GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK!
Several of the Student Services Offices (Bursar, Financial Aid, Registrar, Residential Life, Student Affairs, Student Center, Student Health) have added an icon on their websites called, “Make a Suggestion.” We invite you to share your comments on how we can improve services to students.

FOR MS 1: MS 2 AMSA SUMMER FORUM
(aka What I did on my summer vacation)
Tuesday, January 24, 2006 from 4-5 pm.

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 $25,000. 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/pos. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is January 10, 2006.

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 $25,000. For more information, go to www.hhmi.org/medfellowships/pos. Deadline January 11, 2006.

MS 4 RANK ORDER MEETING – REGULAR MATCH
Thursday, January 19, 2006
Alumni Auditorium, 5-6 p.m.

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 October 1, 2005-May 31, 2006.

STEP 2 CLINICAL SKILLS EXAM
Information about discounted hotel rates and transportation from the hotel to the test center is available at http://www.aamc.org/meetings, and then click on “special hotel rates for clinical skills exams”

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)

The NIH CLINICAL RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM is a one year program at the NIH for medical students who have completed one year of clinical rotations (you spend the year in-between the third and fourth year at the NIH – we have had a student in this program), 30 students per year are accepted into the program. The stipend is $28,400. Informational brochure in the Office of Student Affairs. On-line application at www.training.nih.gov/crtp. Email training@nih.gov. Application deadline January 17, 2006.

INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES
Dr. Steven Friedman of the Department of Psychiatry will serve as the Interim Director of Student Counseling, under the general oversight of Dr. Marcia Gerber, the Director of Student Health. Effective immediately, Dr. Steven Friedman will be available to provide advice and assistance with problems associated with academically related stress or personal problems that might interfere with their performance in school. Dr. Steven Friedman will also have additional specialized referral resources available that will ensure that we are able to provide the type and volume of services provided by Dr. Duprey. All of these contacts will be confidential. Dr. Steven Friedman can be contacted by calling 270-1750 or through the Student Health Service (270-1995).

Students may also speak directly with Dr. Lorraine Terracina or Ms. Sophie Christoforou, Assistant Dean and Registrar,

NIH SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (SRFP)
Open to first, second and third year students. Participants work with senior research scientists located at the Clinical Center in Bethesda, MD or other laboratory facilities near the campus, the Addiction Research Center and the Gerontology Research Center in Baltimore, or the Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton, Montana. The program runs for 8 weeks. The on-line application is at http://www.training.nih.gov/student/srfp/index.asp Questions may be sent to Rachael Schacherer at schacher@mail.nih.gov. Apply as early as possible as there are a limited number of positions available.

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Project</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplement</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A detailed brochure is available in the Office of Student Affairs. The local application deadline is February 1, 2006 as there must be a SUNY Downstate review and approval before the grant application may be submitted.

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-pr.org to download an application packet or to review the on-line directory of laboratory opportunities. Application deadline January 27, 2006. 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.SarnoffEndowment.org. Application deadline is January 9, 2006.

AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR AGING RESEARCH announces the 2006 Medical Student Summer Research Training in Aging Program will provide medical students, early in their training, with an enriching experience in aging-related research and geriatrics, under the mentorship of top experts in the field. Students participate in an eight- to twelve-week structured research, clinical, and didactic program in geriatrics, appropriate to their level of training and interests. The stipend level is $1,731 per month. The stipend for an eight-week period is $3,462, and for a twelve-week period is $5,193. Students who elect to participate in the scholarship program at a National Training Center must cover their own travel and living expenses. For program information and application procedures go to http://conline.fdncenter.org/pnd/3983/afar. Application deadline is February 7, 2006.

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 $700 additional may be made available to support travel to the annual meeting. Flyer in the glass bulletin board. More information at www.americanoasurer.org. Submission deadline is March 1, 2006.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SURGERY?
The Association of Women Surgeons is starting a mentorship program for women medical students. Go to http://www.womensurgeons.org/education/students.htm

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 2 letters of recommendation. $5000 stipend. Application deadline is January 10, 2006. For more information, see www.longwoodvascularsurgery.com/vonliebig or email lpradhan@bidmc.harvard.edu.

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.

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)
The Applied Epidemiology Fellowship at CDC is a one year applied epidemiology and public health experience (starts August 2006) for third and fourth year medical students in different National Centers of the CDC. Application deadline for 2006 fellowships is December 5, 2005. Go to www.cdcfoundation.org/pages.html?page=303. There is also a 6-8 week epidemiology elective (information available at http://www.cdc.gov/eis/appy/eis elective.htm) and a Hubert International student fellowship ($3000 stipend for 4-6 weeks (information available at http://www.cdcfoundation.org/pages.html?page=304

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PSYCHIATRY?
The Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic and the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine are pleased to announce the SENIOR MEDICAL STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD to attend the 22nd Annual Pittsburgh Schizophrenia Conference on Friday, November 18, 2005. Application deadline is October 17, 2005. Flyer with application instructions in glass bulletin board. For more information, go to www.wpic.pitt.edu/schizophreniaconference/

The Summer Training on Aging Research Topics – Mental Health (START-MH) program, funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, offers competitive scholarships to medical students who might be interested in aging and mental health research. The 10- week summer research experience offers a stipend of $6250. You work on a project in conjunction with an established mentor/investigator. More information is available at http://startmh.ucsd.edu. The application deadline is January 20, 2006.

MS 4 EXTRAMURAL (AWAY) ELECTIVES
The AAMC has a Extramural Electives Compendium at www.aamc.org/stuapps/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.

MS 4 & RESIDENCY PROGRAM INFORMATION
When we receive information from specific residency programs, which might have interest for members of the senior class, this information will be mentioned in the monthly newsletter for your information and further investigation.

Brigham and Women’s Hospital announces the BWH Residency in Genetic Medicine. This program, jointly approved by the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Medical Genetics. This program should be of interest to clinically inclined residents who seek to become expert at the interface between medicine and genetics, and to MD/Ph.D. trainees who seek to investigate the genetic basis of specific diseases. Application is made during the PGY-1 year in the BGH Internal Medicine Residency. For more information about this program, go to http://genetics.bwh.harvard.edu/genetics/clinical.html.

Case Western Reserve University announces a Physician Scientist Pathway at the MetroHealth Campus to train physician scientists and future leaders in academic medicine. For more information, go to http://www.MetroHealthResearch.org

The Dept. of Emergency Medicine at the University of New Mexico announces the availability of a Disaster Medicine Elective for the months of Oct-Nov

HURRICANE KATRINA NEWS
The Arnold P. Gold Foundation has formed a Katrina Assistance Fund. The Foundation is now requesting proposals for grants of up to $5,000 for service projects in any location where there is a substantial need for assistance to victims of Hurricane Katrina. Such projects may include direct medical aid to evacuees or non-medical
assistance to both victims and those adversely affected by this disaster.

All student-initiated projects must include a faculty mentor. The educational institution (medical school or teaching hospital) will be the official recipient of the grant and must possess 501c3 not-for-profit status. No grant funds may be used for institutional or administrative overhead. Proposals will be considered on a rolling basis through 2006. For Information: Go to http://humanism-in-medicine.org

**PFIZER COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT**

SUNY Downstate is fortunate to have received an educational grant from Pfizer Pharmaceutical to conduct community health education programs. This is a community education outreach program, and can also be used as a student organization fund-raising opportunity. Each outreach program is envisioned as a 1-2 hour session on a health education topic directed at a target community audience. The audience could be children, teenagers or adults in the borough of Brooklyn. Ideally, the program should be offered in a community location, which is convenient to the target audience, to encourage attendance. Topics or subjects which were funded previously under this grant will not be considered again. For an application form which details more information about the guidelines for submission, please go to the Student Affairs section of the SUNY Downstate website and select student newsletters.

**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. Once you submit the proposal to the national office, you will receive your decision within 60 days. Additional information described on a flyer in the glass bulletin board.

The **AMERICAN COLLEGE OF LEGAL MEDICINE** announces their Student Writing Competitions for 2006. The **Bioethics** competition offers awards of $1000, $500, and $250. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Submission by email to info@aclm.org. **Deadline is January 10, 2006.** The **Student Writing Competition** has 3 categories and $1000 prize is awarded in each category. Flyer in the glass bulletin board. Submission by email to info@aclm.org. **Deadline is January 10, 2006.**

**ELSEVIER** announces its “Medical Information Can…” Awards Essay competition. For complete contest rules, go to [http://medicalawards.elsevier.com](http://medicalawards.elsevier.com). **Application deadline is November 30, 2005, $5,000 prize. Poster in glass bulletin board.**

**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, 2006.** Flyer in glass bulletin board.

**NY ACADEMY OF MEDICINE STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE in the HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

Essays should address a topic in the history of public health or medicine as they relate to urban health issues; they may consider social or environmental factors in the health of urban populations, institutional histories, or specific diseases. The winner will receive $500. **The deadline is April 4, 2006.** For more information, go to [www.nyam.org/grants/studentessay.shtml](http://www.nyam.org/grants/studentessay.shtml) or write to historyessay@nyam.org. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE** announces the Osler Medal Essay Contest. **Poster in glass bulletin board.** Contest information at [www.histmed.org/Awards](http://www.histmed.org/Awards). **Application deadline January 15, 2006.**

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 Toronto, Canada in May, 2006. Only two students may be nominated. If you are interested in applying, contact the Office of Student Affairs for an application form. **Poster in glass bulletin board. Application deadline in Student Affairs, February 1, 2006.**

**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](http://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

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

**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 (221-6163) or Sheri Myers (221-6163).

**AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE** (ACPM), Medical Student Section (ACPM-MSS) are seeking members to become part of a network of Preventive Medicine physicians and residents who are changing the way health care impacts on people. For more information, go to [http://www.acpm.org/medstudents.htm](http://www.acpm.org/medstudents.htm)

**WHY ARE ALL OF THOSE DOORS CLOSED?**

Have you been wondering why the corridor and office doors are closed? The fire marshal came by and apparently all of the doors have to be closed to fulfill fire regulations. So it's not to make life difficult (try opening one of the heavy doors with both hands carrying something) or to make the corridors seem unfriendly – we're complying with fire laws!

**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
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.

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/careerindmedicine 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. To obtain an access code, email Ms. Anne Shonbrun in the Office of the Registrar.

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.

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 1 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, send her an email (Lorraine.Terracina@downstate.edu). 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.

Memorial Sloan-Kettering announces its 2006 Summer Student Fellowship Program to encourage interest in the field of oncology. 30, $5000 fellowships are available to medical students in their first two years of study. The two start dates are: June 12 or June 19, 2006. Interested students should visit the website starting January 2, 2006 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 10, 2006.

AMSA End of Life Care Fellowship Program: June 19-July 28, 2006. A 6-week summer fellowship with Horizon Hospice in Chicago, IL or Vitas Healthcare Corporation in Miami, FL. Fellows receive a stipend of $2100 to cover living expenses. Additional information at www.amsa.org/olc or contact Joan Hedgcock at joan_h@amsa.org. Application deadline April 10, 2006. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

AMSA Student Association/Foundation is looking for two student coordinators for National Primary Care Week 2006, which will be held in October, 2006. The position begins January 2006 and lasts approximately one year. To apply, send a cover letter, resume/CV, with a short writing sample to cphelps@amsa.org. Application deadline Monday, January 9, 2006. Information sheet in the glass bulletin board.

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 12-June 30. Session #2 is July 10-July 28. Application deadline is March 31, 2006. Information brochure and application form in the Office of Student Affairs. Or contact Lois Edmondston at lae19@pitt.edu

The Scaife Family Foundation announces the National Rural Institute on Alcohol and Drug Abuse to be held June 4-8, 2006 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, 2006. Applications are available at www.uwstout.edu/solutions/ces/ruralaoda. Email address is applehandsd@uwstout.edu

******
Unite for Sight has published its international internship opportunities at www.uniteforsight.org/intl_volunteer. This is not a school sponsored program and not eligible for malpractice or other coverage from the school. You participate as a private citizen.

This should not be considered a school endorsement. We have received a notice about a 2 week Spanish intensive blending language course which includes 35 hours of formal classroom study plus 10 additional hours of lectures and visits to local hospitals, medical and nursing schools and other health providers. The program is called the Medical Spanish Program in Ecuador with the Centers for Interamerican Studies (CEDEI). Their website is http://www.cedei.org/cuenca/programs/spanish/medical. This is not a school sponsored program and not eligible for malpractice or other coverage from the school. You participate as a private citizen. They charge tuition and we have no information about the quality of the program or its operation.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ELECTIVES are available through CHILD FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL. Go to www.cfhi.org. Their application is at www.cfhi.org/program_intro.php4. This is not a school sponsored program and not eligible for malpractice or other coverage from the school. You participate as a private citizen.

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 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.

(continue on next column for additional instructions)