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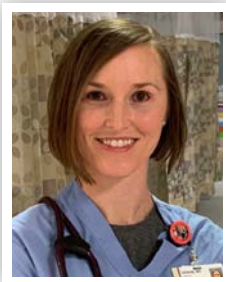
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From the President

Greetings colleagues!

I hope this Newsletter finds you well. This will be my last president's letter to our membership as Dr. Meredith Lulich will be stepping into the president role for 2024. She has been an active contributor, engaged board member and I am grateful she has further committed to MOCMS by filling our presidential role.



It is always so heartwarming to see our community show up for the Hoosiers Outrun Cancer event. Snacks and coffee were a treat to those who stopped by. We learned last minute that being assigned a tent location did not mean there was a tent provided... So the MOCMS tent event became a table event! I apologize to those who were not able to locate us.

Our MOCMS book club will be held Thursday, November 9 and hosted at Dr. Gifford's home. The book of discussion will be *"The Hospital"* by Brian Alexander. I look forward to discussing this non-fiction selection as it applies to medicine and healthcare in small town America. You are always welcome whether you finish the book or not. It is always a pleasure to spend an evening in discussion and reflection with our fellow physician colleagues.

As Dave has stepped into the Executive Director role, he has been busy transitioning our office space and streamlining our online presence. I am so grateful he has joined us and is willing to jump in and do the hard things!

Thanks again for all your support! Please let us know how we can better serve you, as a local doctor and MOCMS member! I have been honored to serve as MOCMS president and look forward to what the future holds in our organization. We can have influence if we choose to engage.

Christal L. Greene, MD

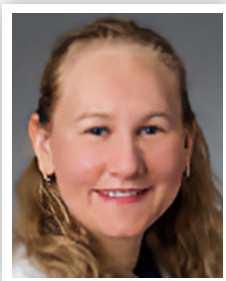
President

Monroe Owen County Medical Society

From the President-Elect

Hello, fellow physicians!

It will be an honor to serve as the president of the MOCMS as I follow in the footsteps of many talented colleagues before me. For those of you I have not yet had the pleasure to meet, I would like to introduce myself and share my hopes for the future of the Medical Society.



As a native Hoosier hailing from Richmond, Indiana, I set off exploring for my education. First stop was Denison University in Ohio for my undergraduate degree. Then, I ventured further to New Hampshire to attend the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College. My internal medicine residency at Washington University of St. Louis/Barnes Jewish Hospital brought me back to the Midwest. And, I finally came home to Indiana to practice primary care in the lovely little town of Gosport, Indiana in Owen County. Although I transferred to Spencer several years ago, I have enjoyed practicing in a rural setting these past 13 years. In 2019, I began exploring the academic side of medicine by precepting third year medical students. I have since welcomed first and second year students as well. It is an area

(Cont'd on page 2.)

(Cont'd from page 1.)

of my career that has been very rewarding, pushing me academically and reminding me of the ideals of medicine.

I'm married to Steven, who is a professor of Speech and Hearing Sciences at Indiana University. We have three children, Ezekiel (13), Nehemiah (11), and Eliza (8). When I can, I enjoy participating in activities through our church, cooking (lately I've been discovering Persian and middle-Eastern cuisine), hiking or walking our dog, Nello (Tollers are an uncommon but lovely breed). Previously an avid reader, the MOCMS book club has helped me carve out time for at least a few books a year.

Primary care can be isolating, particularly in comparison to residency, where I was constantly rubbing shoulders with internal medicine sub-specialists and even occasionally venturing onto the surgical floors and into the cubicles of radiologists to discuss patients. Involvement in the medical society was one way I started to get to know my colleagues and break out of the isolation. It has also helped me keep abreast of what is happening within the larger medical community.

Looking forward to 2024, I would like to see our membership involve a broader aspect of our medical community. We can all benefit from diverse perspectives – be that from different personal backgrounds, different specialties or different medical systems. To help build those connections, we're looking at reviving the popular Enigma series, continuing the book club and offering some social events as well. Through our connections with the state medical society, we can help bring the physician perspective to our legislative officials. We would like to support a greater number of local physicians engaging in that process. Whether you've been observing the medical society from afar for years, or are new to our community and just learning about us, I would encourage you to make 2024 the year you jump in and join us.

Meredith Lulich, MD

President-Elect

Monroe Owen County Medical Society

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MOCMS Provides Support for Hoosiers Outrun Cancer 2023

The Monroe Owen County Medical Society supported the Hoosiers Outrun Cancer event on September 16, 2023. We had a table at the event and several physician members participated in the event. As you can see in these photos, it was a beautiful day with 3,882 participants this year and raised \$351,000 which exceeded the goal of \$340,000. These funds support programs in south central Indiana for cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and family members affected by cancer.



Dr. Michael Miller, Dr. Meredith Lulich, Dr. Laura Knudson and kids, Dr. Christal Greene



Dr. Meredith Lulich, President-elect and Dr. Christal Greene, President.

ISMA Elects Physician Officers & AMA Delegation Members

(PLAINFIELD, Ind.) – The Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) elected its officers and American Medical Association (AMA) delegation members at its 174th Annual Convention, held Sept. 8-10, 2023.

David R. Diaz, MD, Indianapolis, was sworn in as ISMA president for 2023-2024, while William Pond, MD, Fort Wayne, was chosen by acclamation as ISMA president-elect.

Dr. Diaz is a psychiatrist with IU Health in Indianapolis and an associate professor of clinical psychiatry at the Indiana University School of Medicine, where he earned his medical degree. Dr. Diaz earned his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Evansville. In addition to his practice in Indianapolis, he also serves patients in Jasper, Indiana. Dr. Diaz, an ISMA member since 1989, has chaired the ISMA Board of Trustees, and served as a member of the ISMA Commission on Legislation. Dr. Diaz is the associate medical director of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction in Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration.

Dr. Pond will become ISMA's next president in September 2024. Dr. Pond is an anesthesiologist with Associated Anesthesiologists of Fort Wayne. Dr. Pond earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry and zoology from Butler University, and his medical degree from the Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Pond, an ISMA member since 1991, has served as ISMA treasurer and assistant treasurer, and as a member of the ISMA Commission on Legislation. Dr. Pond is a colonel in the Indiana Air National Guard.

Other ISMA officers sworn in for one-year terms include the following: speaker of the House of Delegates, Andrew Trobridge, MD, Fishers; vice speaker of the House of Delegates, Alexander Choi, MD, Zionsville; treasurer, Shalin Arnett, DO, Vincennes; and assistant treasurer, Seung Sim, MD, Indianapolis.

Six members of ISMA's delegation to the AMA were also sworn in. Elected as AMA delegates are Heidi M. Dunnaway, MD, Evansville; William Mohr, MD, Kokomo; and David Welsh, MD, Batesville. Alternate delegates are Deepak Azad, MD, Floyds Knobs; Stacie Wenk, DO, Evansville; and Thomas Vidic, MD, Elkhart. AMA delegation members serve two-year terms and are elected on a staggered basis.

The Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) is a federation of county and district medical societies across Indiana. With more than 9,500 physician and medical student members, the ISMA seeks to maximize the leadership and impact of physicians, make Indiana one of the best states in which to practice medicine, and make Hoosiers among the healthiest people in the country. Learn more about the ISMA's mission and history at ismanet.org.

ISMA Women in Medicine Virtual Discussion Series Resumes Nov. 7

The ISMA Women in Medicine Virtual Discussion Forum will hold its first post-convention meeting on Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. All female ISMA members are welcome to join to connect, network and discuss topics of particular significance to women physicians today. The forums typically begin with a brief opening presentation, followed by a facilitated group discussion, and last an hour. New Women in Medicine Committee Chair Jane Bridges, MD, will be in attendance. Dr. Bridges will welcome attendees, convey the WIM Committee programming survey results, and discuss opportunities for 2024.

Planning for the next WIM Retreat is currently underway. The retreat will be held at the Bottleworks Hotel in Indianapolis in February 2024 and additional information will be communicated to members in the coming weeks.

MOCMS Event at Kinsey Institute

The IU Kinsey Institute hosted the MOCMS on November 2nd. Justin Garcia, Ph.D., Executive Director, shared the history and current day status of the Institute. He was informative and at times entertaining. It was attended by 14 MOCMS members who were eager to learn more. Thanks to Dr. Garcia and Dev Montanez, Administrative Coordinator, for helping plan this event.



Attendees pose with statue of Dr. Alfred Kinsey. Pictured from left to right are Dr. David Peterson, Dr. Duangnapa Cuddy, Dr. Bryan Wohlfeld, Dr. Meredith Lulich, and Dr. Christal Greene.

MOCMS Website Being Revised

We are currently updating the website to make it easier to navigate and contain more timely and valuable information to our members. Please watch for further updates about this and please share your thoughts about how this can be made most useful to you, our members. Send comments/suggestions to director@mocms.org.

New Office for MOCMS

We moved our office to 115 North College Avenue, Suite 015 on September 27, 2023. Our mailing address and phone number remains the same though:

MOCMS
PO Box 3211
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812.332.4033

PLEASE KEEP US UPDATED

In our increased effort to “go green”, MOCMS is hoping to communicate with you through email. If you would like to help MOCMS use less paper, please be sure we have your updated email address by sending an email to director@mocms.org and check that your spam blocker will allow communications from MOCMS.

MOVED LATELY?

Please forward your new address for your **home** and/or your **practice** to MOCMS right away. You may call MOCMS at 812.332.4033, write to us at PO Box 3211, Bloomington, IN 47403 or email director@mocms.org. Please help us keep your information current/correct in the MOCMS database, Physician Directory and on our website at mocms.org.



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The Monroe Owen County Medical Society (MOCMS) Newsletter is published each spring, summer and fall by approval of the Executive Committee. The MOCMS Newsletter accepts submissions of articles, announcements, obituaries, and editorials related to the interests of our members. Materials submitted for consideration should be typed as a Word document. The MOCMS reserves the right to edit all articles submitted. MOCMS retains final editorial judgment regarding newsletter content. It reserves the right to reject articles, announcements, letters, advertisements, and other items that do not correspond with the goals and purposes of the organization.

The information contained in the newsletter is believed to be correct and accurate. Unless specifically stated otherwise, the opinions expressed in any article, advertisement, or column are those of the individual author and do not represent an official position of, or endorsement by, the Monroe Owen County Medical Society, its officers, Executive Committee, or the newsletter staff.

Approved by the Executive Committee on June 5, 2007.

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