2014 Founders' Day

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

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FOUNDERS' DAY 2014
JANUARY 24, 2014
ROSE K. GINSBURG AMPHITHEATER
11:00 A.M.
The annual observance of Founders’ Day honors the founders of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine: Oscar John Snyder, DO, and Mason Wiley Pressly, DO.

Dr. Snyder, who “put the cause of osteopathic medicine above personal considerations,” was the College’s first president. He remained with PCOM for 42 years as an adviser and member of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Snyder was instrumental in obtaining the Commonwealth’s legal recognition of the College and the osteopathic profession through establishing the high standards of osteopathic medical education.

Dr. Pressly, a Presbyterian minister and well-known orator, was PCOM’s first teacher. He remained on the faculty until 1904, teaching physiology, the philosophy and principles of osteopathy, hygiene and dietetics. He was PCOM’s first secretary and treasurer, and the de facto dean until 1902. Dr. Pressly founded The Philadelphia Journal of Osteopathy to promote osteopathic medicine in Philadelphia and wrote the American Osteopathic Association’s first constitution.
PROGRAM

Introduction
Paul McGloin, CPA, LLD (Hon.)
Chairman of the Board

Kenneth J. Veit, DO ’76, MBA
Provost, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean

Invocation
Hal S. Bendit, DO ’84
PCOM Alumni Association President

The Pledge of Allegiance
Douglas Anderson (DO ’15)
Student Government Association Senate Chair

PCOM Pulmonics

Welcome
Matthew Schure, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer

Greetings from Class Representatives

Introduction of the Mason W. Pressly Memorial Medal Recipients
Dr. Veit; Zachary Herrmann (DO ’16), Student Government Association Osteopathic Medicine Council President; and Nam Pham (DO ’16), GA–PCOM Student Government Association Osteopathic Medicine Council President

Address by the Mason W. Pressly Memorial Medal Recipients
Matthew V. Speicher (DO ’14)
Jason O. Milton (DO ’14)

Introduction of the O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal Recipient
Mr. McGloin

Address by the O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal Recipient
Matthew Schure, PhD

Benediction
Robert G. Cuzzolino, EdD
Vice President for Graduate Programs and Planning
“I am incredibly humbled to receive the O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal,” says Matthew Schure, PhD. “This honor marks the pinnacle of my career. I share it with the entire Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine community.”

Dr. Schure’s outstanding career epitomizes the values embraced by the O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal. He has served PCOM for 13 years as a visionary president and chief executive officer, advancing Mission-centered instructional, research and service outcomes as well as the goals of a College community that is recognized for its academic excellence and collegiality.

Early in his tenure, Dr. Schure initiated a community-based strategic planning process charged with identifying institutional goals that would reaffirm the College’s Mission and exploit its strengths. The resulting plan, which is evaluated annually, was integrated into operational planning and has enabled the College not only to survive the changing tides of state and local government funding, healthcare reform and other external changes and challenges, but to flourish. Plan accountability and transparency have led to commendations from accrediting bodies. At the same time, the plan has perpetuated a culture of inclusiveness—a sense of community about which Dr. Schure is so proud.

“There is tremendous strength within our community,” says Dr. Schure. “From our energy and resolve, we have been able to envision the enormity of that which was possible and, through our strategic planning processes, achieve it for ourselves and for those we serve. The PCOM community deserves great thanks. So, too, does the PCOM Board of Trustees; the Board has shown unwavering support and has modeled the civility and respect that distinguishes our College.”

Among the major strategic priorities of Dr. Schure’s tenure has been growth at the College—both in scope and size.

Master’s degree programs in organizational development and leadership and forensic medicine were added in 2001 and 2002, respectively. In 2002, the Psychology Department expanded to include school psychology programs. Six dual-track degree programs were extended as options for students from the osteopathic medical program as well as students in the graduate programs and from partnering institutions. Strategic partnerships—from “home base” clinical teaching fellowship partnerships increased.

In 2005, the College opened its branch campus in Suwanee, Georgia, with a focus on helping to fill the need for more healthcare professionals in the South. Today, Georgia Campus – PCOM offers professional doc-
toral degree programs in osteopathic medicine and pharmacy, and master’s degree programs in biomedical sciences and organizational leadership and development. A physician assistant program will be added to the campus’ graduate program offerings; it will be developed in phases and is anticipated to be fully Georgia-based in 2016.

Facility expansion has been manifested in many forms. In 2001, the College purchased the former City Avenue Hospital. The building was razed, and the College sold a parcel of land to neighbor WPVI Channel 6. Investment income from the sale has been used for need-based student scholarships; the remaining acres will accommodate future construction.

The Center for the Chronic Disorders of Aging, supported in part by the Osteopathic Heritage Foundations, was created in 2003 to enhance basic science and clinical research at the College. In 2008, the Food and Allergy Research Initiative was created.

Competency-based assessment as a method to train students was propelled by the College’s acquisition of a full-body, programmable human patient simulator, METI HPS, in 2003. Today, an 11,000-square-foot Clinical Learning and Assessment Center—a $2,352,000 leading-edge instructional technology and state-of-the-art management system—is the most recent investment for the training of future osteopathic physicians and health professionals.

Sound fiscal management practices instituted by the Board and PCOM’s administrative team have also sanctioned bold action; by aligning strategic objectives with business plans, the College has been able to suppress the rate of tuition increases for more than a decade—from a high that approached 10 percent to a consistent level close to 3 percent. At the same time, the College has built its endowment from $80 million to over $200 million during two recessionary periods and maintained a balanced budget with a substantial surplus for nearly a decade. The Fund for PCOM has grown from a baseline of $300,000 to a reliable $1 million unrestricted annual fund program. Standard & Poor’s has consistently cited the College’s efforts with a bond rating of A+.

Prior to his work at PCOM, Dr. Schure spent 30 years at New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), an institution that his father, Alexander Schure, PhD, founded and led. Dr. Schure held a variety of positions at NYIT including professor of behavioral sciences, associate dean for academic assessment, chair of the department of community medicine and several top administrative posts before becoming NYIT president and chief executive officer in 1991.

A native of Queens, New York, Dr. Schure has been married to his wife, Judy, for 40 years. The couple has two children, Jared and Deborah, and two grandchildren with a third on the way.
Dr. Schure has called for accountability and transparency at the College with particular emphasis on institutional effectiveness and student learning outcomes, and has received commendations from state, regional and national accreditation institutions for upholding this focus; introduced a strategic planning process that is reviewed and funded each year; established the College’s first branch campus in Gwinnett County, Georgia; and has expanded academic offerings on both campuses.

Dr. Schure has served as an avid leader, teacher and counselor, instilling enormous pride in the College’s osteopathic heritage and its unrivaled commitment to recruit and train DO and graduate students who will employ holistic approaches to clinical, didactic and other professional responsibilities, and will help to meet the needs of medically underserved areas.

Dr. Schure has shown a steadfast commitment to the Alumni Association of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, building a rapport with leaders and members, participating as a member of the board of directors, and encouraging the association in exploring new avenues such as an inclusive association for all alumni.

Dr. Schure has contributed his time and leadership to the greater Philadelphia community, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the osteopathic medical profession, chairing the City Avenue Special Services District Board, the Life Sciences Career Alliance and the Adult Learning Taskforce of the Pennsylvania Workforce Reinvestment Board; serving as a trustee of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania; and providing leadership and service on accreditation teams for the American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation and the Middle States Commission of Higher Education.
MATTHEW V. SPEICHER (DO ’14)

From the cockpit of a U.S. Navy fighter jet to the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine campus, Matthew Speicher (DO ’14) has always been committed to helping people and “leaving a place better than I found it.”

As a Navy combat aviator, Mr. Speicher was deployed to the Persian Gulf during Operation Iraqi Freedom, flying missions deep into northern Iraq to provide close air support to U.S. ground troops. “Our goal was to make sure they got home safely,” he says.

He was drawn to the world of medicine, in part, by the flight surgeons who provided care to his colleagues, and by his family. “The flight surgeons were extremely selfless people and I was inspired by them, as well as by my wife’s experiences as a nurse,” he recalls. “The things she was doing to help people every day really struck a chord with me.”

A U.S. Navy scholarship student, Mr. Speicher has used the leadership skills he learned in the Navy to serve his fellow PCOM students and the community at large. While serving as class president and DO Council member, he organized and managed logistics for First Philly Physicals, an annual event in which medical students, under the supervision of attending physicians, provide free sports physical exams to inner-city high school athletes. Mr. Speicher and 250 of his classmates performed about 850 comprehensive physical exams in one day. The volunteers screened for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM), which carries a high incidence of sudden death, especially in young athletes, and performed EKGs for every high school athlete. For those suspected of having HCM, echocardiograms were also conducted.

Mr. Speicher was invited to serve on the PCOM Faculty Curriculum Committee, which is currently restructuring the first two years of academic coursework at the College. During his year of service, Mr. Speicher reviewed courses, surveyed students, presented a comprehensive report of his findings to the committee and helped to rewrite syllabi.

Mr. Speicher was also selected to serve as a student member of the PCOM Admissions Committee. “Having the opportunity to review applications and interview applicants has given me a new appreciation for the incredibly talented students who are coming to PCOM,” he says.

“I’m happy that I have had opportunities to help my fellow students and the College,” adds Mr. Speicher, who plans to continue his Navy career by pursuing emergency medicine. “PCOM has a long tradition of training incredible doctors, and I’m honored to be part of it.”
MASON W. PRESSLY MEMORIAL MEDAL RECIPIENT

JASON O. MILTON (DO ’14), PharmD, MBA

When someone asks for help, Jason Milton (DO ’14) likes to say “yes.” Whether it involves tutoring a fellow student, assisting people in the community or providing leadership for school organizations, Dr. Milton believes it’s important to step up to the plate.

At GA–PCOM, his first big “yes” came during his first year when he helped to establish a community outreach initiative with Rainbow Village, a transitional housing community in Gwinnett County for homeless families with children. Most heads of household at Rainbow Village are women who have fled lives of domestic violence and poverty. The organization’s goal is to provide assistance to these families to help break the cycles of homelessness, poverty and domestic abuse.

“Rainbow Village is a relatively small organization with a large impact,” says Dr. Milton. “They provide families with a safe place to live, job placement services for parents and child care. When we met with them, I saw that there were many people in our community in need, and we had the manpower to help.”

GA–PCOM’s support for Rainbow Village began with the DO program and soon became a school-wide initiative. Together, students in various academic programs have organized numerous fundraisers and provided partial staffing for the organization’s after-school program.

“It is very important to be involved in your community,” says Dr. Milton, who has also served as co-chair of GA–PCOM’s Relay for Life and supported the Wounded Warrior Project through fundraising and advocacy events, among other community efforts. Dr. Milton has also acted as a peer tutor for colleagues in the DO, biomedical sciences and pharmacy programs since his first year.

And as a U.S. Navy scholarship student, he served as president of GA–PCOM’s chapter of the Student Association of Military Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons. During his tenure, he was instrumental in coordinating efforts for the organization’s national meeting, which was hosted by GA–PCOM on campus. Military physicians from all over the world came together with medical students from across the country to discuss issues and opportunities in military medicine. “Rarely does a military scholarship student have the chance to sit down at a table with admirals, generals, captains and colonels in an informal situation where you can ask anything you want,” observes Dr. Milton, who plans a Navy career as an active duty physician in neurosurgery with special interests in neurocritical care and trauma.

As president of GA–PCOM’s chapter of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association, Dr. Milton emphasizes the importance of advocating for the profession. “I jumped into the DO program feet first, and have become an advocate not just of GA–PCOM, but of the profession.”
O. J. SNYDER MEMORIAL MEDAL

The O. J. Snyder Memorial Medal, presented in memory of the co-founder of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, is the College’s highest award to recognize leadership and service to the osteopathic profession and to the College.

1953 David S. B. Pennock, MD, DO
1954 Margaret H. Jones, DO
1955 Chester D. Swope, DO
1956 Russell C. McCaughan, DO
1958 Phil R. Russell, DO
1959 Ira W. Drew, DO ’11
1960 C. Paul Snyder, DO ’10
1961 James M. Eaton, DO ’28
1962 J. Ernest Leuzinger, DO ’24
1963 H. Walter Evans, DO ’17
1964 Paul T. Lloyd, DO ’23
1966 Angus G. Cathie, DO ’31
1967 Carlton Street, DO ’24
1968 Edwin H. Cressman, DO ’26
1969 Edgar O. Holden, DO ’22
1970 Frederic H. Barth, LLD (Hon.)*
1971 Joseph F. Py, DO ’26
1972 George W. Northup, DO ’39
1973 William F. Daiber, DO ’28
1974 Herman Kohn, DO ’27
1975 William S. Spaeth, DO ’25
1976 Mortimer J. Sullivan, DO ’21
1977 A. Aline Swift, DO ’34
1978 Foster C. True, DO ’22
1979 Frank E. Gruber, DO ’26
1980 Leo C. Wagner, DO ’26
1981 R. MacFarlane Tilley, DO ’23
1982 M. Carman Pettapiece, DO ’32
1983 George H. Guest, DO ’36
1984 Thomas M. Rowland, Jr., LLD (Hon.), DSc (Hon.)*
1985 Galen S. Young, Sr., DO ’35
1986 David Heilig, DO ’44
1987 W. Kenneth Riland, DO ’36
1988 Richard S. Koch, DO ’38
1989 Ruth E. Purdy, DO ’50
1990 Morton E. Terry, DO ’45
1991 Arnold Gerber, DO ’40
1992 Emanuel Fliegelman, DO ’42
1993 Robert L. Meals, DO ’56
1994 Fairman L. Denlinger, DO ’53
1995 Lester Eisenberg, DO ’38
1996 Albert F. D’Alonzo, DO ’56
1997 Frieda O. Vickers, DO ’39
1998 Robert M. Fogel, DO ’58
1999 Nicholas C. Pedano, DO ’61
2000 Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO ’59
2001 Ronald R. Blanck, DO ’67
2002 Joseph M. Pellettiere, Jr., DO ’48
2003 Leonard W. Johnson, DO ’64
2004 Herbert Lotman, LLD (Hon.)
2005 Carol A. Fox, MM
2006 Robert W. England, DO ’56
2007 John Simelaro, DO ’71
2008 James H. Black, DO ’62
2009 John W. Becher, DO ’70
2010 John A. Cifala, DO ’45
2011 Robert S. Maurer, DO ’62
2012 Kenneth J. Veit, DO ’76, MBA
2013 Saul Jeck, DO
2014 Matthew Schure, PhD

Deceased*
MASON W. PRESSLY MEMORIAL MEDAL

The Mason W. Pressly Memorial Medal is presented by PCOM to the student who is recognized by students, faculty and the administration as “Student DO of the Year,” an award that is part of an annual tradition at each osteopathic medical school nationwide. The recipient is honored for outstanding achievement and service to the College, the community and the osteopathic profession and is selected by representatives of the overall College community.

1999 Dana Hamilton, DO ’99
2000 Alison Leff, DO ’00
2001 Constance Gasda, DO ’01
2002 Edward J. Armbruster, DO ’02
2003 Joshua M. Baron, DO ’03
2004 Stacey Franz, DO ’04
2005 Nicholas Bower, DO ’05
2006 Gregory A. Skochko, DO ’06
2007 Jessica Masser, DO ’07
2008 Sallee Eckler Jones, PhD, DO ’08
2009 Helen Anne Chang, DO ’09
      Trupti Ramesh Patel, DO ’09, GA–PCOM
2010 David A. Rand, DO ’10
      Helen R. Levey, DO ’10, GA–PCOM
2011 John M. Clark, DO ’11
      Nilam Shah Vaughan, DO ’11, GA–PCOM
2012 Robert Timothy Bryan, DO ’12
      Kaitlin Kobaitri, DO ’12, GA–PCOM
2013 Mark A. Vila, MBA, DO ’13
      Annise K. Chung, DO ’13, GA–PCOM
2014 Matthew V. Speicher (DO ’14)
      Jason O. Milton (DO ’14), PharmD, MBA, GA–PCOM