College of Medicine

Student Newsletter

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Dean of Students

April 4, 2012

 ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MS 4’s!
For a fabulous Residency Match. The list is posted in the glass bulletin board outside of the Office of the Registrar. The Match Day video is still posted on our home page. If you haven’t seen it, you should!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PRESENT ACCEPTED RESEARCH PAPERS AT CONFERENCES – The Alumni Association will consider funding such presentations. Obtain guidelines and form from the Alumni Association.

The University of Iowa’s Conference on Writing, Humanities, and the Art of Medicine, The Examined Life, will be April 19-21, 2012. For more information, go to http://www.medicine.uiowa.edu/theexaminedlife/ Philip Levine, US Poet Laureate is the keynote speaker.

GLOBAL HEALTH Conference 2012 at Yale University
Saturday, April 21-Sunday, April 22, 2012 For more information, go to www.uniteforsight.org/conference

AMWA CONFERENCE April 13-15 in Miami, Florida

NATIONAL STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM The Forum will be April 26-27, 2012 in Galveston, Texas. Flyer in Miscellaneous section of the student newsletter page.

STEP 2CS INFORMATION
Changes To STEP 2CS starting June 17, 2012. See the announcement on the National Boards website.
Special Hotel rates for Clinical Skills exams https://www.aamc.org/meetings/153904/clinicalskills_ntgs_homepage_teaser.html

WOMEN IN SURGERY SYMPOSIUM
May 31-June 2, 2012 at Johns Hopkins. Flyer on the newsletter page of the Student Affairs website.

KEYSTONE SYMPOISA
These 55 research conferences span all facets of the life sciences. This is an opportunity to learn about late breaking research, build collaborations, present a poster or possibly be selected for a short talk. Items of note: 1) Keystone Symposia Scholarships provides up to $1200 to students to attend a Keystone Symposia conference.
Deadlines are 4 months before each conference meeting; 2) Keystone Symposia Underrepresented Minority (URM) Scholarships provide up to $1200 to students from URM backgrounds to attend a conference; 3) Global Health Travel Award is to assist attendance of students from countries where the meeting topic health problems are indigenous.

For more information about all three items, go to the following URL http://www.keystonesymposia.org/SubDirDefault.cfm?MenuNumber =4

For the list of the 55 research conferences, go to the following URL http://www.keystonesymposia.org/Meetings/ListMeetings.cfm

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)

ONE YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAMS

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES offers a one year research opportunity where you can seek funding. The information is at the following URL http://www2.niddk.nih.gov/Funding/TrainingCareerDev/MSRTGuidelines.htm The deadline is April 15, 2012 for the 2012-2013 year

RESEARCH INFO & SUMMER RESEARCH

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

REHABILITATION RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS (RREMS) provides an 8 week structured research experience in physiatry with a $4000 stipend. Flyer on student newsletter page. Application deadline Friday, April 6, 2012. For more information, go to http://www.physiatry.org/Education_RREMS_front.cfm

HOSPITAL FOR SPECIAL SURGERY (NY, NY) offers a Medical Student Summer Research Fellowship for 8 weeks (June 18-August 10) with a $2400 stipend. PDF on the student newsletter page. Application deadline April 9, 2012.

NIH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES (NIDDK)
A 2-3 month program to conduct diabetes-related research. There is a short term program for the summer in-between MS 1 and MS 2. See this web page http://www2.niddk.nih.gov/Funding/TrainingCareerDev/MedicalStudents.htm Three SUNY Downstate students participated in this program last summer.

NIH SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

SUMMER (NON-RESEARCH) PROGRAMS

The Association of Academic Physiatrists and the Foundation for PM&R announce the MEDICAL STUDENT SUMMER CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP (MSSCE). This is an 8 week experience with inpatient and outpatient clinical exposure. $4000 stipend. PDF on the student newsletter website. Application deadline Friday April 6. For more information go to http://www.physiatry.org/Education_MSSCE_front.cfm
The SUMMER INSTITUTE IN PSYCHIATRY AT VIRGINA COMMONWEALTH is a one week program July 8-13, 2012. Information brochure on the student newsletter page. More information www.vcu.edu/psych/about/start.shtml Application deadline June 15, 2012

The SCAIFE FAMILY FOUNDATION offers fellowships to attend the one week Institute of Addiction Studies (June 10-15, 2012) at RUTGERS IN NEW JERSEY. Fellowships will cover tuition, room and meals plus a $400 stipend for travel and miscellaneous expenses. Flyer in glass bulletin board. Information booklet in the Office of Student Affairs. Application deadline April 15, 2012. For more information, go to http://alcoholstudies.rutgers.edu/ or see the PDF on the student newsletter page.

CONTESTS, PRIZES, AWARDS

ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION Humanism in Medicine Essay Contest has cash prizes of up to $1000 for an essay of 1000 words or less. More information on the student newsletter page. Deadline extension to April 15, 2012.

University of Cincinnati’s STANLEY M. KAPLAN Medical Student Essay Contest has a first place cash prize of $500. Deadline is June 30, 2012. Flyer PDF on newsletter web page

FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Arnold P. Gold Foundation: Faculty and Student Initiated Projects http://humanism-in-medicine.org/intros/gStudentInitiated.html

CAREER INFORMATION

The Curriculum & Educational Policies Committee (CEPC) is in the process of reorganizing and increasing the opportunities for career exposure in the first two years.

The current list of non-credit electives (Emergency Medicine, OB/GYN, Pathology, Radiation Oncology, Surgical Research) is located at http://sls.downstate.edu/registrar/com/index.html

The list of current Career Exposure electives is located at the same URL (anesthesiology, otolaryngology, pathology, pediatrics, psychiatry) The Alumni Association also offers a shadowing program. For more information contact, Ms. Dionne Davis-Lowe.

WOMEN IN SURGERY SYMPOSIUM

May 31-June 2, 2012 at Johns Hopkins. Flyer on the newsletter page of the Student Affairs website.

PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION (PM&R) – The American Academy of PM&R have set up a website for students including an e-newsletter, a guide to the field, mentor program, applying to residency, etc. Go to http://www.aapmr.org/career/students/Pages/default.aspx

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/stude nt_resident_chapters/list_of_current_student_chapters

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

PATHOLOGY CAREERS

Pathology Insider’s Articles
Career: Pathologists
Insider’s Guide: Top 8 Things to Look for When Selecting a Pathology Residency Training Program
Pathology: Myths and Truths

Pathology Web Sites
College of American Pathologists—Premier organization for pathology residents www.cap.org
The Student Doctors Network http://www.studentdoctor.net/
The Doctor’s Doctor—Who is the Pathologist? www.thedoctorsdoctor.com
American Board of Pathology www.abpath.org
Intersociety Council for Pathology Information, Inc. www.pathologytraining.org
American Society for Investigative Pathology www.asip.org

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 newsletters provide important information about residency and career choice topics. October, 2011 spotlights Internal Medicine April, 2011 spotlights Preventive Medicine & recaps the 2011 Match January, 2011 spotlights Medical Genetics November, 2010 spotlights Hospital Medicine August, 2010 spotlights General Surgery April, 2010 spotlights Internal Medicine-Pediatrics
RESIDENCY INFORMATION RESOURCES

RESIDENCY MATCH LIST
See the 2011 Residency Match list in the glass bulletin board next to the Office of the Registrar. The residency match lists for the last 16 years is posted on the Student Affairs website.
http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/residency/placement.html

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

SCHOLARSHIPS & MONEY

Herbert W. Nickens Medical Student Scholarships are for students entering their third year of medical school who have shown leadership in efforts to eliminate inequities in medical education and health care. For a full description of the criteria, go to https://www.aamc.org/initiatives/awards/101280/nickens_scholarship_overview.html Local campus deadline for applications is Friday, April 27, 2012.

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/ihopps.cfm

IFMSA Research Exchange Projects

IFMSA Clinical Exchange Projects

GLOBAL HEALTH Conference 2012 at Yale University
Saturday, April 21-Sunday, April 22, 2012 For more information, go to www.uniteforsight.org/conference

THIRD YEAR CLASS NOTES

Kaiser Oakland is offering a subinternship in Pediatrics. Brochure posted in the Residency Info section of the newsletter website.

Johns Hopkins Hospitalist Sub-internship rotation. Information in the Residency Info section of the newsletter website.

Boston Medical Center Minority subsidized elective program for visiting 4th year medical students. Application deadline April 6, 2012. Flyer in the Residency Info section of the student newsletter page.


SENIOR CLASS NOTES

MS 4 EXTRAMURAL (AWAY) ELECTIVES
The AAMC has an Extramural Electives Compendium (https://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/electives/) in the AAMC website. This lists the contact person, name and mailing address, for away electives at other medical schools.

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

Stanford University orthopedic surgery diversity elective stipend support. See PDF in the newsletter section of the Student Affairs website.
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.

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.

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.

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

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

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 (Hamerton Jeanty) and the president of the MS 4 class (Rosanna Lee). The Committee meets once a month.

SUNY DOWNSTATE BRAGGING RIGHTS
Congratulations to Dmitry Volkin, MS 3 on his selection for the NIH Clinical Research Training Program
Congratulations to Rachael Maciasz, MS 3 on her selection for the Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh!
Congratulations to Jessica Bloome, MS 3 on her selection for the Doris Duke International Clinical Research Fellowship at the UCSF!

Congratulations to Rosalyn Plotzker, MS 3 on her selection as a Luce Scholar

Returnees to SUNY Downstate
Simon Fitzgerald, MS 4 from the NIH Fogarty/Ellison one year clinical research program in China!
Rita Abdelmessih, MS 4 from the Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship at Columbia University

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.

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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!

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

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**AMSA Programs**

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

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**INTERNATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAMS**

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.

**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.

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**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.