

HEALTH POLICY FELLOWSHIP GRADUATES

The Class of 2001



L to R back row: Alfred Pheley, PhD; Michael Kuchera, DO; Larry Cherry, DO; J. Steven Blake, DO; Guy DeFeo, DO. Middle row: Trudy Milner, DO; Meredith Davison, PhD; Paul Bruner, DO; Martin Diamond, DO; Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO. Ffront row: M. Bridget Wagner, DO; Amanda Weaver, MBA

J. Steven Blake, D.O.
Glenside, Pennsylvania



Dr. Blake is a 1989 graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He received Bachelors of Art in Chemistry and Zoology from the University of Mississippi in 1976. He completed his internship at St. Joseph's Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1990. His residency in Internal Medicine (1992) and a fellowship in Gastroenterology (1994) were completed at the PCOM hospital. He is a diplomate of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners and the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Blake presently holds the office of President of the National Osteopathic Medical Association. He is a clinical assistant professor at PCOM and lectures in the Department of Gastroenterology. He sits on the American Osteopathic Association's committee for the Minority Health Initiative. He is a member of the Philadelphia and Mt. Airy Chambers of Commerce, a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and was named to the 2000 National Register's "Who's Who" list.

He is the president and C.E.O. of J.S. Blake, D.O., GI Associates in Philadelphia. Prior to starting his own practice in December 1996, he was employed by the Nelson Medical Group in Philadelphia after completing his fellowship in Gastroenterology.

Dr. Blake's sponsor for the Osteopathic Heritage Health Policy Fellowship is Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine Center of Excellence.

**Paul J. Bruner, D.O.
Sandusky, Ohio**



Dr. Bruner earned his medical degree in 1987 from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He served his Family Practice internship and residency at Firelands Community Hospital in Sandusky, Ohio. He is board certified in Family Medicine.

Dr. Bruner received the Master Clinical Faculty Award from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1996. He was named Preceptor of the Year at Firelands Community Hospital in 1997 and was honored as the Outstanding Family Physician Award recipient by the Firelands Community Hospital trainees in 1999 and 2000. He is Co-Director of the Family Practice Residency at Firelands Community Hospital and Medical Director of the Vantage Health Plan in Sandusky. He served as President of Sandusky Health Initiative, a local physician organization, from 1997-1999. He is currently President of the 5th District Academy of the Ohio Osteopathic Association.

He has been in private Family Practice in Sandusky since 1994. Prior to that, Dr. Bruner practiced 5 years in Hobbs, New Mexico.

Firelands Community Hospital is sponsoring Dr. Bruner in the Osteopathic Heritage Health Policy Fellowship for 2000-2001.

Larry D. Cherry, D.O.
Tulsa, Oklahoma



Dr. Cherry began his academic career as Assistant Professor of Osteopathic Medicine at Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1977. Through the years at OSU-COM, he transitioned from clinician-educator to educator, clinician, and administrator. As Associate Dean for Clinical Education, the development and monitoring of clinical training programs for the medical students has been a priority. Health policy issues play an important role in rural communities where a significant portion of our medical curriculum resides.

Dr. Cherry is a 1975 graduate of the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, Missouri. He started a Family Practice in the Oklahoma City area after his Graduate Medical Education training at Hillcrest Health Center in Oklahoma City. Strong academic interest in osteopathic medicine lead to an application for a faculty position at the college as Assistant Professor of Osteopathic Medicine.

He graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in Pharmacy and is licensed in Oklahoma where he practiced Pharmacy in rural and urban settings.

In addition to his academic and administrative responsibilities in clinical education, Dr. Cherry serves as Director of the Osteopathic Medical Education Consortium of Oklahoma, Director of Continuing Medical Education, and Administrative Supervisor of the Oklahoma AHEC.

As co-author of a 1987 grant proposal, the first Osteopathic Family Residency in the state of Oklahoma was developed and Dr. Cherry served as program director for the HRSA grant.

Dr. Cherry has served on numerous college standing committees and is currently Chairman of the Student Selection Committee.

Meredith A. Davison, Ph.D.
Downers Grove, Illinois



Dr. Davison graduated from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City with a Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1975. Following the completion of her degree in Biological Psychology, she participated in a post-doctoral fellowship funded by the Oklahoma Heart Association in the Department of Pharmacology. Additionally, Dr. Davison has a Master's Degree from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, and a Bachelor's Degree from Oklahoma City University.

She is active nationally in both the Association of Physician Assistant Programs and the American Association of Physician Assistants. On a local level, Dr. Davison is a member of the Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants. Previously, she was involved in health issues related to maternal and child health.

Currently, Dr. Davison is a professor and the Director of the Physician Assistant Program in the College of Health Sciences at Midwestern University. Her previous experiences include academic appointments in the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois in Chicago, the College of Nursing at Tulsa University, and the College of Osteopathic Medicine of Oklahoma State University. Additionally, Dr. Davison has worked for the Oklahoma Department of Public Health and Planned Parenthood of Eastern Oklahoma and Western Arkansas.

Midwestern University is sponsoring Dr. Davison's participation in the fellowship program.

Guy A. DeFeo, D.O.
Kennebunk, Maine



Dr. DeFeo is a 1988 graduate of the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his residency training in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine at UNECOM in 1990 and is board certified in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and Family Practice.

Currently, Dr. DeFeo is a solo practitioner in Kennebunk, Maine, and maintains an adjunct clinical faculty position in the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine at UNECOM. Previously, Dr. DeFeo had been employed by UNECOM in a Family Practice teaching clinic and as Director of Medical Education at Brighton Medical Center. In addition, he is Chief of the Department of Family Practice at Southern Maine Medical Center in Biddeford, Maine, and was recently elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

Present interests for Dr. DeFeo include active involvement with the American Academy of Osteopathy as a member of the Board of Governors and as Chair of the Osteopathic Diagnosis and Treatment Committee. He has served on the Education Committee as Program Chair for the AOA Convention and on the Hospital Assistance Committee. Dr. DeFeo has presented lectures and workshops throughout the New England area. He has also served as UNECOM Alumni President and as President of the New England Academy of Osteopathy.

The University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, Southern Maine Medical Center, and the American Academy of Osteopathy are sponsors for Dr. DeFeo's participation in the Fellowship.

Martin Diamond, D.O.
Massapequa Park, New York



Dr. Diamond received his degree from the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1962. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in History from Queens College - City of New York. Dr. Diamond completed a rotating internship at Delaware Valley Hospital in 1963. He received certification from the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians in 1973; he was re-certified in 1995.

Dr. Diamond has received numerous awards throughout his career, including both the President's Citation Award (1993) and the Distinguished Service Medal to Past Presidents (1994) from the New York State Osteopathic Medical Society. He was awarded the American Osteopathic Foundation Leadership Award in May of 1999. He also received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the National Alumni Association College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in 1999.

Dr. Diamond presently serves as chairman of the New York State Board for Medicine. He has been involved with helping to formulate and recommend various health-related policies on a state level since 1991. He is currently on the Board of Directors of the National Alumni Association of College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. Dr. Diamond has served as both Director and President for the New York State Osteopathic Medical Society. He is the Past President of the National Osteopathic Foundation and currently sits on the American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees. Presently, he is a member of the House of Delegates for the AOA and Chairman of the New York Delegation to AOA House.

Currently, Dr. Diamond is the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs at the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine. He was Director of Osteopathic Family Practice Residency and Osteopathic Medical Services and the DME Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. For 16 years, Dr. Diamond had a solo Family Practice. He was also a partner in the Amityville Family Practice Associates for 19 years in Amityville, New York. Dr. Diamond is licensed to practice in New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, and California.

Sponsorship for Dr. Diamond's Fellowship participation is provided by the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Michael L. Kuchera, D.O., FAAO
Kirksville, Missouri



Dr. Kuchera currently serves as Vice President for International Osteopathic Education and Associate Dean for Osteopathic Research at Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. A 1980 KCOM graduate, he completed his internship at Richmond Heights General Hospital in 1981. Dr. Kuchera is a tenured professor in KCOM's Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and led that department as Chairperson from 1987 to 1998 until being appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean. He is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Special Proficiency in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Osteopathy. Dr. Kuchera is a Past President of the AAO and is active in Academy projects related to research, post-doctoral standards, and international affairs. In addition, he sits on the Boards of the American Academy of Osteopathy, American Association of Orthopaedic Medicine, and Missouri Arthritis Advisory Board. He is also a member of two Councils of the American Osteopathic Association and numerous other educational organizations. He is one of two delegates representing North America on the General Assembly of the International Federation of Manual & Musculoskeletal Medicine.

Dr. Kuchera has authored several textbooks, book chapters, and journal articles. He was the first recipient of the Max T. Gutensohn Merit Award for Excellence in Teaching and was awarded the 1995 Missouri Osteopathic Medallion Award for Teaching Excellence. In addition to being selected as the 2000 Northrup lecturer, he was also honored as the Centennial Scott Memorial Lecturer.

Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine sponsors Dr. Kuchera in the Osteopathic Heritage Health Policy Fellowship for 2000 - 2001.

Michael L. Kuchera, DO, Professor and current Chair of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, Marian College of Osteopathic Medicine, HPF Class of 2000-2001, was named **Fellow in the National Academy of Osteopathic Medical Educators** in March 2013.

Trudy Milner, D.O.
Tulsa, Oklahoma



Dr. Milner received a Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1988. She completed her internship at Tulsa Regional Hospital and a Family Practice residency at OSU-COM. Dr. Milner has been board certified by the American Board of Family Practice since 1993.

Dr. Milner practices at OMNI Family Practice and Sports Medicine with OMNI Medical Group in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Prior to joining OMNI, she practiced at Utica Park Clinic with Hillcrest Medical Group in Tulsa. She is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at OSU-COM.

Dr. Milner is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association serving on several committees including Membership, Physician Services, and Public Relations. She is a member of the board of the Tulsa Osteopathic Medical Society.

Prior to attending medical school, Dr. Milner received a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from William Woods College and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Baylor University; she practiced nursing for 14 years and taught in the nursing program at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Osteopathic Association sponsors Dr. Milner.

Alfred M. Pheley, Ph.D.
Athens, Ohio



Dr. Pheley earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota, School of Public Health. He also holds a Master's in Clinical Psychology from North Dakota State University.

Dr. Pheley serves on several professional committees including the Ohio Diabetes Task Force for which he is Chair of the Research Subcommittee, the Steering Committee of the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System, and the Health Policy Advisory Committee of the Appalachian Regional Commission. He is currently on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Rural Health.

He is an Associate Professor within the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine's Department of Family Medicine and the Director for Clinical Research Development. He is also the Director of the college's Center for Appalachian and Rural Health Research. Dr. Pheley and his colleagues recently completed the Southeast Ohio Health Examination, a study of over 2,600 individuals living in the region. The study, comprised of a comprehensive survey and a mini-clinical exam on a sub-sample of the respondents, is examining the relationship of health status, access to and utilization of health care, and food availability.

Dr. Pheley is sponsored by Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, D.O., F.A.C.O.F.P.
Kirksville, Missouri



Dr. Tooke-Rawlins graduated from Truman University (formerly Northeast Missouri State) in 1976. Dr. Tooke-Rawlins received a Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1980 and completed her postgraduate internship at Grandview Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Tooke-Rawlins was board certified in Emergency Medicine and practiced in that field for seven years. She is board certified in Family Medicine by the American Board of Osteopathic Family Practice and has received fellowship status from the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. Dr. Tooke-Rawlins completed a Faculty Development Fellowship at Michigan State University through Cogmet.

Dr. Tooke-Rawlins currently holds the academic position of Acting Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs at KCOM. Prior to this appointment she held the position of Associate Dean of Campus and Regional Affairs for two years. From 1996 through 1998, Dr. Tooke-Rawlins was the Director of Osteopathic Medical Education at St. Luke's Hospital in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and the Program Director of the Osteopathic Family Practice Residency there. Earlier in her career, she was the Family Practice Residency Director at Metropolitan Hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Dr. Tooke-Rawlins is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine.

Dr. Tooke-Rawlins has served for four years as a member of the Council on Predoctoral Education of the American Osteopathic Association and on the Missouri Area Health Education Centers' Operational Board. She has served in other leadership roles throughout her career including Delegate to the House of AOA, Inspector for Clinical Education for the Predoctoral Division for Family Practice Residency Programs, and for Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institutes for the AOA. Dr. Tooke-Rawlins sits on the Osteopathic Post Graduate Training Institute of the Kirksville Governing Board and was a member of the Interim Planning Board of Governors for the Northeast Osteopathic Medical Education Network. Past positions held were Advisory Board for the Physician Assistant Program at Grand Valley College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Missouri State Drug Utilization and Review Committee, Professional Education and Nominating Committee of the Missouri Chapter of the American Cancer Society, State Drug Task Force for Southeast Missouri on Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, President of the Missouri Chapter of the Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association, Chief of Staff at Scotland County Hospital, Convention Committee for the Missouri Osteopathic Association Convention, Member of the Task Force on Rural Health Education.

Dr. Tooke-Rawlins is a member of the AOA, the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, the Society of Teacher's of Family Medicine and the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians. Within KCOM, Dr. Tooke-Rawlins has served as Chair of the Assessment Committee, the Graduate Medical Education-OPTIK Committee, Promotion and Tenure, and was a member of the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Curriculum Committee. While at St. Luke's Hospital, Dr. Rawlins served on the Graduate Medical Education Committee, the Credentials Committee, the Continuing Medical Education Committee, and the Strategic Planning Committee for Graduate Medical Education. While at Metropolitan Hospital, Dr. Tooke-Rawlins served on the Medical Education Committee and the Library and Education Resources Committee.

Dr. Tooke-Rawlins practiced Emergency Medicine for eight years in Poplar Bluff and Cape Girardeau, Missouri. In 1986, Dr. Rawlins helped to develop the Womancare Center, a health education and cancer screening center for St. Francis Hospital where she was Medical Director. Dr. Rawlins entered family practice in 1987 and has remained in that field of medicine. She also served as the Director of Sports Medicine at KCOM and Truman University in 1993 and 1994. Dr. Rawlins has also committed much of

her time to community service, providing free prenatal care in the Stoddard County and New Madrid County Prenatal Clinics from 1981-1986 and later at the Clark and Adair Counties from 1990-1994. Dr. Rawlins has also served as a Medical Monitor for the Texas Armor and Engineer Board, Reconnaissance Squad Operations Test Research for M.O.P. 4 gear in Fort Knox, Kentucky, where she was awarded a certificate for professional excellence in 1986.

**M. Bridget Wagner, D.O.
Warren, Ohio**



Dr. Wagner received her degree from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1994. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Youngstown State University in 1990. Dr. Wagner completed a rotating internship at Tempe St. Luke's Hospital in Tempe, Arizona, in 1995 and for two years afterwards, she worked as a Family Practice physician at St. Joseph Health Center in Warren, Ohio.

Dr. Wagner is currently active as a delegate for both the Ohio Osteopathic Association and the Association College of Family Physicians. She also serves as President Elect of the 12th District Academy Ohio. In February of 1999, Dr. Wagner received certification from the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians. She is a member of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine and a graduate of the OU-COM Academic Leadership Fellowship.

Currently, Dr. Wagner is the Assistant Family Physician Residency Director at St. Joseph Health Center in Warren, Ohio. She will acquire full directorship in December, 2000.

The Ohio Osteopathic Association and St. Joseph's Hospital are serving as sponsors for Dr. Wagner in the Fellowship this year.

Amanda L. Weaver, M.B.A.
Phoenix, Arizona



Ms. Weaver is a graduate of Arizona State University's College of Business in Tempe, Arizona with a Master's in Business Administration. She received a Bachelor of Arts from Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas.

Ms. Weaver is President of the Association of Osteopathic State Executive Directors and Secretary-Treasurer and founding member of the Arizona Osteopathic Charities. She serves on the American Osteopathic Association's Public Relations Committee and the Blue Ribbon Task Force for the Campaign for Osteopathic Unity. She is a member of Women in Healthcare and the Arizona Woman's Council. She has been listed by The Business Journal as "Who's Who for Women in Healthcare".

Ms. Weaver has served as Executive Director of the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association since 1996 after joining the AOMA in 1995. Her previous experience includes 18 years of health care experience, specifically in practice management consulting and real estate development and leasing for physicians and dentists.

Ms. Weaver is Immediate Past President of Youth Evaluation and Treatment Centers, which provides residential group treatment homes to children ages 7 - 17 with behavioral problems. Her husband is George M. Cohen, C.P.A.

The Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association is sponsoring Ms. Weaver for this fellowship program. The AOMA has 900 members, exclusive of 450 student members.
