



Tulane University School of Medicine
Family Medicine Department
Department Chair: Edwin Dennard, MD

LAFP Annual Report AY 2023-2024

The 2023-2024 academic year has been one of change and consolidation for the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Tulane University. This year, Tulane relocated most of its teaching and clinical activities to the LCMC network, with East Jefferson General Hospital (EJGH) in Metairie, LA, now serving as our primary teaching hospital. Our outpatient clinics remain located throughout the New Orleans metropolitan region. The Department continues to provide a critical component of the University’s ongoing efforts to serve our community and to provide a safe learning environment for our students, preceptors, faculty, and staff.

Tulane Family Medicine 2024 Match Results

Tulane matched 12 students into Family Medicine residency programs this year. We are grateful to our preceptors, who practice throughout Louisiana and the region, for their generous contribution in guiding and educating our students. They remain the core of our Clerkship and the prime driver its popularity among the students (see Owl Club Awards, below).

On the table below, please find Louisiana programs in bold. The Family Medicine Match results were as follows:

<u>Students</u>	<u>Match Site</u>	<u>Preceptor/Site</u>
Emily Brown	Tallahassee Memorial Health, FL	Dr. Tip Rugile/New Orleans
Bridget Bunda	Full Circle Health, Boise, ID	Dr. Marc Levin and Faculty/Nome, AK
Zavier Carmichael	UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	Dr. Randy Daigle/Sunset
Roxanne Daban	Brown, Pawtucket, RI	Dr. Paul Rachal/New Roads
Anthony De Felice	Tulane-EJGH, Metairie, LA	Dr. Michael Felton/Broussard, Church Point
Diante Graffagnino	Ventura County Medical, CA	Dr. Marc Levin and Faculty/Nome, AK
Michael Glidewell	Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, CA	Dr. Paul Rachal, Jr./New Roads
Brianna Griswold	Spartanburg Regional Healthcare, SC	Dr. Rachel Dewey; Dr. Carl McLemore, Jr./New Roads
Jeremy Joy	Campbell Regional Med. Ctr., Campbell Univ., Clinton, NC	Dr. Linda Stewart/Baton Rouge
Courtney Lee	Sunrise Health GME Consortium, Las Vegas, NV	Dr. Jody George, Westlake ; Dr. Andrew Davies, Sulphur
Anagha Narayanan	Swedish-Cherry Hill, Seattle, WA	Dr. Rachel Dewey ; Dr. Drew Parks/New Roads
Ally Noyes	LSU-Bogalusa, LA	Dr. Wei Guo/Metairie

Medical Student Awards

The **Scott Gregory Kramer M.D. Family Medicine Award** is given annually to the graduating senior with the highest class-rank who is pursuing a career in Family Medicine. This year’s award went to **Brianna Griswold**.

Family Medicine Department Reports, continued

General Assembly – July 26, 2024 – Destin, FL

Dr. Brianna Griswold grew up in Iowa and attended Tulane both for her undergraduate degrees in Neuroscience and International Development and for graduate degrees in public health as well as her doctorate of medicine. She enjoyed

her Family Medicine clerkship in New Roads followed by excellent experiences that included a Bogalusa acting internship and a visit to Kansas City for the AAFP annual conference. She looks forward to the myriad possibilities within rural family medicine, including pediatrics, OB/GYN, wound care, and procedures. Residing with her husband Benjamin, a pilot and flight instructor, Dr. Griswold will be completing her Family Medicine residency at Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Brianna's clinical interests include rural medicine and women's health, as well as medical education.

The **Tulane/LAFP Family Medicine Excellence Award** is given annually to the graduating senior who is entering a career in family medicine and demonstrates commitment to high quality, patient-oriented, continuity, and preventive care across the spectrum of age, disease, and health. This year, the award went to **Bridget Bunda**.

Dr. Bridget Bunda received her undergraduate degree in Health Science from Northeastern University in Boston, MA. During her time at Northeastern, she explored her passion for public health, including health education and HIV care and prevention. During two gap years between undergrad and medical school, she worked at the Massachusetts General Hospital in a research group focused on improving care and prevention of HIV in both the United States and South Africa. In 2020, she began medical school at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA. As a medical student she co-enrolled in the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine to obtain her Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology. During her third year, a 7-week clerkship in Nome, Alaska, confirmed Family Medicine was the specialty for her. What excites her most about Family Medicine is the ability to work with patients across the spectrums of age and disease severity, all the while integrating principles of primary care, prevention, and health education. She is thrilled to be joining the Full Circle Health Family Medicine Residency program in Boise, ID, this summer.

Department Leadership and Faculty Updates

Dr. Eddie Dennard remains Department chairman, where he continues to oversee all aspects of the Department's clinical, teaching, and research missions, practicing at both the Tulane Living Well Clinic at Uptown Square and at Tulane Lakeside.

Dr. Rade Pejic continues in his role as the Program Director for the East-Jefferson General Hospital Family Residency Program, strengthening the program and solidifying its partnership with the School of Medicine. We are excited to enhance our Family Medicine program with greater incorporation of the residency into our patient care, teaching, and research missions.

Dr. James Tebbe continues to serve as the director of the Department's Family Medicine Clerkship. As director of the Family Medicine Clerkship, Dr. Tebbe continues an ongoing multi-year review and update of our teaching curriculum and expansion of our preceptor faculty network, the latter made possible in part by the Ernest G. DeBakey Rural Education Fund. He sees patients at the Tulane-Uptown Square Multispecialty Clinic. He is this year's OWL Club family medicine preceptor of the year!

Dr. Kiernan Smith took over this year as director of SAPORO, the hub for guideline implementation studies across South Louisiana. He continues as the Department's resource for incorporating team-based learning into to the clerkship didactics and has presented various posters on the teaching method. He has taught clinical quality improvement in the Clerkship didactics sessions and currently serves as lead physician in the Department's flagship clinic at the Tulane-Uptown Square Multispecialty Clinic, where he sees patients. He is a regular Clerkship mentor and directs the Global Health rotations in primary care for the Medical School.

Dr. Ronald Slipman remains the dedicated Director of the Foundations in Medicine Program, which is a longitudinal course for first- and second-year medical students. He continues to serve the Clerkship and the Department as our preceptor outreach coordinator and as a preceptor himself, in addition to serving as the Faculty Advisor for the Bridge House Student

Family Medicine Department Reports, continued

General Assembly – July 26, 2024 – Destin, FL

Volunteer Clinic. He also cosponsors the Gold Humanism in Medicine Honor Society with Dr. Doukas. He practices at the Tulane-Lakeside Multispecialty Clinic and at the Tulane Living Well Primary Care Clinic-Downtown.

Dr. David Doukas continues his work as the James A. Knight Chair in Humanities and Ethics and, with Drs. Tzofit Ofengenden and Stephen Hanson, continues to provide education for Medical Ethics master's degree candidates and contributes to our medical student curriculum. He also cosponsors the Gold Humanism in Medicine Honor Society with Dr. Slipman.

Dr. Stephen Hanson continues as the Director of Graduate Studies in our Department's Master's Degree Program in Medical Ethics and Human Values. Dr. Hanson works with Dr. Doukas and the rest of the department to strengthen our program in medical ethics, both at the master's degree level and for our medical students.

Dr. Nicole Nash is fellowship-trained in sports medicine and sees patients at the Tulane-Lakeside Multispecialty Clinic as well as at the Tulane Living Well Primary Care Clinic-Uptown. She is additionally involved with Tulane's Hypermobility Clinic and contributes to our musculoskeletal curriculum.

Dr. Timothy "Tip" Rugile continues to see primary care patients at the Tulane-Uptown Square Multispecialty Clinic. He assists with our shared clinical, educational, and research missions within the Department.

Dr. Ashley Kreher joined the Department in October 2023, having completed her fellowship in Integrative Medicine in Arizona. She practices at the Tulane-Uptown Square Multispecialty clinic.

We are also excited to partner with Drs. Coleman Pratt and Thomas Santamaria in the development of an additional Family Medicine Residency Program associated with the DePaul Community Health Center in New Orleans East and MidCity. We anticipate that this program will be accepting its first class of residents by the Summer of 2025.

All our faculty are active in the Department's scholarly, teaching, and clinical missions.

Ernest G. DeBakey Rural Education Fund. We continue to work at expanding the department's preceptor network in rural Louisiana through a generous gift that established the Ernest G. DeBakey Rural Education Fund. This fund assists in paying for housing and Internet access to allow more Tulane medical students to experience the rewards of primary care practice in rural communities of the Gulf South. In the coming year, we will be using the fifth of five annual cycles of enhanced funding to expand our most successful rural sites and to develop infrastructure to permit expansion of SAPORO, which currently has member sites across south Louisiana from Lake Charles to Bogalusa.

Tulane Medical Home Curriculum Project. This is a continuation of a grant-funded curriculum redesign for the clerkship. The curriculum demonstrates the Patient Centered Medical Home as a quality reform of the US health care system. We have continued to refine our didactic modules to introduce students to the unique skill sets of a 21st century primary care physician in the PCMH model of care.

Tulane Program in Medical Ethics and Human Values. The master's degree program continues to grow, attracting a diverse student body and graduating nine students this year. Faculty members in the Program are also active in the bioethical training for medical students in all four years.

Third-Year Clerkship and Electives. In the 2023-2024 academic school year, the Clerkship has continued its revised curriculum with an emphasis on hands-on and interactive learning formats. We will continue with the Patient-Centered Medical Home as the organizing principle of the curriculum, emphasizing skill sets that prepare students to function optimally in the Primary Care clinic of the future. We continue to coordinate global health electives and have re-invigorated our hospice and rural Montana opportunities.

Family Medicine Department Reports, continued

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Our Department and School owe a special debt of gratitude to our Family Medicine preceptors in communities throughout Louisiana and coastal Mississippi and Alabama. In addition, we owe a special debt of gratitude to our affiliated residencies

– the Baton Rouge General Family Medicine Residency and the East Jefferson General Hospital Family Medicine Residency – for their help in many aspects of our teaching mission in the Medical School.

Faculty, fellows, and residents have donated both time and energy to assist in interactive teaching in the musculoskeletal examination, knot-tying and suturing workshops and communications seminars. They have also assisted in our Career Day activities and FMIG Residency Match Panel with students interested in matching in Family Medicine residencies.

Owl Club Awards. Owl Club is the student-run organization that evaluates medical school courses, faculty, and staff based on student feedback from the Clerkship and teaching throughout the four-year curriculum of the School of Medicine. At this year's award ceremony, the Department received the following awards:

- Best Family Medicine Preceptor Award: Dr. James Tebbe
- Nominated for Best Family Medicine Preceptor:
 - Dr. Michael Felton, Broussard and Church Point
 - Dr. Marc Levin, Nome, AK
 - Dr. Lynda Mbah, Frisco, TX
 - Dr. Nicole Nash, New Orleans
 - Dr. Drew Parks, New Roads
 - Dr. Tip Rugile, New Orleans
 - Dr. Jose Veras-Pola, Metairie
- Best Clerkship
- Best Department

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronald A. Slipman, MD, FAAFP

Edwin W. Dennard, MD, JD, Chair