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P R O J E C T
M E D I C A L
E D U C A T I O N

2011 YEAR IN REVIEW

Association of
American Medical Colleges

PROGRAM PERSPECTIVES

Maine Medical Center and Tufts University School of Medicine



Peter Bates, M.D.
Vice President, Medical and
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Maine Medical Center

“ I would highly recommend [Project Medical Education] for any board member or medical ‘influencer’ – politician, foundation member or just those who always wanted to put on a white coat for the day!”

-Beth Newlands Campbell,
member of MMC’s Board
of Trustees

For the leadership of Maine Medical Center (MMC), Project Medical Education presented a key opportunity to connect with our community and share the importance of the educational portion of our three-part mission. Attendees, including Maine state legislators, members of MMC’s Board of Trustees, and community leaders began the day in the classroom and were paired with a third-year Maine Track medical student for a presentation detailing the medical school partnership between MMC and Tufts University School of Medicine (TUSM). The Maine Track program is an innovative curriculum dedicated to rural practice built around Maine-based educational experiences. Many aspects of the Maine Track program, including the financial challenges in medical education and the multiple steps required for professional training, were unfamiliar to our attendees.

“Doing and experiencing” were the key words of the day during our immersion into the lives of medical students and residents. A lively discussion in a problem-based learning session was followed by a simulation center activity: actively caring for a patient requiring emergency intubation. One-on-one clinical time with the residents offered participants varied experiences that ranged from patient consults in the pediatric clinic and the special care unit, to interpreting radiology studies and attending a delivery in the family birthing center. The afternoon patient safety and quality conference allowed attendees the opportunity to discuss patient outcomes and analyze their own critical thinking skills. A presentation at the Maine Medical Center Research Institute informed participants of recent advances in cancer research.

These students and residents clearly made an impression on members of our Board of Trustees, legislative representatives, and other participants. Even after my medical education journey experience, watching the day unfold made me more aware of the personal challenges and opportunities young physicians face today. Our Project Medical Education participants quickly sensed this; we were pleasantly surprised and impressed with the personal bonds forged between them and their physician-in-training colleagues.

We have been fortunate to attract outstanding individuals to our medical education programs, young people with impressive academic records who also embody the personal qualities we all want in the physicians and providers who care for us when we are sick and vulnerable. Project Medical Education was an important reminder of the value gained in connecting our complex academic health center with our extended community. The health care transformation currently under way will be led by our younger colleagues. If nothing else, Project Medical Education sustains hope with our participants for the future of health care.



Maine Medical Center/Tufts University School of Medicine

Portland, Maine (state and community program)



After the white coat ceremony, participants pose with institutional leaders.

Left to right (back row): Richard W. Petersen, president and CEO, Maine Medical Center; Maine state representative Mark Dion; Beth Newlands Campbell, president of Hannaford Brothers Supermarkets; Tony Cipollone, president and CEO of the John T. Gorman Foundation; Maine state representative Les Fossil; Maine state representative Roger Katz; Peter W. Bates, M.D., vice president, medical and academic affairs, Maine Medical Center, chief medical officer, Maine Medical Center, and academic dean for the Maine Medical Center-Tufts University School of Medicine Medical School Program; (front row): Bob Bing-You, M.D., M.Ed., M.B.A., F.A.C.P., medical director, Maine Center for Endocrinology and associate vice president of medical education, Maine Medical Center; Maine state representative Anne Graham; Sallyann Bergh, AAMC senior communications specialist; Nancy Brain, executive director of the Sam L. Cohen Foundation; Ellie Miller, director of the Sam. L. Cohen Foundation; Jane Parker, vice president at Bank of America; and Jo E. Linder, M.D., director of student affairs, Maine Medical Center Department of Medical Education.

Photo Credit: Larry Gorton, MMC Creative Services

Maine Medical Center and Tufts University School of Medicine hosted its first Project Medical Education program in October. Participants included five state legislators and six leaders representing the following Maine organizations: the Francis Hollis Brain Foundation, the Sam L. Cohen Foundation, Hannaford Brothers Supermarkets, the John T. Gorman Foundation, the Finance Authority of Maine, and Bank of America.

The one-day program highlighted the special public-private partnership in Maine through the Maine Medical Center/Tufts University School of Medicine Maine Track program, which provides Tufts medical students the opportunity to fulfill third- and fourth-year clinical requirements in Maine. This pipeline-building program's goal is to increase the number of Maine doctors by recruiting a majority of Maine natives into the program.

The Project Medical Education program matched attendees one-to-one with a student for the morning sessions where they experienced an interactive problem-based learning exercise, saved a "patient" during a simulation scenario, and collected advice on how to finance a steep tuition bill.

The afternoon focused on graduate medical education, with participants spending individual clinical time with residents to better understand their roles and work. The day concluded with a research session at the [Maine Medical Center Research Institute](#) where participants learned about a cancer research study, viewed an MRI machine for mice, and practiced pipetting a biomedical assay to simulate one being done for cancer tumor marker detection.