

PARTNERS in MEDICAL EDUCATION

A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

UW School of Medicine–Gonzaga University Regional Health Partnership

REGIONAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP SERVING THE GREATER GOOD

UW’s Spokane medical school has become location of choice

The Regional Health Partnership (RHP), forged early in 2016 between the top-ranked University of Washington School of Medicine and Spokane’s cornerstone institution, Gonzaga University, is exceeding the expectations of students, faculty and the community. Through its efforts to expand and enhance medical education in Spokane, the Partnership is on a steady path toward realizing its goal of improving the health and economic vitality of our region.

With a shared commitment to serving the greater good, the Partnership builds on the collective experience and expertise of the UW and Gonzaga to advance medical education in Spokane; the results to date show it’s working. A growing number of students applying to the UW School of Medicine in Washington are requesting to attend medical school in Spokane, spurring the school admissions committee to add an additional day to conduct interviews for the 2018/19 school year.

A culture of camaraderie was demonstrated by the 60 medical students in the 2016 inaugural class and it has carried over to the 2017 entering class of 60 students. Between the warmth and welcome of the Gonzaga campus and the inspiring, healthy city of Spokane, medical students are fulfilling their goals to help each other and the community. Students are actively “giving back” through a variety of volunteer service projects.

A range of other healthcare professions is also growing. On the Gonzaga campus 57 University of Washington MEDEX Northwest students are studying to become physician assistants. PAs are vital members of the healthcare team. As nationally-certified and state-licensed providers they



offer a broad spectrum of medical services including diagnosing medical conditions and prescribing medications.

Efforts to expand research are underway. The newly-formed Research Task Force, made up of faculty and leaders from the UW School of Medicine and Gonzaga as well as community leaders, is actively pursuing health-related research opportunities to extend Spokane’s growing healthcare sector. The UW’s CoMotion Labs has established a presence in Spokane to support eastern Washington startups in the development and commercialization of

local products and services. The Partnership will continue to look for opportunities to foster collaborative research and commercialization to fuel economic growth.

The entire state reaps the benefits from these two universities working together. Whether through student volunteer efforts, supporting local startups, or preparing students to practice rural medicine, the continued success of the Regional Health Partnership is key to ensuring the health and economic vitality of our region.

“Every time I talk with our medical students in Spokane, I’m filled with optimism about their futures and the future of our state. And our partnership with Gonzaga to educate these students is just the first part of our collaboration. The past two years really show what is possible when two universities that are committed to the public good join together with the support of their community.”

Ana Mari Cauce, President, University of Washington



INSIDE:

- Making an Impact, 2017 Milestones & 2018 Priorities
- UW School of Medicine & Gonzaga University Faculty Find Working Together Exhilarating
- More Residencies Will Produce More Physicians for Eastern Washington
- A Collaboration that Builds Excellence

+ MORE

MORE RESIDENCIES WILL PRODUCE MORE PHYSICIANS FOR EASTERN WASHINGTON

By Darryl Potyk, M.D.

As we work to fill an ongoing doctor shortage in eastern Washington, the UW School of Medicine continues its commitment to grow the pool of high-quality physicians to meet this demand. This requires not only graduating more students from medical school, but also increasing opportunities for them to complete the next required phase of their training—Graduate Medical Education, commonly known as residency.

Graduates from any medical school must complete a three-to-seven-year residency training program to be able to practice medicine in their chosen field. **To expand the ranks of practicing physicians, we must first expand residency opportunities in this region.** The UW School of Medicine plays a key role in eastern Washington as a convener, catalyst and collaborator for Graduate Medical Education opportunities.

Until recently, an affiliation with an academic medical center was required for a residency to be accredited, and for more than 30 years the UW School of Medicine filled this role for the family medicine and internal medicine residency programs in Spokane, which have produced hundreds of primary care physicians and healthcare leaders throughout eastern Washington.

The School also provides infrastructure for the statewide Family Medicine Residency Network (FMRN), to create forums for residency leaders to learn best practices and get support in navigating new developments in medicine. FMRN has been instrumental in increasing the number of family medicine residency training opportunities in eastern Washington by assisting with the establishment of new Graduate Medical Education programs, and helping osteopathic (D.O.) residency programs in eastern Washington join with allopathic (M.D.)

programs, as per new requirements laid out by the ACGME (Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education) requiring that osteopathic programs be held to the same standards as allopathic (M.D.) programs.

Looking ahead, the UW School of Medicine will continue to leverage its experience, creativity and network of committed physicians and collaborate with the entire healthcare community to facilitate residency opportunities for the next generation of physicians in Spokane and throughout eastern Washington.

Darryl Potyk, M.D., is Chief of Medical Education for the UW School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Regional Health Partnership, and UW Associate Dean for Eastern Washington.



MAKING AN IMPACT

2017 KEY MILESTONES

January 2017: The UW’s CoMotion Labs expands to Spokane to support eastern Washington’s startups as they launch, fundraise, and grow.

February 2017: Darryl K. Potyk, M.D., UW Associate Dean for Eastern Washington, is appointed Chief of Medical Education for the Partnership.

September 2017: A new class of 60 medical students begins their studies at the Schoenberg Center, joining 60 students returning for their second year. The 120 combined first- and second-year students is the largest number of medical students in Spokane in its history. 31 new MEDEX Physician Assistant students also start classes at the Schoenberg Center.

October 2017: Planning gets underway to accommodate the growth of education and research activities with the development of necessary infrastructure, including new facilities on GU’s campus.

December 2017: All 60 second-year medical students receive their white coats at the Transition to Clerkship ceremony, marking the successful completion of their Foundations program.



2018 PRIORITIES

- Continue to focus on the medical student experience through classroom expansion, and clinical, and community based opportunities for Foundations students
- Attract top medical and MEDEX students to Spokane
- Finalize infrastructure development plans
- Uncover new research opportunities, fostering collaborations with both institutions and the healthcare industry
- Collaborate with the community and healthcare industry to advance healthcare initiatives that impact the Inland Northwest’s economic vitality

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

As a growing healthcare hub, Spokane affords UW medical students many opportunities to gain clinical skills by working with accomplished physician faculty in their individual practices. In addition to residents in the local GME programs, medical students gain experience training in hospitals and clinics in our region. **We are grateful for the relationships and partnerships with all of our hospital and clinical partners** who are helping train the next generation of physicians to care for the residents of Spokane and eastern Washington, including:

- Eastern State Hospital
- Family Medicine Residency (STHC)
- Graduate Medical Education Partners
- Holy Family Hospital
- Internal Medicine Residency (STHC)
- Mann-Grandstaff Veterans Administration Hospital & Medical Center
- MultiCare Health System
- Providence Health Care
- Providence Medical Group
- Psychiatry Residency (Providence)
- Radiology Residency (Providence)
- Rockwood Clinic
- Sacred Heart Medical Center
- Valley Hospital



“We are so pleased to see the first cohort of medical students under the Partnership emerge so successfully. Their collective commitment to both their shared learning community — and to becoming great physicians — is inspiring. This one-of-a-kind partnership is working well, and our two institutions are unwavering in our support of the Spokane region’s priorities for health care education and research.”

Thayne M. McCulloh, President, Gonzaga University

A COLLABORATION THAT BUILDS EXCELLENCE

By Michael Wilson

Two distinctive and proud universities found common ground over the past two years and combined strengths toward the long-term future of healthcare in our region; together they are already making great contributions.

Our region has a rich history of collaboration. As a healthcare leader in Spokane, I was proud to help forge partnerships between Sacred Heart and Deaconess for the health of our community. That same spirit—working together to build the best experience to prepare our future physicians and caregivers—is demonstrated daily. Building upon the longstanding Jesuit tradition of inquiry and service, and the strength of the UW’s national ranking as the top primary care medical school, our growing community of medical students is creating energy for this region.

To illustrate, while completing rigorous science and laboratory studies, each student also actively volunteers their time to non-profit organizations, community centers, or to assisting younger students in

our public schools. Each student also has the opportunity to pursue a community research project for presentation at an annual forum; many of these medical students participate in national research projects as well. And, they commit to each other. The 60 first-year students who entered medical school 18 months ago had a goal that they would all receive their white coats together. Today these 60 students move into clinical rotations, all proudly wearing their white coats, and united, move one-step closer toward graduation. These students are awesome!

I feel fortunate to be on the Regional Health Partnership Advisory Board to actively review the progress, plans and direction of the Partnership as it acts on its shared commitment of service. There is great potential for the Partnership to be a dynamic and interdisciplinary teaching, research and medical center of excellence in the Northwest. The truest benefit will be the impact from producing a community of dedicated caregivers who will remain here to practice medicine, thus strengthening the health of this region.

Mike Wilson, retired CEO of Providence Health Care Spokane, is chair of the Community Advisory Board for the Regional Health Partnership.



REGIONAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

- Kristi Blake
- Jeff Collins, M.D.
- Betsy Cowles
- Clint Hauxwell, M.D.
- Latisha Hill
- Kevin Parker
- Jeff Philipps
- Shelley Redinger, Ph.D.
- Frank Velazquez, M.D.
- Mike Wilson, Chair

UW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & GONZAGA UNIVERSITY FACULTY FIND WORKING TOGETHER EXHILARATING

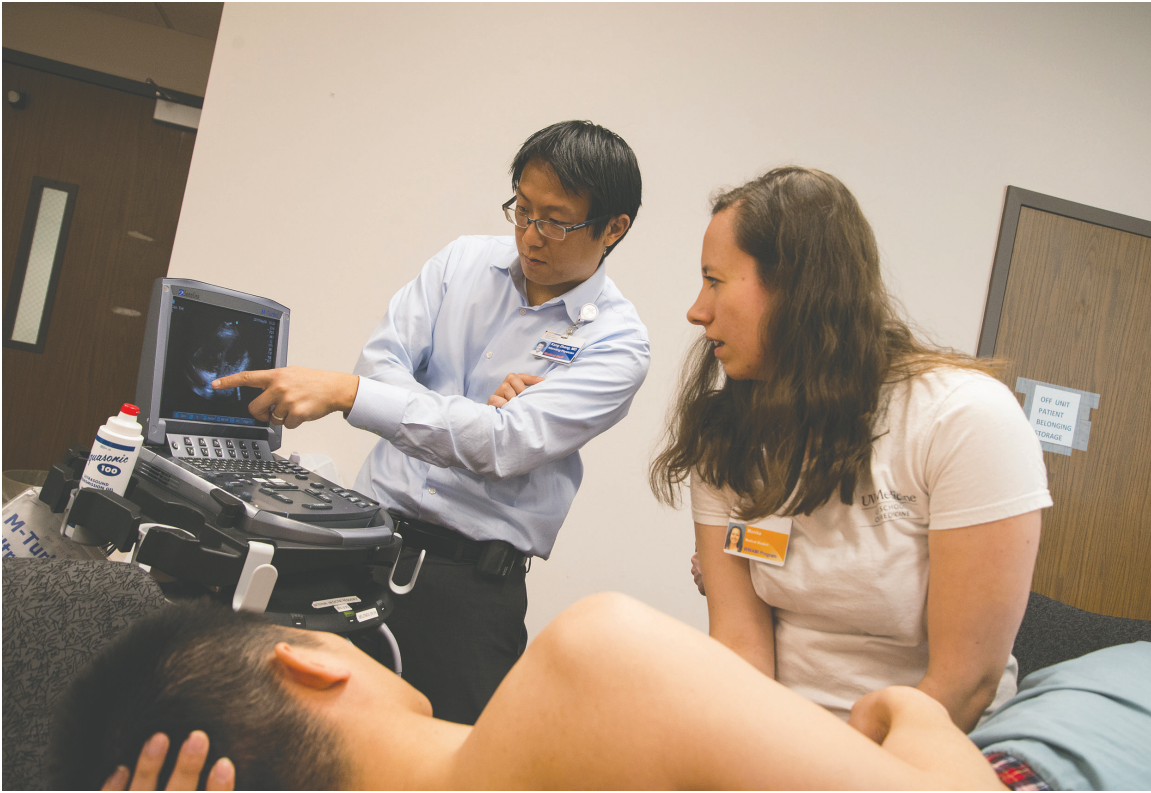
The medical school partnership between the University of Washington School of Medicine and Gonzaga University is proving exhilarating for the faculty involved.

“There’s a lot of co-teaching and for me that’s a really exciting aspect,” says Tim Chestnut, M.D., who teaches basic science classes. “Having the GU faculty involved has been an absolute delight. I can’t tell you how much fun the collaboration between scientists and clinicians has been.”

Kevin Measor, Ph.D., who teaches with Chestnut and also works with him on curriculum development, agrees.

CHESTNUT SAYS AS A CLINICIAN, HE’S LEARNED MUCH ABOUT TEACHING THANKS TO THE EXPERTISE OF THE GONZAGA STAFF.

“There’s a lot of opportunity for GU faculty to be involved,” he says. “I’m a college geek, so the notion of a small private university working with a large public medical school really excites me.” Both instructors say the partnership offers fresh insight into their respective fields. “The clinical faculty is amazing! As a neuroscientist I get to learn new aspects that I wasn’t exposed to in grad school,” says Measor. “I get to see how this science impacts the medical field. I’m a much more knowledgeable neuroscientist now.” And Chestnut says as a clinician, he’s learned much about teaching thanks to the expertise of the Gonzaga staff. Measor has also been impressed with the students’ dedication and work ethic.



“You don’t have to worry about whether they’re motivated—they’re in med school, pursuing their dream,” he says. “These are highly motivated students who are going to make a difference.”

That diligence is important because the curriculum is condensed.

“We’re teaching what used to take six quarters in four,” Chestnut says. “It’s really intense.”

Finding space on the GU campus has proved challenging.

“Lecture hall availability is limited, but the students really love having a single place to call home,” says Chestnut.

The growing pains along the way have been more than worth it the colleagues say.

“I’m excited for more Gonzaga folks to get involved,” Measor says.

Chestnut agrees.

“GU really emphasizes the quality of teaching,” he says. “We haven’t seen anywhere near the peak of this collaboration.”



“The strong collaboration between these two exceptional universities is focused first and foremost on the needs of medical students, and also on the interests of our community, resulting in significant growth within our health care economy.”

Jeff Philipps, Co-Chair, Vision 2030, Greater Spokane Inc.





MEDICAL STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Student Justin Thompson says the partnership between University of Washington School of Medicine and Gonzaga University is helping future physicians fall in love with eastern Washington.

“Since the moment we arrived, Gonzaga has opened its arms to us,” says Thompson. “We’ve found a nice escape in the gym, a quiet place to study in Foley library, and a way to let loose through intramural sports.”



Justin Thompson

But more than that, the experience has provided Thompson and his fellow students a way to invest in the community.

“I believe that the University of Washington School of Medicine and Gonzaga University both represent long-standing traditions of academic excellence, but more importantly we share a proud tradition of commitment to service of those in need,” he says.

One example of that service is the Med for Ed program, created by UWSOM-GU students to give medical students opportunities to work with young people in Spokane. The students volunteer in classrooms throughout the city, mentoring and tutoring kids who someday may

choose medicine or science as a career. They also participate in Walking School Buses to teach kids about the importance of exercise and proper nutrition.

Mackenzie Rinaldi enjoyed participating in the program.

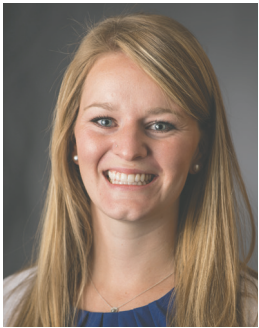
“It was particularly helpful for me because I want to

be a pediatrician,” she says. **“It was an excellent way to get out of the classroom and into the community, and remember why I wanted to go to med school.”**

When the House of Charity Clinic closed, some of Rinaldi’s classmates found a way to continue serving Spokane’s homeless population. They now volunteer at the Union Gospel Mission clinic, and are able to practice their emerging physical exam skills, while working with people experiencing homelessness.

Spokane residents aren’t the only ones benefitting from the students’ passion for service.

Through RUOP (Rural Underserved Opportunities Program) students go to communities throughout eastern Washington, identifying health care needs, which they then address.



Mackenzie Rinaldi

Soroosh Noorbakhsh spent four weeks in Brewster, WA, working to reduce the area’s high rate of teen pregnancy.

He discovered the public health department had 2,000 condoms available, but no way to distribute them.

“The public health department had baskets of condoms in paper bags,” he says. “I wanted to do something like that, but more anonymous.”

So, he hit the road—asking businesses and clinics throughout the area if they would be willing to have baskets available in their place of work.

“I hope it has an impact,” Noorbakhsh says. “I hope it leads to a decline in unintended pregnancy rates.”

Kristen Empie also participated in RUOP. She traveled to Skagit County and developed a culturally appropriate health assessment tool for the Swinomish Tribe.

“I didn’t know how well I’d be received,” Empie says. “But the Swinomish people were so accepting. I really enjoyed my time on the reservation.”

Whether helping small underserved communities, working with the homeless, or walking kids to school in Spokane, these medical students relish making a difference.

“An institution like Gonzaga works to develop the whole person and emphasizes the importance of being part of something greater than ourselves,” Thompson says. “It challenges us to become better people and reminds us why we’re here.”



“The UW School of Medicine has provided world-class medical education to hundreds of medical students in Spokane for over 45 years. When Gonzaga University and the UW School of Medicine partnered, it preserved and expanded this extremely successful medical school. Today, the momentum is contagious – 120 students, (60 each from the first and second-year classes) are on campus, and initial plans for a new building to better accommodate the medical students are in the works.”

Mari and Dave Clack

FACTS AT A GLANCE

1971: The UW School of Medicine begins training medical students in eastern Washington.

#1: Ranking of the UW School of Medicine by *U.S. News & World Report* for Primary Care, Family Medicine and Rural Medicine training for more than 20 consecutive years.

#1 PUBLIC UNIVERSITY: Ranking of the UW by *U.S. News & World Report* for the amount of federal research funding; received \$638.8 million in grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in FY16.

2013: Gonzaga University combines long-standing programs in nursing and undergraduate sciences, creating the School of Nursing and Human Physiology to support the community's growing priorities.

2015: UW School of Medicine launches new competency-based curriculum featuring more active and small group learning, and clinical training with local primary care physicians from day one.

2017: 120 medical students, all from Washington, take classes on the Gonzaga campus.

1 IN 6: The number of students who applied to the UW School of Medicine in 2016 and were admitted.

2017: Nearly all 60 students in the 2017 entering class chose to attend medical school in Spokane over Seattle.

58: The number of clinical clerkship sites in eastern Washington.

NEARLY 900: The number of physician and faculty partners in the region helping educate our students.

\$90,640 is the average cost to educate a UW medical student (\$49,000 in state funds, \$38,000 in student tuition, and \$3,600 in clinical revenue and gifts). The national average is \$109,000 - \$156,000.

In **1969** MEDEX Northwest was established to train Physician Assistants. It's the second oldest PA training program in the country, and MEDEX students have been training in Spokane for more than 20 years.

34 students per year are accepted into the UW's MEDEX Northwest physician assistant training program in Spokane.



RESEARCH AND COMMERCIALIZATION AIM TO SPUR ECONOMIC GROWTH

By Courtney Law, Ph.D.

As the research environment expands in the greater Spokane area, so does the potential for new jobs and economic growth. A Research Task Force, made up of representatives from UW, GU, and the Spokane community, is working to develop and support medical research initiatives to enhance community and population-related research in eastern Washington.

Among the community-based research projects underway:

In 2016, UW School of Medicine graduate, faculty member and clinical and translational researcher Dr. Allison Lambert established a research laboratory in Spokane. Dr. Lambert is a UW Institute for Translational Health Sciences (ITHS) Translational Research Scholar award-ee with particular interest in improving access to industry-funded and NIH-funded clinical trials to patients who live outside of major urban centers.

The University of Washington's Seattle-based CoMotion Labs expanded to Spokane in 2017 and connects the local startup community with resources and entrepreneurial peers across the state. UW is livestreaming an ongoing Friday Fundamentals for Startups series to

CoMotion in Spokane. CoMotion is also working with local partners to provide boot camps, workshops and pitch clinics to support eastern Washington's startups as they launch, fundraise, and grow.

To showcase some of the promising research being conducted by the University of Washington's leading scientists, the medical school partnership launched Next Generation Medicine, a free community lecture series addressing contemporary health topics. An inaugural lecture in fall 2017 featured UW Medicine's Dr. Nora Disis, a renowned cancer researcher and UW School of Medicine associate dean for translational science. Dr. Disis presented "Vaccines to End Cancer," discussing ways medical research is uncovering how the body's immune system can be employed to fight cancer. The next lecture will feature Dr. David Tauben, Chief of Pain Medicine for UW Medicine and a leading authority on the opioid crisis.

Courtney Law, Ph.D., is Gonzaga University's director for the UW School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Regional Health Partnership



"The medical school and Partnership between UWSOM and GU in Spokane is not only an important economic engine for Spokane, it's also crucial to the health of Washington residents as it produces highly skilled and sorely needed health care professionals for our state."

Washington State Senator Andy Billig, 3rd Legislative District (Spokane)



RURAL PROGRAMS FOSTER RURAL DOCTORS

In the early 1970s, the University of Washington took on a bold challenge to train and prepare physicians to care for patients and communities throughout the largely rural states of Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho, known collectively as WAMI (Wyoming joined in 1996 creating WWAMI). The goal of WWAMI is to provide publicly supported medical education to students interested in becoming rural primary care doctors. Since WWAMI's inception the School of Medicine has developed programs to nurture student interest in rural health-care, including:

RUOP - Est. in the late 1980s

The UW School of Medicine's Rural/Underserved Opportunities Program (RUOP) is a four-week, elective immersion experience in community medicine for students between their first and second years of medical school. It is offered in more than 25 eastern Washington communities, ranging in population size from less than 1000 to 25,000.



WRITE - Est. in the late 1990s

Six communities in eastern/central Washington are designated as WWAMI Rural Integrated Training Experience (WRITE) sites to give students exposure to medical education in a continuity community over their medical school career. For third-year students WRITE experiences are offered for 18 weeks or up to 22 weeks.



TRUST - Est. in 2008

The Targeted Rural Underserved Track (TRUST) provides a continuous connection between underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in an effort to help meet the workforce needs of the region. There are six eastern Washington Trust Scholars in the 2017/2018 class.



“Gonzaga and the University of Washington’s medical school together are an unmistakable fit. Gonzaga has the resources and reputation for academic excellence providing an environment where the prestigious University of Washington School of Medicine and its WWAMI network is perfectly located. Spokane benefits by having Gonzaga and the University of Washington as partners.”

Washington State Representative Jeff Holy, 6th Legislative District (Spokane)



This map of Washington WWAMI shows the locations where our medical students do clinical training. We are grateful to all of the health care providers and organizations across the state who work with our students.

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE: 2017 UW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE STUDENT AND FACULTY HONOREES

SPOKANE STUDENTS

UW Husky 100 Winner: Mara Hazeltine

Spokane Foundations Academic Citizenship Award: Kristen Cox and Kelly MacWhorter

Liu Bie Ju Women’s Health Award: Saroosh Noorbakhsh and Katie Strandberg

Roger Rosenblatt Family Community Medicine Award: Kristin Empie and Ryan Liberg. Nominees: Brady Coad, Saroosh Noorbakhsh, Sarah Prince

Bill Sherman Scholarship recipients: Melanie Barnes and Justin Thompson

Shikany Inspiration Award: Justin Thompson

Shikany Service Award: Laura Stolp

UWSOM Service Learning Award recipients: Margaret Bruce, Tiffany Eisenbach, Mackenzie Rinaldi, Annie Yang, Danny Yang, Lynn Zhao

Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society: Michelle Brajcich, Lauren Colyer, Galia Deiz, Emily Jones, Calvin Knapp, Chris McDonald, Surabhi Nirkhe, Elizabeth Nuttall

Gold Humanism Honor Society: Khloe Frank, Emily Jones, Surabhi Nirkhe

Spokane MSRTP (Medical Student Research Training Program) Students Published, 2017: Christopher Lewis, Matthew Rockstrom, Clair Simon, Chavali Venkata

FACULTY

WWAMI Pro Awards Spokane: Zachary Gallaher, Ph.D., UWSOM Faculty; Sasha Gibson, Gonzaga University; Allison Lambert, M.D. and Aaron Scott, M.D.

Spokane UWSOM Teaching Scholars: Zachary Gallaher, Ph.D. and Paula Silha, M.D.

Spokane Clinical Teacher of the Year: Stephen Pakkianathan, MD, FACOG

2017 Richard M. Tucker WWAMI Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award: Jeremy Graham, DO, MD, FACP ; Judy Swanson, MD, FACP

2017 AAMC Group on Regional Medical Campuses Star Award for Innovation in Medical Education: “Daily Dose of Humanities” Project: Judy Benson, MD; Jeremy Graham, DO, MD, FACP; Darryl Potyk, MD, FACP; Judy Swanson, MD, FACP

2017 Best Doctors Spokane/Coeur d’Alene Magazine: Debra Gore, MD; Darryl Potyk, MD, FACP; William Sayres Jr., MD

Washington Chapter of the American College of Physicians, Governor: Matthew Hollon, MD, MPH, FACP



The UW School of Medicine—Gonzaga University Regional Health Partnership extends its sincere thanks to the Friends of the UW School of Medicine Spokane Committee for all they do to support our medical students.

Stephanie and Mark Aden
Dave and Mari Clack
Mark and Brandilyn Collins
John and Ann Coulter
Lee and Teddie Gibbon
John Huckabay
Dan and Kim Johnson
Tom Simpson
Daniel and Morgan Smith
Chud and Cindy Wendle



UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT GENERATION MEDICINE: THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

April 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

The Historic Davenport Hotel

Featuring Dr. David Tauben,
UW Chief of Pain Medicine

Free and open to the community.

To add your name to the mailing list for this event, **please send an email to uwmevent@uw.edu, and please include your name.**

FIND OUT MORE

www.gonzaga.edu/regionalhealthpartnership

www.uwmedicine.org/som



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