WELCOME DEAN TAYLOR!
With the arrival of September 1 is also the arrival of our new dean! Please join me in welcoming the Senior Vice President for Biomedical Education and Research, and Dean of the College of Medicine, Ian L. Taylor, M.D., Ph.D.

WELCOME CLASS OF 2010!
The Class of 2010 is the Sesquicentennial Class. The year that they graduate, the College of Medicine will be 150 years old! 185 new first year students entered the College of Medicine this year. The class is 49.2% female and 50.8% male. 77.3% are from New York State. Of that percentage, 43.2% are from the 5 boroughs of New York City. The age range of the class is 20-37, and they come from 71 different colleges. The Diversity Survey for the class will be posted on the glass bulletin board outside of the Office of the Registrar.

MEDICAL SCHOOL ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE
Are you a second year or fourth year medical student, and do you want to help select future students for SUNY Downstate? The time commitment is every Wednesday from 4-6:30 p.m. the months of late-October thorough May. If you are interested in this position, please submit the following to Ms. Ilana Levine in the Office of Admissions at Box 60 (Room 133, BSB) by Monday, September 18; your name, local mailing address, local telephone number, box number, a brief description of any admissions related work which might qualify you for a position on the Admissions Committee, and a brief statement of why you are interested in this position. Candidates may be asked to come for an interview. There are two MS 2 and two MS 4 positions available.

DID YOU DO SOMETHING NICE THIS SUMMER?
If you are a second year medical student and you did research or some other educationally related experience this summer, do not forget to have your preceptor/supervisor 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.

SUNY DOWNSTATE BRAGGING RIGHTS
Congratulations to members of the Class of 2007 on their selection for the 2006-2007 year

Jeong Choi – NIH Clinical Research Training Program
Karen Ast – NIH Fogerty Ellison Program in India
Christine Rager – NIH Fogerty Ellison Program in Peru

Read about the NIH Clinical Research Training Program at: http://www.training.nih.gov/ctri/index.asp

STUDENT ACTIVITIES FAIR – Get Involved!
Learn about our student organizations and how to get involved! The date is Thursday, September 7 from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Student Center Tennis Court.

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)

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.

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, Ms. Sophie Christoforou, Associate Dean or Mr. Jeffrey Putman, Assistant Dean.

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, please go to http://sis.downstate.edu/studentaffairs/newsletters/index.html

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, 2007. Applications are available starting August 1, 2006 at www.aamc.org/overseasfellowship. Application deadline is December 8, 2006. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

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
WHERE TO GO FOR…

Curriculum Changes – The Curriculum and Educational Policies Committee of the Faculty of the College of Medicine is chaired by Dr. Margaret Golden from the Dept. of Pediatrics and has 2 student representatives from each medical school class year.

Curriculum Changes, Academic Requirements Changes, Academic Policy Changes – The Dean’s Education Council oversees 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, Jan Taylor, M.D., Ph.D. There are two student representatives on the committee – the president of Medical Student Council (Michael Seibert) and the president of the MS 4 class (John Chi). The Committee meets once a month.

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 718 221-6160.

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 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.

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

ANNUAL BEST PAPER IN PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

by a medical student

The prize for the best paper is $1000. All prevention related topics will be considered. Submissions must be received by October 2, 2006. Questions and electronic submissions may be sent to Erica.Frank@ubs.ca.

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, Associate Dean Ms. Sophie Christoforou, or Assistant Dean Mr. Jeffrey Putman. All are 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. To schedule an appointment with Mr. Putman, call 270-2187. 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.

Medicine in the Wild elective (March 27-April 20, 2007) is designed for third or fourth year medical students and residents. The cost is $4000. For more information go to www.nols.edu/wmi/courses/medicineinthewild.shtml

AMSA: The Humanistic Elective in Activism, alternative medicine, and Reflective Transformation (HEART) is a fourth year elective (April 2-27, 2007). Cost $950. For more information, go to www.amsa.org/humed/heart/index.cfm