

From rowdy to respected: AOA initiates extend 100-year tradition

At the beginning of the last century, medical students in America had a reputation for “rowdiness, boorishness, immorality, and low educational ideals,” according to the Web site of the Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society. Founded in Chicago in 1902, the society hoped to improve that reputation by working to “foster honesty and formulate higher ideals of scholastic achievement” in a time when fewer than 15 percent of medical students held college degrees, and classes often took place in storefronts or warehouses.

More than 100 years later, AOA student members must be in the top 25 percent of their class and demonstrate strong leadership, professionalism, ethics, potential for professional success, and dedication to service. Sixteen Boonshoft School of Medicine students were recognized in 2008 for meeting these high standards and were elected to the Wright State chapter by AOA members among the faculty. Three residents and two faculty members were inducted along with the students at a ceremony on May 6.

2008 AOA Initiates

Students

Deborah M. Amann
Tyler M. Angelos
Julia O. Burrow
William K. Cornwell
Beth R. Davis
Jason R. Faber
Daniel B. Flora
Richard N. Greene
Bryan S. Jewell
Sonal Kishore
Scott T. Leffler
Jacob S. McAfee
David W. Morris
Dipika M. Patel
Kyle L. Randall
Sarah B. VonLehmden

Residents

David J. Dalstrom, M.D.
Jason T. Hedrick, M.D.
Charles Brock Miller, M.D.

Faculty

Dean X. Parmelee, M.D.
Jerome J. Schulte Jr., M.D.

Golfing for a good cause

On a beautiful Friday in May, many medical students took a rare afternoon off from their studies to enjoy some recreation — and support a pair of important causes.

The fifth annual Drive for a Difference charity golf scramble brought together more than 80 students, faculty, and friends for a luncheon and 18 holes of golf at the Beavercreek Golf Club.

As in past years, proceeds from the event benefited Reach Out of Montgomery County, an organization that provides

free health care for uninsured and underserved patients. Throughout their years at Wright State, medical students often volunteer at the organization’s clinic in Dayton.

The event also supported the Jacob P. Deerhake, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund. Deerhake (’00), died at the age of 30 from a rare form of brain cancer. His fellow alumni from the class of 2000 established the scholarship to honor his memory and support current students who share Deerhake’s strong values and moral character.

