

YAHP Dinner Meeting  
July 26, 2007  
Greenwich Hospital

**MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance:

*Yale School of Medicine/*

*Yale-New Haven Hospital*

Frank Bia, MD

Tracy Crosby

Silvio Inzucchi, MD

Cyrus Kapadia, MD

John Moriarty, MD

Asghar Rastegar, MD

*Griffin Hospital*

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*Hospital of St. Raphael*

Stephen Atlas, MD

*Norwalk Hospital*

Pamela Charney, MD

Stephen O'Mahony, MD

*Bridgeport Hospital*

George Abdelsayed, MD

Mausumee Hussain, MD

Vishal Kapur, MD

*St. Mary's Hospital*

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*Waterbury Hospital*

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*Danbury Hospital*

Mike Schiffman, MD

Winston Shih, MD

*AmeriCares*

Karen Gottlieb

*Greenwich Hospital*

Joel Blumberg, MD

Cara Giacomo

Judith Goldberg-Berman, MD

Stephen Jones, MD

Ellika Mardh, MD

Michael Marino, MD

Steven Murphy, MD

Donna Phanumas, MD

Chuck Seelig, MD

Harvey Seidenstein, MD

Dr. Joel Blumberg, Director of the Department of Medicine and tonight's host, began the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing Dr. Silvio Inzucchi, YAHP Director.

Dr. Inzucchi in turn introduced Dr. Frank Bia, former YAHP Director, and Ms. Karen Gottlieb, Executive Director of AmeriCares Free Clinics. Dr. Bia announced his pending retirement and the new role he will take on as Medical Director of AmeriCares Free Clinics. Dr. Bia spoke about the Free Clinics – its mission, accomplishments, structure,

methodology, and volunteers – and answered questions from the audience. He touched on the type of care and type of patients that are seen, and he emphasized the real impact on these patients' lives. He encouraged anyone interested in becoming involved to contact him.

Dr. Inzucchi then introduced Dr. Asghar Rastegar, Associate Chair of Academic Affairs for Yale's Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Rastegar reminded the audience that elective availability reports are now online at the YAHP website. He also discussed the Annual Retreat coming up on October 24 at the Brooklawn Country Club in Fairfield. A draft program was distributed, as was an attendance form for each Chief of Medicine. The Annual Retreat's title this year is "Educating Physicians in Global Medicine" and promises to be an interesting day. Please make sure to complete the attendance form and return as indicated.

Dr. Chuck Seelig, Program Director, then began Greenwich Hospital's formal presentation with two important announcements. First, the residency retreat planned for September 8. This workshop has always been very successful and well received in the past, and he hopes to see more Affiliated residents in attendance this year. Dr. Rosemarie Fisher will be speaking about "Entering the Workforce" – preparing a CV, interviewing, etc. Mike Wiley, a consultant, will also be on hand for this workshop, which is free for any resident from the affiliated programs.

His second announcement was to thank Norwalk Hospital for hosting him recently at their institution and providing him with the opportunity to share experiences. He was grateful that the YAHP provided such excellent networking opportunities for all the Affiliates. Dr. Pam Charney, Program Director, Norwalk Hospital, then expanded on the multidisciplinary rounds that brought Dr. Seelig to Norwalk. A paper, based on this innovative program, has been recently published in *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. Dr. Stephen O'Mahony is the first author (O'Mahony S, Mazur E, Charney P, Wang Y, Fine J. Use of multi-disciplinary rounds to simultaneously improve quality outcomes, enhance resident education and shorten length of stay. *J General Internal Medicine* 2007; 22: 1073-1079.). Congratulations to all involved!

Dr. Seelig continued with his update on Greenwich's residency program. He discussed the Graduate Medical Committee, and he reviewed the process improvement projects they have been working on. To date, the focus has been on patient safety, quality improvement, and information technology. Dr. Seelig also reviewed the results of the biannual resident satisfaction survey they conduct and was pleased to share the results with the group.

Dr. Steve Murphy, one of Greenwich's two Chief Residents, gave the next presentation. He explained in depth a Genetics Curriculum he developed, how it was implemented, and the results to date. This material is of growing importance in medicine and should be taught at the medical school level. However, it is not widely available as part of most schools' regular curriculum. Discussion ensued concerning the need for greater access to genetics training in our residency programs. Dr. Murphy, who will be moving on next

year to a Genetics fellowship at Yale, was also congratulated on his efforts over the past year.

Dr. Stephen Jones wrapped up the evening by speaking about "Spirituality in Medicine" rounds, which are conducted regularly at Greenwich Hospital as part of ward attending rounds. Dr. Jones made clear that spirituality does not necessarily mean religion and that many patients have a belief system which impacts how they cope, how they recover, how they react when they are ill. Similar to genetics (see above), spiritual care is an uncommon topic in most medical curricula. After meeting initial (and completely expected) skepticism, everyone involved with the program has been pleasantly surprised by the results. They have offered the attendings and housestaff a chance to better know the patient as a person rather than just a disease. It has also been a very instructive exercise for participants to examine their own belief systems, particularly as it relates to the healing process.

Dr. Inzucchi made a brief announcement, reminding everyone of the next Dinner Meeting to be held at Norwalk Hospital, possibly in December. Tracy Crosby will be sending out the date as soon as it is confirmed.

Dr. Blumberg brought the meeting to close at 8:30.