

## *Colleges Advisory/Clinical Skills Program of The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

### What is the Colleges Program?

The Colleges Program was launched in August 2005 by Dr. David Nichols, Vice Dean of Education, with the support of the Dean of Faculty, Dr. Edward Miller, and in collaboration with Dr. Pat Thomas, Associate Dean for Curriculum, Dr. Tom Koenig, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, and the Medical Student Society. The program is intended to provide every medical student with a dedicated and longitudinal advisor/mentor. From a social perspective, groups are organized around student-faculty pairings to enhance student-faculty and student-student interaction. Robert Shochet, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, joined the full-time faculty in July, 2005 as Director of the Colleges Program and is overseeing this effort.

Twenty-four physicians in the medical school now hold positions as "Core Colleges Faculty". These 24 physicians devote 20% effort to serve as longitudinal advisors to five students in each medical school class, as well as serving as a small group preceptor for their students in the Year 2 Clinical Skills course. This arrangement offers students a unique opportunity to learn the fundamental skills of medicine and lessons in professionalism and humanism from a trusted advisor, as well as building valued student-faculty connections.

Students and faculty are organized into four colleges. Each college is currently populated by 120 students (30 from each class), 6 core faculty, and will have a faculty and student leader. A wider welcome to the Hopkins medical faculty is currently in progress to expand the network of faculty offering mentoring, teaching, research, and advisory connections to students. Students within each college will soon be organizing themselves for social activities, as well as beginning a student mentorship program, where Year 3 and Year 4 students form connections with the students in Years 1 and 2. Discussions are currently underway as to the geographic space the Colleges may occupy in the Education Building planned for 2008.

Incoming students meet their core faculty advisors at Orientation and subsequently see them for both advisory meetings and informal get-togethers on a regular basis. Advisors may also help students become familiar with the Baltimore community. Academic counseling will be offered to assist students in learning "the roadmap" of medical education. Social events will be held for each college several times per year, so students get to know fellow students, including those more senior and junior.

When students are in their second year, the core advisors become the students' Clinical Skills instructors and see them on a weekly basis. In the third and fourth years, faculty may assist in career counseling, finding additional mentors to satisfy emerging interests and writing recommendation letters as desired by the student.

### What are the Program Goals?

- To foster a welcoming learning community for students honoring diversity and unique interests;
- To promote faculty advising and mentoring relationships with all students throughout medical school;
- To foster social and supportive connections between students, particularly across levels of training;
- To foster scientific inquiry, innovation, and leadership among students.

- To assist students in building networks of connections within the Hopkins medical community to meet their emerging goals;
- To provide clinician role models to foster excellence in humanism, professionalism, and the clinical skills of medicine;

### What is the Rationale for Starting a Colleges System?

- Students expressed the desire to build closer relationships with faculty, particularly in the first two years of medical school.
- Counterbalance the current fragmentation in faculty teaching assignments (due to clinical work, economic and subspecialty trends) making it difficult for faculty to devote the number of hours needed to train students in the clinical skills of medicine.
- Opportunity to enhance teaching in humanistic and relational aspects of medical care.
- Promote attention to the professional and personal growth of medical students.

### About the Colleges Director, Staff and Core Faculty

Dr. Shochet ([rshoche1@jhmi.edu](mailto:rshoche1@jhmi.edu)) is a general internist with fellowship training in consultation psychiatry and interests in medical education and communication skills. Prior to coming to Hopkins, he was on the full-time teaching faculty at Sinai Hospital. He participated in the faculty development program for medical educators at Johns Hopkins/Bayview Medical Center, and in communications/facilitator training with the American Academy on Physician and Patient (AAPP). He recently served a two-year term as President of the AAPP.

The 23 other core faculty (see below) are drawn from both the East Baltimore and Bayview campuses, and include members of the Departments of Medicine, Pediatrics, Neurology, Anesthesiology, Surgery, and Emergency Medicine. Specialty fields include: Geriatrics, Gastroenterology, Rheumatology, Adolescent Medicine, Substance Abuse, Pain, Cerebrovascular Disease, Critical Care, Thoracic Surgery, General Medicine, General Pediatrics, Hospital Medicine, and Adult and Pediatric Emergency Medicine.

Ms. Susan Shultz is the full-time Senior Academic Program Coordinator for the Colleges Program. She most recently served as Program Coordinator of the Robert Wood Johnson Scholars Program under the direction of Dr. Leon Gordis in the School of Public Health. The Colleges Office is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center, Suite 2122 (tel. 410-502-3737). Scott Wright, MD, Assoc. Prof. of Medicine, was recently recruited to serve as Coordinator of Research for the Colleges Program. Dr. Wright will encourage a scholarly focus to this work, which offers tremendous opportunities to both faculty and students.

### Core Colleges Faculty Roster 2005-2006: (College Leaders in Bold)

Robert Shochet, MD, Director      Susan Shultz, Program Coordinator      Scott Wright, MD, Scholarship Coordinator

#### College A

**Hoover Adger, MD, Prof. Pediatrics**  
 Frank Giardiello, MD, Prof. Medicine  
 Mark Hughes, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine  
 Rachel Levine, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine  
 Rafael Llinas, MD, Asst. Prof. Neurology  
 Rosalyn Stewart, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine

#### College B

**Theresa Hartsell, MD, PhD, Asst. Prof. Anesthes.**  
 Tom Finucane, MD, Prof. Medicine  
 John Flynn, MBA, MD, Assoc. Prof. Medicine  
 Myechia Minter-Jordan, MD, Instruct. Medicine  
 Greg Prokopowicz, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine  
 Robert Shochet, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine

#### College C

**David Levine, MD, Prof. Medicine**  
 Bimal Ashar, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine  
 Sarah Clever, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine  
 Mitchell Goldstein, MBA, MD, Instruct. Pediatrics  
 Beth Murinson, MD, PhD, Asst. Prof. Neurology  
 Steven Yang, MD, Assoc. Prof. Surgery

#### College D

**Jeff Magaziner, MD Asst. Prof. Medicine**  
 Gail Berkenblit, MD, PhD, Asst. Prof. Medicine  
 John Burton, MD, Prof. Medicine  
 Eric Howell, MD, Asst. Prof. Medicine  
 Julianna Jung, MD, Instruct. Emerg. Med.  
 Barry Solomon, MD, Asst. Prof. Pediatrics