

FSU College of Medicine students match in residency

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(Photo: Bruce W. Palmer)

FORT PIERCE — All 20 of the Class of 2017 Fort Pierce campus students matched into residency on Match Day, March 17, which took place in the Ruby Diamond Concert Hall in Tallahassee. Like other fourth-year med students throughout the country, these FSU students found out which residency programs they'll join for the next phase of their medical training.

Of the Fort Pierce students, 10 matched in Florida, three in North Carolina, and one each in Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, Georgia, Texas, Tennessee and Louisiana.

The nationwide match is done through the computerized National Resident Matching Program, students electronically rank the residency programs where they interviewed, and residency program directors rank the students. Residency training, which lasts at least three years depending on the specialty, is the rigorous and required next step for M.D. students who want to become practicing physicians.

The 20 Fort Pierce students matched in several disciplines, including anesthesiology, dermatology, emergency medicine, family medicine, general surgery, internal medicine, neurosurgery, obstetrics-gynecology, psychiatry, and pediatrics. Students heading out of state matched with superior residency programs. They included Harvard, Duke, Wake Forest, Brown, Hofstra and many more.



Alexander Herbst holds his daughter, Charlotte, while wife Torrie Reynolds-Herbst reveals his residency match during the Florida State University College of Medicine Match Day ceremony. (Photo: COLIN HACKLEY)

The heart of the action took place in about three minutes of chaos, when the students opened their envelopes to find out where they matched. Siblings, parents, grandparents, even little children joined the students on stage to announce their placement. Diana Mosquera's parents came all the way from Colombia to be there. Alex Herbst and Torrie Reynolds-Herbst walked onstage with their 8-week-old daughter.

Fort Pierce campus student Myron Rolle had his own memorable moment onstage. His father recounted Myron's achievements since his arrival at FSU. He was an All-American and BET Male College Athlete of the Year in 2008. Rather than entering the NFL draft, he spent the next year earning his MSc in medical anthropology from Oxford University. In 2010, he was drafted by the Tennessee Titans, and his career in pro football lasted until 2013 — when he entered med school. Myron is heading to Harvard to pursue neurosurgery.



Jalpa Patel and Tamara Marry hug while Henry Huson watches during the Class of 2017 Match Day. (Photo: Bruce W. Palmer)

The FSU College of Medicine welcomed its first 30 students, the Class of 2005, in May 2001. The College of Medicine was designed as a community-based medical school with six regional campuses throughout Florida, which accommodate 240 third- and fourth-year students training with more than 1,500 clinical faculty throughout the state. The students spend their first two years taking basic science courses on the FSU campus in Tallahassee and are then assigned to one of the regional medical school campuses for their third and fourth-year clinical training. The Fort Pierce campus opened in April 2007, and is located on the Indian River State College campus. Over 250 area physicians make up the Fort Pierce campus faculty, with whom the students rotate through the various disciplines.

On May 20, the 118 students in the Class of 2017 will become the 13th class to graduate from the College of Medicine — which will then have 1,147 alumni.

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