role model in the approach to clinical care.

Mills' career at Bassett spans over 25 years of service to his patients. He earned his Doctor of Medicine degree at Albany Medical College, followed by a residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Hematology and Oncology at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N. H. He retired from Bassett's Senior Professional Staff as Attending Physician in June 2021.

"The competition for the award this year was extremely strong, but your contributions were deemed the most outstanding," said Marianne C. Parshley, M.D. and Chair of the Awards Committee of the American College of Physicians.

"What a wonderful recognition to honor him for his years of service and compassion to his patients and community," said Charlotte Hoag, manager of Medical Staff Affairs at Bassett Healthcare Network. ■

BASSETT LOOKS BACK



This photo includes a partial representation of the residents of the 1987-88 academic year. Front Row: Drs. Lewis Zulick, Mark Thompson, Christopher Corsi, John Conklin, Frank Zwemer, Joel Pavelonis, Margaret Nichols, Larry Gaul, Marie Dam, Jill Winslow. On porch: Drs. Joseph Napoli, James LaCava, Kenneth Murphy, Rocco Ciocca, Andres Navedo-Rivera, Jonathan Fong, David Zelitt, Ann Bianchi, Jeffrey Francesco, Wendy Bonnett, Helen Hoenig, Linda Trimble, Christopher Sidford, Henry Maxwell

IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

James B. Hastings, M.D. (1927-2022)

Dr. James Babbitt Hastings died peacefully at home on September 4, 2022, at just short of 95. Born in 1927, Jim spent his formative years in Montclair, N.J., where he became an Eagle Scout and was a leader at Camp Dudley in the Adirondacks. He attended Haverford College for a year before joining the U.S. Navy, serving under the Grenfell Mission for two years as a radar technician on destroyers. He also volunteered for the Indian Health Services in Ft. Defiance, Ariz., working with Navajo healers.

In 1950, he graduated with a degree in electrical engineering and enrolled in Columbia Presbyterian College of Physicians and Surgeons. There he met nursing student Margaret (Peg) Ross. They married after graduation in 1954, and moved to Cooperstown, where he completed an internship and two years of residency in surgery at Bassett Hospital (1954-58). With three children, the family moved to Princeton N.J. in 1959, where he joined the Princeton Medical Group.

He designed and ran the first mass screening program for colorectal cancer, earning him honors as AMA Doctor of the Year in 1973 (New Jersey), and served for many years on various local, state and national cancer task forces. He taught as clinical assistant professor at Rutgers Medical School until 1998. Family and community were central to he and his wife's life together, and they spent summers camping in the Poconos and Adirondacks. He is survived by his wife, Peg, his children Nancy (and Jerry) Zatzman, Alan (and Teresa Davis), Robert (and Fritz Sabbow), Nick (and Kim Mrazek) and many grandchildren.

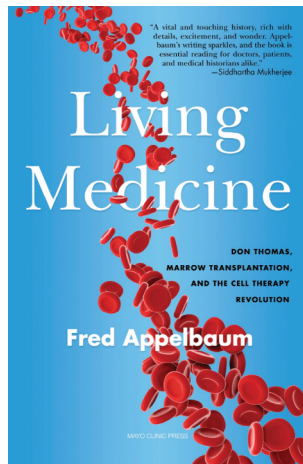
Carole Nunamaker Tinklepaugh, M.D. (1945-2023)



Dr. Carole
Nunamaker
Tinklepaugh

Carole Nunamaker Tinklepaugh, M.D., age 78, of Rock Hall, Md., passed away on April 10, 2023 from lung cancer. Born Carole Nunamaker in Indiana, she attended Purdue University and received her medical degree in 1971 from Yale University School of Medicine. She received an M.B.A. from Temple University, and did residency training in medicine at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. Married to the Reverend John Tinklepaugh, the family moved to Cooperstown in 1975 where she joined Bassett Hospital as chief resident in Medicine, followed by a brief stint as attending physician. After moving to Maryland, she went on to become board certified in both Internal and Occupational Medicine. She loved spending time in her garden, playing the piano, reading, and preparing delicious food. She is survived by four children and an extended family. ■

Physician-in-Chief and Nobel Laureate E. Donnall Thomas, M.D. Is Focus of New Biography



“Living Medicine: Don Thomas, Marrow Transplantation, and the Cell Therapy Revolution” by Frederick Appelbaum, M.D. was released in May 2023, and it is receiving positive reviews from readers and critics.

Described as a superb clinician and teacher in hematology research, Thomas came to Bassett in 1955. While here, he and his team conducted early research in bone marrow transplantation as a treatment for leukemia.

Appelbaum tells the story of how Thomas, during the last half of the twentieth century, discovered a cure for every marrow-based disease—like leukemia, lymphoma, and sickle-cell anemia—forever changing treatment for some of these deadly illnesses.

This is the first biography of Thomas's courageous story. The author, Dr. Frederick R. Appelbaum, worked with Thomas as executive vice president and deputy director at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, in Seattle, Wash.

In the summer of 2019, Appelbaum visited Cooperstown and presented a multi-disciplinary grand rounds in which he highlighted Bassett's early contributions to hematopoietic cell transplantation. He brought the history up to the present stating that bone marrow transplantation is used in the treatment of every hematologic malignancy and over 100,000 patients get transplants around the world annually.

After his talk, Appelbaum met with Bassett historian Dr. John S. Davis. He applauded Bassett's E. Donnall Thomas Research Program which encourages residents to undertake research projects during their training here. Appelbaum suggested that the E.D. Thomas Research Award appears to be an incentive unique to Bassett's Medical Education program. He recognized the Research Institute's shift to public health and population studies as insightful and important for its relevance and ties to Bassett's geographic setting. ■

Legacy from page 8

As a leader in the alumni association, his commitment to the mission of education has been constant. In addition, Delong has generously contributed an annuity to the Friends of Bassett which will continue to elevate medical education at Bassett Healthcare Network. If you are interested in making a gift to support Bassett, please contact the Friends of Bassett by emailing friends.office@bassett.org or call 607-547-3928. Thank you! ■



See our latest news and updates at [Bassett Medical Alumni Association](https://www.bassett.org/alumni)



THE CUPOLA
Bassett Medical Center
Office of Medical Education
One Atwell Road
Cooperstown, NY 13326

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Alumni Donor Profile: Dr. Douglas DeLong

For over 25 years Bassett has been home for Dr. Douglas DeLong. “To me, Bassett is about family, and it is all about relationships.”

After an internal medicine residency at Bassett from 1979 to 1983, DeLong moved to northwest Wisconsin where he spent 17 years of his career. Even after all that time away, he still felt a strong connection to Bassett and the people in the Cooperstown community.

In conjunction with others who trained here, he helped form the Bassett Medical Alumni Association. Eventually he made his return to Bassett in 2000.

“One of the things that I missed most was the teaching opportunities, that is what brought me back to Bassett.” Thanks to Bassett’s rich tradition as a center for learning, DeLong has been a crucial part of continuing the focus of medical education and providing excellent care for our patients.

Professionally, he was active beyond Cooperstown as well. In 2019, DeLong was elevated to chairman of the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians. The Board of Regents is the main policy-making body of the American College of Physicians, which is the largest medical specialty organization in the United States and has members in more than 145 countries worldwide.

In 2021, he retired while remaining very active in the Bassett Medical Alumni Association. Recently, he was elected to be an



Dr. Douglas DeLong

alternate delegate to the Senior Physicians Section Governing Council at the American Medical Association. The Senior Physicians Section is the largest senior physicians’ group in the United States, which is comprised of more than 60,000 members.

Although retired and enjoying a rather hectic schedule, DeLong realized something seemed to be missing for him — it was his patients. “Getting to know my patients on a personal level has greatly enhanced my experience at Bassett, they have become part of my social circle”.

He has recently come out of retirement and is currently serving as an Internal Medical physician at the Prime Care Clinic in Cooperstown. As such, he supervises medical residents and assists other physicians, so they have more availability within their schedules to see their patients. “Being able to continue to contribute to Bassett Healthcare Network’s legacy is so fulfilling and I am beyond excited for everything that Bassett has in store going forward.”

Bassett Healthcare Network is thrilled to have DeLong back in the clinic especially since he is always willing to offer his wisdom, expertise, and knowledge. His commitment and support for our community, his colleagues and his patients remains the same as it did during his first days at Bassett.

Legacy to page 7