



DUCCS Happy Hour

The bulletin of the Duke University Cooperative Cardiovascular Society

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Camaraderie in Close Quarters at ACC Dinner

Over 30 DUCCS members, fellows, Duke faculty, and family members met for dinner at Nage Bistro in Washington, DC, to cap off a busy Friday at the ACC Scientific Sessions. Space is at a premium in DC, and we were very nearly a standing room only crowd! Members of DUCCS leadership gave brief remarks, including director Rob Mentz, fellow liaison Dan Friedman, and past president Brent Muhlestein.



Past president Brent Muhlestein addresses DUCCS members at ACC dinner

But most of the evening was spent in casual conversation about our work, our lives outside work, and the progress of the Duke's first-round game in the NCAA tournament, which began an hour into dinner.

Thank you to all those who sponsored fellows, and to DUCCS member Bill Smith's group at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, who provided additional sponsorship.

April 2017



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Veteran DUCCS Leaders Pass the Baton at Face-to-Face Board Meeting



From left to right: Mike White, Megan Honig, Dan Friedman, Brent Muhlestein, Dave Whellan, Ben Steinberg, Rob Mentz, Lauren Cooper, Tim Albert, Greg Barsness, Doug Schocken, John Heitner, Rich Krasuski.

Participating by phone: Alex Barbagelata, Wayne Batchelor, Melissa Burroughs Peña, Ricky Schneider

ACC marked the beginning of a new term for DUCCS leadership. Wayne Batchelor officially began his role as president, while Brent Muhlestein's position transitioned to past president. Ricky Schneider started a fourth vice presidential term. Additionally, we welcomed several new board members and said goodbye to a few others.

Fittingly, the group discussed the past and future of DUCCS. Several longtime members reminded the group about DUCCS' early days, when the organization existed separately from the Duke Cardiology Fellows Society and clinical research coordinators played a larger role. Others reaffirmed the importance of DUCCS to members at all stages of their careers, from job searching to conducting research to recruiting newer cardiologists. With renewed fellow interest, rising attendance at national meetings, and several DUCCS studies underway, our future looks bright.



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Mike Cuffe Will Be Next DUCCS Visiting Professor



Dr. Mike Cuffe, Duke Cardiology Fellowship Graduate 1998

Dr. Mike Cuffe will visit Duke April 20-21. Dr. Cuffe is the president of the Physician Services Group for Nashville, Tennessee-based Healthcare Corporation of America, or HCA. His group currently oversees more than 9,000 providers.

Dr. Cuffe has a long history with Duke. He completed his MD, residency, fellowship, and an MBA at Duke. After his fellowship, Dr. Cuffe's roles included vice president for ambulatory services and chief medical officer for Duke University Health System; vice president, medical affairs of Duke University Health System; and vice dean for medical affairs of the Duke University School of Medicine. He left Duke for HCA in 2011.

Dr. Cuffe's visit will include a lunchtime lecture with the fellows and a fellows-only dinner at Parizade. He will meet with fellows individually by appointment and also with former colleagues.

We look forward to having Dr. Cuffe back at Duke!



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Spotlight On... Incoming Fellow Liaison Steve Greene

We're using our Spotlight On... feature to get acquainted with current fellows, longtime DUCCS members, and more. This month, meet incoming fellow liaison Steve Greene.



Clinical interests:

Acute and chronic heart failure

Research interests:

Hospitalized heart failure; heart failure drug development; exploring ways clinical trial design and execution may influence trial results and generalizability.

Something nobody knows about you:

I've traveled to the Arctic Circle in a propeller plane.

A question you hate being asked:

Don't have one, ask away!

The story behind the photo:

My wife, Lora, and I got married last May. This picture is from our honeymoon at Lake Louise in Alberta, Canada. Lora originally wanted a tropical honeymoon but I convinced her to go north of the border. It did not disappoint and was one of the most beautiful places we had ever seen!