



America's Finest

Current student writer/editor: OC Mueller

IPAP Class 1-10 Graduation

Points of Interest

- Class 1-10 Graduation
- “One-On-One” preceptor interview
- “Just for Fun” - Shooting
- Christmas Party
- (NOV/DEC/JAN)Birthdays:
 - 15 NOV OC Witte
 - 11 JAN 1LT Davis
 - 19 JAN MAJ Duran-Stanton

Fort Bragg, North Carolina

The Interservice Physician Assistant Program at Womack Army Medical Center (WAMC—IPAP) Class 1-10 graduation was conducted on the 6th of January 2012 at McKellar’s Lodge, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. There were six graduates who received a Master’s in Physician Assistant Studies from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. There were also three graduates who were commissioned to the rank of First Lieutenant during the ceremony. The graduates and their first assignments as PAs are:

- CPT August Seeber – Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
- CPT Brian Smedick – Fort Bragg, North Carolina
- CPT Christopher Smith – Fort Bragg, North Carolina
- 1LT Marshall Healy – Bamberg, Germany
- 1LT William Kilgore – Fort Wainwright, Alaska
- 1LT Luar Sandoval – Schofield Barracks, Hawaii

The graduation was attended by COL Brian Canfield (WAMC Commander), CSM Jeffery Miller (WAMC Command Sergeant Major) and Dr. Y. Sammy Choi (IPAP WAMC Medical Director),

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IPAP 1-10 Cake



WAMC IPAP Class 1-10 Graduates



COL Canfield congratulating the new graduates

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as well as many honored guests within the chain of command. COL Canfield congratulated the graduates and emphasized the vital role of their family members who supported them during their two-year training program.

The guest speaker was Dr. Candice Castro, MD, IPAP Phase 1 surgical instructor, who talked about how elemental physician assistants were to her throughout her military career and that she truly enjoys teaching the next generation of PAs.

The preceptor of the year award was given to Mr. Joseph Cohen OPA-C, the orthopedics preceptor. He was presented with commemorative bow tie that he is accustomed to wearing. The rotation of the year was awarded to the Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation (DOR) which was accepted by Dr. (LTC) Haley, the chief of DOR. Class 1-10 also initiated a Resident of the Year award with the inaugural award going to Dr. Evan Trivette, MD. He was much honored to have earned this award and stated that he enjoyed teaching the PA students as well as learn from them too.

The reception was also conducted at McKellers Lodge where the new graduates spent more time with their families and friends to celebrate the occasion.

Dr Choi, the WAMC IPAP medical director and the Class of 1-10 graduates

ILT Kilgore

ILT Sandoval



CPT Seeber

ILT Healy



CPT Smith

CPT Smedick



Dr. Castro, guest speaker, is presented a unique gift by the graduates



Mr. Cohen is presented with a commemorative tie



LTC Haley accepts the "Rotation of the Year" award



“One-on-One”

with Dr. (CPT) Erin L. Spillane, Dermatology Rotation
Interview by OC Grambusch, Class 3-10

*Keys to success during the
Dermatology rotation:
“Much of dermatology is
seeing!”*

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How long have you been a MD?
4 years

Where did you earn your MD degree?
University of Maryland

What was your dermatology residency like?

To the untrained eye, one would assume that a residency in dermatology would not be as difficult as most others due to the clinic hours. However, the hours accumulate in every residency regardless of the time you spend in clinic. For every hour less spent in clinic; studying the plethora of dermatological conditions demanded that time back in the form of reading. “The hours go into residency one way or another.” “I also made some great, lifelong friends during my residency.”

Any words of wisdom for a new PA?

“Much of dermatology is seeing.” Learning the small variations of each disorder further enhances your ability to detect dermatological disease in the future. Your time spent here will also afford you the opportunity to see rare cases with assistance nearby, so that in the future, you will be fully capable of evaluating and treating yourself or you will know when it is best to refer.

What do you like about your job?

“The variety.” “Dermatology is not for an adrenaline junkie by any means, but I find the subject very intellectually stimulating with a comfortable level of stress.”

What do you feel about the PA profession?

“Physician assistants are invaluable

at the unit level.” Nowhere within our healthcare system is there such a close relationship between a provider and a soldier. The same holds true in the civilian sector. A PA takes the healthcare out to the patient, where it is most needed. A skilled PA also knows when it is time refer to higher care and how best to articulate the needs of the patient; and will also efficiently get that patient to where they need to be.

What is rewarding about being a PA preceptor?

“I love to teach, especially a subject that I enjoy so much.” I also enjoy giving those willing to learn the tools they need to be great clinicians in the future. This opportunity has also given me great insight into just what our PAs are capable of.

Do you feel our dermatology rotation is meeting expectations to produce competent PAs?

“Every preceptor feels that a student rotating through their clinic is not given enough time to fully ingest the subject completely. However, a month is enough time to gain a healthy working knowledge of dermatological conditions and treatments.”

What are the keys to success in the dermatology rotation?

“Prepare to learn.” A key take-a-way is being able to fully describe a dermatological condition verbally or in writing to such a degree, that we know the exact disorder and treatment without needing to see your patient with our own eyes. This will suit you well in the future when you are forward deployed with your units and you find yourself in need of a

dermatologist’s advice.

What do you recommend they should have for equipment?

Our clinic has everything you will need to succeed during your rotation. We each have our own office reference material, but if you would like to bring your own to better familiarize yourself with your required text, feel free. Print or create your own quick reference sheet for the variety of steroids you will be expected to know and use. This will be useful during your rotation and beyond.

What do the students need to know prior to coming to the dermatology rotation?

Before arrival to the dermatology clinic at WAMC, be familiar with identifying and treating the most common disorders you will see here. While not an all-inclusive list, some examples are the various types of eczema, acne, steroids, tinea, pseudofolliculitis barbae, impetigo and you *MUST* arrive with a basic understanding of how to differentiate melanoma from non-melanoma.

Closing comments

For those of you who have worked with us here at the WAMC dermatology clinic, we wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors. For those of you who have not yet joined us, we look forward to working with you in the future!

CPT Spillane, thank you for your continued support of IPAP and the physician assistant profession!

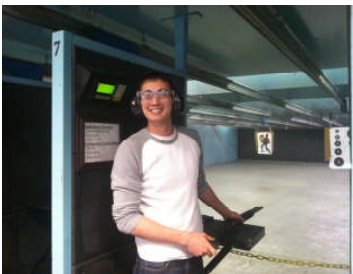


“Just For Fun”

We had another 5th Wednesday event this quarter and this time we did something that we were familiar with; we went to Guns Plus and were able to share weapons and “blow off” some steam and put “rounds downrange” at their indoor shooting range.

OC Brandon Penebacker did an outstanding job organizing and planning the event. Unfortunately we were unable to have any fellow PA students from the surround programs come and join us, but it was great bonding experience for all, especially for 1LT Davis who unloaded with the “boom stick.”

The next 5th Wednesday event is still pending, but it should be an exciting one since it will fall on the leap year: February 29th, 2012.



IPAP Christmas Party



We had our first IPAP Christmas Party and farewell to our Class 1-10 graduates. We were able to congratulate them on their well traveled road to graduation. We had a great turn out where the students and their families were able to spend time with each other in a relaxed atmosphere. It was a great time to bond in the Christmas spirit. All was not happy though, when chef OC Mueller got a little too close to the BBQ grill and singed his arm though. Luckily he was in the company of well trained health care providers.





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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 13-16 JAN—Training Holiday, MLK Birthday
- 25 JAN—Journal Club, Endocrine
- 01 FEB—Witte Medical Presentation
- 14 FEB—Valentines Day
- 15 FEB—ER Grand Rounds, Weaver Auditorium, WAMC
- 29 FEB—5th Wednesday, TBD
- 14 MAR—Brown Bag Lecture, Classroom, MEDOPs
- 17 MAR—St. Patrick's Day
- 21 MAR—ER Grand Rounds, Weaver Auditorium, WAMC
- 04 APR—Brown Bag Lecture, Dr. Yates, COPD



Serving America's Finest

We are on the web:

<http://www.wamc.amedd.army.mil/dme/GME/ipap/Pages/default.aspx>

DID YOU KNOW?

SENIOR PA Basic Skills Renewal Pilot Course

Two PAs have been selected to attend the Senior Physician Assistant Basic Skills Renewal Pilot Course here at Womack Army Medical Center, MAJ Winnie Paul and CPT Jessica Larson. We are working with MAJ Oliver at Phase 1 in ensuring the success of future attendees. The Phase 2 Clinical Coordinators have been instrumental in providing feedback in how to implement the curriculum. The preceptors have been receptive in allowing our PAs rotate through their clinics and we really appreciate it. The PAs will also be instrumental in improving our Phase 2 curriculum. Congratulations!

Phase 2 Students

These are our current students:

Class 02-10

- OC Andrew Allman
- LT Steven Davis
- OC Christopher Mueller
- OC Brandon Penebacker—*Class Leader*

Class 03-10

- OC Jason Adams
- OC Donald Grambusch—*Class Leader*
- LT Garrett Latham
- OC Stephen Witte

Class 01-11 (arrive MAY 2012)
TBD

Phase 2 Preceptors

- Allergy— Dr. (MAJ) Jacob Turnquist
- Anesthesia—LTC Anthony Peverini, CRNA
- Cardiology—Dr. (MAJ) John Thomas
- Dermatology— Dr. (CPT) Erin Spillane
- EDC— Mr. Robert Oyler, PA-C
- Emergency Medicine—Dr. Paul Kleinschmidt
- ENT—Dr. (MAJ) Matthew Grafenberg
- FM— Dr. Jennifer Yates
- GI—Dr. (COL) Joseph Perry
- Internal Medicine—Dr. Neelima Kamineni
- Long Term Care—Dr. Kimberly Baptiste
- Neuro—Dr. (MAJ) Steven Lewis
- OB/GYN—CPT Jennifer Byer, PA-C
- OMFS— Dr.(COL) Jeffery Almony
- Ophthalmology—Dr. (COL) Robert Carroll
- Orthopaedics— Mr. Joseph Cohen, PA-C
- Pediatrics— Dr. (CPT) Nichelle Maraventano
- Podiatry—Dr. Asim Raja
- Pulmonology—Dr. (LTC) Carol Young
- Behavioral Health—Dr. (MAJ) Al Tsai
- Radiology— Dr. (MAJ) Daniel Martin
- General Surgery— Dr. (LTC) Peter Deveaux
- Urology—Dr. (MAJ) William Kizer