

WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC.

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



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## **President's Message**

### **2022-2023**

This year at WDMS – as the scourge of Covid receded - we eagerly transitioned back to in-person events when it was possible and feasible and Zoom events when the economics and exigencies of attendance dictated that to be the more sensible choice. The details of most of these events are appended below. The work of our Committees and their Chairs produced laudable results which are detailed elsewhere in this Annual report.

We awarded 12 WDMS Scholarships this year and gave out 5 prestigious awards to exceptionally worthy recipients. Dr. Manjul Shukla was named our WDMS/MMS Community Clinician of the year for her steadfast work during the Pandemic. Our Career Achievement Award went to Dr. Hugh Fulmer for a career that conceived and developed an entire Field of Community Medicine while he was here in Worcester. Dr. James Ledwith was awarded the Jane Fitzpatrick Community Service award for his leadership of the UMass Fitchburg Family Medicine residency, community service and exemplary mentoring of medical students. Ms. Vanya Zvonar was awarded our first Worcester Medical Library Student Achievement Award, and Ms. Catherine Jones was awarded the WDMS Alliance Nursing Scholarship award. Dr. Anne Larkin gave our annual oration on what future Doctors need to learn now. This year's honorees represent a roster of service and achievement which continues to describe the values and aspirations of our WDMS.

We have worked on developing a speakers database for our meetings that can help our Medical Education committee. We continued with our efforts to template routine tasks and schedules to make our record-keeping leaner, more easily accomplished, and easier to review. While this remains – as always – a work in progress, we have largely accomplished the task of transparently mapping out our wide variety of WDMS operations and resources in such a way that they can be understood and managed by the Executive Committee and future WDMS Officers. In these efforts we owe a very large debt of gratitude to the hard work of Dr. Dale Magee, our Treasurer, and Martha Wright, our Executive Director. We initiated a review of our By-Laws which is being led by Dr Sahdev Passey as chair of the By-Laws committee to streamline our committee structure – eliminating redundant committees that were not meeting and enhancing opportunities for new members to engage meaningfully in active committees. We are now in the process of recommending By-Laws changes that will be congruent with the way our operations and duties have actually worked for many years now.

We have had a strategic focus on increasing our membership of practicing physicians particularly those within the first 5-10 years of their practices in Worcester County. In this we have been led by our secretary Dr. Michelle Hadley who is also the Chair of a reenergized Membership Committee. We have had repeated problems finding and keeping a designer and publisher for Worcester Medicine which Martha Wright has managed skillfully and successfully throughout with help and attention of Dr. Robert Sorrenti, chair of our Publication Committee.

Our Health Matters TV show has continued to thrive with help and attention of Melissa Boucher and past episodes are being converted to a You Tube format that we are hoping to use for our members' educational benefit this coming year – as a lunchtime office meeting program. It is our hope that this can help fortify our sense of being a common medical community no matter who our physicians are working for. Our new standing committee – the Medical Student Committee - has been actively

**President's Message, cont.**  
**2022-2023**

participating in our events and leading several for us. Finally, our large delegation has remained active in the MMS House of Delegates. We have sought representation in our Delegation from every one of our WDMS Committees Chairs – approved by the Executive Committee, and we have been active in the new standing governance Committee at MMS with Dr. Spiro Spanakis Co-Chairing the new District Leadership Council and Dr Sahdev Passey as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Governance reform working group.

It has been a privilege to serve as your President this past year. I feel we are on the right track, adapting reasonably to the new post Covid environment and I am looking forward to the challenges of this coming presidential year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Giles Whalen

**Executive Director's Message**  
**2022-2023**

Greetings WDMS Members,

This past year was one of “final” transition from the lasting effects of COVID-19 and we had productive year.

We've continued with office improvements by weeding through more files and closets to dispose of unnecessary items. This allows us to continue sorting and cataloging archives, revising policies, and staying current. And we've developed templates and updated protocols to streamline our workflow and preserve operations for the future administration of WDMS.

This report will highlight our 2022-2023 programs and events. We awarded our annual member awards and a new student achievement award, held our annual Oration and celebrated our medical students by dispersing medical student scholarships.

We will be planning our 2023-2024 annual calendar and plan to resume all of our events and programs in person. However, our committee meetings may remain virtual. Although we have mastered the virtual world, we are very eager to see each other in person again.

Our Television program, *Health Matters* has picked up and they are now allowing one host and two guests.. We have a new host, Trent Taros, MS4 from UMass who has enthusiastically hosted his first show, within 2 weeks of becoming a host! Please be sure to view our programs online: <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. We have been working with a Guest Editor (GE) model and have found it works very well with “specialized” input by each GE. And we have received positive unsolicited feedback! Unfortunately, we have severed our relationship with Studio DiBella and began working with Hana Lasell as our new Editor/Designer. And Guiding Channels continues to print our magazines.

We continue to be very happy with our web-developer, Chris Miller and his staff at Artefact, Inc. We have further developed our History, Alliance and Events pages and the Public Health page is next.

Worcester celebrated its 300<sup>th</sup> birthday this year and part of the celebration was the creation of a souvenir book: [City of Worcester 300 Years](#). It included the history of Worcester regarding education, sports, living, working and more. I was honored to be selected to write the chapter on “How We Learned”, and our curator, Dr. Dale Magee contributed to various chapters as well as a profile of the Green family of physicians who served Worcester during the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

I'd like to thank our President, Dr. Giles Whalen, Dr. Alwyn Rapose (VP) and Michelle Hadley (Secretary) for their leadership and guidance over the past year. And especially my assistant, Melissa Boucher, with whom I couldn't work without.

**Executive Director's Message**  
**2022-2023**  
**Con't**

Here is a look at the year in review:

**2022-2023 Calendar of Events**

**June, 26 2022**

**Medical History Bus tour of Worcester led by Drs. Dale Magee and Leah Doret**

**September 9, 2022, 5:30 pm, Beechwood Hotel**

**31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL WOMEN IN MEDICINE BREAKFAST**

Speaker: Congressman James McGovern and Jean McMurray, Executive Director, WCFB

Title: Food Insecurity

*Co-Sponsored by Physicians Insurance of the Massachusetts Medical Society*

**October 11, 2022, 6:30 pm – Virtual**

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Louis A. Cottle Medical Education Conference**

Speaker: Hugh Silk, MD, MPH, FAAFP

Title: *"Stories, Art, Music, and Photographs - Reducing Burnout and Improving Patient Care Through the Medical Humanities"*

**October 16, 2022, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Mechanics Hall Founder's Day and WDMS Open House**

Speaker: B. Dale Magee, MD, Curator

The WDMS hosted an open house with a brief program on Poliomyelitis

**November 5, 2022, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Student Event – Meet and Greet and Day of Caring**

Park Cleanup in the Belmont Hill area with a reception at Redemption Rock, to follow.

**November 21, 2022, 6:30 – 8:30pm, Virtual**

**HOD Opening Session**

*All WDMS members were invited to attend as guests and may submit a resolution to MMS*

**November 15, 2022, 6:30 pm, Virtual**

**FALL DISTRICT MEETING & Awards Ceremony**

*The meeting included the Dr. A. Jane Fitzpatrick Community Service Award, (Recipient James Ledwith, MD), 1st WML Student Achievement Award (Recipient Vanya Zvonar) and Medical Student Scholarship Award Presentations (see Medical Student Scholarship report)*

**December 10, 2022, 9:00 am to close of business**

**HOD Second Session**

*All WDMS members were invited to attend as guests and may submit a resolution to MMS*

**Executive Director's Message**  
**2022-2023**  
**Con't**

**December 13, 2022, 5:30 pm, UMass Albert Sherman Center – Faculty Conference Room**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday / Med Moth Program**

Medical and experiential storytelling and sharing led by student members: Eve Manghis and Sean Boyden

**February 8, 2023, 5:30 pm, Beechwood Hotel**  
**227<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ORATION Orator: Anne Larkin, MD**

Title: "What They Need to Know: The Medical Students of Today Becoming the Physicians of Tomorrow"

**April 11, 2023, 5:30 pm, Beechwood Hotel**  
**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

*Meeting included presentation of the 2023-2024 Slate of Officers, WDMS Career Achievement Award (Recipient Hugh Fulmer, MD) and 2022 MMS/WDMS Community Clinician of the Year (Recipient Manjul Shukla, MD)*

**April 24, 2023, Virtual**  
**2023 MMS ANNUAL MEETING & HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
HOD Opening Session

**May 13, 2023, Waltham, MA**  
**2023 MMS ANNUAL MEETING & HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
HOD 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

*All WDMS members were invited to attend as a guest and may submit a resolution to MMS*

**May 24, 2023, 5:30 pm UMass Faculty Conference Room**  
**Meet the Author Series**

Mark Vonnegut, MD reviewed his latest book "The Heart of Caring: A Life in Pediatrics"

Our 2023-2024 calendar of events will resume in September 2023 and we hope to see you all.

Finally, I'd like to thank my assistant, Melissa Boucher for her tireless dedication to the Medical Society.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Wright, MBA  
Executive Director

**Officers/Delegates/Executive Committee  
2022-2023**

**Officers**

President	Giles Whalen
Vice President	Alwyn Rapose
Secretary	Michelle Hadley
Treasurer	Dale Magee
Orator	Anne Larkin

**Delegates**

George Abraham	Jeffrey Gallo	Thomas Rosenfeld
Janet Abrahamian	Lawrence Garber	Abhijit Roychowdhury
Frederic Baker	Susan George	Calvin Schaffer
Bruce Bertrand	Wayne Glazier	Manjul Shukla
Racquel Bitar	Richard Haas	Robert Sorrenti
James Broadhurst	Michelle Hadley*	Spiro Spanakis
William Cohen	Alice Kennedy	Madhavi Toke
Michelle Dalal	Kenneth Kronlund	Ram Upadhyay
Dennis Dimitri*	Anne Larkin	Rohit Vakil*
Jon Dorfman	William Lavelle*	Giles Whalen*
Lynn Eckhert	James Lindberg	Lynda Young*
Louis Fazen	B. Dale Magee*	
Marianne Felice	Oghomen Ogbeide-Latario	
Lloyd Fisher	Sahdev Passey*	* ex officio
Sina Foroutanjazi	Alwyn Rapose	

**Executive Committee**

Giles Whalen, Chair	Michele Pugnaire
Frederic Baker	Alwyn Rapose
James Broadhurst	Robert Sorrenti
Jeffrey Gallo	Spiro Spanakis
Michelle Hadley	Paul Steen
Michael Hirsh	Lynda Young Anne Larkin
Jane Lochrie	
Dale Magee	<u>Student Representative</u>
Mary O'Brien	Calvin Schaffer
Sahdev Passey	<u>Alliance Representative</u>
	Maureen Zacharia



**Finance Committee  
2022-2023**

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 ~\$280,000 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 (~\$15,000). 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.

Because the Cottle income is based on stock market performance, the 2023 income may be less. We are also decreasing Worcester Medicine to 4 issues per year from 6 which will decrease both expenses and income.

Expenses: Society expenses consist primarily of staff salaries and benefits (~\$145,000), rent (~\$25,000), Worcester Medicine (~\$5,000), 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. 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.
- Meetings: To mitigate no-shows for dinner meetings we have instituted a \$10 charge for students and \$20 for other members, we are also closely tracking no-shows to better calibrate dinner reservations.

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 2022 as well as trend graphics.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Dale Magee, MD  
Chair

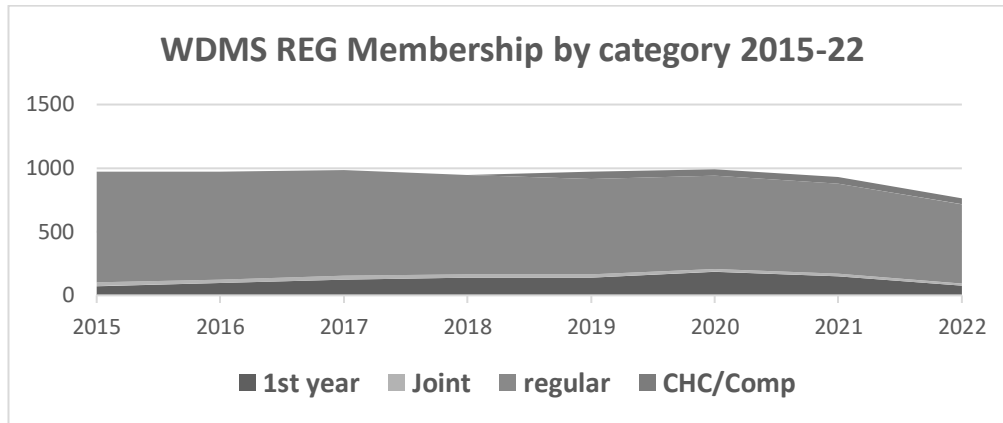
Finance Committee

B. Dale Magee, Treasurer  
Lloyd Fisher  
Kenneth Kronlund  
Pankaj Ksheersagar  
Fred Schwartz  
Peter Zacharia

**Treasurer's Report**  
**2022-2023**  
*Con't*

<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	<b>Jan - Dec 23</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
DUES	157390	160000
INVESTMENT INCOME		
Salary Grant from WML	40000	40000
Cottle dividends and interest	87568.5	60000
ACTIVITIES	2284.83	0
OTHER	17484	21500
Miscellaneous Income	1316.89	0
Total Income	306044.22	282500
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
MEMBER ACTIVITIES	28460.44	75900
STAFF	146592.66	145900
OCCUPANCY	22119.65	25400
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	29023.73	22163
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>226196.48</b>	<b>269363</b>
Net Ordinary Income	85380.03	

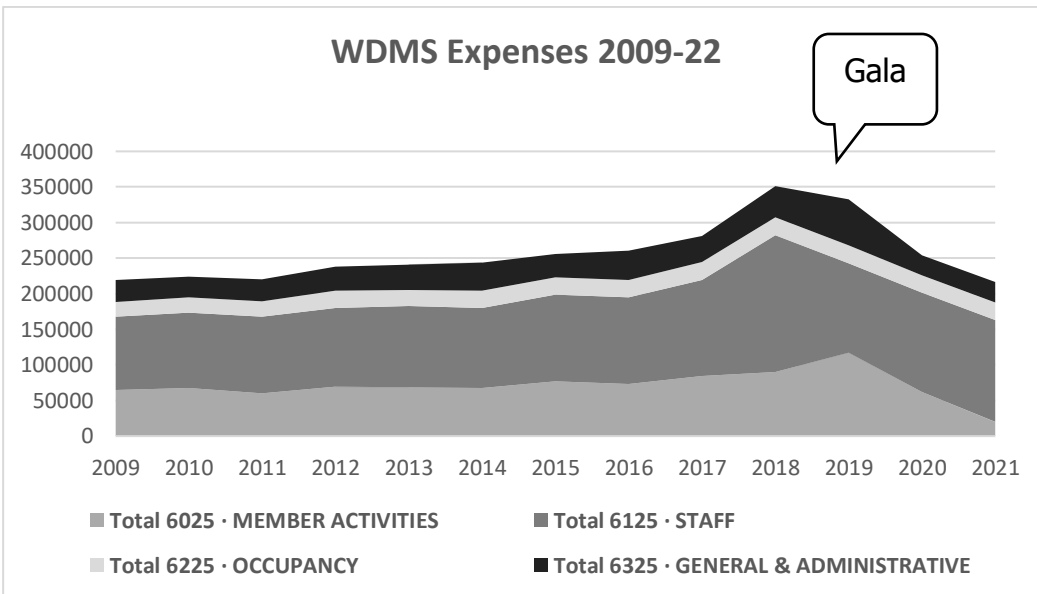
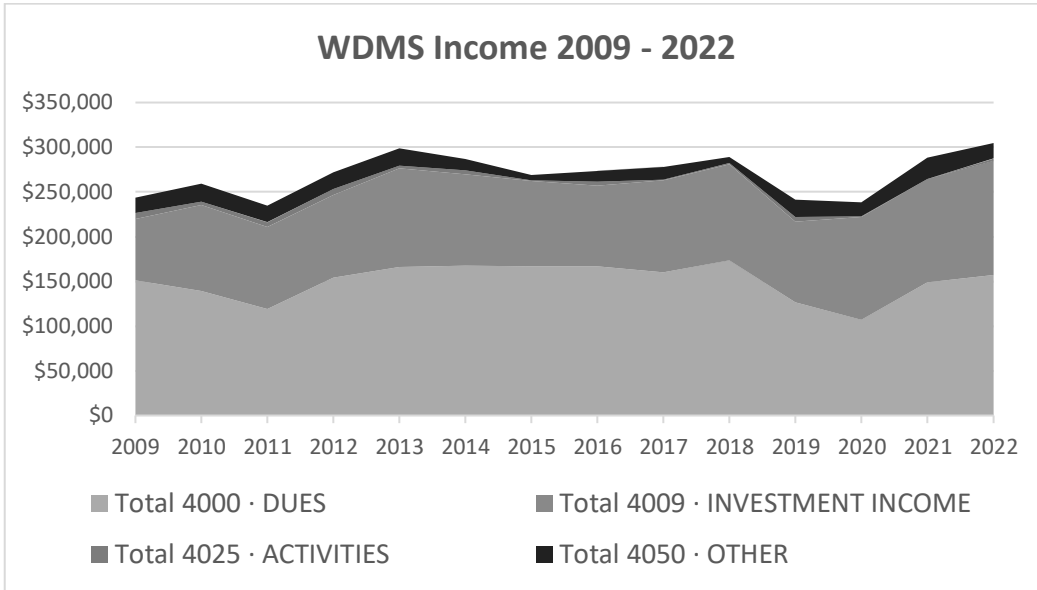
**Treasurer's Report  
2022-2023  
Con't**



**2022 MEMBERSHIP**

1 <sup>st</sup> Year	79
Joint	14
regular	624
Community Health Center	48
Senior/Emeritus	199
Residents	631
Students	639
Military	1
Waived	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2239</b>

**Treasurer's Report  
2022-2023  
Con't**

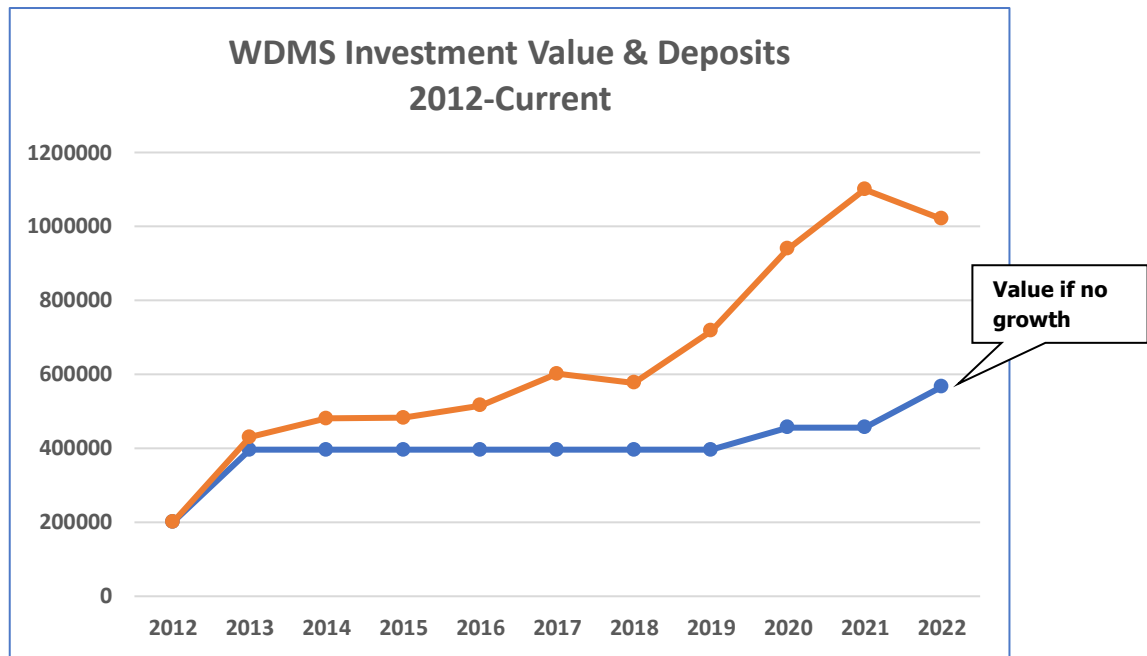


Treasurer's Report  
2022-2023  
Con't

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.

Value as of 12/31/22: \$1,020,701



**Legislative Committee**  
**2022-2023**

WDMS Legislative Committee was represented again this year at the MMS Committee on Legislation by Dr. Giles Whalen. And Dr. Jeffrey Gallo has taken over as the Chair of the Legislative Committee.

We hosted our Legislative Committee meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> and the Legislative Breakfast on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Despite these being virtual meetings, we once again had great attendance between our members and legislators. 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. Although meeting in person may be more effective, the attendees were happy with this format and all had a chance to speak.

Some of the topics discussed at the Legislative Committee meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> were:

State Legislative Session updates:

1. January 4<sup>th</sup> kicked off the new Legislative Session, new Bills being filed and old Bills being refiled. Lot of people looking for sponsors for the Bills. MMS has filed 13 Bills downtown.
2. January 5<sup>th</sup> Governor Healy and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll took office- new Attorney General, 5 new Senators, 21 first time Representatives.

State Legislation update: MMS transition memo and pressing concerns presented by our new MMS legal counsel, Leda Anderson and Jeff Perkins.

Summary of the last Legislative Session:

1. Mental Health ABC Act - This is a comprehensive bill that gave the State more tools enforced and strengthened the parody laws as well as taking the meaningful steps to address the boarding crisis in our emergency departments and keep the flow of emergency department relocate the flow of emergency department to community-based settings, it is in the process of being rolled out.
2. Reproductive Health Care Act - A bill to protect for providers of reproductive health care services, also focusing on improve patients' access to care.
3. Prescription Drug Reform - This is on is on their radar and pushing for it this session, prescription drug reform has passed the Massachusetts Senate for the last two sessions has yet to be taken up by the House.
4. Telehealth - A comprehensive bill that MMS is advocating for alongside the hospital association of the state wide Team Ed Coalition. Talks more about this below.

The Federal No Surprises Act - It is largely implemented and in place for now, but there have been some lawsuits coming from Texas challenging the independent dispute resolution process. Texas has been successful twice; thinks they are back to the drawing board on the segment of those rules relative to that portion of the law. However, one of the biggest challenges, faced last session and was around the same time, that congress passed the Federal No Surprises Act, which is a comprehensive solution for Surprised Billing, the State right around the same time passed notice and price transparency requirements regulating disclosure that physicians and providers are required to give to patients relative to cost. There was a lot of overlap between the State and Federal laws. MMS did not want to have two different structures for notice and disclosure and ultimately have the same goal and the same ends to accomplish in slightly different means. They were successful in bringing this to the Legislature, showing them what a challenge. It would be and an administrative burden we to have to comply with those sets of systems at the same time. The Legislature has wisely delayed the State notice in price transparency disclosure requirements until January 1, 2025, so they have this Legislative session to address this issue.

**Legislative Committee**  
**2022-2023**  
**Con't**

Ideas for Legislative Breakfast:

1. Regulation of Tobacco and Vape Products
2. Telehealth HD.3511/SD.1984
3. Access to Care/Opioid Crisis HB.1981/SB.1242
4. Act to Support Families HB.173/SB.64
5. Eliminating the Non-Medical Exemption HB.604
6. Long-term Care Crisis
7. Physician workforce
8. ED and Mental Health Overcrowding/Staffing Shortage
9. Primary Care 4U

Topics discussed at the Legislative Breakfast on April 26<sup>th</sup> included:

1. Pediatric Mental Health – discussion led by Dr. Marianne Felice followed by comments by Drs. Ryan Friedberg (SVH), Joseph Tennyson (UMass).
2. No Surprise Act – discussion led by Brendan Abel, Esq. at MMS followed by comments by Dr. Jeffrey Gallo.
3. We also recognized Senator Harriet Chandler for her decades of support of the WDMS and wished well in retirement.

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

1. The Interim Meeting for MMS House of Delegates will meet:
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Session – November 17, 2022
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Session – December 10, 2023
2. The Annual Meeting for MMS House of Delegates will meet:
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Session – April 6, 2023
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Session – May 13, 2023

Legislative Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Giles F. Whalen MD, FACS  
Chair

Giles Whalen, Chair	Pankaj Ksheersagar
Dennis Dimitri	Frederic Schwartz
Sahdev Passey	
Marianne Felice	<i>Resident Representative</i>
Jeffrey Gallo	Robert Le
Wayne Glazier	Brittany Reid
Michael Hirsh	
Stefanie Russell	<i>Student Representative</i>
Timothy Hopkins	John Romano
Seth Kates	

**Medical Education Committee  
2022-2023**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Louis A. Cottle lecture was held virtually online on October 11 2022. The topic, “Stories, Art, Music, and Photographs-Reducing Burnout and Improving Patient Care through the Medical Humanities.” The guest speaker was Hugh Silk, MD, MPH, FAAFP- Vice Chair of Community Health and Professor of the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. Moderated by Mary O’Brien, MD- Chair of the WDMS Medical Education Committee. 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- Nicole Cherng, Richard Forster, and David Wexler. Residents: Sasank Kalipatnapu and Arushi Sharma. Students: Racquel Bitar, Alice Kennedy, and Benjamin Palleiko.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary O’Brien, MD  
Chair

Medical Education Committee

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



**Membership Committee  
2022-2023**

	<u>3/25/2019</u>	<u>3/23/2020</u>	<u>3/29/2021</u>	<u>3/28/2022</u>	<u>3/27/2023</u>
1st Year Practice	136	172	150	168	195
Joint/Family	25	22	18	14	13
Physicians	758	740	720	699	722
Seniors /Emeritus	165	170	185	192	205
Residents	603	619	639	660	683
Students	618	651	651	642	614
CHC/Comp	49	53	52	52	40
Military	1	1	1	1	1
Waived	2	5	4	4	4
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>2328</b>	<b>2357</b>	<b>2433</b>	<b>2432</b>	<b>2477</b>

Once again our membership has increased. WDMS is proud to represent 2477 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,

Michelle Hadley, DO  
Chair

Membership Committee

Michelle Hadley, Chair  
James Broadhurst  
Marianne Felice  
Michael Hirsh  
Rebecca Kowaloff  
Heidi Leftwich  
James Lindberg  
Jane Lochrie  
Dale Magee  
Mark Maxfield

Sahdev Passey  
Robert Sorrenti  
Spiro Spanakis

Resident Representative  
Sasank Kalipatnapu

Student Representatives  
Benjamin Palleiko  
Bennett Vogt

**Public Relations Committee  
2022-2023**

“Health Matters” remains the cornerstone for the public relations outreach of WDMS. Now in its twentieth 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 Student Host Trent Taros.

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) .

**Health Matters Shows for 2022-2023:**

Robotic Surgery - Host: Trent Taros, Guest: Dr. Mark Maxfield

Ghost Guns - Host: Dr. James Broadhurst, Guests: Dr. Peter McConarty

Impact of Stigma in Public Health - Host: Dr. Bruce Karlin, Guest Dr. Alfred DeMaria

Breastfeeding Support - Host: Dr. James Broadhurst, Guests: Dr. Sara Shields and Ydalia Heimann

Updates at UMass Chan Medical School - Host: Dr. Bruce Karlin, Guest: Dr. Terence Flotte

Gun Violence - Host: Dr. James Broadhurst, Guest: Dr. Peter McConarty

Saving Lives - Host: Dr. Michael Hirsh, Guest: Dr. Joseph Sabato

Prescription CPR – Host: Dr. James Broadhurst, Guest: Dr. Joseph Sabato

Public Relations Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hirsh, MD  
Chair

Michael Hirsh, Chair*	<i>Resident/Fellow Representative</i>
James Broadhurst*	Shanil Shah
Bruce Karlin*	
Pankaj Ksheersagar	<i>Student Representative</i>
Julianne Luring	Trent Taros*
Laszlo Leb	
Bency Loudor	
Dale Magee	
Lynda Young*	

\*Health Matters Host

**Publications Committee**  
**2022-2023**

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. With no fulltime WDMS editor, we are working with a Guest Editor model.

The Publications Committee acknowledges the excellent work of the Editorial Board. The 2022-2023 issues of *Worcester Medicine* covered important health care topics such as:

- May/June 2022: Fulfilling Lives: Palliative Care  
Guest Editor: Rebecca Kowaloff, DO
- October 2022: Beyond the Virus: How the COVID-19 Pandemic has Impacted Children  
Guest Editor: Lloyd Fisher, MD
- November 2022: Electronic Health Records – Whose Health Are They Good For?  
Guest Editor: Lawrence Garber, MD
- December 2022: Medical Missions & Volunteerism  
Guest Editor: Jane Lochrie, MD
- Spring 2023: Gun Violence: Approaches to an Endemic Problem in American Society/  
Guest Editor: Michael Hirsh, MD

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sorrenti, MD  
Chair

Publications Committee

Robert Sorrenti, Chair  
Anthony Esposito  
Lloyd Fisher  
Julianne Luring  
Joel Popkin  
Paul Steen

**Editorial Board  
2022-2023**

We had another successful year producing six issues of Worcester Medicine, and we maintained our Guest Editor (GE) model, with each issue hosting a different WDMS Editor/Editorial.

We continued our affiliation with Studio DiBella until the late summer when we welcomed Hana Lasell as our new Editor/Designer. As a result, our production timeline was altered for the latter part of 2022.

We have fully transitioned from 100% printed copies to a 95% digitalized magazine, printing just 250 copies for advertisers and authors. We continue to secure our own ads, this year gaining another quarter page ad from AdCare Hospital.

Beginning in January 2023, the Board made a decision to decrease the number of issues from six to four, annually. We will now produce quarterly issues; spring, summer, fall and winter.

Finally, I'd like to thank our medical student representative, Aly Rabin for her contributions to the magazine, as she graduates and moves on to her residency out of state. Olivia Buckle, MS2 has joined the Board as the new medical student representative.

Below is a list of the issues from 2022-2023:

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Wright, MBA  
Executive Director

Editorial Board

Need to fill, <i>Editor</i>	Robert Sorrenti
Lisa Beittel	Martha Wright
Sonia Nagy Chimienti	Peter Zacharia
Anthony Esposito	
Larry Garber	<u>Resident/Fellow</u>
Rebecca Kowaloff	<u>Representatives</u>
Susan Krantz	Alex Newbury (R-UMass)
Julianne Lauring	Arunava Saha (R-StVs)
Nancy Morris	Akil Sherif (F-StVs)
Anna Morin	
Thoru Pederson	<u>Student Representative</u>
Joel Popkin	Olivia Buckle
Alwyn Rapose	
Parul Sarwal	

**Scholarship Committee**  
**2022-2023**

It is a pleasure to write this report highlighting the 2022 scholarship award recipients, 12 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 home town, 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 2022 WDMS Scholarship Program granted 16 awards to these aspiring future physicians. Through your generosity, the Scholarship Fund distributed a total of \$41,000 in scholarships to the award recipients featured in this report. There were ten \$3500 Scholarship Awards and six \$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.

Scholarship Committee

Respectfully submitted

Michele P. Pugnaire, MD  
Chair

Michele Pugnaire, Chair  
Kenneth Kronlund, Trustee  
Janet Abrahamian  
Robert Bessette  
Susan George  
Rebecca Kowaloff  
Heidi Leftwich

Jane Lochrie  
Susan Moran  
Nitin Trivedi  
Martha Waite  
Giles Whalen  
*Resident Representative*  
Alex Newbury

## 2022 WDMS Medical Scholarship Award Recipients



**Danae Alexandrou**  
*Worcester District Medical Society Scholarship Award*  
 Loyola University Chicago-  
 Stritch School of Medicine-  
 Class of 2025



**Natasha A. Bitar**  
*St. Vincent Hospital Medical Staff Scholarship Award, and the MPMC John A. Rauth Book Award*  
 University of Massachusetts Chan  
 Medical School- Class of 2025



**Arpan Bose**  
*Dr. Julius Tegelberg Scholarship Award*  
 University of Massachusetts Chan  
 Medical School- Class of 2025



**Kendall Burdick**  
*Paulette Griffin Pugnaire Book Award*  
 University of  
 Massachusetts Chan  
 Medical School - Class of  
 2023



**Kimberly Burke**  
*Dr. Sidney Kadish Book Award*  
 University of Massachusetts  
 Chan Medical School-  
 Class of 2023



**Allison Chevalier**  
*Dr. Sanfrey Lilyestrom Scholarship Award, and the Amaral Family Book Award*  
 New York Institute of  
 Technology, College of  
 Osteopathic Medicine-  
 Class of 2024



**Margaret Desmond**  
*Dr. Leonard J. Morse Scholarship Award*  
 Loyola University Chicago-  
 Stritch School of Medicine-  
 Class of 2025



**Arianna Gray**  
*Dr. Lillian A. Luksis Scholarship Award, and the Passey Family Book Award*  
 Philadelphia College of  
 Osteopathic Medicine-  
 Class of 2024



**Tara Hebert**  
*Worcester District Medical Society Scholarship Award*  
 University of New England  
 College of Osteopathic  
 Medicine- Class of 2024



**Cindy Le**  
*RMG Dr. M. Elizabeth Fletcher Scholarship Award*  
 University of Massachusetts Chan  
 Medical School-  
 Class of 2023



**Siena Romano**  
*Dr. Burt Guterman Scholarship Award, and the Joyce Cariglia and David Williams Book Award*  
 Georgetown University School of  
 Medicine- Class of 2023



**Nathan Taber**  
*UMMHC Dr. Samuel Pickens Scholarship Award*  
 University of Massachusetts  
 Chan Medical School-  
 Class of 2023

**Awards Committee  
2022-2023**

The WDMS Annual Fall District Meeting and Awards Ceremony, November 15, 2022. The event was held virtually.

The *2022 Dr. A. Jane Fitzpatrick Community Service Award* was presented to James. J. Ledwith, Jr., MD, FAAFP. 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 wellbeing of others.

Dr. Jim Ledwith is a family physician and member of the UMass Medical School faculty since 2005. He is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, and after residency in Toledo OH, he served a rural Virginia community for 19 years. He assumed leadership of the UMass Fitchburg Family Medicine Residency from 2008 to 2016 and continues to teach in the program while serving as Learning Community Mentor within the medical school and practicing in the Benedict Family and Community Medicine Center. Dr. Ledwith has had a commitment to service throughout his career. He founded a free clinic in rural Virginia which was later renamed in his honor. He volunteers as medical director for the free care program at Epworth United Methodist Church and as the UMMS Faculty Advisor for the student organization, the Worcester Free Care Collaborative, leading students in delivering care for vulnerable uninsured and underinsured individuals from Worcester and beyond. He also serves as Faculty Advisor for the UMMS Crisis and Emergency Preparedness Committee which coordinates the medical student response to the COVID pandemic and other public health problems. Congratulations Dr. Ledwith!

Later in the year, at the WDMS Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony on April 11, 2023, we acknowledged our Career Achievement and MMS/WDMS Community Clinician of the Year recipients. The event was held at the Beechwood Hotel in Worcester, MA.

*The 2022 Worcester District Medical Society Career Achievement Award* was presented to Hugh S. Fulmer, MD, MPH. 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

This gentleman hails from Syracuse NY, where he came from a long line of Syracuse Medical School graduates. His Grandfather, having graduated in 1888, and his father, in 1917. Dr. Hugh Fulmer graduated from medical school in 1951 and then completed his internship at Rhode Island Hospital. From 1952-1954, he joined the USAF and served as a General Medical Officer, Preventative Medicine Officer, Aviation Medical Examiner *and* trained as a flight surgeon. From 1954-58, he completed an Internal Medicine Residency followed by a Pulmonary Fellowship at SUNY Upstate, NY. And in 1961 he earned his MPH from the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Fulmer has founded and directed many health centers and held a variety of leadership positions, but two roles in particular were very significant. First, he was the Founding Chairman and Professor with tenure for the Department of Community Medicine at the UMass Chan Medical School (1969). And secondly, Dr. Fulmer was *THE FIRST* UMass physician to become a WDMS member (1970). In addition to his scholarly accomplishments, Dr. Fulmer is a true community physician and leader, medical advocate, mentor and

**Awards Committee**  
**2022-2023**  
***Cont'd***

gentleman. But very importantly and proudly, he is also a devoted family man and he is here tonight with many of his family members. His dear wife of 70 years, Zola, passed away on March 6. For many years, she served as a member of the WDMS Auxiliary, now known as the Worcester District Medical Society Alliance.

Congratulations Dr. Fulmer!

The 2023 Worcester District Medical Society/Massachusetts Medical Society *Community Clinician of the Year Award* was presented to Manjul Shukla, MD. This award recognizes a practitioner who has made significant contributions to patients and community.

Dr. Manjul Shukla graduated from Gandhi Medical College in Bhopal, and then by an arranged marriage, married her husband, Kailash who was an engineer. He was as generous and loving toward his family as her family. Together they have two wonderful children and two grandchildren, of whom she is very proud.

After finishing her residency at Worcester City Hospital, and five years of private practice Dr. Shukla joined The Fallon Clinic, always focusing on taking care of her patients in the Worcester community, and she did so for 40 years!!

Beside primary care, her medical interests include working with patients who have eating and substance use disorders, pain management and obesity issues, and she received an award for Inventor of the Year for the open access program. Additionally, she worked as the Medical Director of two nursing homes and hospice, which taught her much about end-of-life issues.

After her husband's sudden death, Dr. Shukla retired within few months but soon realized that her work of taking care of the community was not over, as Covid hit our country. She put her white coat back on and started to volunteer at vaccination clinics. With Dr. Castiel's leadership she was a large part of the effort to provide over a million vaccinations in the Worcester community from working at the Worcester Public Library site to the mobile van, attending community fairs and events behind City Hall.

Dr. Shukla very much enjoys teaching medical students, residents, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants and volunteering at her kids' schools and with the girl's scouts. She also enjoys painting, working at the India Society Free Clinic, working with the public health department, which includes fond memories of working with Dr. Leonard Morse with the Community Immunity Program. Finally, Dr. Manjul Shukla is an active member of the WDMS Women's Caucus. She is also a member of the House of Delegates and sits on the Board of Trustees for Massachusetts Medical Society.

Congratulations Dr. Shukla!

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work and dedication.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hirsh, MD  
Chair

Awards Committee

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



**Public Health Committee**  
**2022-2023**

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

COVID-19 Pandemic – Worcester is doing better than this time last year. More people are getting the vaccine and booster(s). Free clinics, CVS, the Worcester Public Library and traveling vaccine vans, to name a few efforts, have all made a difference.

The Great American Smoke Out - took place on November 17, 2022

Attempts to weaken flavored tobacco ban:

The House of Representatives has debated an economic development and tax relief bill. As part of that debate, an amendment was filed which would have exempted hookah/shisha tobacco from the flavor ban law. We were successful in ensuring that the amendment was rejected. Thank you to Representative Danielle Gregoire and her House colleagues for their work to defeat the amendment and to Paula Madison, WDMS Alliance Representative.

National Injury Prevention Day is on November 18, 2022, and this year is expected to be more involved, more activity and working with the students and others about gun violence/injury education.

Barbershop Health Network – UMass medical student, Michelle Chang continues to lead this group. Their goal is to continue to provide educational outreach and resources to minorities in our community, via barbershops, churches and other community centers. For this year, they organized “Shots at the shop” for vaccinations. All the supplies and vaccines are provided by WDPH including tables, gloves, coolers...etc. There were no events to report this year but next year we anticipate rejuvenating the “Doc in the Shop” at 15 local Barbershops and beauty and hair salons.

Goods for Guns –This will be the 21st consecutive year for this program. It continues to grow each year, with new towns and cities participating. Dr. Hirsh received an invitation from the MMS to participate in a sub group of a Public Health committee to address gun violence. With the school shootings and increase of gun violence in the inner city. Risk evaluations in homes need to be done. The Worcester Gun Buyback program was June 11<sup>th</sup>, 113 weapons were recovered. There are 380 million in the country. There are now dollars in the public health act that allows financial support for gun buyback programs (incentives, gift cards, etc) so more communities are doing this.

UMass Wellness Committee - Dr. Michael Hirsh Chairs this committee and it has representation from all 3 schools. The committee coordinates activities to bring a sense of community as well as various types of support to the students of all 3 schools but finding things they can do together has been a challenge. There is an annual budget and items provided were tickets for the Worcester Art Museum, Mechanics Hall concert tickets, Woo Sox tickets and Botanical Garden tickets.

Our Worcester Division of Public Health has become decimated as of this spring/summer. In the space of a three-month period, we lost our City Manager, Director, Deputy Director, Chief Public Health Nurse, CFO, Chief of Community Health, and Burial Agent. They are working hard to staff the organization. With increasing public health concerns, our Committee continues to welcome new member and embrace new initiatives. I would like to thank everyone who has worked hard to plan and

**Public Health Committee  
2022-2023  
Con't**

support our mission of helping to keep our community educated by outreach and volunteerism. In particular, Brendan Keenan who is our Committee representative from the WDPH.

Marijuana social consumption sites:

The conference committee on the cannabis industry equity bills also continues to meet. The Senate version of the bill included an exemption in the states' smoke free workplace law. We were successful in getting an amendment adopted in the House which stripped that language.

Health Matters suggestions for future PH Issues:

- “Monkeypox”, Dr. Richard Ellison will be a guest and Dr. Broadhurst will be the host.
- Dr. Susan Krantz suggested, “Reliable Health Information Vs. False Information”

I’d like to thank all of the Committee members for their time, energy and volunteerism. The good work we do is so important for our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hirsh, MD  
Chair

Public Health Committee

Michael Hirsh, *Chair*

Robert Bessette

Collen Bolen

James Broadhurst

Matilde Castiel

Karyn Clark

Richard Ellison

Louis Fazen

Tiffany Forti

Rebecca Kowaloff

Susan Krantz

Panjak Ksheersagar

Quang Le

Bency Loudior-Paulynice

Kirti Nagpal

Fozia Qamar

Abhijit Roychowdhury

Manjul Shukla

Anthony Teebagy

*Resident Representatives*

Edward Adams

Amber Thompson

*Student Representatives*

Shani Aharon

Rachel Anderson

Michelle Chang

Kelly Flanagan

Calvin Schaffer

*Alliance Representative*

Francine Vakil

**Women's Caucus  
2022-2023**

The Women's Caucus serves as the planning committee for the Women in Medicine events, and there are usually two events per year.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Women in Medicine Breakfast, co-sponsored by PIAM, was held on September 9, 2022 as a virtual presentation. We hosted a lecture on *Food Insecurity*, what is being done on the state and federal levels as well as here in the Worcester community. Our speakers were Congressman James McGovern and Jean McMurray, the Executive Director/CEO of the Worcester County Food Bank.

Our upcoming spring event, will be the annual Women in Medicine Leadership Forum, with a unique interactive dinner meeting will be on May 3, 2023. The program was entitled "*The Power of Food, The Power of the Pause: How lifestyle medicine, plant-based nutrition, and biological self-awareness build stronger selves, and help us empower our patients*", with speakers:

- Michelle Dalal MD, a Pediatrician and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at U Mass Chan Medical School and currently the Medical Director of University Health and Counseling Services at Northeastern University. She is Board Certified in Pediatrics and Lifestyle Medicine and has advanced certifications in motivational interviewing and culinary coaching. At MMS, she is Chair of the Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use.
- HariKirin Khalsa, MD, C-IAYT, aka Diane Pingeton, started in health care as a nurse's aide, then a registered nurse who decided to go on to medical school. Midpoint into a busy career as an OB GYN, she found yoga and meditation for her own stress reduction. She became a yoga teacher, then completed medical yoga therapy training in 2019 while contributing as faculty for biomedical content. She serves as volunteer faculty for the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School and offers yoga classes and therapy via the nonprofit [www.gobinday.org](http://www.gobinday.org)

I'd like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Women's Caucus (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	Rebecca Spanagel
Annie Abraham	Martha Waite
Janet Abrahamian	Jennifer Yates
Maria Abruzzo	<u>Resident Representatives</u>
Lynn Eckhert	Elizabeth Bobersky
Marianne Felice	Stephanie Clegg
Hari Kirin Khalsa	<u>Student Representatives</u>
Rebecca Kowaloff	Shani Aharon
Heidi Leftwich	Rachel Anderson
Jane Lochrie	Nayha Chopra-Tandon
Bency Loudor	Kelly Flanagan
Kirti Nagpal	Sassicaia Schick
Stacy Potts	Dhanya Kumar
Manjul Shukla	Rebecca Toohey

**Worcester Medical Library, Inc.**  
**2022-2023**

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.

Student Achievement Award:

We are proud to announce our first recipient of the sponsorship, Ms. Tanya Zovnar, MS4. This \$2k Student Achievement Award was awarded to a UMass Chan medical student. Eligible students include Massachusetts residents outside the Worcester district as well as out of state residents. The purpose of this merit-based award is to recognize a student(s) exemplifying outstanding service, achievement, or other notable accomplishments on behalf of the WDMS and its mission. The Awards Committee will recognize student awardee(s) at the Fall District Meeting. Nominees will be accepted through the annual appeal process conducted by the WDMS Awards Committee.

Humanities in Medicine Committee - With the ongoing pandemic, this Committee has not met and the Meet the Author series has been on hold. However, we hope to resume the series in spring, this spring, 2023, with Pedestrian and Author of Mark Vonnegut, MD will review his latest book "The Heart of Caring: A Life in Pediatrics". Representatives from the WML had served on the Humanities in Medicine Committee at the Library. There is now a Medical Humanities Lab at UMass Chan Medical School which is comprised of a variety of smaller humanities interest groups and the former Humanities in Medicine Committee.

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 interview: <https://www.wdms.org/spoken-history-project/>.

Ongoing activities include – Access to the Worcester Medical Library's historical book collection, which is housed in the Rare Books Room of the Lamar Soutter Library. The Rare Book Room and Lamar Soutter Library are expected to have major renovations in 2024.

**Worcester Medical Library, Inc.**  
**2022-2023**  
**Con't**

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 Worcester, upon request.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend our appreciation and thanks to Dr. Peter Schneider for serving as the Treasurer for WML over the years and congratulations on your retirement.

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**  
**2022-2023**

In recognition of National Nurses Day on May 6, 2022, we asked our members to please donate to our WDMSA BSN Scholarship Fund. This was an opportunity to show appreciation to a nurse who has made a difference in caring for us or family members during the pandemic.

Annually, we receive an endowment from the *Raymond Trust Fund* that was established in 1969 by past Alliance member Gertrude J. Raymond. In 2022, we were pleased to announce a generous contribution from the Passey Family given to our Nursing Scholarship Fund as an endowment. These additional funds have allowed our district alliance the capability to award the WDMSA Nursing Scholarship at the virtual WDMS Fall District Meeting. Catherine Jones, a BSN student at Assumption University was our recipient for this award. She was noted to be a passionate and hardworking student with excellent grades. The WDMSA has a long history of awarding over 160 nursing scholarships since 1959.

Our member, Sevim Under, 90, died on January 15, 2021. She was a past president of our district Alliance and was a lifelong accomplished artist. She generously donated her paintings to the MMS & MMSA Foundation for fundraising auctions.

The WDMSA held a virtual, yet very engaging book club in February. The selected book was *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

In early May, we will engage our members in a social gathering at the home of Neena Patwardhan, to renew our friendships and discuss the book, *The Heart of Caring*, by Mark Vonnegut, MD, a pediatrician and author.

On May 24, 2023, we are collaborating with UMass Chan, Lamar Soutter Library and WDMS to bring back the Meet the Author series at UMASS with Dr. Mark Vonnegut as the speaker. Sheila Massarelli as an Alliance member and friend to Dr. Vonnegut was instrumental in this collaboration.

Over the past 2 years some Alliance members have been archiving and sorting our Alliance's records and photographs that will then be stored with the WDMS. This work is ongoing and volunteers are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Madison  
WDMSA Board

WDMS Alliance Board

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

## Curators Report 2022-2023

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 have been 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.

**Exhibit:** an exhibit including a short video on the Polio Epidemic was displayed in the Mechanics Hall offices on October 16<sup>th</sup> during Mechanics Hall Founders Day. Christopher Zappos, Michael Newstein, Leah Doret, Trenton Taros, Patricia Guinta have participated in this project.

**Bus Tour:** On June 7<sup>th</sup> we held a medical history bus tour of sites in Worcester and had a reception at Mechanics Hall. The tour was narrated by Leah Doret. Twenty-four members and guests attended.

**Medical History Book Club:** Meeting since 2016, the Club has about 30 members and during 2022 met 3 times via Zoom with 10-15 participants per meeting.

**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. Six interviews were added this year.

**Book Restoration:** a book with member signatures attesting to our Bylaws dating back to 1804 has been restored thanks to the generosity of donations from Marianne Felice, MD, Maria Abruzzo, MD, James Broadhurst, MD, Hebert Dean, MD, Cay Denherder, MD, Louis Fazen, III, MD, Daniel Guilbert, MD, Bruce Karlin, MD, Robert Le, MD, Tiffany Moore Simas, MD, Spiro Spanakis, DO, and Robert Terrill, MD.

**History of Worcester Hospitals and Associated Medical Societies:** A manuscript of a book by Paul Bergin from 1954 was discovered and digitized and posted to our website by Dr. Magee.

**Worcester Medical News:** A project is underway to digitize all articles (starting in 1937) appearing in Worcester Medical News (later Worcester Medicine) relating to medical history and compile them into a digital book. Brian Nickley is helping with this project.

**Museum:** An ongoing interest in advancing the development of a medical museum is continued. Site visits at the Hartford Medical Society, the Samuel Slater Experience in Webster, and meetings with the curator of the Dittrick Medical Museum in Cleveland and with a representative of Boston Promotions have occurred.

We are attempting to minimize the costs of Curator activities and are thankful to numerous members for their donations.

B. Dale Magee, MD  
curator

**Medical Student Committee  
2022-2023**

This is the third year of the Medical Student Committee and after consideration by the Executive Committee and the new President, this will now become a Standing Committee of WDMS.

It was established as a Special Committee to further collaborate and enhance the relationship between WDMS and the University of Massachusetts Chan 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. But we will also accept interested students during our annual Roster appeal. It will be responsible for two events per year, one on the fall and one in the spring, one educational and one social/networking. Nominations will be accepted during the annual Roster appeal in the summertime.

For their fall program, the Student Committee hosted a Park Clean up at Bell Hill, November 5, 2022. We had 35 students and other volunteers collected over 20 bags of trash and other large items such as car parts, microwaves, tires, etc. Following the park cleanup, we enjoyed lunch on Shrewsbury Street at a Food Truck event.

On December 14, 2022 we held a Med Moth program where we heard moving stories from our medical student and physician members.

Their spring event was postponed so we anticipate 3 Student sponsored events in 2022-2023.

Thank you to all of the student committee members for their interest and hard work in generating ideas and developing the programs we are able to offer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Larkin, MD, Co-Chair  
Bennett Vogt, MS4, Co-Chair

Medical Student Committee

Anne Larkin, *Physician Chair*  
Bennett Vogt, *Student Chair*, MS4  
Sarah Uhranowsky, *Student Co-Chair*, MS3  
Calvin Schaffer, *Student Vice Chair*, MS3  
Nayha Chopra-Tandon, MS4  
Louis Fazen, *Physician Member*  
Paramesh Karandikar, MS3I  
Iha Kaul, MS4  
Trent Taros, MS4/5



**Anniversary Members  
2022-2023**

**50 Year Member**

Norman M. Bress, MD

**25 Year Member**

There were none

**Memorials Committee  
2022-2023**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Members Since</u>
Ronald J. Dorris, MD	5-13-1930	8-16-2022	1963
Richard E. Hunter, MD	5-30-1919	10-11-2022	1947
Robert B. McGan, MD	4-24-1933	12-4-2022	1993
Rudolph J. Utzschneider, MD	3-28-1930	1-12-2023	1961
Willard G. Rice, Jr., MD	10-15-1943	1-19-2023	1974
James L. Erwin, MD	12-24-1931	2-17-2023	1966

Respectfully submitted,

Memorials Committee

Memorials Committee

Sidney Kadish

*Resident Representative*

Stephanie Clegg