

Program News (continued)

Williamson Institute Ongoing Fellowship Programs

Executive Fellowship in Patient Safety

The Williamson Institute at Virginia Commonwealth University, Department of Health Administration, is pleased to announce that on September 17, 2006, twenty-three fellows graduated from the third Executive Fellowship in Patient Safety. This patient safety fellowship program is internationally recognized as an outstanding distance-learning program for professionals in health care interested in learning theory, tools, and techniques in developing patient safety projects within their health care organizations. See page 18 for the names of the newly graduated fellows along with their organizations, job titles, and project titles.



The Williamson Institute was pleased to present the Carl W. Armstrong Award, an award given to one fellow in each graduating class who, in opinion



Robert F. Flora, MD

of the teaching faculty, has designed the project most likely to promote significant advancements in patient safety. This award was funded by the Department of Health Administration and the Virginians Improving Patient Care & Safety (VIPCS) in honor of Dr. Carl Armstrong (Department Affiliate Faculty), the founding President of VIPCS. Dr Armstrong's professional roles have included his position as a shared physician executive between the American Hospital Association and the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association, where he served as Vice President and Senior Medical Advisor, and his position as State Epidemiologist for the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). This year's recipient of the Carl W. Armstrong Award is Robert F. Flora, MD, MBA, FACOG, who designed an outstanding project entitled The Development of An Institution-Wide Tracking Program of Abnormal Pregnancies.

The Armstrong award was presented by Rene S. Cabral-Daniels, J.D., M.P.H., Patient Safety Fellowship Graduate 2004 and Director of the Office of Health Policy and Planning, Virginia Department of Health.



Curtis N. Sessler, MD

The fourth Executive Fellowship in Patient Safety is currently underway, with 24 new Fellows from 8 different states in the US and Fellows from Buenos Aires, Iran and Saudi Arabia. New for this fellowship class is the Karen Swisher Award, which was funded by the VDH, thanks to the foresight, dedication and hard work of Rene Cabral-Daniels and Dr. Robert Stroube, VDH State Health Commissioner. A \$500 prize will be awarded to the fellow who develops the best program to benefit underserved patients.

The Williamson Institute is currently accepting applications for the fifth Executive Fellowship in Patient Safety and the second Executive Fellowship in Health Law. The 5th Fellowship program will begin with a 4-day on-campus session on June 27-30, 2007 on the VCU Medical College of Virginia Campus. This on-campus session will introduce the fellows to one another, to some of the teaching faculty, to our academic blackboard system used for the on line sessions, and to our outstanding VCU on-line academic library system. The program will conclude with the second on-campus session, in Richmond, Virginia, in conjunction with the annual patient safety conference sponsored by VIPCS in May of 2008. To apply, please contact Professor Karen Swisher at kswisher@vcu.edu or Alexandra Schoepp, Director of Programs, Williamson Institute for Healthcare Leadership at aschoepp@vcu.edu.

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Program News (continued)

Patient Safety Graduates September 2006

May Alomari, R.Ph., Medication Safety Coordinator, Department of Pharmacy Services, St. John Hospital & Medical Center. Project Title: "Medication Reconciliation at Admission, Transfer, and Discharge to the Hospital"

Sharon West Angle, MSN, Corporate Director of Compliance/Risk/Quality, Shore Health Services, Inc., Nassawadox, Virginia. Project Title: "Sensemaking"

Nancy L. Borglin, RN, MHSA, CPHQ, Interim Director, Performance Improvement, VCU Health System, Richmond, Virginia. Project Title: "Improving Safety for Patients Undergoing Procedural Sedation Provided by Non-Anesthesiologists Physicians"

Maureen E. Burke, RN, MSN, Clinical Risk Management Consultant, Riggs, Counselman, Michaels, & Downes, Inc., Bethesda, Maryland. Project Title: "Analyzes of closed malpractice claims Patient Safety lessons learned"

Patricia Davis, RN, MBA, Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston Texas. Project Title: "Improving Patient Safety in the OR— Anesthesia Time Out"

Amy L. Derion, MPH, Director of Patient Safety and Regulatory Compliance, Bon Secours Mayview Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia. Project Title: "Medication Reconciliation upon Admission to the Hospital."

Ellen S. Duetsch, MD, FACS, FAAP, Pediatric Otolaryngologist, Associate Professor of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery and Pediatrics, Alfred I DuPont Hospital for Children, Jefferson Medical College, Wilmington, DE. Project Title: "S*T*A*R*T A Great Handoff."

Susan Engleman, RN, MSN, APRN-BC, PNP, CLCP, Clinical Nurse Specialist, *Six Sigma Black Belt*, Memorial Hermann Hospital Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas. Project Title: "Safe Care for Kids in the Community ED"

Robert F. Flora, MD, MBA, FACOG, Residency Program Director, Head - Section of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery, Summa Health System Akron, Ohio, Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vice Chair, Clinical Associate Professor of Urology, Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine Rootstown, Ohio. Project Title: "Development of An Institution-Wide Tracking Program of Abnormal Pregnancies"

Christian A. Hartman, PharmD., Medication Safety Officer, Director – Patient Safety Informatics Residency Program, UMass Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, Massachusetts. Project Title: "Development and Implementation of a Computerized Rule Engine for the Detection of Potential Adverse Drug Events and Inappropriate Renal Dosing"

Gordon H Kerr, MB BCh FFA, Medical Director of Ambulatory Surgery Center, Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center, Richmond, Virginia. Project Title: "Safety and Quality Measures in the Ambulatory Surgery Center"

M. Brigid Krizek, RN, BSN, MGA, CPHQ, CPHRM, Director, Patient Safety and Quality Improvement, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Washington, DC

Patricia Rodriguez, RN, MBA, Project Title: "Patient Safety Officer Study – The Patient Safety Officer Role Experience"

Jeffrey T. Kushinka, MD, Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency, Assistant Professor of Medicine, VCU School of Medicine, Richmond, Virginia. Project Title: "Improving Clinical Practice through the use of Resident Morbidity and Mortality Conference"

Barbara S. Lindsay, RN, MS, CNAA, Administrative Director for Women/Children's Services, Bon Secours Memorial Regional Medical Center, Mechanicsville, Virginia. Project Title: "Medication Barcoding - Development of a model for implementation across Bon Secours Health System"

Judy McCoy, Director Medical Staff Quality and Regulatory Compliance, Memorial Hermann Hospital at Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas, Project Title: "Emergency Department Walk-Out Containment"

Kevin A. Myer, MSHA, CPTC President, LifeNet, Richmond, Virginia. Project Title: "A Journey into Patient Safety: How Jessica Santillan's Death Changed the Organ Procurement Transplant Network"

Patrick A. Palmieri, MBA, MSN, ACNP, RN, Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, Texas. Project Title: "Altering the nursing education paradigm: Curriculum integration and faculty acceptance of the national patient safety agenda"

Mary Deffner Patterson, MD, Med, Associate Professor, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, The University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio. Project Title: "Abnormal Vital Sign Alert in a Pediatric Emergency Department"

Pamela B. Pettus, RN, BSN, CPSO, CHS, Director of Patient Safety, Carolinas Healthcare System, Charlotte, North Carolina. Project Title: "Providing Safer Care through Medication Reconciliation"

Curtis N. Sessler, MD, Professor of Medicine, Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, Richmond, Virginia. Project Title: "Safe and Effective Central Venous Catheterization: Education and Training for Medical Students and Resident Physicians"

Craig Martin Slater, M.D., MBA, Senior Vice President for Medical Staff Affairs, Owensboro Medical Health System, Owensboro, Kentucky. Project Title: "Nurse--Physician Professional Relations Task Force-An Experiment in Leading Culture Change."

Nancy D. Vecchioni, RN, BSN, MSN, CPHQ, Director, Patient Safety MPRO, Farmington Hills, Michigan. Project Title: "The Organizational Safety Culture Climate in Michigan Critical Access Hospitals"

Program News (continued)

Kazakhstan—Ministry of Health October 13-December 15, 2006

On October 13, 2006, the Williamson Institute welcomed 12 students from Kazakhstan to the Department for a two-month training program in Health Care Policy, Economics and Management. The training program was under the direction of Dr. Yasar A. Ozcan, who worked closely with the Kazakhstan Ministry of Health Management to arrange for the health care professionals to become the second group from Kazakhstan to study and complete this exciting program. The program teaches students skills that ultimately will be used to strengthen the health care systems and health care services in Kazakhstan.



Kazakhstan Associates from Kazakhstan ministry of Health.



Group's visit to VCU Health Systems

During their stay in Virginia, the group visited various labs and departments associated with the VCU Health Systems, including telemedicine demonstrations in the MITAC Labs; and **Frank Kunze** (MSHA 98), Sentara Healthcare, graciously invited the group to visit Sentara's new hospital in Williamsburg.

The program certificate presentation was held on December 14, 2006 at the Grant House. Graduation speakers were, Dr. Sheldon Retchin, Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO VCU Health System, and Dr. Stephen Mick, Department Chair.

Friendships for life were established and all will be missed.