A PINNACLE YEAR OF MILESTONES & SUCCESSES
Our Mission

The CMU College of Medicine will prepare diverse, culturally competent physicians focused on improving access to high quality health care in Michigan with an emphasis on rural and medically underserved regions. Our graduates will aspire to excellence in providing patient-centered and evidenced-based care to their patients and their communities. We will engage physicians in leading health care transformation, lifelong learning and team-based education.
In less than a decade, since our inception in 2008, Central Michigan University’s College of Medicine continues to demonstrate significant progress in fully realizing our mission. By all measures, 2016-2017 marked a pinnacle year for our program with many firsts and peak performances. This year’s annual report celebrates some of the many milestones accomplished by the College of Medicine:

« The Class of 2017 - Graduation of our College’s inaugural class of 62 students.

« 100% Residency Placements - Nearly half of our students chose to stay and practice in Michigan.

« New Leadership - Three new discipline chairs, a new Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and a new Associate Dean for Student Affairs joined our team to provide leadership support for the surgical, medical, and foundational sciences.

« Strengthened Partnership - Our relationship with CMU Medical Education Partners was enhanced with the placement of five CMU College of Medicine graduates in the Partners residency program, as well as the appointment of Dr. Samuel Shaheen as Partners’ new Executive Director.

« Accreditation - We continue to meet accreditation expectations; the LCME has advanced the College of Medicine to provisional accreditation status.

As trailblazers, our faculty members formed partnerships with students and the community, forging a strong foundation. We are thankful to those physicians and hospital partners who supported clinical rotations for our students throughout the state of Michigan. A network of nearly 500 community-based, volunteer physician educators served as preceptors for our students in rural and underserved communities throughout Michigan.

With a focus on our mission and the need for strengthening Michigan’s future physician pipeline, our Early Assurance Program provides enhanced opportunities for undergraduate premedical students from CMU, Saginaw Valley State University and Albion College. We also work closely with the Mid-Central Area Health Education Center to offer Health Career Pipeline programs, including the CampMed mini-medical school for urban and rural high school students who wish to pursue careers in medicine and health.

We have encountered countless personal narratives of persistence, passion, and tremendous contributions from everyone who has shared in this incredible journey. Our College of Medicine is deeply grateful for the leadership and service of Dr. Linda Perkowski, Dr. Joel Lanphear, and Dr. Robert Fleischman, all of whom retired in 2016-2017.

I also want to commemorate two individuals whose contributions to life and the compassionate practice of medicine will be deeply missed. Fourth-year medical student Jack Furnari of DeWitt, Michigan, lost his battle to cancer; his family accepted a posthumous medical degree on his behalf. Our College community also mourned the loss of Dr. Clint Snyder, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, in July 2016. Memorial scholarship funds have been established in both of their names.

I am inspired by the remarkable moments that have shaped the story of CMU’s College of Medicine and grateful for our faculty, staff and students, and for the support of the CMU administration, as well as the strong collaborations with the Michigan Health Improvement Alliance, the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance, and our partnerships promoting healthier lives and regional economic growth. We look forward to a bright future.

George E. Kikano, M.D.
Dean, CMU College of Medicine
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MILESTONES

The CMU College of Medicine is now delivering a comprehensive four-year program of study, and will serve a full complement of 416 students in 2017-2018. After receiving nearly 5,000 applications during another successful admissions cycle, the college will welcome 104 students in August 2017.

Ongoing Continuous Quality Improvement is a high priority for the College of Medicine. Faculty and staff continue to refine and implement curriculum enhancements, including career advising components for students in clinical years. We have more than doubled our scholarships to minimize student debt, and we hope to continue that trend. In April 2017, three Saginaw-area Rotary Clubs organized a highly successful fundraiser which raised more than $235,000 to support a scholarship fund. This fund will support tuition reduction for CMU’s medical students, as a way to thank these future doctors for choosing to stay, and serve, in the community.

The College’s accreditation progress is successfully moving forward for all programs. In October 2016, the College of Medicine earned provisional accreditation status from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), which is the last step before full accreditation is awarded to new medical schools. As a result of our 2016 Site Visit for Provisional Accreditation, LCME recognized university leadership and governance for their superior commitment in investing in CMU’s College of Medicine and commended our school’s administration for fostering a culture of transparency, approachability and responsiveness.

Our 2016-2017 enrollments reflect the College’s growing footprint in Michigan. Eighty percent of our 374 students come from communities throughout Michigan. Fifteen percent of first- and second-year CMU medical students are from Under-Represented minority groups, exceeding the national average of 10 percent.

“The there is a certain ‘explorer’ mindset among the faculty and students at CMU’s College of Medicine – the goal of beating the odds and excelling beyond others’ expectations. I like the ‘all hands on deck’ approach and the opportunity to build on the tremendous accomplishments of the founding faculty and students.”

– Dr. S. Sethu Reddy,
Medical Disciplines Chair
Our first class of 62 doctors graduated on May 7, 2017, and will leave a lasting legacy. We are proud of their accomplishments and grateful for their contributions in shaping our program.

All 62 students in our inaugural class secured residencies in needed specialty areas, including: Emergency Medicine, Emergency Medical Services, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Psychiatry, Pediatrics, Anesthesiology, Obstetrics/Gynecology, and General Surgery.

Nearly half of these future doctors were matched to residency programs in Michigan, in alignment with our College of Medicine’s mission; increasing Michigan’s medical capacity to reduce health disparities, improve access to high-quality care and respond to the shortage of physicians in rural and underserved communities.

Our students and residents learn the science of medicine while also learning to consider the whole patient in the settings of their individual communities. Involvement in the community is a deeply held ethic and an important way of life for students and faculty throughout our comprehensive, four-year curriculum, involving diverse disciplines, partners and settings.

Student engagement starts with service-learning projects and their Initial Clinical Experiences. This year, 204 first- and second-year medical students provided more than 2,000 hours of service to support the work of 39 community-based health organizations and clinical settings in the area. All third-year medical students engaged in Comprehensive Clinical Clerkships (CCCs), guided by community educator physicians at 16 health-care institutions throughout Michigan.

Medical student research at the CMU College of Medicine is focused on translating basic science discoveries to improve patients’ health and using clinical and population health information for improving clinical practice, reducing disparities, and promoting community health.

This year, medical students published 13 research articles and 24 students’ presentations were given at regional and national conventions.

The highly successful 2017 CMU College of Medicine and CMU Health Research Symposium included 30 poster presentations and four oral presentations that resulted in two awards for medical students’ research.
Our College of Medicine has profoundly benefited from the contributions of its founding faculty. Their efforts, unique areas of expertise and relationships with our students have prepared a solid foundation to support the dynamic growth and continued development of our program. Three of our program leaders – Dr. Linda Perkowski, Dr. Joel Lanphear, and Dr. Robert Fleischman – retired in 2016-2017; their many contributions to our College leave a strong legacy. In 2016, the College of Medicine welcomed a new Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity and Inclusion Officer, a new Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, and three new Discipline Chairs – all of whom share the College's vision to facilitate the transformation of health care.

Dr. John Blebea, Chair of Surgical Disciplines and Professor of Surgery. Dr. Blebea joined the College of Medicine and CMU Medical Education Partners to lead efforts to initiate a surgical residency program, and is focused on recruiting skilled surgical staff to the organization. Dr. Blebea is an internationally recognized vascular surgeon who most recently served as Director for the Vascular Surgery Fellowship Program and as a professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine.

Dr. Rachel Brown, Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity and Inclusion Officer, and Professor of Psychiatry. Dr. Brown was recruited from the University of Missouri School of Medicine, where she served as a psychiatrist and as Associate Dean for Student Programs. She was awarded the Association of American Medical College's award for best Career Advising Program at their national meeting in 2016; and is well-recognized for her innovative and successful development of recruitment and pipeline programs.

Dr. Robert Petersen, Chair of Foundational Sciences and Professor of Pathology. Dr. Petersen's broad training and expertise span across the fields of neuroscience, genetics and pathology. He was the founding director of the Department of Pathology's master's program at Case Western Reserve University. His combination of expertise and student-centric mode of teaching instills a love of learning within our students and fosters skills they will need to evolve throughout their careers.

Dr. S. Sethu Reddy, Chair of Medical Disciplines, Professor of Medicine and Endocrinology, and a Physician at the new Endocrinology & Diabetes Center at McLaren Central Michigan. Dr. Reddy is a well-known clinician and scientist with significant leadership expertise in academia and the pharmaceutical industry. He served as Chief of Adult Diabetes at Harvard Medical School/Joslin Diabetes Center in Boston, as Chairman of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism at Cleveland Clinic, and as Vice President for Medical Affairs at Merck.

Dr. Tina Thompson, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, most recently served as the Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Mercer University School of Medicine, and also served there as a professor of neuroscience. She received her Ph.D. from Texas Christian University, and completed postdoctoral work at Brown University in Rhode Island and UT Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, Texas. She brings a wealth of leadership and academic experience to the College.
Last year, our clinics attained the following patient volumes:

- 60,000 ambulatory care patient visits
- 850 deliveries
- 6,500 surgical procedures

**CMU MEDICAL EDUCATION PARTNERS MILESTONES**

The Great Lakes Bay Region continues to build on its rich history of nurturing physicians in needed specialty areas. Dr. Samuel Shaheen has taken on a new leadership role as the Executive Director for CMU Medical Education Partners, and continues to reinforce CMU’s ongoing commitment to provide quality medical education and health care in the region.

Healthcare represents nearly 20 percent of the region’s economy and upwards of $25 million to the region for medical education. This investment is used to operate resident education programs, keep physicians in Michigan, improve public health, and create vibrant and healthier local communities.

Together, CMU Medical Education Partners and CMU Health serve as the graduate medical education and clinical arm for the CMU College of Medicine and provide highly qualified and educated physicians who deliver exceptional patient care.

Residency programs include: OB/GYN, Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Emergency Medical Services, Internal Medicine, and Psychiatry. Building on the success of the five existing residency programs (each of which were able to attract one CMU College of Medicine student from the inaugural class of 62 physicians), accreditation for a Podiatry residency is in process and plans are in place to establish a General Surgery residency in the future.

CMU Medical Education Partners’ two partner institutions, Covenant HealthCare and St. Mary’s of Michigan, serve as primary referral hospitals for patients throughout mid Michigan and northeastern Michigan.

CMU Health’s clinical locations offer multiple specialties, and provided ambulatory care services for 60,000 patient visits in 2016-2017, making it among the largest provider of quality patient care in the Saginaw area.

“CMU Medical Education Partners has fueled this effort since 1968; the affiliation with the CMU College of Medicine further strengthens our region’s health capacities by offering exceptionally strong and respected educational opportunities to medical school graduates, incentivizing them to become board certified in their specialty and to practice in the region.”

– Dr. Samuel Shaheen, Executive Director

“Our patients have the advantage of being cared for by both our expert faculty and also by the resident physicians who are learning state-of-the-art care and implementing the use of the latest technology in their specialty areas.”

– Dr. Mary Jo Wagner, Chief Academic Officer/DIO

Dr. Jerry Xavier, Internal Medicine resident, and Linda Collier, Executive Administrative Assistant.
CMU’s 125th Anniversary
In September 2017, Central Michigan University will mark the 125th anniversary of its first class of 31 students beginning the journey to become the next leaders in education. The then-named Central Normal School and Business Institute was founded to fulfill a pressing need for quality schooling for Michigan’s educators, much like the CMU College of Medicine was founded to fulfill a pressing need for quality schooling for Michigan’s physicians. It’s serendipitous that we celebrate CMU’s 125th anniversary in the same year the College of Medicine has graduated its first class of doctors.

Follow Our Success on Social Media

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Your support makes a difference.

As we diligently strive to address Michigan’s physician shortage by preparing future physicians to provide quality health care, your financial contribution can help. Learn more at www.cmich.edu/colleges/cmed/Giving.
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

OLIVIA BOLEN
Influencing the future of family medicine

Olivia Bolen, of East Tawas, Michigan, a third-year CMU College of Medicine student in 2016-2017, was selected as the only student on the Michigan Academy of Physicians’ board of directors. Serving as a voice for Michigan medical students who are passionate about family medicine, Bolen spends time reaching out to members of the academy, guest speaking at events such as the Future of Family Medicine Conference at Wayne State University, and meeting with other medical students to engage and inform them about family medicine in Michigan. Bolen grew up in a small Michigan community with just one doctor who served the town of fewer than 3,000 residents. That helped her understand and believe that providing quality health care means having a deeper relationship with patients. It’s why she chose CMU after earning an undergraduate degree in biomedical sciences at Western Michigan University in 2014. “CMU’s drive to have primary care physicians come back to areas in such great need, caring for thousands of patients who are underserved throughout our state, really spoke to me,” Bolen said, “I fell in love with the mission.”

CAMP MED
Medical student mentors inspire high school students

CMU College of Medicine students Jeff Cooper, Brad Demijohn, Brittany Fields, Kala Frye, Joe Nowatzke, and Terace Thomas worked side-by-side with 30 high school students, serving as mentors for hands-on demonstrations and activities as part of CampMed’s 2016 team. CampMed is a three-day summer leadership program with a focus on careers in medicine. High school students from underserved urban and rural communities who are interested in pursuing careers in medicine gain exposure to elements of medical school and college life. A highlight of the mini-medical school experience included a casting and suture clinic. Supervised by a physician and assisted by medical students, participants learned knot-tying techniques and practiced sutures. CampMed is a scholarship-based program provided at no cost to participants. Financial support was provided by the Mid-Central and Northern Area Health Educational Centers (AHEC), CMU’s Enrollment and Student Services, and the College of Medicine.
Alicia Aleardi, Western Michigan University Stryker SOM, Psychiatry
Mahela Ashraf, CMU COM, Psychiatry
Elie Ata, Greater Lawrence Family Health, Family Med.
Ben Ayotte, Mayo Clinic, Family Med.
Melissa Beck, Cleveland Clinic, Radiology
Magalie Bernardo, Geisinger Health, OB
Simhadri Botta, Western Michigan University Stryker SOM, Psychiatry
Kathryn Brandell, Beaumont Health, OB
Madeline Brockberg, Boston University Medical Center, Emergency Med.
Elizabeth Buchanan, University of Iowa Hospitals, Emergency Med.
Barbara Buehler, St. John Hospital, Family Med.
Sean Carter, University of Alabama Medical Center, Internal Med.
Michelle Carveth, Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners, Pediatrics
Abigail Christiansen, Akron General Medical Center, General Surgery
Nico Conti, Case Western University Hospitals, Internal Med.
Alyssa Cowell, University of Montana, Family Med.
Stefanie DiGiandomenico, Medical College of Wisconsin, Pediatrics
Thomas Ferreri, CMU COM, Emergency Med.
Emily Fortin, Henry Ford Health, Emergency Med.
Abby Fredrickson, University of North Dakota, Psychiatry
Roman Fridline, Beaumont Health, Surgery
Jack Furnari, Degree Awarded Posthumously
Jamie Furness, Beaumont Health, Surgery
Morgan Gardner, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, Pediatrics
Sara Ghannam, Cleveland Clinic, Pediatrics
Jenna Gharzeddine, White Memorial Medical Center, Internal Med.
Saavia Girgla, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Internal Med.
Arielle Graham, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Psychiatry
Powell Graham, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Emergency Med.
Swapna Gudipati, Loyola University Medical Center, Internal Med.
Ali Hachem, CMU COM, Internal Med.
Colin Hagen, Kendall Regional Medical Center, Emergency Med.
David Hales, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine, Anesthesiology

Carl Hurtig, Indiana University School of Medicine, Emergency Med.
Nasir Hussain, Ohio State University Medical Center, Anesthesiology
Zahra Hussain, Medical College of Georgia, Anesthesiology
Omar Khan, Henry Ford Health, Internal Med.
Patric Knecht, Ft. Collins Family Medicine, Family Med.
Andrew Krause, Detroit Medical Center, Transitional
Amy Kuechenmeister, Sparrow Hospital, Emergency Med.
Thomas Lindsay, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Radiology
Alison MacKenzie, University of Rochester, Pediatrics
Marina Maraskine, Beaumont Health, Internal Med.
Leslie Markun, UC-Davis Medical Center, Neurology
Amanda Marsh, Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners, Surgery
Zachary Nowak, Beaumont Health, Anesthesiology
Matthew Nowka, St. John Hospital, Emergency Med.
Trista Osantoski, Athens Regional Medical Center, Internal Med.
Kristen Palomba, University of North Carolina Hospitals, Emergency Med.
Yasha Parikh, Mt. Auburn Hospital, Radiology
Brett Pierce, Florida Hospital, Pediatrics
Parker Prusick, University of Colorado SOM, Orthopaedic Surgery
Shelby Reitzel, CMU COM, Family Med.
Stephanie Rhynard, Beaumont Health, Phys Med & Rehab
Matthew Schloop, Beaumont Health, Internal Med.
Kush Sharma, Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners, Vascular Surgery
Alyssa Stoner, Beaumont Health, OB
Housam Tahboub, Resurrection Medical Center, Emergency Med.
Nathan Tebo, Aurora Health, Internal Med.
Paige Tomes, University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals, Pediatrics
Cassandra Vogel, Beaumont Health, OB
Paul Walker, Mercy Memorial Hospital, Family Med.
Matthew Wolf, CMU COM, Emergency Med.