

Residencies revealed at 'Match Madness'

Ceremony announces hospital placement of 111 FSU medical students

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Fourth-year medical student Andy Hogan announces his residency during Match Day on March 15. He matched in family medicine with the Naval Hospital at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He is shown with his fiancée, Alexa Von Staden. / Photo courtesy of Colin Hackley

Fourth-year medical student Andy Hogan stood in front of a microphone on March 15 and opened an envelope that would decide his future. Inside was residency placement.

“Family medicine with Naval Hospital at Camp Pendleton, Calif.,” he announced to a room full of peers in the Oglesby ballroom.

One-hundred and ten other peers followed suit as they headed up to the stage and opened letters that told them their residencies--a tradition Florida State calls Match Day.

The festive ceremony, themed “Match Madness,” was filled with anticipation as the 111 students announced the results of their residencies. Deans from the regional campuses were

dressed as basketball players while the College of Medicine Dean John P. Fogarty was dressed in a striped referee's shirt.

"We are excited by the continued success of our program in sending graduates to many of the top residency programs, and I'm pleased to see so many of our students choosing primary care, including so many in family medicine," said Fogarty in a press release. "More than 70 percent of our alumni now practicing in Florida are doing so in a primary care specialty, and today's match results tell us we will continue to be able to provide more of the doctors Florida needs most."

Before the ceremony, the students electronically ranked the residency programs where they'd interviewed through the National Resident Matching Program. The residency program directors then ranked the students.

The students' residencies are a major part of their education in the medical field and depending on their medical specialty, are where they will spend the next three to seven years of their life. Oftentimes, the match will influence where they start their roots in the field and where they will practice medicine afterwards. Graduating medical students across the country received their match information at the same time on the same day.

A third of the class received residency program offers from locations in Florida with Orlando being the number one location among those students, according to a university press release. Sixty-one percent of the students who matched did so in primary care which includes family medicine, internal medicine and pediatrics. The most popular specialty was family medicine, with 21 members of the class matching.

Students Austin Henkel and Matthew Moss were able to be matched at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare where the new Florida State University College of Medicine Internal Medicine Residency Program is held. Zach Folzenlogen became the first College of Medicine student to match in neurosurgery.

Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana and Georgia were the states with the most matches.