

**1999-2000
SUMMARY OF SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY PRACTICE & COMMUNITY MEDICINE**

I. ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN BOOKS AND JOURNALS

A. Full-length published articles.

None.

B. Articles in press.

K.S. Derbin and R.A. Perkins. Noncooperation. IN: F. V. deGruy and W. P. Dickinson (Eds.) 20 Common Behavioral Problems in Primary Care. McGraw-Hill, New York, NY (2000).

R.A. Perkins. Gene Therapy – A Primary Care Perspective. Am. Fam. Physician. (2000).

II. PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

None.

III. BOOKS PUBLISHED

None.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

S. J. Andrews. ADHD in Children and Adolescents. The Institute for Continuing Education, Destin, FL (1999).

S. J. Andrews. Domestic Violence. Med. Assn. State Ala. Annu. Convention, Destin, FL (2000)

N. B. Clark. Coordination of Computer Zoo – Demonstration of Software. (1) Soc., Teachers Fam. Med. Spring Conf., Orlando, FL; and (2) Am. Acad. Fam. Phys. Annu. Conf., Dallas, TX (2000)

K. S. Derbin. Poster Presentation. Evaluation of the Impact of an Interdisciplinary Curriculum on Medical Students' Attitudes and Knowledge of Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and Pharmacists. Med. Educ. Conf., University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (2000)

R. A. Perkins. Effect of Medicaid Managed Care in Residency Practice. Soc. Teachers Fam. Med. Spring Conf., Orlando, FL (2000).

V. NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

R. A. Perkins was a member of the Study Section for Academic Administrative Units, Health Resources, and Services Administration and served as Co-Chair of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Community Medicine Section.

E. Lee Taylor served as ACGME Site Surveyor for Residency Training Programs.

VI. BRIEF SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

E. Lee Taylor, M.D. was appointed permanent Chair on March 1 after having served as Interim Chair since June 1999. Allen Perkins, M.D., was appointed Vice Chair while continuing his responsibilities as Residency Director and Medical Director. S. Chris Kerby, M.D., and Mary Katherine (Kitti) Barfield, M.D., joined the faculty in July after having completed their respective residencies at USA and Florida Hospital (Orlando). Dr. Kerby's special interests include Sports Medicine, and Dr. Barfield's special interests lie in Student Medical Education and Preventive Medicine. Deborah Kennedy, Pharm D., joined the faculty in an adjunct position after having completed her training in Pharmacy Practice and Geriatrics at Methodist Hospital in Houston and the Durham Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Durham, NC. She replaced Dr. Eileen Holland, who relocated to Indiana. Stephen Andrews, M.D., and Steven Schepens, M.D., left the department for private practice in Mobile and Gulfport, Mississippi, respectively.

Leadership in our undergraduate medical education program underwent change this year. Kelly S. Derbin, M.D., who served as Predoctoral Director, left at the end of September to relocate to Chicago. During her last year with us, she earned a Master's of Medical Education from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. Dr. M. K. Barfield has assumed responsibility for administration of the third-year clerkship and fourth-year elective.

Educationally, the Department continues to offer core courses and has begun expanding. For example, a survey course which includes a health fair at Hillsdale Middle School is offered within the first-year course, Medical Practice and Society. Additional plans for the third-year clerkship and fourth-year electives include more emphasis on distance learning, with the development and testing of a web-based textbook. The Department now has responsibility for the second-year Behavioral Science course, and Martha Adams, Ph.D., and Diana Snow, Ph.D., part-time faculty, will participate. Faculty continue to be involved with Physical Diagnosis. A new longitudinal patient care experience, currently in the planning stage, is targeted to begin in February, 2001.

For the fourth consecutive year, our faculty was recognized by the American Academy of Family Physicians with the Bronze Achievement Award for outstanding efforts in producing graduates who enter the specialty of Family Practice. Dr. Allen Perkins and Dr. Kelly Derbin were also recognized by the College of Medicine students as Distinguished Faculty Members at its Honors Convocation.

The Residency Program offers an innovative curriculum and incorporates new technologies with one-to-one teaching. The program continues to produce outstanding physicians for the state of Alabama and the surrounding region. This past year, our graduates accepted positions in Phenix City, Alexander City, and Troy, among other areas of the state. A successful Match produced six outstanding new residents.

The Department continued its student summer research tradition by sponsoring students through grants from the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board, The Alabama Academy of Family Practice, and Bristol-Myers Squibb. Projects this year included the effect of an on-site psychiatrist in the Family Practice Center, web-based instruction, and an evaluation of the residency. A study was also completed on the effect of a school nurse intervention on asthma-related school problems.

The clinical practice has also been very successful, averaging more than 2,000 visits per month at the Springhill Avenue Campus site with high patient satisfaction and delivery of good patient care. The practice is moving toward evidence-based patient care in the clinical setting, with the adoption of protocols for common ambulatory diseases, such as diabetes, asthma, and congestive heart failure.

The Department has assumed clinical responsibility for the Student Health Center on the main campus, with Thomasina Sharpe, M.D., providing clinical leadership. Plans include web access for students as well as enhanced services.