on main campus

Little by little, full at last

In the fall of 2001, this school began with 30 students. Four years later, 27 of them graduated.

The next year, 36 graduated. Then 48, 58, 73, 94. Slowly but surely, the College of Medicine has been climbing toward its goal.

Last summer, it reached a total of 480 students. That's 120 per class, give or take. Full enrollment.

Gone is the intimate atmosphere of those early years. But in its place is a bustling sense of energy and a growing sense that all of these bright, compassionate people in white coats really will help alleviate the state's physician shortage. How diverse is this Class of 2014, which arrived in June to lift us to that 480 mark? Here's a glimpse:

- The class is nearly 60 percent male. That's the same percentage as the Class of 2005, but all eight of our other classes have had more women than men.
- Nineteen percent of the new students are Asian.
- More than 8 percent are Hispanic.
- More than 7 percent are black.
- And the Class of 2014 contains three Alexanders, two Alexandras and one Alexandru.
 Now that's diversity.



COLIN HACKLEY