WELCOME, CLASS OF 2023!

On July 9, 32 medical students, comprising the 15th class of the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, joined the Cleveland Clinic family. Our new junior colleagues were busy all week with orientation: navigating around Cleveland Clinic, meeting their advisors and crafting the oath they will follow for their entire medical career. Here’s a summary of their orientation activities and a little bit about them:

Monday, July 9
After being greeted by the Admissions and Student Affairs teams, Cleveland Clinic Police Officer Derrick Dark spoke to the students about safety in our community, sharing important safety tips. The students received their new white Cleveland Clinic coats and then boarded the shuttle bus to the Foundation House to take the traditional photo, receive their gift book and have lunch with faculty and staff. During lunch, the students heard from faculty member Rita Pappas, MD, who offered the students practical advice on teamwork and how to succeed as a student and physician. Later, the students met with Neil Mehta, MBBS, MS, Assistant Dean for Education Informatics and Technology, to receive their new computers and be introduced to the CCLCM portal.

Tuesday, July 10
Interim Executive Dean J. Harry Isaacson, MD, welcomed the students and inquired why they came to CCLCM. The reasons varied, but the sentiment of gratitude was the same for all. Various faculty members reviewed the curriculum, and the incoming students engaged in a group activity with current students. They then met...
their physician advisors for lunch and participated in a self-care fair, organized by second-year students Megan Sheehan, Michael Haupt and Melissa Song.

**Wednesday, July 11**
With his typical good humor, clinical psychologist Scott Bea, PsyD, shared tips for time management, effective study and stress management with the students. Counselors from CWRU introduced their personal counseling and behavioral health services, and Elizabeth Myers, MEd, presented financial aid information. Students heard from upper classmen about where to shop for groceries, get a haircut, take care of car repairs and 100 other helpful hints in the “Where’s Waldo?” panel discussion. The new class then met with their “buddies” and had lunch.

**Thursday, July 12**
Students met in small groups to discuss “Boundaries in Teacher-Learner Relationships” and other aspects of professionalism. Many incoming students connected with Trine Jorgensen, PhD, to meet their research preceptors. The students met again with Dr. Mehta to participate in Computer Orientation Part 2. In late afternoon, the new students heard about “Doctors, Drinking and Disaster” from David Streem, MD.

**Friday, July 13**
Students used most of the day to meet with the CWRU School of Medicine University Program students for the Professionalism Workshop, where they worked on their Oath of Professionalism.

**Sunday, July 15**
Family and friends arrived for breakfast at the InterContinental Hotel to meet with CCLCM faculty and administrators before heading to Severance Hall for the White Coat Ceremony. The students were warmly welcomed by Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, Dean of the CWRU School of Medicine. After the students received their white coats, they stood to read their oath together.

**Monday, July 16**
Though not a formal part of orientation, the CWRU Society Dean Mixer, held at the Cleveland Botanical Garden, offered students an opportunity to relax, socialize and become acquainted with one of Cleveland’s finest jewels.

We are excited to see how the Class of 2023 flourishes in the CCLCM environment. Members of the class have studied or volunteered in more than 50 countries around the world, including Belize, Hungary, Morocco, Poland, Taiwan and the United Arab Emirates.

As is typical of all our students, all members of the incoming class have served as tutors, mentors, teachers or coaches. They have held a total of 116 leadership positions. They have volunteered in at least 79 healthcare activities and 95 community activities outside of healthcare. All the students have worked on notable research. They’ve earned 92 awards, grants and scholarships. They have been involved in 133 oral presentations and have 47 scientific publications to their credit.

Our new students have engaged in some extraordinary experiences. One student has flown a plane, and another raised goats, chickens and cows in Tanzania. One of our students interviewed villagers in Russia about their folkloric practices, and another served in the Taiwanese army. One student served as the team captain on a televised trivia game show, and another sang in the Mosque in Cordoba, Spain.

They are active in sports, having participated in marathons, hiked in Yosemite National Park and Machu Picchu, competed in horseback riding in Puerto Rico, snorkeled in an underwater volcano crater, and placed third in the NCAA Division III Women’s College World Series. They also engage in traditional sports, such as flag football, biking and golf, along with some unusual sports, such as broomball. Seven students play basketball, and four play soccer.

Music and dance play a large role in the lives of our new students. Several are musicians, including those who play the piano, guitar, violin, drums, French horn and oboe. Five are singers. Many students practice dance, including African, ballet, Bollywood, hip hop, Latin, Russian folk and salsa.

The students speak a total of 18 languages, such as Japanese, Korean, Hindi, Gujarati, Igbo, Mandarin, Telugu and Urdu.

Our new students are interested in a wide variety of research topics, including computational chemistry, telomere biology, public health, traumatic brain injury, tropical biology, membrane biophysics, mitochondrial genetics, neuropharmacology, pediatric oncology and many, many more.

Please give a warm welcome to the CLASS OF 2023!
Welcome New Students!

Maleeha Ahmad
BS, Michigan State University

Vision Bagonza
BS, Augsburg College

Aditya Banerjee
BS, Johns Hopkins University

Alissa Becerril
BA, Whitman College

Mario Belfiglio
BS, The Ohio State University

Heeruk Bhatt
BA, Dartmouth College

Joshua Cockrum
BS, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Sarah DeCou
BA, Washington University in St. Louis

Jacob Enders
BS, The Ohio State University

Aiman Faruqi
BS, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Joshua Gallop
BS, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Daniel Grits
BS, Temple University
Emese “Emi” Kanyo
BS, University of Connecticut

Priscilla Kim
BA, MS, University of Pennsylvania

Lisa Kojima
BS, Princeton University

Diana Lopez
BS, BA, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Joseph Mauch
BS, University of Dayton

Matthew Nagy
BS, MPH, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Stephanie Njemanze
BA, Wellesley College
BS, Jackson State University

Lubika “Jeremiah” Nkashama
BS, Geneva College

Anthony Onuzuruike
BS, University of Missouri-Columbia
Matthew Russell  
BS, John Carroll University

Paras Shah  
BS, University of California-Los Angeles

Srividhi “Nidhi” Singuri  
BA, Case Western Reserve University

Surabhi Tewari  
BS, The Ohio State University

Kiran Vaidya  
BA, Cornell University

Alexandra White  
BA, Columbia University in the City of New York

Poyi (“Bernie”) Wu  
BS, University of California-Los Angeles

Shannon Wu  
BA, University of California-Berkeley

CLASS OF 2023
Every year a first-year medical student is assigned a physician advisor who will act as a mentor for the student for all five years of medical school. A physician advisor’s main focus is to encourage students to apply reflective feedback and to help them be accountable for their learning. They do so by coaching students in how to interpret feedback and by offering guidance in curriculum and portfolio.

**Physician advisor role**

While being a physician advisor mainly means bettering students’ education, advisors also play a big role in helping students adjust to life in medical school.

“Being a physician advisor entails being a guide for students as they acclimate to medical school, particularly acclimating to CCLCM’s kind of group learning,” says Kathleen Quinn, MD, retired staff faculty. Dr. Quinn has served as a physician advisor for 10 years and continues to guide students in terms of their specialties and networking.

As a physician advisor, Dr. Quinn focuses on targeted areas for improvement (TAFIs) and strategies on how to strengthen them, including developing concrete action plans. While Dr. Quinn guides students to work on open feedback and portfolio, she also encourages students to self-monitor to see if their plan is addressing TAFIs.

Being a physician advisor is one of Dr. Quinn’s favorite professional activities because she is mentoring students not only on their progress academically and professionally, but also on their well-being.

“My favorite part of being a physician advisor is meeting with the students and seeing them grow,” says Dr. Quinn. “They are very different from when they first come in to when they leave in five years.”

**Physician Advisor Committee**

To be part of the Physician Advisor Committee, physicians must have a previous role in leadership and education. They must also complete training, which includes a CCLCM orientation and brief presentations on how to watch for red flags, hold difficult conversations and create a reflective practice.

The committee meets weekly to offer opportunities for discussion on topics such as advisor-student relationships and educator development opportunities.

**Student experiences**

Alex Ulintz (‘19) and Rachael Baird (‘19) recently spoke about their experience with their physician advisors and had nothing but positive things to say.

“They really go to bat for students and act as great advocates,” says Rachael, who was assigned to Kendalle Cobb, MD, Family Medicine. Rachael says Dr. Cobb has helped her learn her strengths and weaknesses, along with the strategies needed to excel. Because of Dr. Cobb’s knack for detail, she’s helped Rachael become a better writer. “Dr. Cobb is very thorough with portfolio, which has helped me think about how I write,” says Rachael.

Alex, who was assigned to Phillip Hall, MD, retired staff faculty, also says his experience with his physician advisor was favorable. “Dr. Hall goes above and beyond,” says Alex.

Alex recalls that during his first year of medical school he hit a rough patch. Dr. Hall met with him every day for a full week to ensure he was able to get back on track.

“Dr. Hall really helped me get through when I was in need,” says Alex, adding that Dr. Hall has helped him learn how to properly balance work and life, along with how to plan ahead and how to adequately interpret feedback.

The relationships that develop between students and their physician advisors can be powerful. Both Rachael and Alex plan to stay in contact with their physician advisors well beyond graduation.

Thank you to all the members of the Physician Advisor Committee for your dedication to CCLCM students and their education!
Physician Advisor Committee Members

Chairled by Richard Prayson, MD, Pathology, the Physician Advisor Committee includes:

- Marjan Attaran, MD
- Pilar Castro, MD
- Kendalle Cobb, MD
- Robert Dean, MD
- Timothy Gilligan, MD
- Marguerite Group, MD
- Phillip Hall, MD
- Ruth Imrie, MD
- Jennifer Kriegler, MD
- Michael Macknin, MD
- Margaret McKenzie, MD
- Richard Prayson, MD
- Kathleen Quinn, MD
- Jordi Rowe, MD
- Camille Sabella, MD
- Womack Stokes, MD
- Robert Wilson, MD

CCLCM physician advisors tour the new Health Education Campus.
Lepow Day Abstracts Due by Aug. 24

The ePortfolio system is now open for submission of Lepow Day abstracts. The deadline for abstract submission is Aug. 24, 2018, at 5 p.m., after which time the site will close. Please follow the directions in the ePortfolio system. You may submit up to two abstracts.

Each abstract will be judged by two members of the Lepow Day Committee. The best abstracts will be selected for oral presentation. Students who submitted the remaining abstracts will present a poster. Oral presenters are not required to present a poster. Students selected for oral presentations will receive a modest monetary award and certificate. Students presenting posters will be eligible for a certificate award.

Lepow Day is Sept. 20, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Callahan via email or at 216.368.6972.

PATIENT SAFETY & QUALITY TIP:
Help decrease catheter-associated UTIs

Moises Auron, MD, Associate Professor, Medicine and Pediatrics

Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) are among the most common healthcare-acquired infections, resulting in substantial risk of patient morbidity and mortality, and contributing to rising healthcare costs.

You can help your team decrease CAUTIs in the hospital simply by asking if the patient continues to need the Foley catheter. Too often, Foley catheters tend to be overlooked, and their necessity is often not part of the daily patient care discussion. By identifying and then removing unnecessary Foley catheters from patients, we can help decrease CAUTIs. If you bring up the topic, you can help one patient at a time.

Doing the right thing is easy, but it requires mindfulness, accountability and excellent teamwork. As students, you are fundamental elements of the inpatient teams, and your contributions to patient safety are valuable. Remember, Patients First!

Dr. Moises Auron

NEWS

Will You Help Bring Talent to our Lerner College of Medicine?

We need your help to recruit the next class of CCLCM students, entering July 2019. This is a rewarding opportunity to connect with bright, accomplished and interesting young men and women aspiring to become physician researchers.

What the commitment requires

- Attending Admissions Committee meetings on main campus every other Thursday from 3 to 5:30 p.m., starting September 2018.
- Interviewing applicants as often as you are available, through January 2019. Interviews are conducted every Monday and Thursday, from 1:15 to 3 p.m., September through January. On the days you choose to interview, you will speak with two applicants.

We know you may not be able to attend every committee meeting. There may also be times when you can interview just one candidate. You have the flexibility to interview as much or as little as your schedule permits.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Admissions Committee or simply want to interview candidates, please contact Karen Wright at wrightk6@ccf.org or 216.444.0426.

Questions? Please contact Liz Myers at myerse@ccf.org or Kathleen Franco, MD, at francok@ccf.org.

Serving on the committee is an important and rewarding role; we sincerely hope you will consider taking part in it. Thank you for your consideration, and we hope to hear from you!
Learn more about the teaching and advising opportunities available at our Lerner College of Medicine (CCLCM) at the next Faculty Orientation and Role Fair:

**Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2018 | 7:30 – 11 a.m. | Lerner NA3-57**

You’ll also find out about the approach to teaching we use in our unique system.

To Register:

1. **Log into COMET**
   a. Note: This event is visible only on a computer with intranet access. You will not see it if you are using an off-site or mobile device.

2. Choose the “Catalog” tab, and then “Search by Category” tab. Choose “Global Leadership and Learning Institute” from the menu.

3. Scroll down to “Essentials program for Health Professions Educators” and choose the CCLCM New Faculty Orientation.
   a. Note: Sessions are listed in alphabetical order.

Please remember to request meeting time and block your clinical schedule well in advance so that you can attend this event.

If you have already participated in an orientation to CCLCM event (previously called the New Faculty Orientation), thank you for attending. We hope you have found a satisfying role in the medical school.

For questions, please contact the Office of Educator Development at prelosa@ccf.org or colberc2@ccf.org. We look forward to seeing you in October.
“Tool for Diagnosing Gaps Within a Competency-Based Assessment System” was featured in the March 2018 issue of Academic Medicine. This article is co-authored by S. Beth Bierer, PhD; Colleen Y. Colbert, PhD; Cecile M. Foshee, PhD; Judith C. French, PhD; and Lily C. Pien, MD, MPH.

This research focuses on the importance of assessment for learning by using competency-based assessment (CBA). According to the authors, assessment for learning requires the use of CBA by educators in order to “adopt appropriate methods and reallocate institutional resources to ensure alignment with CBA principles and priorities.” The authors constructed a table based on measurement standards to aid educators in reflecting on their current practices and to help diagnose deficits in competency-based educational environments.

The table included five key components along with potential strengths and weaknesses within the five components:

1. **Fairness**
   a. Program Requirements
   b. Due Process
   c. Equity
   d. Bias

2. **Reliability**
   a. Faculty Development
   b. Adequate Sampling

3. **Validity**
   a. Alignment
   b. Qualified Assessors
   c. Authentic Work
   d. Quality Evidence

4. **Effects**
   a. Educational Effects

5. **Outcomes**
   a. Acceptability
   b. External Measures

The authors listed four summary points from the CBA chart that they constructed. They found that defensible performance decisions require structured and systemic approaches to learner assessment, that educators must compromise among elements in any assessment system, that a challenge remaining in CBA is feasibility, and formative feedback is emphasized in CBA.

Read the entire article.
Internal Medicine Resident Wins Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award

Cleveland Clinic third-year internal medicine resident Zariyat Mannan, MD, was recognized for her outstanding teaching and patient care, earning her a Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award at the 2018 Student Clinician Ceremony on July 20, 2018. (See article on p. 16.)

The award is given to resident physicians who are nominated and selected by Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and Lerner College of Medicine students. This award recognizes outstanding resident teachers who:

- consistently demonstrate compassion and empathy in the delivery of care to patients
- serve as a role model – illustrate professional behavior by example – for students and colleagues
- are approachable and accessible to students, welcoming opportunities for teaching and one-on-one mentorships with students
- exhibit enthusiasm and skill in professional and personal interactions with students
- show respect for everyone he/she comes in contact with
- demonstrate cultural sensitivity in working with patients and family members of diverse ethnic or religious backgrounds
- display effective communication and listening skills

Congratulations, Dr. Mannan, on this well-deserved recognition!
29 CCLCM Faculty Members Promoted

Faculty in CCLCM who are Assistant Professors or Associate Professors and want to advance must go through a year-and-a-half promotion cycle. Congratulations to the following faculty members who were recently promoted, effective July 1, 2018:

Anjali Advani, MD
Professor, Medicine

Samantha Anne, MD
Associate Professor, Surgery

Kewal Asosingh, PhD
Associate Professor, Molecular Medicine

Sarah Banks, PhD
Associate Professor, Medicine

Pelin Batur, MD
Associate Professor, Medicine

Steven Bernard, MD
Associate Professor, Surgery

Deborah Chute, MD
Associate Professor, Pathology

Hesham Elsharkawy, MD
Associate Professor, Anesthesiology

Fred Frost, MD
Professor, Medicine

Brian Gastman, MD
Professor, Surgery

Marc Gillinov, MD
Professor, Surgery

Blanca Gonzalez, MD
Associate Professor, Pediatrics

Ajay Gupta, MD
Professor, Medicine

Neetu Gupta, PhD
Associate Professor, Molecular Medicine

Hakan Ilaslan, MD
Professor, Radiology
The importance of seeking faculty promotion cannot be understated. Seeking a promotion demonstrates not only a faculty member’s dedication to teaching, research and clinical service, but also a commitment to their career and engagement at Cleveland Clinic.

The class of 29 staff members who took the time to attain this promotion should be applauded. Thank you for the service you provide in developing future physician investigators!

Christine Koval, MD
Associate Professor, Medicine

Cecilia Lansang, MD
Professor, Medicine

Justin Lathia, PhD
Associate Professor, Molecular Medicine

Feng Lin, PhD
Professor, Molecular Medicine

Andre Machado, MD, PhD
Professor, Neurological Surgery

Justin Miller, PhD
Associate Professor, Medicine

Kathrin Nicolacakis, MD
Associate Professor, Medicine

Sathyamangla Prasad, PhD
Professor, Molecular Medicine

Peter Rasmussen, MD
Professor, Neurological Surgery

Jordan Reynolds, MD
Associate Professor, Pathology

Eric Ricchetti, MD
Associate Professor, Surgery

Maged Rizk, MD
Associate Professor, Medicine

Harneet Walia, MBBS
Associate Professor, Family Medicine

Jennifer Yu, MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Molecular Medicine

FACULTY: If you wish to be promoted, visit the CCLCM Faculty Affairs Promotions page to learn more. All applications are submitted online via our portal. Applications for the next cycle begin this fall and must be submitted before the Jan. 31, 2019, deadline, which is earlier than the CWRU deadline for their faculty promotions.
Student Wins Inaugural Student Research Award

Rachael Baird (’19) was awarded the inaugural Crain Student Research Award for her project “Pregnancy-associated cardiac hypertrophy in transgenic mice expressing a corin variant found in blacks” with her mentor Qingyu Wu, MD, PhD.

This newly established award will be given annually to a CCLCM student.

“I feel honored to receive the Chris Crain Medical Student Research Award,” says Rachael. “As a medical student, our research projects can often feel small and unimportant, but awards such as this are a good reminder that our work is important to the advancement of medicine and the treatment of our future patients.”

The Crain Student Research Award was established by the Lawrence “Chris” Crain Memorial Service fund, founded by Pearl Crain and Bryon Hoogwerf, MD. The fund began after the death of Lawrence “Chris” Crain, MD, Cleveland Clinic’s first African-American chief medical resident in internal medicine. The fund supports a yearly lecture, currently in its 15th year, by a prominent physician focusing on topics about which Dr. Crain was most passionate: healthcare disparities, hypertension, and kidney and heart disease.

Read more about Dr. Crain and the Crain award in “Mother and Son Leave a Legacy of Service.”

ROUND UP

White Coat Ceremony Concludes Orientation Week

To welcome the CWRU School of Medicine Class of 2022 and the CCLCM Class of 2023, and to conclude orientation week, the new medical students participated in the annual CWRU/CCLCM White Coat Ceremony. The event, which was held July 15 at Severance Hall, began with breakfast for new students and their families, hosted by J. Harry Isaacson, MD, Interim Executive Dean, and Kathleen Franco, MD, Associate Dean of Admissions and Students Affairs.

Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, Dean of the CWRU School of Medicine, opened the ceremony. Dr. Franco delivered the keynote address, speaking about gratitude in the past, present and future.

Several CWRU and CCLCM faculty, including Drs. Franco and Isaacson, presented students with their white coats. Afterward, the students read aloud the Oath of Professionalism they wrote themselves:

To our patients:
We promise to humbly serve you.
We respect the trust bestowed upon us and honor your values and autonomy.
We recognize our shared humanity and strive to deliver compassionate, comprehensive care for all.

To our community:
We will demonstrate integrity and champion justice.
We will practice evidence-based medicine and push the boundaries of innovation.
We will challenge healthcare disparities through empowerment, education, and advocacy.

To our colleagues:
We recognize that healthcare is a team endeavor.
We hold ourselves to an elevated set of standards while practicing self-care.
We dedicate ourselves to a life of learning, teaching, and inspiring the next generation.
We don this white coat with humility as a symbol of our profession and our commitment to this calling.

Addressing the students, Dr. Davis said, “Today you take up a rich legacy, and, whether you fully realize it or not, you have
made a covenant with the profession, your teachers and your patients to be the very best doctors you can.”

Watch a highlight video from the ceremony.

Congratulations to our new class of students!
2018 Student Clinician Ceremony

Before entering their third-year clerkship program, the Case Western Reserve University SOM Class of 2020 and CCLCM Class of 2021 were honored at the 2018 Student Clinician Ceremony on July 20.

During the program, outstanding resident physicians, representing MetroHealth Medical Center, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center and Cleveland Clinic, are honored with Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards. The residents are nominated and selected by medical students. This year, among the winners was Zariyat Mannan, MD, an internal medicine resident at Cleveland Clinic. (See article on page 11.)

The Student Clinician Ceremony celebrates the transition of medical students from pre-clinical to full-time clinical education. The event gives students an opportunity to rededicate themselves to medical professionalism and to be inspired by outstanding resident physicians who will be their teachers in the coming year.

During the ceremony, students recited the Oath of Professionalism they wrote as part of the White Coat Ceremony when they entered medical school in 2016. Richard Fratianne, MD, Professor Emeritus of Surgery at CWRU School of Medicine, served as the event’s keynote speaker. The ceremony was made possible by a generous grant from the Philip D. Junglas Compassion in Medicine Fund, established by Diane Collier and Friends.

Greetings from Johns Hopkins

Four CCLCM alums are together, at various stages of their training in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Despite the hard work, they look like they’re having fun!

L to R: Warren Swegal ('13), Theresa Guo ('12), Danielle Eytan ('15), and Ruth Davis ('17).
Cleveland Clinic and CWRU Receive Generous Gift from Sheila and Eric Samson

On July 18, Cleveland Clinic and Case Western Reserve University announced the name of the centerpiece of the Health Education Campus: the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion. The 485,000-square-foot building will house a large atrium that floods the building with natural light; offices and high-tech classrooms; admissions suites; auditorium; resource library; and flight simulation center.

“When you think of what’s going to be happening inside when it’s finished… it’s going to be one of a kind,” says Sheila Samson.

To encourage team-based learning and team-based patient care, students from several academic disciplines will share the space, including students from:

• CWRU School of Medicine
• Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of CWRU
• CWRU Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing
• CWRU School of Dental Medicine
• CWRU Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences
• Program for physician assistants

“When it opens next year, the Health Education Campus will transform medical education for the next generation of caregivers,” says Tom Mihaljevic, MD, CEO and President of Cleveland Clinic. “We are exceedingly grateful to Eric and Sheila Samson for their vision and support of this project, which will provide our students with the most technologically advanced learning environment as we prepare them to become leading providers in exceptional patient care.”

Natives of South Africa, the Samsons are among Cleveland Clinic’s largest donors, having established the Samson Global Leadership Academy and having donated to the Sydell and Arnold Miller Family Heart and Vascular Institute and the Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in Las Vegas. Mr. Samson is also a member of Cleveland Clinic’s International Leadership Board.

The Health Education Campus is scheduled to open in summer 2019.
Incoming Students Welcomed with Personalized Gift

A new tradition was born between the Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association and CCLCM this year: The Alumni Association partnered with the CCLCM 2018 graduating class to fund a gift of a personalized stethoscope to each student entering the program in fall 2018.

At the White Coat Ceremony breakfast on July 15, the Alumni Relations team presented the incoming students with their gift, which they were thrilled to receive. Perhaps because of the generosity of the gift, Kathleen Franco, MD, Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs, had to assure one student that these, in fact, were real stethoscopes that they would use with patients.

The stethoscopes are intended to help students as they commence care of others and also serve as a symbolic reminder that they will always be part of the Cleveland Clinic family.

“I have every expectation this will be the start of a lasting connection between these students and the Alumni Association,” says J. Harry Isaacson, MD, Interim Executive Dean.

Each stethoscope included a letter from Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association President Conrad H. Simpfendorfer, MD. The letter welcomed the students and expressed how much he looks forward to 2023 when the students will receive their alumni pin and join the Cleveland Clinic alumni community, which now totals more than 17,000 physicians.

In the letter, Dr. Simpfendorfer stated, “We hope that you will utilize the Alumni Association often during your time in Lerner College, as we are committed to serving as a resource to future and current Alumni by providing access to information and programmatic support necessary to ensure your professional growth and success.”

If you’re interested in sponsoring a stethoscope for a future CCLCM student, please contact Mindy Stroh, Senior Director of Alumni Relations, at 216.444.6534 or strohm@ccf.org.

ADVANCING OUR MISSION

The Education Institute welcomes donations to advance its mission of educating those who serve. Individuals, families, foundations and corporations that believe in the value of education are making a difference in the future of patient care with their generosity. To learn how you can help, please contact Theresa Holthaus at 216.444.1839 or at holthat@ccf.org.