PA Week Celebration
The Emory PA classes of 2015-2017 connected to celebrate PA week and help promote the Physician Assistant profession. Students from all three classes were involved in several outreach projects during the week including participation in a local health fair, Feria De Salud, to help improve health in the Latino community. Current students and Emory faculty participated in pediatric health and vision screenings. On Wednesday the PA Program hosted a lunch event in the SOM Atrium with speakers and the traditional celebratory cake! PA week culminated with a fun activity night at the Ronald McDonald house where students volunteered their time to support the families and patients receiving care at Emory hospitals. For more information on PA Week 2015: https://med.emory.edu/pa/about_us/news/PAweek2015.html
PA Week “Be the Match”
As a way to give back to the community, the PA Classes of 2016 & 2017 organized and assisted with “Be the Match” bone marrow donation outreach as well as an organ donor campaign and sign up at the Dobbs University Center (DUC) on the Emory Campus on Thursday, October 8th. In addition to helping with those sign ups, the classes assisted with the campus-wide Blood Drive held at the same event.

PA Week Advocacy: 4-PA Bake Sale
Students from the Class of 2016 took time out of their studies to bake for a good cause! The 2016 class hosted a bake sale on the Emory Campus, near Cox Hall on Tuesday, October 6th, to help educate Emory students about the PA Profession. In addition to professional advocacy, the class raised money to donate towards the South Georgia Farmworker Health Project.
South Africa Partnership Update
For the past five years, the Emory PA Program, through the Twinnings Partnership of AIHA, has worked closely with the University Of Witwatersrand School Of Medicine to assist with the development of their Clinical Associate Program. In September, the 8th Annual Conference of IAPAE (International Association of Physician Assistant Education) was held in Pretoria, South Africa. Representing Emory was one of our faculty members, Marquitha Mayfield. There are currently three training programs for Clinical Associates in South Africa with plans for more. Clinical Associates are a new cohort of medical providers, much like Physician Assistants, who are trained to provide primarily inpatient care in rural South Africa. Emory is proud to have an alumna, Ms. Zukisa Tshabala, on faculty at one of the South Africa programs. Ms. Tshabala was also just elected president of the new professional organization representing Clinical Associate providers, the Professional Association of Clinical Associates of South Africa (PACASA).
SGFHP: Fall in Bainbridge, GA
For the first time on a SGFHP trip, first year (rising clinical year) PA students from class of 2016 were invited to participate as student-clinicians. Able to get a glimpse into the lives and medical issues surrounding the migrant and seasonal agricultural workers from Mexico and Haiti, students served over a three day weekend October 2, 3, 4 in Decatur County, Ga. Despite poor weather conditions including hurricane Joaquin we saw nearly 200 patients. Over sixty volunteers participated in the weekend health clinics including 23 PA students, 8 MD students, 12 PA preceptors and 3 MD attendings.

The Olympics are Back!
In October the PA Program played host to the 2nd Annual Learning Society Olympics! "We generally encourage collaborative learning throughout our curriculum, but this time, we wanted to mix it up – to blend learning with some healthy competition and fun," says William Bryson, academic coordinator for the PA program at Emory and organizer of the competition. The Olympics consisted of both medical challenge bowl type events and outdoor relay race events. Each learning society was assigned an event, and the students developed questions and activities with topics ranging from radiology to dermatology to ECGs.
Learning Societies were started in the fall of 2012 at the PA Program. The six learning societies, named
after clinicians with ties to Emory or the PA profession, are organized to reinforce case based learning and team practice. The Emory learning societies are named after Tom Himelick, PA-C, Charles L. Hudson, MD, J. Willis Hurst, MD, Marquitha S. Mayfield, PA-C & Terry Mize, PA-C, Kyle Petersen, PhD, and Eugene A. Stead Jr., MD. The Himelick and Stead Societies tied for first place and shared the "gold medal" for 2015.
For more about the event's beginnings click here:
http://news.emory.edu/stories/2014/10/pa_week_learning_olympics/