One Day. One KU. is a day of giving when everyone/anyone can make a gift to reflect their passion for KU. This year’s giving day will be Thursday, Feb. 20, with the goal to increase the number of donors to our school and, in this case, specifically to the Department of Internal Medicine.

Last year, Internal Medicine raised $8,300 from 11 donors. With the matches available this year we hope to inspire more individuals to give. Our goal is to ensure support for the Internal Medicine Residency Program Fund and Dr. Sweet’s Internal Medicine Program Fund, both of which will be endowed funds. KU School of Medicine-Wichita is such a big entity that rarely, if ever, does one department get to shine. On One Day. One KU., we can shine that spotlight on Internal Medicine and hope that inspires our alumni, faculty, staff and friends to participate.

If you are interested in donating, please visit the Internal Medicine website on Feb. 20 and select the “Make a Gift” button.

**Dr. Donna Sweet inducted into the Wichita State University Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame**

*Donna Sweet, M.D., AAHIVS, MACP,* was inducted into the Wichita State University Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame on Friday, Dec. 6.

Induction into the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame is in recognition of an alum’s highly significant impact on the region and the nation. Her national and international work with HIV-positive and AIDS patients, along with her advocacy for that population, is truly inspiring. She was inducted as part of the inaugural cohort of the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame to celebrate her work and life example in the highest possible way.
Emporia couple commit $1M in support of KU School of Medicine-Wichita

University of Kansas alumni Scott Smiley and Julie Smiley want to be a part of educating doctors who will care for generations of patients. To fulfill that goal, the Emporia couple’s gift commitment of $1 million to the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita will support the school’s internal medicine program and provide student scholarships. Dr. Scott Smiley is a physician and alumnus of KU School of Medicine-Wichita, and Dr. Julie Smiley is a veterinarian.

“I appreciated that the community worked together to educate students, particularly the volunteer faculty,” Smiley said. “They understand the investment that it takes to educate doctors.”

The Smileys’ planned gift will divide approximately $1 million to establish three funds that bear their names: One will benefit the Department of Internal Medicine; one will support residents in the internal medicine program; and one will fund student scholarships, with preference for students interested in internal medicine.

Garold Minns, M.D., dean of KU School of Medicine-Wichita, thanked the Smileys for including the school in their philanthropic plans. “The forethought of Julie and Scott’s support is inspiring. We appreciate how it will give the department flexibility and assist residents and medical students interested in internal medicine,” Minns said. “Private support is crucial to help us go above and beyond in educating tomorrow’s physicians.”

Nephrologists’ gift supports KU internal medicine residency they know well

Nine of Wichita Nephrology Group’s 11 doctors did internal medicine residencies through KU School of Medicine-Wichita, and five did advanced training in nephrology with KU as well. Add in that everyone in the practice serves as volunteer clinical faculty in Wichita, and it’s clear the crimson and the blue ties run deep among Wichita’s largest group of kidney specialists.

Recently, the medical group made a five-year, $25,000 pledge to the KU School of Medicine-Wichita Internal Medicine residency program. Jany Moussa, M.D., said “The gift was not only a way to support the program and its residents but also the leadership of William Salyers, M.D., who became chair of internal medicine last year and continues in his previous role of residency director as well.”

Salyers said the pledge means the program now has a fully endowed fund to support residency graduation activities and enhance wellness activities. “It will also help residents travel to national conferences to present research and help resident preparation for sitting for their American Board of Internal Medicine boards,” he said.

The advantage of a multiyear pledge is twofold: The gift is spread out for the donor, while the medical school or targeted program can count on a consistent funding stream over a period of time.
The Wichita program has been fortunate with a history of matching excellent residents into our program. The Department of Internal Medicine completed its recruitment activities in December with a list of promising superior candidates. We hosted applicants from many countries who shared amazing stories of overcoming personal and political strife in order to be eligible to apply to our program.

Again this year, the recruitment dinners were hosted in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Salyers providing time for faculty, staff, residents and applicants to come together in fellowship and community. We often receive feedback this is one of the highlights for applicants, as it is a good chance to meet a lot of people involved in the program and enjoy the camaraderie of the residents.

Meet our winners at the American College of Physicians 2019 Kansas Chapter Scientific Meeting

The ACP Kansas Chapter meeting was Oct. 10-11 at the Wichita Marriot. Attendees enjoyed many keynote and breakout sessions throughout the event. Presenters included eight KU Wichita Internal Medicine faculty members, six of whom are resident alums. Internal Medicine and Med-Peds residents presented posters with a wide range of topics, including “Post-ERCP Pancreatitis Rates and NSAID Use in a Community Hospital” by Jeffrey Hyder, PGY2, and “Rise in Inhalational Lung Injury in the US: The Blunt Truth about Vaping” by Kristin Constance, PGY3. Three Wichita Internal Medicine residents won awards at the meeting. Please join us in congratulating the winners.

Sachin Srinivasan, PGY3, won the “2019 Delp Award” for embodying Dr. Delp’s qualities of dedication to patient care, diagnostic skills and humanism.

Lorna Nguutu, PGY2, won the “Judges Choice Award for Best Poster” for her poster titled, “Delayed Post Hypoxic Leukoencephalopathy.”

Maisam Al Patty, PGY2, won the “Chien Liu Award for Best Infectious Disease Poster” for her poster titled, “Mycoplasma pneumoniae encephalitis in an adult patient without preceding respiratory symptoms.”
Fellowship match

On Dec. 4, 2019, Internal Medicine residents participating in fellowship match were notified of what program they had been matched into. Join us in congratulating them and wishing them well with their future training endeavors.

Rami Atallah, M.D.
Hematology/Oncology
Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia

Maher Bazzi, M.D.
Cardiology
Summa Health
Akron, Ohio

Kristin Constance, M.D.
Infectious Disease
University of Texas
Houston, Texas

Rami Diab, M.D.
Rheumatology
Wake Forest Baptist Health
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Mohamad Sandid, M.D., nephrologist-volunteer faculty

What do you enjoy most about being a volunteer faculty member?
I always enjoy working with students and residents. Teaching in the clinical setting requires me to keep pace with the changing faces of medicine and keep myself updated. I get the opportunity to be a part of the constant process of learning both in academics and at the bedside. My MPH degree helps me evaluate appropriate studies for pertinent clinical teaching on my service. It is most rewarding when I see medical students/residents progressing over time and becoming successful colleagues.

How many years of experience do you have in your field?
I have been practicing nephrology and critical care medicine for over 13 years. I joined Wichita Nephrology Group in 2006. Our main location is at 818 N. Emporia, Suite 310, Wichita. We also have offices in 13 locations throughout Kansas.

Would you like to share your interests, hobbies?
In my free time, I enjoy cardio exercising and Wichita State and KU basketball.

Maha Mohamad, M.D., PGY2 resident

What do you enjoy most about residency?
I like to be challenged. Hence, I am up for whatever teases my brain and keeps me excited to answer “the whys.” So far, two of my rotations have offered me the spark that I am looking for: cardiology and rheumatology.

What are some of the challenges you face at KU?
I thrive on challenges and I make sure I leave a mark when I face any! One of the challenges was teaching students, which is a responsibility I take very seriously. Before my residency, I had never taught a student. Being interested in this field, I armored up with the set of skills that enables me to customize my teaching style to match the learning style and personality of my students. I knew I succeeded when I received the award for Excellence in Residency for teaching the Art of Medicine by Example on Jan. 18.

What are your interests, hobbies?
I love spending time in nature, creative writing, photography, and free-style cooking.
Celebrating the holidays with Internal Medicine
The staff, faculty and residents in the Department of Internal Medicine spent time in joyous celebration over the holidays, enjoying fellowship and friendship. Dr. Sweet hosted the annual leg wrestling contest, where the residents swept all categories, and the department celebrated with a holiday party at Botanica.
Meet our new volunteer faculty

**Geetha Ramesh** — Dr. Ramesh is an internist/primary care physician with Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center. She will be working with students and residents on an internal medicine rotation, along with other faculty at her practice. Dr. Ramesh joined our department Sept. 24, 2019.

**Ghiyath Tabbal** — Dr. Tabbal is a cardiologist with Heartland Cardiology and will be working with students and residents on cardiology rotations, along with other faculty at his practice. Dr. Tabbal joined our department Oct. 22, 2019.

**Molly VanPetten** — Dr. VanPetten is a hospitalist with Atchison Hospital and will be working with students on rural rotations. Dr. VanPetten joined our department Dec. 13, 2019.

**Jerzy Slomka** — Dr. Slomka is an internist/primary care physician with Rural Health Clinic in Ellsworth, Kansas, and will be working with students on rural rotations. Dr. Slomka joined our department Jan. 8.

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**Save The Date**

**March 12-13**
**Dr. Shahid Umar, guest speaker**
Dr. Umar is a professor and vice chair of research and division chief, gastrointestinal research, in the Department of Surgery at the University of Kansas Medical Center. He will be speaking about microbiome research at the faculty development dinner and grand round conference.

**Friday, March 20**
**Match Day**
Academic & Student Affairs will provide a live stream to watch Wichita students as they reveal which residency programs they have matched into.

**April 16-17**
**Dr. Mita Goel, guest speaker**
Dr. Goel is an associate professor of medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University. She will be speaking about her work in academic medicine at both a faculty development dinner and grand round conference.

**Friday, May 29**
**Resident Graduation**
The Internal Medicine 2020 resident graduation will be at the Wichita Art Museum.