Pre-mat program offers basic science prep for incoming students

By Wesley Wilson

Wilson

For the first time, the School of Medicine and the School of Dentistry will lead the pre-matriculation program for students entering the professional programs.

The program is an optional opportunity for students who have accepted entrance into the schools and are seeking additional preparation for the first year's basic science courses.

Throughout the academic year, school leaders and faculty have collaborated to create a program conducive to the needs of students.

Participating students will begin an online portion of courses in histology, biochemistry and gross anatomy on June 22, which will conclude two weeks later. During the online phase, students will receive introductory information for each course. A pre-assessment will be administered to determine academic needs for in-person courses beginning in the School of Medicine on July 6.

The online portion of the program also offers academic support to students through the Office of Academic Support's Academic Success Kiosk. ASK provides students with guidance and resources on time management, studying, coping with stress and various professional skills. Students will continue sharpening these skills in weekly meetings once they begin the in-person phase of the program.

Once on campus, participants will receive four weeks of direct instruction

from Dr. Gongchao Yang in gross anatomy, Dr. Bela Kanyicska in histology and Dr. Maryam Syed in biochemistry. In each course, innovative instructional techniques and technologies will be used to improve engagement and academic performance to build the students' confidence as they prepare to begin regular coursework.

Each course will provide students with an opportunity to learn and practice skills conducive to their upcoming experience as professional students. While program administrators anticipate approximately two dozen student participants, Dr. Yang will instruct gross anatomy labs in small groups to offer a more engaging and beneficial experience.

Beyond traditional academic coursework, students will be introduced to valuable academic resources provided by the Rowland Medical Library. Sarah Adcock, reference librarian, will present resources provided by the library on the program's first on-campus day. Faculty in the School of Medicine and the School of Dentistry believe a thorough introduction to resources and their use can benefit students greatly throughout professional school.

Each Wednesday, students will be scheduled to meet with student-mentors who participate in their respective professional program. The student-mentors are urged to build relationships, provide guidance and assist program participants in the transition process.

School administrators hope the program will allow students to not only sharpen their academic skills, but learn how to become successful professional students.

SOM staff welcome new associate dean for student affairs

McMullan

Dr. Michael R. "Mike" McMullan will join the administrative team for the School of Medicine as associate dean for student affairs June 1.

He is a 1991 cum laude graduate of UMMC, where he also completed his internal medicine residency, chief residency and cardiology fellowship training. In 1997, he attended Duke University Medical Center for advanced fellowship training in adult congenital and valvular heart disease and interventional cardiology.

Dr. McMullan returned to UMMC after his fellowship and established the Adult Congenital Heart Clinic at University Heart while serving as director of the Introduction to Clinical Medicine course and as program director of Cardiology and of the Department of Medicine. At that time, he also served as a member of the SOM Curriculum Committee.

In 2007, Dr. McMullan moved to private practice with the Jackson Heart Clinic. He returned to UMMC in 2014 as professor of medicine and director of the Adult Congenital Heart Program, the only program of its kind in the state

and one of the first seven ACGME-accredited programs nationwide. He has served as vice chair for clinical affairs for the Department of Medicine and serves as chief of cardiology and director of the Cardiovascular Service Line.

Dr. McMullan has served as governor of the Mississippi chapter of the American College of Cardiology. He is listed among the Best Doctors in America and was named as one of Mississippi's Healthcare Heroes for 2015.

Dr. McMullan has a heart for students and for teaching, having been selected as an All Star Professor on multiple occasions by the Evers Society, with induction into the Evers Society Hall of Fame. He was selected as a member of the Blake Academy for Excellence in Teaching, as Teacher of the Year for the Department of Medicine in 2000, and as UMMC Clinical Professor of the Year in 2005.

He was selected for the Nelson Order by graduating medical school classes and he recently received the Trailblazer Teaching Award. He has served as a mentor for medical students in the Evers House since the implementation of the House System in 2014. He is uniquely prepared for this new role.

JULY SESSIONS

Supporting and Promoting Self-directed Learning
Thursday, July 2 | 11 a.m.-noon | Room 323, medical education building | Presented by *Dr. Savannah Duckworth*
This session will explore the design, implementation and assessment of a self-directed learning module for medical students.

Active Learning Strategies for Adult Learners
Thursday, July 9 | 3-4 p.m. | Room 323, medical education building | Presented by *Wesley Wilson*
This session will provide a brief exploration of the meaning and types of active learning. Participants in this session will have the opportunity to actively employ session strategies to make their own teaching more active.

Educational Research and Quality Improvement
Thursday, July 16 | 8-9 a.m. | Room 323, medical education building | Presented by *Dr. Michael Ryan*
This session will explore how engaging in a continuous quality improvement process can lead to improved outcomes and the potential for evidence-based publications on educational methods and assessments. Faculty members will explore formal and informal approaches to quality improvement in their own eaching.

Big Blue Button, Studio and NearPod
Thursday, July 16 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | Lab 326, medical education building | Presented by *Jessica Overby-Green*
This workshop will provide participants opportunities to experience software to increase learner engagement and to fulfill the principles of adult learning. UMMC offers several tools that allow instructors and students to communicate or actively collaborate through videos. This workshop will also illustrate how the various tools may facilitate a flipped classroom by providing students with a video presentation on specific topics.

Writing Objectives and Selecting Outcomes
Thursday, July 30 | 11 a.m.-noon | Room 323, medical education building | Presented by *Dr. David Norris*
Participants will actively engage with the material to write their own learning objectives, identify educational methods and select assessment techniques. Open to all UMMC faculty.

~ OPEN TO ALL UMMC FACULTY ~

Continuing Health Professional Education
CE EVENT
UMMC

Web conferencing tool brings guest lecturers to SOM students

By Elizabeth Jacobs

Jacobs

Guest lecturers often provide additional instruction to our students. Ensuring these individuals have the necessary access to deliver this content can be, shall we say, challenging at times.

BigBlueButton, UMMC's new web conferencing tool for academics, offers the functionality to provide some relief for such challenges.

Once a meeting is scheduled, non-UMMC users may also be invited to attend. No UMMC credentials are required to join the session.

During the meeting, the guest lecturer may be designated as a moderator. This role allows the user to share his or her screen, open a presentation for the group to see and access the pointer and other presentation tools.

Remember, this does not provide access to Canvas courses or other applications requiring UMMC authentication.

For more information, visit **How do I invite a guest** (**https://bit.ly/37XznUQ**) to a live meeting? And **Promote/demote/remove a user** (https://bit.ly/2Vc6H5q).