WELCOME CLASS OF 2014!
182 new first year students entered the College of Medicine this year. The class is 42% female and 58% male. 81% are from New York State. Other states represented are: California, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island. The age range of the class is 20-36, and they come from 75 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 November through 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 Thursday, October 1: your name, local mailing address, local telephone number, box number, a brief description of any experiences 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.

MS 2’s: 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, for inclusion in your academic file. The letter should be addressed: Lorraine Terracina, Ph.D., SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 85, Brooklyn, NY 11203. The letter may also be send by fax. Our fax number is (718) 270-7592. The letter must be from your preceptor/attending, not from you, in order to be included in your academic file. It must be on letterhead and signed.

In order to determine if your letter has been received, go to the Office of the Registrar during office hours, show your ID card and ask to see your academic file. The letter will be there, if it has been received.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES FAIR – Get Involved!
Learn about our student organizations and how to get involved! The date is Monday, September 13 from 4:30 p.m. at the Student Center Tennis Court (rain location is the Gym).

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 SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR SURGERY (SVS) wants you to know how exciting their field is. Go to their website at www.VascularWeb.org

GERIATRICS career information
Local Geriatric Mentoring Program
www.americangeriatrics.org/health_care_professionals/trainees/find_a_mentor/

Geriatrics career information, including profiles of geriatricians
www.americangeriatrics.org/health_care_professionals/trainees/

Information for medical students
www.americangeriatrics.org/health_care_professionals/trainees/student_resident_chapters/list_of_current_student_chapters

American Medical Student (AMSA) Geriatrics Interest Group
www.amsa.org/AMSA/Homepage/About/Committees/Geriatrics.asp

ONE YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMS

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. There is a stipend. Moving expenses and subsidized, on-campus housing is also part of the program. The application is now available. Application deadline January 10, 2011. For more information go to www.hhmi.org/cloister

HHMI Research Training Fellowships for Medical Students
(Medical Fellows Program - 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, too! There is a stipend. The application is now available. The application deadline is January 11, 2011. For more information go to www.hhmi.org/medfellowships

NIH/FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM
This is a one year mentored clinical research experience at NIH funded research centers throughout the world for medical students who will have completed most of their third year clerkships by June, 2011.

To learn more, go to http://www.fogartscholars.org/scholars/international-clinical-research-scholars-program The application deadline is November 19, 2010. We are pleased that one of our students was selected as a 2010 participant.
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). 30 students per year are accepted into the program. There is a stipend. Read about the NIH Clinical Research Training Program at: http://www.cc.nih.gov/training/crtp/crtp.html Application available in October. Application deadline is January 15.

RESEARCH INFO & SUMMER RESEARCH

Reminder: For advice and assistance, the Medical Student Research Advisor is Dr. Frank Barone (Frank.Barone@downstate.edu)

The AMA FOUNDATION SEED GRANT RESEARCH Program awards grants of $2500 towards the conduct of small projects in applied and clinical research, led by medical students and residents. Applications must be received by December 6, 2010. Information: AMA Foundation, seedgrants@ama-assn.org or go to http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/ama-foundation/our-programs/medical-education/seed-grant-research.shtml. Grants are awarded in: Cardiovascular/Pulmonary Diseases, HIV/AIDS, Leukemia, and Neoplastic Diseases.

INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY

The Dr. Constantin Cope Medical Student Research Award is open to 2nd, 3rd and 4th year medical students. The deadline for submission of the abstract is November 15, 2010. For more information go to http://www.sirfoundation.org/grants-awards/constantin_award.shtml

The Student Research Grant is designed to foster an interest in research by funding a summer research project conducted by a medical student in an area identified by SIR Foundation as important to the advancement of interventional radiology and patient care. Application Deadline: February 1, 2011. http://www.sirfoundation.org/grants-awards/index.shtml/stu

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. Nearly 300 laboratories are available. Go to http://www.aps-spr.org/Student_Research/Info.htm for more information or to review the on-line directory of laboratory opportunities. Application available now. Application deadline January 21, 2011. http://www.sirfoundation.org/grants-awards/index.shtml/stu

NIH SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Applications accepted mid-November through March. http://www.cc.nih.gov/training/students/summer_internships.html

NIH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NIAID) Intramural NIAID Research Opportunities program is for students who are from populations underrepresented in biomedical research. Applications accepted August 15-October 15, 2010. For more information, go to http://www.niaid.nih.gov/labsandresources/labs/training/intro/Pages/default.aspx

SUMMER (NON-RESEARCH) PROGRAMS

WILLIAM B. BEAN STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD in medical history/medical humanism: Stipend of $1500. For more information go to www.americansosler.org Application deadline March 1, 2011. Flyer in glass bulletin board.

JOBS

Work Study – assistant to update web site information about student research opportunities. Email Dr. Frank Barone for more information

CONTESTS, PRIZES, AWARDS

WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS POETRY CONTEST
Sponsored by the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine Human Values Program, the deadline for submission is December 31, 2010. Contest rules appear on a poster in the glass bulletin board. Prizes are $300, $200 and $100. Information available at http://www.neoucom.edu/audience/about/departments/BCS/poetry Poster in glass bulletin board.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE ESSAY CONTEST
The William Osler Medal is awarded annually by the American Association for the History of Medicine for the best unpublished essay on a medical historical topic. Complete information at www.histmed.org/osler_medal.htm Deadline for submissions is January 15, 2011

FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION: Faculty and Student Initiated Projects
http://humanism-in-medicine.org/intros/gStudentInitiated.html

RESIDENCY INFORMATION RESOURCES

Residency Match List
See the 2010 Residency Match list in the glass bulletin board next to the Office of the Registrar. The residency match lists for the last 15 years is posted on the Student Affairs website. http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/residency/placement.html

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 “register” button on the bottom of the page.

Careers in Medicine has a tool called Residency Preference Exercise. This exercise helps medical students identify criteria important to them in selecting a residency program and, using that information, searching for and rating programs on how well the program fits those criteria.

The Careers in Medicine newsletter, Choices, is available from the Careers In Medicine website (http://www.aamc.org/students/cim/choicesnewsletter.htm) The newsletter provides important information about residency and career choice topics. The August, 2010 newsletter spotlights General Surgery.

A Guide to the Preparation of the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (also known as the Dean’s Letter)
http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/residency/index.html
We do not send your academic file to residency programs. You fill out an application form known as ERAS, very similar to the AMCAS application in format. A letter summarizing your academic performance in medical school, MSPE, is also sent to residency programs.

Roadmap to Residency: From Application to the Match and Beyond
http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/residency/index.html

Charting Outcomes in the Match: Characteristics of Applicants Who Matched to Their Preferred Specialty in the 2005 NRMP Main Residency Match
Charting Outcomes in the Match: Characteristics of Applicants Who Matched to Their Preferred Specialty in the 2007 NRMP Main Residency Match
Charting Outcomes in the Match: Characteristics of Applicants Who Matched to Their Preferred Specialty in the 2009 NRMP Main Residency Match
http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/residency/index.html
From the AAMC, includes information about Step 1 scores, number of programs on the rank order list, AOA honor society membership, and research accomplishments.

SCHOLARSHIPS & MONEY
NIH HELPS ADVANCE RESEARCH CAREERS
Through Student Loan Repayment Programs
The National Institutes of Health (NIH) fosters the careers of thousands of scientific researchers through its extramural Loan Repayment Programs (LRP). The LRP’s two-year award repays up to $35,000 per year of educational loan debt for individuals who commit to conducting two years of qualified biomedical or behavioral research at a nonprofit or government institution.
http://www.lrp.nih.gov/about_the_programs/index.aspx


NATIONAL MEDICAL FELLOWSHIPS: Need Based Fellowships http://www.nmfonline.org/programs.html

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
AMSA International Health Opportunities List
http://www.amsa.org/global/ih/lhoppss.cfm
IFMSA Research Exchange Projects
IFMSA Clinical Exchange Projects

GENERAL INFORMATION
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT COUNSELING
This is a reminder that we have a director of student counseling, Dr. Christine Saunders-Fields. To schedule an appointment, please telephone 718 270-1408 or email her at counseling@downstate.edu
All appointments and sessions are completely confidential. I strongly recommend the relaxation exercises for everyone! The service is free of charge.

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.

DISCOUNTED SOFTWARE FOR STUDENTS
(Announcement from SUNY Downstate’s Information Services)
The full version of Microsoft Office is now available through the New York State Microsoft Select Program at significantly reduced pricing for SUNY students and for work-at-home by faculty and staff. The Student Select program requires no funding or distribution resources by your campus. [Note: We are listed as Brooklyn, Health Science Center on the pull down menu.]
This program is separate from Select programs for institutional acquisitions and is an alternative to the Microsoft Campus Agreement Student Option.
Microsoft Office is available for both PC (Windows) and Apple Macintosh platforms. Windows Vista upgrades are also available through Select. This and other software negotiated for SUNY such as Adobe, SPSS and Quark are available on-line from University at Buffalo UBMicro IT Support Services, the HP designated SUNY distributor for the Microsoft Select Program.
Individually order these products from our secure web site at http://www.ubmicrosuny.com/.

SENIOR CLASS NOTES
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.
Check your SUNY Downstate email regularly for the announcement of the Residency Interviewing Workshop.

NIH CLINICAL ELECTIVES PROGRAM offers electives (extramural credit) in 21 areas. For the list and more information, go to http://www.cc.nih.gov/training/students/clinical_electives.html

The CDC’s Epidemiology Elective Program (Epi Elective) is a 6 to 8 week rotation for senior medical students. Participants have an opportunity to learn while working with CDC epidemiologists to solve real-world public health problems.
http://www.cdc.gov/eis/applyeis/elective.htm

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-NYCDH21 for more information or to register, and email any questions to healthmrc@health.nyc.gov.


WHERE TO GO FOR...
Curriculum Changes – The Curriculum and Educational Policies Committee of the Faculty of the College of Medicine is chaired by Dr. Keith Williams from the Dept. of Physiology and Pharmacology, 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, Ian Taylor, M.D., Ph.D. There are two student representatives on the committee – the president of Medical Student Council (Michael Allison) and the president of the MS 4 class (Jessica Wong). The Committee meets once a month.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY? HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONE FINDER
Find out if your address is located in an evacuation zone. Go to www.NYC.gov/hurricanezones

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.

MS 1 & MS 2 CARREL COORDINATORS
MS 1 students should report carrel or key problems to Viktoriya Nikolenko 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.

SUNY DOWNSTATE BRAGGING RIGHTS
Congratulations to Simon Fitzgerald, MS 3 on his selection for the NIH Fogarty/Ellison one year clinical research program in China!

Congratulations to Rita Abdelmessih, MS 3 on her selection for the Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship at Columbia University!

Returnees to SUNY Downstate
Samar Mehta, MS 4 from the NIH Fogarty/Ellison one year clinical research program in Uganda!

Aldo Rinaldi, MS 4 from the one year Alumni Research Fellowship in New Zealand!

Lillian Guenther, MS 4 from the NIH Howard Hughes Medical Institute one year research program at the NIH campus (cloister program)

Paul Kogan, MS 4 from the Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship at UNC Chapel Hill

Leslie Marino, MS 4 from the CDC Experience Applied Epidemiology Fellowship program

WHERE TO GET DIFFERENT TYPES OF LETTERS
http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/where_to_get_letters.html

Attendance: Letters simply certifying that you are in a student in school, or in good academic standing, etc. may be obtained directly from the Office of the Registrar. 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. Bring the original copy of your summons to the Office of Student Affairs. The court’s final decision prevails. You may need to serve during your vacation period.

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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, Associate Dean Sophie Christoforou, or Assistant Dean 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 call 270-2187 or send an email. 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.

AMSAs Programs
SUNY Downstate does not provide any financial assistance for students to participate in AMSA programs.
(none this month)

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 all 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.

We have no information about the quality of the following programs. Enroll in them at your own risk!

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.

There is also a conference scheduled for April 16-17, 2011 at Yale University

Global Service Corps (Worldwide) programs in Tanzania and Thailand address the challenge of healthcare in the developing world. For more information, contact Mayia Holliday at operations@globalservicecorps.org

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.

MAP International Medical Fellowship in the context of Christian medical missions. For more information, go to www.map.org or email mstevenson@map.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. Application deadline March 1. Go to www.map.org

CROSSING CULTURES SENEGAL 2011
This is not a school sponsored program and not eligible for malpractice or other coverage from the school. You participate as a private citizen.

Crossing Cultures offers a stimulating travel and educational program focused on the French-speaking Republic of Senegal, West Africa. The program dates for the 2010 Crossing Cultures program are June 27 – July 13, 2011.

Led by two former Peace Corps volunteers, this program appeals to people in and out of academia. It works well for those who want to experience family life and community projects in the rural areas of this diverse nation, and for those with special interests in dance and music, training, environment, medicine, government, agriculture, language or education and health projects.

The Crossing Cultures group is small, no more than ten, allowing the leaders to tailor activities to the participants’ interests. Reasonable cost. Extended stays for volunteer work or field study can be facilitated. For more information, contact:
Janet L. Ghattas, General Director
Intercultural Dimensions, Inc.
PO Box 391437
Cambridge MA 02139
E-mail: jthand@aol.com
Website: www.interculturaldimensions.org

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAMS