

RETIRING SOON OR CONSIDERING SOMETHING OTHER THAN A CLINICAL PRACTICE? BE A SOLUTION TO A GROWING PROBLEM!

By: Suzanne Byan-Parker of UAB

After practicing medicine for years, physicians may be loath to retire. Alternatives to the stereotypical life of nothing but relaxation, leisure, and endless games of golf are available to the doctor considering a means of continuing using his or her skills as a physician. For example, physicians may find second careers as health care administrators, consultants, medical writers/editors, community volunteers, hospitalists, telemedicine doctors, or if one is burned out from medicine but desires to continue to use and share one's expertise—teaching is a viable option!



Understanding the structure of the human form—ranging from what can be seen with the unaided human eye (gross anatomy) down to the details at the molecular level—is central to understanding bodily function and how both structure and function are altered from disease. Despite ever-increasing strides in the capacity to diagnose and treat disease, the preparation of qualified individuals to do so has waned.

At a time in scientific/medical education, when knowledge of anatomy is increasingly important, we are experiencing a crisis in anatomical education. A widening deficiency of qualified faculty members willing to teach gross anatomy has developed. In a 2002 survey conducted jointly by the American Association of Anatomists (AAA) and the Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Neurobiology Chairpersons (AACBNC), more than 80% of the chairs of departments responsible for teaching anatomy anticipated having “great” or “moderate” difficulty recruiting qualified faculty to teach gross anatomy.¹ Few opportunities exist nationwide for students to acquire focused training in anatomy instruction.

UAB is the major trainer of biomedical research-oriented professionals in the state of Alabama. However, the challenging funding climate (flat or declining NIH budgets), combined with decreasing numbers of available faculty positions, has significantly reduced the number of doctoral-level graduate students who progress to independent academic research-

oriented positions nationwide. It is estimated that less than 25 (or 8%) of the approximately 315 doctoral students currently enrolled in the Joint Health Sciences at UAB are likely to enter faculty-level research careers.

Paradoxically, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, health-care occupations are expanding by double digits; in occupations like physician assistants and physical therapists, the job growth rate is predicted to exceed 30% from 2014-2024. It is estimated that health care will account for one-third of new jobs from 2014-2024. There is thus a growing demand across the state and the country for courses leading to qualifications in the health-care related professions. In response to this demand, two new osteopathic medical schools (ACOM, Dothan and VCOM, Auburn) and a new School of Health Professions (Samford University, Birmingham) have recently been established in the state. In addition, enrollment has increased in existing programs like medicine at UASOM and the PA program in the School of Health Professions at UAB.

Although most clinically relevant health-care focused programs require some student exposure to the anatomical sciences, the number of individuals who are qualified to teach gross anatomy and the associated disciplines of embryology and histology at the college level is steadily shrinking due to faculty retirements and lack of appropriate training opportunities. The anticipated expansion in health profession courses will require increased numbers of anatomy instructors.

In response to the shortage, the University of Alabama at Birmingham will launch a new master's degree in anatomical science this summer. During the 15-month program, students will learn the skills needed to teach college-level anatomy. Applications from qualified individuals are currently being sought. The new degree program — Master of Science in Anatomical Science — is aimed primarily at people with master's and Ph.D. degrees in STEM fields, or clinical

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"I Can't Get No Satisfaction!"

OR CAN I?



Want to learn how to keep your patients happy and to improve the morale of your employees? We can help!

- Patients have increasing expectations about their medical care and options for where to obtain it. The secret to getting high patient ratings is not necessarily related to the quality of care you provide. Attend to learn how to get a 5 star rating and how to turn your patients and referral sources into raving fans.
- Unemployment is at a long-term low. Other employers are offering higher pay rates to get your top talent and younger employees to change jobs at the drop of a hat. Unless you are willing to pay the highest wages in town, you have to offer a great place to work. What are other practices doing to encourage fun and a family atmosphere in the workplace to improve employee morale?

The Jefferson County Medical Society is hosting a program featuring experts from Warren Averett who can fill you in on how to create satisfied patients and happy employees.

When: Thursday, April 25, 2019 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Where: Warren Averett, 2500 Acton Road (just off I-459)

The program is free to JCMS members or \$25 for non-members.

Call the Society office at 933-8601 to reserve your spot!

IN MEMORIAM

THE JCMS WANTS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECENT PASSING OF THE FOLLOWING JCMS MEMBERS:

JOE L. GERALD, M.D.
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THOMAS WAKEFIELD MEARS, M.D.
JANUARY 19, 2019

GEORGE F. SCOFIELD, M.D.
DECEMBER 28, 2018

RONALD A. LEPKE, M.D.
JANUARY 26, 2019

SUSAN LANE RUTLEDGE, M.D.
JANUARY 2, 2019

WILEY KEMP LIVINGSTON, SR., M.D.
FEBRUARY 13, 2019

DONALD ANTHONY DEINLEIN, M.D.
JANUARY 6, 2019

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MARCH 16, 2019

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practitioners who want to have a greater focus on teaching. While prior terminal degrees are preferred, other students, including recent bachelor's degree students who want to teach at the secondary or community college level, are also encouraged to apply.

The new UAB program will be the only one of its kind in Alabama and will offer advanced training in anatomy, neuroanatomy, embryology and histology together with specialized educational courses to train participants to teach at the college level. The goal is to equip individuals with the skills needed to teach anatomical sciences and thereby help address the shortage of qualified instructors. In addition, the course will provide an additional option for students who would like to be engaged in an academic enterprise but are not interested in academic research.

Students will enjoy an extremely high faculty: student teaching ratio, in some cases as low as 1:1 instruction. They will have extensive "hands-on" instruction from UAB's cadre of highly experienced anatomists and histologists, and will receive advanced training in four key subjects — gross anatomy, embryology, histology and neuroanatomy. The program will include the latest innovations in anatomy education, such as 3D anatomy via ultrasound, radiologic anatomy using CT scans, use of plastic-impregnated human tissue specimens and virtual microscopy for histology. The degree also has a pedagogic component, where students learn how to be effective scholarly teachers and educational researchers. Each student will develop a research topic in medical education or original anatomy.

There are currently no programs offering specialized training in anatomical sciences, combined with education in Alabama. Troy University offers a MS in Biomedical Sciences, which offers students the possibility of taking electives in Neuroanatomy, Histology and Histology with Embryology. Auburn also offers an MS in Biomedical Sciences; this is an interdepartmental course run out of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Anatomy is also included in some of the modules of the MS in Biomedical and Health Sciences at UAB, but in

none of these programs are Anatomical Sciences the focus and there is no equivalent stand-alone degree in Anatomical Sciences with Education.

"We want people who have a heart for teaching," says UAB Assistant Professor, Bradley Barger, PhD, one of the program's directors. The Co-director, Assistant Professor, David Resuehr, PhD, notes, "the plan is to admit five students per year, and students will have an extremely high faculty/student ratio." The inaugural class starts this June and graduates in August 2020. The deadline to apply for this year has passed but *next year's deadline for applications is April 2, 2020*. For details on applications, prerequisites, and the program overview and curriculum, see the [Master of Science in Anatomical Science](#)² website. Scholars must apply through the [UAB Graduate School](#).³

In conclusion, knowledge of human anatomy is a required foundation for multiple health-care roles, education in the anatomical sciences is thus fundamental to these careers, underscoring the need for trained anatomists. Individuals with this degree would be qualified to seek employment in several other fields such as medical examiner's offices, engineering medical models or medical illustration and medical laboratories. Retirement from an active career as a physician does not end the opportunity to continue productive use of one's extensive medical knowledge and skills.

REFERENCES:

1. American Association of Anatomists, Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Neurobiology Chairpersons. Survey of academic departments related to anatomy, August, 2002 http://www.anatomy.org/Membership/survey_academic_departments.htm. Accessed 10 February 2019.
2. <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/cdib/education/graduate/master-of-science-in-anatomical-science>
3. <https://www.uab.edu/graduate>

For More Information Contact:

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UPDATE! ANOTHER BENEFIT OF MEMBERSHIP

Online Alabama Opioid Prescribing CME Courses are Now Available!

Under a rule adopted by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners, as of January 1, 2018, physicians who hold an ACSC must obtain 2 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™] in controlled substance prescribing every two years. Physicians who are members of the State Association (and their county society) are now able to obtain the required credits through on-line courses that are **free of charge**. The courses meet the requirements of the new ABME rule and explain how the practitioner can more effectively understand the pharmacologic profiles for controlled drugs, identify diagnostic criteria for appropriate prescribing and consider the therapeutic implications of substance abuse by individual patients.

These new courses are now available on-line at alamedical.org. To see a list of available courses, click on the FREE CME button or go to www.alamedical.org/onlinecme. For assistance, please contact the State Association Membership department at (334) 954-2500.

Upcoming Events

- April 25** Member Educational Program – 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Warren Averett (see page 2 for more details)
- May 19** JCMS Annual Barons Event – 3:00 p.m. at Regions Field
- May 20** Executive Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m.
Board of Censors Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- May 21** The Wayne Finley 811 Breakfast Club Meeting – Doreen C. Harper, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, will speak on “School of Nursing Update” at 8:30 a.m. in the JCMS Board Room
- June 17** Foundation Trust Meeting – 5:30 p.m.
Executive Committee Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
- July 15** Executive Committee Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

Contact Juanita Pruitt at jpruitt@jcmsalabama.org for more information.

Join Us for the JCMS Annual Barons Event



[Visit the Barons Website](#)

Sunday, May 19, 2019

Regions Field

Game time: 3:00 pm

Birmingham Barons vs. Mississippi Braves

Meal will be served at 3:00 p.m.

Covered Patio Seating

No Charge to Attend for JCMS Members & Immediate Family*

RSVP by emailing Juanita at jpruitt@jcmsalabama.org or call 933-8601

Deadline to RSVP is Thursday, May 2 at 3:00 p.m.**

*Immediate family includes those family members who are residing in your household. Ticket packages can be purchased for additional guests.

**If your plans change and you will not be able to attend, please cancel by May 2 at 3:00 p.m. We have to guarantee our final number at that time, and are charged based on that number. If your reservation is not canceled in a timely manner and we cannot use your tickets for another member, you will be charged in accordance with JCMS Board policy.

JCMS Welcomes the Following New Members

Robert Edward Agee, Jr., M.D.	Family Medicine	Angela Jean King, M.D.	Pediatrics
Carrie O'Neal Alexander, M.D.	Internal Medicine	Diana Murro Lin, M.D.	Pathology
Douglas J. Anderson, M.D.	Transplant	Tracy Renee Luckhardt, M.D.	Pulmonary Medicine
Ahmed Asfari, M.D.	Pediatrics	Lisa Speake MacBeth, M.D.	Anesthesiology
Irfan M. Asif, M.D.	Family Medicine	Cristina Magi-Galluzzi, M.D.	Pathology
Emily Rene Baillio, M.D.	Internal Medicine	Emily Gene Mai, M.D.	IM/Hospitalist
Brooke A. Bell, M.D.	Anesthesiology	Catherine Lauren Mallory, D.O.	Anesthesiology
Badari Birur, M.D.	Psychiatry	William W. McAlexander, M.D.	Surgery
Ksenia Blinnikova, M.D.	Family Medicine	Susan Dixon McCammon, M.D.	Ear, Nose & Throat
Edwyn L. Boyd, M.D.	Otolaryngology	Yulia V. Melenevsky, M.D.	Radiology
Brandon S. Brooks, M.D.	Anesthesiology	Marc A. Michelson, M.D.	Ophthalmology
Mata R. Burke, M.D.	IM/Hospitalist	Douglas R. Morgan, M.D.	Gastroenterology
Chad Michael Burski, M.D.	Gastroenterology	Sarah Kathleen Mullican, M.D.	Anesthesiology
James Parker Callaway, M.D.	Gastroenterology	Mathieu William Nader, M.D.	Radiology
Courtney Kling Campbell, M.D.	Pediatrics	Twyla N. Norsworthy, M.D.	Obstetrics/Gynecology
Brian M. Casey, M.D.	Obstetrics/Gynecology	Babak John Orandi, M.D.	General Surgery
Ms. Kelly Chen	Medical Student	Patrick Ross Owens, M.D.	Otolaryngology
John Brooks Cleek, M.D.	Internal Medicine	Pamela E. Parker, M.D.	Psychiatry
Maria F. Couto, M.D.	IM/Endocrinology	Grace Flowers Rafield, M.D.	Anesthesiology
Virginia Elizabeth Duncan, M.D.	Pathology	Nipun Baleed Reddy, M.D.	Gastroenterology
Jacqueline M. Feldman, M.D.	Psychiatry	John Robert Rinker II, M.D.	Neurology
Ludwig I. Francillon, M.D.	Obstetrics/Gynecology	Victoria Rusanov, M.D.	Internal Medicine
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Raymond Bryce Hunt, M.D.	Family Medicine	Herbert P. Walker, Jr., M.D.	Family Medicine
Anand Sathyan Iyer, M.D.	Internal Medicine	Brandon Boyd Weatherly, M.D.	Radiology
Mr. Christopher A. Johnson	Medical Student	Karla Elizabeth Williams, M.D.	Internal Medicine
Kaitlin O. Johnson, M.D.	Anesthesiology	Megan Victoria Yanik, M.D.	Pediatrics
Mohamed Kazamel, M.D.	Neurology	Hayden John Zaccagni, M.D.	Pediatrics
Kimberly Sue Keene, M.D.	Radiation Oncology	Kathryn Watts Zamora, M.D.	Radiology
Jessica M. Kempton, M.D.	Internal Medicine		

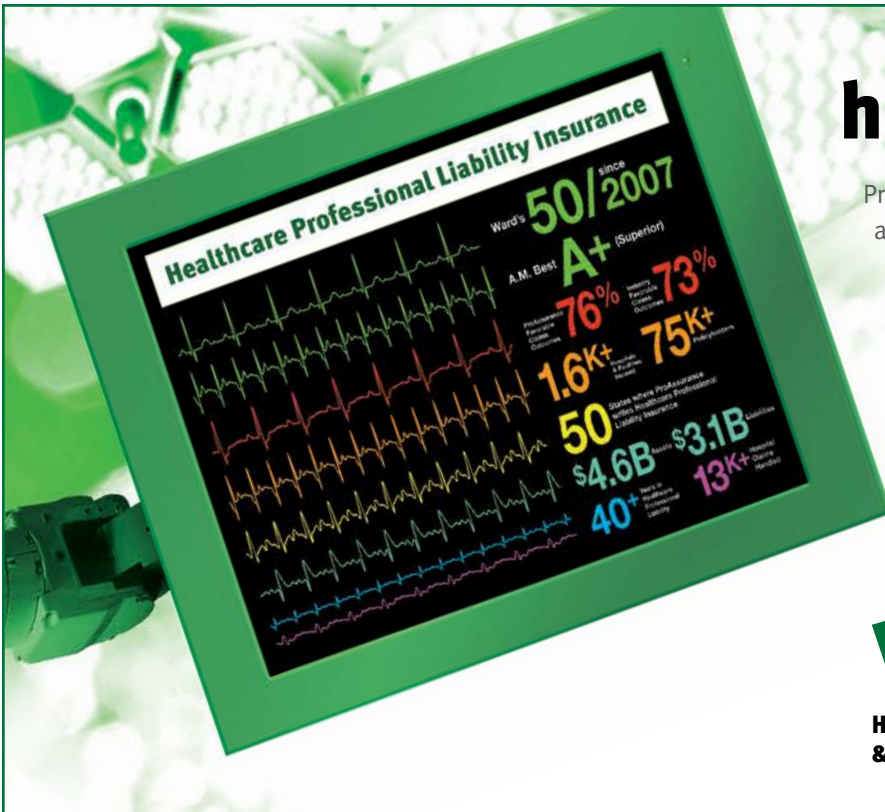
healthy vitals

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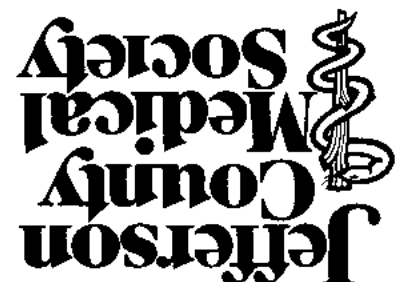


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