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The Importance of Accreditation to Podiatric Medical Education

Barry University's School of Podiatric Medicine will receive an accreditation visit from the Council of Podiatric Medical Education in December 2007. The editor discussed with Dr. Chet Evans, vice president for Medical Affairs and dean of the School of Podiatric Medicine the importance of accreditation to podiatric medical education.

EDITOR: How important is accreditation to maintaining the quality of podiatric medical education?

DR. EVANS: Accreditation is highly important to protect the public from substandard institutions or organizations that do not follow the same high level of standards as those institutions or organizations who have received accreditation from an autonomous accrediting agency. The accrediting agency adopts standards and policies to review the specific aspects of quality and to determine whether an institution or organization is consistent with these standards and policies. Participation in accreditation is voluntary in nature and the public has placed a great deal of emphasis on accreditation. So much so, that state statutes will not allow physicians or other health care professionals to be licensed without a degree from an institution which is not accredited.

The Council of Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) is the autonomous accrediting agency for the podiatric medical profession. The Council is empowered to develop and adopt standards and policies as necessary for the implementation of all aspects of accreditation for colleges of podiatric medicine, approval of residency programs, continuing medical education programs and the recognition of specialty boards for podiatric medical and surgical practice.

EDITOR: What will the accreditation team be looking for in their visit?

DR. EVANS: The Council's team will be visiting Barry's campus in December 2007. The standards which they will be looking for include the following:

1) The School has a clear and appropriate mission statement and has established a meaningful strategic planning process for the college of podiatric medicine.
2) The School has effective systems of governance and management and demonstrates fiscal responsibility.
3) The School offers an educational program that ensures graduation of competent and ethical doctors of podiatric medicine.
4) The School has a faculty that is competent to provide instruction in podiatric medical education.
5) The School has appropriate student policies and adequate student services.
6) The physical plant is appropriate, sufficient, well maintained, and properly equipped.
7) The School has adequate mechanisms and systems in place to assure the effectiveness of the program.
8) The School ensures that the college conducts an ethical and responsible professional education program.

EDITOR: What is the maximum number of years of accreditation which the Council dictates?

DR. EVANS: The maximum number of years of accreditation which the Council dictates is eight years. The accrediting team includes a dean or associate dean from another college of podiatric medicine, other DPMs, and experienced members of the public, usually from other health care disciplines.

EDITOR: How does the School prepare for an accreditation visit?

DR. EVANS: Preparation starts at least a full year before the visit with a comprehensive self-study of the podiatric medical education program. This evaluation identifies the specific strengths and weaknesses of the program. The purpose of this exhaustive self-study is to provide a strategy to resolve any deficiencies or weaknesses identified by the self-study. Materials the team will review include the self-study, the graduate catalogue, and other related documents.

EDITOR: What are the parameters of accreditation as far as length of time goes?

DR. EVANS: The Council dictates the maximum number of years of accreditation after the site visit. The length of time of accreditation is determined by any deficiency or inadequacy in standards found by the team which may require a return visit. Last visit, Barry was granted the maximum number of years of accreditation which is eight years. The accrediting team includes a dean or associate dean from another college of podiatric medicine, other DPMs, and experienced members of the public, usually from other health care disciplines.

EDITOR: What has the accreditation record been for Barry University?

DR. EVANS: We are very proud of our accreditation history. In 1985 we received provisional accreditation when we began the School of Podiatric Medicine. We received full accreditation in 1989 with the graduates of our first class and have received the maximum accreditation of eight years for each subsequent accreditation visit.

EDITOR: Is there anything else you would like to mention about accreditation?

DR. EVANS: Many other institutions look at accreditation and the site visitation as an adversarial process. We at Barry University believe that accreditation is essential as it not only evaluates us with regard to the other schools of podiatric medicine but it is significant to the improvement of the overall medical education endeavor. The visit results provide specific recommendations in tangible outcomes that will result in improvement of the entire podiatric medical education process.
In January 2007 the Council on Teaching Hospitals conducted a national New Graduate DPM Survey. The responses of 126 residency directors allows a comparison of recent Barry graduates to a national sample of recent graduates, which shows that Barry is above the national averages on both survey items.
BIARY UNIVERSITY  ♦  DIVISION OF MEDICINE  ♦  WINTER 2008

PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S column

Doreen C. Parkhurst, MD, FACEP

Get Ready to Celebrate 10th Anniversary of the PA Program

On December 3, 2007, the Barry University Physician Assistant Program (BUPAP) will celebrate its 10th anniversary during the annual Barry PA Board Review course. Established in 1997, the BUPAP has graduated over 200 physician assistants who are making a significant difference in the health care and lives of countless patients. Now on two campuses, the BUPAP is entering its second decade. Dr. Doreen Parkhurst, assistant dean of the School of Graduate Medical Sciences and PA program director, discussed with the editor the remarkable accomplishments of the PA Program and her visions for the future.

EDITOR: What do you see are the major accomplishments of the PA Program in its first 10 years?

DR. PARKHURST: In 1997, there were 30 students in the first class. The second class had 28 students. We now have 68 students seated on two campuses (Miami Shores and St. Petersburg). Core faculty and staff members have grown proportionately. The program has enjoyed the support of several HRSA Bureau of Health Professions grants as well as a private grant from Aetna. The didactic curriculum is delivered through interactive videoconferencing between two classes on Internet2®. We have come a long way in 10 years!

EDITOR: There has been a great deal of camaraderie among the PA faculty, staff, and students. What do you attribute this to?

DR. PARKHURST: We are still a family. Even though we have increased in size, there is still a foundation of caring for each other that is strong and pervasive.

EDITOR: What changes have you seen in the training of PA students over the past ten years? What lead role has Barry University played?

DR. PARKHURST: There is more of an emphasis upon professionalism than there was 10 years ago in the PA field. The continuing major role technology plays in all our lives has had an impact. All of our courses are delivered online, all of our testing is online; all first-year students are required to own lap top computers. All clinical year students collect patient and procedure data on their palm held computers.

EDITOR: The PA Program has established many community service endeavors. What has been the most rewarding to you?

DR. PARKHURST: I think the exercise in Problem Based Learning has been the most rewarding to me. Members of the community acted as patients and were interviewed by our students. The community members evaluated the students’ cultural competency. That has been very rewarding to observe.

EDITOR: Many of the faculty, staff, students, and friends of the PA Program worked together to initiate the endowed student scholarship fund. How would you describe this effort?

DR. PARKHURST: The effort was successful. We are now funding scholarships from it and we continue to accept donations.

EDITOR: What do you foresee for the PA program as it begins its second decade?

DR. PARKHURST: I see an era of stability and strength and a continuing success at preparing very caring, competent, and compassionate physician assistants to make a difference in the world.

EDITOR: What plans do you have for the 10th anniversary celebration?

DR. PARKHURST: We are inviting all our PA alumni, students, friends, faculty, preceptors, adjuncts, staff, and members of the Barry community to attend our 10th anniversary reception on Monday, December 3, 2007 at 4:00 p.m., on the Barry campus in Miami Shores, Andreas 112, and via videoconferencing through the University Partnership Center at St. Petersburg College, in the EpiCenter, room 1-453. Those who wish to attend should email RSVP to Solange Brinson sbbrinson@mail.barry.edu for Miami Shores, and Debbie Winton dwinton@mail.barry.edu for St. Petersburg. Sister Linda Bevilacqua, president of Barry University will speak by interactive videoconferencing at 5 p.m. Come join us for a fun, exciting, and joyous celebration!
PICA Awards Scholarships

The Barry University Division of Medicine is pleased to announce that Ngozi Ezeude and Val Haddon, fourth year podiatric medical students, Class of 2008, have been selected to receive the Podiatry Insurance Company of America (PICA) Group Scholarship Award for 2007. Ms. Ezeude and Mr. Haddon will each receive a $2,500 scholarship to defray tuition costs for their medical education at Barry University through the generous support of PICA Group.

According to Dr. Jerry Brant, president/CEO of PICA Group, “This scholarship is presented to each of the podiatric schools as a demonstration of PICA’s continued support for the growth of the podiatric profession and recognition of the academic achievement of many outstanding podiatric medical students.”

The students were selected by Barry’s full-time podiatric clinical faculty based upon their excellence in third year clinical rotations this past academic year. Chet Evans, DPM, vice-president for Medical Affairs and dean of the School of Podiatric Medicine indicated, “Student doctors Ezeude and Haddon are most worthy and admirable recipients. They serve as fine role models for their classmates for their hard work and high level of achievement. PICA is to be congratulated and gratefully thanked for recognizing quality podiatric medical students whose efforts exceed expectations.”

PICA to Sponsor Barry Podiatric Rite of Passage

The Barry University Division of Medicine is pleased to announce that Podiatry Insurance Company of America (PICA) has generously committed to being the exclusive sponsor of the School of Podiatric Medicine, White Coat Ceremony for the next five years. According to vice president for Medical Affairs and dean of the School of Podiatric Medicine, Dr. Chet Evans, “This magnificent gift demonstrates the dedication and commitment that PICA has to this important rite of passage for the podiatric medical students at Barry, which recognizes the completion of their didactic studies and entry into the clinical training component of their podiatric medical education. Our students are sincerely grateful to PICA for their support,” he said.

The Rite of Passage Ceremony continues a tradition at Barry University for podiatric medical students. The clinical lab coats presented to the students have been recognized since ancient times as the attire of the medical profession. When the Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine was founded in 1985, there were only eighteen students, no clinics, and only one hospital affiliation. Now, the School has nearly 200 podiatric medical students with over 250 hospital based externships, an affiliated three-year surgical residency training program, four Foot and Ankle Institutes, and over 900 podiatric medical graduates.

The next Rite of Passage Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 30, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. at the Broad Center for the Performing Arts on the Barry University campus in Miami Shores. Dr. Evans indicated that PICA committed support of $5,000 per year for the next five years, amounting to a gift of $25,000. This gift next year will place PICA in the Barry University Society of Founders, a giving club that recognizes those who have given a gift of $50,000 or more to Barry. PICA will be honored at the Barry University Founders’ Ball and will have a plaque placed in their honor in Barry’s Founders’ Walk.

APMSA Leadership Award Recipient

Sherunda Smith, Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine, Class of 2008, received the American Podiatric Medical Student Association (APMSA) Leadership Award, the association’s highest student award, for her continued excellence in fulfilling her delegate and APMA liaison responsibilities. Reprinted from First Step, V. 57, fall 2007.
**ALUMNI news**

Dr. Steinberg Selected as Barry University Distinguished Alumni Recipient

![Photo of Dr. John Steinberg, DPM]

The Barry University Division of Medicine is pleased to announce that John Steinberg, DPM, ’93, ’95 has been selected as the Barry University 2007 Distinguished Alumni recipient from the Barry University Division of Medicine. Dr. Steinberg was presented with his award by Dr. Chet Evans, vice president for Medical Affairs and dean of the School of Podiatric Medicine. The award ceremony attended by more than 250 guests was held on November 15, at the Don Shula Hotel in Miami Lakes and was sponsored by the Barry University Alumni Association which honored distinguished alumni from all ten schools at Barry University. Dr. Steinberg, upon receiving the award indicated, “I am very proud and honored to be selected for this distinguished award. It means so much to me as a Barry University and the School of Podiatric Medicine are like home to me!”

Dr. Steinberg, president of the Barry School of Podiatric Medicine, Class of 1995, hails from a proud family of podiatric physicians. His grandfather, Dr. Marvin Steinberg, was a highly respected and devoted educator, known as the father of modern podiatric medicine. His father, Dr. Lloyd Steinberg, and brother, Dr. Paul Steinberg, are both actively practicing podiatric physicians in Ocala, Florida.

Dr. Steinberg was a leader from the moment he stepped onto the Barry University campus in September 1991. As a class leader, he was president of his class from 1993 to 1995. He graduated with honors in May of 1995 and completed a one-year podiatric surgical residency at the Northern Virginia Podiatric Residency Program in Fairfax, Virginia. As part of his residency, he trained in reconstructive surgery of the foot and ankle at the highly respected Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, DC, where he now serves as an assistant professor. He completed his training as a Diabetic Foot Fellow at the University of Texas. In 1999, he was appointed as assistant professor in the Department of Orthopedics in the Health Science Center at the University of Texas, San Antonio. Among other awards and recognitions, Dr. Steinberg received are: “150 Most Influential Podiatrists,” *Podiatry Management Magazine* (2001); Alumni Excellence in Leadership Award, Northern Virginia Podiatric Residency Program (2002); Distinguished Practitioner, National Academies of Practice (2002); “Physician of the Year,” Texas Diabetes Institute (2003); Young Practitioner of the Year, Texas Podiatric Medical Association (2004); “Teacher of the Year,” Washington Hospital Center Podiatric Residency Program (2006); and “Most Influential Podiatrists,” *Podiatric Management Magazine* (2006).

In professional service to podiatric medicine, Dr. Steinberg has taken a leadership role since the inception of his career. Beginning with the American Podiatric Medical Association, he served as the founding member of the Young Members Committee from 1993 to 1995. He is also the founding member and president of the Foot and Ankle Institute of Virginia, founded in 2002; he is founding member of the Podiatric Advisory Committee of the Southern Medical Association (2003–2006); and was Chairman, Membership Committee of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (2005–07). Dr. Steinberg is actively involved in research, publication of professional articles, and lecturing at national podiatric and other health care meetings. He is an active member of many professional podiatric associations, including: Florida Podiatric Medical Association; National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners; American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons; American Podiatric Medical Association House of Delegates; Southern Medical Association; American Board of Podiatric Surgery; American Diabetes Association; European Association for the Study of Diabetes; American Public Health Association; Wound Healing Society, among others. Dr. Steinberg was formerly an assistant professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Department of Orthopedics, Podiatry Division (1999–2004). He has served as an adjunct clinical faculty member at Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine since 2000, as well as, Des Moines University, Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine, Samuel Merritt College of Podiatric Medicine, and the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine. As a full-time academic faculty member at the Georgetown University School of Medicine, Department of Plastic Surgery, Dr. Steinberg holds the honor of being the first doctor of podiatric medicine (DPM) to be invited onto the faculty at Georgetown University School of Medicine, At Georgetown University, Dr. Steinberg serves as the rotation director for podiatric residents that serve at the University from Washington Hospital Center and Fairfax Hospital. Dr. Steinberg has “given back” to Barry University since the time of his graduation, with the education of future podiatric physicians and researchers being his first priority. He was the first Barry alumus selected by the graduating seniors to deliver the commencement keynote speech for the School of Podiatric Medicine, Class of 2002, and continues to serve as a clinical adjunct today. He is the recipient of the Barry University President’s Circle Award (2002). Together with other members of his family, Steinberg provided an endowment to Barry University to establish the Dr. Marvin and Ruth Steinberg Memorial Scholarship Fund. Overall, the Steinberg family and friends have contributed over $70,000 to Barry University. This is a fitting tribute to perpetuate the mission of Barry University and the Steinberg family to provide scholarships for podiatric medical students. Dr. Steinberg’s strong commitment to young podiatric medical students has been instrumental in bringing the American Podiatric Medical Association Young Members Committee to the Barry University Campus on numerous occasions. As a current clinical and resident preceptor, professional association leader, mentor, and proud alumni, Dr. Steinberg’s commitment to future young podiatric physicians makes him an outstanding Barry University alumnus, of whom the University and the School of Podiatric Medicine can be very proud. Dr. Steinberg will be coming to Barry University in December 2007 to provide a lecture, *Revascularization of the Diabetic Foot*, during the School of Podiatric Medicine Mini-Seminar Series.
Dr. James Stelnicki Establishes $100,000 Scholarship Fund at Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine

Excellence in Lower Extremity Vascular Medicine.

The scholarship, which is based on Dr. Stelnicki’s $100,000 donation to the School of Podiatric Medicine, will award one $10,000 scholarship each year to a deserving senior podiatric medical student at Barry University. To qualify for this scholarship, the student must submit a published research paper or poster research presentation in the area of lower extremity vascular medicine and demonstrate clinical excellence in lower extremity vascular disease during their third-year clinical rotations. The clinical faculty will select the recipient of the Stelnicki Scholarship based on the most qualified candidate. The scholarship will be applied to the tuition account of the chosen student during their senior year of podiatric medical school.

According to Dr. Chet Evans, vice president for Medical Affairs and dean of the School of Podiatric Medicine, “This tremendous gift to our podiatric medical scholarship program is most sincerely appreciated by our students and the School of Podiatric Medicine. The Stelnicki Scholarship will recognize students who have excelled in lower extremity vascular medicine clinical training beginning in fall 2008 and for years to come. Dr. Stelnicki has been a vital supporter of the School for many years and we are very appreciative of this significant gift,” he added.

James V. Stelnicki, DPM, PA, received his Doctorate of Podiatric Medicine degree from the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, with residency training at the Cleveland Foot Clinic and Pinellas General Hospital. Dr. Stelnicki is board certified in podiatric surgery and primary podiatric care by the American Podiatric Medical Specialties Board. As a physician, he has achieved high recognition within his specialty of podiatric medicine, having led many legislative delegations to Capitol Hill and serving as president of the Florida Podiatric Medical Association.

The 2nd Annual Barry University Podiatric Residency Fair was held September 15, 2007. This year the fair was free to all Podiatric Residency Programs and over 35 programs from around the country attended. Students were able to learn information about the various programs through a 15 minute presentation given by each. Over 80 podiatric medical students attended to mingle with programs at their information booths and attend the presentations. The class of 2009 Residency Fair Committee has been working on this event since March 2007 and they all did an outstanding job. The day was a great success thanks to them! Committee Members: (back row) Brian Selbst, Guy Slann, Seth Felice, Joey Dickinson; (center row) Tyreen Heybeck, Olivera Jovic, Jeanna Van Pelt, Amy Reidel; (front row) Smitha Mantha, Jenny Adams, Caroline Smith. Leslie Dowling and Taren Cardona not pictured here.
Barry University Begins Master of Public Health in Orlando

The Barry University Division of Medicine is excited to announce that the professional Master of Public Health (MPH) degree is now being conducted at the Barry University East campus in Orlando for health professionals seeking a career in the fast-paced and highly challenging world of public health.

The first cohort of students in Orlando includes a physician whose specialty is occupational medicine, chiropractors, doctorate students, practicing health care professionals, and a current Barry University faculty member expanding her knowledge in health care. The program began September 5, 2007, and meets on alternate Friday nights and Saturdays. Though the MPH degree has been offered at the Miami Shores campus since 2004, it is now being broadcast through video-conferencing to the Orlando campus, and on occasion from the Orlando campus back to Miami Shores. According to Tim Patton, director of the Barry University MPH program, “This is a delivery system that works well with interaction and participation among students at both sites. It’s amazing that as the lectures proceed, students become less aware and ultimately unfazed by the distance that separates them.”

“The weekend format and the use of technology that allows students to participate in lectures have class notes and archived video streamed lectures to view available via the internet, keep working professional students involved and allow them to accomplish their educational goals. Patton states “this group of students finds the subject matter of public health so exciting, and the design of the program so accommodating, that our only complaint seems to be the number of acquaintances they have that wish they were in the program as well.”

According to Barry MPH student in Orlando, Dr. Ken Michaels, medical director for Orlando Regional Healthcare, Occupational Health, who also serves as the occupational health primary provider for Walt Disney World, and medical director for East Orlando Lockheed Martin Corporation, “The Barry MPH program is perfect for my needs as a full-time health professional and will provide me with new opportunities to pursue in the future, as public health takes on increasing importance in the world.”

The MPH degree, one of the fastest growing graduate degrees, is appropriate for someone who wants to enter public health, or is already in public health hoping to advance. It is also appropriate for health care professionals; physicians, nurses, physician assistants, and others who hope to gain a new perspective on health, as well as provide flexibility in their professional career paths.

The Master of Public Health at Barry University is a 36 to 40 credit hour graduate degree program that can be completed in 20 months. It covers the five core areas of public health; epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health sciences, health service administration, and social and behavioral sciences and concludes with a course in public health issues and a master’s project. For students who do not have a background in public health or health care delivery, field experience is provided.

For additional information on the professional MPH, contact Richard T. Patton at the Barry University Division of Medicine, 305-899-3257 or e-mail rpatton@mail.barry.edu. Details about the program are online at www.barry.edu/publichealth.

Barry University is a comprehensive international Catholic University located primarily in Miami Shores, Florida. Barry University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelors, masters, specialist, and doctoral degrees.

Podiatric Medicine Plays Lead Role in Bioterrorism and All-Hazards Preparedness

Leonard Levy, DPM, MPH

“Podiatric Medicine is one of the most relevant disciplines relating to bioterrorism and all-hazards preparedness,” according to the Director of the Center for Bioterrorism and All-Hazards Preparedness at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Dr. Leonard Levy. Dr. Levy, speaking at the Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine mini-seminar on Bioterrorism and All-Hazards Preparedness on September 11, said that although podiatric medicine was often overlooked in discussions of bioterrorism and all-hazards preparedness, its wide diagnostic scope made it one of the most relevant disciplines in terms of responding quickly and thoroughly to a terrorist attack or natural disaster.

The seminar on Bioterrorism was the first in a series of mini-seminars scheduled throughout the fall on Barry University’s Miami Shores campus. Other topics covered during the seminar included Psychosocial Issues/Vulnerable Populations, Personal Plan, CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive), and Pandemic Influenza. The program was supported, in part, by a grant to Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

Leonard Levy, DPM, MPH is associate dean for Education, Planning, and Research, and professor of Family Medicine and Public Health at the Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Previously, Dr. Levy served as the president of the California College of Podiatric Medicine and the dean of the College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery at the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences in Des Moines, Iowa. Dr. Levy was the senior author of the first article on bioterrorism and weapons of mass destruction that appeared in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association in 2002.

For further information on the mini-seminar series or other offerings of the Barry University Office of Continuing Medical Education contact Urmala Roopnarinesingh at 305-899-3255 or uroopnarinesingh@mail.barry.edu.
Loeffke was the quintessential soldier-statesman. His foreign language skills and political savvy proved more than equal to the unusual challenges he faced while serving as the military attaché in Moscow during the iciest days of the Cold War and then as defense attaché to the Peoples Republic of China. It was in China where he became the first Westerner to jump with a Chinese parachute unit.

He commanded at every level, culminating his career as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army South. As a staff officer he helped to develop strategic plans for the Army staff and served in the National Security Council staff in the White House. His involvement with the Soviet Union included participation in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in Geneva, Switzerland. Other important assignments were his chairmanship of the Inter-American Defense Board, and as military advisor to the Secretary General of the Organization of American States. He retired as a Major General in 1992, but was recalled to serve as the Director of Task Force Russia to investigate and resolve questions regarding the US POWs and MIAs in the old Soviet Union. This assignment led him to many labor camps in Serbia. He later testified before Senate committees on his findings.

As a scholar, Bernard Loeffke earned a master’s degree in Russian language and Soviet Area Studies and a master’s degree in International Relations. He taught Russian at the United States Military Academy and US Foreign Policy at Georgetown University. He was the Army’s visiting Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. Most recently, in 1997, he earned a Physician Assistant Degree from Nova Southeastern University and later received the President’s Distinguished Alumni Award for his medical service in Africa. He now teaches public health, emergency medicine, and mediation as a visiting professor at two medical universities. He is fluent in Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, and French and has a working knowledge of Mandarin Chinese. He has authored several inspirational books, and he and his son are currently co-authoring a book on their experiences in China.

As a humanitarian, he continues to employ the skills he acquired in his medical training on relief missions in many of the world’s most daunting areas. On retiring from the Army, he embarked on this new calling – that of healer – to provide medical aid to people in impoverished circumstances, often at personal risk. His medical theater of operations spans the globe. He had his first taste of missionary medicine in a combat zone in Africa. His travels have taken him to such places as Bosnia, Haiti, Iraq, Kenya, Niger, Darfur, Sudan and the Amazon jungles. His book Warrior to Healer summarizes his life’s transition. He and his children maintain a website; HOT (Helping Others Today) www.helpingotherstoday.com to inspire support for worthwhile causes important to them.

General Bernard Loeffke has served his nation heroically in uniform during war and peace, exemplifying the principles of Duty, Honor, and Country. Now he exemplifies these same principals as a distinguished graduate of West Point.
As classes begin in fall 2008, there will be a buzz of excitement from students, faculty, and administrators as Barry University’s long-awaited new medical sciences building will be alive with labs, lectures, and studying. More than 400 health professional students will be served by the Center including the School of Podiatric Medicine, the School of Graduate Medical Sciences, the School of Nursing, and other health-related programs.

Phase I of the Center is estimated to cost $5 million, with the total cost of the three-phase project estimated at more than $18 million. With its three-phase development plan, the Center will focus on diseases that adversely affect minority and underserved communities. It will also facilitate the development of educational programs for the prevention, treatment, and management of these diseases.

“The Center not only provides us with an increased capacity to attract and train health professional students from diverse backgrounds, but also better enables us to serve the health and medical needs of our diverse population in South Florida as well as the state and the nation,” said Center Director, Richard Patton from the Barry University Division of Medicine.

The construction phase of the building will be completed by March 15, 2008. Equipment and furniture installation will take place in April, with building occupancy by May 1, 2008. By August 1, 2008 the facility should be ready for use for fall classes.

According to Dr. Chet Evans, vice president for Medical Affairs and dean for the School of Podiatric Medicine, “we are delighted by the architecture and engineering work that will create the necessary classroom, lab, and faculty office space we so vitally need.”

A ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication will be planned to mark the official completion of construction in late spring 2008.
Student Research Papers and Their Significance to Podiatric Research

Dr. Kaloian Ouzounov serves as the research director for the Barry University Division of Medicine. The editor asked Dr. Ouzounov to discuss the significance of student research papers to podiatric medical research now and in the future.

EDITOR: Discuss how important it is for students to conduct research and write scientific papers?

DR. OUZOUNOV: All podiatric medical students should meet or exceed the goals as stipulated in the Basic Research Methodology course I teach in their first year at Barry University. This includes meeting ethical criteria for research as specified by the NIH (National Institutes of Health), understanding basic research logic principles, actual steps of proper research protocol and IRB (Institutional Review Board) functions, preparation of presentations, posters, and publication of papers.

EDITOR: As seniors, all podiatric medical students are required to author a publishable research paper. How important is this to the culmination of their studies at Barry?

DR. OUZOUNOV: This requirement is just as important as any other requirement in their curriculum. Its purpose is to make the students competent and experienced in the mechanics of conducting and presenting research. Similar to other academic exercises, it aims at developing their “brain” muscles and not necessarily producing the “discovery of a life-time.” Before one starts to run, one must learn to walk. And so for the students the significance of this requirement is more in terms of building a proper foundation for scientific research than it is in terms of actual “ground breaking scientific discovery.” There are a few outstanding podiatric students who, even at this level, show remarkable achievements. Some of them already have an extensive research background and experiences. These students have mastered the mechanics of research and are on to the next level – scientific research as an expression of human creativity.

EDITOR: What are the research goals you have identified for all podiatric medical students?

DR. OUZOUNOV: It is crucial for the existence of the podiatric profession that all of the students are given the opportunity to generate, explore or become involved in properly structured and guided research. Without demonstrated true factual scientific evidence, it is very unlikely to advance any professional thought to the level of social change and implementation it might deserve. Conducting research and writing scientific papers at the student level is similar to what the gym, weights and exercises are for a bodybuilder, except here we are talking about mind-building techniques for a specific application – scientific research.

EDITOR: What do you see for future research in podiatric medicine?

DR. OUZOUNOV: Properly structured and implemented research is extremely important for the recognition and validation of not only the research itself but also for the advance of the research institution and profession as a whole. While isolated podiatric researchers by their own individual efforts can make an appreciative difference, today, it is those who receive vested institutional support and industry sponsorship that become the leading edge in research. As administrative support, infrastructure and human resources further develop and grow in the area of scientific research, so does the continued success and prosperity of the podiatric profession.
Barry Alumna Provides Shoe Buying Advice

Many women walk around in shoes a size too small, says Dr. Marybeth Crane of Grapevine, Texas and Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine Alumna, 1994. Either they don't realize their feet enlarge as they age, or they can't stand the thought of wearing a size 10, 11, or 12. The rule of thumb: A shoe that fits has one thumb's width of space from your longest toe to the tip of the shoe.

If you must wear pointy shoes, buy them a half-size bigger than your actual size to give toes extra room. And, says Dr. Crane, “I'd rather you wore a sling-back than a slip-on shoe. And if you like the espadrille look, you're better off with the strappy type than a slip-on. For the shoe to actually function properly, it needs to be attached to your foot properly.”

Good-for-you shoes cost, concedes Dr. Crane, whose dream shoe is not too squishy and has a square toe and an inch-and-a-half heel. Not everyone likes them. “I have 17 and 18-year-olds that come in with back pain,” she says. “They look at my shoes and say they would rather die than wear them.”