

**Foundation for SMFM
2016 Garite Mini-Sabbatical Recipient**

“Obstetric Simulation Techniques”

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Mentor:

Col Shad Deering, MD
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Val G. Hemming Simulation Center, Silver Spring, MD

Recipient Statement and Summary:

“The only source of knowledge is experience.”

I was awarded the Garite Mini-Sabbatical at the completion of my MFM fellowship in 2016. My professional interests include global health and obstetric simulation. Additionally, I am one of the inaugural Queen Fellows for Global Health, awarded by the Foundation for SMFM. Teaching has been a passion of mine for over 10 years. As an obstetrics and gynecology resident, I discovered that I learn best through experience, or simulation. Because of this, over the years my passion and curiosity for simulation as a method of teaching and learning obstetrics and gynecology increased. I decided to apply for the Garite Mini-Sabbatical after returning from Ghana, West Africa as a Queenan Visiting Teaching Fellow. My goal in applying for the mini-sabbatical grant was to increase my knowledge of obstetric simulation and to gain experience in simulation preparation and design. My long terms goals include returning to Ghana, West Africa to use obstetric simulation as a teaching tool, to provide education through action and experience in a consequence-free environment to ultimately decrease maternal and fetal mortality. Additionally, my future goals include conducting research studies investigating the role of simulation on education, simulation as a way of improving knowledge transfer and increasing provider engagement, and measuring provider responses to obstetric emergencies to decrease maternal and fetal mortality in resource-poor settings.



I was fortunate to complete six weeks of training under the tutelage and mentorship of Shad Deering, COL, MD, FACOG. Dr. Deering, a perinatologist and professor, is the Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD. Dr. Deering is an innovator and national leader in medical simulation with many accolades and accomplishments. Dr. Deering developed the Mobile Obstetric Emergencies Simulator (MOES) program, a package of simulator technology, scenario-based training, performance measurement and debriefing tools used to

build medical staff and provider responses in obstetric emergencies; this technology allows for training on actual labor and delivery units to improve patient safety. His vision to devise a system that allows for medical residents, medical students, nursing staff and physicians to train in a consequence-free environment while improving the way we deal with and respond to medical emergencies made him ideal to work with. One of Dr. Deering's most recent accomplishments being one of the founders of the Banner Good Samaritan Critical Care in Obstetrics Simulation Course held annually in Arizona.

For six weeks, I was honored to work at the Val G. Hemming Simulation Center of the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, which has been in operation since 1999 – 2000. The Val G. Hemming Simulation Center is part of the National Capitol Consortium (NCC) of simulation centers which includes the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Walter Reed Military Medical Center and Fort Belvoir. Other clients include The Office of Attending Physicians, the US State Department, and the Pediatric Residency Program at DC's Children's Hospital. More than 75,000 learner contact hours are provided annually. Learners include medical students, nursing students, doctoral students in clinical psychology, and medical residents at Walter Reed Military Hospital. The simulation center features simulation modalities including standardized or simulated patients, all fidelity levels of manikins, task trainers and virtual reality. The Hybrid Simulation Lab has a combination of human and simulator training events. There are over 150 manikin task trainers housed here. The focus of this section of the simulation center is on life-saving interventions and invasive procedures in a zero-consequence environment. The center boasts of 10,000 square feet with three OR/ER bays, video recording capabilities, a multi-use room and conference room. Hospital scenarios and point-of-injury mass-casualty scenarios with live patients are carried out there. There is also a moulage studio with 3D printer. I was afforded the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Deering's colleagues and staff.



During the six-week mini-sabbatical, I was afforded the opportunity to write the first draft of the Postpartum Hemorrhage In-Situ Drills program in conjunction with the ACOG Council on Patient Safety in Women's Healthcare. Additionally, I also participated in creating a simulation-based global health program for OB/GYN providers in collaboration with Dr. Grace Chen of Johns Hopkins University, an on-going project.

The culmination of my experience took place in December of 2017, when I was invited to participate in the Simulation Working Group, an ACOG committee, where the first draft of the Postpartum Hemorrhage In-Situ Drills Manual was reviewed by the members of the ACOG Council on Patient Safety in Women's Healthcare.

I would like to thank the Foundation for SMFM, Dr. Thomas Garite, and Dr. Shad Deering for affording me this career enhancing opportunity.