

DOMUS DOCTRINARUM

Leadership Edition

SPRING 2019 VOLUME XIII

Blackstone Takes Home the House Cup!

The 2018-2019 school year was a refreshing year for the University of Massachusetts Medical School Learning Communities. The Learning Communities saw consistently high levels of participation in each of our House Cup events.

As always, the Learning Communities chose to focus on events and competitions that would give back to the Worcester community. These events included: the New Citizens Center school supply drive, the Family Medicine toiletry drive, and the WRAP toy drive. All of these events worked to support the diverse and underserved communities within the Worcester area which has been a long-standing goal of the Learning Communities.



The Learning Communities also maintained its commitment to student wellness. The Minutes for Fitness competition was hosted during the fall and spring semesters. Students have also been encouraged to make wellness a priority through annual events like the House Cup Flag Football Tournament. Many houses also hosted their own fitness events such as volleyball games throughout the fall.

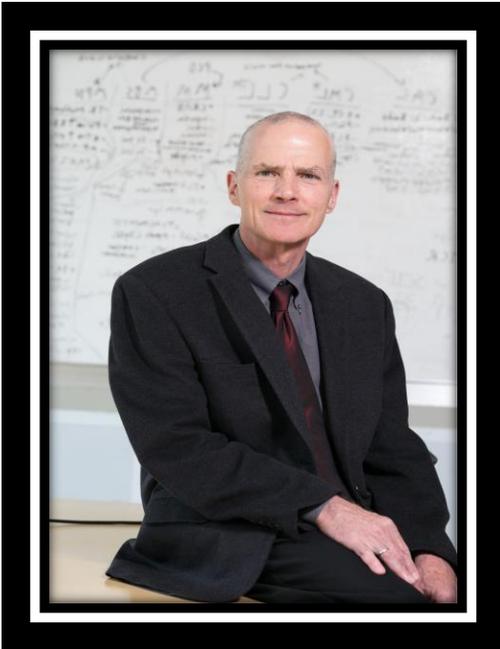
Through a consistent and valiant effort, Blackstone House emerged victorious in obtaining the ever-coveted House Cup trophy for the first time. They came from behind in the fall semester and ameliorated their performance with strong numbers in the community service drives and Minutes for Fitness competition. The Learning Communities would like to thank every member of the student body and faculty members of our Learning Communities. Each house showed a strong passion for House Cup events and worked to foster mentorship and community within the Learning Communities.

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Leadership Spotlight: Dr. Michael Ennis



When did you first get interested in medical education?

I thoroughly enjoyed my own medical student experience. In my medical school clinical years, I was fortunate to have many teachers who served as role models for me to want to emulate. My early years of teaching were mostly focused on training residents in family medicine. Then I became the site director for students undertaking their family medicine clerkship at Hahnemann and I found that I really enjoyed working with students as well - but the 6-week long interlude often felt too short.

Dr. Ennis, we know you love Worcester. What are your top 3 favorite spots in Worcester?

1. Institute Park: I run through this park with my dog several days a week. Great place to watch the New England seasons change.

2. Fatima's Café: You may be aware that I like many restaurants in Worcester, but I especially like this one not only for the food but I thoroughly enjoy connecting with the folks who own it - they make me feel like I am visiting family.

3. I am going to sort of "cheat" on the 3rd one and instead say that I really enjoy riding my bike around the city and finding new spots.

Why do you enjoy being a mentor?

Each of my own mentors had a powerful impact in shaping my own development. In turn, serving as a mentor feels like an opportunity to "pay it forward". In our learning communities, we have assigned mentoring relationships. Not all of these random pairings can evolve into the true mentorships, but those that do are incredibly rewarding.



What is your proudest accomplishment?

Helping to bring learning communities to UMass and designing the LC mentoring program.

What do you like best about your position in the LCs?

Opportunities to work longitudinally with students, bearing witness to their growth and supporting their development into physicians and leaders.

What do you love most about UMASS?

I love the student-centered, supportive and collaborative atmosphere here, devoid of much of the pretentiousness that can characterize some other academic environments.

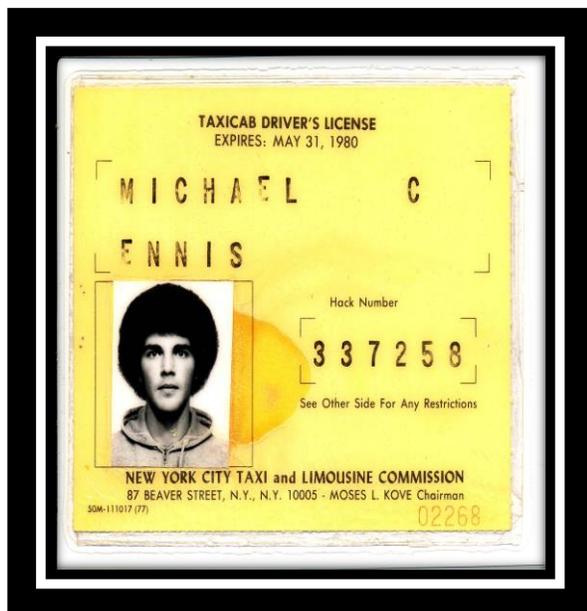


What do you like to do in your spare time?

I spend time with family, running, biking around cities, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, intrepid travel to off-the-beaten-path places.

What advice do you have for students interested in medical education and mentoring?

Start off by volunteering for teaching and mentoring opportunities. If you confirm that you enjoy doing this and put your heart into it, your engagement will be noticeable and you will likely be offered the opportunity to get more involved, formally beyond volunteering.



Blackstone House

By: Colin Flannelly



The spring term was a time to test the strength of the leadership within Blackstone Learning Community. MS2s were deep in the trenches of Step 1 preparations and the weight of responsibility was passed down to the now seasoned MS1s. In the midst of the metaphorical torch being passed, the students within this great Learning Community never stopped working hard to continue to provide enriching events. This term the MS2s still took out time to educate the MS1 students about how to master their spring term courses in the final Snackstone event of the year. Meanwhile, the faculty mentors



help the MS4 class as they geared up for match day. The MS1 class paid favor to the MS2 and MS4 classes for all of their lessons throughout the year with Step 1 study gifts and match gifts respectively. One MS4 student proclaimed, "This is why Blackstone is the best house! Even after we match they continue to fuel us into residency with these beautiful Contigo mugs." One of the new Blackstone house chairs, Michelle Chang, showed particularly great ambition and leadership by personally organizing a candlepin bowling night with the mentors and a procedure night to allow those within Blackstone to learn suturing and phlebotomy techniques. In response to the bowling night, Sheikh Moinul exclaimed, "This was awesome! I was able to build a rapport with many students from MS3 and MS4 years and the other mentors in a comfortable environment! Also, under the amazing leadership of Jerry Durbin, Blackstone was able to take crown as the best bowling group this establishment has ever seen!"

House Chair Spotlight: Colin Flannelly and Michelle Chang

The new Blackstone co-chairs are **Colin Flannelly** and **Michelle Chang**. Colin is dedicated to public health and community initiatives, along with advocacy and research. In addition to leading Blackstone, he is involved with many organizations like the Worcester Free Clinics at St. Anne's, Sidekicks, and Wilderness Medicine. Michelle is passionate about community involvement, education, clinical research, and advocacy. She is also involved with different groups, such as Complementary and Integrative Medicine, Student National Medical Association (SNMA), and the New Citizens Center (NCC) for Young Adults. They look forward to leading the new Blackstone dynasty!



Brightwood House

By: *Simone Thibault*



Leadership is in the air in the Brightwood LC. Brightwood members have been working in a variety of on and off campus capacities to continue building on the spirit of leadership and community engagement that is the heart of the UMASS Medical School mission.

Over the past year, the first-year PURCH students, led by Iha Kaul (MS1), received an MLK Jr. Semester of Service Grant to initiate a service project in Springfield. They will use this award to implement a nutrition resource fair for residents of the Springfield community who participate in the emergency food pantry at the Martin Luther King Jr Family Services Community Center. It is their hope that this initiative will continue as Brightwood House's legacy project.



On campus, Brightwood students have been working as leaders to make improvements to the curriculum on culinary medicine, bridging the gap between nutrition and medicine. Annie McClemants (MS1) and Christine Callahan (MS1) have served as leaders for the Culinary Medicine elective. Bronwyn Wada-Gill (MS1) and Mary Bassaly (MS1) have been leading the charge on diversity issues on campus, through their work as leaders of SCADI (Student Coalition on Diversity and Inclusion) and the SNMA chapter at UMASS. Between bringing together all the student groups focused on community work and welcoming the new first year students at second look day with a diversity dinner, Brightwood is proud that its student leaders are actively working towards making UMASS an even

House Chair Spotlight: Simone Thibault and Meghan Harrington

Brightwood House is excited to welcome **Simone Thibault** and **Meghan Harrington** as the new Brightwood House co-chairs. Simone and Meghan served as house representatives for Brightwood this past year and are taking strides toward establishing an identity for the new and growing Learning Community.



Burncoat House

By: Katherine Lynch



As future physicians, Burncoat House students recognize the importance of developing strong leadership and teamwork skills, and over the past semester have worked to cultivate these qualities in both house representatives and members alike.

Burncoat House representatives have had the opportunity to develop their own leadership skills and have encouraged others in the house to do the same through events such as a house bowling event which promoted team bonding and a trivia night held with residents which allowed students to connect with future leaders in the medical community.

Second year students led an advice session at the start of a new block of classes, offering an opportunity to share important study skills and help a new class of students develop into well prepared future physicians. Finally, to show appreciation for the generosity of the second-year class, first years pitched in to give care packages to each MS2 before their Step 1 exams. Burncoat House has bred an environment of leadership and teamwork for all Owls!

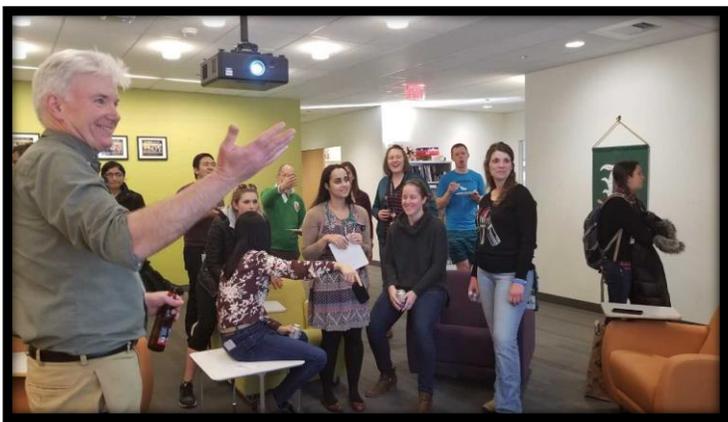


House Chair Spotlight: Benjamin Maxner and Sarah Blackwell

Burncoat is happy to announce our new co-chairs for the next school year: **Benjamin Maxner** and **Sarah Blackwell**! They are excited to lead the house in more great events and opportunities in the months to come. Over the past year Benjamin and Sarah have worked to rally Burncoat spirit and morale from events like the annual House Cup Football Tournament to each of the House Cup charity drives. Burncoat looks forward to progressing under their leadership.

Kelley House

By: *Terrence B. Lee Jr.*



On March 14th, the current Kelley House leadership organized a “Good-Pie Day” celebration for all fellow kangaroos. The festivities were two-fold. This event paid homage to Match Day, the day fourth year medical students across the nation match into a residency program, as well as to Pi, everyone’s favorite irrational number. Fourth-year ‘Roos eagerly awaited their big day while eating pie and watching a slideshow full of memories from their time at UMass Medical School. Kelley faculty stopped by to congratulate the graduates and impart a few final words of

nostalgia. Many first-year Kelley students were in attendance, enticed by free food and, of course, invaluable insight from their more seasoned colleagues.

“Good-Pie Day” also served as an opportunity for past student-leaders to collaborate with the new house leadership regarding the future of the Learning Community. One major topic of discussion was the desire to establish Kelley House’s new legacy project. Go Green with Kelley (GGK) is an initiative focused on being more environmentally friendly with school-wide and community-based events, such as helping to clean up Lake Quinsigamond and other natural spaces surrounding the UMass University campus. GGK could be an excellent legacy project for Kelley House years into the future. It has the potential to set a strong example of stewardship for many classes to come. Overall, the event was a resounding success in that it strengthened the relationship between kangaroos of all ages and solidified the confidence of new Kelley house leadership to

House Chair Spotlight: Alice Berenson and Amberly Diep

Alice Berenson is from Newton and worked in life sciences-focused consulting for 2 years before coming to medical school. She has a dog named Hera. She looks forward to Kelley’s new initiative Go Green with Kelley, and the opportunity to help make UMMS and Worcester more environmentally conscious and sustainable.

Amberly Diep’s current hometown is Canton. She went to UMass Amherst for undergrad, studying Neuroscience with minors in Anthropology and Biology. Mentorship is something that she values strongly, and hopes to make more accessible for Kelley House in the upcoming year!



Quinsigamond House

By: *Alexandra Rabin*



Quinsigamond House hosted its first annual “Wrapping for WRAP” event this year, which enabled individual students to showcase their leadership skills. Involvement with the Worcester Refugee Assistance Project (WRAP) has been Quinsig’s legacy project for several years. This year, Quinsigamond students organized a large gift drive for the WRAP kids during the holiday season, and were able to amass dozens of gifts from students and faculty. Individuals in Quinsigamond were crucial in this event’s success, demonstrating their leadership skills and initiative by publicizing and promoting the event to students of other houses and faculty members. The gift drive culminated in a Learning Community-wide gift-wrapping event hosted by Quinsigamond House, and the wrapped presents were subsequently delivered to WRAP kids and young adults from ages 1 to 25.



House Chair Spotlight: Alexandra Rabin and Kian Samadian

Quinsigamond’s newest house chairs are **Kian Samadian** and **Alexandra Rabin**. Kian hails from Los Angeles, California, and graduated from UCLA in 2017. Among many interests, he particularly enjoys watching reruns of the television show “Friends.” Alexandra grew up in Newton, MA, and graduated from Swarthmore College in 2018. She loves to write and to spend time in the sun. Kian and Aly are excited to assume their new roles as Quinsigamond co-chairs and can’t wait to plan future events to help students hone their leadership skills.



Tatnuck House

By: *Charlotte Wamsley*



Despite the large workload on both first- and second-year students over the winter months, Tatnuck House led the effort to ensure that the learning community spirit was alive and well. In addition to regular interclass and faculty-student interaction opportunities, major events included trips to Bowlero for a bowling night, organized study breaks (including coffee, bagels and puppies!), and a wine and cheese night. The wine and cheese night was the highlight event, with numerous Tatnuck faculty and students present to give advice on leadership opportunities and capstone ideas to first and second year students.

Tatnuck House congratulated its fourth-year students on matching. This Learning Community looks forward to watching its first, second and third year students progress and become leaders in the medical field.

House Chair Spotlight: Rose Healy and Elya Reznichenko

The new Tatnuck house chairs are **Elya Reznichenko** and **Rose Healy**.

Rose graduated from Amherst College in 2016 and is interested in neurology, palliative medicine and geriatrics. Her favorite hobbies include rowing on lake Quinsigamond, visiting family and friends, and trying to cook new recipes. If she's around town, chances are she can be found at Birchtree Bread company, Thai Time, or Flying Rhino. Elya graduated from Boston College in 2017 and her specialty interests include emergency medicine or trauma surgery. She loves soccer, hanging out with dogs (especially her parents' Golden Retriever Wolfie), and spending time with friends at Spoodles, Bagel Time, or Thai Time.

