

# News from

# The Osteopathic Research Center

## From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Fall is shaping up to be very busy at The Osteopathic Research Center.

During the next few months, faculty and staff at the ORC will be presenting updates on the center's research portfolio during national and international research conferences. We will also be exhibiting at national meetings throughout the fall. Please see pages 1 and 6 for more information

As is fairly typical with the start of a new academic year, there are a number of personnel transitions underway at the ORC. Please see pages 4, 7 and 8 for more information.

The ORC leadership team has been working closely with our osteopathic funding organizations to highlight the research being conducted at the ORC, and to articulate why another four-year round of funding from the profession is needed to keep the ORC moving forward in a productive way for the profession. Without renewed funding from the profession, the ORC would lose much of the momentum that has been built over the past seven years.

We are excited about the future of the ORC, and feel that the center is poised to move to the next level and to help significantly expand osteopathic research.

We are proud to be the center selected by the profession to lead the charge to develop the evidence base for the unique way that osteopathic physicians provide outstanding patient care across the country. The profession's research initiatives are advanced in the most efficient and beneficial way when we all work together to document the value of the osteopathic

See **DIRECTOR**, Page 2



Licciardone



John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, Executive Director of The Osteopathic Research Center and Osteopathic Heritage Foundation Clinical Research Chair, and Cathleen Kearns, ORC Administrative Director, speak with Sharon McGill, MPH, Director of Quality and Research for the American Osteopathic Association, at the ORC exhibit at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Annual Meeting in April in St. Louis, Mo. Photo by Cathy Mobley.

## On the Road with the ORC:

### **Learn More About Our Research This Fall**

Are you interested in learning more about research being conducted at The Osteopathic Research Center (ORC) located at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas?

Over the next two months, ORC leaders and staff will be speaking and exhibiting at several conferences throughout the fall.

Research efforts at the ORC will be highlighted during several different meetings at the American Osteopathic Association Convention to be held October 26-30 in Las Vegas, Nev.

The ORC will host the first morning of the AOA Research Conference, which will provide an overview of ORC research activities. Please see the complete agenda on Page 6.

Dr. Licciardone will also speak at the National Association of Osteopathic Foundations meeting and at the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians meeting. Ms. Kearns will speak at the ACOFP meeting with Dr. Licciardone.

The ORC will be exhibiting at the AOA Convention. Please visit us at booth 752.

Finally, staff from the ORC will be exhibiting at the Association of American Medical Schools Annual Convention on November 1-3 in San Antonio, Texas.

# News and Notes

## ORC Researchers Receive AOA Grants

Several ORC investigators were awarded AOA research grants to conduct pilot studies.

Grant awards include:

- Rita M. Patterson, PhD, “Functional Hand Kinematics;” FY09 - \$49,990; One-year grant.
- Shrawan Kumar, PhD, DSc, FRSC, “Reliability and Validity of Therapeutic Spinal Mobilizer and Measurement of Spinal Segmental Stiffness/Compliance in Healthy People and Toward the Development of a Three Segment Model;” FY09 - \$50,000; Total Award: \$100,000; Two-year grant.

## Director ————— Continued from Page 1

approach to patient care and the unique contributions that osteopathic manipulative medicine makes to helping people with a wide range of medical conditions to heal and be restored to a state of health and well-being.

Documenting the clinical efficacy of osteopathic manipulation is just one piece of this picture. We are also working to discern the underlying mechanisms of osteopathic manipulation through basic science mechanistic research, and we anticipate the publication of some important data from some of these studies this fall.

Finally, we are dedicated to conducting health policy and services research that once again demonstrates the distinct ways in which osteopathic physicians provide patient care.

To learn more about these topics, please see the story about recent letters to the editor published in the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association* on Page 6.

Finally, our new communications initiatives such as this newsletter, our annual report, and a recently upgraded website are just a few of the ways that we “report” to you – members of the osteopathic profession and others interested in osteopathic research.

If we can answer any questions that you may have about osteopathic manipulative medicine research that is under way at the ORC, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Cathleen Kearns, administrative director of the ORC. I can be reached at [licciar@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:licciar@hsc.unt.edu), and Cathy can be reached at [ckearns@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:ckearns@hsc.unt.edu).

We look forward to hearing from you and we hope to see many of you in our travels this fall as we present and exhibit at several conferences.

Sincerely,  
John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA  
Executive Director

- Lisa M. Hodge, PhD, “The Effects of Lymphatic Pump Manipulation on Tumor Development and Metastasis;” FY09 - \$49,653; Total Award: \$99,307; Two-year grant.

In addition to the investigators listed above, Paul Standley, PhD, received an AOA grant to look at “In vitro Modeling of Myofascial Release: Fibroblast Cytokine Regulation of Muscle Contractility.” His award was for a two-year project with a total budget of \$99,735. Dr. Standley has done a great deal of research looking at repetitive strain motion and motion simulating OMT on fibroblasts under the ORC’s U19 Developmental Research Center in Complementary and Alternative Medicine led by Michael Smith, PhD, ORC Research Director.

The Osteopathic Research Center Newsletter is published in electronic format by The Osteopathic Research Center at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, Texas.

### ORC Executive Committee

**John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA**  
*Executive Director and Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair*

**Scott T. Stoll, DO, PhD**  
*Founding Executive Director*

**Hollis H. King, DO, PhD**  
*Associate Executive Director*

**Cathleen M. Kearns**  
*Administrative Director*

**Michael L. Smith, PhD**  
*Research Director*

**des Angles Crusier, PhD, MPA**  
*Research Education Director*

**Karan P. Singh, PhD**  
*Biostatistics Core Director*

**Lisa M. Hodge, PhD**  
*Osteopathic Heritage Basic Science Research Chair*

**H. Fred Downey, PhD**  
*Regents Professor*

**Kendi L. Hensel, DO**  
*OMM Residency Director*

### Sponsors

Osteopathic Heritage Foundation  
American Osteopathic Foundation  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Osteopathic Association

## 7th ICAOR:

# Three ORC Faculty Present Research in Florida

John Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, Executive Director of The Osteopathic Research Center and the Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair, gave the keynote address at the International Conference on Advances in Osteopathic Research (ICAOR) on September 6 in Bradenton, Fla.

The conference was held at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine's Bradenton Campus. LECOM is a co-sponsor of ICAOR.

Lisa Hodge, PhD, the ORC's Osteopathic Heritage Basic Science Research Chair, and H. Fred Downey, PhD, Regents Professor and ORC Investigator, also spoke at the conference.

Dr. Hodge received the Best Established Investigator Award at the conference. She also facilitated a session in addition to her two presentations.

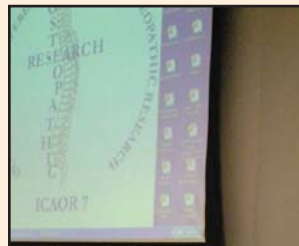
The conference provided a unique opportunity to learn about osteopathic research that is being conducted around the world. In addition to ORC presentations, numerous osteopaths from Europe and Australia presented their research studies.

Gary Fryer, DO, and Christian Fossum, DO, members of the A.T. Still Research Institute, located on the ATSU campus in Kirksville, Mo., also had presentations at the conference.

The next ICAOR will be held in the fall of 2009 or the spring of 2010 in Milan, Italy.



Licciardone



Hodge



Downey

## Mark Your Calendar!!!

*The 10th Osteopathic Collaborative Clinical Trials Initiatives Conference (OCCTIC) will be held March 23-24, 2009 at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock, Ark., immediately preceding the American Academy of Osteopathy Convocation.*

*This conference, titled "Training Researchers in Manual Medicine," will focus on training students, interns, residents and junior faculty to conduct manual medicine research.*

*Michael Smith, PhD, ORC Research Director, and Kendi Hensel, DO, ORC Principal Investigator, are serving as co-chairs for this conference.*

*Visit the ORC booth at the AOA Convention for more information.*

# King Leaves Post at ORC, Moves to ATSU-Mesa

Hollis H. King, DO, PhD, FAAO, Associate Executive Director of The Osteopathic Research Center, has resigned his position to accept a position as professor of osteopathic principles and practices at the A.T. Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Mesa, Ariz.

Citing family reasons for the move, Dr. King began his new position September 15.

He will continue to serve as a consultant to the ORC and to the U19 Developmental Research Center in Complementary and Alternative Medicine grant that is led by Michael Smith, PhD, Research Director of the ORC.

Dr. King and his wife, Susan, moved to Mesa to be closer to their children and grandchildren who live on the west coast.

During his tenure at the ORC, Dr. King contributed in a number of key ways, and helped move the ORC forward on many levels.

He spent a great deal of his time representing the ORC to various groups and presenting information about research being conducted at the ORC both nationally and internationally.

Dr. King has been instrumental in the past three Osteopathic Collaborative Clinical Trials Initiatives Conferences (OCCTIC), culminating with the successful international, interdisciplinary symposium on somato-visceral interactions and autonomic mechanisms of manual therapy that was held in Fort Worth March 31 and April 1. He negotiated a contract with Elsevier to publish the proceedings of that symposium, which will be available sometime in 2010. Dr. King

also received a R13 conference grant from the National Institutes of Health-National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine to support the conference.

He served as the primary treatment provider for the ORC's three NIH-funded clinical trials, and helped complete a number of pilot projects. Dr. King also served as a mentor to several dual-degree students in the OMM department who were conducting research through the ORC to complete their program.

Dr. King was a key resource for presentations about osteopathic research and osteopathic medicine on campus, and he participated in a number of fundraising activities at UNTHSC.

Perhaps Dr. King's greatest legacy at the ORC was the strong professional and personal support that he provided for the staff and faculty during his tenure.

"Hollis saw the staff at the ORC through some key transitions. His cheerful and thoughtful contributions were always deeply appreciated by the staff, faculty, residents and students," said Cathleen Kearns, Administrative Director. "His door was always open for those who needed to talk about professional or personal issues, and he was always willing to provide osteopathic manipulative treatment to those in need. He was also amazing in the way that he managed difficult research subjects."

Dr. King also treated many VIPs during his tenure at the ORC.

"Hollis contributed to the ORC in so many ways, it is hard to do justice to his contributions in a short article," said John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, Executive Director of the ORC and Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair. "We are all richer for having worked with Hollis, and he will be deeply missed."

"As we move forward, Hollis' contributions have helped us establish a firm foundation, and we are grateful to him for the time, care and input that he provided while he was here," Dr. Licciardone said.



King



## ORC on iTunesU:

# News From the ORC is Now Portable

In an effort to make news about osteopathic research more accessible to a broader audience, The Osteopathic Research Center has jumped on the iPod and iTunes bandwagon by being one of the first research divisions at the University of North Texas Health Science Center to provide content for the new UNTHSC iTunesU site.

Now, anyone with an iPod or with iTunes on their computer can download free content about osteopathic research being conducted at the ORC.

Since the iTunesU site is so new to UNTHSC, there is minimal multimedia content available from the ORC at the moment, but there will be much more to come over the next several months.

Currently, iTunes and iPod users can download the video presentations from the international, interdisciplinary research symposium on somato-visceral interactions and autonomic mechanisms of manual therapy that was coordinated by the ORC in Fort Worth on March 31 and April 1.

Several documents from the ORC are also available on iTunesU for download as PDF files.

“iTunesU provides an exciting vehicle to help us distribute content about osteopathic research,”

said Cathleen Kearns, Administrative Director for the ORC. “As we develop more multimedia content, iTunesU will maximize our ability to port that content to a broader audience. Our hope is this will also make the content more accessible and more appealing to osteopathic medical students and others interested in learning more about osteopathic manipulative medicine research.”

Content that is available in iTunesU will also be available on the ORC website.

The easiest way to connect to the UNTHSC iTunesU site is to visit the UNTHSC page that links directly to the iTunesU site at <http://www.hsc.unt.edu/iTunesU/>

Plans for content for the next several months include developing an overview video for the ORC, video news releases and research tools videos that highlight various research pearls and tools that the ORC would like to share.

If there is any topic that you would like to see made available on the ORC’s iTunesU page, please contact Cathleen Kearns at [ckearns@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:ckearns@hsc.unt.edu).



UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER *at Fort Worth*



Health and Science  
*at the Speed of Sound*

# ORC Discussed in JAOA Letters to Editor



The Osteopathic Research Center was prominently featured in two letters to the editor and mentioned in a third letter in the July edition of the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA).

JAOA included a letter written by John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, Executive Director of the ORC and the Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair, Hollis H. King, DO, PhD, former Associate Executive Director, and Cathleen Kearns, Administrative Director.

The issue also published a response from Clearfield et al regarding the role of the ORC in leading the osteopathic manipulative medicine research agenda for the profession.

To read the letters in their entirety, please visit the JAOA website at <http://www.jaoa.org/content/vol108/issue7/#LETTERS>.

## ORC to Present at AOA Research Conference

Leaders and faculty members from The Osteopathic Research Center will be presenting updates on ORC research on October 26, during the first morning of the AOA's Annual Research Conference.

The schedule is as follows:

7:30 a.m.-  
8:15 a.m.      **Your Osteopathic Research Center:  
Past, Present and Future**  
John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA  
*Executive Director and Osteopathic  
Heritage Clinical Research Chair*

8:15 a.m.-  
8:45 a.m.      **Research Pearls: Lessons Learned at  
The Osteopathic Research Center**  
Cathleen Kearns  
*Administrative Director*

8:45 a.m.-  
9:15 a.m.      **Is There a Place for OMT in the  
Management of Type 2 Diabetes?**  
John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA  
*Executive Director and Osteopathic  
Heritage Clinical Research Chair*

9:15 a.m.-  
9:45 a.m.      **Developing New Research Initiatives:  
Pilot and Exploratory Studies**  
Hollis H. King, DO, PhD  
*Former Associate Executive Director*

9:45 a.m.-  
10:00 a.m.      **Break**

10:00 a.m.-  
10:25 a.m.      **OMT in Pregnancy: Physiologic and  
Clinical Effects**  
Kendi Hensel, DO  
*Principal Investigator and OMM  
Residency Director*

10:25 a.m.-  
10:50 a.m.      **Lymphatic Pump Manipulation: Effects  
on Lower Respiratory Tract Infection  
and Immunity**  
Lisa Hodge, PhD  
*Osteopathic Heritage Basic Science  
Research Chair*

10:50 a.m.-  
11:15 a.m.      **Kinematics in the Hand and Wrist**  
Rita M. Patterson, PhD  
*Director, Osteopathic Heritage  
Foundation Physical Medicine Core  
Research Facility*

11:15 a.m.-  
11:40 a.m.      **Whiplash in Low-Velocity Impacts**  
Shrawan Kumar, PhD, DSc, FRSC  
*Co-director, Physical Medicine Institute*

11:40 a.m.-  
12:00 p.m.      **Wrap Up and Final Questions**  
John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA  
*Executive Director and Osteopathic  
Heritage Clinical Research Chair*



W. Thomas Crow, DO, FAAO, director for the neuromusculoskeletal medicine residency program at Florida Hospital East in Orlando, Fla., discusses a poster on cranial bone motion with John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, executive director of the ORC and Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair, during the International Conference on Advances in Osteopathic Medicine (ICAOR) in September in Bradenton, Fla. Hollis H. King, DO, PhD, FAAO, former associate executive director of the ORC, and Rita M. Patterson, PhD, director of the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation Physical Medicine Core Research Facility, collaborated with Dr. Crow on this study. Photo by Cathleen Kearns.

## ORC Bids Farewell to Research Coordinator

The Osteopathic Research Center said goodbye to one of its research coordinators at the end of August.

Annie Allison, who joined the ORC last summer, left to return to graduate school. She is pursuing a master's degree in exercise physiology at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and was offered a graduate assistantship if she started the program in August instead of waiting until spring as she had originally planned.

Ms. Allison is planning to work with the ORC on a pilot project looking at OMT, exercise and fibromyalgia for her master's thesis.

During her tenure at the ORC, Ms. Allison worked primarily on the OSTEOPATHIC Trial involving chronic low back pain. She also provided a significant amount of backup for the OMT in pregnancy physiological substudy and helped with a number of administrative tasks such as analyzing the evaluations from the international research symposium on somato-visceral interactions and helping with the ORC website.



Allison

# Licciardone Named Associate Dean for TCOM

John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, Executive Director of The Osteopathic Research Center and Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair, has been named the Associate Dean for Clinical Research for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth.

Dr. Licciardone will continue his duties in both of his leadership roles in the ORC. He has been the Acting Associate Dean for Clinical Research for TCOM since 2006.

As the Associate Dean for Clinical Research, Dr. Licciardone is responsible for fostering a research culture within TCOM, developing new initiatives to expand current research efforts within TCOM and meeting the research metrics for TCOM as determined by UNTHSC.



Licciardone

## Lewis Joins ORC as Clinical Trials Supervisor

Debbie Lewis, RN, has joined the staff of the ORC as the Clinical Trials Supervisor.

Her duties include supervising the clinical research coordinators, overseeing the clinical research unit of the ORC and developing policies to insure efficient operations of the clinical trials unit of the ORC.

Ms. Lewis has eight years of experience at the University of North Texas Health Science Center. She has worked on clinical trials in the family medicine department and on industry-sponsored pharmaceutical trials prior to joining the ORC.

“We are delighted to have Debbie on board and look forward to having someone with her experience leading our clinical trials unit,” said Cathleen Kearns, Administrative Director of the ORC.

“Having someone of Debbie’s caliber leading this unit positions the ORC for its next phase of growth,” said John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, Executive Director of the ORC and Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair.



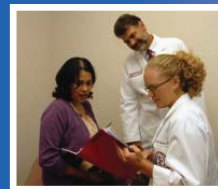
Lewis



Clinical Trials



Mechanism of Action Studies



Research Training

## The Osteopathic Research Center

### Annual Report 2007

Located at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth

The Osteopathic Research Center’s 2007 Annual Report is now available as a PDF from the ORC website. This report marks the first time the document has been made available to the public in a user-friendly format. To learn more about research under way at the ORC, or to download the document, visit our website at <http://www.hsc.unt.edu/orc/news.htm>.