CONGRATULATIONS!
To MS 2 – last day of classes is May 5, 2006! Now, on to Step 1!
To MS 4 – Monday, May 22, 2006 Awards Day begins at 3 p.m. in
Alumni Auditorium – all med school class years are invited to attend!

COME TO DEAN FEIGELSON’s RECEPTION!
Come to the program and reception for Dr. Feigelson, Dean of
the College of Medicine, and wish him well in his new role on Monday,
May 15, 2006 at 3:30 pm in Alumni Auditorium. Reception follows.

ARE YOU DOING SOMETHING NICE THIS
SUMMER?
If you are a rising second year medical student (current MS 1) and
you do research or some other educationally related experience this
summer, do not forget to have your preceptor/attending send a letter
describing your experience (what you did) and how you performed to
the Student Affairs Office (Box 85) for inclusion in your academic
file. The letter should be addressed to me (Terracina). The letter must
be from your preceptor/attending, not from you, in order to be
included in your academic file. Mailing Address: SUNY Downstate,
450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 85, Brooklyn, NY 11203; or fax to 718
270-7592. You can check if it has been received by going to the
Office of the Registrar and checking your academic file.

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.

INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENT
COUNSELING SERVICES
Dr. Steven Friedman of the Department of Psychiatry
serves as the Interim Director of Student Counseling, under the
general oversight of Dr. Marcia Gerber, the Director of Student
Health. Dr. Steven Friedman is available to provide advice and
assistance with problems associated with academically related stress
or personal problems that might interfere with your performance in
school. Dr. Steven Friedman has access to 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 are 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,

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)

TELEPHONE FRAUD ALERT FROM UNIVERSITY
POLICE
Individual calls and identifies himself or herself as an “AT&T
Service technician” conducting a test on phone lines. Person asks that
you key in nine (9), zero (0), followed by the pound sign (#). This
code gives full access to your telephone line and permits long
distance calls to be billed to your home phone number. Report any
instances of fraud to our campus University Police.

WHERE TO GO FOR...
Curriculum Changes – The Curriculum and Educational Policies
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.

Curriculum Changes, Academic Requirements Changes,
Academic Policy Changes – The Dean’s Education Council
overssees the curriculum and academic policies for all four medical
school years. The Committee is chaired by Stanley Friedman, M.D.,
Senior Associate Dean for Education. The Committee’s
recommendations go directly to the Dean of the College of Medicine,
Eugene Feigelson, M.D. There are two student representatives on the
committee – the president of Medical Student Council (Michael
Sabbatini) and the president of the MS 4 class (Tamara Dunn). The
Committee meets once a month.

PFIZER COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT
Local Funds are available for your project!
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. The application form, which
details more information about the guidelines for submission, is
posted on the Student Affairs section of the SUNY Downstate
website. Just select “student newsletters.”

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 are determined by the
clerkship faculty in conjunction with the Office of the Registrar.
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.

MS 4 EXTRAMURAL (AWAY) ELECTIVES
The AAMC has an 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.
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE (ACPM), Medical Student Section (ACPM-MSS) are seeking members and residents who are changing the way health care impacts on people. For more information, go to http://www.acpm.org/medstudents.htm

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PSYCHIATRY?
The Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, and the Univ. of Pittsburgh School of Medicine announce the 5th Dr. Thomas Detre Senior Medical Student Award for a one month subinternship or research experience with the Dept. of Psychiatry. $1000 stipend. Application deadline May 12, 2006. Go to http://www.wpic.pitt.edu/Psych/MedStudent/DetreAward.htm Flyer in glass bulletin board. Questions to Dr. Jason Rosenstock at rosenstockjb@msx.upmc.edu

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

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.

HOW TO HELP IN THE EVENT OF A CITY-WIDE DISASTER
Within 60 days. Additional information described on a flyer in the glass bulletin board. Questions to Dr. Jason Rosenstock at rosenstockjb@msx.upmc.edu

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.

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.

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.”
**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 (221-6160) or Sheri Myers (221-6163).

**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 judgment 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 in the evening hours. Call 270-2626 and the van will pick you up from the station.

**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/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. 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.

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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, 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!

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**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 be still be posted in the glass bulletin board. Therefore, periodically check the bulletin board for such late announcements.

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 16, 2006.**

Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Health Professions promotes student designed and student led projects with a focus on the Special Olympics Health Athletes programs, Special Olympics athletes, as well as the health and well being of all persons with intellectual disabilities. More information is available at [www.specialolympics.org/studentgrants](http://www.specialolympics.org/studentgrants). A project may be funded up to $3500 per year.

The Scaife Family Foundation offers fellowships to attend the one week School of Alcohol and Drug Studies (July 9-14, 2006) or the one week Institute of Alcohol and Drug Studies (July 30-August 4, 2006) at Rutgers in New Jersey. Fellowships will cover tuition, room and meals ($1225); 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 16, 2006.**

Unite for Sight has published its international internship opportunities at [www.uniteforsight.org/intl_volunteer](http://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 following 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.ceedei.org/cuenca/programs/spanish/medical](http://www.ceedei.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](http://www.cfhi.org). Their application is at [www.cfhi.org/program_intro.php4](http://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.
AMSA Programs
SUNY Downstate does not provide any financial assistance for students to participate in the following programs.

Primary Care Leadership Training Program: A weeklong innovative institute. This year's theme is "Learning from Each Other: Cultural Competency in Medicine and Dentistry." Location: Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY from August 7-11. Application deadline May 8, 2006 Application at www.amsa.org/addm. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

National Primary Care Week October 15-21, 2006 www.amsa.org/programs/npcw/

SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE AMA FOUNDATION
Physicians of Tomorrow – ten, $10,000 scholarships for rising seniors. Deadline: May 31
Arthur N. Wilson, MD Scholarship – one, $5000 scholarship to a medical student who grew up in Southeast Alaska. Deadline: June 15

For more information, go to www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/14772.html

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
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 1 & 2 only
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.