Healthcare in Transition Faculty

Richard Della Penna, MD
Richard was a physician with Kaiser Permanente for 32 years, the last ten of which on the staff of the Permanente Federation and the Care Management Institute. He held the positions of Medical Director of the Kaiser Permanente Aging Network and the National Clinical Lead for Elder and Palliative Care. In these roles, he collaborated with Kaiser leadership in strategic efforts to improve the care of Kaiser’s nearly one million older adult members. His clinical and care improvement activities have focused on depression, dementia, interdisciplinary team training, long term care, transitional care, and palliative care. He is a member of the Veteran Administration’s National Geriatrics and Gerontology Advisory Commission and was on the Board of Directors of the National Alzheimer's Association from 2005 thru 2013. He is a member of the advisory board of the Practice Change Fellow Program, which provides leadership training to early and mid career physicians, social workers and nurses specializing in geriatrics and gerontology. He is the 2010 recipient of UCLA’s David H. Solomon Award, which recognizes influential leaders in the field of Geriatrics. Della Penna earned his M.D. from Tufts University School of Medicine and was an Intern and Resident at Harvard Medical Service, Boston City Hospital.

Arnie Cisneros, PT
President of Home Health Strategic Management, Arnie has provided clinical services, program development and management consultation in geriatric rehab and home health since 1979. He is renowned for his refinement of clinical delivery mechanisms, the integration of new protocols at the staff level and the adaptation of traditional care philosophies to address current health care initiatives. He can be reached at: www.homehealthstrategicmanagement.com

Andrey Ostrovsky, MD
Andrey is a physician and social entrepreneur from Harvard Medical School, Boston Children’s Hospital and Boston Medical Center. He will present data from a study of caring services for the elderly conducted using his innovative, disruptive technology designed to improve health for vulnerable populations. Dr. Ostrovsky specializes in applying Lean Startup Thinking and Design Thinking to discovering the social and commercial value of healthcare innovations. Co-founder and CEO of “Care at Hand,” featured in an August, 2013 issue of Time Magazine, he is a pediatrician in the Urban Health and Advocacy Track in the Boston Combined Residency Program at Boston Children’s Hospital and Boston Medical Center.

Tim Rowan, MA
Tim marked 20 years in home healthcare last fall. After five years as the Information Technology Director for a large Colorado agency, in 1999 he became the Editor and principle writer of the newsletter now known as Home Care Technology Report…over the years becoming the most trusted voice in home care technology. When not writing the newsletter or speaking at conferences, Tim helps home care agencies and hospices with their software selection projects. After 20 years, his familiarity with vendors and their products puts him in a unique position to help them make the best choice. Tim holds a Masters in Education from Loyola University in Chicago.
Scott Herrmann

Scott is the Director of Mobile Solutions for the Procura Group, Canada’s largest home health software provider, with a growing presence in the US and Australia. He has held leadership positions with Motorola and IBM, Positron, InterVoice, Ti3, and TALX Corporation. He returned to homecare in 2007 to work on mobile applications for CellTrak. Scott’s focus is now on Procura’s home healthcare mobile solution in North America and Australia. As a pioneer in the mobility world, Scott has an in-depth understanding of what customers need from a mobile solution and how to effectively deploy it. His articles have appeared in Home Care Technology Report, Caring Magazine and Canadian Healthcare Technologies.

Mike Deck

Leveraging over 10 years of experience in the implementation of point of care software for several home health agencies nationwide, Mike Deck is a project manager for the transition of Healthcare Synergy’s main application to a full blown EMR solution for the post-acute care arena. Understanding the differences between EMR and EHR and the need for data analysis in a post ACO arena, Mike is working to insure the Synergy application meets the needs for providers. Mike’s Irish knack for storytelling along with a deep understanding of the issues facing home health and hospice providers allows him to explain the technical requirements and methodology in an informative way.

Greg Cavanaugh

Greg is the Implementation Consultant with a nationally known Health Information Exchange and has over 25 years of experience working in the sales and marketing of health care information technology. His experience includes marketing practice management and electronic medical record. His educational experience includes a degree in Marketing and a Masters Degree in Health Care Administration.

Kian Saneii

Kian brings more than 25 years of leadership experience to his role as CEO of Independa, a San Diego-based company that provides technology-enabled independent-living systems for enterprise eldercare services. Prior to Independa, Saneii was GM of Websense Wireless, SVP of IMA, Inc. and IPNet Solutions, and held management positions at AT&T Bell Laboratories, DIS Research and FileNet Corporation (acquired by IBM). Saneii earned a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with Honors, from New York University, Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, NYU President’s Award; also a Master of Computer Science from Rutgers University.

Michael K. Wons

Michael is an experienced senior executive who is leading all aspects of CellTrak's strategy and execution of its business plan. With more than 25 years of experience with leading healthcare and advanced technology companies Mr. Wons brings a unique "customer focused" perspective to lead CellTrak. Mike is a passionate leader experienced with engaging customers, partners and the industry in the build out of mission critical solutions. Mr. Wons is also the Chairman of the Board at CellTrak and actively serves and participates in the National Association for Homecare and Hospice (NAHC) and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO). Mike is focused on helping establish a common platform for the industry to help enable automation of processes and improving the delivery of care via mHealth solutions.
Suzanne Sblendorio

Suzanne is the Director, Healthcare Information Technology at Simione Healthcare Consultants. With more than forty years of experience in home healthcare technology, she leads a team of expert industry consultants in technology strategy, information system evaluation, process reengineering, and work flow documentation. A contributing author for industry magazines and textbooks, Suzanne is a respected consultant in the areas of technology market analysis and system design.

Kara Osborne

Kara has trained hundreds of successful home care and hospice sales professionals. She first distinguished herself as a National Sales Manager for a large hospice, where she developed a corporate sales and marketing strategy, designing all sales, marketing and admissions related processes and predictive tools. In her role with Simione Consultants, she provides expert guidance in the design and delivery of home care and hospice sales training programs, support to sales managers, interim management of referral centers, redesign of referral to admission management programs, and development of social media sales and marketing strategies. Kara holds an MBA from Southern Illinois University and is a highly rated presenter at state and national association conferences.

Michael Blackstone, MD

earned his medical degree at the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans and subsequently trained at U. of Alabama, Birmingham in the combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics program. Dissatisfied with the growing paperwork burden placed upon physicians, he developed SutureSign, an electronic medical document exchange system to eliminate paper and help physicians capture lost revenue. As co-founder and CEO of SutureHealth, Michael works with homecare agencies and physicians who want to focus on patients instead of on paperwork. He envisions a comprehensive platform and network that will facilitate the exchange of actionable clinical data to improve care quality while lowering its cost and improving clinician satisfaction.

Zaki Lababidi, MD

attended medical school at Damascus University School of Medicine in Damascus, Syria and completed his internal medicine residency at Mercy Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago. He went on to a cardiology fellowship at Marshall University in Huntington, WV, then into private practice in Chicago. He came to Arizona to participate in an additional fellowship in interventional cardiology at the Arizona Heart Institute in Phoenix. Dr. Lababidi serves as clinical assistant professor for Midwestern University and Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and is an active participant in the educational preparation of medical students. He has been appointed Fellow in the American College of Cardiology as well as Fellow in the Society of Cardiovascular Angiography and Intervention.