

# OCPD FREE\*

\*Faculty Resource for Educational Excellence

## Office of Continuing Professional Development (OCPD)

### Shari Whicker, EdD, MEd

Director, OCPD & TEACH  
(Teaching Excellence Academy for Healthcare)

### Sandra Dehart

Curricular and Media Project Specialist, OCPD

### Deborah Ferron

Department Secretary, OCPD

### Mariah Rudd, BS

Education & Faculty Development Manager, OCPD

### Christie Wills, MA

Physician Leadership Development and Professional Wellbeing Manager, OCPD

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## Quote of the Month

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”*

-Nelson Mandela

### Education Day Extravaganza

This year’s TEACH Education Day, our third annual celebration, was highlighted with inspiring keynote presentations by Dr. Larrie Greenberg, the showcase of education research scholarship, and the announcement of newly developed initiatives to honor the hard work and dedication of our exceptional educators. More than 100 individuals from across the health professions attended at least one of the day’s events. These events brought together educational scholars, learners, practitioners, and researchers for a day of exploring collaboration and innovation in health professions education. The day’s highpoints included 19 education research posters from educators across the institution, three unique keynote presentations education expert Dr. Larrie Greenberg, an oral presentation by trainee Dr. Megan Lord, and the announcement of the first annual TEACH Award winners.

During Dr. Greenberg’s keynote presentations he shared lessons of eliminating incivility within the learning environment, explored the variables of effective teaching, and best practices for teaching effectively. During Dr. Greenberg’s 7am session, “8-Step Preceptor”, taught participants about activated demonstration and outlined how to apply the 8-step preceptor model to a case-based interaction. During the 12noon key-note, “How do I know I’m teaching effectively?”, Dr. Greenberg shared the importance of the interactions between teachers, learners, learning objectives and the curriculum.

This year also marked the first annual bestowment of the TEACH Awards. Four individuals from across the health system were honored with these awards which recognized their expertise and devotion to health professions education. Our peer and student nominated winners represent achievements and greatness in our four award categories. Please join us in again congratulating our winners.

### Congratulations to our first annual TEACH Award winners!

**Innovative Teaching Award:** Dr. Claudia Kroker-Bode (Internal Medicine)

**Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award:** Dr. Helena Carvalho (Basic Sciences Education)

**Feedback Award:** Dr. PJ Whalen (Pediatrics)

**Educator Mentorship Award:** Dr. David Musick (Internal Medicine/ Interprofessionalism)

Along with our award winners, the internal experts who have dedicated their time and expertise to all of our TEACH and OCPD series were honored during the TEACH Education Day Posters, Awards & Recognition ceremony. A special display of gratitude was also dedicated to the two devoted Department Chairs who demonstrate the value of educational excellence by regularly attending our TEACH events. Our enduring thanks go to Dr. Michael Nussbaum (Chair, Department of Surgery) and Dr. Fidel Valea (Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology) for their passion for education and attending the greatest number of TEACH events of all departmental chairs over the recent academic year.

The annual TEACH Education Day celebrates our health professions educators working and learning together across the institution to promote educational excellence. Thank you to all who were able to join us for a day of learning and collaboration. If you were unable to join us for this year’s event, please check out the TEACH webpage for archived material (<http://info.vtc.vt.edu/teach/education-day-videos/>)

-Mariah Rudd



# Dean's Corner

## Cynda Johnson, MD, MBA

Earlier this month, our M1s donned their white coats in a ceremony attended by family members, faculty, and other guests. The 42 members of the Class of 2021 had just completed the school's unique white coat curriculum, which emphasizes the sacred nature of a doctor-patient relationship.

Our eight-week curriculum leading up to the white coat ceremony includes senior practitioners who deliver a series of memorable anecdotes and words of wisdom followed by moving discussions; development, as a class, a set of guiding principles; and personal essays crafted around the theme, "What the White Coat Means to Me."

Our white coat curriculum goes beyond what most other medical schools do to honor this tradition. We designed a curriculum that would ensure our students understood the ceremony was more than a rite of passage, that it had a much deeper meaning. As with previous classes, I believe we succeeded. Their essays indicated reverence for what their white coats stood for and a healthy sense of overwhelm for the responsibility it carries. In addition, the students themselves seemed both excited and humbled as they put on their coats for the first time.

This year's ceremony had a particularly meaningful component. Tucked inside each coat pocket was a personal letter of support and encouragement written by a Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine alum.

I invite you to watch this [short, moving video](#), produced by our communications team, about this year's ceremony and the surprise in the white coat pockets.

