MATCH RESULTS!
Congratulations to the Class of 2005 on their Match results!! The class results are posted in the glass bulletin board. The Match the past eight (8) years are also available at the following web address: http://sls.downstate.edu/studentaffairs/match.html. The 2005 Match list should be posted at the same URL shortly.

38 students are staying at Downstate for their residency programs, 108 are staying in New York City (5 boroughs), and a total of 134 have opted to stay in New York State for residency!

SUNY DOWNSTATE IN THE NEWS!
Downstate's APAMSA (Asian Pacific AMSA) Chapter and the Community Vaccination Outreach Program teamed up to give pneumovax immunizations and blood pressure screening March 4, 2005 in the Chinese Planning Center in Brooklyn. The Chinese newspaper, World Journal, described the program and featured a nice photograph of the Downstate students with their clients. Translation of the article in the glass bulletin board.

COSTA RICA
The 15th International Course in Tropical Medicine's Summer Elective in Costa Rica is a 4 week program (July 3-July 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.lsuhsc.edu/microbiology/courses_tropical_summer.asp

DOCTORS FOR GLOBAL HEALTH
The 10th Annual meeting is being held August 5-7 at Columbia University. http://www.dghonline.org.

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.

NYS ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS FOUNDATION
THE AAFP/Foundation will provide 2 matching grants for the 2005 Student Externship Program. The student and mentoring physician must be members of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Applications due by May 9, 2005. Email bobbi@nysafp.org to obtain an application.

NIH 2005 SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS
The Office of Rare Diseases and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development have announced two summer research scholarships in Pediatric Critical Care and Rehabilitation Research. The scholarships are for two medical students for the summer in-between MS 1 and MS 2 years. Each scholar will receive a $2000 stipend. The deadline date for receipt of applications is April 20, 2005. If you wish to apply, application instructions are available from the Office of Student Affairs. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

QUESTIONS ABOUT SUMMER EXAMS?
The actual schedule for MS 1 or MS 2 summer comprehensive re-exams is developed by the block directors after the Grades Committee meeting for that particular class year. The dates of the Grades Committee meetings are listed on the academic calendar (see Office of the Registrar website). Final approval to take the exam(s) is granted by the Academic Promotions Committee. Those meeting dates are also posted on the academic calendar.

The dates for the summer re-exams for MS 3 have been determined. Final approval to take the exam(s) is also granted by the Academic Promotions Committee. Those meeting dates are also posted on the academic calendar.

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

AMSA's WIDENING THE PIPELINE
Individual medical students as well as student groups may apply for up to $200 of funding to go to local middle and high schools to speak with students about health careers. Materials on line at www.amsa.org/addm/#wide. Applications for funding are available at www.amsa.org/addm/WTP_grantapp.doc

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/specmtgs/clinicalsks/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.

CHILD CARE
The Children's Center at SUNY Downstate provides day care 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.

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.

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.

INTERESTED IN CALIFORNIA?
The Shortage Area Medical Education & Training Program is sponsoring electives in shortage areas of California. Log onto www.oshpdc.ca.gov/HWCDD/professions/samet.htm

ARE YOU CALIFORNIA BOUND?
In a letter dated February 4, 2005, the Medical Board of California has confirmed that they will accept a 4 week clinical rotation in any of the following clinical subject areas to fulfill their family practice licensing requirement: ambulatory care, community medicine, family practice, primary care, outpatient care, preventive and social medicine, preventive medicine.

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.

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.

MS 1 & MS 2 CARREL COORDINATORS
MS 1 students should report carrel or key problems to Ms. 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 Mr. Hugh Pitter in Room 511, HSEB; telephone X7507 and he’s on email too.

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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.

Sarah Lawrence College is offering a "Writing the Medical Experience" conference and workshop from July 16-23, 2005 in Bronxville, NY. Applications must be submitted by April 22, 2005. Tuition for the program is $700. There are a limited number of partial scholarships. Go to www.sarahlawrence.edu/summer/

The Annual Stanley M. Kaplan Medical Student Essay contest awards a cash prize of $500 and two runner-up prizes of $250 each. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Deadline June 17, 2005.

The University of Utah School on Alcoholism and other Drug Dependencies is offering a program June 19-24, 2005 in Salt Lake City. Subsidized tuition, housing and travel allowance is available. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Website uuhsc.utah.edu/uas

The Seafie 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 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 Seafie 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 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

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.

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.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ELECTIVES

Child Family International has a number of overseas programs of varying standards. They charge tuition. Go to http://www.cfhi.org for more information. This should not be considered a school endorsement.

AMSA Programs

SUNY Downstate does not provide any financial assistance for students to participate in the following programs.


End of Life Care Fellowship Program: June 20-July 29, 2005. Fellows receive a stipend of $2100 to cover living expenses. Application deadline April 4, 2005 www.amsa.org/programs/EOL.cfm

Primary Care Leadership Training Program: A weeklong innovative institute at the University of Washington in Seattle. This year's theme is "Serving the Underserved: Your Role." Application at www.amsa.org/addm. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

Paul Ambrose Health Promotion Student Leadership Symposium is scheduled for June 24-26, 2005. Application deadline is April 6, 2005. Go to www.atpm.org , "Career Development/Training"