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.

LCME ACCREDITATION VISIT
The accreditation team will be on campus March 7-9, 2005. Self-study committee reports are posted on our website.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

LOUIS SEAMAN MEDICAL STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS IN MICROBIOLOGY
Four grants will each provide a stipend of $2500 for MD students. The deadline for submission of an application is March 1, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Online: www.nyam.org/grants/seaman/index.shtml

FERDINAND VALENTINE MEDICAL STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT IN UROLOGY
Four grants will each provide a stipend of $2500 for M.D. students pursuing basic science or research projects in urology. The deadline for submission of an application is March 1, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Online: www.nyam.org/grants/valetine_student.shtml

GLORNEY-RAISBECK MEDICAL STUDENT GRANTS IN CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH
Three grants will each provide a stipend of $2500 for M.D. students. The deadline for submission of an application is March 1, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Applications available at www.nyam.org/grants/raisbeckstudent.shtml

DAVID E. ROGERS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

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.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEMATOLOGY TRAINEE AWARD PROGRAM
This program provides one award of $4000 for a research project of three months in duration and $1000 for travel to the Society's annual meeting. For more details, go to www.hematology.org/awards/trainee.cfm. Application deadline: March 15, 2005. Email address training@hematology.org

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 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Or, contact her via email or internet (Ilana.Levine@downstate.edu)

COSTA RICA
The 15th International Course in Tropical Medicine's Summer Elective in Costa Rica is a 4 week program (July 3-29, 2005) for medical students who have completed at least one year of medical school. Instruction is in English. Enrollment is limited to 20 students so early application before May 1, 2005 is recommended. The cost is $975 plus approximately $900 room and board. Flyer in glass bulletin board. For more information, see www.medschool.lsuhscl.edu/microbiology/courses_tropical_summer.asp

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@lume.nl.

JEWISH MEDICAL ETHICS SUMMER PROGRAM
The Jewish Medical Ethics Summer Program is scheduled from June 28-July 28, 2005 in Jerusalem, Israel. Applications must be submitted via email by Tuesday, March 15, 2005. For an application, contact www.neijs.org or info@neijs.org.

HSHP/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@hshps.com.
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).

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.

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

STEP 2 CLINICAL SKILLS EXAM
Information about discounted hotel rates and transportation from the hotel to the test center is available at www.aamc.org/meetings/specmths/clinicalskills/start.htm

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.

Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine is offering a research based Health Activism course in October, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

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. 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 reminded 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.

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.

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 charter. 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.

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

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 Clerkship.

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.

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 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.

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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 Scaife Family Foundation offers fellowships to attend the one week School of Alcohol and Drug Studies (July 10-15, 2005) or the one week Institute of Alcohol and Drug Studies (July 31-August 5, 2005) at Rutgers in New Jersey. Fellowships will cover tuition, room and meals ($1185); plus a $400 stipend for travel and miscellaneous expenses. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Information booklet in the Office of Student Affairs. Application deadline June 17, 2005.

The Betty Ford Center Summer Institute for Medical Students is a 5 day program at the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage CA. Scholarships will be awarded for one of the following session dates: May 23-May 27; June 6-10; June 20-24; July 11-15; August 1-5; August 15-19; August 29-September 2. Flyer in glass bulletin board. For more information, go to www.bettyfordcenter.org. Application deadline March 15, 2005.

The Gold Foundation is offering a Student Summer Research Fellowship for a 10 week project to research community health and cultural competency issues. The stipend is $2800. The application deadline is April 15; although fellowships are awarded on a rolling basis. Flyer in glass bulletin board. The Gold Foundation contact is Ms. Ann Bruder at abruder@gold-foundation.org

Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth is seeking health assistants for June 20-August 8. Salary is $2300 for both sessions. Application at www.cty.jhu.edu/summer/employment Questions may be emailed to ctysummer@jhu.edu. The review of applications begins January 31.

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 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:

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 February 15, 2005. Flyer in glass bulletin board. For more information contact Dean Arthur M. Michalek at arthur.michalek@roswellpark.org.

St. Jude 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 student 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.uniteforsight.org. For more information, contact Jstaple@uniteforsight.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.

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 @ascn.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.