

WORCESTER DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

WORCESTER MEDICAL LIBRARY, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



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President's Message
2023-2024

It has been a special privilege and honor to serve as the WDMS President the past two years. I have been fortunate to have been supported by my fellow officers and chairs of our committees, by our Executive Director Martha Wright, and the many members who every day do the hard work of caring for our patients and educating the next generation and supplying us the reasons why we do what we do. This year we have adjusted to the rhythms of in person gatherings such as our movie night, Cottle lecture and the annual oration among others, interspersed with working zoom meetings. We have an active series of programs and opportunities to make a difference to the health of our community - educationally, or by advocacy. We have honored those among us who carry this mission forward, and we have actively participated in the life and reform of the MMS. We have given out 18 scholarships to our Medical and even nursing students. All of this is summarized by the executive director's report below and then detailed in the committee reports. Nevertheless we have also sustained our focus on increasing the value of membership for Worcester District's practicing doctors – by fostering a culture of fellowship consistent with their professional heritage and dignity and time. At a practical level, we have continued to streamline our administrative processes to help us do our jobs better and allow those coming after us to do so too. This has entailed not only clearing clutter from our offices but also many many old paper files. We have modernized our Bylaws to be consistent with the way we have been operating for many years and to serve us well going forward. Importantly we have also had a hard look at our financial situation and are taking the difficult steps needed to control our cost structure so as to secure our financial vitality well into the future. It has been a busy year but we will stay on this path because the need for our 232 year old Medical Society has never been greater. To paraphrase Robert Frost, "The woods are lovely dark and deep, but we have promises to keep and miles to go before we sleep."

Giles Whalen, MD
President, WDMS

Executive Director's Message 2023-2024

Greetings WDMS Members,

This past year we finally held all of events in person and it was wonderful to see everyone again.

We've continued with office improvements, purging files and creating new and efficient processes to further streamline our workflow in a consistent manner and preserve operations for the future leadership and administration of WDMS.

This report will highlight our 2023-2024 programs and events, accomplishments, and member recognition. We recorded our meetings and events and they can all be viewed on the [Past Events](#) page on our website.

While we develop our 2024-2025 annual calendar and plan to continue all of our events in person, but our committee meetings remain virtual. Although we have mastered the virtual world, we are very eager to see each other in person again.

We have produced over 235 *Health Matters* programs and they are also available online under [Community Services](#).

Our magazine, [Worcester Medicine](#), now produces 4 quarterly issues a year and I'm pleased to announce our new Editor -in-Chief, Dr. Parul Sarwal. In addition, our new Copy Editor and Designer, who both have extensive backgrounds in magazine production are working out quite well. Guiding Channels continues to print our magazines.

Our website is up-to-date and continues to improve with new sections and informative member and District information.

I regret to say that after over 16 years with WDMS, Melissa Boucher has decided to step down from her position as Administrative Assistant. We wish Melissa all the best in the next chapter. Finally, 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.

Here is a look at the year in review:

2022-2023

2nd Annual Park Cleanup and Climate Change Lecture

September 24, 2023, 10:00 am, Green Hill Park Pavilion, Worcester

Speakers: David Spanagel, PhD and Sarah Strauss, PhD

Title: [Climate Control Issues](#)

32nd Annual Women in Medicine Breakfast

September 29, 2023, 7:30 am, Beechwood Hotel

Keynote Speaker: Tara Kumaraswami, MD

Title: [The Dobbs Ruling – Its Impact on How We Practice Medicine in Massachusetts](#)

Co-Sponsored by Physicians Insurance of the Massachusetts Medical Society

**Executive Director's Message
2023-2024
Con't**

Membership and Fundraising Event to Benefit the WDMSA Nursing Scholarship

Sponsored by the Worcester District Medical Alliance

September 30, 2024, 10:00 am to 12 noon

Mass Audubon Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, 414 Massasoit Road, Worcester

Speaker: Judith Sumner, Ethnobotanist and Author

Theme: Ms. Sumner will discuss medicinal plants and the countless advances that led to much of modern medical practice with emphasis on the Civil War and World War II

17th Annual Louis A. Cottle Medical Education Conference

October 18, 2023, 5:30 pm, Beechwood Hotel, Worcester

Keynote Speaker: Andrew Beam, PhD

Panelists: Lawrence Garber, MD, Neil Marya, MD, and Ricardo Poza, M.Ed

Title: The Age of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (***RM credits may be claimed***)

Fall District Meeting and Awards Ceremony

November 15, 2023, 5:30 pm, Beechwood Hotel

Meeting includes Voting/Approval 2024 Budget, presentation of the 2024 the Dr. A. Jane Fitzpatrick Community Service Award, the WDMS Career Achievement Award, the WML Medical Student Achievement Award, Medical Student Scholarship Awards, and WDMSA Nursing Scholarship Award

HOD Opening Session, I-23

November 20, 2023, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, via Zoom

All WDMS members are invited to attend as guests and may submit a resolution to MM

WDMS has Delegate seats available

HOD Reference Committee Hearings A, B and C

November 27, 2023, 6:00 pm– 10:00 pm via Zoom

HOD Second Session, I-23

December 9, 2023, 9:00 am, via Zoom

Movie Night and Reception featuring “*Something the Lord Made*”

December 13, 2023, 5:30 pm, Mechanics Hall

Please bring a non-perishable food donation for the Worcester County Food Bank

228th Annual Oration

February 7, 2024, 5:30 pm, Beechwood Hotel

Orator: Susan V. George, MD, FRCP, MACP, SFHM

Title: The Evolution of Learning and Teaching in Medicine

Music Worcester Performances at Mechanics Hall:

Ochestre Metropolitain - March 3, 2024, 3:00 pm WDMS Open House, 4:00 pm Performance

Bach B-Minor - May 4, 2024, 7:30 pm

Marc-Andre Hamelin in Recital - May 9, 2024, 7:30 pm

**Executive Director's Message
2023-2024
Con't**

Events Planned for the Remainder of the year:

Annual Business Meeting

April 10, 2024, 5:30 pm, Beechwood Hotel

Keynote Speaker: Richard Baron, MD

Title: Protecting the Legitimacy of Medical Expertise: Combating Misinformation in Medicine

Meeting includes presentation of the 2023-2024 Slate of Officers and 2023 the MMS/WDMS Community Clinician of the Year Award

Medical Student Workshop on Finances

May 8, 2024, 5:30 pm Faculty Conference Room, University Campus, UMass

Speakers: Gayle Galletta, MD and Jennifer English

HOD Opening Session – via Zoom

HOD 2nd Session - In Person

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

WDMS has Delegate seats available

Meet the Author Series

May 9, 2024. 5:30 pm Lazare Auditorium, University Campus, UMass

“That Good Night”, by Sunita Puri, MD

2024 MMS Annual Meeting and House of Delegates, A-24

May: May 11, 2024, Westin Hotel Waltham

Our 2024-2025 calendar of events will resume in September 2024 and we look forward to see you all in person.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Wright, MBA
Executive Director

**Officers/Delegates/Executive Committee
2023-2024**

Officers

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

Delegates

George Abraham	Jeffrey Gallo	Thomas Rosenfeld
Janet Abrahamian	Lawrence Garber	Abhijit Roychowdhury
Frederic Baker	Susan George	Manjul Shukla
James Baker	Wayne Glazier	Robert Sorrenti
Bruce Bertrand	Richard Haas	Spiro Spanakis
Racquel Bitar	Michelle Hadley*	Ram Upadhyay
James Broadhurst	Alice Kennedy	Rohit Vakil*
William Cohen	Kenneth Kronlund	Bennet Vogt
Michelle Dalal	Anne Larkin	Giles Whalen*
Dennis Dimitri*	William Lavelle*	Lynda Young*
Jon Dorfman	James Lindberg	
Lynn Eckhert	B. Dale Magee*	
Louis Fazen	Oghomen Ogbeide-Latario	* ex officio
Lloyd Fisher	Sahdev Passey*	
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	<u>Student Representative</u>
Dale Magee	Sneha Karthikeyan
Mary O'Brien	<u>Alliance Representative</u>
Sahdev Passey	Maureen Zacharia

Finance Committee / Treasurer's Report 2023-2024

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.

The Committee met twice this year as well as communicating via email. Based on the Financial Future Task Force's recommendation (see below) it was voted to begin charging dues to retirees in the amount of \$75/year beginning in 2025.

Income: The Society has an income of ~\$265,000 per year of which ~\$140,000 is dues. Our regular dues are \$185/yr for practicing physicians with discounts for 1st 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 (~\$12,000). 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.

Expenses: Society expenses consist primarily of staff salaries and benefits (~\$160,000), rent (~\$25,000), Worcester Medicine (~\$10,000), committee meetings and events (~\$43,000) and office administrative, professional fees, printing and postage (~\$30,000). Over the past year most committee meetings have been via Zoom.

Investments: WDMS maintains an investment account with Fidelity with low expense funds. It is our policy to not withdraw any of these funds and continue with reinvestment until we have reached \$2 million. At that point we will be able to consider careful withdrawal to supplement Society income.

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.
- 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.

The 2023 budget predicted a loss and this was realized in the amount of approximately \$6,800.

Given our static income and rising expenses with a loss in 2023, president Giles Whalen convened a Financial Future Task Force (members listed below) who met in late 2023 and early 2024. Recommendations included cutting expenses as well as increasing revenue. If fully implemented this would cut costs by 18% and raise revenues by 5%. As treasurer, I believe that we should adopt these recommendations. These actions not only solve the immediate problem but also position us for many more years without a deficit and allow us to grow our endowment. To do less does not meet our responsibility to our members.

**Finance Committee / Treasurer's Report
2023-2024
Con't**

See attached Profit and Loss for 2023 as well as trend graphics. Note that income is reported as operating income and does not include capital gains and dividends of our investment account.

Respectfully submitted,

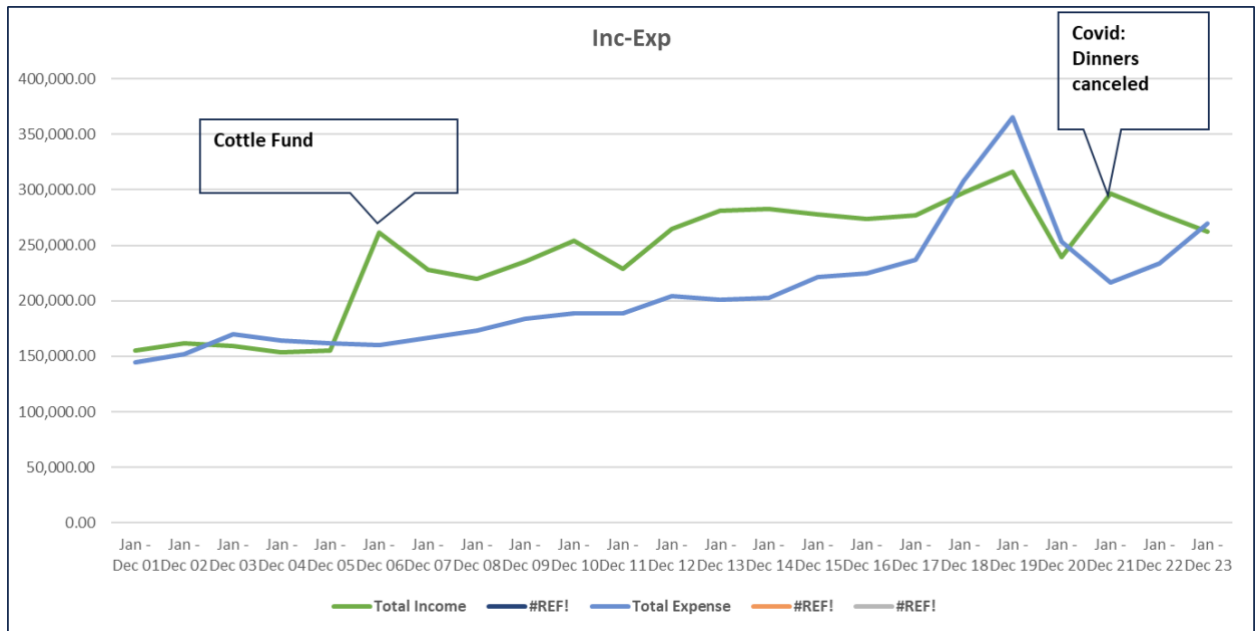
B. Dale Magee,
Chair, Treasurer

Finance Committee
B. Dale Magee, (Treasurer/Chair) Kenneth Kronlund
Philip Cohen Pankaj Ksheersagar
Lloyd Fisher Fred Schwartz
Adib Karam

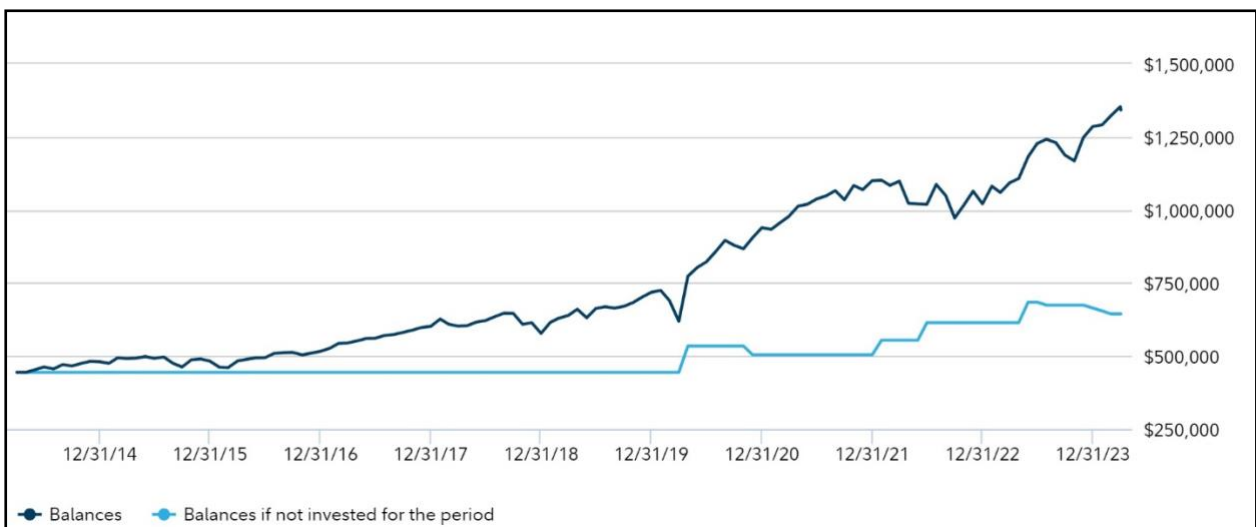
2023 PROFIT & LOSS WDMS

INCOME	
DUES	\$141,730.00
GRANT from Worc Med Lib	\$ 40,000.00
COTTLE	\$ 56,124.02
MEETINGS	\$ 6,713.97
DONATIONS	\$ 6,220.00
WORCESTER MEDICINE	\$ 11,650.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 262,437.99
EXPENSES	
MEMBER ACTIVITIES	\$ 43,310.92
WORCESTER MEDICINE	\$ 10,629.26
STAFF	\$158,556.29
OCCUPANCY	\$ 25,119.27
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	\$ 31,694.57
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$269,310.29
DEFICIT	\$ 6,872.30

INCOME AND EXPENSE TREND



FIDELITY ACCOUNT BALANCE OVER TIME COMPARED WITH COST BASIS



SUMMARY FINANCIAL FUTURE TASK FORCE REPORT

	<u>CURRENT COST</u>	<u>POTENTIAL SAVINGS</u>	<u>NOTES</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Staff Assistant	~\$54,000	~\$29,000	Replace 1FTE with 2-10 hour admins	Implemented (1 st year ~\$23,000 cost)
Occupancy	~\$23,000	~\$15,000	Downsize from 3 rooms (1450 sq ft) to 1-2 rooms	1 room: ~\$8000 (435 sq ft) 2 rooms: ~\$16,200 (979 sq ft)
Occupancy	~\$2,500	~\$2,500	Move off site storage to UMMS	In discussions
Phones	\$2,300	~\$900	Move from 3 lines to 1	Need to do
Web maintenance	~\$3,000	\$1,000	Consolidate maintenance & bring some items in-house	Not done- in process
<u>INCOME</u>	<u>CURRENT INCOME</u>	<u>POTENTIAL INCREASE</u>	<u>NOTES</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Charge Seniors	\$0	\$7,500	Charge dues or charge non-member rate for dinner	Implement 2025
Increase advertising for Wor Med	\$12,650	\$5,000		In process
			Potential Savings: \$48,400 Potential Income: \$12,500	

Respectfully submitted,

B. Dale Magee, MD
Chair

Financial Future Task Force

George Abraham, MD
Fred Baker, MD
Charles Birbara, MD
Maryanne Felice, MD
Kenneth Kronlund, MD
Dale Magee, MD
Robert Sorrenti, MD
Bradley Switzer, MD
Stephen Tosi, MD
Giles Whalen, MD

Legislative Committee 2023-2024

We hosted our annual 2023 Legislative Breakfast on April 28, 2023, where we collaborate with our local and state Legislators. Our 2024 Breakfast will occur on May 3, 2024. 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.

Topics for discussion 4/28/23 Legislative Breakfast

1. **Prior Authorizations/Administration Burden Bill SD.2231 / Dr. Heather Gallo**
[Fact Sheet](#)
2. **Gun Control Bill / Dr. Michael Hirsh**

Leaders on Beacon Hill have expressed their interest in taking up gun violence legislation this session. House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy) [announced his intention](#) to have the House vote on a comprehensive gun safety package: *“Our proposal will consider everything from updating our firearm licensing and training framework, to clamping down on evolving technology designed to circumvent our safety laws, to refining tools that help identify individuals who pose a danger to themselves or others.”* Governor Maura Healey and Attorney General Andrea Campbell have emphasized taking a dual approach to addressing gun violence that involves cracking down on gun crimes while simultaneously funding prevention programs aimed at breaking cycles of violence.

While there have been dozens of bills filed related to gun safety—legislation to ban “ghost guns” is probably gaining the most traction. **I have attached an article on the ghost gun legislation (two separate proposals have been introduced), as well as an article that summarizes the current discussions on Beacon Hill around taking up a gun violence prevention bill.**

3. **CPR Training Update / Dr. Joseph Sabato**

H.464/S.351, An Act providing hands only CPR training and the use of defibrillators, sponsored by Rep. Carol Doherty, Rep. Pat Haddad, and Sen. Michael Rush: This legislation would require each school district in MA to provide instruction in hands-only CPR and the use of an AED as part of the existing physical education or health education curriculum in grades 9 through 1. **A copy of the bill is attached [here](#).**

The MMS House of Delegates (HOD), held a series of meetings, caucusing with Worcester North, and prior to the annual MMS HOD meetings. The Interim 2023 session were held virtually, while the A-24 session were in person.

1. The I-23 Meetings for MMS and WDMS House of Delegates included:
 - a. WDMS Caucus #1 – November 15, 2023

- b. 1st MMS Session – November 20, 2023
 - c. WDMS Caucus #2 – December 7, 2023
 - d. 2nd MMS Session – December 9, 2023
2. The A-24 Meeting dates for MMS and WDMS House of Delegates include:
- a. WDMS Caucus #1 – April 11, 2024
 - b. 1st MMS Session – April 24, 2024
 - c. WDMS Caucus #2 – May 11, 2024
 - d. 2nd MMS Session – May 11, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Gallo, MD
Chair

Legislative Committee

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
2023-2024**

The 17th Annual Louis A. Cottle lecture was held in person on October 18 2023 at the Beechwood Hotel, Worcester. The title of the talk was "[Artificial Intelligence in Medicine](#)" and this was presented by a panel of speakers: Andrew Beam, PhD from the NEJM AI, presented as the Keynote Speaker. His talk primarily focused on the research aspect of AI. Dr. Lawrence Garber; spoke about the technical perspective; Dr. Neil Marya, spoke from the clinical perspective which included images and video samples of AI procedures; and Ricardo Poza, M.Ed spoke from the educational perspective

The main objectives of the talk included:

- Practice-Based Learning and Improvement – Attendees learned how to investigate and evaluate one's patient care, self-appraisal, and assimilation of scientific evidence, and improvements in patient care.
- Patient Care and Procedural Skills – Attendees learned ways to identify new therapeutic approaches to identifying and treating medical issues and promoting healthcare.
- Systems-Based Practice – The speakers demonstrates and taught an awareness to integrate the broad system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide the best care. Additionally, they will learn about ways to educate their patients on documentation platforms/systems.
- Medical Knowledge – Attendees learned how the established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognate (e.g., epidemiological and social-behavioral) sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills - Attendees learned how to educate and exchange AI information, collaborate with patients, their families, and other health professionals in a timelier and efficient manner.
- Professionalism – Attendees learned to be mindful of professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.

The meeting 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.

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
2023-2024**

	<u>3/23/2020</u>	<u>3/29/2021</u>	<u>3/28/2022</u>	<u>3/27/2023</u>	<u>3/25/2024</u>
1st Year Practice	172	150	168	195	188
Joint/Family	22	18	14	13	10
Physicians	740	720	699	722	732
Seniors /Emeritus	170	185	192	205	172 (+39 billed seniors)
Residents	619	639	660	683	777
Students	651	651	642	614	623
CHC/Comp	53	52	52	40	14
Military	1	1	1	1	1
Waived	5	4	4	4	4
Total Members	2357	2433	2432	2477	2521 (2560)

Once again, our membership has increased. WDMS is proud to represent 2560 physicians and medical students in Central Massachusetts. Membership dues are what allow us to offer our members a variety of events that are interesting and educational. We offer one meeting or event each month

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. We hosted two social “mixers” for new and non-member, August 24, 2023 at Volturno’s and September 21, 2023 at Mezcal, both in Worcester.

We encourage you to keep your membership up-to-date and help in recruiting 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	Sahdev Passey
James Broadhurst	Robert Sorrenti
Marianne Felice	Spiro Spanakis
Michael Hirsh	
Rebecca Kowaloff	<u>Resident Representative</u>
Heidi Leftwich	Sasank Kalipatnapu
James Lindberg	
Jane Lochrie	<u>Student Representatives</u>
Dale Magee	Benjamin Palleiko
Mark Maxfield	Bennett Vogt

**Public Relations Committee
2023-2024**

“Health Matters” remains the cornerstone for the public relations outreach of WDMS. Now in its twentieth year, with 239 recorded shows, “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.

Our program 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 and Lynda Young. Trent Taros, MD took a leave as he was in his first year of residency.

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 mwright@wdms.org.

Health Matters Shows for 2023-2024:

- Ghost Guns – April 25, 2023
- Breastfeeding Support in Worcester – April 25, 2023
- Updates with COVID-19 – May 23, 2023
- New Directions at the WDPH – June 27, 2023
- Scientific Integrity Part 2 – July 25, 2023
- Scientific Integrity Part 1 – July 25, 2023
- Safety Quest – October 10, 2023
- Social Media Challenges – October 10, 2023
- WooDerm: A UMass-run free dermatology clinic in Worcester – March 15, 2024
- Impact of Fire Alarm Violence in Our City – March 29, 2024

Public Relations Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hirsh, MD
Chair

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

*Health Matters Host

**Publications Committee
2023-2024**

The Publications Committee manages the materials published by the District with the primary focus on *Worcester Medicine*. *Worcester Medicine* is published quarterly 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. We welcomed our new fulltime Editor-in-Chief and Chair of the Editorial Board, Dr. Parul Sarwal.

This has been a year of transition as we hired a new Copy Editor and Layout/Designer and are quite pleased with this new collaboration. We have also introduced a few new regular columns, including an infographic and a medical cartoon. And finally we have secured 4 new advertisers; UMass Chan Medical School, Beechwood Hotel, Mechanics Hall and the Hanover Theater. We thank them as well as our continued advertisers; Physicians Insurance, Music Worcester, Reliant Medical Group/Optum and UMassMemorial Healthcare.

The Publications Committee acknowledges the excellent work of the Editorial Board. The 2023-2024 issues of *Worcester Medicine* covered important health care topics such as:

Spring 2023 – [Gun Violence](#), with Dr Michael Hirsh as the Guest Editor

Summer 2023 – [Humanities in Medicine](#), with Dr. David Hatem as the Guest Editor

Fall 2023 – [Workforce Vitality](#), with Dr. Steven Bird as the Guest Editor

Winter 2023 – [AI in Medicine](#), with Dr. Parul Sarwal as the Guest Editor

Spring 2024 - [Advances in Women's Health](#), with Dr. Parul Sarwal as Editor-in-Chief

We are currently working on our Summer 2024 issue which will be about Healthcare Advocacy.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sorrenti, MD
Chair

Publications Committee

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

Editorial Board 2023-2024

We had another successful year producing quarterly issues of Worcester Medicine: spring, summer, fall and winter. We maintained our Guest Editor (GE) model, with each issue hosting a different WDMS Editor/Editorial, until the Fall 2023 Issue on Workforce Vitality.

We continued our affiliation with Hana Lasell as our new Editor/Designer, until the fall of 2023 when she left to pursue another opportunity. We have since hired two individuals, one to handle the editing and the other to manage the layout/design of the magazine. We have revised our editorial guidelines to allow for additional/longer articles by condensing all references under one QR code, this also means no limit to the number of references per article.

We have fully transitioned from 100% printed copies to a 95% digitalized magazine, printing just 150 copies for advertisers and authors. We continue to secure our own ads, this year gaining four additional advertisers: Mechanics Hall, UMass Chan Medical School, The Hanover Theater and Performing Arts Center and the Beechwood Hotel.

Finally, I'd like to thank our entire Editorial Board as I've transitioned from a member, to the Chair of the EB and Editor-in-Chief of [Worcester Medicine](#).

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

Respectfully submitted,

Parul Sarwal, MD
Chair, Editorial Board

Editorial Board

Parul Sarwal	Robert Sorrenti
Lisa Beittel	Martha Wright
Sonia Nagy Chimienti	Peter Zacharia
Anthony Esposito	
Lloyd Fisher	
Larry Garber	<u>Resident/Fellow</u>
Rebecca Kowaloff	<u>Representatives</u>
Susan Krantz	Alex Newbury (R-UM)
Julianne Luring	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
2023-2024**

It is a pleasure to write this report highlighting the 2023 scholarship award recipients, 15 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 five different medical schools and included 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 2023 WDMS Scholarship Program granted 18 awards to 15 aspiring future physicians. Through your generosity, the Scholarship Fund distributed a total of \$50,500 in scholarships to the award recipients featured in this report. There were nine \$4,000 Scholarship Awards, two \$3,000 Scholarship Awards, three \$1,500 Book Awards and four \$1,000 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 continues to make our scholarship program possible.

As Chair of the Committee, and on behalf of all our membership, I would like to acknowledge our dedicated team of committee members who interviewed and selected this year's award recipients.

Finally, I'd like to acknowledge Dr. Kenneth Kronlund. He joined the WDMS in 1984 and over the years, having served on multiple committees, but in particular, he was a member of the Scholarship Committee *and* Trustee of the Scholarship Fund of the WDMS, since 2000. As Trustee of the Scholarship Fund, Dr. Kronlund did a superlative job of safeguarding our scholarship fund and managing our Fund in such a way that we had a positive growth trend. We are most grateful for his service, wisdom, and sage stewardship and we congratulate Dr. Kronlund as he stepped down as Trustee to retire. Dr. Sahdev Passey became the new Trustee in January 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele P. Pugnaire, MD
Chair

Scholarship Committee

Michele Pugnaire, Chair	Jane Lochrie
Kenneth Kronlund, Trustee	Susan Moran
Janet Abrahamian	Nitin Trivedi
Robert Bessette	Martha Waite
Susan George	Giles Whalen
Rebecca Kowaloff	<i>Resident Representative</i>
Heidi Leftwich	Alex Newbury

2023 Scholarship Award Recipients



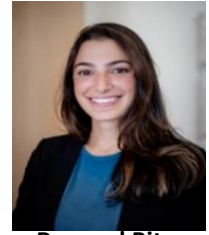
Danae Alexandrou
Loyola University Chicago-Stritch
School of Medicine
Dr. Lillian Luksis Award



Sarah Becker
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The Dr. Samuel Pickens
Scholarship Award UMass
Memorial Health Care*



Natasha Bitar
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The Dr. David H. Spodick Memorial
Scholarship Award St. Vincent
Hospital and The Medical Staff of St.
Vincent Hospital*



Racquel Bitar
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The Dr. M. Elizabeth Fletcher Scholarship
Award, Reliant Medical Group and The
Joyce Cariglia and David Williams Book Award*



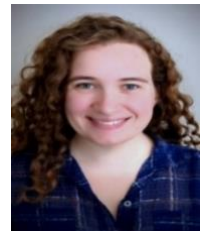
Arpan Bose
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The Dr. Herbert E. Nieburgs
Scholarship Award*



Brianna Chamberlain
University of New England
College of Osteopathic
Medicine
*The Dr. Julius Tegelberg
Scholarship Award*



Allison Chevalier
New York University of Technology
College of Osteopathic
Medicine
*The Dr. Burte Guterman Scholarship
Award*



Margaret Desmond
Loyola University Chicago-Stritch
School of Medicine
The Dr. Sidney P. Kadish Book Award



Arianna Gray
Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine
*The Dr. Leonard J. Morse
Scholarship Award*



Tara Hebert
University of New England
College of Osteopathic
Medicine
*The Dr. Sanfrey Lilyestrom
Scholarship Award*



Samatha Kaliszewski
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The Dr. Judd Kline Book Award
Physicians Insurance*



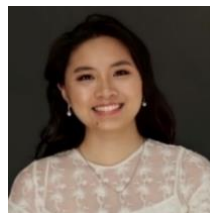
Aishwarya Khanna
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The Paulette Griffin Pugnaire Book Award
and The Passey Family Book Award*



Rebecca Nitschelm
University of Massachusetts Chan
Medical School
Amaral Family Book Award



Michael Pepin
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The John Rauth Book Award
Milford Regional Medical
Center*



Vananh Pham
University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
*The Dr. Herbert E. Nieburgs
Scholarship Award*

**Awards Committee
2023-2024**

The WDMS Annual Fall District Meeting and Awards Ceremony, November 15, 2023, in person at the Beechwood Hotel. This was the first in-person Fall District Meeting since 2019 and it was well attended, with 140 members and guests.

The *2023 Dr. A. Jane Fitzpatrick Community Service Award* was presented to Dr. Bruce Karlin. 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. Karlin is a Primary Care physician in private practice since 1992, serving the Worcester community for decades. He is a family physician and member of Assistant Professor at the UMass Chan Medical School, since 2005. He is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School and completed his Internal Medicine Residency there as well. Dr. Karlin has been a WDMS member since 1985. He has served on our Delegation, many committees, is one of the hosts for Health Matters served as the District President from 2007-2009. He has mentored countless medical student and residents, earning Physician of the Year from Future of Health Technology MIT, and Community Faculty Educator from UMass. Congratulations Dr. Karlin!

The *2023 WDMS Career Achievement Award* was presented to Dr. Joel Popkin. This award was established to honor a WDMS Member who has demonstrated compassion and dedication to the medical needs of patients and or the public and has made significant contributions to the practice of medicine.

Dr. Popkin is a retired Primary Care physician from Reliant Medical Group, formerly known as the Fallon Clinic, Inc, where he practiced for 37 years. From 1990-1998 he served as the Associate Program Director and Program Director from 1998-2007 for the St. Vincent Hospital Internal Medicine Residency Program. He is Professor of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School. Since stepping down as the PD, Dr. Popkin remains active with graduate medical education as the Director, Special Services, Dept. of Medicine, St. Vincent Hospital. This involves resident mentoring, remediation, and counseling; oversight/editing of abstract, poster, literature preparation and submissions, competitions, and other scholarly activity. IN addition to all of this, Dr. Popkin also volunteers at the St. Anne's Free Clinic. Congratulations Dr. Popkin!

Later in the year, at the WDMS Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony on April 10, 2024, we acknowledged the *2024 MMS/WDMS Community Clinician of the Year* recipient, Dr. Kathryn Edmiston.

Dr. Edmiston is a hematologist/oncologist at UMass Memorial Healthcare, and she is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School. She completed her residency in the Department of Internal Medicine, University of Chicago Hospitals and Clinics, Chicago, IL, and her clinical fellowship in the Division of Hematology and Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA. Dr. Edmiston has received multiple honors and awards, has been involved in

**Awards Committee
2023-2024
Con't**

numerous educational and scholarly activities, and is well published. She has Directed, Chaired and Co-Chaired a variety of Boards and Committees and is very involved in Community outreach/organizations locally and nationally. Congratulations Dr. Edmiston!

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work and thoughtful 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 2023-2024

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

Covid 19 and other virus updates:

4 year anniversary of Covid Pandemic passed on 3/11. Our latest Omicron surge has receded as our regional wastewater/ hospital / admissions and case numbers are all back down to the baseline of early November 2023. The CDC has altered its recommendations on isolation /quarantine after testing positive. Isolate until asymptomatic off Tylenol for 24 hrs, then return to work with a mask for 5 days. These guidelines have not yet been embraced by MDPH. Covid boosters were first offered in September, 2023.

Fluoride in Worcester Water

Dr. Hirsh reported there has been a discussion at the Worcester Board of Health and waiting on the 5th person to be appointed to the committee. Three out of the 4 of the members are in favor of fluoridating the water and 1 person against it. Subcommittee: Drs. Lynda Young, James Broadhurst, Charles Steinberg, Hugh Silk.

REACH Grant

Dr. Hirsh reported the mass chapter of AARP revived the program, "Walk with a Doc," January 2023. It is held at the St. Vincent Hospital atrium on the 2nd floor walking path and is the first Saturday of every month. The sponsor, AARP has been generous with the swag for the walks donating water bottles and t-shirts.

Barbershop Health Network (BHN)

Dr. Hirsh reported on behalf of Michelle Chang and Meghan Reilly- the BHN ran very well for 6 years until 2018, when there was a concern about how the finances were being handled. Barbershops were used as locations with volunteers of students/residents and physicians to oversee the students. There were a variety of things in which the public was able to participate, blood pressure and diabetes screening, eye exams, and talks about gun violence. Michelle did try to revive it again in a shop in Webster Square, they screened 6 people. The lack of attendance could be simply lack of promoting the event. There are new locations slated for the next BHN, beauty/nail salons which will include a new station for vaccinations. WDMS will help promote the next event when it is scheduled. Soloe Dennis from WDPH is very interested and will be involved with this program. Dr. Qamar asked about the status of getting new patients established with primary and ophthalmology offices during these events. Dr. Hirsh said it is hard but can be done. Dr. Qamar will help with the outreach and connect with her colleagues.

Gun Violence

Dr. Hirsh reported he has been working on a project with Candace Savage from WDPH and Dr. Theodore Calianos, past MMS president about patient conversations about firearms. An educational pamphlet is given to patients, medical students, residents, and physicians.

MMS is trying to push the state to apply for federal funding for the Community Gun Violence Prevention and now will apply for the Gun Buy Back Program. The Gun Buy Back Program has taken off very well over the last 2 years in 29 cities and the next event was held December 9, 2023. Dr. Hirsh was also the guest editor for Worcester Medicine, "Gun Violence: Approach to an Endemic Problem in American Society" [click here](#) to view the magazine.

**Public Health Committee
2023-2024
Con't**

Buddy Program

Medical Students worked with Worcester Public Schools to resurrect the Buddy Program. Dr. Hirsh worked with Dr. Beverly Nazarian, students struggling with remote learning and isolation during the pandemic. The program was very successful, adjustment councilors would identify the students who needed the most help and were matched up with medical students to learn how to do remote learning and using electronics. When the schools re-open for the Fall, this program will be starting again with medical student Sneha Karthikeyan as the contact for the Buddy Program.

Safety quest

During the winter of 2018 the mobile classroom was damaged. UMMHC and Mapfre Insurance collaborated to create a Mobile Classroom. With the donation a new virtual reality vehicle was created. It is towed to various events, fairs, schools, or chartered. One side on the outside is a street scene and the other a rural scene. Inside it educates children on home hazards/80 safety issues. This was touted on Health Matters and in the winter issue of Worcester Medicine, October 10, 2023.

Climate Change Event

The Medical Student Committee sponsored an event on 9/24/23 at the Green Hill Park, Worcester. There were 2 speakers; David Spanagel, PhD, MEd and Sarah Strauss, PhD, MPH, and their discussion focused on "Climate Change Challenges".

Safe Injection Sites

The WDMS wrote a letter in support of a pilot program for a Safe Injection Facility in Worcester that was approved at the local level by the Worcester Board of Public Health.

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

Rebecca Kowaloff

Susan Krantz

Panjak Ksheersagar

Quang Le

Bency Louidor-Paulynice

Kirti Nagpal

Fozia Qamar

Abhijit Roychowdhury

Manjul Shukla

Anthony Teebagy

Resident Representatives

Edward Adams

Amber Thompson

Student Representatives

Shani Aharon

Rachel Anderson

Tiffany Forti

Michelle Chang

Kelly Flanagan

Calvin Schaffer

Alliance Representative

Francine Vakil

Women's Caucus 2023-2024

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

The 32nd Annual Women in Medicine Breakfast, co-sponsored by PIAM, was held on September 29, 2023, in person at the Beechwood Hotel, Worcester. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Tara Kumaraswami and she spoke about "The Dobbs Ruling – It's Impact on How We Practice Medicine in Massachusetts". This was the first in person meeting for the Women's Caucus since COVID and we were pleased with the turnout.

The annual Woman in Medicine Leadership Forum scheduled for March 27, 2024 was unfortunately canceled due to low registrations. The program was to be a unique interactive dinner meeting combined with a lecture 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, whom we wish to engage with for a future program.

- 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

I'd like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Women's Caucus as well Martha Wright and Melissa Boucher for all of their hard work, guidance and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Women's Caucus

Lynda Young, MD
Chair

Lynda Young, Chair	Rebecca Spanagel
Annie Abraham	Martha Waite
Janet Abrahamian	Jennifer Yates
Maria Abruzzo	<u>Resident Reps</u>
Lynn Eckhart	Elizabeth Bobersky
Marianne Felice	Stephanie Clegg
Hari Kirin Khalsa	<u>Student Reps</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.
2023-2024

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:

The second recipient of the medical student achievement award was Mina Botros, MS4 from UMass Chan Medical School. Students eligible for this \$2,000 award 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 had not met for some time. The Meet the Author Series was resurrected in May 2023 with Author of Mark Vonnegut, MD who reviewed his latest book "The Heart of Caring: A Life in Pediatrics". The WDMS Alliance was also instrumental in securing Dr. Vonnegut, thank you!

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. Starting in September 2023, our Executive Director Martha Wright has been attending the meetings again.

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. This past year, Dr. Magee interviewed [Dr. Paul Hart](#). All of the interviews are uploaded to the history page on our website. If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to visit other [Spoken History interviews](#).

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.
2023-2024
Con't

Other means of support include:

Supporting for activities conducted at the Lamar Soutter Library.

Offering 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. Dale Magee for serving as the Treasurer for WML for the past three years as he steps down this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sorrenti, MD
Chair

Officers

President	Giles Whalen
Vice President	Alwyn Rapose
Secretary	Lynda Young
Treasurer	B. Dale Magee
Curator	B. Dale Magee

Board of Trustees

2022

Edward Amaral
Anthony Esposito
Paul Steen

2023

Robert Bessette
Dale Magee
Sahdev Passey

2024

Leah Doret
Michele Pugnaire
Robert Sorrenti, Chair

**Worcester District Medical Society
Alliance
2023-2024**

In May, Neena Patwardhan hosted a meeting and book club evening at her home. It was wonderful to be together, sharing a delicious potluck dinner and lively discussion of our book, *The Heart of Caring: A Life in Pediatrics* by Mark Vonnegut, MD. Dr. Vonnegut is a longtime friend of Sheila Masserelli.

The Alliance held a successful membership appreciation and fundraising event to benefit our WDMSA Nursing Scholarship at Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary on Saturday, September 30th. Judith Sumner, PhD, renowned ethnobotanist, provided a fascinating presentation. With the generosity of those who attended the event and/or donated, we were able to raise considerable funding for our scholarship. Our speaker graciously contributed her honorarium to our scholarship. Additionally, the MMS Alliance contributed to our scholarship. The Alliance was able to cover the costs of this event in total so that 100% of admission costs and donations went to our scholarship fund.

Alliance members from Worcester attended the MMSA October Quarterly Meeting in Waltham. Donations of personal items were contributed by members. A representative from Rosie's Place in Boston shared with us that this shelter was started because no shelters in Boston would take in women at the time.

Congratulations to the recipient of our WDMSA Nursing Scholarship Award, Macey Bridge, Fitchburg State University. The award was presented along with the WDMS medical student scholarships at the WDMS Fall District Meeting. Many alliance members attended an evening of celebration for the recipients of scholarships and career achievement awards of Dr. Joel Popkin and Dr. Bruce Karlin.

WDMS hosted movie night featuring "Something the Lord Made" at Mechanics Hall on December 13th. Individual monetary donations were made to the Worcester County Food Bank. Our Alliance also made contribution. Additionally, the MMS Alliance made a \$250 donation to the Worcester County Food Bank and other Food Banks across the Commonwealth.

In March, Alliance members met at the Shrewsbury Library for a meeting and book club discussion for the book, *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. During our meeting, members discussed ways that we may serve our community. It was suggested that collecting books for children in shelters would be an endeavor worthy of our efforts and will be investigated.

Efforts have continued by Susan Kronlund, Zenie Popkin and Francine Vakil to sort, collect, organize and curate the WDMS Alliance archives. We hope to soon be able to present and share our amazing history. Please volunteer and join us as we complete this endeavor.

Doctor Dale Magee, WDMS historian, has suggested and offered to help us with a video spoken history project. There have been so many initiatives to discuss with our members who have been involved with our Nursing Scholarship, and including our many public health projects including seat belts, car seats, sex education in the Worcester Public Schools, immunization initiatives, the Mustard Seed meals, the Elm Park School Pedometer project and Belmont Street School Healthy Nutrition project.

WDMS Alliance Board

WDMSA Board
Submitted by Paula Madison, RN

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

Curators Report 2023-2024

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: We have produced a History of Obstetrics display covering forceps and other instruments. It has an accompanying video and is displayed beginning in February 2024 at the Lamar Souter Medical Library at the UMass Chan Medical school. It may be displayed elsewhere as opportunities arise.

Exhibit: WDMS collaborated with the Lamar Souter library and the NIH for an exhibit: "Outside/In Immigration, Migration & Health Care" in April, 2023. Dr. Magee carried out interviews of George Abraham, MD, Howa Abu, MD, Harvey Clermont, MD, Jane Lochrie, MD, Sahdev Passey, MD, Yuvaraj Singh, MD and Meme Tran, MD which were video recorded.

England Tour: From June 5th to 15th about a dozen travelers participated in a Medical History Tour of England. This was run by Jon Baines tours of London. They have a specialty in medical history and the accompanying guide was a "Blue Badge" certified London guide specializing in medical history. We traveled to London, Worcester, Bristol, Bath, Oxford as well as stopping at the Jenner House on the way.

Medical History Book Club: Meeting since 2016, the Club has about 30 members and during 2023 met 4 times via Zoom with 10-15 participants per meeting. This year we had an author interview with Sande Bishop in her book "Stalking the Doctors of the Full Moon" about the Union Medical Association between 1834-45.

Spoken History Project: Since its inception in 1995 we have accumulated 80 video and 9 audio interviews of senior members discussing their careers. These are available on the WDMS YouTube channel. One interview was added this year.

Curator presentations: The curator gave presentations this year on Nineteenth Century Medicine and Physicians in Northborough to the Northborough Historical Society, Nineteenth Century Medicine and an Occupant of Hope Cemetery to the Friends of Hope Cemetery, Worcester Medicine in the Nineteenth Century to the Hall Club and Nineteenth Century Medicine, Discovery, Denial and the Death of a President to the Wellesley- Weston Lifetime Learning group as well as the Tufts Lifetime Learning Group.

We are attempting to minimize the costs of Curator activities with donations. We are grateful for the generosity over the years of Maria Abruzzo, MD, James Broadhurst, MD, Hebert Dean, MD, Cay Denherder, MD, Louis Fazen, III, MD, Marianne Felice, MD, Jay Glaser, MD, Daniel Guilbert, MD, Bruce Karlin, MD, Robert Le, MD, Tiffany Moore Simas, MD, Maria Pickering, MD, Spiro Spanakis, DO, and Robert Terrill, MD.

B. Dale Magee, MD
curator

**Medical Student Committee
2023-2024**

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 UMass Chan medical students, at least 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. The Committee 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 Greenhill Park, September 24, 2023. We had 15 students and other volunteers collected over 10 bags of trash. Following the park cleanup, we enjoyed lunch and a lecture on "Climate Change Challenges" by WPI Professors David Spanagel, PhD, MEd and Sarah Strauss, PhD, MPH.

The spring event planned for May 2024 will be a workshop for medical students, focusing on Medical Student Finances. The guest speakers are Dr. Gayle Galletta and Jennifer English, Director of Financial Aid at UMass Chan.

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

Brian Nickley, MS4, Co-Chair

Medical Student Committee

Anne Larkin, *Physician Chair*

Brian Nickley, *Student Chair*, MS4

Sarah Uhranowsky, *Student Co-Chair*, MS3

Nayha Chopra-Tandon, MS4

Louis Fazen, *Physician Member*

Paramesh Karandikar, MS3

Sneha Karthikeyan, MS3

Iha Kaul, MS4

Trent Taros, MS4/5

**Anniversary Members
2023-2024**

50 Year Member

William Cohen, MD

William Lavelle, MD

25 Year Member

Ajay Batra, MD

**Memorials Committee
2023-2024**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Members Since</u>
James L. Erwin, MD	12/24/1931	2/17/2023	12/28/1966
Francis A. Ennis, MD	5/12/1938	5/7/2023	7/8/1999
Christopher H. Linden, MD	9/30/1952	8/26/2023	7/28/1985
Edward I. Amaral, MD	5/26/1935	10/13/2023	5/28/1966
Robert D. Blute, Jr., MD	8/26/1948	11/5/2023	8/28/1980
Neil Scannell, DO	12/6/1973	12/6/2023	3/28/1999
Kathy L. Chrismer, MD	7/15/1956	12/16/2023	8/15/2018
Gerrilu Bruun, RN (Alliance Member)	2/26/1942	1/5/2024	unsure

Respectfully submitted,

Memorials Committee

Memorials Committee

Sidney Kadish

Resident Representative

Stephanie Clegg