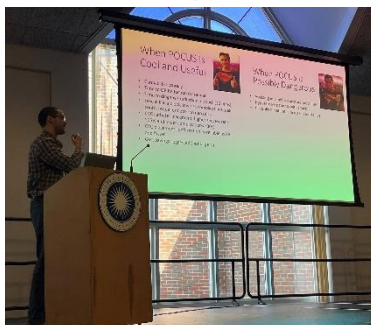


Congratulations/Recognition

A huge round of applause to all of our 2025 graduates, and much gratitude to faculty & staff for their relentless dedication to training the next generation of physicians!



Congratulations to **Sean Lombard DO**, winner of the 2025 Dr. Russell DeJong Excellence in Scholarship Award for his study of POCUS utilization in a rural emergency department.



MDFMR Inaugural Alumni Reception

MDFMR held its first alumni event, an informal gathering with food and drink, on June 3 at Colby College following the Scholarly Activity Symposium. The reception was well-attended, with a great turnout of alums enjoying the company of friends and colleagues. The second annual Alumni Reception will be held June 2, 2026. Details to come – save the date!

FMR Class of 2028 Expanded Orientation

With the intent of improving the transition from UME to GME and increasing support to residents with less experience in the US healthcare system, MDFMR launched a new 6-week orientation process for the Class of 2028. The experience integrated new OSCEs and tailored learning opportunities with existing elements (direct observations, outpatient visits, and introductions to inpatient medicine, prenatal care, and labor & delivery). Time for class bonding activities was woven in as well, including team-building at Hurricane Island Outward Bound, community exploration, community bonding, and cross-cultural communication.



Save the Date!

Sept 23, 2025: Resident retreat, *Turner Farm*

Oct 14, 2025: MDFMR community dinner, *ACH*

Oct 14, 2025: NNE Faculty & Chief Development Conference, *Lewiston ME*

Nov 14, 2025: MERGE conference, *ACH, Augusta ME*

March 19-21, 2026: MAFP Annual Update, *Samoset Resort, Rockport ME*

Trainee Recruitment Update

FMR: The program hosted a Zoom info session for potential candidates on Sept 2. Applications will be available for review beginning Sept 24. Interviews start Oct 16 and end Dec 18. In person group visits will be held Jan 20 & Feb 3, 2026. Match Day is March 20.

SM: The fellowship has received more than 75 applications. Virtual interviews will be held Sept – Nov, and Match Day is Jan 7.

GM: The program is currently receiving applications. Match Day is Dec 3.

ONMM: Specialty does not participate in the Match. The program accepts applications on a rolling basis.

UNECOM Student Update



The UNE Class of 2026 cohort at MDFMR celebrated the end of their OMSIII year by participating in a Maine tradition – lobstering!

The UNE Class of 2027

cohort began their OMSIII year at MDFMR in late June.



Please welcome [Katie Szemreyl](#), [Anna Audley](#), [Anh-Vy Le](#), [Catherine Butler](#), [Sarah Swanick](#), [Luciano Ciraulo](#), and [Mortada Najem](#).

Ironman 70.3 Maine



The 4th consecutive Ironman 70.3 Maine in Augusta took place July 27. Over 60 volunteers from MDFMR and MaineGeneral provided medical services for the race under the guidance of event medical director [Dr.](#)

[Tom Hoke](#), MDFMR sports medicine fellowship faculty. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, and especially to [Tom Hoke](#) for his outstanding leadership!

Advocacy in Action

A resolution crafted by the Maine Osteopathic Association to prevent criminal prosecution of medical decision-making was submitted to the American Osteopathic Association and adopted thanks to the efforts of alum & current faculty [John Diefenderfer DO](#), alum [Bre Glynn DO](#), and others. The resolution represents the AOA's commitment to ensure that issues of medical decision-making are adjudicated by licensure boards / entities with medical expertise, and to create a public statement supporting the decision-making systems already in place. John Diefenderfer reminds everyone that *"in this environment, it's more important than ever that we as physicians come together; not only to care for patients, but to advocate for the kind of healthcare system we believe in. I would encourage us all to become more involved in our state medical societies or specialty colleges; beyond advocacy, these organizations provide community, connection, and the chance to influence how medicine is practiced. For all of us, especially those feeling isolated or burned out, joining these organizations is a way to regain agency, engage with purpose, and help shape the future of medicine."*

Honduras May 2025 Recap

A team of 22 healthcare professionals, including 8 from MDFMR, provided care for 350 patients along the border of

Honduras & El Salvador. It was moving to reconnect with friends,



colleagues, and patients, especially given current economic and immigration challenges. From a central location in Colomancagua, the team traveled daily to outlying villages, averaging 100 patients per day. 127 children, 159 adults, and 64 older adults were seen. 288 patients had medical visits, 26 had pelvic exams, 84 received OMT, 4 joints were injected, 1 contraceptive implant was removed, and a new diagnosis of diabetes was made. There were 172 dental visits overall. These trips, occurring since 2015, could not happen without support from many people and especially [Dr. Julia McDonald](#)'s leadership and commitment — thank you!