Chair’s Corner

Progress, it is what I think about when I look back at the last year I have experienced at the University of Utah. Progress is defined by Merriam Webster as follows:

1. a royal journey marked by pomp and pageant
2. a state procession
3. an expedition, journey, or march through a region
4. a forward or onward movement (as to an objective or to a goal)
5. gradual betterment; especially: the progressive development of humankind

While a royal journey marked with pomp and pageantry sounds quite nice and exciting, especially after seeing a royal wedding on television this May, I like to look at the progress of the last year in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine as the forward or onward movement as to an objective or a goal. Also, not just a forward movement, but an evolution for our department, a department that involves everyone’s input and knowledge. Your department, or better said, our department could not have progressed or grown without each of you, your talents, and time.

I know this quarter’s newsletter is just a small glimpse at the progress of our department through the month of June, but it is that multitude of small accomplishments and progress that make up our progress. The progress to be the best department at the University of Utah and have the most distinguished programs around the globe. As you read this, think of your contribution to the department and how so many of our accomplishments are part of the dedication and knowledge that you share. Our progress has happened because each and every one of you have contributed.

As we make progress, we also grow in breadth and depth. Part of this growth is based on our incredible recruitment year. We continue to expand our faculty with high quality faculty recruits. In June, we welcomed, Charles Rogers, PhD, CHES®, from the University of Minnesota School of Medicine. In July we welcomed our new Physician of Assistant Studies Division Chief, Trenton Honda, PhD, MMS, PA-C and another faculty member from Florida A&M University, Ivette Lopez, PhD. We will continue to welcome other highly talented faculty through September, including Dominik Ose, PhD, Kelly Baron, PhD, and Sunday Azagba, PhD.

Our department continues to strengthen our postdoctoral program. Recent additions to the department are a huge asset as they continue their training and help to strengthen our research programs. We welcome new interns in our family medicine and occupational medicine training program, as well as new graduate students to our multitude of programs including Class 49 for our Physician Assistant Studies Program that now has students in Salt Lake City and St. George, Utah.

Progress, it is our forward movement to the next great steps for our department, a department that has a vision for expanding possibilities on multiple fronts. In the near future we will be rolling out our new department vision statement. This new vision is all encompassing and is something we know everyone will feel proud to be a part of. Be on the look in the coming weeks for meetings throughout the department in regards to the roll out. This new vision is part of our progress.

As we prepare for the new vision rollout, take time to embrace and celebrate our collective accomplishments including the graduation celebrations, the honors and awards bestowed on our students, faculty, and staff, and the many events our department participates in to expand the possibilities of health.

Sincerely,

Kola

Kola Ohijami
We extend a warm welcome to our readers to the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine newsletter. The Department of Family and Preventive Medicine was founded in 1970, making it one of the oldest and most established family medicine departments in the country.

The department houses the Divisions of Family Medicine, Physician Assistant Studies, Public Health, and Occupational and Environmental Health, each of which upholds the department’s values and mission of improving health in communities across the world.
MISSION & VALUES

The Department of Family and Preventive Medicine optimizes quality of life through scholarship that advances health and wellbeing in homes, workplaces, and communities.

The Department of Family and Preventive Medicine is committed to and accountable for promoting a culture of inclusiveness, diversity, and respect of all faculty, staff, students, and the communities we serve.

We value and rely upon diversity and inclusion for the development, improvement, and sustainability of exceptional education, research, and healthcare for our diverse, ever changing local, regional, national, and international communities.
Welcome!

We would like to welcome all of those who joined the department during April - June 2018! We are excited to continue to get to know you and have you as part of our team. Welcome!

Charles ROGERS
Division of Public Health

Julie BRANDENBURG
Division of Family Medicine

Chun-Pin (Esther) CHANG
Dept. of Family & Preventive Medicine

Brooke CHRISTENSEN
Division of Family Medicine

Jenna CHRISTENSEN
Division of Public Health

Trenton HENRY
Division of Public Health

Charles is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Public Health. Dr. Rogers serves medically underserved and minority populations.

Dr. Rogers’ research agenda contributes to translational solutions that address the complex underpinnings of cancer and men’s health disparities with a current focus on colorectal cancer (CRC) prevention among African-American men.

Dr. Rogers’ research interests also include behavioral and community-based implementation science, mixed methods, and survey methodology.

Julie recently joined the department as a registered dietitian nutritionist and is starting on a research project studying malnutrition in the elderly. She will be collaborating with Susan Saffel-Shrier and Amy Covington.

Julie was born in Idaho and served a mission in Argentina for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Julie graduated from Brigham Young University and has worked as a dietitian for six years both, in hospital and outpatient settings in Arizona and Texas.

Chun-Pin (Esther) Chang earned her MPH and PhD in epidemiology at UCLA. She joined the University of Utah as a postdoctoral associate on June 2018.

Her previous research experiences are broad and have included environmental exposure and breast cancer, the prevalence of Human Herpesvirus 8 (HHV-8) among HIV-infected and general population in Taiwan, and more.

Esther developed a new screening method to detect the protein of HHV-8 from human serum. Her current work focuses on reproductive epidemiology and cancer survivors studies.

Brooke is an academic coordinator for the Division of Family Medicine where she provides support for both the residency and medical student education programs.

She oversees the day-to-day functions of the residency didactics, Wednesday afternoon teaching sessions, and intern survival skills. She works on the Canvas online classrooms for both the medical student education and the residency programs.

Brooke has a bachelor’s in History and Vocal Performance from Brigham Young University – Idaho.

Jenna is an administrative manager in the Division of Public Health and is the associate director for the Utah Area Health Education (AHEC) Program.

She works to prepare health professionals to provide care in underserved rural and urban communities as well as transform health systems to enhance patient, clinic, and population outcomes.

Jenna earned her Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Utah and is working towards a Master's degree in Business Administration.

Trenton is a graduate research assistant for the Utah Children’s Project where he helps with data analysis. As part of a national study, the project seeks to understand how different environmental exposures impact children’s health.

After a 25-year career in information technology, Trent switched gears to pursue a Master of Science in Public Health in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine. With a long history in cybersecurity, he plans to focus on public health impacts of natural disasters and bioterrorism.

Trenton received his undergraduate degree from Stanford University.
Katerin SANTOS
Division of Family Medicine

Kat is the executive secretary for the Division of Family Medicine.
As executive secretary, Kat provides secretarial and administrative support to staff and faculty.
Her responsibilities include account payables, managing calendars, arranging meetings, ordering supplies, assisting with travel, and providing general office support as needed.
Kat received her BA from the University of Utah in Political Science.

A special welcome to our adjunct faculty appointments:
Bretton Newman, Administration
Michael Perez, Administration
Craig Ensign, Physician Assistant Studies

Do you want to learn more about our other faculty and staff? Check out our faculty and staff pages at medicine.utah.edu/dfpm

We want to extend a big Thank you to everyone that contributed and helped with our third issue of the department newsletter in any way!
The University of Utah Asia Campus Graduation was held on March 16 in Songo, South Korea.

This year Public Health had 13 graduates from the division and two that participated in the Asia Campus Graduation.

We are grateful to our many professors, faculty, staff, and students for the hard work and efforts that were put into making this last year an outstanding one for our Public Health students at the Asia Campus.

The end of spring signals a time for a new phase of life, continual growth, and accomplishment. At the University of Utah, we follow the path of spring and celebrate our many students as they complete their degrees, begin a new phase in their lives, and prepare to grow in their professions.

In the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, we are fortunate to house four divisions, on four campuses, and have hundreds of students in a variety of disciplines.

We are proud of our 2018 graduates, our faculty and staff who received awards, and family members and friends who have supported our department members through the last year.

Congratulations, 2018 graduates!
It was a great night of comradery with several individuals receiving awards and recognition for their outstanding achievements. Beyond the eight division graduates who were celebrated, Andy Phillips, Leon Pahler, and Matthew Thiese were all recognized for their service and efforts in teaching and research mentoring within the division.

In celebration of finishing the academic school year and recognition of the 2018 graduating class, the Division of Occupational and Environmental Health held an end of the year banquet for graduating students, faculty, staff, and family and friends.

The Division of Public Health held their graduation on May 17 at the Rice Eccles Stadium Tower. Students, faculty, and staff were recognized for their accomplishments as everyone celebrated their successess of the past year.

Public Health students also walked in the School of Medicine graduation held at Kingsbury Hall on May 18.
Family Medicine Residency graduation was held on June 29 at the Cottonwood Country Club.

Students, faculty, staff, family, and friends all gathered for a dinner and program to celebrate the graduates.

Many were recognized and received awards for their outstanding devotion and performance within the division throughout the past year. A special thanks goes out to the graduation committee who helped plan and execute a wonderful event.

Ensign Campus Graduation
July 2018

Physician Assistant Studies Graduation
August 2018

Stay tuned for our features of the Ensign College and Physician Assistant graduations in the October department newsletter.
In the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine we have high caliber faculty, staff, and students. Each are dedicated to their work and it is because of their efforts that we have many individuals who are recognized for their achievements through awards and grants.

We have highlighted just a few of the many who have gone above and beyond. We congratulate each of them and the many others who have achieved great things over the last few months.

**Grants & Awards**

**Bench to Bedside $50,000 Award**

In April, Jeanna Ryan, a Physician Assistant Studies student, along with three of her peers, won $50,000 from the Bench to Bedside program. The Bench to Bedside program, a medical innovation competition where groups of students form a multidisciplinary start-up company to identify unmet clinical needs, began in Oct. 2017 with the final competition night being held in April.

Ryan worked alongside Joni Aoki, a University of Utah pre-medical student, Young Hong, a University of Utah pharmacy student, and Lars Lofgren, a University of Utah biomedical engineering student to create the group now known as PreOv.

Originally, the group began to focus on allergy related issues, but soon found that they all shared a personal interest in infertility. With further research, PreOv found decreased fertility rates around the world and a growing market for home menstrual cycle monitoring. Current products that track menstrual cycles and fertile periods include Luteinizing Hormone urine test strips and Basal Body Temperature thermometers, but both products cut significant time from predicting ovulation time periods.

“We really wanted a solution that did not require daily testing and would predict ovulation with enough advanced notice in order to capitalize on the full six day fertile period,” said Ryan.

After months of attending various workshops, meeting with many people, going to pitch meetings, and more, PreOv finally reached a turning point. In Feb. 2018, PreOv introduced its intravaginal ring that measures hydration status of cervical fluid to predict ovulation up to five days in advance. Data from the ring is wirelessly communicated to a software application that can be accessed via smartphone or computer. After meeting with more key individuals the product became feasible and PreOv was able to preserve to the end of the Bench to Bedside competition by creating promotional materials, pitch videos, a poster, and a provisional patent.

The Bench to Bedside competition night took place at the Utah State Capitol Building where 57 teams of high school and college students presented their ideas to capitalists, industry leaders, university faculty and staff, and more.

In the end, Ryan and her team were awarded the grand prize of $50,000, which will go towards putting their product into development. Going forward the team gets to work on creating a working prototype and filing a utility patent. They also will be working on obtaining more funding, conducting clinical studies, and obtaining FDA approval.

“I am looking forward to getting to continue to work with my team and learn more about product development and medical device innovation,” said Ryan. “I have already met so many incredible people through this experience and look forward to meeting even more.”

**Fulbright Award Recipient**

Zoe Diener, a student in the Division of Public Health, received a highly competitive Fulbright U.S. Student Program grant from the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board for the 2018-19 academic year.

Diener, one of three winners of the grant, will conduct research in public health in Namibia. Diener is 1 of 1900 United States citizens who will teach, conduct research, and provide expertise abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. Recipients of the award are selected based on their academic and professional achievements, as well as demonstrated service and leadership within their respective fields.

Diener attended the New Mexico Institute of Timing and Technology for her undergrad in Socorro, New Mexico where she studied biology.

“I went there because I really wanted to be able to do research as an undergrad, which I was able to do,” said Diener. “I worked in a couple of different labs, but I always knew that biology would take me into public health and medicine.”

During her senior year, Diener attended a presentation given by biomedical engineer, Dick Greene. He talked about taking a new ultrasound technology he had helped develop to a medical school in Namibia to train young doctors in using the new technology. Diener was able to contact him and eventually accompany him on his trip.

While there, Diener made contact with many of the faculty at the medical school. They were excited to have her invested in their program and agreed to help Diener seek funding to come back and help. One of the professors had a project on malaria transmission in Northern Namibia that he wanted help with, so Diener decided to use that as a starting point for her Fulbright application.

As Diener works on her research on malaria, she will continue her research interests and focus on family planning.
Kathy Pedersen
Utah Academy of Physician Assistants
2018 Lifetime Service Award

ARC-PA Distant Campus Approval
Physician Assistant Studies received ARC-PA approval for the St. George distant campus.

Board of Trustees Approved Proposals
Graduate Certificate in Emergency Health Affairs & Global Enterprise
Graduate Certificate in International
Undergraduate Certificate in Quantitative Research Analytics in the Social Sciences
Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute

Jen Mair
Jen was awarded the Outstanding Seasoned Academic Program Manager of the Year award from the Office of Graduate Medical Education.

ARC-PA Distant Campus Approval

Holly Bynum
Holly was recently appointed as the department’s new Administrative Director. Congratulations, Holly!

Hillary Hoopes
Hillary was appointed as the Lead Trainer for Volunteer Staffing (baby cuddlers) at the UU Hospital NICU; Hillary will continue as a volunteer baby cuddler herself as she trains new volunteers.

Jacqueline Rohrer
Jacqueline Rohrer, MD, an Adjunct Instructor in the Division of Family Medicine, received the CompHealth Clinical Community Faculty Award

David Sundwall
Dr. Sundwall was appointed Professor (Clinical) Emeritus in the Division of Public Health effective July 1, 2018.

Physician Assistant Studies Grant Award
The Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, US Dept of Health and Human Services, had a competitive grant for the development of Case Studies around the Social Determinants of Health.

PA was awarded one of the grants. Nadia Cobb, PA-C, MS, who was the PI on the grant, worked with Susan Saffel-Shier, MS, RD, and the Training for Health Equity Network to focus on targeting the social determinants of health in geriatric populations.

Patient Satisfaction Recognition
For 25 years, Press Ganey has been measuring health care patient satisfaction by working with more than 33,000 health care facilities nationwide in surveying patients.

Out of 248 providers, University of Utah health care providers accounted for 40 percent. Several of our department members were included in that list and we would like to congratulate each of them in addition to the many UUHealth providers who also made the list.

Richard Backman
Scott Benson
Johanna Greenberg
Marlana Li
Lance Linscott
Ted Paisley
Jennifer Pantelakis
Karilyn Ann Pippitt
Joanne Rolls
Darin Ryujin
Osman Sanyer
Sonja Van Hala
Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Disease among Thyroid Cancer Survivors: Findings from the Utah Cancer Survivors Study

Jihye Park & Mia Hashibe

Jihye, Mia, and other contributors have recently released their study on the relation of cardiovascular disease and thyroid cancer survivors.

Thyroid cancer survivors are at high risk of developing multiple cardiac and vascular conditions as a consequence of cancer diagnosis and treatment. However, it is still unclear how the baseline and prognostic factors, as well as cancer treatments, play a role in increasing cardiac and vascular disease risk among thyroid cancer survivors.

Upon releasing their report, the study received national media attention through MedPage Today, U.S. News Health, and Medical Press.

For the full study, see it featured on the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism.

AAPA-PAEA Research Fellow Studies PA Scope of Practice

Virginia Valentin

Virginia Valentin’s AAPA-PAEA Research Fellowship project looks at the impact of laws on PA employment and was recently highlighted on AAPA.org.

Virginia has used her research fellowship to understand the relationship between state scope of practice laws and their impact on where PAs practice, and the composition of the PA workforce in each state.

Her fellowship ends in November 2018 and she hopes to write three to four papers that look into PA practices and the effects it has on demographics.

To read the full article, visit AAPA.org.

Department Publications and Presentations

We are proud to be part of a department where many of our faculty, staff, and students are involved in a variety of research projects.

The list of publications and presentations dating back to January 2018 is now available for viewing on both the department intranet and website.

We want to thank Melissa Pringle for the time she spent gathering and organizing the presentations and publications and look forward to seeing more.

Did we miss an important event? Would you like to feature your awards, research, and more?

Please email Kristen Steiner at kristen.steiner@hsc.utah.edu for future newsletter submissions.
Events

The department’s four divisions are full of individuals who give of their time, open the department up to opportunities, and create moments that link us all. Check out some of the great events and projects that department members have been involved in from the past few months.

Physician Assistant Studies YMCA Service Project

On April 13, the Physician Assistant Studies students volunteered their time at the YWCA in Salt Lake City, Utah. They divided into groups and spent the day deep cleaning a kitchen, scrubbing down an apartment for the next resident, and sorting donations.

The YWCA is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace and justice. Utah YWCA is Utah’s most comprehensive provider of family violence services. It has several programs such as a crisis hot line, emergency shelter, transitional shelter, child care, and more to service women at any stage of their life.

Physician Assistant Studies St. George Open House

On April 13, the Physician Assistant Studies Program hosted an open house at the Russell C. Taylor Health Sciences Building at Dixie State University in St. George, Utah. The open house was to welcome and educate people in Southern Utah about the new Distance Education Physician Assistant Studies Program.

The new program is the first collaboration of its type between the University of Utah and Dixie State University. The collaboration will extend education opportunities for students in Southern Utah. Faculty and staff will be present at the distance campus location, located in the Russell C. Taylor Health Sciences Building, and lectures will be broadcast from Salt Lake City.

The open house was well attended by Dixie State University faculty and officials, such as Dr. Richard Williams, President of Dixie State University, and Eliezer Bermudez, Dean of Dixie State University Health Sciences. Local government and community leaders, such as Hildale City Mayor, Donia Jessop, attended along with medical professionals and current and future Physician Assistant Studies students, faculty, and staff.

At the open house current faculty and staff were able to showcase the technology that was going to be used for delivering content to students and answer questions about the program and its goals both in Salt Lake City and St. George.

A Letter from Nepal

Upon finishing a rotation in Nepal with eight Physician Assistant Studies students and faculty, Dr. Pedersen received an email from Dr. Prabal in Nepal expressing his gratitude. Dr. Prabal was grateful for the work and time that the PA students spent in Dhunche, Nepal helping teach and exchange of ideas about health care and practice.

The department members thank its PA faculty and staff for representing them in such a good light and are grateful for the connection and impact made across the world.

Below is an excerpt from Dr. Prabal’s email sent to Dr. Pedersen:

“I can’t start this mail without expressing my utmost gratitude on behalf of the District Health Office and District Hospital, Rasuwa for the unbelievable time we spent with the entire team from U of U at Dhunche. You guys were so keen on learning and exchanging ideas and opinions and had an extremely appreciative attitude to the tiniest of service that we provided. It’s kind of amazing how people from two entirely different corners of the world with such huge gaps in culture, lifestyle, ideologies and upbringings could bond in an instant. One thing I could be confident about is that you guys are the loveliest bunch of people I’ve ever met with.”

David Satin Lectures on New EMR Documentation Process

Visiting professor, David Satin, MD, came to visit the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine on May 3. He gave a special lecture on the latest documentation rules from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), which will allow teaching physicians to use all student documentation for billable services.

Satin presented to a small group and covered a variety of topics within the scope of the new CMS guidelines. His lecture allowed audience members to evaluate, review, and apply ideas to clinical work and rotations, and see how the new guidelines will benefit their students and their practice.

Satin directs courses in ethics, law, policy, health care finance, and quality improvement at the University of Minnesota. He also chairs the Risk Adjustment and Segmentation Committee of Minnesota Community Measurement, the statewide clearinghouse for clinical performance measurement.
Public Health Hosts Community Opioid Discussion

On Friday, May 4, the Division of Public Health hosted a community discussion entitled, “Opioids: A Community Conversation.” This public discussion took place at the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine building where panelists and community members met and talked about the current role that opioids play in communities, as well as the various jobs individuals in health care have when it comes to addressing opioid abuse.

Panelists included Glen Hanson from the University of Utah School of Dentistry, Matt Oehler, patrol sergeant for the South Salt Lake City Police Department, Linda Moore and Katherine Carlson from Project Reality, Kris ten Reisig from Davis Behavioral Health, Eric Garland, associate dean for the Research College of Social Work at the University of Utah, and Adam Gordon, professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Psychiatry.

Questions and topics ranged from medical marijuana to health concerns and more. Beyond the discussion, the event allowed community members to engage in conversation and network with people from across the valley.

NRMN P3 Wraps Up Program by Holding Mock Study Review Section at the University of Utah

On May 7, the National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) hosted a mock study review section for the Proposal Preparation Program (P3) Grant Writing Group at the University of Utah. The NRMN P3 program is one of several grant writing training programs that NRMN holds throughout the nation that offers junior investigators in the biomedical sciences an opportunity to receive coaching on grantsmanship.

After a semester of online group review sessions and multiple drafts and edits of their proposals, the Utah NRMN P3 program concluded with a mock study review section where scholars shared their grant proposals and sat through a review process similar to that of a review held by the National Institute of Health.

The mock study review section was an opportunity where each scholar was able to hear critiques and constructive criticism from their primary reviewer as well as a coach serving as a secondary reviewer to prepare for a final grant submission.

The NRMN P3 program, along with others, not only offers scholars and coaches the opportunity to develop their grant writing skills and progress in their research, but it is a chance for each of them to network and develop friendships that will last throughout the course of their careers.

“I really enjoyed the cohort aspect of the NRMN P3 program,” said Erika Thompson, a NRMN P3 scholar and assistant professor in Department of Health Behavior and Health Systems at the University of North Texas Health Science Center. “This group was able to share experiences in the grant writing process and I suspect will continue to communicate to hold each other accountable for future grant submissions.”

Women Helping Women Boutique Donation Drive

During the month of May, the department rolled out a donation drive to help a local business. The department has enjoyed a long standing relationship with the Junior League of Salt Lake City since pairing up with them several years ago to help with the annual CARE Fair, so the department took the opportunity to help them out by holding a donation drive for their local boutique.

The Junior League of Salt Lake City runs the Women Helping Women Boutique in downtown Salt Lake City where people and organizations drop off gently used professional women’s clothing and toiletries to help women in need.

As a department, we donated 318 items in total. Items donated included clothing, shoes, accessories, and toiletries. We could not have done it without help from each and every one of you. Thank you!

2018 Stethoscope Ceremony

On Wednesday, May 9, the Physician Assistant Studies program hosted the 2018 Annual Stethoscope Ceremony for the Physician Assistant Studies Class 49.

Faculty, staff, and new students gathered at HSEB for a breakfast and welcome program. Upon the conclusion of the program, the new class of PA students lined up, shook hands with PA leadership, and received their first official stethoscope.

Congratulations, Class 49, and welcome!
On June 28, in conjunction with the Utah Valley Residency Program, the Family Medicine Residency hosted the Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO) Course at the University of Utah Guest House.

ALSO is an educational program designed to enhance cognitive and procedural skills of health care professionals to help them manage obstetrical emergencies. Each year the program is cohosted by the University of Utah Family Medicine Residency program as well as Utah Valley University Family Medicine Residency program. This is an opportunity for family medicine interns from University of Utah, Utah Valley, St. Mark’s, and McKay-Dee attend to learn more about obstetrics and real life situations.

For the one day course, instructors came from the University of Utah and Utah Valley University residency programs, as well as family medicine practitioners in the community who practice maternal medicine and perform C-sections. This allowed students to gain more hands on knowledge and learn a variety of skills and tactics from experts.

Throughout the day, interns were able to move from room to room to learn different techniques, role play through scenarios, and learn more about obstetrics. Classes ranged from learning how to measure fluid levels to practice deliveries and more.

On the occasion of the visit of United States Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross to Ghana, the Ensign College of Public Health announced the launch of the Schumpeter Center for Innovation and Development. The Schumpeter Center is a significant new addition to the innovation and entrepreneurship capacity of West Africa.

Ensign College President Steve Alder and Schumpeter Center Executive Director Gabrielle Gay briefed Secretary Ross on plans for the Center to become a vital innovation hub and driver of international trade and collaboration in West Africa, and the secretary underscored the importance of the Center’s mission.

As more than an academic research institution, the Schumpeter Center will also provide analysis and guidance for a new investment fund for West African small and medium enterprises. The timeline for the launch of that fund will be announced later this year.

For the full press release, visit Press Release Jet.
Utah AHEC has partnered with the Utah Medical Education Council (UMEC) to build a new model for projecting primary care health workforce needs based on population health, disease burden, and evidence-based care guidelines instead of using a simple health worker-to-population ratio. AHEC and UMEC were recently awarded a grant from IBM Health Corps to build out this model in order to help policy makers, payers, clinicians, administrators, and educators build projections of the appropriate supply, size, and composition of the primary care workforce in the state. To find out more information, please visit ibmhealthcorps.org.

Utah AHEC just returned from Washington DC, where they met with congressional offices and presented this workforce modeling project to the National AHEC Organization. Utah AHEC also presented on how our Crossroads AHEC Center has successfully leveraged partnerships with a small staff and the programmatic changes the Program Office has made over the last two years. All three presentations were well-received and they are looking forward to bringing updates to the conference in 2020.
Patient Comments

“I am so glad to have found Ms. Sattherwhite [Malea Satterwhite, PA-C] as my new primary care provider! She is very approachable and I feel that she listens to what I say and provides the information and compassion I need from a PCP. Trust is a must for this kind of a relationship and she earned it day one.

I am also amazed and grateful that my provider, Ms. Sattherwhite, offers evening hours. I did not feel any kind of delay at my appointment and felt I was given all the time I needed. They answered all my questions and were very competent at helping me with sensitive issues. I wish ‘excellent’ were a category here, because that is the rating your team deserves.”

– Sugarhouse Center patient

“Dr. Pippitt [Karly Pippitt, MD] was very thorough. We went through my chart and medical history together to determine if I was okay to wait for some medical testing. I appreciated her doing this and helping me avoid unnecessary testing and cost.

In addition, she recalled an injury I was seen for in urgent care months before and asked to see how I was healing. I felt that she went above and beyond and was not concerned about rushing me out the door.

Working together and communicating in a way that protected my privacy was a must in this situation and the doctor and staff did that very well.”

– Sugarhouse Health Center patient