2017 was a year of celebration at Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (KSUCPM), both for the college and for me, personally. Just as we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the first graduating class from the Ohio College of Chiropody (OCC), I was celebrating the 35th anniversary of my graduation from the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine (OCPM). I began to reminisce about my time as a student at OCPM and even paged through the 1982 yearbook. In a message from then-Executive Vice President, James Conforti, DPM, I found words that are still applicable today, “Only in nature do things happen spontaneously. Human growth and progress, however, must be planned. From conceptualization, through action and implementation, things get done. Today, sixty-eight years after its founding, our college is still undergoing planned changes in curriculum, physical plant, philosophy and spirit which its leaders feel will help it reach new heights.”

Serving now as Dean of KSUCPM, 101 years after the college was founded, I can tell you that our college is still undergoing many of those same changes. And I share the same goal that Dr. Conforti had thirty five years ago – to bring the college to new heights.

• Faculty are working to review and revise the DPM curriculum to ensure that our college remains at the leading edge of medical education
• The college is reviewing plans to build housing to offer students the ability to live and study on campus
• Administration, faculty, staff, and students are working to develop a new strategic plan outlining the mission, vision, and goals for the institution over the next several years

I couldn’t be any prouder to have attended our college as a student, taught students as a faculty member, and now serve students, faculty, staff and alumni as Dean. This particular role is the highlight of my career as a podiatric physician. Just as the administration shared 35 years ago, I look forward to working together to continue to advance our college to new heights.

Allan M. Boike, DPM, FACFAS
Dean

The Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine is taking a moment to tackle recent “myths” and to settle any tall tales and urban legends that currently exist about financially supporting the college.

see inside for busted myths
If you attended the Southeast National Conference in Orlando, Florida this December and stopped by the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine booth in the exhibit hall, you found a friendly face, under a KSUCPM baseball hat, eager to speak to you about our College. This is the face of David H. Gross, a 1971 graduate of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, whom now proudly donates his time, talent and resources to KSUCPM, be it through his scholarship fund, in-kind donations, or representing the College at its various CME events. We recently caught up with Dr. Gross to ask him about his education at CPM, his career, and what makes him so passionate about the college today.

Reflecting on his time as a podiatry student at the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine in the early 70s, Dr. Gross reminisces on the ease of student life. “I had a great time in school! It’s not the same to be a student as it is to be in practice,” Dr. Gross recalls. It is understandable that life of a podiatry student was much more carefree with the low cost of tuition at that time. “Tuition now is no comparison to what it was when I was in school. Money today isn’t the same as money a long time ago,” Dr. Gross concludes. But Dr. Gross made it work, “To pay for my schooling, I worked at Mt. Sinai Hospital in various laboratory departments, while my wife worked as a school teacher at Cleveland Heights High School.” It is the steady climb of tuition, coupled with his deep respect for the school that would eventually lead him to establish a scholarship in his own name.

With the merge of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine and Kent State University in 2012 came big changes for the school. Dr. Gross sees these changes as nothing but beneficial. “Because of the merge with a state university, the school is clearly progressing towards a great future,” Dr. Gross declares, “Merging with a state university offers a sense of prestige.” Dr. Gross shows his prestige by wearing Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine t-shirts, hats and sweatshirts while traveling for the college, or when heading to the gym for a workout, a favorite hobby.

Dr. Gross has continuously supported CPM with frequent donations such as in-kind supplies, a complete collection of medical books and equipment to the college library, and through his continuous service to the College. “It is because of my education from the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine that I am able to have a successful practice, life, and retire,” Dr. Gross maintains, “I wanted specifically to give back with a focus to students with a financial need.” In 2016, Dr. Gross started the Dr. David H. Gross and Myra E. Gross Scholarship Fund, which he intends to endow.

Today, Dr. Gross serves as a physician for the St. Petersburg Free-Clinic, which offers services free of charge to those who lack the resources. His passion for podiatry and helping others stems from his family: a brother and father, both podiatrists, who subjected Gross to the profession throughout his entire life, and drove him to become one himself. Dr. Gross currently resides in St. Petersburg, FL with his wife, Myra, and is a proud father and grandfather.
KSUCPM STUDENT NAMED APMSA PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sarah Gostich, known by Sal to many, is a 3rd year student at KSUCPM. Sal is the class of 2019’s APMSA delegate. She was elected president-elect of the APMSA in January of 2017 and will begin serving her president year in January of 2018. As president, Sal will serve as a voting member on the Board of Trustees of the APMSA. She works hand-and-hand with the APMSA executive director to continually improve the organization so that it can always meet the needs of podiatric medical students across the country. She also will address the APMA House of Delegates in March 2018 on behalf of the podiatric medical students.

Prior to attending KSUCPM, Sal was a full-time firefighter/paramedic working for Seminole County Fire Department in Florida. Sal always had aspirations of becoming a physician. She originally thought about becoming an emergency medical physician because of her experience in EMS. However, it wasn’t until she shadowed her uncle, who is a podiatric physician that she began to think very seriously about podiatric medicine. The ability to select a surgical specialty prior to entering medical school was the deciding factor in her choice to go to podiatric medical school. Her uncle, Cyril Gostich is an OCPM alumni from the class of 1980. KSUCPM was the top choice podiatric medical school for Sal.

Sal is a very busy student. Along with the demands of podiatric medical school, she is the APMSA president-elect and she continues to work part-time as a firefighter/paramedic for Kirtland Fire Department. When she does have some down time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, is an avid cleveland sports fan, and enjoys babysitting her niece.

DPM MENTORS NETWORK

The profession is seeking podiatrists who are interested in joining the DPM Mentors Network. This program, created by the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine, is designed to allow DPMs and current DPM students to answer questions from prospective pre-health students curious about careers in podiatric medicine. Today, the Mentors Network serves as a matching program that pairs students with specific career questions or specialization requests with DPMs who have similar skills and backgrounds. As a DPM Mentor, you will be asked to share your knowledge and insights, open your practice to prospective podiatry students interested in shadowing, and discuss opportunities within this field of medicine with those seeking guidance from a practicing physician.

For more information on the DPM Mentors Network program, please visit: www.dpmnetwork.org.
The Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine is teaming up with the Cleveland Foot and Ankle Clinic to help reach a segment of the population that may not otherwise receive care for wounds that fail to heal.

Beginning Oct. 24, 2017, Kent State will start enrolling patients in a clinical trial at the new Wound Care and Research Clinic inside the Cleveland Foot and Ankle Clinic in downtown Cleveland. The goal is to bring advance clinical trials and cutting-edge therapies to patients suffering with non-healing wounds. These advancements will be offered free of charge to patients who qualify.

The efficacy of advanced wound care products will be evaluated at this clinic. Patients entered into these trials will have access to cutting-edge therapies, such as amniotic tissue grafts used to aid in healing of difficult-to-treat diabetic foot ulcers. A novel offloading cast will also be employed to help decrease pressure on the bottom of a patient’s foot. Chronic or non-healing wounds represent a significant burden to patients, health care professionals and the United States health care industry. Estimates show that nearly 7 million patients are suffering from non-healing advanced wounds, and the cost to treat these conditions exceeds $50 billion annually.

Diabetes is one of the biggest risk factors for non-healing wounds. More than 9 percent of the U.S. population has this disease, and the numbers are growing. Patients affected with diabetes often develop neuropathy, reduced sensation in their hands and feet, causing them not to feel injuries right away. Diabetes can also interfere with blood flow so that these wounds are slower to heal.

Another common cause of non-healing ulcers is a dysfunction within the vascular system. More than a million people suffer from peripheral vascular wounds. When leg veins fail to return blood flow to the heart efficiently, the extra fluid can accumulate in the tissues. This fluid can lead to skin breakdown and ulcer development. These types of ulcers are less common, but extremely painful.

Given the aging population and increasing prevalence of chronic health conditions, we are also seeing a growing number of wounds caused by pressure, typically referred to as ‘bed sores’. Annually, 2.5 million patients over the age of 75 acquire a pressure ulcer. This represents more than 13 percent of our population and is on the rise.

These staggering statistics exhibit the expanding need for specialized wound care sectors in the health care industry.

said Windy Cole, DPM, associate professor and director of the Wound Care Program in Kent State’s College of Podiatric Medicine.

Kent State’s Wound Care Center is located inside the Cleveland Foot and Ankle Center at 7000 Euclid Avenue Suite 101.

"Given the climate of health care today, the increasing need for advanced wound care therapies in this growing patient population, and due to the unlimited potential opportunities to establish Kent State’s College of Podiatric Medicine in this evolving sector in both clinical research and publishing, we saw the need to open a wound care and research clinic."

Dr. Cole said. To learn more about Kent State’s College of Podiatric Medicine, visit www.kent.edu/cpm.

"My hope is to help many of our area’s uninsured and underinsured patients receive treatments they may otherwise be unable to have."

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James Connors DPM, AACFAS is leading the new generation of foot and ankle surgeons with a unique research focus on the microscopic causes of Charcot Neuroarthropathy. While an undergraduate student at The Ohio State University, Dr. Connors forged an early interest in molecular genetics, while studying the variation of human circadian rhythm genes in patients with chronic stress. He carried this interest with him to podiatry school where he discovered a way to incorporate this interest in disease processes and the podiatric patient population. Following graduation from Kent State University’s College of Podiatric Medicine, Dr. Connors was accepted into the prestigious Cleveland Clinic Kaiser Podiatric Surgery training program under the guidance of Mark Hardy, DPM, Jordan Grossman, DPM, and Allan Boike, DPM, among many other well-trained surgeons.

As a resident, he cultivated a human gene expression study to uncover the pathogenesis of Charcot Neuropathy, which received funding from the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeon’s annual scientific grant. This study (in review; JFAS) explored gene expression related to the more current theory of unopposed osteoclast activation leading to bone resorption and ultimately Charcot osseous deterioration. The results of this research demonstrated that there was not a systemic gene overexpression and the joint destruction was a result of a local disease process. These results give credence to the use of offloading as a primary early treatment while diminishing the use of systemic treatments such as bisphosphonates, Monoclonal antibodies and intranasal calcitonin.

Through his new position as an Assistant Professor in the KSUCPM Division of Surgery and Biomechanics, Dr. Connors aims to investigate new genetic pathways that contribute to development of Charcot Neuropathy, while training the next generation in the research process and methodology. Dr. Connors, along with the rest of the surgery division, have created a group of dedicated student researchers that are mentored by KSUCPM faculty. Given the acronym SABER for short, the Surgery And Biomechanics Education Researches are students advised on surgical and clinically relevant research ideas while being inspired to fully participate in the project from beginning to eventual publication. This select group is comprised of twenty students ranging from all class years at KSUCPM. These SABER students have the unique opportunity to learn all aspects of forming a high quality podiatric research project while being guided by more experienced podiatric surgeons and clinicians with a wide range of expertise and research interests.

Dr. Connors strives to show his appreciation towards his mentors, by inspiring future generations of podiatrists, while continually striving to improve patient care through well-designed research studies and publications.

**MYTH BUSTED**

"**MYTH:** KSUCPM does not need any support from alumni and donors because they are now a part of a state university."

see page 8 for answers

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**THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNER PODIARY CONTENT CONNECTION**

We are excited to share with you the news about a collaborative effort between KSUCPM and Podiatry Content Connection in order to offer you another great benefit for being a valued alumnus! KSUCPM alumni are now being offered special discounted pricing and incentives on services provided by Podiatry Content Connection. On behalf of every KSUCPM alumnus that enrolls with PCC, a contribution is made as part of a sponsorship.

Podiatry Content Connection specializes in helping podiatrists:

- **Attract New Patients from the Web and Social Networks**
- **Stay “Current” with weekly blogs & articles**
- **Gain visibility online & dominate your local area**

www.kent.edu/OCPM
Independence, Ohio – August 28, 2017 – Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) in partnership with the Ohio Podiatric Medical Student Association (OPMSA), held its Inaugural Student & Alumni Weekend August 18th – 20th, welcoming alumni, students, faculty and staff to honor returning classes, and award recipients as well as two new members who were inducted into CPM’s Hall of Fame Society. The Student & Alumni Weekend was sponsored by the OCPM Foundation. The OCPM Foundation serves to provide, foster, enhance, and encourage grants related to podiatric medical education and / or research.

The Student & Alumni Weekend included three days of events including a Friday night Luau held at the College of Podiatric Medicine in Independence, Ohio with entertainment by Aloha Chicago. OPMSA hosted its Student Symposium on Saturday morning at the College, including workshops by Treace Medical Concepts, Inc. and Biopro Inc.

John E. George, DPM, Class of 1964 and Elliott W. Biggs, DPM, Class of 1970 were inducted during Saturday night’s Hall of Fame & Awards Dinner at the Tudor Arms Hotel, Cleveland. Every year, the College of Podiatric Medicine recognizes distinguished alumni who display dedication to the College and contribute to achievements within the podiatric medical community. The weekend came to a close with the Annual OPMSA Golf Tournament on Sunday at the Shale Creek Golf Club in Medina, Ohio.

A full listing of award recipients for the KSUCPM Inaugural Student & Alumni Weekend are as follows:

- **Staff of the Year Award**: Lester Williams, Custodial Worker
- **Faculty of the Year Award**: Tim Whittingham, Adjunct Professor, Pre-Clinical Sciences
- **Student of the Year Award**: Will Stephens, Class of 2018
- **OCPM Foundation Student Leadership Award**: Rachel Robinson, Class of 2019
- **Thomas V. Melillo, DPM Scholarship Award**: Sai Narra, Class of 2018
- **Young Physician Professional Achievement Award**: Michael B. Canales, DPM, Class of 2004
- **Alumni Service Award**: Gene M. Pascarella, DPM, MBA, Class of 1982
- **2017 Hall of Fame Inductees**: John E. George, DPM, Class of 1964 & Elliott W. Biggs, DPM, Class of 1970
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine’s dean, Allan M. Boike, DPM, addressed the sponsors of the Student & Alumni Weekend, in appreciation of their support of the Student Scholarship Fund. The weekend hosted over 200 students, alumni and guests with nearly 250 guests for its Friday night Luau, alone.

Founded in 1916, Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine is one of nine accredited podiatry colleges in the nation, and is a four-year, graduate level medical college, granting the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine. The mission of CPM is to educate students to be highly competent doctors of podiatric medicine who will excel in residency training.

SAVE THE DATE

Save the date for next year’s Student & Alumni Weekend
August 17 – 19, 2018!

Submissions for the 2018 Hall of Fame Inductees will be open October 1 – December 30, 2017.

Nomination criteria and guidelines can be found at www.kent.edu/cpm/hall-fame.

THANK YOU TO OUR TOP 2017 SPONSOR

OCPM FOUNDATION

SUPPORTING ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, ALUMNI EVENTS AND MORE

www.ocpmf.org
The College of Podiatric Medicine has created a program to allow our alumni to request a replacement diploma from Kent State University. This program began with our Centennial Celebration in 2016 as a way for our OCPM alumni to help us celebrate our past, and feel integrated into our future. Since the 2012 merge, we are proud that we have distributed more than 200 Kent State University diplomas to our alumni. Diploma request forms are made available at events and conferences where the college exhibits. To receive your Kent State University diploma, please contact Alyssa Shepherd at 216-916-7547 or ashephe8@kent.edu.

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY DIPLOMAS AVAILABLE TO ALL OCPM ALUMNI WHO GRADUATED BEFORE 2013

The Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine is taking a moment to tackle recent “myths” and to settle any tall tales and urban legends that currently exist about financially supporting the college.

**MYTH:** Giving to any other podiatric medical organization directly supports/impacts students at KSUCPM.

**FACT:** The Kent State University Foundation is the only organization that fundraises directly for the College of Podiatric Medicine.

**MYTH:** Funds given to the Kent State Foundation are used at will to support other areas of campus.

**FACT:** Gifts and pledges to KSUCPM are directed and restricted to specific areas of support that are chosen by the donor. These funds are NOT used to support other areas at Kent State.

**MYTH:** KSUCPM does not need any support from alumni and donors because they are now a part of a state university.

**FACT:** The average cost to attend Kent State’s College of Podiatric Medicine is $40,000 per year and 96% of students rely on financial aid.

**MYTH VERDICT: BUSTED**

We hope that this clarifies any misconceptions that exist and encourages you to direct your gift to where it will be used appropriately, accurately and legally to support our podiatric medicine students, faculty and programs.

At Kent State, our strategic priority is to put Students First, and scholarships help students get from convocation to commencement. Any size gift makes an impact. If you are interested in supporting the College of Podiatric Medicine or have any questions, please visit kent.edu/cpm/support today or contact us via email at priley6@kent.edu or at 6000 Rockside Woods Blvd, Independence, OH 44131. Thank you for supporting our talented students!
ANNOUNCING THE 2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTION AND ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

Planning for the 2018 Alumni Reunion Weekend is underway. Kicking off the weekend will be a three day continuing medical education conference hosted here in Independence, Ohio on Thursday August 16 through Saturday August 18, 2018. That’s not all, mix in a little pleasure with your work this trip because the college will also be hosting our Alumni Reunion on Friday, August 17th honoring class years 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018. Our CPM Hall of Fame Society Inductions and Alumni Awards Dinner will be hosted on Saturday, August 18th and the weekend will conclude with OPMSA’s annual golf outing on Sunday, August 19. Proceeds from this weekend will benefit our endowed student scholarship fund.

Alumni were challenged by Dr. Eugene Pas carella, ’82, KSUCPM Advisory Chair, during our 2017 event to support the college by inviting other classmates to attend our event. He shared his personal experience, knowing a prospective student in podiatry, who chose another college, over Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine because they were able to give her more scholarship dollars. Please join Dr. Pas carella and meet his challenge of inviting 1 other classmate when you decide to attend our weekend events.

Nominations for the Alumni Awards and Hall of Fame Society can be found on our webpage, www.kent.edu/cpm. We invite you to nominate a graduate who you believe is deserving of this award. Your nominations have been collected for the next induction ceremony on August 19, 2017. Thank you!

The 2018 Alumni Awards include:

KSUCPM Service Award
This award honors alumni who have displayed a connection to KSUCPM through their service to KSUCPM. This would include alumni who have given their time and talent to enhance the college.

KSUCPM Young Physician Professional Achievement Award
This award honors alumni that have been in practice less than 15 years and have showcased high level of achievements within the field of podiatry, dedication and support to the school. This award is presented to leaders who continue to show potential within the podiatric community.

KSUCPM Hall of Fame Society
The CPM Hall of Fame Society is the most prestigious award given to our alumni. The College of Podiatric Medicine Hall of Fame Society honors distinguished alumni in recognition of their outstanding contributions and achievements within the podiatric community, who have demonstrated ongoing support and appreciation to their alma mater after 20 years or greater in the field of podiatry.

To submit your nomination online, please visit: www.kent.edu/cpm/hall-fame

If you have any questions regarding the College of Podiatric Weekend of Events or the Alumni Award nominations, please contact Alyssa Shepherd, Advancement Services Manager, at 216-916-7547 or ashephe8@kent.edu.

SAVE THE DATE

2018 ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND:
Friday, August 17 through Sunday, August 19, 2018,
Independence, Ohio

OPCPM FOUNDATION
Partnering with OPMSA, proceeds from this event will go towards the newly named OPMSA Student Scholarship Fund.
## THE FUTURE OF PODIATRY

- **Applications Received**: 526
- **Interviews Conducted**: 270
- **Total Class**: 125
- **Oh Residents**: 41
- **Non Residents**: 84
- **Countries**: 3
- **States**: 28
- **Clubs & Organizations**: 21
- **Average Age**: 25
- **Overall GPA**: 3.34
- **Biology AVG.**: 3.20
- **Science GPA**: 3.20
- **Organic AVG.**: 3.00
- **MCAT AVG.**: 495

Proudly Presenting Our DPM Class of 2021

U.S. Incoming Freshman:
- Ohio: 23%
- Michigan: 10%
- Texas: 7%
- Penn.: 5%
- New York: 5%
OCPM Foundation Board Members

The OCPM Foundation Board is committed to providing grant funds for any podiatry related research or educational projects that enhance the future of podiatric medical education. The OCPM Foundation has assisted many podiatric and medical organizations, as well as students involved in research. To apply for a grant, please visit www.ocpmf.org.

David R. Nicolanti, Ph.D.
Douglas V. Epp, MBA
Steven J. Berlin, DPM
Henry B. Green, DPM

OCPM Foundation Board Officers

Douglas V. Epp, MBA Chairman
David R. Nicolanti, Ph.D. Executive Director
Jonathan S. Carlson, MBA, CPA Treasurer
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Richard A. Ransom, DPM
Gene. M. Pascarella, DPM, MBA
Scott G. Richter, CFA, CMT, CHP

THANK YOU TO OUR TOP 2017 SPONSOR

OCPM FOUNDATION

216.513.8600 drn@ocpmf.org www.ocpmf.org

SAVE THE DATE

4TH Annual Podiatric Medical Seminar in the City of the Renaissance
MAY 14 - 16, 2018
• Kent State University Florence Campus, Florence, Italy
• ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN: www.kent.edu/cpm/2018-florence-italy-cme

Inaugural Northeast National Conference
SEPTEMBER 27 – 30, 2018
• Stamford Marriott, Stamford, CT

Inaugural Cleveland CME Program / Alumni & Student Weekend
AUGUST 16 – 19, 2018
• Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine, Independence, OH

10th Annual Southeast National Conference
DECEMBER 6 – 9, 2018
• Walt Disney World Swan Resort, Orlando, FL
**SAVE THE DATE**

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