REMINDER FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS
As it seems that winter weather has arrived, it’s a good time to remind you that only President John LaRosa can declare SUNY Downstate closed due to inclement weather. However, the separate colleges or individual course directors may cancel classes due to inclement weather. To learn about the status of classes, check the SUNY Downstate website, or listen to the school closing announcements on the TV and radio, or contact the general operator for SUNY Downstate as described on the more detailed description on the last page of this newsletter.

NIH CLINICAL RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM for MS 3 Students
Students spend one year at the NIH, and meet together regularly to discuss clinical research topics that are part of the core curriculum. These are student led sessions facilitated by senior clinical investigators. Students also spend one year engaged in clinical or translational research. Currently there are over 1000 clinical protocols active intramurally at the NIH. In addition, the students attend clinics and rounds related to their projects and engage in laboratory work related to their clinical research interests. All of the educational and scientific resources, the intellectual excitement, and the spirit of inquiry at the NIH are available for students to experience. We have had SUNY Downstate students do this program. For an application and more information, go to www.training.nih.gov/crtp. The deadline to apply for this program is January 15, 2005.

MS 3’s and MS 4’s NEEDED
We need MS 3 and MS 4 students to assist with campus tours for medical school applicants. Please contact Ms. Ilana Levine (College of Medicine Interview Coordinator) in the Admissions Office if you are available from 12-1 p.m. Or, contact her via email or internet (Ilana.Levine@downstate.edu)

DAVID E. ROGERS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

HSHPS/CDC STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools (HSHPS)/CDC summer internship program is designed to foster the development of public health and research skills of Hispanic medicine and public health research. The internship is 8 weeks long in Atlanta, GA, for 22 students. While the program is targeted at Hispanic students, non-Hispanic students who have an interest in Hispanic health issues are also encouraged to apply. Application deadline is February 15, 2005. Website at www.hshps.com, questions to Mauricio Conde at mconde@hsbps.com

HHS INNOVATION IN HEALTH PROMOTION AWARD
The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) is soliciting papers for the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Award for Innovation in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. This competition, known as the Secretary's Award, is an opportunity for medical students to describe their innovative health-promotion or disease-prevention projects and have them considered for cash awards from the federal government.

Awards for single-discipline entries (e.g. medicine only) are $3,000 for first place, $2,500 for second place, and $1,500 for third place.

Awards for interprofessional entries (e.g. medicine and one or more health professions) are $7,500 for first place, $5,000 for second place, and $3,000 for third place.

Visit www.aamc.org/about/awards/ for information about eligibility, entry categories, criteria, entry checklist, and selection process. Medical students must submit their papers to their faculty sponsor by January 14, 2005; and to the Office of Student Affairs by January 21, 2005. The AAMC must receive all medical student single-discipline submissions no later than February 7, 2005. Late submission will be disqualified. For questions, email SecretariesAwards@aamc.org or call (202) 862-6149.

http://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/secretariesaward/start.htm Information packet in the Office of Student Affairs

NIH HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE

NIH Research Scholars Program
(Cloister Program)
Most students participate as Research Scholars after their 2nd or 3rd year of medical school. Students may work on basic, translational or applied biomedical research. Prior research experience may be advantageous but is not required. You select your preceptor and research project after your acceptance into the program. Students chosen as HHMI-NIH Research Scholars (about 40 are selected each year – we have had students chosen for this program) will work at the NIH for approximately one year, beginning July 15 and August 31. The salary for one year is $17,800. Moving expenses and subsidized, on-campus housing is also part of the program. The application forms are now on-line at www.hhmi.org/cloister/download.html. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is January 10, 2005.

HHMI Research Training Fellowships for Medical Students (non-cloister)
This permits students to spend one year conducting research at any school or non-profit research institution in the USA except the NIH. We have had students do this program. The stipend is $23,000. For more information, go to www.hhmi.org/medfellowships. Deadline January 6, 2005.
2005 AAMC HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD
Each medical school may nominate one physician faculty member through their Organization of Student representative (Ms. Kelle Oberle is the rep from our school). For more information about the selection criteria, go to www.aamc.org/members/osr/humanism/start.htm. The deadline to submit a nominee to Kelle Oberle or me is March 1, 2005 (to permit time for local review).

AAMC CARING FOR COMMUNITY GRANT
The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) announces a funding opportunity, supported by the Pfizer Medical Humanities Institute. There are 3 categories for grant application:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Type</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Project</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplement</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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A detailed brochure is available in the Office of Student Affairs. The local application deadline is February 1, 2005 as there must be a SUNY Downstate review and approval before the grant application may be submitted.

FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CENTER (FIC) / ELLISON MEDICAL FOUNDATION AWARDS
The NIH's Fogarty International Center is offering a one year clinical research training experience in NIH funded research centers in developing countries. The fellowship period begins in July, 2005. Applications are available August 1, 2004 at www.aamc.org/overseasfellowship. Application deadline is January 7, 2005.

HOW TO HELP IN THE EVENT OF A CITY-WIDE EMERGENCY: Join the Medical Reserve Corps/NYC
The New York City Dept. of Health is seeking health professions students (medical, nursing, health related) to join their Medical Reserve Corps. In addition to free membership, Medical Reserve Corps members will receive training on how to assist New York City in the event of a national health emergency.

The Medical Reserve Corps/NYC has been created to mobilize health professionals who want to partner with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene during a local health emergency that would require the City to open Points of Distribution clinics (PODs). The goal of the MRC is to bring together the knowledge, expertise and skills of many different health professionals to address public health crises. Any licensed or certified health professional who lives or works in New York City can join the MRC. Please visit www.medicalreserve.org for more information and to register. You may also call 866-NYC-DOH1 for more information or to register, and email any questions to healthmrc@health.nyc.gov. http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/em/mrc.html

DORIS DUKE CLINICAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
The Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship Program provides one-year fellowships to medical students who have completed at least two or more years of medical school, to spend an extra year in one of 10 participating medical schools to receive both didactic and 'hands-on' mentored clinical research training, beginning July, 2005.

Fellows will receive stipends plus health insurance to spend a year conducting clinical research and receiving didactic training.

Additional program information including links to each participating school's web site is at http://www.ddcf.org/mrp.crf. Complete an application form electronically. Applications are due by January 18, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

THE SARNOFF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
This program offers medical students who have completed their second or third year of medical school to conduct research for one year. Prior research experience is not a prerequisite. The annual stipend is $25,000. The fellowship program's website is www.SaroffEndowment.org. Application deadline is January 12, 2005.

PEDIATRICS RESEARCH
The American Pediatrics Society and the Society for Pediatric Research are offering a grant for medical students to participate in research at a medical school other than their own. Over 300 laboratories are available. Visit www.aps-spr.org to download an application packet or to review the on-line directory of laboratory opportunities. Application deadline January 26, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

AMERICAN OSLER SOCIETY WILLIAM B. BEAN STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD
The American Osler Society announces the availability of an award for support of research in the broad areas of medical history and medical humanism. Candidates must be currently matriculated and the successful applicant may be eligible to present a paper at the annual meeting. The stipend will be $1500 and up to $750 additional may be made available to support travel to the annual meeting. Flyer in the glass bulletin board. More information at www.americanosler.org Submission deadline is March 15, 2005.

AOA CAROLYN KUCKEIN STUDENT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS
A fellowship is awarded annually to 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year medical students. $4000 is provided to the student for support of the proposed research. Each school may nominate only one student. Submit your proposal to Dr. Arthur Wolintz, Dept. of Ophthalmology, AOA Chapter Councillor before December 15, 2004. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

LEIDEN INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL STUDENT CONGRESS
The Leiden International Medical Student Congress is offering a 400 Euro travel grant to selected students who present their research results in an oral or poster presentation at the Leiden Congress during April 7-9, 2005. More information at www.limsc.nl or email limsc@lumc.nl.

AOA HELEN H. GLASER STUDENT ESSAY AWARD
The AOA Student Essay Award is to encourage medical students to address general topics in medicine. Cash prizes of $2000, $750, $500 and $250 are awarded. Deadline for submission is January 31, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

MS 4 EXTRAMURAL (AWAY) ELECTIVES
The AAMC has an Extramural Electives Compendium at http://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/electives/ in the "Students and Residents" section of the AAMC website. This lists
the contact person, name and mailing address, for away electives at other medical schools.

**EPOCRATES** is offering a student discount code. If you would like the discount code, please email me.

**AIRLINE DISCOUNT FOR RESIDENCY INTERVIEWS**
The AAMC has renewed an agreement with American Airlines to offer discounts for senior medical students traveling to interviews for residency programs. Information concerning the discount is available at the OSR website at [www.aamc.org/members/osr/discount.htm](http://www.aamc.org/members/osr/discount.htm). Valid travel dates are September 4, 2004-May 28, 2005.

**CHILD CARE**
The Children's Center at SUNY Downstate provides daycare services for children age 2 months –5 years and is fully licensed by the NY Dept of Health & Bureau of Day Care Services. Hours are 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Mondays-Fridays. Location is 440 Lenox Road. Openings are available. If you would like more information or a tour, contact Beth Scallon, Executive Director (221-6160) or Sheri Myers (221-6163).

**TRAVEL TO CUBA**
In June, 2004, the US government tightened restrictions on travel to Cuba and the conditions under which educational programs may be undertaken. Therefore, it is unlikely that any electives will meet these new standards.

**SAFETY REMINDER**
University Police has reminds all of us to use good judgement when traveling to and from campus. Avoid walking in the evening hours (6 p.m.-7 a.m.) alone and use the escort service to public transportation, the parking lots or to KCH for a radius of 6 blocks of the campus. University Police prefers we use the Church Avenue station and call 270-2626 and the van will pick you up from the station.

**AOA MEDICAL STUDENT SERVICE PROJECT AWARD**
This award is open to any individual medical student or group of students collaborating on a project from a school with an AOA chapter. Students need not be AOA members. The school will be awarded up to $1500 to fund the project. Funding can be extended for a second year up to $1000 and for a third year up to $500. Additional information described on a flyer in the glass bulletin board.

**MS 1 & MS 2 CARREL COORDINATORS**
MS 1 students should report carrel or key problems to Natasha Stepanets in Room 605, HSEB; telephone x7524. She has an email account so you can email her.

MS 2 students should report carrel or key problems to Hugh Pitter in Room 511, HSEB; telephone X7507 and he’s on email too.

**INTERESTED IN CALIFORNIA?**
The Shortage Area Medical Education & Training Program is sponsoring electives in shortage areas of California. Log onto [www.oshpd.ca.gov/HWCDD/professions/samet.htm](http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HWCDD/professions/samet.htm)

**ARE YOU CALIFORNIA BOUND?**
If you are planning on practicing in California, we recommend that you take the Family Practice track of the Primary Care I Clerkship.

**CAREERS IN MEDICINE WEB SITE**
Careers in Medicine, a career development program to assist you in choosing a specialty and plan for residency. To access Careers in Medicine, go to [www.aamc.org/careersinmedicine](http://www.aamc.org/careersinmedicine) and click on the “Login” button on the left menu bar. If you are new to the site, you will need to register. Click on the “New User” button on the bottom of the page. The access code for our school is 11STU136.

**WHERE TO GET DIFFERENT TYPES OF LETTERS**
**Attendance:** Letters simply certifying that you are in a student in school, or in good academic standing, etc. may be obtained directly from the Registrar’s Office. This also applies to applications for away (extramural) electives.

**Scholarship Letters and School Letters of Recommendation for Special Programs:** If you are applying for a scholarship, award, or special program (e.g. summer research, summer clinical, Alaska Health Service elective, NIH research year, etc.) and they require a letter of recommendation from the school, or a letter from the dean, or something more than attendance, then this goes through the Office of Student Affairs.

Write out your name, the nature of your request, the complete title and mailing address of where the letter should be sent, any deadline date, any items which must be included in the letter, and any information which you would like included about activities which you have been involved in during medical school. **Allow 5 business days for completion.**

**Faculty Letters of Recommendation:** If you are a MS I student applying for a summer program or a scholarship which requires a faculty letter of recommendation, remember your preceptors, small group discussion leaders, etc. that you have had in your courses may be able to write you a letter if you don’t feel you know your block director well enough. If you still feel you are having a problem or don’t have enough references, then drop off a copy of what you are applying for to the Office of Student Affairs along with a note describing your problem and I will provide advice on what you should do.

**Jury Duty Letters:** You can request a letter from the Office of Student Affairs requesting the court to postpone your dates of jury duty. We have no guarantee that the court will do so. The court’s final decision prevails. You may need to serve during your vacation period.

***DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?***
If you have a question and don’t know where to go for an answer, or have a concern, please remember that you can send email inquiries to Dr. Lorraine Terracina or Ms. Sophie Christoforou. Dr. Terracina and Ms. Christoforou are also available for individual appointments. To schedule an individual appointment with Dr. Terracina, email her with a brief line about the topic of your appointment and a few days and times that you would be available. To schedule an appointment with Ms. Christoforou, call 270-1107. If you have a question, don’t be afraid to ask!
Glass Bulletin Board Items
(First floor, next to Room 111, Basic Science Bldg.)

Note: Sometimes, various programs send their notices of programs and opportunities too late to appear in that month’s newsletter. If the deadline for the program is before the next newsletter will be published, the information will still be posted in the glass bulletin board. Therefore, periodically check the bulletin board for such late announcements.

The Vanderbilt Medical Student Research in Diabetes and Endocrinology for Summer, 2005 allows medical students to conduct independent research during the summer between the first and second year, or between the second and third year of medical school. Each student receives a stipend and limited travel support for the 10-12 week program. Information flyer in glass bulletin board. For additional information and application, www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/diabetestraining Application deadline February 18, 2005.

The Scaife Family Foundation announces the National Rural Institute on Alcohol and Drug Abuse to be held June 12-16, 2005 at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Scholarships are awarded to medical students interested in specialized training in alcohol and other drug abuse treatment at the National Institute. There is a scholarship that covers tuition, on-campus room and board, plus a $300 stipend to help defray travel expenses. Flyer in the glass bulletin board. Application deadline is May 1, 2005. Applications are available at www.uwstout.edu/solutions/ces/ruralaoda. Email address is applehandsd@uwstout.edu

Bastyr University is offering a 4 week program starting July 5, 2005 in Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Tuition is $1100. Priority application deadline March 15, 2005. www.bastyr.edu/camsummer. We have no information about Bastyr University or its programs.

The Scaife Family Foundation, in conjunction with the Institute for Research, Education, and Training in Addictions (IRETA), is offering a summer program in Chemical Dependency Treatment. Participants receive a $150 per week stipend and a $200 transportation allowance for a total of $650 for three weeks. Room and meals are also provided. IRETA is located in Pittsburgh. Session #1 is from June 13-July 1. Session #2 is July 11-July 29. Application deadline is January 7, 2005. Information brochure and application form in the Office of Student Affairs. Or contact Lois Edmondston at lae19@pitt.edu

The Children’s Hospital Los Angeles/Children’s Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases has announced their 2005 Summer Oncology Fellowship Program. A weekly stipend of $225 for 6-10 weeks is provided. Reimbursement for travel and housing is offered on a case by case basis. For more information, go to www.chla-sof.nant.org. Application deadline is March 1, 2005. Application form in the Office of Student Affairs.

Memorial Sloan-Kettering announces its 2005 Summer Student Fellowship Program to encourage interest in the field of oncology. 25, $5000 fellowships are available to medical students in their first two years of study. The two start dates are: June 13 or June 20, 2005. Interested students should visit the website around January 11, 2005 where they will find application materials and instructions. Information flyer in glass bulletin board. Website address is: www.mskcc.org/summerfellowships. Application deadline is February 11, 2005.

The Leah J. Dickstein, MD Award is open to female medical students who have demonstrated superior academic achievement, creativity, and leadership. The award is $1000 and attendance at the annual meeting in Atlanta May 21-26, 2005. Only two students may be nominated. If you are interested in applying, contact the office of Student Affairs for an application form. Application deadline in Student Affairs, February 1, 2005.

The Roswell Park Cancer Institute announces its summer oncology research program from June 6-July 29, 2005. The stipend is $280 per week for the 8 week period. Application deadline is May 15, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board. For more information contact Dean Arthur M. Michalek at arthur.michalek@roswellpark.org.

St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee provides short-term training experiences in either clinical research or laboratory research for a minimum of 9 weeks, with a stipend of approximately $8 per hour. Application deadline February 15, 2005. To identify departments and/or faculty members with whom you would like to work, go to www.stjude.org/poe/. There is an on-line application at that site. Additional information in the Office of Student Affairs.

AFAR Medical Student Geriatric Scholars Program provides awards for students to train at acclaimed centers of excellence in geriatrics. Information available at www.afar.org. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ELECTIVES are available through Child Family Health International. G to www.cfhi.org.

Unite for Sight has published its international internship opportunities at www.uniforsight.org. For more information, contact Jstaple@uniforsight.org. This is not a school sponsored program and not eligible for malpractice or other coverage from the school. You participate as a private citizen.

Harvard Medical School announces its Summer Research Fellowships in Vascular Surgery for 10-12 weeks starting June 1, 2005. Interested applicants should submit a personal statement, CV, and 3 letters of recommendation (one to be from a dean/advisor). $5000 stipend. Application deadline is January 10, 2005. For more information, see www.longwoodvascularsurgery.com/vonliebig or email vpatell@bidmc.harvard.edu.

AMSA announces their 2005 National Clinical Nutrition Internships to increase the role of nutrition in the practice of medicine, medical research, health promotion, and disease prevention. Stipend of $2500. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Application deadline February 11, 2005. More information at www.ascn.org or email ambocus @faseb.org. An application form is also available in the Office of Student Affairs.
EMERGENCIES (Weather and Other Events)

(CANCELLATION OF CLASSES)

While Downstate Medical Center (school and hospital) has not been closed due to a snow emergency, if such a declaration were to be made, you would hear the notification on your local radio or television station, the same as the notification for other school closings. You may also telephone the University Operator at 718 270-1000.

Only the President of the Downstate Medical Center is authorized to cancel academic classes at Downstate Medical Center.

However, inclement weather or other events, may cause the cancellation of specific classes by the course instructor or college dean. If a weather emergency or other emergency event should occur, you should check the SUNY Downstate website for information. In addition, you may telephone the general campus telephone number which is 718 270-1000.

When you call 718 270-1000, you will hear, "Welcome to Downstate Medical Center and its University Hospital of Brooklyn. University Hospital and all Colleges remain OPEN today. However, college class instructors have the option of canceling individual classes. Students should Press "2" to hear the status of classes in your individual program. All others, Press "1" to continue to the main menu."

When you press "2," you will hear
For MS1 press 1
For MS2, press 2
For College of Nursing, press 3
For College of Health Related Professions, press 4
For the School of Graduate Studies, press 5
For the Masters in Public Health, press 6

College of Medicine, Years 1 & 2 only
Once you press the appropriate year, your block director will have an announcement which states the class schedule for all activities for that day, for that block.

College of Medicine, Years 3 & 4
Follow the schedule at your clinical site. Contact your preceptor and your clerkship director if you are unsure about your responsibilities or the clinical schedule.