The Learning Communities at UWSMPH have three guiding principles:

- Create a caring community for all learning community members
- Help learning community members make sense of their experiences
- Empower the community and its members to make transparent and positive decisions

Through these guiding principles, the learning communities will foster community, leadership, professionalism, well-being and sharing of knowledge in order to develop more intellectually, socially, physically and emotionally prepared physicians.
On October 15th, Dr. Alice McPherson was on the UW campus to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award, one of four honorees recognized at the Chancellor’s Luncheon. Dr. McPherson (pronounced Mc FUR son), the only remaining living doctor after whom one of our SMPH Learning Communities is named, visited her namesake House on October 15th. M1-M4 students from McPherson House were invited to meet her, as were students of the Ophthalmology Interest Group.

Dr. McPherson, who continues to practice full time, established the Retina Research Foundation as well as the McPherson eye Research Institute at UW-Madison. In the 1960s, recognizing a gap in the area of retinal detachment, Dr. McPherson promoted several procedures that are now accepted basic elements in successful retinal detachment surgery and the treatment of diabetic retinopathy.

SMPH students greeted Dr. McPherson with standing applause as she entered the room and engaged the group with information and stories.

Dr. Middleton, former Dean for SMPH, served as one of Dr. McPherson’s instructors when she was a medical student. Dr. Middleton used a brown derby—a gift from some of his students—as a lecture prop. Students who didn’t know the answer to one of his questions were required to sign and wear the brown derby. According to Dr. McPherson, by the end of the semester, everyone had worn the brown derby; the take-away message is that no one knows everything about medicine. There are always things that you won’t know and will need to learn how to research or ask others.

“McPherson Gems” that students heard are that Dr. McPherson believes that Wisconsin teaches “the basics” and good doctors will always need to refer to their basic knowledge.

We’re guessing that these t-shirts won’t be seeing the inside of a wash machine again!

When asked about her favorite memory from medical school, Dr. McPherson recalled that working with patients was her favorite memory. Taking it forward, longitudinally, Dr. McPherson said that “learning to really listen to the patient” was key because you want your patient to “walk out of your office feeling that they’ve seen a caring doctor.”

We are grateful for the time that Dr. McPherson dedicated to us on October 15th!
M2s who conducted research this summer through Shapiro, independently, or through programs other than Shapiro will be presenting their work at the 14th annual Student Research Forum.

The forum will be held on **Monday, November 23rd**, from Noon to 5:00pm at the HSLC.

It’s a great event that celebrates and showcases the impressive research conducted by more than 100 M2s this past summer.

Classes are not scheduled for M1s and M2s the afternoon of November 23rd to allow everyone to participate and attend. Faculty, staff, research colleagues, family and friends are also invited to attend.

Poster sessions will be in the atrium from 12:00-1:00. Forum events are:

1:00-2:00pm 1306 HSLC Welcome from Dean Golden followed by guest lecture with Paul Sondel, MD/PhD, Pediatrics and Oncology and recipient of this year’s Dean’s Award for Excellence in Medical Student Research Mentorship.

2:15-4:00pm Concurrent podium presentations in HSLC lecture halls.

4:00-5:00pm Poster sessions and refreshments in HSLC Atrium.

Support the work of your medical student colleagues and get some great ideas for your own research!
The University of Iowa Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the Jackson-Steindler Orthopedic Clerkship. Beginning in Spring 2016, one or two outstanding medical students who have successfully completed the third year of medical school at a LCME-accredited institution and who have an interest in orthopedics will be selected for this award. The award will include support for housing and travel.

The department was founded by Arthur Steindler who immigrated to the United States because of limited opportunities he faced in Austria. After establishing the Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation in Iowa City in 1913 he sought to provide educational and career opportunities for individuals who shared his commitment to excellence, service and diversity. Ruth Jackson is one of those individuals. Ruth Jackson, after graduating from medical school, sought education in surgery, but few if any programs would accept her. When she contacted Arthur Steindler, he enthusiastically offered her a position in Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Iowa. Ruth Jackson is now recognized as the first woman orthopedic surgeon in the United States and the Ruth Jackson Society, an organization devoted to advancing women in orthopedics, is named for her.

The Jackson-Steindler Clerkship Awardees will participate in the clinical services at the University of Iowa Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, the educational programs including conferences and surgical skills education as well as have the opportunity to participate in research conferences. At the beginning of the Ruth Jackson-Steindler clerkship the awardees will each give a 10-15 minute talk on diversity during one of the department’s educational conferences. Successful applicants will have demonstrated a commitment to excellence and an interest in advancing diversity within the specialty of orthopedics. The clerkship is not affiliated with the Orthopedics and Rehabilitation residency match program.

All applications materials should be received by April 1, 2016. Awardees will be notified no later than April 29, 2016. Please see the web site at Ruth Jackson-Steindler Orthopaedic Clerkship for complete application instructions.
Use The WMAA Host Program While Interviewing

The Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) encourages M4s to utilize the Medical Alumni Host Program as you travel for residency interviews.

SMPH HOST alumni volunteers throughout the U.S. happily open their homes to 4th-year students traveling for residency interviews. Hosts provide overnight lodging – and often meals and transportation. They also provide professional insight into the region and its medical community.

The Host Program contact data located on OASIS: go to "New and Update Notices," "2015-2016 Residency Application, Match, MSPE (Dean's Letter)" folder, "2015-2016 Alumni Host List." Here you will find an excel file of alumni who have volunteered for this program, sorted by zip code. (per the "Notes" column, in a few instances, WMAA removed contact info because the alum wants to take a year off from the HOST program).

The best first contacts are often via email; be sure to write a captivating/to-the-point subject line to increase odds that they'll open it - for example "I'm coming to town for residency interview - could you help, Dr. Smith?"

Let WMAA staff know if they can assist you further. WMAA is happy to search for a volunteer in the city where you plan to interview, as well as contact them directly - especially if there are "holes" in this list.

Please schedule a time to meet with either Karen Peterson at kspeters@wisc.edu or Maureen Brady at mmbrady@wisc.edu if you need assistance or have additional questions.

Volunteer for the Porchlight Annual Recognition Dinner

In August 2015, the entering M1s in Middleton House helped Porchlight begin preparations for the Supporting Our Community annual recognition dinner. Here is your chance to continue volunteering and learn more about Porchlight’s most important event.

On Wednesday, November 4th at Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor’s Club, Porchlight will host all of their community sponsors at the Porchlight Supporting our Community Annual Recognition Dinner from 5:00-9:30pm. These sponsors play a primary role in supporting the shelter, housing, and supportive services for the homeless community in Dane County.

Medical students have volunteered for this event for the past few years, and the staff at Porchlight are very excited to have them return! Porchlight truly values medical students for their excellent social skills and professional presentation during this important event. They are looking for help with the following:

10:00am-2:00pm - Set up registration tables
2:00-5:00pm - Set up silent auction
5:00-7:30pm - Work coat rack area
5:00-7:30pm - Work registration tables

If you are available to assist, please contact IHC Community Engagement Liaison Becca Warwick at rwarwick@wisc.edu or use this LINK to sign up directly.

24th Annual Monato Rural Essay Competition

Established in 1993 in memory of Hermes Monato, Jr. who graduated from the University of Wisconsin and worked at the Rural Wisconsin health Cooperative, anyone who has been a student at the UW within the preceding year is encouraged to submit their essay on rural health. The winning essay will be awarded $2,500.00.

Entries must be submitted by June 1st, 2016 to Monica Seiler, RWHC, 880 Independence Lane, Sauk City, WI 53583 or electronically to mseiler@rwhc.com. Click on the title of this article to link to more information.
The Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) and the Medical Students Association are proud to announce the Wisconsin Shadow program. This program will allow all enrolled students at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health the opportunity to have unique shadowing experiences with alumni throughout the State of Wisconsin. The goal of Shadow is to encourage current medical students to develop medical skills and learn about medical specialties in non-academic settings.

Shadow will allow medical students an opportunity to experience medicine outside of the university environment. The practice of medicine differs greatly outside of the University and one of Shadow’s major goals is to allow students to explore non-academic medicine. All alumni volunteers are physicians who live around the State of Wisconsin. With its geographical diversity, Shadow will also allow in-state students to shadow near their hometowns during school breaks and weekends. Out of state students are encouraged to use this program as well.

The Shadow program offers a one-of-a-kind exposure to medical specialties. Classroom learning, third-year rotations, special interest groups, and other current programs offer an excellent chance to learn about medical specialties. Shadow was created to enhance and add to these resources. The list will continue to expand, but the following are specialties that can be shadowed: Anesthesia, Cardiology, Dermatology, Emergency Medicine, OB/Gyn, Family Practice, Hospitalists, Internal Medicine, Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Medical Oncology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, General Surgery, and Urology.

As a reminder, Shadow is a voluntary program, and the experience should not interfere with class time or work. This is a non-credit experience. Therefore, medical students DO NOT have liability (including malpractice) insurance coverage. The program is to be exclusively a “shadow” experience. We strongly encourage any feedback you have as we continue to improve this new program! If you have any questions please contact Karen Peterson, WMAA Executive Director (kspeters@wisc.edu)

In order to participate, you must do the following:

- Sign up in the WMAA Office at the front desk, room 4296 HSLC.
- Sign the agreement form which states you understand this program is not for credit and therefore does not provide liability (including malpractice) insurance coverage. The agreement form is also at the front desk.
- Request a list of alumni “Shadow” volunteers from the WMAA staff.
The Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians Foundation (WAFP) will have one externship slot available to M1s in summer, 2016.

This is an eight-week externship with a $3200 stipend distributed in equal installments at completion of Week 4 and Week 8 along with submitting required evaluations and summaries.

A description of the externship was sent via email from Joyce Jeardeau (joyce.jeardeau@fammed.wisc.edu) on October 22nd.

The application deadline is November 23rd and selection will occur in early December.

Exam Review Hours

For the remainder of the Fall semester, there will be regular Exam Review hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 12:00-1:00.

Additional walk-in hours may be added during periods of peak volume. Watch your email for a complete list of locations and additional times.

Second-Year Medical School Students

Starting October 1st
Take the AAMC Medical School Year Two Questionnaire (Y2Q)

Share your thoughts on:
• Learning climate
• Adjustments to medical school
• Future career plans

Survey responses will be available to you as a national report.

Look for an email from the AAMC inviting you to take this confidential online survey!

Y2Q@aamc.org
www.aamc.org/data/y2q/