mission statement

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine is dedicated to the education of students in medicine, health and behavioral sciences. The College fosters the growth of the osteopathic profession by training physicians through programs of study guided by osteopathic medical tradition, concept and practice. Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine is committed to the advancement of knowledge and intellectual growth through teaching and research, and to the well-being of the community through leadership and service.

educational goals

The College’s educational goals focus on presenting high-quality, comprehensive programs of study that embrace the following expectations of student learning:

• Students will demonstrate a central core of biomedical or behavioral science knowledge in their field of study including theory, foundations, clinical skills and applied clinical/practical applications as appropriate to the specific academic program.
• Students will demonstrate communication skills through clinical assessments, group discussion and/or written or oral presentation in their respective fields.
• Students will demonstrate an understanding of scientific inquiry by designing, conducting, presenting or interpreting research in their field of study as appropriate to their academic program.
• Students will identify, retrieve, understand, analyze, synthesize and apply information collected from various sources and in varied formats including those requiring skills in the use of information technology.
If there is one thing that unites all members of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine community, it is this: a shared aspiration to engage the world and to make it better.

This desire has inspired PCOM alumni for generations as they have employed compassionate, holistic approaches to clinical, didactic and other professional responsibilities required in ever-changing healthcare and scientific environments. This desire likewise encourages our administrators, staff, faculty and students, researchers and scientists, caregivers and patients, donors and friends.

Individually and together, we make an extraordinary impact.

We celebrate and thank all the members of our community for their loyal dedication to and support of PCOM. We invite ideas and suggestions from our community to enhance the well-being of the College as we meet today’s challenges with energy and confidence.

With warmest regards,

Paul W. McGloin, CPA, LLD (Hon.)
Chairman of the Board

Matthew Schure, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE | 3
We are 14,000 humanistic practitioners and holistic healers, committed researchers and consummate scholars, intrepid innovators and inspired entrepreneurs, dedicated teachers and devoted mentors, steadfast colleagues and staunch advocates.

We serve communities in every state in the nation and in foreign countries and territories around the world—diverse populations with unique needs.

Individually and together, we make an extraordinary impact.
John Chovanes, DO ’00
Attending Surgeon, Trauma Center, Cooper University Hospital, Camden, New Jersey; Assistant Professor, Cooper University Medical School of Rowan University, Camden, New Jersey; and Clinical Assistant Professor, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Fast-paced and protocol-driven, his job is among the most intense in the field of medicine. An attending surgeon at Cooper University Hospital, one of only three New Jersey State-Designated Level I Trauma Centers, Dr. Chovanes and his team are called at a moment’s notice to care for severely injured patients including persons involved in motor vehicle accidents, falls and acts of violence. On average, the Center, the oldest in the Delaware Valley, admits more than 2,700 trauma patients each year.

“Trauma is a great equalizer,” Dr. Chovanes says. “Everyone—despite age, race or socioeconomic status—is susceptible to traumatic injury. Care must be delivered rapidly and consistently. Patients must be resuscitated, given fluids and sometimes ventilated; their injuries must be assessed and required surgical intervention, if any, must be determined.”

A former paramedic and emergency room nurse, Dr. Chovanes also serves as a major in the U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corps. He has completed three tours of duty at combat support hospitals in Iraq and Afghanistan. His sense of duty—solidified on the front lines of battle—helps him to be emotionally resilient.

“Despite public perception, there is little heroism or glamour involved in my day-to-day work. The hours are long and irregular, and I must submit to a pager buzzing endlessly,” he says. “But I like the challenge of restoring patients back to their normal lifestyles. I strive to show compassion for my patients—whose lives have been dramatically altered in a split second.”
Since his appointment to the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services in 2003, Dr. Sophy has worked to create a child welfare structure that standardizes physical and mental health services and ensures that all evaluations are conducted on a best-practices basis in order to create immediate and comprehensive treatment plans for each child, in particular for those entering the system. "Baseline, standardized assessments and reassessments are critical steps in support of our goal to place children in permanent and secure environments," he says.

Dr. Sophy, who is board certified in adult psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry, and family practice, has received acclaim for his strong management of and commitment to the largest child welfare system in the United States, which ensures the safety of approximately 40,000 foster care children annually. At the same time, he draws attention from the media for his private practice care of some of the nation's most privileged individuals. He participates regularly on reality television shows, treating star personalities on "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills," "Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew" and "Sober House." And he frequents various media circuits as a guest, expert and author of the parenting guide Side by Side: The Revolutionary Mother-Daughter Program for Conflict-Free Communication.

"My public-sector work and my private practice are very much segregated," Dr. Sophy says, "but the dichotomy isn't as great as many may believe. Money doesn't define psychiatric challenges; all patients need accurate assessments and diagnosis, followed by a concrete plan of action and support along the way. They need to be seen as individuals rather than disorders. The extremes of my workweek keep things in perspective for me. There are days I see patients in Hollywood mansions and I'm thinking, 'Do you have any idea that I was just in a home where they couldn't afford dinner?'"
A plaque on her desk reads: “Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the rest of the staircase.” The words have always resonated with Dr. Hackett, who graduated from Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) in May, and is presently an intern in the GHSU hospital system. She intends to pursue a residency in radiology.

“It took me a while to get into medical school,” she says. “But I believe each step of my journey has prepared me to be a better physician.” To gain hands-on clinical experience, Dr. Hackett worked in a cardiology practice as a nuclear medicine technologist and office manager. She later enrolled in the biomedical sciences program at Georgia Campus – PCOM, a program that she credits with expanding her research skills, strengthening her medical school applications and helping to substantiate her goals.

As she now balances independence, fatigue and an 80-hour workweek, Dr. Hackett is more focused than ever. She remains inspired by her pediatrician, Lynda Zivalech, MD, who taught her, at an early age, the importance of compassion: “Dr. Zivalech took the time to teach me, a sick kid, how to use a stethoscope, the time to touch my hand, to talk to me as a person. To an eight-year-old, she was beautiful, smart, interesting—a model doctor. I hope to be the same for my patients. Medicine is all about developing trust relationships with others as they confront illness.” Furthermore, Dr. Hackett dedicates each day to the memory of her mother, who suffered from early-onset Alzheimer’s disease, losing her battle in March—two months shy of her daughter’s graduation. “Mother always encouraged my dreams of becoming a physician. She was at peace knowing that I would be a caring, compassionate healer.”
Thirty years after the first cases of HIV were reported, demand for HIV care continues to grow. More than 50,000 new cases are diagnosed annually. Infection rates are associated with many factors, from poverty and racial makeup to the effectiveness of prevention efforts.

Ms. Kapalko is among those who recognize that this unique patient population requires high-quality care, including access to routine testing, treatment and education. Daily, she splits her workload, serving both as a physician assistant at the Jonathan Lax Treatment Center, a primary care office for people living with HIV, and as a researcher, managing long-term pharmaceutical and device trials for new HIV and hepatitis C/HIV treatments on behalf of Philadelphia FIGHT (Field Initiating Group for HIV Trials).

All of Ms. Kapalko’s work is performed in a team environment. At the Jonathan Lax Treatment Center, part of Philadelphia FIGHT, she is one of seven clinicians who care for more than 1,400 patients. The team manages medical problems ranging from acute care issues to chronic medical conditions, from routine gynecology to mental health and substance abuse treatments, and of course, from hepatitis B and C to HIV.

“We believe in treating the whole patient,” Ms. Kapalko affirms. “It can be hard to get patients to follow their medication regimens. Mental illness and substance abuse can interrupt dose routines; poverty can prevent patients from keeping their appointments. We try to address social, emotional and physical issues alike. Many of our compliant patients are able to get their viral loads down to undetectable levels, which lowers the likelihood of transmission. For them, HIV turns from a death sentence to a chronic disease.

“Until researchers are able to cure HIV, we provide a place free of judgment, a place filled with compassion,” she says.
Dr. Darowish has been caring for Central Pennsylvania’s youngest patients for over 35 years. Today he’s caring for children and grandchildren of his original patients.

His jovial manner, paired with great integrity and obvious fondness for children and adolescents, inspires confidence, calms nerves and bears him through those trying appointments with screaming infants and frazzled new parents, through exhaustive hospital admissions and through a gamut of diagnoses and treatments. Daily, Dr. Darowish, affectionately known as “Dr. Chuck,” provides well-infant, childhood and adolescent preventative care, acute and chronic illness management, psychological consultations, and developmental assessments.

He focuses on building trust and partnerships through open communication with patients and parents alike and places a great deal of value on the continuity of care. And he is ever cognizant that “children are not little adults,” advocating that “from their first breath, children have different needs and distinctive problems. Their well-being—both physical and emotional—must always be paramount.”

Dr. Darowish was initially drawn to pediatrics as a rotating intern. One of his earliest tasks was to pronounce a child dead at an intersection outside the hospital where he was on call. The experience made a lasting impression on him—as did many more cases with positive outcomes that he witnessed—instilling a profound respect for the fragility of life and the vulnerabilities and strengths of children.

“Children are a most precious gift,” he says. “My life has been a dedicated promise to them. I remain in awe of their power of resiliency, openness and innocence.”
Southeast Regional Research Group and SERRG, Inc., began in 2005 as a research venture and hobby for Dr. Kingsley, a family physician whose passion has always lain in medical research.

Dr. Kingsley and a colleague started with IV antibiotic trials—and a dedication to providing free health care to patients. They communicated their studies to local physicians and were astounded to uncover a patient base that flocked to their services. “We quickly ran out of IV poles and resorted to the delivery of antibiotics via gravity-feed: holding IV bags on the backs of doors using coat hangers,” Dr. Kingsley recalls. “The impact was tremendous; we helped patients physically and didactically, teaching about health conditions and medication regimens. I felt—for the first time—that I was practicing patient care as intended.”

Within six months, Dr. Kingsley gave notice to his Columbus-based hospital employer and dedicated his full-time efforts to SERRG and its growth.

Today, with sites in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and Indiana, SERRG and its affiliates form a constellation of multi-specialty research management organizations that conduct, administer and consult on clinical research. Investigational and financial support stem primarily from pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology firms and medical device manufacturers. Through these platforms, SERRG offers physicians opportunities to be successful in medical research.

SERRG’s social mission also continues to expand. “Since our inception, approximately 2,000 patients have participated in our trials,” says Dr. Kingsley. “We have patients who are unemployed and patients on minimum wage. And we have patients who are affluent business leaders, federal officials, and healthcare professionals themselves.

“We remain dedicated to providing the highest-quality medical research to enhance the speed and accuracy of research data for the betterment of the human condition,” Dr. Kingsley says. To date, SERRG claims six new medications that have earned approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
Radhika Sampat, DO ’11 (Georgia Campus – PCOM)
Medical Resident, Department of Neurology, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia

For Dr. Sampat, a residency in neurology has proven to be a good fit; it combines her scientific and research curiosities with her desire to interact with patients one-on-one, providing evaluations, treatment strategies, education and support. “Neurology is a field that is continuously evolving. There remains great mystery surrounding the human brain, neural pathways and physiology. Mystery demands a humble approach to medicine. At the same time, it begs for innovative investigations that drive advances,” she says. “I am excited at the prospect of helping to translate our burgeoning knowledge of neuroscience into improved patient care.”

Emory’s highly competitive three-year residency program exposes Dr. Sampat to a diverse patient population representing the full spectrum of neurologic disorders including Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders, stroke, sleep, epilepsy, balance problems, nerve and muscle diseases, Alzheimer’s disease and other cognitive disorders, neuro-intensive care, neuro-rehabilitation, neuro-oncology and neuro-ophthalmology. Daily, she sees and manages patients in tertiary care settings, in specialized units (children, adults and geriatrics) and in a large urban hospital that is dedicated to the underserved. She also works closely with faculty engaged in a wide variety of basic and clinical research, many of whom are developing new technologies, diagnostic tests and treatments.

“I am confident that my training will prepare me to help my patients to live the fullest, most dignified lives they can,” says Dr. Sampat.
It takes a broad view of employee-based leadership to manage and motivate people. This lesson came hard to Mr. DeJesse, who has spent the duration of his career employed by various federal government agencies.

When he accepted a promotion three years ago (with a now former agency employer), Mr. DeJesse found himself in a dubious situation. He and his staff were enveloped by an organizational culture—values, philosophies and communication styles—that were hindering job performance and interdependent work. “I sought a means to educate myself about organizational change and discovered, in the process, PCOM’s program in Organizational Development & Leadership. Each principle I learned was applicable to my management role—and aided me in generating gains and outcomes.” Even Mr. DeJesse’s capstone project, a requirement for fulfillment of the degree, was applied to his workplace setting as an internal mechanism—a qualitative and quantitative readiness evaluation—that the agency has since instituted as a national standard.

Presently employed by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA), Mr. DeJesse oversees a staff of eight compliance safety and health officers headquartered at the U.S. Custom House, in the heart of Philadelphia’s Historic District. The team regulates general industry, construction, manufacturing, agriculture and maritime industries throughout Philadelphia, Chester and Delaware counties. The team also responds to alerts of imminent hazards, carries out inspections and assesses fines for regulatory violations—playing a critical role in keeping frontline workers safe. “I am so much happier in my new post,” Mr. DeJesse says. “My team—and agency—value adaptability to ensure effective performance. Together, we strive to promote growth in one another, the industries with whom we interact and the workers and sites we strive to protect.”
Dr. Saltzman believes in empowering women to make intelligent decisions about their health care. Her commitment to quality women’s health care is manifested in Rittenhouse Women’s Wellness Center (RWWC), a National Committee for Quality Assurance Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Home—where health care is delivered by women for women.

“All patients want a competent physician,” she says. “But female patients, in particular, seek a personal relationship with their physician. They need to relate to their physician, to trust her, to know that she understands women’s health issues. Optimal healthcare delivery should be based on current, evidence-based medicine, and complemented with a focus on wellness for the body and mind.”

RWWC, which Dr. Saltzman co-founded with her husband in 2008, accepts most insurance plans for primary care, routine gynecology, and psychology services. RWWC earns additional revenue through its fitness facility, medical spa, and various nutritional and aesthetic offerings. These services balance lower patient loads, allowing for personalization: one-hour initial visits, minimal wait times, same-day sick appointments and extended office hours. “The practice is booming,” Dr. Saltzman reports. “We intend to open two new centers next year.”

The RWWC model is likewise attractive to its employed physicians. “We function on a Marcus Welby 2.0 model. Physicians get to practice the type of medicine they dreamed of during residency: an hour spent with every new patient, a balanced work schedule, higher earnings and greater benefits,” says Dr. Saltzman, who serves as RWWC medical director.

“My mother [Anna Mucha Helt, DO ’79] shaped my view of healthcare delivery, and gave me the courage to start out on my own. She still practices old-fashioned medicine, maintaining a solo practice and even making house calls.

“As physicians, we must continually look at new ways to deliver quality, personalized care.”
Commissioned into the Army Medical Corps in 2005, and promoted to captain in 2009, Dr. Tipler, an internal medicine physician trained at Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, Washington, is currently deployed to Sinai, Egypt. There she is serving as a flight surgeon for American forces with the Multinational Force & Observers (MFO)—an organization consisting of army, air and naval components from 12 nations that monitors the security provisions of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in the Peninsula Territory.

Although the MFO has not experienced the level of violence seen by other peacekeeping organizations, the trend lines in Sinai are becoming less promising. It is Dr. Tipler’s role to partake in medical evacuation missions—tending to trauma injuries incurred by soldier infantry battalions who staff remote sites and checkpoints scattered throughout the desert. She is also responsible for preventive and ancillary healthcare services for American military personnel deployed with the MFO.

“MFO peacekeepers perform a mission that is difficult, often repetitious, and marked by sacrifice. It is an honor to care for them and, in doing so, to serve my country,” Dr. Tipler says.

Dr. Tipler was drawn to military medicine by her grandfather who served in the Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis. “He used to show me his naval books when I was a child. His eyes would light up as he told stories of valor,” she recounts. “He was always proud of his service to our country—and of my father’s service as an Army Airborne Ranger. I have infused my dream of practicing medicine with his most admirable avocation.”
The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), which operates the nation’s largest integrated healthcare system, has taken a leadership role in providing mental health care in the primary care setting. Federal agency studies show that integrated care results in improved access to high-quality care, improved patient well-being, increased patient adherence and satisfaction, cost effectiveness, and the elimination of health disparities.

At the Lebanon Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Dr. Shook is tasked with piloting a primary care mental health integration program. “The hallmarks of the program will be co-located collaborative care that includes working within primary care teams to provide patients with immediate access to mental health providers,” she says. “Patients will receive follow-up assessments for positive behavioral health screens, behavioral health assessment and intervention, short-term cognitive behavioral individual and group therapy, and patient education.”

Dr. Shook, who completed an American Psychological Association–approved clinical internship in the medical psychology track at the VA North Texas Health Care System, Dallas, Texas, and an Association of Psychology Postdoctoral Internship Centers approved clinical psychology fellowship in primary care–mental health integration at the Salem VA Medical Center, Salem, Virginia, has an unwavering commitment to collaborative medical settings. “A large percentage of primary care patient appointments include psychosocial concerns covering the full spectrum of psychiatric disorders and a range of behavioral concerns. Demands on primary care providers have grown exponentially, and psychologists working in primary care can collaboratively assist in managing the volume of behavioral health issues they face.

“The VA is an exciting place to work because it recognizes the merit of such an integrated model as it strives to care for all veteran populations—especially the most vulnerable.”

Christina Berchock Shook, PsyD ’11, MS/Psy ’10, MA
Clinical Psychologist, Lebanon Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Lebanon, Pennsylvania
Historically, Michigan State University (MSU) began as a bold experiment that democratized higher education and helped bring science and innovation into everyday life. Dr. Kaufman continues to inspire this concept through his leadership of the MSU Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology, which he has chaired since its formal initiation in 2000 (and since its start as a unit in 1984). Through the department, Dr. Kaufman has fostered an environment that allows for robust clinical and basic neuroscience research opportunities, vibrant educational programs in neurology and ophthalmology (accredited by both the American Osteopathic Association and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education), and outstanding clinical services in all major disciplines of neurology that have impact throughout Michigan and beyond.

“The department is unique because of its commitment to neurology-related areas of study—neuro-intervention, neuro-otology, neuro-opthalmology and neuro-epidemiology—units traditionally located within radiology, ENT, ophthalmology and epidemiology,” he says.

The department’s research portfolio includes National Institutes of Health and other federal and pharmaceutical grants and contracts. Funding supports studies such as using the eye as a simplified model for brain disease in diseases such as multiple sclerosis, central nervous system (CNS) malaria and stroke. A major thrust is research on epilepsy induced by CNS infectious diseases; neuro-epidemiology faculty, fellows and staff conduct studies in sub-Saharan Africa. Other projects include research in Parkinson’s disease and Alzheimer’s disease and stroke.

“Academic medicine is the opportunity to create educational and research programs that enrich the busy clinical program. Active teaching programs allow faculty to ‘send messages’ to a future we will never see, to help people we will never meet. And research allows for the discovery of new knowledge to transform lives all across the globe,” Dr. Kaufman says.
In a recession-racked county where dour economic news abounds, Dr. Gracia and her team at Borinquen Medical Centers, a federally qualified health care center conglomerate serving underserved urban areas of Miami-Dade, are on the front lines of culturally competent healthcare delivery to low-income families and individuals. Annually, Borinquen, with six locations, provides primary care, obstetrics/gynecology, pediatrics, radiology, dentistry, vision, and behavioral and health education services to 27,000 patients. In addition, mobile outreach staff/behavioral health workers engage high-risk individuals in addictions treatment, HIV/hepatitis testing and free contraception options. These services collectively provide a medical and social structure that is deeply embedded in communities and neighborhoods at the grassroots level.

“Miami is a city of extremes: spectacular wealth living side by side with dire poverty,” Dr. Gracia says. “Bordering the manicured beaches, luxury resorts, couture shops and dining establishments, there are economically depressed communities.” These areas are often segregated and are made up largely of immigrants who have limited English proficiency. At the same time, many of these communities struggle with the compound challenges of illicit drug use/abuse, HIV and other blood-borne and sexually transmitted diseases, crime and chronic poverty.

“Barriers to healthcare access and other health disparities are steep. At Borinquen, we play a role in diminishing such obstacles” Dr. Gracia says.

Dr. Gracia, a board-certified internal medicine physician, is herself an anchor for her racially and ethnically diverse patients. She fluently speaks and writes English, Haitian Creole, Spanish and French, and places great value on cross-cultural communication. “Health care isn’t just about diagnosing patients and treating illness—it’s about caring, meeting patients where they are, making small changes that will lead to greater benefits.”
In both the seascapes and cityscapes of Greater Portland, Dr. Mitchell has found solace and peace. The region is progressive, and, according to Dr. Mitchell, particularly accepting of osteopathic tenets and practice. The University of New England — College of Osteopathic Medicine is the only medical school in the state, and osteopathic physicians staff most tertiary care facilities.

In 2007, Dr. Mitchell formed a private practice, specializing in neuromusculoskeletal and osteopathic manipulative medicine as well as family medicine. Daily, she diagnoses and treats each patient with her hands. “My patients are ‘salt of the earth’ people,” she says. “They want to get better; I am simply here to facilitate the process. I completely trust that we are self-healing, self-regulating organisms. And I believe that all patients have the ability to heal.”

Her practice is closed on Fridays, when she serves as a volunteer physician at Portland Osteopathic Children’s Clinic, a non-profit healthcare facility designed to provide free osteopathic manipulative medicine to uninsured and under-insured children. At the clinic, Dr. Mitchell and a team of other healthcare providers apply gentle osteopathic manipulation to address a range of problems including asthma, autism, behavioral and learning delays and disorders, birth trauma, colic and reflux, constipation, recurrent otitis media, myalgia, plagiocephaly, scoliosis, spasticity, and physical and/or emotional trauma. “Children are so easy to treat,” Dr. Mitchell says. “They really respond to treatment. They are our teachers, healing us as they heal.”

“My wish is that all osteopathic physicians more actively support our tradition of hands-on medicine. We need to be careful when compartmentalizing medicine into organ systems. It is important to look at the ‘whole’ of our patients. As William Garner Sutherland, DO, reminds us: ‘Osteopathy is a science with possibilities as great as the magnitude of the heavens.’

Christine Ann Mitchell, DO ’03
Neuromusculoskeletal, Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, and Family Medicine Physician, Private Practice, Auburn, Maine, and Physician, Portland Osteopathic Children’s Clinic, Portland, Maine

© Andrew Halvor, DO
Dr. Molony has worked as a school psychologist for the Cherry Hill, New Jersey School District for the past 12 years. Daily, she engages with, assesses and counsels kindergarteners through fifth graders—many of whom are English language learners and students with diverse learning needs. At the same time, she supports teachers and administrators in understanding the interactive context of child development and in implementing multi-systemic approaches to inclusion, diversity, and evidence-based, theoretically driven practices. And she works with the students’ parents and other guardians to establish safe, healthy, encouraging learning environments that strengthen partnerships between home and school.

Dr. Molony’s work is central to the creation of positive school climates, where students exist in supportive, close-knit environments and where school personnel are better able to recognize and respond to needs effectively. She is a problem-solver, a scientist and a practitioner—with a unique perspective.

“School psychology offers a rich knowledge-base that allows for a very comprehensive way of understanding a child as a whole person,” Dr. Molony, who is licensed in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania, says. “In my role, I feel as though I have the opportunity to positively impact the well-being of children and their learning environments in a very direct way. Schools must help families raise competent, productive, responsible and hopeful adults.

Professionally, Dr. Molony serves as a member of the Executive Board of the New Jersey Association of School Psychologists. She is the New Jersey delegate for the National Association of School Psychologists and the delegate representative from the Northeast Region.
In the late 1990s, Ms. Wroten was employed by a major healthcare organization that went bankrupt—a victim of intentional fraud, waste and abuse of financial assets. The experience served as a catalyst for the registered nurse of 21 years: “Healthcare fraud and the lack of ethical consciousness impacted so many during that time. Several hospitals and healthcare facilities in Philadelphia, the surrounding suburbs and the tri-state area at large were forced to close their doors or to reorganize/consolidate. Many of my colleagues lost their jobs. I opted to pursue a master’s degree in forensic medicine, buoying up my nursing experience with medical-legal investigative training and knowledge of regulatory compliance.”

Ms. Wroten presently serves as a nurse investigator for the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller - Division of Medicaid Fraud, Trenton, New Jersey. In this capacity, she conducts investigations to secure evidence in cases of reported healthcare fraud, waste and abuse. Allegations that are substantiated to have criminal components are referred to the Attorney General’s office and/or other appropriate government agencies. Other cases require various corrective actions.

“In essence, my division serves as the watchdog over both providers and recipients of Medicaid service. In order to ensure that healthcare services are delivered in a quality manner, we monitor medical billing, coding and compliance with the established Medicaid guidelines,” Ms. Wroten says.

She believes in her avocation and furthermore, that the “elimination of healthcare fraud would fix healthcare disparities experienced by at-risk populations, particularly those living in disadvantaged communities.” Recent estimates from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services likewise point to this end: $97 billion a year is lost to fraud through federal health programs, mainly Medicare and Medicaid.
Raymond Carvajal, PsyD ’11, MS/Psy ’10, MA
Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Weight and Eating Disorders, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

In helping patients to manage and reduce their weight, psychologists have often favored whole person focused interventions over strict dieting. Dr. Carvajal is among those healthcare professionals who advocate such a practice philosophy. At the Center for Weight and Eating Disorders at the Perelman School of Medicine, he employs cognitive-behavioral therapies that encourage self-monitoring, plans for eating and exercise—sometimes combined with pharmacologic regimens and/or bariatric surgery—and psychological treatments for depression, anxiety and body image concerns.

At the same time, the Center’s academic research setting allows Dr. Carvajal to work on various clinical trials. He serves as a behavioral interventionist for the Look AHEAD (Action for Health in Diabetes) trial, a National Institutes of Health sponsored multicenter randomized, controlled trial designed to examine the effects of a long-term lifestyle intervention on cardiovascular morbidity and mortality among overweight/obese patients with type 2 diabetes. And he co-heads a pilot study, in collaboration with the Penn Orthopaedic Institute at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, on the effects of weight loss on blood glucose control and functional ability following total knee replacement surgery in patients with type 2 diabetes.

The son of a pharmacist and a cardiologist and the brother of an oncologist, Dr. Carvajal derives deep satisfaction from his work in the field of health care as a behavioral interventionist and a researcher. “It is both a privilege and a responsibility for me to partner with my patients in a collaborative and compassionate relationship. By assessing—with the patient—the causes of the weight problem and then determining its medical and psychological consequences, we are able to efficiently plan a program that may alter dependent behavior patterns into more autonomous patterns.”
extraordinary impact
donor overview

During the period of July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, donors contributed $1,679,840 to support Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. The community is grateful to the PCOM alumni, trustees, faculty and staff, foundations, corporations and friends listed on these pages. Their dedication to the continued strength of the College remains stalwart.
The Fund for PCOM: Dollars and Participation

The College extends its thanks to the 1,346 contributors who made gifts totaling $915,470 to The Fund for PCOM. The College relies on unrestricted funds to build teaching, research and student programs while keeping tuition increases to a minimum.

With deep gratitude, PCOM recognizes the donors who contributed $10,000 or more to The Fund for PCOM this past year:

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Restricted Gifts and Pledges

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine sincerely thanks alumni and friends who made significant gifts to benefit specific objectives.

PCOM gratefully acknowledges the following donors who contributed $10,000 or more for restricted purposes:

- PCOM Trustee J. Steven Blake, DO ’89, pledged an extraordinary $1 million to establish The J. Steven Blake, DO ’89 Scholars Society. The Blake Scholars, initially African American osteopathic medical students, will receive a full-tuition, four-year scholarship. Upon the funding of the endowment, the Blake Scholars will be the College’s first full-scholarship recipients.
- The Alumni Association of PCOM made a $100,000 gift toward the new Simulation & Assessment Center (SAC) being built on the fourth floor of Rowland Hall. In recognition of this significant contribution, the Association will name the Reception and Information Commons. Two reunion classes assumed mini-campaigns to raise funds for the SAC. The Class of 1967 raised $29,200, and The Class of 1977 assumed a goal of $150,000 to name the Emergency Treatment/Trauma Simulation Studio.
- PCOM Trustee John Kearney and his wife, Lois, continue to complete their pledge to the J.D. Kearney Memorial Scholarship with a gift of $30,000.
- PCOM Trustee Joseph A. Dieterle, DO ’70, completed his pledge of $25,000 with his gift of $10,000 to endow a lectureship in pediatrics.
- John Becher, DO ’70, continues to complete his $25,000 pledge to endow a lectureship in emergency medicine.
- PCOM Trustee Lita Indzel Cohen, Esq., has raised $18,731 from individuals and institutions for the Food Allergy Research Initiative (FARI) this fiscal year. In addition, Robert S. Maurer, DO ’62, helped to secure another $5,000 for FARI.
- Bruce Kornberg, DO ’78, contributed $10,000 to his $50,000 pledge to the Ruth and Irving Kornberg Memorial Internal Medicine Scholarship.
- Murray Zedeck, DO ’62, pledged $25,000 to establish the Benjamin and Sarah Zedeck Medical Humanities Lecture Series for first-year DO students at the Philadelphia campus.
- Leonard Giunta, DO ’67, pledged $50,000 toward a scholarship fund to benefit the first DO/PhD research student at PCOM and at the University of the Sciences.
- Teresa Doyle Smith, the widow of Daniel J. Smith, DO ’73, completed her $50,000 pledge to endow a new scholarship for DO students. She continues to support the completion of another endowment that will help fund initiatives in the departments of Emergency Medicine and Family Medicine.
- Michael P. Hahalyak, DO ’81, continues to complete his $30,000 pledge to the College.
DO Student Scholarship Fund
The annual DO Student Scholarship phone campaign is a critical source of financial aid for osteopathic medical students on both campuses. Half of the scholarship funds are disbursed as financial aid immediately, while the other half are deposited into the DO Student Scholarship Trust Fund.

Reunion Giving Program
This year, PCOM received $232,743 through the Reunion Giving Program. The Class of 1977 led, with gifts totaling $50,866, and the Class of 1987 was close behind with gifts totaling $49,213. The Class of 1962 had the highest participation rate, with 58 percent making contributions to their alma mater honoring their 50-year anniversary.

Five New Members Join the 1899 Society
Five alumni made contributions during the 2011–12 fiscal year to reach or exceed $50,000 in cumulative giving. In recognition of this distinction, Scot A. Fisher, DO ’82; Jeffry A. Lindenbaum, DO ’75; Douglas E. Mazzuca, DO ’83; Martin S. Neifield, DO ’46; and Seymour Schlossberg, DO ’62, will be admitted to the 1899 Society. The 1899 Society, named for the year the College was founded, distinguishes those individuals who have made gifts amounting to $50,000 or more since 1980, when donor records were first computerized.

Planned Giving
Trusts and bequests by alumni and friends are an important and significant source of support for the College. The Andrew Taylor Still Legacy Society recognizes donors who name the PCOM Foundation a beneficiary of a will, living trust, charitable remainder trust, charitable lead trust or life insurance policy. It also recognizes donors who participate in the PCOM Charitable Gift Annuity Program.

The College is grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Martin S. Neifield who established a second and substantial charitable gift annuity. Dr. Neifield said, “PCOM has provided me—and my family—the ability to enjoy a comfortable and fulfilling lifestyle. I was happy to establish my second annuity this year as part of my 65-year Reunion. This time, Bernice and I established an annuity that will continue to the survivor, after one of us passes away.” Dr. Neifield points out that the charitable gift annuity has many benefits:

- It provides financial support for PCOM;
- Because the annuity was funded with appreciated stock, the Neifields avoided capital gains tax;
- The contribution to PCOM was a charitable deduction; and
- Annuities provide a guaranteed lifetime income.

This past year, the Foundation received contributions designated in the estate plans of William A. Rieber, DO ’41, and David L. Williams, spouse of Ida C. Schmidt, DO ’35. Dr. Rieber designated $50,000 in his will to the Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Undergraduate Fellowship Program endowment. This is among the single largest donations to this program. The College received an undesignated contribution of $77,250 from the estate of David Williams. This was an exceptional gift to The Fund for PCOM, and the College later learned of an additional gift of $50,000 designated to the Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO, Memorial Scholarship Fund. Soon thereafter, the College was informed that Margaret E. Burnard, the late wife of H. Trebing Burnard, DO ’38, had left a majority of her estate residuary to PCOM to create an endowed scholarship fund.

The College community is truly appreciative of alumni and friends like Dr. Rieber, Dr. Schmidt and Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Burnard. They all made provisions in their wills or estate plans to leave a lasting legacy in remembering PCOM and to help future students of osteopathy. The Office of Alumni Relations & Development also extends its appreciation to three alumni who notified us of new planned gifts. Thank you to David J. Kendall, DO ’71; Bernyce Peplowski, DO ’80; and Richard B. Tancer, DO ’84.

Andrew Taylor Still Legacy Society members are recognized annually in the Report of Donors (Digest #3, 2012) and on the donor board prominently displayed in Lotman Lobby of Evans Hall. Legacy Society members are also invited to the annual President’s Recognition Reception.
Institutional Donors
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Healthcare Center – Lancaster Avenue Division is the recipient of a one-year $50,000 grant from the Independence Blue Cross Foundation to help PCOM implement a Patient-Centered Medical Home to improve primary care services to residents in the underserved, at-risk West Philadelphia community. Through a thorough training and standards evaluation process, the Center seeks to receive National Committee for Quality Assurance recognition and to serve as a model for incorporating the medical home at all PCOM Healthcare Centers.

The Adolph and Rose Levis Foundation extended their commitment to Alzheimer's disease research with a $10,000 grant to the Balin-Appelt Lab in the Center for Chronic Disorders of Aging, while New Jersey's Area VII Physicians Review Organization, Inc., made their second $5,000 contribution to the Food Allergy Research Initiative.

The Benjamin & Mary Siddons Measey Foundation continued their long-standing commitment to medical education in Philadelphia with their $35,000 financial aid grant for DO students. The College was pleased to accept a similar grant from the Physicians Aid Association of the Delaware Valley who generously donated $35,000. Continuing support of scholarships to DO students on the Philadelphia campus was provided by the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation, with this year's grant of $30,000, and the West Allegheny Physicians' Association Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, with an award of $8,835.

Foundation and Corporate Support for Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Georgia Campus – PCOM received a gift of $10,000 as part of the Walgreens Diversity Scholarship Program. The funds were awarded to GA–PCOM School of Pharmacy students who made significant efforts toward raising awareness of or played an active role in educating others about cultural competency and diversity-related matters impacting the pharmacy profession.

The National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation presented the GA–PCOM School of Pharmacy with a $1,000 scholarship gift to support a student with an interest in pursuing a career in community pharmacy.

New Georgia Young Alumni Giving Program Announced
The GOLD Alumni program was launched in the fall of 2012 to create a network for Georgia campus graduates of the last ten years. GOLD—Graduates of the Last Decade—will be a part of a new community to receive regular news from the College about campus activities, regional and professional events, and career opportunities. Alumni in this group will also learn about the many ways to support the Georgia campus through time, talent and gifts. Their commitments—however large or small—are essential to the future of our institution.

GA–PCOM’s GOLD Alumni program enhances the educational, social and professional lives of graduates while building and sustaining a connection between the alumni and the College.

For more information, contact the GA–PCOM Office of Alumni Relations & Development at 678-225-7506.

Golf Classic
The 2011 Golf Classic was held at the prestigious Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, for the fifth consecutive year. Proceeds from the golf outing benefit the five PCOM Healthcare Centers, which provide critical health services to underserved and at-risk populations in North and West Philadelphia, Roxborough, Wynnewfield Heights and Laporte, Pennsylvania, in rural Sullivan County.

PCOM gratefully acknowledges all sponsors, in-kind donors and advertisers who supported the outing. Platinum sponsors contributing $10,000 in support were PCOM Trustee and former Chairman Herb Lotman, LLD; The Arthur Jackson Company; Blank Rome, LLC; and Ricoh Business Solutions.
Combined financial results in fiscal 2012 for Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine were positive. Net assets from operations contributed $12.3 million, while net assets from non-operating activities declined by ($3) million. The non-operating activities decrease was primarily due to unrealized losses on the College’s endowed investments. The College’s total asset balance grew 3.5 percent to $319 million, while net assets increased 3.8 percent to $253 million.

Georgia Campus – PCOM is in its eighth year of operation. The campus has enrolled its third class of 110 students into the School of Pharmacy, while the DO class has expanded its incoming class to 125 students. The School of Pharmacy received candidacy status from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. This allows PCOM pharmacy students to sit for the licensure examination upon graduation.
Growth in total assets

Growth in total assets over the years 2007 to 2012, measured in dollars in millions. The graph shows a general increase in total assets over these years.

Sources of revenues from operations

This section details the various sources of revenue, such as Grant Income, Net Patient Service, Investment Income, Other Sources, Graduate Medical Education, and Tuition & Fees. The total revenues are $112.4 million, with Tuition & Fees contributing the most at $81.2 million.

Uses of revenues in operations

This section lists the uses of revenues in operations, including Ambulatory Care Network, Academic Support, Basic Science Instruction, Clinical Instruction, and Institutional Support. The total expenses are $100.1 million.
### Financial Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$11.4</td>
<td>$13.7</td>
<td>$19.1</td>
<td>$20.0</td>
<td>$46.9</td>
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<td>Accounts Receivable, net</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>5.1</td>
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<td>Endowments and similar funds</td>
<td>152.0</td>
<td>164.0</td>
<td>137.2</td>
<td>104.0</td>
<td>122.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted funds</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>15.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>63.9</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>64.3</td>
<td>67.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>7.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>72.1</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$319.4</td>
<td>$308.5</td>
<td>$273.6</td>
<td>$250.0</td>
<td>$264.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Liabilities and Net Assets Liabilities** |       |       |       |       |       |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | $16.8 | $13.5 | $12.5 | $10.7 | $10.2 |
| Accrued malpractice costs          | 6.1   | 6.1   | 6.8   | 6.8   | 13.0  |
| Long-term obligations              | 19.6  | 20.9  | 22.3  | 23.6  | 24.7  |
| Other liabilities                  | 23.6  | 23.9  | 24.9  | 23.5  | 23.5  |
| **Total Liabilities**              | $66.1 | $64.4 | $66.5 | $64.6 | $71.4 |

| **Net Assets**                   |       |       |       |       |       |
| Unrestricted                     | $227.2| $218.8| $185.4| $165.6| $168.9|
| Temporarily restricted           | 15.2  | 15.6  | 12.5  | 10.8  | 15.5  |
| Permanently restricted           | 10.9  | 9.7   | 9.2   | 9.0   | 8.8   |
| **Total Net Assets**             | $253.3| $244.1| $207.1| $185.4| $193.2|

| **Total Liabilities & Net Assets**|       |       |       |       |       |
|                                   | $319.4| $308.5| $273.6| $250.0| $264.6|

A Financial Report is available upon request. Please write to:

Peter Doulis, CPA  
Vice President for Finance & Chief Financial Officer  
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine  
4190 City Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131-1693
ongoing grants

**National Institutes of Health – National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** $119,470
Creating an infection-free intraosseous transcutaneous amputation prosthesis [subcontract]
Christopher Adams, PhD, Anatomy

**National Institutes of Health – National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research** $118,734
A new allograft that promotes long-term, infection-free skeletal repair [subcontract]
Christopher Adams, PhD, Anatomy

**State of Pennsylvania** $4,259
Dissecting the apoptosis pathway affected by *C. pneumoniae* in Alzheimer’s disease
Denah Appelt, PhD, Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology

**Osteopathic Heritage Foundation** $120,000
Center for Chronic Disorders of Aging endowment
Brian Balin, PhD, Pathology, Microbiology, Immunology and Forensic Medicine
Michael Kuchera, DO, Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine

**State of Pennsylvania** $4,832
Effect of liposuction technique on the viability and differentiation of adipose derived stem cells
Marina D’Angelo, PhD, Anatomy
Christopher Adams, PhD, Anatomy

**State of Pennsylvania** $6,326
Psychological functioning, coping, and factors affecting quality of life in persons with long QT syndrome
Stephanie Felgoise, PhD, Psychology

**National Institutes of Health - National Institute of Mental Health** (subcontract) $20,065
Adherence and empowerment: Service participation and meaningful outcomes
Petra Kottsieper, PhD, Psychology

**American Osteopathic Association** $37,479
High-tech/high-touch translational care for MS: Integrating OMT, periodic acceleration therapy and TMR with IsoPUMP® maximal effort exercise (no-cost extension)
Michael Kuchera, DO, Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine
Lindon Young, PhD, Pathology, Microbiology, Immunology and Forensic Medicine

**National Institutes of Health – National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke** (subcontract) $39,671
Optogenetic investigation of olivary inputs to the deep cerebellar nuclei
Huo Lu, PhD, Anatomy

**Edna G. Kynett Memorial Foundation** $25,000
Utilizing a patient-centered medical home and health information technology to reduce cardiovascular risk in an underserved population in North Philadelphia
Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, Primary Care and Continuing Education

**Edna G. Kynett Memorial Foundation** $25,000
Self-management program to prevent cardiovascular disease
Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, Primary Care and Continuing Education
ongoing grants

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Health Resources and Services Administration $270,020
Establishing a predoctoral collaborative center for enhancing interest in primary care practice
Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, Primary Care and Continuing Education
John Cavenagh, PhD, MBA, PA-C, Physician Assistant Studies
Robert DiTomasso, PhD, Psychology
Harry Morris, DO, MPH, Family Medicine

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Health Resources and Services Administration $69,096
Area Health Education Center – Eastcentral PA
Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, Primary Care and Continuing Education

State of Pennsylvania $17,685
Area Health Education Center – PCOM budget
Eugene Mochan, PhD, DO, Primary Care and Continuing Education

State of Pennsylvania $17,685
Area Health Education Center – PCOM budget
Harry Morris, DO, MPH, Family Medicine

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Health Resources and Services Administration $74,763
Area Health Education Center – Northcentral PA
Harry Morris, DO, MPH, Family Medicine

new grants

American Heart Association $34,894
Blocking of immune-complex mediated vasculitis using recombinant FC receptors
Rangaiah Shashidharamurthy, PhD, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation $97,000
BEZ235A in vitro dissolution/permeation testing
Zhiqian Wu, PhD, Pharmaceutical Sciences

State of Pennsylvania $4,190
Evaluation of tetrahydrobiopterin/dihydrobiopterin ratio in vascular injury tissues
Lindon Young, PhD, Pathology, Microbiology, Immunology and Forensic Medicine
Robert Barsotti, PhD, Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology
Qian Chen, PhD, Pathology, Microbiology, Immunology and Forensic Medicine
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A Report of Donors is available as a printed insert in Digest Magazine (Vol. 73, No. 3), the magazine for alumni and friends of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.