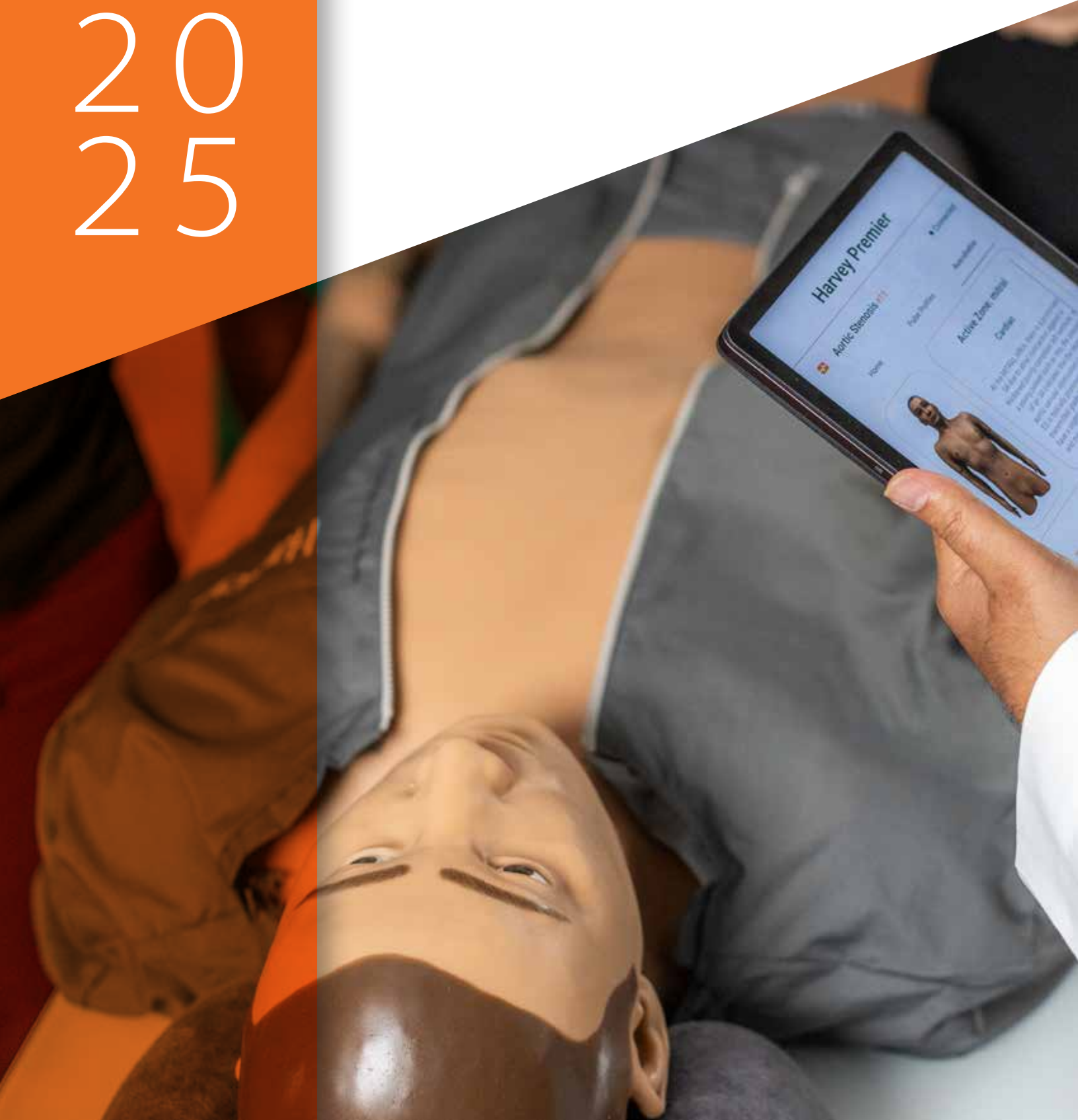


ANNUAL
REPORT

20
25

 **GORDON
CENTER**
SIMULATION | INNOVATION | EDUCATION



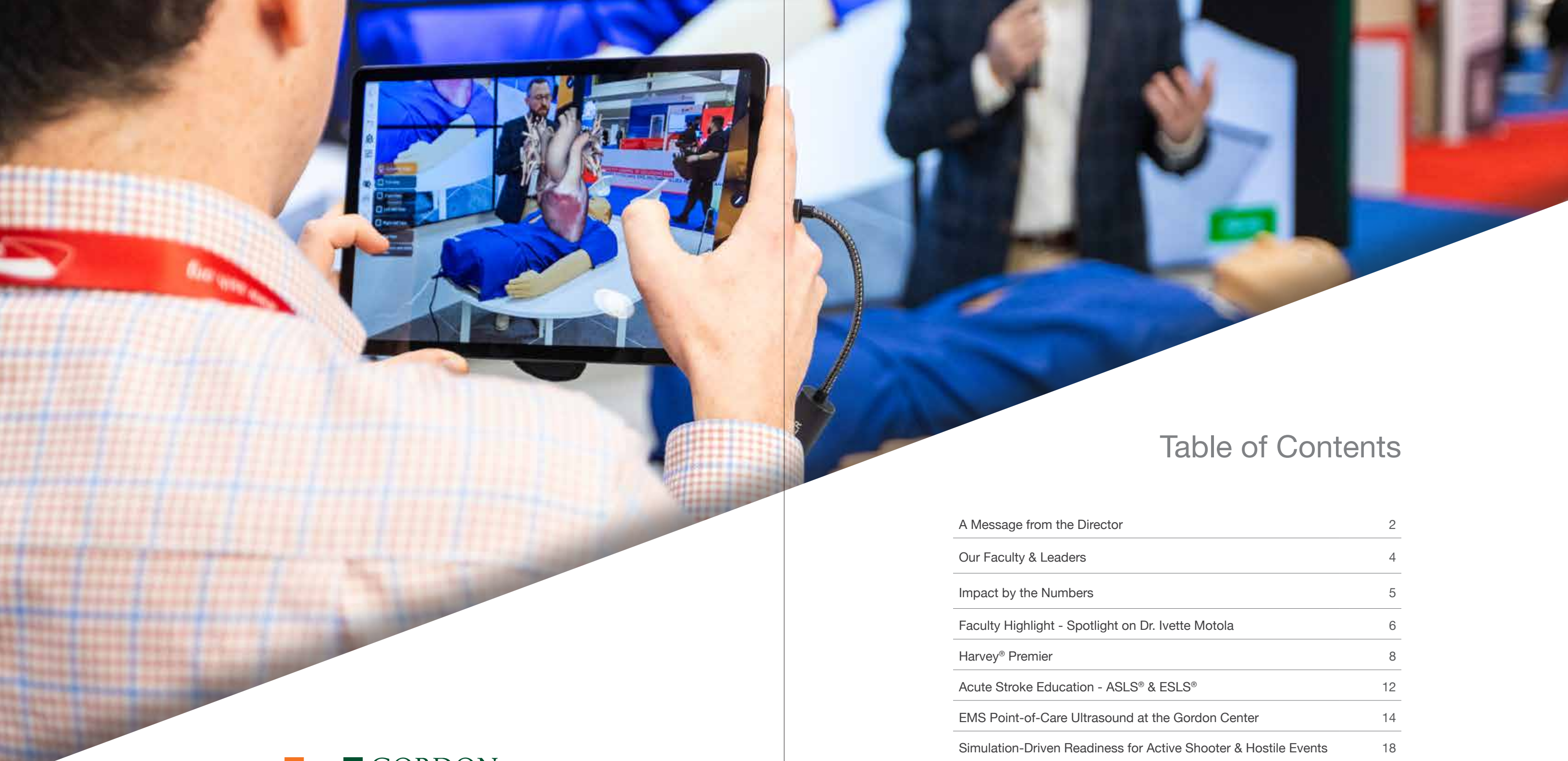
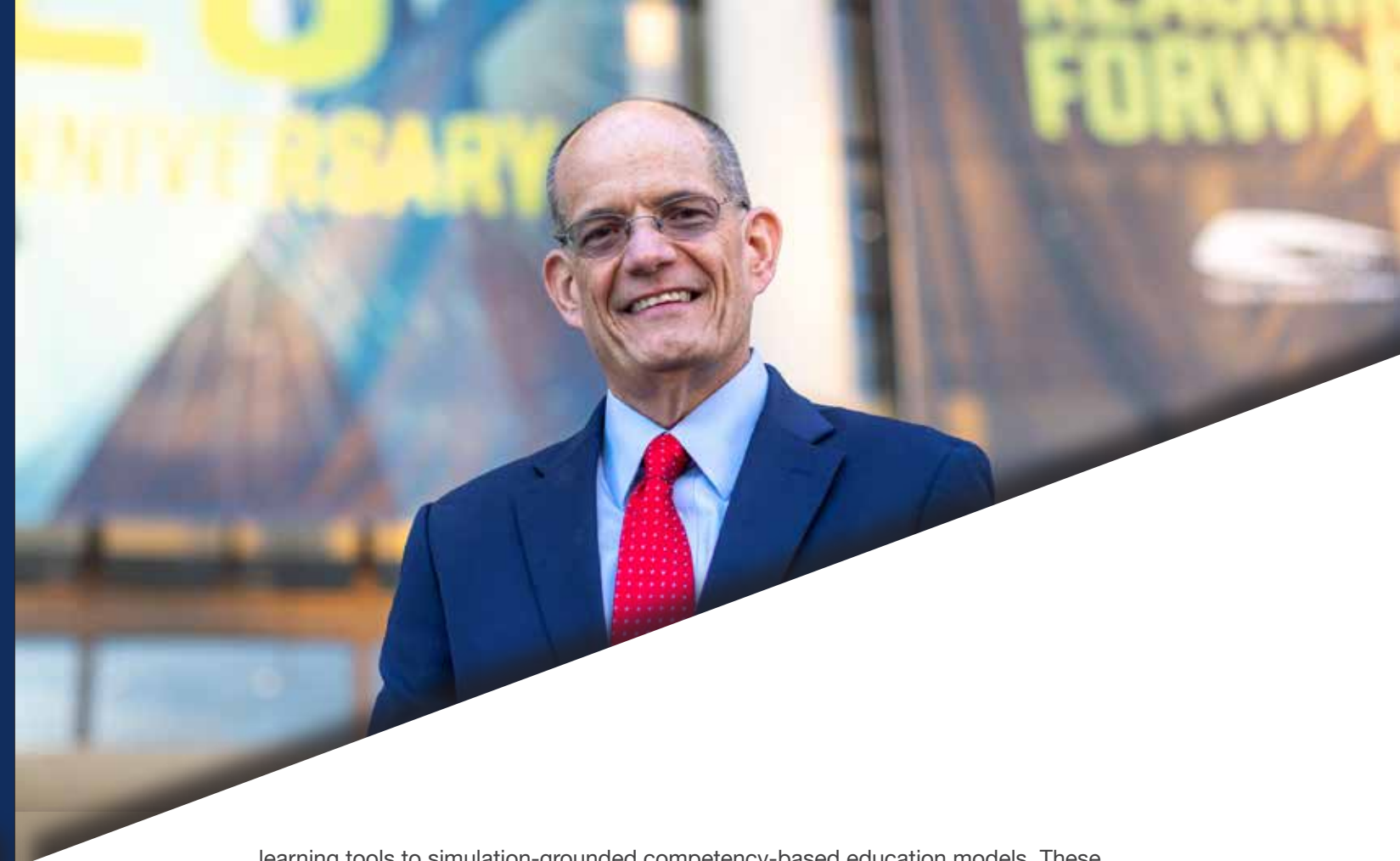


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A Message from the Director Advancing Simulation, Saving Lives



2025 has been a transformative and inspiring year for the Michael S. Gordon Center for Simulation and Innovation in Medical Education. Building upon our legacy of excellence and discovery, we continue to advance our mission—to improve patient outcomes through simulation, innovation, and education—with renewed purpose and global reach.

This year marked a major milestone with the launch of Harvey® Premier, the most advanced cardiopulmonary patient simulator in the Gordon Center's history. Harvey Premier represents decades of scientific and educational advancement, integrating state-of-the-art technology to enhance realism, fidelity, and learning outcomes. Its development and worldwide debut affirms the enduring relevance of Dr. Michael Gordon's vision: that simulation can save lives by preparing every healthcare professional to deliver skilled, confident, and compassionate care.

Our stroke education programs, including Advanced and Essential Stroke Life Support®, continued to expand across the United States and around the world—empowering multidisciplinary teams to improve acute stroke recognition and management. Through partnerships with ministries and departments of health, academic institutions, and first responder agencies, we now reach tens of thousands of learners annually in over 450 institutions and numerous countries globally.

At the same time, our faculty and collaborators have advanced the science of simulation through research, innovation, and translational developments, from XR- and AI-powered

learning tools to simulation-grounded competency-based education models. These efforts reflect the Gordon Center's role as a bridge between discovery and practice, uniting clinicians, engineers, educators, and policymakers to address the most pressing challenges in healthcare and emergency response.

We also pause to honor those who shaped our journey. This year, we remember Dr. Robert "Bob" Waugh, affectionately known as the Voice of UMed. Bob's decades-long partnership with our team and his pioneering work in cardiology education leave a lasting imprint on generations of learners. His voice—and his spirit—will always remain part of the Gordon Center.

As we look toward 2026 and beyond, we do so with gratitude, optimism, and ambition. Together—with our dedicated faculty, staff, students, alumni, industry partners, and philanthropic supporters—we are building a future where simulation continues to transform how healthcare is taught and delivered.

Our mission remains clear and constant: to advance simulation and save lives.

S. Barry Issenberg, M.D.

Director, Michael S. Gordon Center for Simulation and Innovation in Medical Education

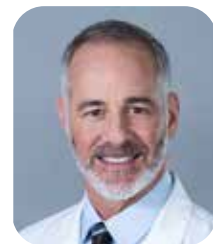
Our Faculty & Leaders



S. Barry Issenberg, MD
Center Director



Ivette Motola, MD, MPH
Center Associate Director &
Director of Prehospital and
Emergency Training Division



Ross J. Scalese, MD
Director of Educational
Technology Development



Joseph B. Esterson, MD
Director of Cardiology Training
Programs



Asit Misra, MD, MEd
Assistant Director of Prehospital
Emergency Training Division for
Research and Program Evaluation



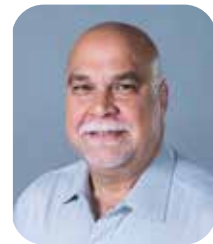
Samia Medeiros Barbar, MD, CHSE
Assistant Director of Prehospital
Emergency Training Division for
Curriculum and Faculty Development



Vivian Obeso, MD
Senior Director of Clinical
Skills and Competency
Assessment



Samantha Syms, MS, CHSE
Director of Standardized
Patient Program



Al Brotons, EMT-P
Associate Director of
Operations and Instructor
Development



Jeffrey Groom, PhD
Simulation Educator

Impact by the Numbers

Gordon Center Reach & Results



20,000+

First responders and
healthcare professionals
trained in 2025



2,300+

Institutions using
Gordon Center
curricula worldwide



50+

Years of simulation
innovation since
Harvey's first
launch



810

Florida
institutions trust
our curricula



12+

Major simulation-
based courses
currently deployed



30+

Peer-reviewed
publications and
national presentations
in 2025



67

Serving all 67
counties in Florida



60

Countries use
our programs



100%

Florida colleges
and universities
have used our
programs

Our reach spans clinical, prehospital, and disaster settings—impacting health systems across Florida, the U.S., and globally.

Faculty Highlight

Spotlight on Dr. Ivette Motola

Innovating Education. Elevating Preparedness.
Transforming Emergency Response.



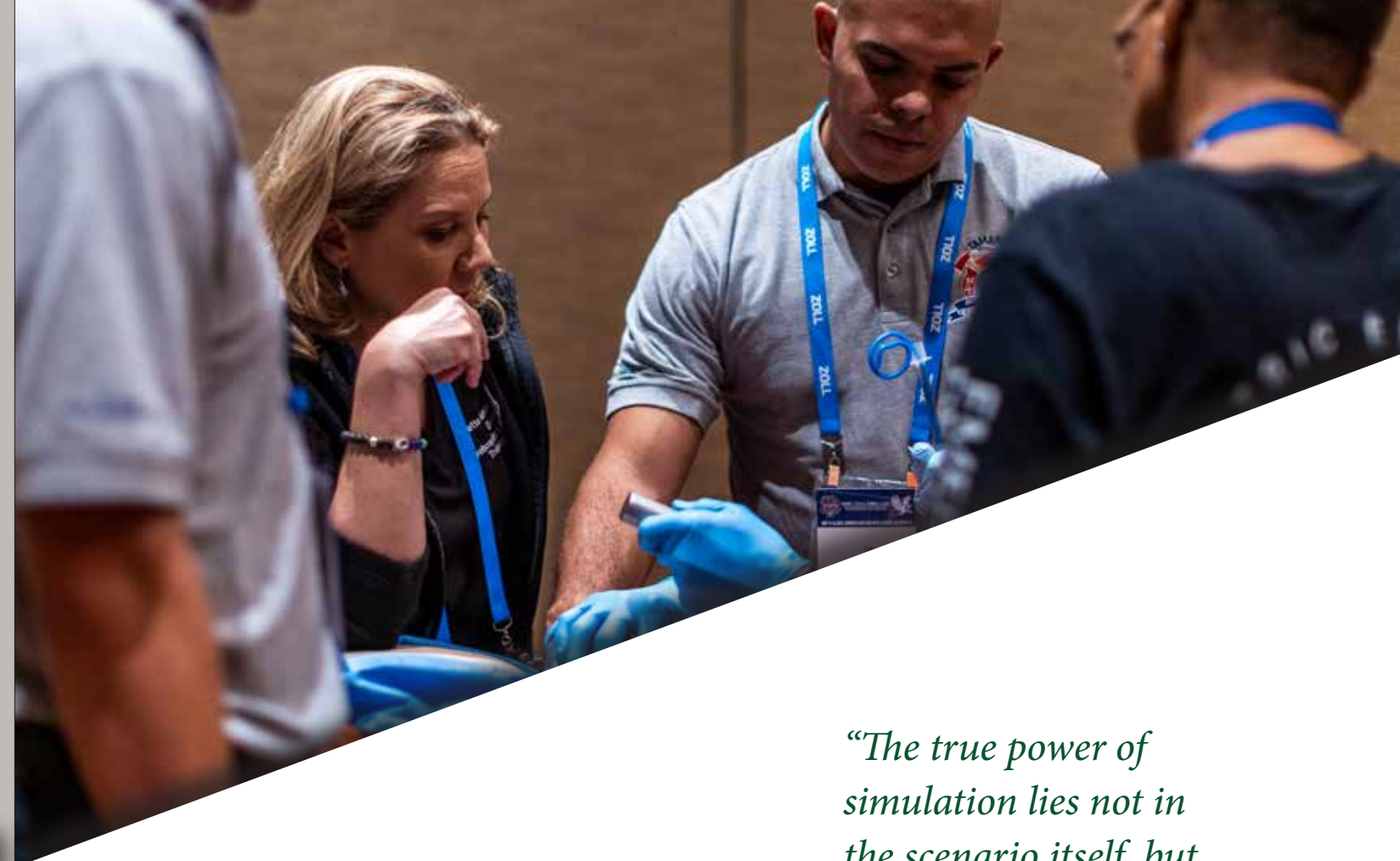
In 2025, Dr. Ivette Motola, MD, MPH—Associate Director of the Gordon Center and Director of the Prehospital & Emergency Training Division—continued to set the pace globally in emergency preparedness and simulation-based education.

Advancing stroke education at scale

This year saw the global launch of the Essential Stroke Life Support® (ESLS®) Online Provider Course, developed in collaboration with the American Heart Association and Laerdal Medical. The eLearning program incorporates innovative educational technologies and virtual simulations, and it expands access to high-quality stroke recognition and initial management training for healthcare professionals working with patients at risk for stroke—strengthening early identification, time-critical decision-making, and coordinated systems of care. The initiative builds on the Gordon Center's decades-long leadership in stroke education and reflects a strategic shift toward scalable, blended learning models that extend impact beyond traditional classroom settings.

Training for real-world readiness

Dr. Motola and the Gordon Center team continued to help train military healthcare professionals and supported emergency preparedness training during the U.S. Navy's Continuing Promise 2025 humanitarian mission aboard the USNS Comfort, reinforcing civilian–military collaboration and disaster-response capabilities in the Caribbean and Latin America.



“The true power of simulation lies not in the scenario itself, but in how it shapes leaders, strengthens teams, and improves care long after the exercise ends.”

— Dr. Ivette Motola

Growing prehospital ultrasound capacity

Under Dr. Motola's direction, the Center expanded point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) training initiatives for first responders and EMS professionals. Courses and workshops at national and international conferences include hands-on, scenario-based training that aligns with evidence for use of bedside sonography in resuscitation and trauma in the prehospital setting.

Thought leadership and outreach

Beyond program development and dissemination, Dr. Motola continued to share best practices and the “why” behind simulation—presenting at international conferences and appearing in public forums and media to share how simulation and technology-enhanced healthcare training improve time-critical care, including stroke systems of care.

Dr. Motola's work this year—spanning global eLearning, disaster-response training, and prehospital ultrasound education—exemplifies the Gordon Center's mission to translate innovation into measurable readiness, stronger teams, and improved patient outcomes.

Harvey® Premier

A New Era

Reimagining the Legacy, Expanding the Reach

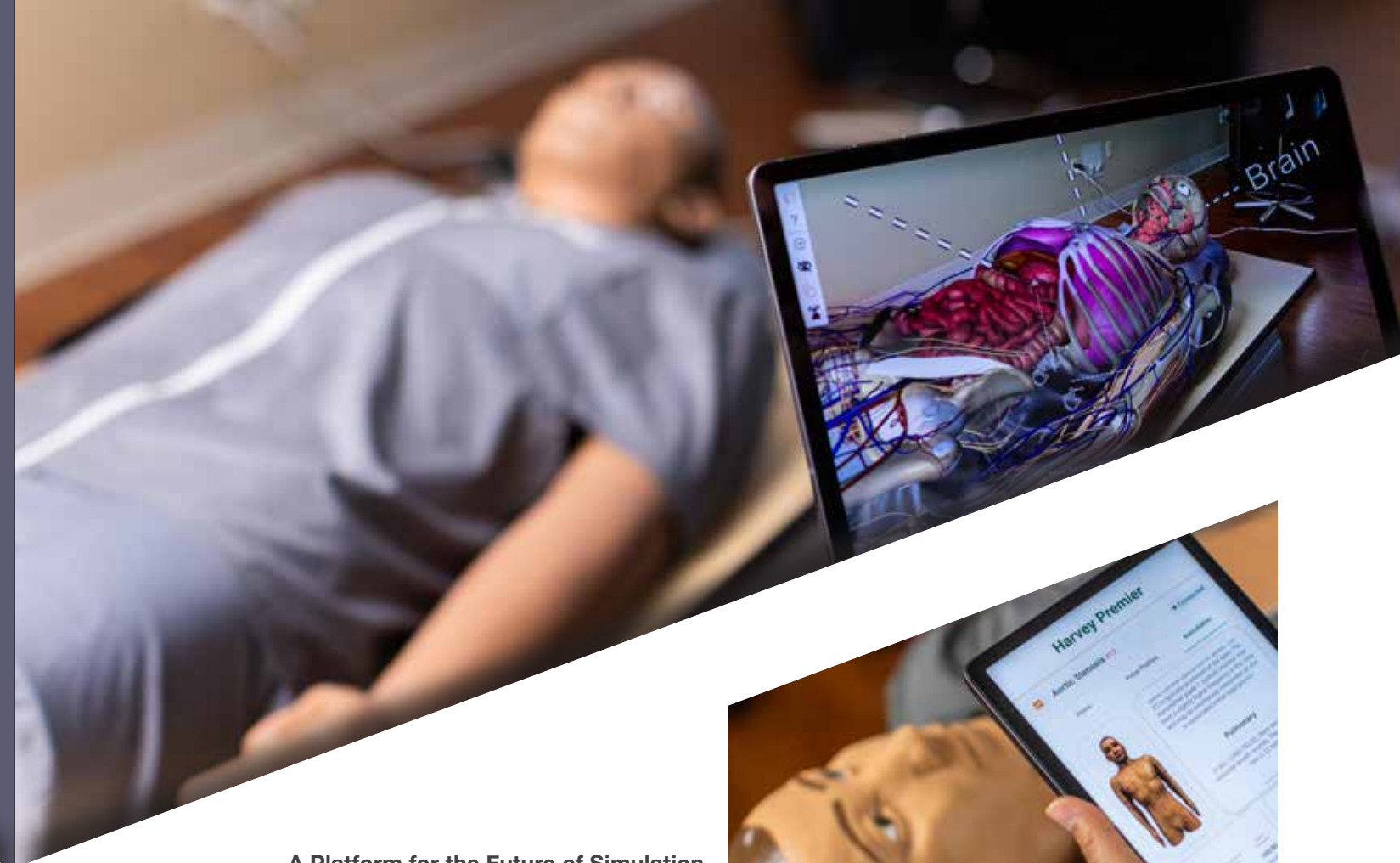


In 2025, the Harvey Premier release marked a landmark moment for the Gordon Center for Simulation and Innovation in Medical Education — integrating more than five decades of simulation innovation with the latest technological advances in a streamlined platform that we will deploy worldwide.

A Global Standard in Cardiopulmonary Simulation

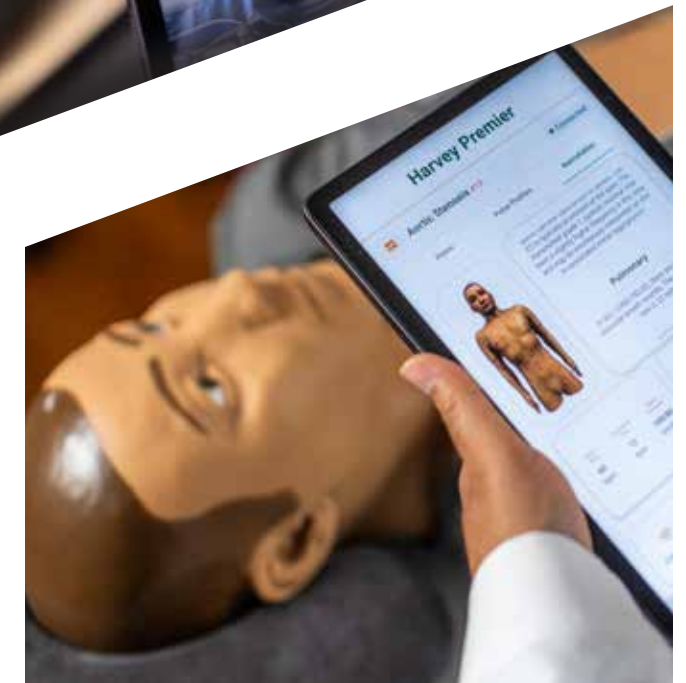
Harvey Premier builds on the enduring legacy of the original “Harvey” cardiopulmonary patient simulator (already in use at hundreds of institutions) and brings to life a new set of capabilities:

- More than 50 patient scenarios covering a broad range of cardiac conditions (from normal physiology to complex congenital defects).
- Major hardware and software enhancements: lighter weight/portable design with tablet-based interface that enables remote teaching and assessment.
- It is designed as an instructional platform ready for future advances — including wireless audio, and AI-ready interfaces for adaptive learning.



A Platform for the Future of Simulation

- **Realism + portability = broader usage:** The lighter, more mobile system enables training not just in centralized simulation labs or clinical skills centers, but also in actual hospital, outpatient clinic, or other settings for in-situ simulation. This increases the number and variety of learners reached.
- **Curriculum breadth for multi-professional learners:** The 50+ scenarios were created and are regularly updated to support medical, nursing and physician assistant trainees and practicing clinicians throughout the educational continuum and across self-directed, small-group and faculty-led settings.
- **Future-proofing simulation education:** The architecture supports integration with digital analytics and adaptive teaching, positioning Harvey Premier not just as a tool for today, but also as a platform for tomorrow’s simulation pedagogy.
- **Cost & accessibility:** By reducing overall weight and cost, the Gordon Center is helping to expand access to high-fidelity cardiology simulation.



“Harvey has no borders. We are proud to see it empowering learners from Miami to Melbourne.”

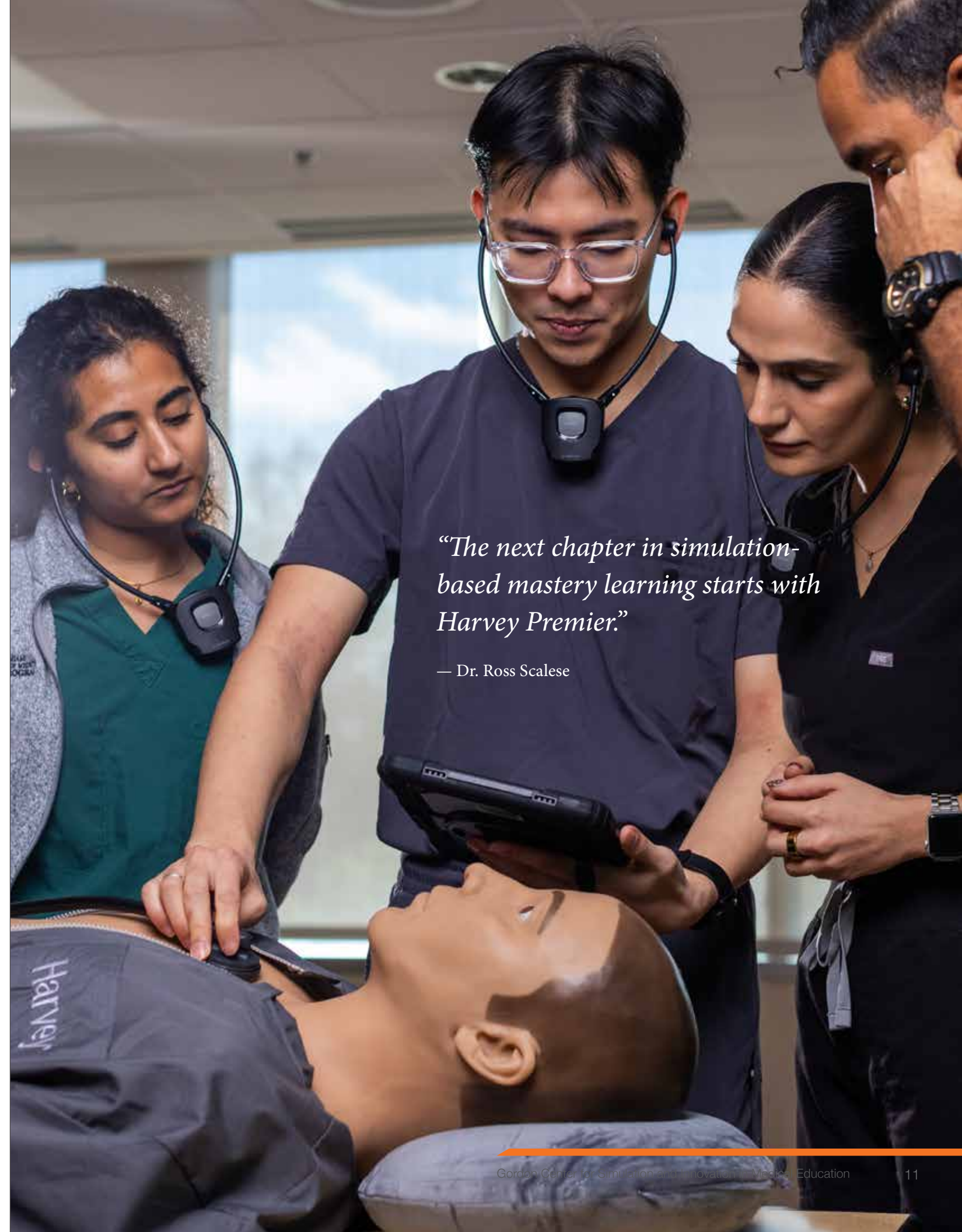
— Dr. Barry Issenberg

Global Impact: Harvey Premier Expands Reach Worldwide

2025 also marked an accelerated global rollout of the Harvey Premier platform under the Gordon Center’s leadership, in collaboration with international partners:

- **Australia & New Zealand:** Harvey Premier installations and faculty training sessions were launched to support major academic centers and clinical skills labs in the region. Harvey Premier was also a highlight of the international exhibition during the biennial Australasian Simulation Congress held in Adelaide.
- **Southeast Asia - Malaysia, Thailand & Vietnam:** Harvey Premier was featured in regional workshops and at a Simulation User Network (SUN) meeting in Bangkok, providing training for educators that was specifically adapted to local contexts.
- **Europe:** At the European simulation society (SESAM) annual meeting, Gordon Center faculty exhibited Harvey Premier, providing hands-on demonstrations as well as a workshop on using the simulator for clinical skills assessment.
- **Broad Global Reach:** Harvey is used now in 60 countries worldwide.

The Gordon Center’s Dr. Ross Scalese, delivered both remote and on-site training in these regions, ensuring local educators are prepared to integrate Harvey Premier into curricula, adapt scenarios for regional relevance, and sustain high-quality simulation training.



“The next chapter in simulation-based mastery learning starts with Harvey Premier.”

— Dr. Ross Scalese

Acute Stroke Education - ASLS® & ESLS®

Expanding Access, Elevating Readiness

Advanced Stroke Life Support® (ASLS®) Blended Learning — Continued Global Growth

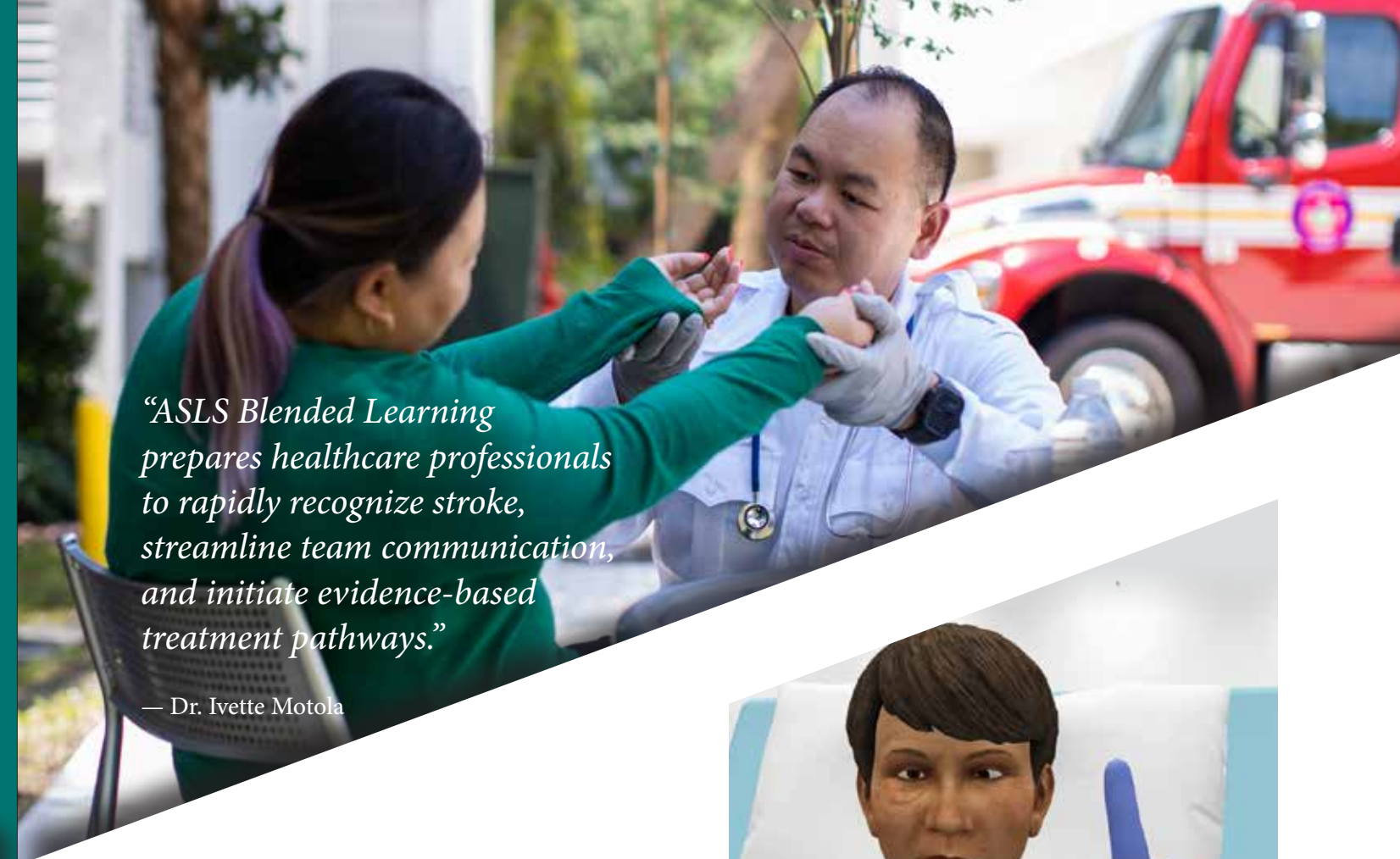
In partnership with the American Heart Association (AHA), the Gordon Center advanced the scale and reach of ASLS Blended Learning in 2025 with further national and international expansion. ASLS equips prehospital and in-hospital teams to identify, evaluate, and manage patients with suspected stroke using an innovative blended model (self-paced web learning plus simulation-based hands-on skills assessment). By incorporating AI-driven adaptive eLearning, the mastery-based curriculum provides each learner with an individualized learning path based on their knowledge and experience.

The collaboration with the AHA has led to increased adoption across international training networks, expanded course availability via the Professional Education Hub, and continued deployment through accredited training centers.

ASLS supports consistent, system-level readiness for EMS, emergency departments, and hospital teams—aligning curricula with recognized stroke scales, time-critical assessment, and evidence-based pathways.

Essential Stroke Life Support® (ESLS®) — Online Provider Course Launch

In March 2025, the American Heart Association released the ESLS Online Provider Course developed with the Gordon Center and Laerdal Medical to give providers—especially those practicing outside advanced stroke centers—concise, practical training in early recognition and initial management of strokes. ESLS also incorporates virtual simulations for skills practice that incorporate patient case scenarios with realistic stroke findings. ESLS is delivered entirely online through the AHA Professional Education Hub.



“ASLS Blended Learning prepares healthcare professionals to rapidly recognize stroke, streamline team communication, and initiate evidence-based treatment pathways.”

— Dr. Ivette Motola



Designed for easy access and speed, ESLS provides a focused eLearning experience that teaches faster recognition, triage, and initial management for suspected stroke.

ESLS offers healthcare providers across diverse settings (community hospitals, urgent care, rural/remote clinics, and EMS partners) rapid, scalable stroke education.

“The ESLS Online Provider Course brings foundational stroke knowledge to providers everywhere—helping stroke patients get to the right place, right away.”

— Dr. Ivette Motola

Partnerships & Reach

Through AHA's global education channels and the Gordon Center's long-standing collaboration, ASLS and ESLS continued to broaden international availability in 2025, including availability in international version English and Spanish and dissemination across AHA's U.S. and international portals and partner training centers.

EMS Point-of-Care Ultrasound at the Gordon Center



Affordability. Portability. Prehospital Innovation.

At the Gordon Center, innovation in emergency medicine continues to leap forward with the expansion of EMS Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) training. Designed specifically for paramedics, flight nurses, and other prehospital providers, the program equips first responders with the skill set to deploy compact, affordable ultrasound devices in the field. These devices are revolutionizing prehospital care by enabling rapid diagnosis in trauma, cardiac arrest, and other critical emergencies before a patient even reaches the hospital.

Why POCUS Matters in the Field

Point-of-care ultrasound has traditionally been the domain of emergency departments, but advancements in technology have made devices far more affordable and portable, bringing them within reach of EMS agencies. Today's units are lightweight enough to be carried in an ambulance, yet powerful enough to deliver clear, real-time imaging that can guide urgent decision-making. In trauma scenarios, for example, EMS crews can perform the "extended focused assessment with sonography in trauma" (eFAST) exam to detect internal bleeding, pericardial tamponade, or pneumothorax within minutes of arriving



on scene. In cardiac arrest, integrating POCUS can help identify treatable causes, guide more effective CPR and support decision-making by EMS. This capability not only informs treatment but can also improve triage decisions, ensuring patients are transported to the right facility without delay.

A Simulation-Based Approach to Training

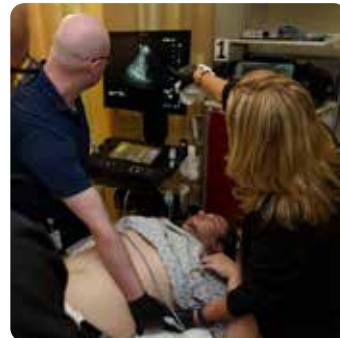
Our EMS POCUS curriculum blends classroom learning with intensive hands-on practice, creating a training environment that mirrors the realities of the field. Participants begin with foundational instruction on ultrasound principles before moving into guided scanning sessions with standardized patients. Simulation scenarios are then used to recreate high pressure situations, from roadside trauma to pulseless arrest, enabling providers to integrate ultrasound into their workflows under realistic time constraints. The results speak for themselves: recent evaluations show participants' knowledge scores improved by more than 20 percentage points from pre-course to post-course assessments, with overwhelmingly positive feedback on the relevance and quality of instruction.

Recent Trainings Across Florida

This past year, the Gordon Center has brought EMS POCUS training to multiple agencies across Florida, reflecting the growing demand for this skill set. Miami Beach Fire Rescue personnel participated in immersive workshops where they practiced trauma assessments and on-scene ultrasound deployment, guided by experienced instructors. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue incorporated Gordon Center POCUS sessions into its annual EMS symposium, where providers rotated through hands-on stations focused on the FAST protocol. At the national “First There First Care” conference in Hollywood, Florida, Gordon Center faculty hosted multiple POCUS workshops, offering EMS professionals from around the country an opportunity to sharpen their scanning skills in realistic scenarios. The program has also been delivered to agencies in Broward County, Tallahassee, and other municipalities, with each training tailored to the operational needs and patient populations of the local EMS system.

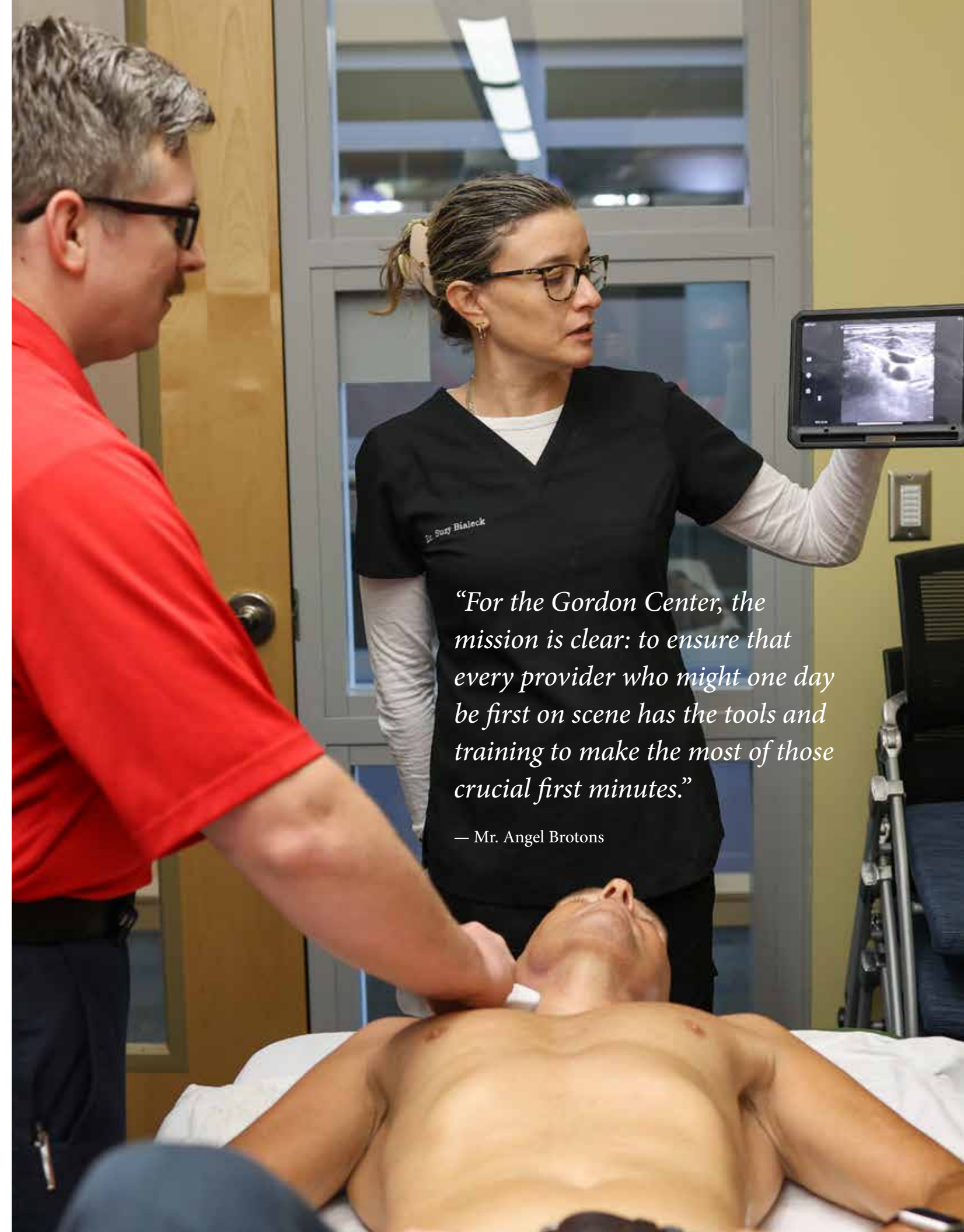
Technology and Innovation on the Horizon

As EMS POCUS adoption grows, the Gordon Center continues to refine and expand its training. Future directions include integrating artificial intelligence into ultrasound devices to assist novice users with image acquisition and interpretation, as well as broadening protocols to cover advanced shock assessment and pediatric trauma. With over 20,000 healthcare professionals trained each year and partnerships spanning nearly 1,200 Florida agencies and over 3,200 worldwide, the Gordon Center is uniquely positioned to scale this technology across diverse EMS systems. The combination of accessible equipment, evidence-based training, and a commitment to innovation is helping define a new standard for prehospital diagnostics.



Ultrasound in Every First Responder’s Hands

The adoption of point-of-care ultrasound in EMS is more than a technological upgrade – it represents a culture shift in prehospital medicine. By empowering first responders with the ability to make earlier, more informed decisions, POCUS shortens the gap between patient need and definitive care. For the Gordon Center, the mission is clear: to ensure that every provider who might one day be first on scene has the tools and training to make the most of those crucial first minutes. Whether on the streets of Miami Beach, the highways of Broward County, or rural roads in Tallahassee, the future of EMS care is handheld, portable and increasingly, already here.



“For the Gordon Center, the mission is clear: to ensure that every provider who might one day be first on scene has the tools and training to make the most of those crucial first minutes.”

— Mr. Angel Brotons

Simulation-Driven Readiness for Active Shooter & Hostile Events



Protecting Lives Through Interdisciplinary Preparedness Training

The Gordon Center's Tactical & Medical Response to Active Shooter & Hostile Events (ASHE) program—developed by our Prehospital & Emergency Training Division—prepares law enforcement, fire-rescue, EMS, and allied responders to act in a coordinated fashion under time-critical conditions. Unlike tactics-only offerings, ASHE integrates scene security, Rescue Task Force (RTF) concepts, and immediate lifesaving medical care using scenario-based simulation.

Statewide Partnership & Regional Hubs

In collaboration with the Florida Public Safety Institute (FPSI) and with support from the Florida Department of Education, the Gordon Center has expanded ASHE access through North Florida and the Panhandle—offering 1-day and multi-day courses that combine interactive lectures, hands-on skills, and high-fidelity exercises for mixed responder teams. In July 2025, the Gordon Center led a multi-day ASHE training in Pensacola, emphasizing RTF workflows to speed on-scene victim access and hemorrhage control.



“ASHE gave me a framework to act decisively with law enforcement and EMS—simulation training makes the difference when seconds matter.”

— ASHE course graduate

Curriculum at a Glance

- **Scope:** Adaptive response to mass-violence incidents, warm-zone operations, rapid triage, hemorrhage control, casualty extraction, and joint communications.
- **Format:** Blended didactics + skill stations + immersive simulations for law enforcement, fire-rescue, EMS, and non-medical first responders.
- **Goals:** Faster threat mitigation, quicker access to the injured, and safer, coordinated care pathways.

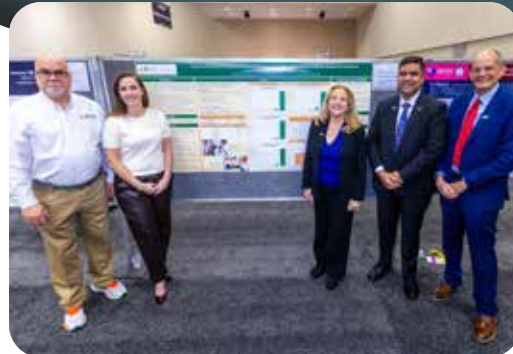
Impact in 2025

The April 17, 2025 shooting at Florida State University tragically resulted in two deaths and multiple injuries, highlighting the need for interdisciplinary, time-critical response training that unites law enforcement and medical teams. The event reinforced statewide priorities to strengthen preparedness across campuses and communities—priorities directly addressed by the ASHE training program.

Together with our partners, the Gordon Center remains committed to simulation-driven readiness—helping responders work smarter, faster, and safer when lives are at stake.

Research at the Gordon Center

Driving Innovation and Scholarship in Simulation Science



In 2025, the Michael S. Gordon Center for Simulation and Innovation in Medical Education continued to define the science of simulation-based learning.

Our faculty published over 30 peer-reviewed articles, collaborated with partners across five continents, and presented at meetings including the International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare and the annual meetings of the Society for Simulation In Europe and International Association for Health Professions Education. Our research advances both educational science and clinical readiness—transforming innovation into measurable outcomes for learners, teams, and patients.

“Every pilot, training platform and publication helps us advance the science of saving lives.”

— Dr. Barry Issenberg

Key Research Areas of 2025

| Focus Area | Description | Impact |
|--|---|--|
| Simulation-based, Mastery Learning (SBML) in GI Endoscopy | Development and evaluation of structured SBML programs for endoscopic competency assessment across residency programs. | Informs national standards for procedure-based mastery learning. |
| AI-Based Performance Analysis in OSCEs | Integration of automated feedback and generative analytics to enhance objectivity and scalability in clinical assessment. | Supports the Miller School’s NextGenMD OSCE dashboard development. |
| Biometrics & Wearables in Simulation | Use of physiological and motion data to evaluate learner stress, engagement, and performance. | Establishes data-driven learning analytics infrastructure. |
| Psychological Safety & Speaking Up | Several studies on simulation to improve student voice in medical error disclosure. | Strengthens culture of safety and communication training. |
| Resuscitation Skill Retention | Booster simulation workshops for residents and interprofessional teams. | Demonstrates improved prevention of skill decay over time. |
| Competency-Based Simulation for Procedural Skills | Systematic review and meta-analysis synthesizing global data. | Defines benchmarks for mastery thresholds and feedback models. |

Spotlight: 2025 Publication Highlights

Future of Biometric Technology in Healthcare Simulation

Franklin AE, Issenberg SB, Rogers BA, Gore T, Kutzin J. Simulation in Healthcare (2025). PMID: 40742305

Summary: Explores how biometric and wearable sensors (heart rate, motion-tracking) can enrich simulation feedback. Identifies implementation barriers, including cost, data integration, privacy, and proposes best-practice models.

Why it matters: Biometrics and wearable technologies represent the next frontier in simulation-based education.

Transforming Medical Students' Speaking-Up Behaviors in Medical Errors: The Impact of Simulation and Personalized Debriefing

Tsai HW, Issenberg SB, Chen YC et al. Medical Teacher (2025) 47(6):963-969. PMID: 39150862.

Summary: Simulation and structured debriefing improved confidence and communication skills among 146 medical students, significantly increasing direct and affirming responses during error disclosure scenarios.

Why it matters: Demonstrates simulation's power to build psychological safety and ethical communication skills, central to patient-safety education worldwide.

Competency-Based Simulation Training for Procedural Skills: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Vermeylen JH, Cohen ER, Cook DA, McGaghie WC, Issenberg SB et al. Simulation in Healthcare (2025). PMID: 41217357.

Summary: A quantitative synthesis confirming that competency-based simulation models significantly outperform time-based training for procedural skills acquisition and retention.

Why it matters: Strengthens the global evidence base supporting simulation-grounded competency-based education.

Additional Publications of Note

Breaking the Silence: Drivers and Barriers to Medical Students Speaking Up in Medical Error

Wu JC, Chen HC, Kang EY, Tsai HW, Chen YC, Chen HY, Chen HW, Issenberg SB. Medical Education (2026). Apr;60(4):399-409. PMID: 40926741

Summary: This study identified hierarchical culture and fear of negative repercussions as the principal barriers to medical student willingness to speak up about clinical errors. Participation in structured simulation was associated with measurable improvements in learner assertiveness and communication behaviors.

Why it matters: Provides empirical evidence linking simulation-based training to enhanced psychological safety and professional accountability, addressing a critical determinant of patient safety culture.

Exploring Effects of a Booster Workshop on Progression and Retention of Resuscitation Skills of Residents When Added to Low-dose Simulation

Chen HW, Tsai HW, Chen YC, Chiu YJ, Kang EY, Hsu YT, Issenberg SB, Wu JC. (2025). BMC Medical Education (2025) Jan 17;25(1):85. PMID: 39833881.

Summary: A focused booster workshop significantly improved resuscitation skill retention at 3- and 6-month follow-up compared with standard training alone, supporting the role of deliberate reinforcement in sustaining procedural competence.

Why it matters: Contributes to the growing literature on longitudinal skill retention and informs evidence-based design of competency maintenance strategies in resuscitation education.

Supplementing Acute-Care Clinical Education Experiences with Simulation-based Learning: A Pilot Study

Drevyn E, Gempel S, Bloyer M, Kirk-Sanchez N, Salinas Z, Issenberg B. Journal of Clinical Education in Physical Therapy (2025). PMID: 41783542

Summary: Integration of simulation into the acute care clinical education of physical therapy students improved diagnostic reasoning and decision-making performance in high-acuity scenarios.

Why it matters: Strengthens the evidence supporting simulation as an effective adjunct to clinical training, enhancing preparedness for complex patient care environments.



Welcome New Faculty

Dr. Samia Medeiros Barbar



We are delighted to welcome Dr. Barbar to the Gordon Center faculty team. Her appointment marks an exciting addition to our educational and research capabilities in simulation-based medical education and global faculty development.

Dr. Barbar is a pediatric cardiologist from São Paulo, Brazil, affiliated with the Heart Institute (InCor) at the University of São Paulo Medical School—one of Latin America’s leading academic health institutions. She holds the Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) designation, reflecting her commitment to excellence in simulation-based instruction.

In September 2023, Dr. Barbar joined the Gordon Center as a visiting scholar in our Simulation Education & Research Fellowship program, immersing herself in advanced simulation pedagogy, curriculum design, and educational scholarship.

Role at the Gordon Center

Simulation Educator and Curriculum Developer: Dr. Barbar is working on enhancing simulation-based education strategies for learners across the

spectrum—medical students, residents, fellows and allied health professionals.

Global Faculty Development Lead: She is extending the Gordon Center’s global footprint by helping design train-the-trainer modules, educator workshops, and simulation center implementation frameworks oriented toward international partners.

Research Agenda: Dr. Barbar is integrating her clinical expertise in pediatric cardiology with simulation research, especially around interprofessional team training, communication and technical skill acquisition in pediatric critical-care contexts.

Dr. Barbar’s appointment advances the Gordon Center’s missions of Education, Research, Innovation, and Service by integrating her expertise in pediatric cardiology and high-stakes team training into our simulation programs. Her international perspective and commitment to capacity-building strengthen our efforts to expand equitable access to simulation education and develop the next generation of simulation leaders.

“I came to the Gordon Center to learn how simulation can go beyond isolated skills training—to shape systems of care, interprofessional teams and global educator networks.”

— Dr. Samia Barbar

We are excited to integrate Dr. Barbar’s expertise into our programs, and look forward to the innovative curricula, research collaborations and global partnerships she will develop.

In Memoriam

Dr. Robert “Bob” Waugh

The Voice of UMedic



At Duke University, where he served from 1977 until his retirement, Bob was a revered educator, Director of Medical Student Education in the Department of Medicine, and Director of the Cardiovascular Education Laboratory. He co-authored numerous publications on teaching with Harvey and UMedic and conducted pioneering research on the use of two-dimensional echocardiography in diagnosing and managing heart disease.

A graduate of Davidson College, Bob earned his medical degree, completed his residency, and trained in cardiology at the University of Pennsylvania. His dedication to service extended to the U.S. Navy, where he served with distinction and rose to the rank of Commander while stationed at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda.

Even after retiring from Duke, Bob continued to contribute to medical education as a consultant to the Veterans Administration and remained deeply engaged with our Gordon Center team. He approached every project with kindness, humility, and humor—qualities that endeared him to all who worked with him. Dr. Robert Waugh’s voice will forever echo through the UMedic programs he helped bring to life, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations of learners and educators. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Carol Ann, and to all who knew and loved him.

We will forever remember Bob—not only as the Voice of UMedic, but as the heart behind it.

This past year, we mourned the loss and celebrate the life of Dr. Robert “Bob” Waugh, affectionately known as the Voice of UMedic. For more than three decades, Bob lent his distinctive voice, wisdom, and warmth to every one of the Gordon Center’s interactive, computer-based UMedic programs—helping to educate tens of thousands of learners around the world.

But Bob’s impact extended far beyond narration. He was one of the original collaborators who helped create Harvey, the world’s first cardiopulmonary patient simulator, and was instrumental in proving its effectiveness for cardiology training. A founding member of the M.I.A.M.I. Group—an international consortium of healthcare professionals from 16 medical centers—Bob remained an active and invaluable contributor throughout his professional career.

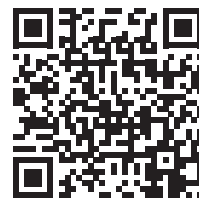
Happenings at the Gordon Center 2025



January 10

This year we proudly announced the international debut of Harvey Premier at the International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH).

Take a look at the slimmed-down new version of Harvey Premier, with a portable design, remote teaching capabilities, and expanded case libraries, setting a new standard in simulation education.



January 13

At IMSH 2025, we celebrated innovation and honored our founder as Dr. Ross Scalese introduced the plenary speaker for the Michael S. Gordon Center Lecture on Medical Education, Col. Nicole Malachowski, retired United States Air Force officer and the first female pilot selected to fly as part of the Thunderbirds.



Col. Malachowski captivated the audience with her powerful insights on leadership, resilience, and innovation. This session, named in honor of Dr. Michael S. Gordon, celebrates his visionary work, which continues to shape the field of healthcare simulation.

January 21

Dr. Asit Misra, Gordon Center's Assistant Director of the Prehospital and Emergency Training Division, became a fellow of the SSH Academy!

The SSH Academy recognizes individuals whose sustained contributions have had an impact on the field of healthcare simulation.

What an incredible full-circle journey—10 years ago, Dr. Misra attended IMSH as a Beverlee Anderson Scholarship recipient, where he was inspired by Dr. Gordon, the recipient of the Simulation Pioneer Award that year. Since then, he has brought that inspiration to his impactful work at the Gordon Center, earning this well-deserved recognition for his dedication and leadership.



January 24

Dr. Samia Barbar, a Simulation Fellow at the Gordon Center, became a Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE)!

This well-deserved achievement reflects her unwavering dedication to advancing healthcare simulation. During her fellowship with us, Dr. Barbar has contributed significantly to our Pediatric Advanced Life Support courses while honing her skills as a simulation instructor and educational researcher. We are proud to celebrate this milestone in her journey and look forward to her continued impact in the field.



February 6

We were on the ground at the International Stroke Conference (ISC) 2025, where experts from around the world worked on shaping the future of stroke care.

Dr. Ivette Motola, Director of the Prehospital and Emergency Training Division, was there representing the Gordon Center and leading conversations. As a key architect of the world-renowned Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS) program, she has been instrumental in transforming stroke education and training worldwide.



February 7

During the International Stroke Conference (ISC), the Gordon Center, in collaboration with the American Heart Association and Laerdal Medical USA, unveiled the new Essential Stroke Life Support (ESLS) Online Provider Course.



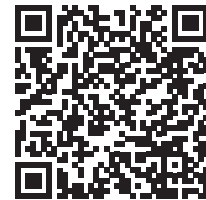
SCAN OR CLICK TO LEARN MORE

ESLS is designed for healthcare providers who work with patients at risk for stroke, such as EMTs, first responders, nurses, nursing assistants, and home healthcare providers, among others. This interactive eLearning course enhances early stroke recognition and initial management through virtual patient simulations and offers continuing education credits to support professional development.

ESLS is now available on the AHA Professional Education Hub.

February 14

The Florida Public Safety Institute in Tallahassee, FL, with the assistance of the Gordon Center team, conducted an Active Shooter Hostile Events (ASHE) training at the Gulf Coast State College Emergency Operations Center last week for personnel from Bay District Schools Police, Florida Highway Patrol, Walton County Sheriff's Office, Florida State University Police, and more.



SCAN OR CLICK TO WATCH VIDEO

The Gordon Center's innovative ASHE training, supported by the Florida Department of Education, focuses on inter-agency collaboration and rapid medical action to save lives in the event of a mass shooting crisis.

A heartfelt thank you to WJHG-TV reporter Isabella Benjumea, a survivor of the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, that occurred 7 years ago today, for sharing this important story.

February 28

The first Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS) Provider/Instructor Course launched in Italy!

Hosted at the AHA ITC – Department of Medicine, University of Padova, this course brought together healthcare professionals from across the country—marking a major step in ASLS's global expansion.

With each new instructor, we're empowering more professionals to recognize and respond to strokes faster—because every second counts.



March 6

The Gordon Center's own Dr. Ivette Motola was invited to speak to our friends at Laerdal Medical about how our Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS) program focuses on efficient detection and decision-making in stroke care.

Tune in on Apple Podcasts or Spotify to hear how our innovations in education and emergency simulations are helping to save lives.



SCAN OR CLICK TO LISTEN

March 7

As Immediate Past-President of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare, Dr. Barry Issenberg continued his impactful leadership of the global simulation community as a member of the SSH Board.



March 14

The Gordon Center hosted our first Basic and Advanced Disaster Life Support courses (BDLS/ADLS) and became an approved NDLS Training Center.

We're excited to debut this all-hazards training offering soon for healthcare professionals, and all those involved in response to major disasters and mass casualty incidents across the Southeast and the U.S.

A huge thank you to the AshBritt Foundation for their support of this collaboration with the UM Global Institute, the William Lehman Injury Research Center, and the Ryder Trauma Center.



March 21

We were thrilled to join the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in congratulating our Class of 2025 MedCanes during Match Day 2025 on a 100% final placement rate and a 97% Match Rate! Your commitment is inspiring, and we're excited to see the positive impact you'll make on the future of medicine!



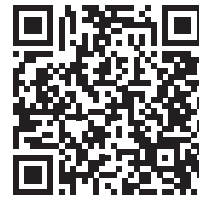
SCAN OR CLICK TO LEARN MORE

March 24

FOX 59 News reported on the debut of Harvey Premier, its key features and what makes this new evolution of the Harvey simulation manikin so significant.



Scan the QR code to learn more about Harvey Premier.



April 9

Students from Hialeah Gardens High School got a firsthand look at how simulation is shaping the future of healthcare at the Gordon Center.

From practicing life-saving techniques on simulation manikins to exploring how these tools help first responders and many others train to be prepared for any scenario, these students are already on the path to becoming tomorrow's healthcare heroes.



March 31

During Women's History Month, Dr. Ivette Motola, Associate Director of the Gordon Center, and some of our staff joined women from across the University system at the University of Miami Women's Commission Breakfast, where attendees were able to network and hear from notable community leaders, including Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and university leader Dr. Amishi Jha.

April 16

Truly a field trip for the books!

We were thrilled to introduce students from Cushman School to the wonderful world of simulation education.

These eager young minds got up-close and hands-on with simulation techniques, and discovered how doctors, first responders and other healthcare providers train to save lives.



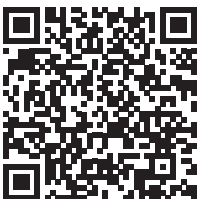
April 25

Aspiring surgeons must be prepared for any scenario as they work toward earning the designation of surgeon—an achievement that demands exceptional knowledge, skill, and dedication.

This was our focus when we hosted the Global Surgery Student Alliance.

Our training employed various simulation task trainers to create practice conditions requiring burn treatment, airway management, and hemorrhage control techniques such as tourniquet application.

Mastering emergency maneuvers is essential for all healthcare professionals and especially critical for those on the path to becoming surgeons.



May 2

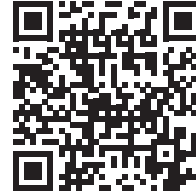
For Stroke Awareness Month, Harvey teamed up with the Gordon Center’s Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS) team to spread awareness - F1 style!



Just like F1 drivers train on simulators for peak performance, the Gordon Center strengthens healthcare professionals’ and first responders’ recognition and treatment of stroke symptoms through simulated patient scenarios. Take a listen to the F1 B.E.F.A.S.T. music video and learn how to recognize a stroke.

May 9

During National Nurses Week, we celebrated the power of nurses- here and across the globe.



Nurses play a fundamental role across almost every facet of our work at the Gordon Center, including the Army Trauma Training Course program, where Army medical personnel are trained prior to deployment. We spoke with some of these nurse educators about their pathways to nursing, and the impact that choice has had on their careers.

May 13

Our Transition to Residency Course was in full swing in the spring at the Gordon Center.

We prepare 200+ University of Miami Miller School of Medicine seniors each year with the hands-on skills essential for the next step in their medical journey— residency.

This course goes beyond textbook medical knowledge.

By engaging in realistic simulations focused on procedures and communication, students strengthen their clinical judgment and collaborative skills, preparing them for the demands of residency.



May 16

We proudly hosted a cohort of world-class healthcare instructors for our iSIM (Improving Simulation Instructional Methods) course.



This course, developed in collaboration with WISER — Winter Institute for Simulation, Education, and Research — at the University of Pittsburgh, provides practical experience in using simulation techniques and technologies for healthcare instructors of all backgrounds.

May 20

From theory to practice! Emory University undergraduate students dove into a series of simulated healthcare scenarios at the Gordon Center.

We love to see the next generation of healthcare professionals igniting their passion--and being challenged--through these exercises.

This special session was especially meaningful to us, as Gordon Center Director Dr. Barry Issenberg himself is a proud Emory alumnus. Go Eagles!



May 22

During National EMS Week, we spotlighted one of our own: Angel “AI” Brotons, our Associate Director of Operations & Instructor Development.

AI truly embodies this year’s EMS slogan: “We Care. For Everyone.” Starting his career journey as an EMS first responder in Monroe County, Florida, AI now shares his passion for the emergency medical profession by training others on the front lines to save lives.



May 31

Every 40 seconds, someone in the United States has a stroke. And the time from when the stroke occurs to when a patient starts receiving care is crucial for minimizing the potential damage.

We have been working closely with the Florida Stroke Registry (FSR) to find ways to shorten that gap--one that is often hours in length--through awareness and education.

Watch the video to learn how Gordon Center Intern Ethan Sullivan, who is also a proud Eagle Scout, helped FSR increase recognition for signs of stroke by promoting the B.E.F.A.S.T. acronym with a multi-lingual approach.



June 3

We are incredibly grateful for Senator Jim Boyd’s leadership and support of the Gordon Center’s lifesaving training programs. His support allows us to continue delivering on our mission of saving lives through simulation in healthcare education.

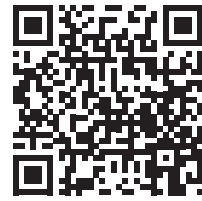
Our programs train 22,000 first responders and healthcare professionals each year, including the US Army Trauma Training Detachment. With each training program, we can equip more of our state’s first responders and front line personnel with the skills they need to carry out lifesaving work in our communities.



June 9

Our partnership with Pembroke Pines Fire Rescue Department is a powerful example of how simulation-based education can sharpen decision-making, strengthen team performance, and ultimately save lives in the field.

We were proud to stand with this dedicated team of first responders and many of our EMS partners at the First There First Care Conference this past summer. Hear more from Pembroke Pines Fire Rescue leadership about how our life-changing programs support fire and EMS agencies across the region and beyond.



SCAN OR CLICK TO WATCH VIDEO



June 11

In addition to POCUS, during the First There First Care Conference we introduced pediatric emergency management — a critical area where preparation can truly save lives.

Led by Dr. Samia Barbar, this hands-on workshop equipped EMS professionals with essential skills to address the unique challenges of caring for pediatric patients in the field.

June 12

Our very own Simulation Technologist, Michael Saco, received the Continuing Educator of the Year award from the Florida Association of EMS Educators (FAEMSE) — a well-deserved recognition of his outstanding contributions to EMS education.

Michael's dedication to advancing prehospital training and improving patient outcomes through simulation continues to inspire the next generation of EMS professionals across the state.

The award was presented during the First There First Care Conference, one of the most anticipated EMS conferences in the country each year.

We're proud to have Michael on our team!



June 13

At the First There First Care Conference, the 4th Annual FCABC Executive Leadership Symposium brought together top minds in public safety for a powerful day of insights and strategies.

As global leaders in simulation education for first responders, we spent the day alongside some of the most influential voices in the fire service — discussing the future of leadership, innovation, and impact.

The Gordon Center was proud to be part of this important leadership track — advancing continuing education and excellence within the fire and EMS communities.

June 17

Coordinated response saves lives. Our active shooter hostile event (ASHE) training in Tampa brought Tampa Police Department, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, USF Police Department & more together for high-intensity simulations—preparing teams to respond fast in active shooter events.



SCAN OR CLICK TO WATCH VIDEO

June 26

Harvey Premier made its European debut at the European simulation society (SESAM) 2025 conference in Valencia, Spain!

The Gordon Center proved once again that we are more than just attendees—we are leaders in simulation-based education.

This past year, Dr. Ross Scalese led a workshop on improving the reliability of simulation-based assessments, sharing our expertise in advancing healthcare education. Dr. Ivette Motola also played a pivotal role, helping to facilitate the workshop “Teaching, Coaching, and Debriefing with Good Judgement across SimZones,” bringing together global experts to share insights on effective teaching strategies in simulation education.

Our commitment to leading, teaching, and sharing knowledge drives us to shape the future of simulation and healthcare education worldwide.



June 30

What an incredible week at SESAM 2025 in Valencia, Spain! The Gordon Center's global impact was truly on display as we took an active role in shaping the future of simulation education.

Our team connected with colleagues from the U.S., UK, France, Switzerland, Germany, Ireland, Ukraine, and beyond, driving forward shared learning and collaboration.

The week was a powerful reminder of the importance of global knowledge exchange in advancing healthcare education. Until next year!



July 10

The Gordon Center's global impact continued to expand with the installation of the world's first Harvey Premier Cardiopulmonary Simulator at Bharati Vidyapeeth Medical College, Pune, India.



To support this milestone, Dr. Ross Scalse, Director of Educational Technology Development at the Gordon Center, traveled to Pune to train educators on integrating Harvey into simulation-based instruction.



This achievement marked a significant step in the international growth of Harvey and its curriculum—made possible through our valued partnership with Laerdal Medical and the visionary leadership of Drs. Asmita Jagtap and Sanjay Lalwani. We commend their shared commitment to advancing medical education through innovation.

July 31

The Gordon Center attended the Laerdal Simulation User Network (SUN) conference in Mexico City, joining simulation leaders from across the Latin America region for a dynamic exchange of ideas and innovation.

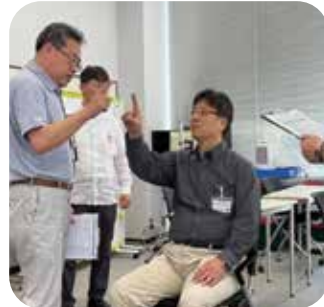


Dr. Ross Scalse took the stage to present the keynote address, "Quality and Evidence-based Best Practices in Simulation for Health Professions Education," and our team introduced Harvey Premier to attendees during the technology showcase.

We are proud to continue shaping the future of healthcare training alongside our global partners.

July 14

We successfully launched our Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS) Blended Learning in collaboration with the ACLS Japan Association.



Over the course of three intensive days—supported by live translation— instructor candidates and providers engaged in hands-on stroke training, united by a shared commitment to advancing stroke care education in Japan.

The ACLS Japan Association delivers American Heart Association global-standard training throughout the country, including Heartsaver, BLS, ACLS, PEARS, PALS—and now, ASLS.



Our sincere thanks to the outstanding group of physicians who participated. We look forward to supporting the continued dissemination of this program across Japan.

July 21

Miami Fire Rescue took part in our Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) course—one of the many ways we help first responders prepare for the moments that matter most.

Designed for real-world readiness, this training focuses on immersive, simulation-based scenarios.

Participants worked with pediatric manikins representing different stages of development, reinforcing critical decision-making for a range of emergencies.

This course is offered to Florida's first responders as part of our ongoing commitment to advancing emergency medical care through education.



August 8

The Gordon Center was excited to share the latest publication from our team in BMC Medical Education!

The article, "Effectiveness of a Simulation-Based Point-of-Care Ultrasound Course for Prehospital Providers: A Single-Group Quasi-Experimental Study," describes our innovative approach and the impact of a simulation-based ultrasound course for training EMS professionals. "Our data suggests that an 8-hour POCUS course, incorporating e-learning and simulation, can significantly improve EMS providers' knowledge of the fundamentals of POCUS and image interpretation of eFAST examination in trauma patients."



Since this initial study, our course has expanded to also include the use of POCUS by EMS in cardiac arrest resuscitation, in addition to learning POCUS fundamentals and its use in trauma. This is timely as more departments are implementing bedside sonography in the field.

A special thank you and congratulations to the amazing team who worked on this project: Ariana Weber, Asit Misra, Richard D. Rodriguez, Angel "AI" Brotons, Maria Antonietta Masetti, Resa E. Lewiss, Eduard Tiozzo, and Ivette Motola.

We appreciate their contributions and dedication to improving prehospital care through innovative education.

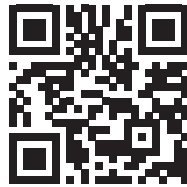


Read more about our findings.

August 12

In August we were excited to welcome the next class of future doctors to the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine! Scan the QR code and see more of their orientation day.

Welcome #MedCanes Class of 2029!



September 1

The Gordon Center brought together instructors from the Prehospital Emergency Training (PET) division for a day of collaboration and skill-building.

From refining teaching techniques to practicing effective feedback and debriefing strategies, these semi-annual instructor updates focus on strengthening the tools instructors use to guide the next generation of healthcare professionals.



August 13

Congratulations to a longstanding friend and supporter of the Gordon Center, Senator Jay Collins, on his appointment as Florida's 21st Lieutenant Governor.

A long-time public servant and U.S. Army Green Beret veteran, Senator Collins has championed our first responders and all frontline workers who keep Florida safe.

We look forward to working with him to expand our life saving work throughout the great state of Florida.

August 25

The newest class of future doctors at University of Miami Miller School of Medicine received their white coats.

We will continue to welcome them to the Gordon Center for simulation education throughout their medical school journey.

Welcome to "the U"!



August 26

As the USNS Comfort set sail for its first Continuing Promise mission of the year, the Gordon Center was represented on-board.

Gordon Center instructors Stephen Martell and Vincent Torres joined colleagues from the University of Miami's Global Institute to support this U.S. Navy-led humanitarian mission in Grenada.

Together, they provided disaster response and emergency training to local first responders, reinforcing our shared commitment to global disaster preparedness.

September 15

In September, we joined colleagues around the world in celebrating Healthcare Simulation Week 2025 with the theme "United through Simulation".

Simulation is more than a teaching tool. It is a global language of safety, readiness, and collaboration.

From Miami to the world, the Gordon Center prepares healthcare professionals and first responders with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need, when and where it matters most.

Read the full message from Dr. Barry Issenberg and Dr. Ivette Motola.



September 5

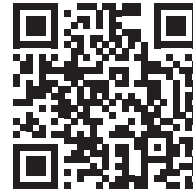
Dr. Ross Scalese, Director of Educational Technology Development at the Gordon Center, and Mr. Stephen Martell, Core Paramedic Instructor, visited teaching hospitals and simulation centers in Melbourne, Australia to share the latest best practices in healthcare simulation.

Additionally, they represented the University of Miami at the Australasian Simulation Congress in Adelaide, South Australia, by exhibiting Harvey Premier and participating in the parallel SSH Asia-Pacific Evolution Summit (SHAPES) Forum, which brought together international simulation and health professions education leaders from the region.



September 26

Twenty years ago, our Director, Dr. Barry Issenberg, and colleagues published a landmark BEME systematic review that asked a simple but powerful question: Which features of simulation truly drive effective learning?



The findings—feedback, deliberate practice, curriculum integration, clear performance standards, and fidelity that fits the purpose—reshaped medical education. These principles continue to guide programs, standards, and policy worldwide today.

As we reflect on two decades of progress, we remain committed to advancing simulation-based training that saves lives, strengthens healthcare teams, and improves patient outcomes.



October 15

Dr. Barry Issenberg, Director of the Gordon Center, and Dr. Ross Scalese, Director of Educational Technology Development, directed our Improving Simulation Instructional Methods (iSIM) course at Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed University) Medical College in Pune, India.



Over two days, the course brought together a multi-professional group of healthcare providers from several colleges eager to enhance their simulation-based healthcare education skills and abilities. From cutting-edge techniques to innovative technologies, we shared the fundamentals of utilizing healthcare simulation to improve instruction and learning retention.

iSIM is a faculty development course that emphasizes hands-on activities and active participation to maximize acquisition of simulation instructor skills.

October 17

Dr. Barry Issenberg, Director of the Gordon Center and Immediate Past-President of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare, participated in the 10th Annual SIMULUS Meeting in Dehradun, India—a global gathering of leaders in simulation-based medical education.



Throughout the conference, Dr. Issenberg engaged in meaningful dialogue during panel discussions and served as a judge for the Sim Wars competition—an interactive demonstration of clinical decision-making and teamwork under pressure.

The event underscored the vital role of simulation education in advancing patient safety, fostering innovation, and strengthening healthcare systems worldwide.



October 6

The Gordon Center was pleased to host Senator Jim Boyd, Senate President-Designate.

The visit was an opportunity to highlight our latest simulation and technology innovations, including our point-of-care ultrasound program for first responders and Active Shooter Hostile Events training.

We were especially proud to share how this same life-saving training was provided to law enforcement and fire rescue personnel who responded to the FSU incident earlier this year.

At the Gordon Center, we remain committed to advancing education, preparedness, and innovation in service of saving lives.

October 10

At the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA) Annual Education Forum in San Diego, we celebrated Physician Assistant (PAs) Week and the incredible dedication, compassion, and expertise that PAs bring to every patient they serve.

The PAEA Education Forum exhibition featured interactive Harvey Premier demonstrations—giving attendees the opportunity to palpate pulses, auscultate heart and lung sounds, and observe physical findings across a spectrum of conditions.



October 20

We are proud to share that Dr. Barry Issenberg, Director of the Gordon Center and Immediate Past-President of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH), was honored with the Award of Excellence by PediSTARS India at the 10th Annual SIMULUS Meeting in Dehradun, India.

The award recognizes Dr. Issenberg's outstanding contributions to advancing and promoting healthcare simulation worldwide. His leadership and lifelong commitment to improving patient safety and medical education through simulation have inspired educators and clinicians across the globe.

Congratulations, Dr. Issenberg, on this well-deserved recognition!





October 29

On World Stroke Day, the Gordon Center “walked the walk” (not just “talked the talk”) to highlight the power of regular physical activity in preventing stroke. But our commitment extends far beyond the walk.

Every day, the Gordon Center works to improve stroke outcomes by:

- Training healthcare professionals using advanced simulation technology
- Educating communities to recognize and respond to the signs of stroke
- Advancing research and innovation to strengthen stroke response systems

Together, we’re taking meaningful steps toward a future where fewer lives are impacted by stroke.

November 10

In November, we hosted the Advanced Stroke Life Support (ASLS) Blended Learning Course, developed by the Gordon Center in collaboration with the American Heart Association (AHA).



This vital training brought together prehospital and in-hospital providers from Rushing Emergency Medical Solutions, Polk State College, and Silver Cross Hospital, uniting teams from Florida and Illinois with the shared goal of improving outcomes for stroke patients.

A huge thank you to all participants for your dedication to advancing stroke care and ultimately saving lives. Together, we are making a difference.

December 5

Our instructor and simulation technologist cadre are at the heart of our mission to advance life-saving education and improve patient outcomes worldwide. Their passion, expertise, and commitment to excellence ensure that learners, locally and globally, are equipped with the skills they need to succeed.

We were proud to recognize the outstanding team members whose dedication elevated our training programs this year.

Congratulations to the 2025 award recipients:

- Paramedic Instructor of the Year: **Robert DiFerdinando, EMT-P**
- Nurse Instructor of the Year: **Charlene Ponder, MSN, RN, CMSRN**
- Above and Beyond Award: **Stephen Martell, EMT-P**
- Simulation Technologist of the Year: **Gabriel Cerra**
- “To The Rescue” Award: **Luis Montoya, EMT-P**
- Distinguished Contributor (ASHE): **Marco Gonzalez, EMT-P**
- Distinguished Contributor (EMS POCUS): **Suzanne Bialeck, MD**
- Rookie of the Year: **Larrison Joly**



We look forward to continuing this important work together in 2026.

December 18



We are proud to see our Active Shooter Hostile Events (ASHE) training course continue to evolve and expand. This ASHE training disrupts traditional protocols by embedding fire rescue personnel within law enforcement teams, allowing them to enter the scene while it’s still considered “hot” or dangerous.



Support from the Florida Department of Education allowed us to establish a regional training hub near Tallahassee at the Florida Public Safety Institute (FPSI) to serve North Florida law enforcement agencies.



FPSI brought law enforcement and firefighter recruits together for the first Basic Recruit Class to receive this hands-on active-shooter simulation training. This course is usually reserved for certified officers but was offered as a pilot program for recruits.

Over two days, the recruits completed an eight-hour certification course and gained essential experience in responding to active-shooter and other hostile events, including practicing unified command operations and coordinating medical and law enforcement response efforts.

The training combines traditional law enforcement tactics with basic life-saving medical skills. The training has expanded from North Florida to the Panhandle, and now further expansions are underway.



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