

**Table of Contents**  
**Worcester District Medical Society**  
**Worcester Medical Library, Inc.**  
**Annual Report 2020-2021**

Message from the Executive Director

Officers/Delegates/Executive Committee

Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report

Legislative Committee

Medical Education Committee

Membership Committee

Anniversary Members

Memorials Committee

Public Relations Committee

Publications Committee

Editorial Board

Scholarship Committee

Awards Committee

Public Health Committee

Women's Caucus

Worcester Medical Library, Inc.

Worcester District Medical Society Alliance

Curator's Report

**Worcester District Medical Society**  
**Executive Director's Message**  
**2020-2021**

It's been two years since I've become the Executive Director for the Worcester District Medical Society. After my first year of learning the business and hosting a fund-raising Gala (!!), I thought I could handle anything then COVID-19 hit, *and* stuck around. We worked remotely starting in March and through the summer of 2020 and as Mechanics Hall reopened, we slowly came back to the office in the fall. Our events were planned on an adhoc basis, rather than our traditional annual calendar as COVID was still quite unpredictable. We began to use Eventbrite for event registrations, PayPal to accept payment (if applicable) and Zoom to host our meetings and programs. Not what one would expect from a professional, networking organization, yet we persevered.

This report will highlight our 2020-2021 programs and events which were all held virtually. We still gave out our annual member awards, held our annual Oration and celebrated our medical students by dispersing medical student scholarships. We collaborated with the Boston Medical Library for another annual education lecture (Cottle). We also held our first ever, *Talent Show*, in honor of Doctor's Day. It included artwork, crafts, musical talent and woodworking. We also had our first Med Moth program, in lieu of our traditional annual Movie Night.

Our Television program, *Health Matters* was on hold for some time then slowly opened their doors, allowing one host and one guest, masked at 6-feet apart. Even under these circumstances, we managed to air a variety of programs which you can view on our website: <https://www.wdms.org/community-services/health-matters/>. If you have ideas for future episodes or wish to be a guest, please contact Melissa Boucher at 508-753-1759 or [MBoucher@wdms.org](mailto:MBoucher@wdms.org).

Our magazine, *Worcester Medicine*, continues to thrive with 6 issues a year. However, Dr. Lochrie stepped down after over a decade as our Editor and Chair of the Editorial Board. Thank you, Jane, for everything you did to support and elevate this publication to what it is today. It's been nearly a year since working with Studio DiBella for our editing and design/layout and all is well.

We continue to be very happy with our web-developer, Artefact, Inc. We like his creative talent and our new and improved look and functionality. We have incorporated the digital version of our magazine into a new program called ISSUU which allows for better display and interactivity with links, etc. Other webpages have been developed and enhanced. Since our events have been virtual, we have added recorded events to our Calendar/Events page, which allows interested parties to view events they were unable to attend.

I'd like to thank our President, Dr. Spiro Spanakis, for his leadership and guidance over the past year and look forward to developing next year's events and getting back to in-person meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Wright, MBA  
Executive Director

## Officers/Delegates/Executive Committee 2020-2021

### Officers

President	Spiro Spanakis
Vice President	Giles Whalen
Secretary	Marianne Felice
Treasurer	Dale Magee
Orator	Lynn Eckhart

### Delegates

George Abraham	Susan George	Abhijit Roychowdhury
Janet Abrahamian	Jay Glaser	Prithwiji Roychowdhury
Alan Albert	Wayne Glazier	Peter Schneider
Rachel Anderson	Richard Haas	Manjul Shukla
Frederic Baker	Bruce Karlin	Robert Sorrenti
Bruce Bertrand	Kenneth Kronlund	Spiro Spanakis
James Broadhurst	William Lavelle*	Leo Stolbach
William Cohen	Patrick Lowe	Madhavi Toke
Michelle Dalal	B. Dale Magee*	S. Ram Upadhyay
Dennis Dimitri*	Pawan Mathew	Rohit Vakil*
Jon Dorfman	Saharsh Mehta	Bennett Vogt
Lynn Eckhart	Richard Moschella	Giles Whalen*
Louis Fazen	Miriam O'Neil	Lynda Young*
Marianne Felice	Sahdev Passey*	Peter Zacharia
Lloyd Fisher	Alwyn Rapose	
Jeffrey Gallo	John Romano	
Lawrence Garber	Thomas Rosenfeld	* ex officio

### Executive Committee

Spiro Spanakis, Chair	Thomas Rosenfeld
George Abraham	Peter Schneider
Frederic Baker	Robert Sorrenti
James Broadhurst	Paul Steen
Marianne Felice	Giles Whalen
Michael Hirsh	Lynda Young
Bruce Karlin	
Anne Larkin	<i>Student Representatives</i>
Jane Lochrie	Calvin Schaffer
Dale Magee	
Mary O'Brien	<i>Alliance Representatives</i>
Sahdev Passey	Elisa Chan
Michele Pugnaire	

**Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report  
2020-2021**

The Worcester District Medical Society is, by far, the most active of the 20 districts. We offer more events, committees and community activities than the others. Our goal is to promote collegial relationships and promote the ideals that brought our members to a career in medicine. Thanks to our full time staff, energetic officers and members we have not only one of the highest percentages of practicing physicians as members but also a high level of member engagement.

Income: The Society has an income of ~\$300,000 per year of which ~\$150,000 is dues. Our regular dues are \$185/yr for practicing physicians with discounts for 1<sup>st</sup> year in practice, couples and residents. UMass Medical School pays for a membership for each of its students (\$10/yr). The remainder of income comes from support provided by the Worcester Medical Library through investment income to help with our educational efforts (~\$40,000), advertising for Worcester Medicine (~\$18,000). Louis Cottle, a member who passed away in 1951, left earnings from his estate to the WDMS starting in 2007. This amount varies from year to year and is ~\$60,000.

Worcester Medicine has recently been brought in-house and we are now receiving all ad revenues and are responsible for publishing and editing. This should be favorable.

This will be the last year of a grant of \$5,000 from the Massachusetts Medical Society as they work to cut their expenses.

Expenses: Society expenses consist primarily of staff salaries and benefits (~\$145,000), rent (~\$25,000), Worcester Medicine (~\$15,000), committee meetings and events (~\$20,000) and office administrative, professional fees, printing and postage (~\$30,000). Over the past year most meetings have been via Zoom. For member events this saved the Society approximately \$8,000 per dinner meeting. Accordingly we were substantially under budget. Savings are invested to build an endowment with a goal of accumulating 2 million dollars to help defray Society expenses by ~\$80,000 per year in the future. Currently the fund is valued at approximately 1 million dollars.

During the coming year we will address:

Membership has been steady to slowly falling. Since we have the second highest dues of the 20 districts, raising dues is not felt to be an option. The Massachusetts Medical Society is raising its dues over the next few years. This may put membership at risk.

Financially the Society is doing well. We anticipate pressures on income going forward and seek opportunities to cut costs while improving member benefits.

See attached Profit and Loss for 2021 as well as trend graphics.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Dale Magee, MD  
Chair and Treasurer

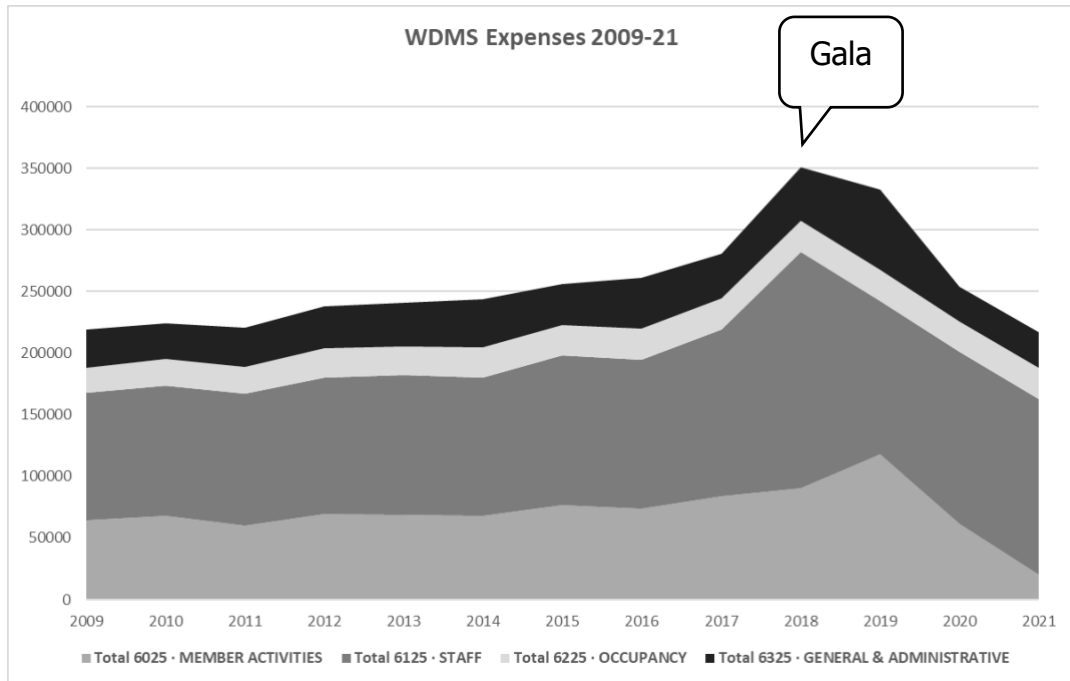
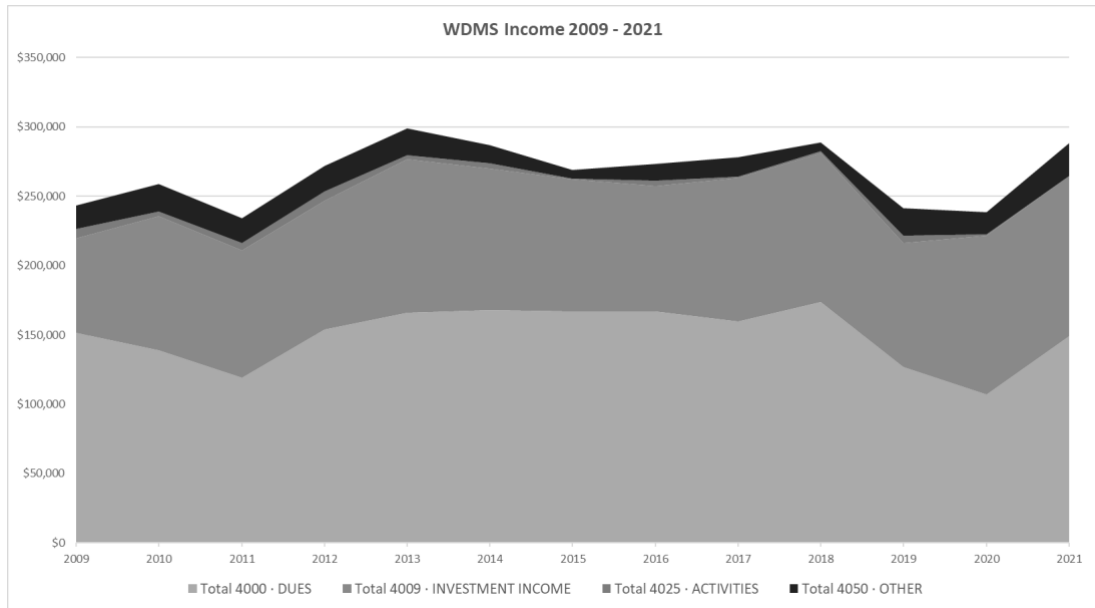
Finance Committee

B. Dale Magee, Treasurer	Peter Schneider
Sonia Nagy Chimienti	Fred Schwarz
Lloyd Fisher	Stuart Weisberger
Kenneth Kronlund	Peter Zacharia

**Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report**  
**2020-2021**  
*Con't*

<b>WDMS</b>	<b>Jan - Dec 21</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
DUES	149,135	160000
INVESTMENT INCOME		
Salary Grant from WML	40,000	40000
Cottle dividends and interest	75,585	60000
ACTIVITIES	0	0
OTHER	23,482	28,000
Miscellaneous Income	643	0
Total Income	288,845	288,000
<b><u>Expense</u></b>		
MEMBER ACTIVITIES	20,060	63,500
STAFF	142,925	153,000
OCCUPANCY	24,749	26,000
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	29,205	39,025
Total Expense	216,939	281,525
Net Ordinary Income	71,906	

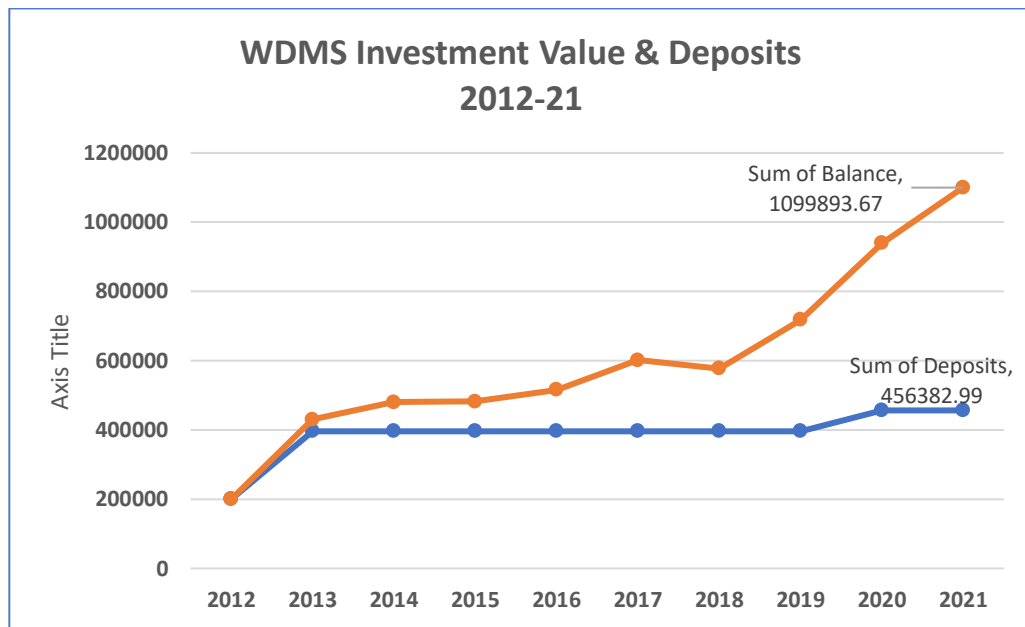
**Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report  
2020-2021  
Con't**



**Finance Committee and Treasurer's Report**  
**2020-2021**  
*Con't*

WDMS Investments:

WDMS maintains an investment account with approximately 2/3 equities and 1/3 bonds/short term at Fidelity Investments with low-cost mutual funds. The purpose of this account is to accumulate a fund to defer future costs of running the Society without increases in dues and to hold the possibility of reducing dues in the future.



**Legislative Committee  
2020-2021**

WDMS Legislative Committee was represented again this year at the MMS COL by Dr. Giles Whalen.

We had to cancel our Legislative Breakfast in 2020, due to COVID, but resumed this year hosting the program virtually on 4/13/2021. We had great attendance between our members and legislators and our goal was accomplished. We collaborated with our local and state legislators on issues important to them and asked for ways we could help. In turn, we proposed issues with which we are concerned and discussed ways the legislators could help. Many were particularly happy with this format as it allows them to be better informed from those in the trenches. Some of the topics discussed at the Legislative Committee meeting in January were:

- Legislation from Dr. Joseph Sabato/CPR education
- Foreign sourcing of pharmaceuticals
- Advocacy/unhappiness with the new Medicare payments - Consolidated 2020 Omnibus Legislation
- “No Surprises Act”
- Telehealth bill
- The expanding COVID-19 Testing Capacity Act
- Contraception Bill

Items and speakers for the Legislative Breakfast on 4/13/2021 included:

- China RX legislation – Dale Magee
- CPR Bill – Joe Sabato
- COVID Crisis/Worcester Sr Center Vaccines, PH response and funding – Mike Hirsh
- Telehealth Bill – Dennis Dimitri

With regard to the HOD, we met with Worcester North to caucus prior to the annual MMS HOD meetings, which were all held virtually:

- The Annual Meeting for MMS House of Delegates will meet:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Session – Monday April 26, 2021 from 6-8 pm
- The Annual Meeting for MMS House of Delegates will meet:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Session – Part A: Friday, May 7, 2021 from 6-9 pm
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Session – Part B: Saturday, May 8, 2021 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Giles F. Whalen MD, FACS  
Chair

Legislative Committee

Giles Whalen, Chair	Timothy Hopkins
Dennis Dimitri	Sahdev Passey
Marianne Felice	Frederic Schwartz
Jeffrey Gallo	<i>Resident Representative</i>
Wayne Glazier	Stefanie Russell
Michael Hirsh	<i>Student Representative</i>
	John Romano



**Medical Education Committee  
2020-2021**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Louis A. Cottle lecture was held on November 18, 2020, co-sponsored with the Boston Medical Library Garland Lecture and was a risk management webinar. The topic, "Dependence on China for Medicines: Implications for Drug Shortages, Recalls, and Health Security." The guest speaker was Rosemary Gibson, Senior Advisor at the Hastings Center, Author of "China RX: Exposing the Risks of America's Dependence on China for Medicine. Moderated by: Dale Magee, MD- Boston Medical Library Chair of the Garland Committee and Mary O'Brien, MD- WDMS Chair of the Medical Education Committee. Panel of Experts: Neil Gilchrist, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, DPLA- Chief Pharmacy Officer at the UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester, Ross Thompson, MS, RPh-Vice President and Chief Pharmacy Officer at the Tufts Medical Center/floating Hospital for Children in Boston, MA., Sowmya Viswanathan, MD, MBA, MHCM-CMO, Massachusetts Group, Tenet Health. To view this taped event, visit [www.wdms.org](http://www.wdms.org) and go to Event Calendar, Past Events. It was well attended and participation was active.

We continue to solicit your suggestions and nominations for speakers to keep our programs relevant and interesting. Please email or call the District Office if you have not been heard and help us fulfill our mission for the society.

I'd like to thank the Committee members for their hard work and thoughtful suggestions as we plan our events. I'd also like to welcome the new members to the committee: Physicians-Bronwyn Cooper, Rebecca Kowaloff, Quang Le, James Lindberg, Resident Representatives-Edward Adams, Elizabeth Bobersky and Miriam O'Neil. Student Representatives: Shani Aharon, Rachel Anderson, Sassicaia Schick, Rebecca Toohey and Bennett Vogt.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary O'Brien, MD  
Chair

Medical Education Committee

Mary O'Brien, <i>Chair</i>	<i>Resident Representative</i>
Bronwyn Cooper	Edward Adams
Frank Fechner	Elizabeth Bobersky
Jay Glaser	Miriam O'Neil
Rebecca Kowaloff	
Quang Le	<i>Student Representatives</i>
Laszlo Leb	Shani Aharon
James Lindberg	Rachel Anderson
Jane Lochrie	Sassicaia Schick
	Rebecca Toohey
	Bennett Vogt

**Membership Committee  
2020-2021**

	<u>3/27/2017</u>	<u>3/19/2018</u>	<u>3/25/2019</u>	<u>3/23/2020</u>	<u>3/29/2021</u>
1st Year Practice	126	138	136	172	150
Joint/Family	29	26	25	22	18
Physicians	830	783	758	740	720
Seniors /Emeritus	155	157	165	170	185
Residents	594	601	603	619	639
Students	518	570	618	651	651
CHC/Comp	n/a	n/a	49	53	52
Military	1	1	1	1	1
Waived	6	7	2	5	4
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>2259</b>	<b>2328</b>	<b>2357</b>	<b>2433</b>	<b>2420</b>

Once again our membership has increased. WDMS is proud to represent 2420 physicians and medical students in Central Massachusetts. Membership dues are what allows us to offer our members a variety of events that are interesting and educational.

We strive to provide programs that will increase the level of participation and involvement of young physicians, residents and students and are committed to represent and serve our members.

Please be sure to keep your membership up-to-date and also please help us recruit new members by sharing our events and accomplishments with your colleagues who are not members of WDMS.

Respectfully submitted,

Sahdev Passey, MD  
Chair

Membership Committee

Sahdev Passey, Chair	Peter Schneider
James Broadhurst	Spiro Spanakis
Marianne Felice	<i>Resident Representative</i>
Michael Hirsh	Edward Adams
Rebecca Kowaloff	<i>Student Representatives</i>
James Lindberg	John Romano
Jane Lochrie	Bennett Vogt
Mark Maxfield	

**Anniversary Members  
2020-2021**

**50 Year Members**

Charles A. Birbara, MD  
Hannes J. Scheffel, MD  
Imre G. Toth, MD

**25 Year Members**

Vasanthi Arakali, MD  
Frederic Baker, MD  
Patricia D. Chernosky, MD  
Lisa B. Noble, MD  
Sara G. Shields, MD  
Paul M. Steen, MD\*

*\*37 Years*

**Memorials Committee  
2020-2021**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Members Since</u>
Robert E. Maher, MD	9-24-1922	2-3-2021	1955
Seymour M. Solomon, MD	10-12-1939	4-5-2021	1993

Respectfully submitted,

Memorials Committee

Memorials Committee

Sidney Kadish

*Resident Representatives*

Edward Adams

Stephanie Clegg

**Public Relations Committee  
2020-2021**

“Health Matters” remains the cornerstone for the public relations outreach of WDMS. Now in its eighteenth year, “Health Matters” is the public access cable broadcast of thirty-minute shows featuring lively discussions on relevant and diverse health topics affecting patients and the community.

“Health Matters” reaches a T.V. audience of at least 56,000 households and airs three times a week in Worcester, Shrewsbury, Hopkinton and Holden. Live-streaming and on-line archiving of episodes are available at <https://www.wdms.org/community-services/health-matters/>.

Our hosts include Doctors James Broadhurst, Michael Hirsh, Bruce Karlin, Lynda Young and our first Medical Student Host, Michelle Shabo.

**Health Matters Shows:**

Saving Lives in Massachusetts Is All In Our Hands

Host: Dr. Michael Hirsh

Guest: Dr. Joseph Sabato

Health Care Proxy: You Must Choose, But Choose Wisely

Host: Dr. Bruce Karlin

Guest: Dr. Gary Blanchard

School Re-opening, DPH and DESE Protocols and Resources

Host: Dr. Lynda Young

Guests: Drs. Michele Parker and Lloyd Fisher

COVID-19 Vaccine Trial

Host: Dr. James Broadhurst

Guests: Drs. Matilde Castiel and Robert Finberg

Urinary Incontinence: It May Be Common, But You Don't Have To Live With It

Host: Dr. James Broadhurst

Guest: Dr. Cynthia Hall

Skills to Sustain Caregiving

Host: Dr. James Broadhurst

Guest: Dr. Tina Runyan

The New Arms Race-Vaccination in the Time of COVID-19 Pandemic

Host: Dr. Bruce Karlin

Guests: Dr. Michael Hirsh and Karyn Clark COVID-19 and

Pregnancy

Host Dr. Michael Hirsh

Guest: Dr. Julianne Lauring

Vaccine Response

Host: Dr. Michael Hirsh

Guests: Drs. Michael Collins and Jillian Terrien

2021-New Frontiers in Bladder Cancer

Host: Dr. Lynda Young

Guests: Drs. Kriti Mittal and Jennifer Yates

Mental Health in Pregnancy and the Year After Pregnancy

Host: Dr. Lynda Young

Guest: Dr. Tiffany Moore Simas

Infertility and the Introduction of IVF Care in Worcester

Host: Dr. James Broadhurst

Guests: Drs. Katherine Rotker, Armando Arroyo and Shaila Chauhan

COVID-19 Study

Host: Dr. Bruce Karli

Guest: Dr. Robert Finberg

Section 12

Host: Dr. Bruce Karlin

Guests: Peter Martin, Esq., Lieutenant Sean Murtha and Officer Angel Rivera, Jr.

**Public Relations Committee  
2020-2021  
*Con't***

I'd like to thank the Public Relations Committee Members for their oversight of our Television Program.

If you have an interesting topic in mind and wish to be a guest on our show, please contact WDMS directly at 508-753-1579 or email [mboucher@wdms.org](mailto:mboucher@wdms.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hirsh, MD  
Chair

Public Relations Committee

Michael Hirsh, Chair	<i>Student Representatives</i>
James Broadhurst	Michelle Shabo
Bruce Karlin	Marci Jones
Laszlo Leb	
Dale Magee	
Ram Upadhyay	
Lynda Young	

**Publications Committee**  
**2020-2021**  
**Con't**

The Publications Committee manages the materials published by the District with the primary focus on *Worcester Medicine*. *Worcester Medicine* is published bimonthly and provides a unique perspective on current health care issues within central Massachusetts. The magazine is produced by the Editorial Board which has representation from the District members but also from others within our healthcare community, such as the Worcester campus of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and the Graduate School of Nursing and the Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

The 2020-2021 issues of *Worcester Medicine* covered important health care topics, this year's issues included:

May/June 2020:	Update in Dermatology
July/August 2020:	COVID-19 Part 1
September/October 2020:	COVID-19 Part 2
November/December 2020:	COVID-19 Part 3
January/February 2021:	Oral Health & Local Disparities
March/April 2021:	Update in Perinatology

The Publications Committee acknowledges the excellent work of the Editorial Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sorrenti, MD  
Chair

Publications Committee

Robert Sorrenti, Chair  
Anthony Esposito  
Lloyd Fisher  
Jane Lochrie  
Joel Popkin  
Paul Steen

**Editorial Board  
2020-2021**

Despite COVID-19, the Editorial Board and Worcester Medicine Magazine continue to thrive. As you can see from the list of issues above, the Editorial Board continues to report on current and interesting and do a wonderful job and work very well together.

We are still producing six issues a year and could not be accomplished without a hard-working, dedicated Board and Staff. Unfortunately, with the inception and lasting pandemic, Pagio Inc. will no longer be our Editor/Publisher.

With Dr. Jane Lochrie stepping down this year, we have gone to a Guest Editor model. This will allow each themed issue to be edited by a specialist/expert on the subject. We will continue this model while we search for a new Editor and Chair of the Editorial Board.

We have hired Studio DiBella, a local and reputable editor and designer. With this transition, we will assume the responsibility for advertising so this could mean additional revenue. In addition, we have decided to transition to a digital magazine which means fewer printed copies and but will provide digital enhancements for advertisers. We look forward to increasing our online presence on a new platform, and to a lasting relationship.

Finally, I'd like to thank Dr. Heather Finlay-Morreale for her contributions to the magazine, as she steps down from the Board.

Our next issue will be May/June, entitled: JEDI or Die Not an Option but a Mandate. And to view past issues of Worcester Medicine, click [here](#).

Editorial Board

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Wright, MBA  
Executive Director

Editor: Guest Editor Model	Alwyn Rapose
Lisa Beittel, MBA	Robert Sorrenti
Anthony Esposito	Paul Steen
Heather Finlay-Morreale	Ram Upadhyay
Michael Hirsh	Martha Wright, MBA
Anna Morin, PharmD	Peter Zacharia
Nancy Morris, PhD, ANP	
Thoru Pederson, PhD	<i>Student Representative</i>
Joel Popkin	Aly Rabin



**Scholarship Committee  
2020-2021**

It is a pleasure to write this report highlighting the 2020 scholarship award recipients, 20 exceptional medical students who exemplify our medical society's values of community service, academic achievement and professional character.

These students hail from hometowns across the Worcester District and attend diverse medical schools nationwide. Some may come from your own hometown, local community or alma mater. The applicants represent eight different medical schools and include students across years 2, 3 and 4 of medical school, some just beginning and others ready to graduate. But despite these differences and rich diversity, they all share one common and pressing need: the burden of student debt. Now more than ever, our medical students face overwhelming debt burdens. The indebtedness of graduating medical students across the country continues to increase, with the median medical school debt now at \$200,000.

The 2020 WDMS Scholarship Program granted an all-time record of 20 awards to these aspiring future physicians. Through your generosity, the Scholarship Fund distributed a total of \$57,500 in scholarships to the award recipients featured in this report. There were five \$3500 Scholarship Awards and five \$1000 Book Awards.

The Scholarship Fund of the Worcester District Medical Society gratefully acknowledges WDMS members and the dedicated sponsors from the Worcester community whose support makes our scholarship program possible.

As Chair of the Committee, I would like to acknowledge our dedicated team of committee members who interviewed and selected this year's award recipients. On behalf of all our committee membership, let me also offer our collective appreciation to Dr. Ken Kronlund, who serves as Trustee of the Scholarship Fund. As a most valued member of the Scholarship Committee since 2001, Dr. Kronlund does a superlative job of safeguarding our scholarship fund and we are most grateful for his service, wisdom and sage stewardship.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele P. Pugnaire, MD  
Chair

Scholarship Committee

Michele Pugnaire, <i>Chair</i>	Heidi Leftwich
Kenneth Kronlund, <i>Trustee</i>	Jane Lochrie
Janet Abrahamian	Susan Moran
Robert Bessette	Martha Waite
Susan George	Stuart Weisberger
Rebecca Kowaloff	Giles Whalen

## 2020 WDMS Medical Scholarship Award Recipients



**Alec Allain**  
*Dr. Hebert Nieburgs  
Scholarship Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School—Class of 2022



**Kendall Burdick**  
*Joyce Cariglia and David  
Williams Book Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School—Class of 2023



**Kimberly Burke**  
*Dr. Burt Guteran  
Scholarship Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School—Class of 2023



**Catherine Cattley**  
*Worcester District Medical  
Society Scholarship Award*  
University of New  
England College of Osteopathic  
Medicine—Class of 2022



**Stephanie Craig**  
*Paulette Griffin Pugnaire  
Book Award*  
Lake Erie College of  
Osteopathic Medicine—  
Class of 2022



**Brennan Dagle**  
*UMMHC Dr. Samuel  
Pickens Scholarship Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School—Class of 2022



**Tamika Isaac**  
*Dr. Herbert E. Nieburgs  
Scholarship Award*  
Philadelphia College of  
Osteopathic Medicine—  
Class of 2023



**Kelsey Jones**  
*Dr. Herbert E. Nieburgs  
Scholarship Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School—Class of 2021



**Thomas Kania**  
*MRMC John A. Rauth  
Book Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School—Class of



**Kara Kennedy**  
*Dr. Hebert E. Nieburgs  
Scholarship Award*  
University of  
Massachusetts Medical  
School—Class of 2021

2020 WDMS Medical Scholarship Award Recipients (continued)



**Laura Knapik**  
*Dr. Lillian Luksis  
Scholarship Award*  
University of New England  
College of Osteopathic  
Medicine— Class of 2022



**Cindy Le**  
*Gilbert E. Levinson Scholarship  
Award by the St. Vincent  
Hospital Medical Staff*  
University of Massachusetts Medical  
School— Class of 2023



**Marc Poirier**  
*Dr. Julius Tegelberg  
Scholarship Award*  
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic  
Medicine—Class of 2022



**Ryan Saliga**  
*Physician's Insurance Dr.  
Najmosama Nikrui Book Award*  
Creighton University School of  
Medicine—Class of 2021



**Michelle Shabo**  
*Dr. Leonard J. Morse  
Scholarship Award*  
University of  
Massachusetts Medical  
School—Class of 2021



**Nathan Taber**  
*Amaral Family Book Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School—  
Class of 2023



**Rebecca Toohy**  
*Dr. Sanfrey Lylestrom  
Scholarship Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School— Class of 2022



**Vanessa Villamarin**  
*RMG Dr. M. Elizabeth Fletcher  
Scholarship Award*  
University of Massachusetts  
Medical School— Class of 2021



**ToQuynh Vu**  
*Worcester District Medical  
Society Scholarship Award*  
University of New England  
College of Osteopathic Medicine  
— Class of 2022



**Mina Zaky**  
*Dr. Hebert E. Nieburgs  
Scholarship Award*  
Tufts University School of  
Medicine— Class of 2022

**Awards Committee  
2020-2021**

*The annual Fall District Meeting and Awards Ceremony was held on October 27, 2020. The event was held virtually.*

***The Worcester District Medical Society Career Achievement Award:***

This award was established to recognize a Society member who has demonstrated compassion and dedication to the medical needs of patients and/or the public and has made a significant contribution to the practice of medicine.

The 2020 award recipient was presented to Jeffrey L. Geller, MD, MPH:

After graduating from the University Of Pennsylvania School Of Medicine, and completing his internship at Philadelphia General Hospital, Dr. Geller completed a Psychiatric residency and N.I.M.H. Fellowship in Primary Care Medicine at Beth Israel Hospital Boston, MA. And he later completed an MPH, at the Harvard School of Public Health Boston, MA. Dr. Geller has worked for 38 years at UMMS. Aaron Lazare, then the chair of Psychiatry recruited Dr. Geller back to UMMS in 1985 as Director of Public Sector Psychiatry, a role he held for 28 years. Dr. Geller is a prolific writer speaker and teacher, with over 100 peer-reviewed articles, over 150 book chapters and reviews, over 250 invited talks and meeting presentations, editorial board member or reviewer for 28 journals, and has 20 awards including several for human rights and for public sector advocacy. Dr. Geller has passionately devoted his career to the medically-compromised public sector psychiatric population in central MA, and throughout the Commonwealth. He is known throughout the US and internationally as one of the most prominent voices advocating for public sector psychiatric patients. Congratulations Dr. Geller!

***The Dr. A. Jane Fitzpatrick Community Service Award:***

This award was established by the Medical Society to commemorate the life-long community contributions and exemplary efforts of Dr. Jane Fitzpatrick in the Worcester Community. This award recognizes a member of the healthcare community in Central Massachusetts for their effort beyond professional duty to improve the health and well-being of others.

The 2020 award recipient was presented to John Broach, MD, MPH, MBA, FACEP:

After graduating from Northwestern University School of Medicine, Chicago IL, Dr. Broach completed both his Emergency Medicine Residency and EMS Fellowship at UMass Medical School. He received his MPH from Northwestern University Graduate School and completed his MBA at George Washington University. He has received numerous awards and most recently, spearheaded the Field Hospital at the DCU Center. It is this exemplary work, serving our communities during the COVID pandemic that especially has set him apart. John has been a principal force driving our pandemic response in Worcester, his efforts, knowledge and skills are extraordinary. Congratulations Dr. Broach!

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2020 Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony, April 15, 2020 was postponed, the awards below were presented at the 2020 Annual Fall District Meeting and Awards Ceremony.*

***The Worcester District Medical Society/Massachusetts Medical Society Community Clinician of the Year Award:***

This award recognizes a practitioner who has made significant contributions to patients and community.

**Awards Committee**  
**2020-2021**  
**Con't**

The 2020 award was presented to Timothy B. Hopkins, MD:

After graduating from Harvard Medical School, Dr. Hopkins pursued his residency in Surgery/Urology, at Children's Hospital Medical Center and subsequently, trained as a Fellow in Urology, at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. From there he practiced at the UMass Medical Center as an Attending Physician and Associate Professor. Dr. Hopkins has authored countless publications, has given presentations at local, regional and national meetings, held dozens of faculty and committee titles and has received multiple honors and awards, including being selected as the "Top Doctor" by his peers each year since 2001. For over 40 years, Dr. Hopkins has been extremely dedicated to his patients, to the "craft of urology" and to teaching residents and students, where he has devoted his life to medicine and the betterment of his patients". He has actively participated in several organizations including the WDMS since 1977.

**The 2020 WDMS Editor's Award:**

This WDMS member has made significant contributions to the Editorial Board which is responsible for the publication of the Worcester Medicine magazine.

The 2020 Editor's award was presented to Dr. Paul M. Steen:

After graduating from Downstate Medical Center, SUNY in Brooklyn in 1965. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine and was Chief Medical Resident at Kings County Hospital before he completed 2 years in the Navy on Guam. He served 15 years in private practice of Internal Medicine in Southbridge, Mass. Following this he worked in the corporate world at MediQual Systems and McKesson HBOC as VP of Clinical Development until retirement in 2005. For the Worcester District Medical Society Dr. Steen served as President in 1982 and Editor of Worcester Medicine 2005-2012. In retirement Paul has become a Master Gardener for Massachusetts Horticultural Society and Docent at the Worcester Art Museum.

*The WDMS Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony, April 28, 2021. The event was held virtually.*

**The Worcester District Medical Society/Massachusetts Medical Society Community Clinician of the Year Award:**

This award recognizes a practitioner who has made significant contributions to patients and community.

The 2021 award was presented to Nancy W. DeTora, MD:

Dr. DeTora Graduated summa cum laude from Michigan State and she completed her medical training from their University College of Human Medicine. She went on to complete a Combined Residency followed by a Fellowship in Developmental and Ambulatory Pediatrics at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School. Since 1983, she has remained on staff at UMMHC, St Vincent Hospital and Boston Children's Hospital.

Dr. DeTora recently retired but her career in Auburn spanned decades, making literally thousands of children healthier. She was an inspiration to her colleagues, one who stood out for her excellent care and devotion to her patients. Her care was individualized and personalized and her impact on the community has been truly remarkable. Dr. DeTora was (and is) a valuable educator, working closely with a variety of students aspiring to be healthcare providers, sharing her knowledge and perspectives.

**Awards Committee  
2020-2021  
Con't**

on how to best provide patient care. She was incredibly devoted to the community but that extended beyond Auburn, MA. For years, she served as the medical director, and led a biannual trip with the Auburn Middle School, deep into the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest, introducing them to the culture of the Kichwa natives. This is now a twenty-five year tradition.

**The Worcester District Medical Society, President's Award:**

This is a special award recognizing an individual for their extraordinary contributions to the health and wellbeing of the medical community, with significant contributions to patients and the community and the profession of medicine.

After a very tumultuous 2020-2021, this year's award had three recipients:

Mayor Joseph M. Petty:

Mr. Petty, Executive Secretary to the employee's retirement system of the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency, is serving his twelfth two-year term as Councilor-At-Large and his fifth term as Mayor of the City of Worcester. He is also the Chairman of the Worcester School Committee.

He is a graduate of Holy Name Central Catholic High School, Worcester. He received a BS in Business Administration from Nichols College, Dudley, and a law degree from New England School of Law, Boston. Mayor Petty is truly committed to the City of Worcester and its residents.

City Manager Edward M. Augustus:

Mr. Augustus was appointed as the city manager of Worcester in 2014. He is a former Massachusetts State Senator, and the former chief of staff for Congressman James McGovern. Before becoming City Manager, he worked as Director of Government and Community Relations at the College of the Holy Cross. As City Manager, he has focused on continuing Worcester's economic development renaissance, supporting education, and making city government inclusive for all residents of New England's second-largest city. During the past year, the City of Worcester faced the unprecedented challenge of a global pandemic.

Michael P. Hirsh, MD:

Dr. Michael Hirsh, Medical Director of the WDPH, is committed to public health in the Greater Worcester community with roles such as Assistant Vice Provost for Health and Wellness Promotion and Professor of Surgery at UMMS and he is Surgeon-in-Chief of Pediatric Surgery at UMMHC. He is a Co-Director of the Injury-free Coalition for Kids chapter in Worcester and Director of the Gun Buyback Program. Since 2012, Dr. Hirsh has been the medical director for the city of Worcester and this past year, has been a critical part of the COVID-19 response team.

This was an incredibly busy year with so many deserving recipients. I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work and dedication. I would also like to welcome our new member, Michele Pugnaire.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hirsh, MD  
Chair

Awards Committee

Michael Hirsh, <i>Chair</i>	Jane Lochrie
Fred Baker	Michele Pugnaire
Marianne Felice	Abhijit Roychowdhury
Bruce Karlin	

**Public Health Committee  
2020-2021**

The Public Health Committee continues to support various public health activities:

COVID-19 Pandemic – The turn of events and the numbers of cases and deaths are staggering. Masks have been required and many of not all public events have been limited to a specific number of attendees. Clinics have been set up all around the city and outreach is being done for the homeless and those living in camps. Vaccinations are strongly encouraged but cannot be required. As a medical society we are doing what we can to help staff clinics and vaccinate the community. The MMS is helping by offering malpractice coverage for retired, licensed volunteer physicians. And the Board of Registration is renewing or offering special licenses for those who wish to help with vaccinations.

CPR Education Update - Dr. Joe Sabato (Emergency Medicine physician from UMass) drafted a resolution and presented it at the 2021 Legislative breakfast to improve CPR awareness and education. He was also a guest on Health Matters September 8, 2020, the topic of discussion, "Saving lives in Massachusetts Is All In Our Hands": <https://www.wccatv.com/video/health-matters/healthmatters-203>. There is a grave lack of CPR education and Massachusetts has one of the highest mortality rates.

Grant for Mobile Mitigation - Dr. Kavita Babu secured a grant for a traveling opioid mobile addiction service, called Road to Care, that delivers care in our community where some of the most vulnerable patients live.

Barbershop Health Network – This group is now under the leadership of Michelle Chang, MS3 since Rebecca Ukaegbu has graduated. The goal of this group is to continue to provide educational outreach and resources to minorities in our community, via barbershops, churches and other community centers. The WDMS has offered to help fund from the WHO/Rx account up to \$2k annually to help restock supplies and pay for incentives, T-shirts, etc. For this year, they organized "Shots at the shop" for vaccinations. All the supplies and vaccines are provided by WDPH. Tables, gloves, coolers...etc. But WDMS also has supplies in our office. Eventually, once the pandemic has ended, they wish to get back on track and have a foundation of locations, hopeful for 15 sites, "Doc in the Shop", Barbershops, Community Centers, and beauty salons to continue their mission of education and outreach for minorities and men and women of color.

Goods for Guns – Annual event was held in December. It continues to grow each year, with new towns and cities participating.

Public Health Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hirsh, MD  
Chair

Michael Hirsh, *Chair*  
Colleen Bolen  
James Broadhurst  
Matilde Castiel  
Karyn Clark  
Richard Ellison  
Tiffany Forti  
Marianne Felice  
Quang Le  
Kirti Nagpal  
Fozia Qamar  
Abhijit Roychowdhury

Manjul Shukla  
Anthony Teebagy  
  
*Resident Representatives*  
Amber Thompson  
  
*Student Representative*  
Kelly Flanagan  
Patrick Lowe  
Rebecca Ukaegbu  
*Alliance Representative*  
Francine Vakil

**Women's Caucus  
2020-2021**

The Women's Caucus serves as the planning committee for the Women in Medicine events. The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in Medicine Breakfast, co-sponsored by PIAM, was held on September 24, 2020 as a virtual presentation. This was the first 2020 presentation of its kind for WDMS, as it was held via Zoom. The lecture was presented by Dr. Lynn Eckhert who's talked was entitled: *Women's Suffrage, Where are the Physicians?*

This year's annual Women in Medicine Leadership Forum, co-sponsored by PIAM, took place on May 27, 2021. Our speaker was Dr. Heather S. Lipkind, Associate Professor, Section of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences and the Associate Program Director, Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship at Yale School of Medicine. Her talk was entitled "*From Burnout to Thriving: Once Physician's Bundle for Personal Resilience*".

I'd like to welcome new members, Drs. Rebecca Kowaloff, Dhanya Kumar, Bency Louidor-Paulynice, Stacy Potts, Resident representatives Elizabeth Bobersky and Stephanie Clegg and finally our students, Shani Aharon, Rachel Anderson, Nayha Chopra-Tandon, Sassi Schick and Rebecca Toohey. And thank you to our departing members, Drs. Phyllis Pollack, Rachel Anderson and Michelle Shabo.

Finally, it takes a village to orchestrate our programs so I'd like to acknowledge all of the Committee members listed below as well Martha Wright and Melissa Boucher for all of their hard work, guidance and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Young, MD  
Chair

Women's Caucus

Lynda Young, Chair	<u>Resident Representatives</u>
Annie Abraham	Elizabeth Bobersky
Janet Abrahamian	Stephanie Clegg
Maria Abruzzo	
Lynn Eckhert	
Marianne Felice	<u>Student Representatives</u>
Hari Kirin Khalsa	Shani Aharon
Rebecca Kowaloff	Rachel Anderson
Heidi Leftwich	Nayha Chopra-Tandon
Jane Lochrie	Kelly Flanagan
Dhanya Kumar	Sassicaia Schick
Bency Louidor-Paulynice	Rebecca Toohey
Kirti Nagpal	
Stacy Potts	
Manjul Shukla	
Rebecca Spanagel	
Martha Waite	
Jen Yates	



**Worcester Medical Library, Inc.  
2020-2021**

The Worcester Medical Library, Inc. was founded by the Society in 1798. The Library is dedicated to supporting educational programs for physicians and to maintaining resources on the history of medicine. In 1973 its collection was brought to the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School to establish a rare book room in the Lamar Soutter Library and an on-going partnership with the medical school library. In August, 2002, the Library provided the Lamar Soutter Library with a gift to establish the Humanities in Medicine Collection.

Society dues include membership to the Worcester Medical Library (WML), entitling members to access the many services available at the Lamar Soutter Library.

The activities of the Worcester Medical Library include the following:

Humanities in Medicine Committee - With the ongoing pandemic, this Committee has not met and the Meet the Author series is on hold.

Spoken History Project - Dale Magee, MD, MS, Curator of the WDMS and WML is also the Director of the Spoken History Project which was formed in 1995 to record the experiences of practicing physicians through the ages. Dr. Magee continues to conduct interviews and they are uploaded to the newly developed history page on our website. If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to visit the Spoken History interviews: <https://www.wdms.org/spoken-history-project/h>

Ongoing activities include:

Oversight of the Worcester Medical Library's historical book collection, which is housed in the Rare Books Room of the Lamar Soutter Library.

Support for the Humanities in Medicine Collection, also in the Lamar Soutter Library. Representatives from the WML serve on the Humanities in Medicine Committee at the Library.

Support for activities conducted at the Lamar Soutter Library.

Financial support for the educational activities carried out by the Worcester District Medical Society.

The Worcester Medical Library will continue to evaluate opportunities to foster educational programs and projects in the Worcester area.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend our appreciation and thanks to Dr. Peter Schneider for his continued efforts as the Library's Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Robert Sorrenti, MD  
Chair

Officers

President	Spiro Spanakis
Vice President	Giles Whalen
Secretary	Lynda Young
Treasurer	Peter Schneider
Curator	B. Dale Magee

Board of Trustees

<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Phyllis Pollack	Edward Amaral	Robert Bessette
Michele Pugnaire	Anthony Esposito	Dale Magee
Thomas Rosenfeld	Paul Steen	Sahdev Passey

**Worcester District Medical Society  
Alliance  
2020-2021**

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, our in-person meetings and social events were suspended. It became necessary to postpone our plans for a fundraising event for our Nursing Scholarship with a special guest speaker at Old Sturbridge Village.

Several of our members made personal donations of energy bars that were delivered to the Covid-19 front line workers at our area hospitals.

In collaboration with the Worcester District Medical Society Alliance, the MMSA, the Worcester District Medical Society and Legacy Financial, we provided a catered meal for the overnight shift of COVID-19 front line heroes at UMass Memorial and Saint Vincent's Hospital.

Through coordination with the WDMS and their executive director, Martha Wright, our district Alliance web page was updated and given a fresh, new look.

Feeling the desire to stay connected with our Alliance friends, we held a Zoom get-together to check in with one another and also discuss a TV series.

Our recent book club selection was 'Get Well Soon: History's Worst Plagues and the Heroes Who Fought Them' by Jennifer Wright. The author was invited and attended via Zoom. We had a lively Q & A discussion about the writing of her book. Please join us on June 1, as we discuss our next selection The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women and Women to Medicine.

It is with great sadness that our long-time member, Norma Bowen passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine Vakil and Paula Madison

WDMS Alliance Board

Paula Madison, *Past President, MMSA*  
Usha Upadhyay, *Treasurer*  
Francine Vakil, *Alliance Representative*  
Maureen Zacharia, *Secretary*

## Curators Report 2020-2021

The Curator and interested members catalog artifacts and archives, develop exhibits and offer activities relating to the history of medicine to the membership and to the public.

Members are invited to participate on an activity by activity basis to accommodate their interests and time availability.

### **Projects:**

**Cataloging:** all artifacts are being photographed and uploaded to our Web page as well as cataloged. Storage is both at Mechanics Hall and offsite at Value Store It on Chestnut St.

**Medical History Book Club:** Meeting since 2016, the Club has about 30 members and during 2021 met 4 times via Zoom with 10-15 participants per meeting. New members are welcome- contact the curator.

**Spoken History Project:** Since its inception in 1995 we have accumulated over 80 interviews of senior members discussing their careers. These are available on the WDMS YouTube channel. One interview was added this year.

**Worcester Medical News:** Curator reports included with many issues of Worcester Medicine.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Dale Magee, MD  
Curator

**Medical Student Committee  
2020-2021**

This is the first year of the Medical Student Committee. It was established as a Special Committee to further collaborate and enhance the relationship between WDMS and the University Of Massachusetts Medical School. It will be comprised of at least 8 medical students, 2 from each year and led by two Chairs, one physician member and one student member. It will be responsible for two events per year, one educational and one social/networking. In addition, there will be a vice-chair and one member to act as the student liaison on the Executive Committee.

For their first event, the Committee hosted a Student-Physician Meet and Greet at Mt. Wachusett on October 17, 2020. It was a social/networking event to introduce our new students to current WDMS members and leadership. The event included lunch, games and hiking.

Their second event was held on March 24, 2021. It consisted of a panel of physicians who led a discussion entitled, "Worcester Vaccination: Efforts in Equity. The panel was comprised of Drs. George Abraham, Matilde Castiel, James Ledwith Jr., and Beverly Nazarian. This panel of experts each led a breakout room to discuss specific areas of concern, lessons learned and how to navigate forward while maintaining health equity for our patients.

The Committee is off to a great start with a terrific group of students, fully committed to engaging other students and developing meaningful and educational programs and events.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Larkin, MD, Co-Chair  
Bennett Vogt, MS2, Co-Chair

Medical Student Committee  
(Founding Members)

Anne Larkin, *Physician Chair*  
Bennett Vogt, *Student Chair*~MS2  
Calvin Schaffer, *Student Vice Chair*~MS2  
Nayha Chopra-Tandon, MS3  
Paramesh Karandikar, MS1  
Iha Kaul, MS3  
Richard Moschella, MS4  
Kenley Preval, MS2/GSBS1  
Kurt Schultz, MS4  
Michelle Shabo, MS4  
Trent Taros, MS3  
Cameron Thomson, MS4  
Sarah Uhranowsky, MS1