COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
STUDENT NEWSLETTER
Lorraine Terracina, PhD
Dean of Students

Student Affairs Deans
Dean Sophie Christoforou
Dean Jeffrey Putman

December 10, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY WINTER BREAK
Happy holidays, good luck to anyone with December exams, and have a lovely winter break! See you in 2013!

HURRICANE SANDY Sadness
We extend our support and help to all in our community who suffered loss with Hurricane Sandy. If you have not yet self-identified and you or your family were affected by Hurricane Sandy, please send an email to studentaffairs@downstate.edu so we can offer help and assistance if possible.

54th ANNUAL NATIONAL STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM for the presentation of research by medical students and graduate students in biomedical sciences, medical humanities, and public health in Galveston, Texas. Abstract deadline is February 1, 2013. For more information go to http://www.utmb.edu/nsrf or contact Nina Vaidya at nnvaidya@utmb.edu

SHARE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE WITH US
We need photos or short videos of the Brooklyn where you live - suitable for posting on our institutional website. The focus should be the beauty of Brooklyn neighborhoods or landmarks, human interest themes photographed or filmed in Brooklyn, or your fellow students in academically related or school related activities. Permission forms are posted on the Miscellaneous section of the Student Affairs webpage at http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/misc/index.html We need a caption to go with your submission. Photos may be used in the Admissions Office or on the Admissions website. Submit your entries to Dr. Lorraine Terracina (Lorraine.Terracina@downstate.edu) or Dr. Marcia Gerber (Marcia.Gerber@downstate.edu)

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. Her email address is Ilana.Levine@downstate.edu

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.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY ELECTIVE
Beginning October 3rd, Dr. Phyllis Supino will be teaching an elective entitled Principles of Research Methodology every Wednesday from 5 PM-6PM in BSB Lecture Hall 2. The course reviews fundamental aspects of research methodology common to most disciplines and is intended for physicians, medical students, and all other members of the Downstate Medical Center community who wish to enhance their ability to critically evaluate the published research literature or are contemplating (or currently involved in) designing research projects, writing grant proposals, or conducting research for publication in peer-reviewed journals or presentation at medical society meetings. To sign up for the elective, complete a non-credit elective form in the Office of the Registrar.

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 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.

The letter should be addressed to: Lorraine Terracina, Ph.D., SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 85, Brooklyn, NY 11203. The letter may be sent by fax (our fax number is (718) 270-7592) or by email to studentaffairs@downstate.edu. The cut-off date for us to accept any letters is this December 31, 2012. After that date, no summer letters will be accepted for inclusion in your academic file.

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.

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RURAL SURGERY wishes to identify first and second year students with a rural or small town background who also have an interest in surgery. Opportunities exist for mentoring opportunities. Information regarding ACS Medical Student Programs can be found at www.facs.org

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE INVENTORS AND INNOVATORS ALLIANCE announces its 2012-2013 E-Team Program. NCIIA is looking to support the most compelling student technology innovations with grant funding, venture development training, and investment. Teams may apply for up to $75,000. Prior funded projects are posted on their website. Application deadlines for several cycles are February 1 2013 and May 10 2013 Go to http://nciia.org/

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/meeting/153904/clinicalsks_mtgs_homepage_teaser.html

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

HHMI MEDICAL RESEARCH FELLOWS PROGRAM

Enables medical, dental, and veterinary students at schools located in the U.S. to spend a year conducting basic, translational, or applied biomedical research at any school or nonprofit research institution in the United States, except the NIH in Bethesda, MD. HHMI will award 66 fellowships in 2013.

Joint initiatives with outside funders support additional Fellows doing research in specific areas: inherited retinal degenerative disease research (Foundation Fighting Blindness); Duchenne muscular dystrophy research (Duchenne Research Fund); pre-clinical research in interventional radiology (Society of Interventional Radiology Foundation). For the 2013-2014 program year, Fellows will receive a $29,000 stipend, a $5,500 fellow’s allowance for health, dental and vision insurance and some education-related expenses and a $5,500 research allowance for research-related enrichment activities and some research costs. The Competition System is now open and the application deadline is January 11, 2013.


The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the KwaZulu-Natal Research Institute for Tuberculosis and HIV (K-RITH) are pleased to announce a partnership to fund medical students for a year of basic research through HHMI’s Medical Research Fellows Program. The new partnership presents a unique opportunity for students to conduct research in tuberculosis (TB) and HIV at K-RITH, a new cutting-edge research institute in Durban, South Africa. The year-long fellowships will begin in the summer of 2013 and are open to students currently enrolled in US medical schools. Students should have previous research experience and a strong interest in infectious disease. MD/PhD students are not eligible to apply. NOTE: the application deadline for the 2013-2014 academic year is January 11, 2013. Interested applicants are encouraged to visit: www.hhmi.org/medfellowships to learn more about both the domestic and K-RITH fellowships.

AMA’s JOAN F. GIAMBALVO SCHOLARSHIP RESEARCH GRANT is a one year research grant of up to $10,000 to advance the progress of women in the medical profession, and address the needs of women physicians and medical students. Application deadline: February 25, 2013. Go to www.amafoundation.org/go/giambalvo

NIH MEDICAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Medical Research Scholars Program is a comprehensive, year-long research enrichment program designed to attract the most creative, research-oriented medical, dental, and veterinary students to the intramural campus of the NIH in Bethesda, Md. Scholars engage in a mentored basic, clinical, or translational research project in an area that matches their personal interests and goals. This program blends the elements of two former, highly successful programs—the Howard Hughes Medical Institute-NIH Research Scholars Program and the NIH Clinical Research Training Program. It is expected that there will be up to 70 positions available. We have a student in the inaugural class this year. Application is available beginning October 1, 2012.

http://www.cc.nih.gov/training/mrsp/application.html

Student Resources: Lusana Ahsan and Dmitry Volkin

DORIS DUKE INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

To encourage medical students to pursue clinical research careers by exposing them to exciting research opportunities in developing countries. Each institution will offer 3 fellowships per year. Students may be matriculated at any US based medical school to be eligible.

Duke University School of Medicine & Duke Global Health Institute

http://www.dukeglobalhealth.duke.edu/education/doris-duke

Harvard Medical School

http://ghsm.hms.harvard.edu/education/ddicrf/

University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

http://accelerate.ucsf.edu/training/pacctr-ddcf

University of Minnesota School of Medicine

http://blog.lib.umn.edu/iaclglobalpediatrics/2012/10/announcement-doris-duke-international-clinical-research-fellowships.html

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine

http://www.med.unc.edu/nfids/malawi/training/doris-duke-fellowship

Yale University School of Medicine

http://medicine.yale.edu/education/osr/student/funding/ddcf.aspx

They sent a poster and interest cards which are posted in the Office of Student Affairs. Contact person is Donna.carranzo@yale.edu


THE SARNOFF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

This program offers medical students who have completed their second or third year of medical school the opportunity to conduct research for one year. Prior research experience is not a prerequisite. The annual stipend is $30,000. The fellowship program’s website is www.Sarofffoundation.org.

http://www.sarofffoundation.org/?page=Fellowship_Info#Application%20Schedule%20and%20Information

Application deadline is September 2012-January 9, 2013

CDC-HUBERT GLOBAL HEALTH FELLOWSHIP

This fellowship provides third- and fourth -year medical and veterinary students with valuable public health experience in an international setting. The main focus of the fellowship is a 6- to 12-week field assignment. Fellows are mentored by experienced CDC staff and learn through hands-on experience while working on a public health project in a developing country.

http://www.cdc.gov/hubertfellowship/

The application cycle generally opens in mid January and closes in mid February.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES (NIDDK)

If you are a medical student who wishes to take a year off to pursue research training, NIDDK supports such year-off research experiences via supplemental slots to training grants. Please check the list of currently funded training grants to identify an eligible location.
RESEARCH INFO & SUMMER RESEARCH

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

The University of Maryland's SPORT program is a 8-12 week program of mentored research training sponsored by the NIH Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). Go to http://medschool.umaryland.edu/sport/ Application deadline Monday, January 14, 2013.

MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER'S MEDICAL STUDENT SUMMER FELLOWSHIP RESEARCH PROGRAM The Medical Student Summer Fellowship program is an eight-week research program offered to medical students who have a career interest as a physician-scientist in the field of oncology and/or related biomedical sciences. The online application process is December 17, 2012 at 12 noon – January 14, 2013 at 12 noon. This is one of the most popular summer programs with our students each year.

2013 AOA CAROLYN L. KUCKEIN Student Research Fellowship provides a $5000 stipend for 8-10 weeks. Deadline for submission to local AOA chapter is December 31, 2012. For more information, go to http://alphaomegadepho.org/student_research.html

HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE HHMI Summer Medical Fellows Program will support up to 20 students working in HHMI laboratories (with HHMI investigators, early career scientists or at the Janelia Farm Research Campus), for a minimum of 8 consecutive weeks (10 weeks preferred). Students must be in good standing at a medical, dental, or veterinary school located in the U.S. Those who are enrolled in a combined professional degree/Ph.D. program or who have already received a one-year award from any year-out research training program are not eligible to apply. The program is primarily aimed at those students who wish to explore the summer research experience with the intent of applying for the year-long program. For the 2013 summer program, students will receive a stipend of $5,000 for 10 weeks ($500/week for less than 10 weeks) and up to $1,000 for roundtrip relocation costs. The Competition System opens on November 1, 2012 and the application deadline is February 15, 2013.

PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY EDUCATION: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee provides short-term training experiences in either clinical research or laboratory research for a minimum of 9 weeks, with a stipend of $4000 for summer appointment. Applications are available as of September, 2012 and the application deadline is February 1, 2013. The POE home page http://www.stjude.org/poe contains links to the program application, which must be submitted online. To identify departments and/or faculty members with whom you would like to work, go to www.stjude.org/poe/. There is an on-line application at that site. Additional information in the Office of Student Affairs.

NON-NIH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES – Grants & Fellowships http://www.fic.nih.gov/Funding/NonNIHPages/default.aspx

NON-NIH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS http://www.fic.nih.gov/Funding/NonNIHPages/health-professionals.aspx

The AMA FOUNDATION SEED GRANT RESEARCH Program awards grants ($2500) towards the conduct of small projects in applied and clinical research, led by medical students and residents. Applications are available in September and are generally due by December 5, 2012. Information: AMA Foundation, seedgrants@ama-assn.org or go to http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/aboutAMA/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 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, 2013 http://www.sirfoundation.org/grants-awards/index.shtml

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 https://www.aps-pr.org/get-involved/student-research/ for more information or to review the on-line directory of laboratory opportunities. Application is available now. Application deadline January 25, 2013.

NIH SUMMER INTERNSHIPS Applications accepted late-November through March. http://www.cc.nih.gov/training/students/summer_internships.html

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES (NIDDK) http://www2.niddk.nih.gov/Funding/TrainingCareerDev/MedicalStudents.htm

2013 MEDICAL STUDENT TRAINING IN AGING RESEARCH (MSTAR) Program provides stipends to conduct full-time research under the mentorship of top experts in the field. Up to 130 scholarships will be awarded. For detailed guidelines and application instructions, go to http://www.affar.org/research/funding/mstar Application deadline January 31, 2013. There are many opportunities listed.


SUMMER (NON-RESEARCH) PROGRAMS

The BETTY FORD SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS is a one-week experiential learning program for MS 1 and MS 2 students. Electronic application. Priority Application deadline Friday, February 1, 2013; application deadline March 1, 2013 5 pm PST http://www.bettyfordinstitute.org/education/summer-institute-for-medical-students.php

WILLIAM B. BEAN STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD in medical history/medical humanism: Stipend of $1500. For more information go to www.americanosigers.org Application deadline

http://www2.niddk.nih.gov/Funding/TrainingCareerDev/MedicalStudents.htm

SOUTH AMERICAN PROGRAM IN HIV PREVENTION RESEARCH (SAPHIR) http://globalhealth.med.ucla.edu/programs/saphir.html
March 1, 2013.

**JOBS**

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

**CONTESTS, PRIZES, AWARDS**

Third and Fourth Year medical students are eligible to submit an essay of 500-1000 words explaining their most instructional patient safety event for the YOUNG PHYSICIANS PATIENT SAFETY AWARD. Six (6) prizes of $5000 each will be awarded. Deadline Monday, February 4, 2013. For more information, go to http://npsfcongress.org/about-2-young-physicians-award/

2013 PHAROS POETRY COMPETITION has a cash prize of $500 for first place. Submission deadline is November 30, 2012. For more information, go to http://alphaomegaalpha.org/poetry_competition.html

2013 HELEN H. GLASER STUDENT ESSAY AWARD offers a $2000 first prize. Submission deadline is January 31, 2013. For more information, go to http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student_essay.html

**FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2013 MEDICAL STUDENT SERVICE LEADERSHIP supports leadership development through mentoring, observation and service learning. For more information, go to http://alphaomegaalpha.org/student_service_leadership.html

**PATHOLOGY CAREERS**

**Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R)** – The American Academy of PM&R have set up a website for students 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/

**Funding For Community Service**

Residents (CEO's)

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

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

**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.
RESIDENCY INFORMATION RESOURCES

Residency Match List
See the 2012 Residency Match list in the glass bulletin board next to the Office of the Registrar. The residency match lists for the last 17 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

Charting Outcomes in the Match: Characteristics of Applicants Who Matched to Their Preferred Specialty in the 2005 NRMP Main Residency Match
http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/residency/index.html
From the NRMP, 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/ihopps.cfm

IFMSA Research Exchange Projects

IFMSA Clinical Exchange Projects

GENERAL INFORMATION

THIRD YEAR CLASS NOTES

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.

SENIOR CLASS NOTES

WESTERN MONTANA Family Medicine residency program – for more information, go to http://fmrwm.umt.edu/

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.

Univ of Texas HSC @ San Antonio’s Dept of Pediatrics offers an elective in advocacy & professional development: Community for Children: At the Border and Beyond – 4 weeks on the international setting of the Texas/Mexico border in South Texas. Flyer posted on the student newsletter website.

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.

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

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio’s Regional Academic Health Center is offering a four week elective entitled “Community for Children: At the Border and Beyond,” on the Texas/Mexico border in South Texas’ Lower Rio Grande Valley. The dates are October 22 – November 16, 2012; February 4 – March 1, 2013; May 28 – June 21, 2013. For more information, go to www.communityforchildren.org
**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](http://www.cc.nih.gov/training/students/clinical_electives.html)

**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.

**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](mailto:healthmrc@health.nyc.gov).

**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.

**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](http://www.NYC.gov/hurricanezones)

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

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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](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.

**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](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.

**MAP International Medical Fellowship** in the context of Christian medical missions. For more information, go to [www.map.org](http://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](http://www.map.org)