

From the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Greetings from your Osteopathic Research Center.

I hope that 2010 has been a good year for you.

This year has passed quickly for the faculty and staff of the ORC, and has been filled with many accomplishments.

One of our major accomplishments for 2010 was the publication of “Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment of Back Pain and Related Symptoms During Pregnancy: A Randomized Controlled Trial,” in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* in January. Publication of this type of research in a high impact journal advances the profession in a number of ways, and it enhances our credibility as researchers and as clinicians. To see a summary of additional ORC accomplishments for 2010, please see Page 3 for our Year in Review.

The ORC is entering an exciting new phase of its Consortium for Collaborative Osteopathic Research Development – Practice-Based Research Network (CONCORD-PBRN) fellowship program. Fellows for the 2011 class will be selected prior to the end of this calendar year. This innovative research training pathway features a 162-hour didactic curriculum delivered over six Extended Weekend Seminars during a one-year period in Fort Worth, Texas. The first Extended Weekend Seminar will be held February 24-27, 2011. Members have also been appointed to the consortium board. See Page 2 for more information.

Please mark your calendars for a new research conference series that will debut in 2012. Osteopathic



Licciardone

Shrawan Kumar, PhD, DSc, received the prestigious Order of Canada Award on November 17 in Ottawa, Canada.



Kumar Named to Order Of Canada

Shrawan Kumar, PhD, DSc, FRSC, professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, and a faculty member in The Osteopathic Research Center, was named an Officer of the Order of Canada on November 17 at Rideau Hall in Ottawa, Canada.

The Order of Canada was founded in 1967 to recognize a lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. Since it was founded, more than 5,000 people from all sectors of society have been inducted into the order.

Kumar was named to the Order for his pioneering work in rehabilitation ergonomics. His cumulative load theory and other work in the field of spinal biomechanics have made him one of the leading scientists in the study of the causation, prevention and treatment of low back pain. He continues to serve as a highly respected professor emeritus at the University of Alberta, Canada.

“I am so honored to have been selected for this award,” Kumar said. “It is the culmination of a lifetime of work.”

John Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, executive director of The Osteopathic Research Center, said, “It is a pleasure to work with Shrawan, and we congratulate him on this distinctive honor.”

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Research 2012, which will be held April 27-29, 2012, will showcase the latest research related to osteopathic medical practice. This research conference series will be held in the spring of each year in Fort Worth. For the 2012 meeting, the Hilton Hotel in downtown Fort Worth has agreed to provide sleeping rooms for the conference at a rate of \$149 per night plus tax. This rate includes complimentary in-room Internet access. Many of you may remember the Hilton Hotel from the 2008 International Symposium on Somato-Visceral Reflexes. We hope that you can attend the conference, and look forward to seeing you in Fort Worth in 2012.

In closing, I wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season. Best wishes for a healthy, happy and productive 2011.

CONCORD-PBRN Announces Consortium Board Members

The Osteopathic Research Center has named the inaugural members of the advisory board for its Consortium for Collaborative Osteopathic Research Development – Practice Based Research Network (CONCORD-PBRN).

Members of the advisory board in addition to the CONCORD-PBRN directors listed in the box to the right include:

Grace Brannan, PhD

COM/OPTI Research Directors Representative
Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Michael B. Clearfield, DO

COM Deans Representative
Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Stanley Grogg, DO

COM/OPTI Research Directors Representative
*Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences-
College of Osteopathic Medicine*

Richard A. Vincent, MBA

Program Advisor
Osteopathic Heritage Foundation

One member from each class of CONCORD-PBRN fellows will also be named to the advisory board. In addition, other members may be named to the board over time. The board will convene three times each year - once in Fort Worth, once at the American Osteopathic Association Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition and once by teleconference.



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

ORC Directors and Chairs

John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA

*Executive Director and
Osteopathic Heritage Clinical Research Chair*

Cathleen M. Kearns

Administrative Director

Lisa M. Hodge, PhD

Osteopathic Heritage Basic Science Research Chair

Karan P. Singh, PhD

Director of Biostatistics

Robert J. Gatchel, PhD

Director of Biopsychosocial Research

Fernando Wilson, PhD

Director of Health Services and Policy Research

des Angles Crusier, PhD, MPA

Director of Research Education

CONCORD-PBRN Directors

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Executive Director

Cathleen Kearns

Administrative Director

Hollis H. King, DO, PhD, FAAO

*Associate Director
A.T. Still University of Health Sciences School of Osteopathic Medicine*

Wm. Thomas Crow, DO, FAAO

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Michael Seffinger, DO, FAAFP

*Western Regional Director
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Major Sponsors

Osteopathic Heritage Foundation

University of North Texas Health Science Center
Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

National Institutes of Health-National Center for Complementary
and Alternative Medicine

ORC 2010: A Year in Review

January:

The Osteopathic Research Center was awarded four-year renewal funding from the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation in the amount of \$2 million. The University of North Texas Health Science Center and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine provided \$1 million in matching funds.

Pilot research from The Osteopathic Research Center focusing on “Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment of Back Pain and Related Symptoms During Pregnancy: A Randomized Controlled Trial,” was published in the print version of the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* in January. John Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, executive director of the ORC, was the principal investigator for the study and lead author on the publication.

February:

John Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, spoke at the “New Trends in Scholarly Communication: Maximizing Author Impact” symposium, which was held in Fort Worth, Texas, on February 26. Licciardone’s presentation focused on “A Case Study of Osteopathic Medicine’s Catch-22.” The symposium was sponsored by the University of North Texas Health Science Center’s Gibson D. Lewis Library, and featured experts in medical publishing from across the country.

March:

Cathleen Kearns, administrative director of the ORC, worked with leaders of the A.T. Still University’s Still Research Institute and several other investigators to promote the results of the Multicenter Osteopathic Pneumonia Study in the Elderly (MOPSE) that was published in the journal *Osteopathic Medicine and Primary Care*.

April:

John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, and Cathleen Kearns outlined a new pathway for training clinician researchers through the Consortium for Collaborative Osteopathic Research Development: A Practice-Based Research Network (CONCORD-PBRN), at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Annual Meeting in Bethesda, Md.

John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, delivered the J.O. Watson Memorial Lecture during the 2010 Ohio Osteopathic Symposium April 29-May 2 in Columbus, Ohio.

May:

The ORC was well-represented at a “by invitation only” workshop on “Deconstructing Back Pain,” which was convened May 10-11 by the National Institutes of

Health-National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Twenty-two top researchers in this area from across the country were invited to participate in the workshop. Robert J. Gatchel, PhD, ABPP, the ORC’s director of biopsychosocial research, and John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, were invited participants.

Lisa M. Hodge, PhD, the ORC’s Osteopathic Heritage basic science research chair, presented her research, “Lymphatic Pump Manipulation Mobilizes Inflammatory Mediators into Thoracic and Intestinal Duct Lymph” and “Lymphatic Pump Treatment Reduces Pulmonary Tumors in the Rat” at the Eighth International Conference on Advances in Osteopathic Research (ICAOR). She also served as a session chair for the international research conference, and as a delegate for the open forum to advance international professional collaborations. The conference was held in Milan, Italy.

June:

The ORC hosted a meeting of several osteopathic researchers and representatives from osteopathic foundations on June 2 to discuss the role and future development of practice-based research networks (PBRNs) across the profession. The Osteopathic Heritage Foundation provided financial support for the meeting.

July:

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality’s National Guideline Clearinghouse published the “American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Guidelines for the Use of Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT) for Patients with Low Back Pain.” These guidelines were largely based on the systematic review and meta-analysis that the ORC completed for the AOA. The guidelines are currently listed on the National Guideline Clearinghouse website.

Two researchers at The Osteopathic Research Center were awarded research grants from the American Osteopathic Association. Funding for both grants began September 1. Lisa Hodge, PhD, received a two-year, \$99,378 grant titled, “Lymphatic Pump Treatment on the Clearance of Influenza and Influenza Complicated by Bacterial Pneumonia.” John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, received a one year, \$50,000 grant for a project titled, “Cost-Effectiveness of Osteopathic Health Care: A National Study Based on the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey.” Fernando Wilson, PhD, the ORC’s director of health services and policy research, will serve as the health economist for the study and Cathleen Kearns will serve as the research associate for the project.

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August:

The ORC named three renowned osteopathic physicians to serve as directors of its CONCORD-PBRN. Hollis H. King, DO, PhD, FAAO, was named associate director of the PBRN, while Wm. Thomas Crow, DO, FAAO, was named eastern regional director and Michael Seffinger, DO, FAAFP, was named western regional director for the network.

September:

The ORC ended recruitment for the OSTEOPATHic Health outcomes In Chronic low back pain (OSTEOPATHIC) Trial, led by principal investigator John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA. This randomized controlled trial was funded through a K24 Midcareer Investigator Award from NIH-NCCAM. To our knowledge, this is the largest single-site clinical trial ever conducted on spinal manipulation, including OMT, chiropractic or physical therapy, as a treatment for low back pain. A total of 455 subjects were randomized over five years. The final few subjects will complete the study protocol in early January. Data from the study will be available in 2011.

ORC leaders named health economist Fernando Wilson, PhD, assistant professor of health management and policy at the UNTHSC School of Public Health, as the ORC's director of health services and policy research.

October:

ORC leaders presented information about the Center's research portfolio at their exhibit during the American Osteopathic Association Osteopathic Medical Conference and Exposition (OMED) in San Francisco, Calif., and debuted the Center's first promotional video. During the conference, John C. Licciardone, DO, MS, MBA, and Cathleen Kearns also participated in the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation Conclave, with the other researchers who are funded by OHF.

November:

The Osteopathic Research Center completed telephone interviews for OSTEOSURV 2010 in conjunction with the Survey Research Center at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas, which is under the direction of Paul Ruggiere, PhD. The 1,000 respondent, national random digit dial survey assessed topics such as awareness of osteopathic medicine, the use of osteopathic physicians, the extent of patient-centered care and opinions on health care reform. The survey was conducted under the auspices of the ORC's health services and policy research unit with funding from the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation. Data from the survey will be available in 2011.

December:

The ORC announced members of the advisory board for its CONCORD-PBRN. See article Page 2.

Mark Your Calendar

Osteopathic Research 2012

A new osteopathic research conference series
is coming

April 27-29, 2012

Join us in downtown Fort Worth, Texas, at the historic Hilton Hotel for a dynamic conference that will showcase the latest research related to osteopathic medical practice. Watch the ORC website at <http://www.hsc.unt.edu/orc/events.aspx> for more information.

