May 7, 2018

What’s Happening
A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

MMC Honors the Class of 2018 at Maine Track Celebration

Maine Medical Center held a special celebration on Saturday, April 28 to recognize the sixth cohort of “Maine Track” program students graduating from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston this month. The class of 36 will begin their residencies this summer. Nine of them will be residents at MMC, joined by five students from the Boston-based Tufts program. “We are extremely pleased with the success of our sixth graduating Maine Track class and the educational program overall,” said Peter Bates, M.D., Senior Vice President, Chief Academic Officer, Academic Dean, Tufts University School of Medicine Maine Medical Center Program. “As Maine’s changing population presents unique challenges for providing health care in rural communities, we are inspired by the energy and commitment our physician graduates have for making a difference in the health of our state.”

‘Maine Track’ Continued on Back

Lambrew Research Retreat Connects Scientists, Clinicians

More than 200 physicians, nurses, scientists and trainees from MMC came together on May 2 for a day-long multi-disciplinary biomedical research symposium. The annual Costas T. Lambrew Research Retreat started with MMC Chief of Cardiovascular Services Douglas Sawyer, M.D., welcoming the attendees. Translational Research Scientist and Co-Chair of the Research Retreat Ivette Emery, M.D., introduced keynote speaker Nadia Rosenthal, Ph.D., FMedSci, scientific director of The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor.

“Dr. Rosenthal set the perfect tone for the day with the description of her research on cardiovascular disease that went from humans to mice and back to humans,” said Dr. Emery. The day included 76 scientific posters, eight podium presentations, an awards ceremony led by Dr. Francis and a networking reception.

‘Lambrew Retreat’ Continued on Back
Maine Track

The Maine Track program is a partnership between MMC and Tufts that was formed 10 years ago to help address the shortage of doctors in Maine, provide financial assistance to aspiring medical students from Maine and to develop an innovative curriculum focused on community-based education. Including the 2018 class, 206 physicians have graduated from the program since it began. Program participants are not required to practice in Maine, but 50 percent of graduates who have completed their residencies were as of the fall of 2017.

The annual Maine Track celebration marks the local recognition of medical school students who will graduate from Tufts on May 20 in Boston. After that, many students are looking forward to returning to Maine soon. “I feel that the Maine Track program has done a great job preparing me for residency, while allowing me to explore my clinical and research interests,” said John Gilboy, who is an M.D. candidate in the class of 2018. “I am excited for the opportunity to begin my residency at MMC. I believe MMC has the perfect combination of people and program support to help me develop as a physician.”

Toby Fitzgerald, D.O., has joined Maine Medical Partners – Maternal Fetal Medicine. Board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dr. Fitzgerald will be seeing patients at the MMP – MFM practice in Portland. She has been practicing in the Portland area since 2010. Dr. Fitzgerald received her medical degree from University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her residency at Maine Medical Center. Professionally, her interests include minimally invasive GYN surgery, labor support and international women’s health care. She spent time in India and Colombia during her training. In her spare time, she enjoys yoga, hiking, gardening, skiing, traveling and spending time with her family.

Luke L’Heureux, D.M.D., of Maine Coast Oral Surgery was newly appointed to the Maine Medical Center Medical Staff. Dr. L’Heureux received his degree from the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine and will provide dentistry/oral and maxillofacial surgical care.

Lambrew Retreat

“The day was filled with conversations between investigators who might not usually cross paths during their work day,” Dr. Emery said. “Basic scientists and clinicians of multiple disciplines had the opportunity to discuss pressing health issues together.”

The research retreat was renamed last year to honor the legacy of Costas T. Lambrew, M.D. The renaming recognizes the many contributions of Dr. Lambrew to the academic mission and culture at MMC over his decades of service.

The event was sponsored by Maine Medical Center, Maine Medical Center Research Institute and the Northern New England Clinical & Translational Research Network.

What’s Happening is published weekly by the Communications and Marketing Department

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