TITLE: Design Your Own Project - Utilization of Laboratory Testing

FACULTY MENTOR NAME, EMAIL PHONE NUMBER
Stacy G. Beal, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor
Associate Medical Director, Microbiology and Core Laboratories
UF Health Shands Hospital
Gainesville, FL
North Tower, Suite 3102.1
Office: 352-594-4952
Cell: 512-468-4309

FACULTY MENTOR DEPARTMENT
Pathology

RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION (brief overview of background, hypothesis, methods, role of medical student, funding and relevant publications -- SHOULD NOT EXCEED ~ 250 WORDS)

I would like to work with students to develop projects based on their interests. Appropriate laboratory test utilization is a big area of current investigation. Students can develop projects to assess the appropriateness, validity, and clinical correlation with laboratory tests in any area. For instance, a student who is interested in Internal Medicine could examine any number of new analytes; a student interested in Critical Care could examine the use of lactate dehydrogenase; a student interested in OB/GYN could examine our use of fetal lung maturity testing; a student interested in Emergency Medicine could investigate our use of our new, molecular influenza test. There are many, many options, not at all limited to these.

The medical student would mainly perform this project by doing Epic chart reviews. There would also be interaction with experts in the field that they choose to investigate – for instance, if they look into the influenza test, they would interact with ED physicians, Infectious Disease physicians, etc. to understand the usefulness of the tests and how/when they are ordered.

This project would certainly lead to a poster at any number of meetings within a particular field or a Pathology meeting, and hopefully a full manuscript as well.