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### **MESSAGE FROM DEAN JOSEPH SCHERGER**

The community of students, faculty and staff here at the FSU College of Medicine are united by a sense of commitment - not only to the medically underserved, but also to the belief that medical education can be approached in new and exciting ways.

Our first class of 30 students has wholeheartedly embraced the medical school's mission, as evidenced by their many community service projects. Their dedication, their drive and their achievements deserve to be recognized and applauded.

Over the past year the college has undergone tremendous growth and development. In addition to adding dozens of faculty and staff and establishing three regional medical school campuses, we have moved into new facilities.

The medical school now occupies a renovated complex of buildings that once housed FSU's Developmental Research School. This will be our temporary home while the medical school's new building is being built. These facilities include a beautiful new medical library, Clinical Learning Center, administrative offices,

and lab space, as well as a study and tutoring center for our outreach programs.

Throughout its first full academic year, the college enjoyed broad-based support from the FSU administration, other colleges at FSU, the Florida Legislature and the communities where its regional campuses are being developed.

Among the challenges that lie ahead are the development of programs in geriatrics and rural health, areas in which the FSU College of Medicine will strive to lead the nation, and which are vital to the state of Florida.

The College of Medicine also has been handed a challenge by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the accrediting body for programs leading to the M.D. degree. While the LCME praised the medical school for its outstanding faculty and administrative hires, its well-integrated curriculum, its focus on geriatrics and the commitment of its students, the committee so far has not granted the program initial provisional accreditation.

The LCME originally cited six areas of concern, but has

has since concluded that FSU is noncompliant in only two areas: curriculum management and size of the faculty.

We have no doubt that we will satisfy those concerns. Furthermore, we believe that we are offering an excellent medical education, and we are resolved to do whatever it takes to achieve accreditation.

The creation of the first new medical school in 20 years is clearly an ambitious task, but we are confident that we are building a program that not only meets, but far exceeds national

standards.

## Development of Regional Medical School Campuses Underway

s part of its community-based education program, the FSU College of Medicine has established regional medical school campuses in Orlando, Pensacola and Tallahassee for the clinical training of third- and fourth-year medical students.

A family physician from rural Milton, Fla., will serve as the assistant dean for the Pensacola campus, while a longtime medical educator from Ohio will be the assistant dean for Orlando. A search is underway for the Tallahassee assistant dean.

The college announced in November that it had appointed Dr. Paul McLeod to lead the development of the Pensacola campus.

McLeod spent 21 years in rural family practice and 10 years as an assistant clinical professor for the University of South Alabama, serving most recently as national medical director for MED3000 Health Solutions. He joined the college Jan. 1.

Dr. Joseph E. Scherger, dean of the College of Medicine, said McLeod has all of the qualities needed for the job.

"He is recognized by his peers as a talented leader who will be able to put together a quality education program and get other doctors committed to teaching," Scherger said. "And he will be a great mentor for our students because he is truly excited about helping develop the next generation of doctors."

Dr. Anthony Costa, the newly appointed Orlando assistant dean, currently serves as associate dean for clinical education at the Barberton campus of the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of



DR. ANTHONY COSTA, ASSISTANT DEAN ORLANDO

Medicine and as director of the family practice residency program at Barberton Citizens Hospital. He will join FSU July 1.

Costa brings 15 years of experience running medical education programs to his new position.

"At the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, Dr. Costa has assumed numerous leadership and management positions in medical education," Scherger said. "He has a national reputation in medical education, and will use this expertise to foster a high-quality and collaborative learning environment for Florida State's medical students."

One of the first tasks of the assistant deans will be to identify community physicians to serve as clinical faculty and help prepare them for the arrival of



DR. PAUL MCLEOD, ASSISTANT DEAN PENSACOLA

the college's inaugural class of 30 students, who will begin their clinical education in July of 2003.

Three Pensacola hospitals – Baptist Health Care, Sacred Heart and West Florida Hospital – will be involved in the education of FSU medical students, as will both hospital systems in Orlando – Florida Hospital and Orlando Regional Healthcare System. The College of Medicine also has affiliation agreements with Capital Health Plan, which is a Tallahassee area HMO, and Tallahassee Community Hospital.

At each campus, nonprofit community corporations will provide community representation and assist with planning and coordination of student clinical experiences.

The medical students toured hospitals and clinics and met with members of the medical community in each campus location during February and March. Soon each student will be assigned to one of the three campuses for the third and fourth years of medical school.

The college's future plans call for the development of regional medical school campuses in Ft. Myers, Jacksonville and Sarasota.

The FSU College of Medicine is among more than 20 U.S. medical schools with a community-based model of education and one of several that have multiple community campuses.

### Medical Library

### **Cyberspace meets bricks and mortar**

Standing in the middle of a roomful of empty shelves, surrounded by hundreds of boxes of brand new medical books, Barbara Shearer, director of FSU's new medical library, felt compelled to ask the rhetorical question:

"How many times do you have the chance to shelve the first books in the first academic medical library of the 21<sup>st</sup> century?"

While much of the library already existed in cyberspace, the arrival of the books and bound journals still marked an exciting milestone.

"The students now have a comfortable place to call their own and where they can work more easily with the medical library staff," Shearer said.

The medical library, which opened at the end of March, features 12 computer workstations and an adjoining 30-workstation computer lab. These resources are in addition to the laptops and hand-held computers provided to each student, and to the university's community study centers, which are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The medical students also have access to all of the university's print and electronic collections in the biomedical sciences, psychology, health care and social services. These resources include about 1,400 medical and biomedical journals, more than 15,000 recently published books on anatomy, physiology, the clinical medical sciences and psychology; and dozens of key databases and journal services such as OVID's MEDLINE and the Institute for Scientific Information's Web of Science.



FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS SARAH FEIN AND KEVIN RAVILLE LOOK UP JOURNAL ARTICLES ON A WIRELESS LAPTOP COMPUTER IN THE NEW MEDICAL LIBRARY.

Students also have access to more than 60 core medical textbooks and reference books available from Stat!Ref and MD Consult, including Harrison's Online, as well more than 16,000 electronic books available via netLibrary.

### **2001-2002 Scholarships and Awards**

#### E.C. & Tillie Allen Scholarship

Medical students David Bojan Garrett Chumney Sarah Fein Karen Miles Shayla Smith Post-baccalaureate students Luis Izquierdo Paul Payne Sandy Ruiz Danielle Stewart Esther Vildor

#### Terry Linn Cole Scholarship Christie Sain

Tess Canja AARP Scholarship in Geriatric Medicine Kerry Bachista

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#### **Charlotte E. Maguire Scholarship**

Amanda Davis Michael Hernandez Jason Rocha Luc Tran

Durell Peaden Scholarship Luc Tran

Janice Snowden Phillips Scholarship Kevin Raville Sharda & Rajesh Patel Scholarship Karen Miles

U.S. Army Health Professions Scholarship Amanda Davis

J. Hugh and Earle W. Fellows Memorial Fund (loan scholarship) Luc Tran

### **Clinical Learning Center to open in August**

he FSU College of Medicine is set to open a 2,000square-foot teaching and assessment center this August where students will learn the art of doctoring.

Known as the Clinical Learning Center, this stateof-the-art facility is a simulated doctor's office with seven exam rooms in which medical students will practice their clinical and patient communication skills.

Sarah Sherraden, R.N., M.S.N., the center's director, said faculty will observe students interacting with standardized patients on a closed circuit camera and will assess the students' clinical and patient communication skills.

"This gives the students an excellent opportunity to get feedback and really hone their skills," Sherraden said.

Key to the center's operation will be the recruitment and training of a group of up to 200 standardized patients. Most standardized patients are people who are trained to feign a variety of medical conditions – from Alzheimer's disease to tennis elbow to a stroke — for the sake of education. However, for teaching some skills, the center will rely upon standardized patients with actual medical conditions or with a history of certain conditions.

About 80 percent of U.S. medical schools operate similar programs, which are expected to become standard now that the National Board of Medical Examiners has mandated that by the middle of this



AMANDA DAVIS EXAMINES RYAN JOHNSON IN THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE'S NEW CLINICAL LEARNING CENTER. EACH ROOM WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH A VIDEO CAMERA TO RECORD PATIENT ENCOUNTERS FOR EVALUATION AND REVIEW.

decade the medical licensing exam will include observed patient encounters, known formally in academic medicine as Observed Structured Clinical Examinations, or OSCEs.

FSU's Clinical Learning Center is in the medical school's newly renovated quarters at the former FSU Developmental Research School at Stadium Dr. and Call St.

For more information, contact Sherraden at 644-9800.

## Student aid, faculty recruitment top funding needs

The College of Medicine has been fortunate to have attracted a number of strong supporters who have helped the members of the charter class through their first year.

For these individuals and corporations, the students and the administration are grateful.

With the entry of a new class this May, the college faces a growing need for philanthropic support, particularly for student assistance, faculty recruitment and program development. The average medical student graduates with \$99,089 in debt. Grants, loans and scholarship funds will allow FSU's medical students to graduate with a lower debt burden. And research shows that the less debt medical graduates have, the more likely they are to practice in medically underserved areas. Therefore, reducing student debt is critical to FSU's mission.

Although still in its infancy, the College of Medicine already has attracted some of the nation's top medical educators. Among them are the recipients of national awards for teaching, research and patient care.

The college's ability to continue the recruitment of such highly distinguished faculty will depend heavily on private support. The College of Medicine welcomes gifts of all sizes.

Anyone interested in supporting the important work of the FSU College of Medicine can contact:

Robert C. Dawson, Ph.D Director of Development 850-644-4389 robert.dawson@med.fsu.edu

## Health Affairs

### **Center for Patient Safety to focus on preventing medical errors**

"We want to help medical professionals understand why medication errors occur, and to devise and promote tested approaches to preventing them."

> D R . ROBERT BROOKS, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS

The prevention of medical errors and the development of safer medical practices will be the focus of FSU's newest center of excellence, the Center for Patient Safety.

"We want to help medical professionals understand why medication errors occur, and to devise and promote tested approaches to preventing them," said Dr. Robert Brooks, associate dean for health affairs and director of the new center. "We also plan to engage in advocacy that will encourage the adoption of these preventive measures."

A November 1999 report of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, entitled *To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health*  *System,* focused attention on medical errors and patient safety. The report indicated that as many as 44,000 to 98,000 people die in hospitals each year as the result of medical errors.

A member of the Institute of Medicine, Dr. Joseph E. Scherger, dean of the medical school, has appeared on ABC's "World News Tonight with Peter Jennings" and spoken at a number of national meetings on the issue.

"Medical care in this country needs to be much safer than it is," Scherger said. "And through the work of FSU's Center on Patient Safety, we will play an active part in making sure that it will be." The College of Medicine and School of Nursing have established the Center on Patient Safety and will collaborate with other interested university academic units and organizations.

The center also will work with consumer and health-care industry groups to encourage accurate reporting and determine the underlying causes of errors. It will provide educational programs on medical error reduction and identify tools that health professionals can use to develop safer practices. The use of medical information technology to improve clinical decision-making and advance patient safety will be a major focus of the center.

### FSU establishes Center on Terrorism and Public Health

The College of Medicine's new Center on Terrorism and Public Health will serve as a resource for educating health professionals and the public on how to deal with weapons of mass destruction and bioterrorism.

Dr. Robert G. Brooks, associate dean for health affairs, is the center's director. He joined the medical school in September after serving from January 1999 to August 2001 as Secretary of Florida's Department of Health.

"The goal of this new center is to help local, state and federal government in its quest to protect the public," Brooks said. "Our current health-care system has little in the way of prepared materials and training modules on weapons of mass destruction and terrorism for practicing health professionals. To remedy that, the center will focus on the development, dissemination, and evaluation of educational materials and programs."

Besides educating doctors, nurses, emergency workers, and health-care institutions, the center will study ways to educate the public. It will seek to assist city and county governments with public information and awareness, and to educate the public through Web sites, e-mail, printed materials and other methods. The center's 13-member board includes experts from FSU and around the state in fields such as infectious diseases and microbiology, environmental toxicology, emergency response, public health, and social work.

The center plans to apply for state and federal funding as it becomes available. It has received a \$25,000 grant from the South Florida-based Mangurian Foundation Inc.

### **Student** Activities

### AMA/FMA

Lorna Fedelem, FSU College of Medicine AMA Chapter president, and Kimberly Ruscher-Rogers, chapter delegate, attended the AMA **Medical Students Section** Interim meeting in San Francisco Nov. 29-Dec. 1. Members attended FMA Days at the Capitol during the 2002 legislative session and recently elected the following officers: Laura Dacks and Jason Rocha, co-vice presidents; Mark Bochey, secretary; and Sachin Parikh, treasurer. The chapter is planning a lunch speaker series and curriculum vitae writing workshop.

Two FSU students serve as representatives to FMA Councils: Javier Miller, FMA Committee on Strategic Planning; and Ruscher-Rogers, FMA Committee on Membership. They attended FMA Council Days in Tampa last fall and in Orlando this spring.

Miller, Ruscher-Rogers and Fedelem also attended the FMA Medical Students Section Governing Council in Tallahassee in February. At that meeting the organization's bylaws were amended to include the FSU College of Medicine as a full participant in the Governing Council. The FSU chapter plans to raise funds to send a delegation to the AMA Annual Meeting in Chicago in June.

### Taking Initiative

Alex Ho has been appointed student section leader/student board member for the Florida Academy of Emergency Medicine.

David Bojan has been volunteering at The Shelter, a Tallahassee homeless shelter. He is working to develop a blood sugar and blood pressure monitoring program for the homeless.

Neighborhood Health Services has donated a glucometer and the TMH Diabetes Center has provided supplies.

### Interest Groups

The Emergency Medicine Students Association sponsored a guest lecture on emergency medicine March 27 and a suture clinic April 5.

The Family Medicine Interest Group officers are: Karen Miles, president, Joda Lynn, vice president; Garrett Chumney, secretary; and Alex Ho, treasurer. Miles and Ho attended the Florida Academy of Family Physicians Family Practice Weekend in Tampa April 12-14.

The group will be raising funds to send students to the National Conference of Family Practice Residents and Medical Students in Kansas City July 29 – Aug. 2.

### AMSA

Sarah Fein, chapter president of the American Student Medical Association, attended the July Chapter Officers Conference in Washington D.C., where she learned leadership skills and visited Capitol Hill to urge passage of a bill to limit resident work hours. Fein, Julie Gladden, Christie Sain, Sachin Parikh, and Rob Allison attended the ASMA Regional Convention on "Southern Style Healthcare" in New Orleans in November.

#### **Into Africa**

Rob Allison has been chosen by AMSA's Global Health Action Committee to participate in their African tropical and infectious disease program this summer in Burkina Faso. The program will focus on maternal and child health. In addition to gaining practical knowledge in tropical diseases and major public health issues in Burkina. U.S. students and physicians will participate in a medical relief effort in a selected rural site. Allison will lead the HIV/AIDS educational component. The group will be raising funds and collecting medical supplies such as analgesics, antiparasitics, antivirals and antibiotics to support the program. For more information go to www.amsa.org/ global/burkina.cfm.

### In print

Rob Allison co-authored Daily Dosing of Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy, published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 2002;34:686-92.

### Students provide flu vaccines "in the field"

A group of 10 medical and post-baccalaureate students last fall began taking their commitment to medically underserved populations out into the field literally. The students provided influenza vaccines to migrant farmworkers who were harvesting crops in Gadsden County Nov. 3. The students first targeted farmworkers at a migrant health fair, but when they realized that many workers could not attend the fair because they were involved in the harvest, the students called upon Maria Pouncey, director of migrant education for the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium, who helped the students take the vaccines to the farmworkers out in the fields. Under the direction of Elena Reyes, Ph.D., acting chair of the department of medical humanities and social sciences, the students administered 50 influenza vaccines. The students wish to thank Gadsden Community Hospital for their generous donation of the vaccines. Participating students were Rob Allison, Kerry Bachista, Lorna Fedelem, Victor Gonzalez, Karen Miles, Sachin Parikh, Jason Rocha, Kim Ruscher-Rogers, Sandy Ruiz and Danielle Stewart.

## Students bring lasting lessons back from Panama

n just a few short days, they learned lessons that will last a lifetime. Ten FSU medical students spent their spring break in two small, isolated Panamanian villages learning about what medical care means to those who don't normally have access to it.

Sachin Parikh, the student organizer of the FSU Cares medical mission to Panama, says he'll never be the same after seeing some of the hardships the residents of Filipinas, Panama, endure on a daily basis.

"It changed my life," Parikh said. "I saw what it really means to care for patients."

After setting up a makeshift clinic in a cramped one-room schoolhouse with no electricity or running water, the students in Parikh's group saw 106 patients in a day and a half, often working with several members of the same family all at once.

A typical patient was Benita, a 94-year-old woman who hikes for an hour through mountainous terrain each day to do chores with her sister and help feed the men from her village as they work in the fields. Her only complaints were muscle and stomach aches.

Perhaps the most important lesson the students learned in Panama was about asking the right questions.

First-year student Javier Miller, who served as the team's interpreter, was wrapping up an interview with a patient when Dr. Eric Handler, a volunteer physician from Tallahassee who was



FIRST-YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT ALEX HO, RIGHT, PATCHES THE EYE OF A MAN WITH A CORNEAL ABRASION IN FILIPINAS, PANAMA, WITH HELP FROM A LOCAL VOLUNTEER.

leading the clinic, told him to ask the woman why she seemed so sad.

It was only then that the patient opened up and told Miller that her teenage son had recently committed suicide. And it wasn't until the child's grandmother came to the clinic the next day that the students learned of the lifelong abuse the boy had suffered.

It was one of many encounters in which the students realized how much can lie just beneath the surface.

"Just like they teach us here at FSU, we saw that it's all about treating the patient and not just the disease," Miller said.

Amanda Davis, Alex Ho and Kim Ruscher-Rogers were the other three students who went to Filipinas. Davis summed up the experience this way: "We received more than we gave."

First-year students Rob Allison, Natosha Canty, Sarah Fein, Adam Ouimet and Shayla Smith went to Portobelo, on the Atlantic Coast. They were accompanied by Dr. Richard Usatine and Sarah Sherraden, R.N., M.S.N., both members of the medical school faculty, and Dr. Edwin Crane, a retired obstetrician-gynecologist from Tallahassee.

The Portobelo group learned about the public health system in Panama from Dr. Ricardo Guzman, regional health director, who took them on health inspections at homes and businesses, as well as a communal slaughterhouse and an aqueduct.

The students also visited clinics in three different towns, where they saw patients with conditions such as scabies, respiratory infections, high blood pressure, and abdominal pain.

"Unlike the Filipinas group, we worked within an established health-care system," Canty said. "I think we all gained a new respect for the U.S. health-care system. It's a blessing to be unaware of what it's like to be in a clinic where there is no running water in the examination rooms or where medical books and equipment are very outdated.

"It was truly a life changing trip. I couldn't have asked for a more rewarding spring break."

The students plan to make the FSU Cares medical mission an annual spring break event and already have been recognized with a nomination for Outstanding Service Organization through FSU's Center for Civic Education and Service. They are planning a 5K run Nov. 23 to raise money for next year's trip.

## Friends of the COM

### Dr. Charlotte Maguire awarded honorary degree

Dr. Charlotte Edwards Maguire, a distinguished pediatrician and a supporter of the FSU College of Medicine, was awarded an honorary doctoral degree in a ceremony Feb. 14.

In 1999, Maguire donated \$1 million to FSU's then Program in Medical Sciences to create the Charlotte Edwards Maguire Eminent Scholar Chair and to endow student scholarships. The next year she was an outspoken advocate for the creation of the College of Medicine, and she has since donated an additional \$1 million to create an eminent scholar chair in geriatrics.

"Dr. Maguire has been actively involved with our students, and these gifts are helping to prepare the next generation of Florida physicians," said Dr. Joseph Scherger, dean of the College of Medicine. "Her vision and her desire to make a difference in the lives of future doctors and patients truly exemplify her ideals."

Maguire grew up in

Orlando and earned her medical degree in 1944 from the University of Arkansas, where she was the only woman in her class. She returned to Orlando to practice and took a special interest in children with disabilities, often providing free services to those in need.

From 1947 to 1956, she served as chief of staff for the Central Florida Division of



DR. CHARLOTTE MAGUIRE RECEIVED AN HONORARY DOCTORAL DEGREE FROM FSU FEB. 14. WITH HER ON THE DAIS ARE DR. JOSEPH E. SCHERGER, DEAN OF THE MEDICAL SCHOOL (CENTER), AND FORMER FLORIDA GOVERNOR REUBIN ASKEW.

Children's Home Society of Florida, and in 1952 she became the first woman president of the Florida Pediatric Society.

Maguire went on to hold a number of leadership positions in government, serving as assistant secretary of Florida's Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services and as assistant regional director of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Atlanta.

### Thank you sponsors of FSU Cares Medical Mission to Panama

Dejene Abebe, M.D. Alcon Labs (Steven and Kellie Monzillo) James Alford, M.D., and Mary Alford Mr. and Mrs. Rick Baker and Jocelyn Stowell-Baker Raymond Bellamy II, M.D. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church William and Nadine Branch Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Robert Brooks, M.D., & Eliza Brooks Margaret Canter, A.R.N.P. Capital Medical Society Raymond Caron, M.D. Carrie Davis Doctor's Memorial Hospital Monty S. Fein, M.D., and Ruth A. Fein Ruth Fein Jessie Furlow, M.D. Florida Medical Association Maria I. Gonzalez, M.D.

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Harold and Janet Ruscher Terry Sherraden, M.D., and Sarah Sherraden Miguel Silva, M.D. Rick Marcy and Shermann Singleton W. Dean Steward, M.D., and Martha Steward David T. Stewart, M.D., and Gillian Lesley Stewart Bill and Pam Sumner Richard Thacker, D.O., and Sherry Thacker Tallahassee Neurological Clinic (Drs. Christopher Rumana, Mark Cuffe, and Todd Crawford) J. Douglas Ware, D.M.D. John and Mary Walker Special thanks to:

Edwin Crane, M.D., Eric Handler, M.D., Sarah Sherraden, R.N., M.S.N., and Richard Usatine, M.D., for being part of the team, to Ervin Davis for his support, and to Matthew Green for designing the FSU Cares T-shirts.

### Klatt publishes pathology CD-ROM

Edward Klatt, M.D., has released an updated version of WebPath, a popular multimedia resource for pathology education used by medical schools all over the country and in several foreign countries.

Available on CD, WebPath 7.0 is designed to help students and professionals in the health sciences learn about the pathologic basis of disease and improve their diagnostic skills. It includes more than 4,500 images that demonstrate gross and microscopic pathologic findings along with text and radiologic imaging.

### Payer elected to AAMC post

Andrew F. Payer, Ph.D., was elected as a representative of the section of undergraduate medical education for the Association of American Medical Colleges' (AAMC) Southern Group on Educational Affairs (SGEA) at the 2002 meeting held at Charleston, S.C., March 14-17. His responsibilities will include coordinating the exchange of information about undergraduate medical educational activities and curriculum innovation at the medical schools represented by the SGEA.

### Steele, Usatine participate in HRSA grant

Two FSU College of Medicine faculty members are taking part in a \$1.75 million Health Resources and Services Administration grant to develop a model four-year family medicine curriculum.

David Steele, Ph.D., is the evaluation consultant and Richard Usatine, M.D., is a member of the advisory committee for the Family Medicine Curriculum Project, a five-year project that will provide recommendations about how resources should be allocated to implement curricular changes in the area of family medicine.

The grant is being administered by the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine.

### Posner appointed to NSF panel

Philip Posner, Ph.D., has been appointed to serve on the newly formed National Science Foundation Developmental/ Glial Neuroscience Review Panel. This panel meets twice each year to review research proposals to the NSF. Posner, an internationally recognized electrophysiologist, coordinates and directs instruction in physiology and pathophysiology for the College of Medicine.

## Faculty Achievements

### **Publications**

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see PUBLICATIONS, p. 10

## **Outreach** Programs

### **Bridge students work with underserved populations**

After seeing how his grandmother's Alzheimer's disease affected his family, Luis Izquierdo decided he wanted to learn more about the care dementia patients receive.

A student in the College of Medicine's Bridge Program, Izquierdo returned to his home in Volusia County this spring to conduct a community service preceptorship in two nursing homes. While there, he assisted in the day-to-day care of patients with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

"This experience has really helped me realize that a patient's health also includes the environment he resides in," Izquierdo said. "I found out how much Alzheimer's patients reach out for warmth and affection."

The goal of the community service preceptorship is to add to students' knowledge of local community health needs through volunteer work in a setting that involves healthcare for an underserved population. The preceptorship is a requirement of the Bridge Program, a post-baccalaureate program that offers students from medically underserved populations the chance to spend three semesters bolstering their preparation for medical school. Upon successful completion of the program, Bridge students are admitted as first-year medical students.

The five students who recently completed the Bridge Program will be members of the Class of 2006. Over the last year, they have had courses in human anatomy and histology together with the Class of 2005. They also have completed coursework in biology, nutrition and disease, death and dying, adult development, and Spanish for health professionals.

Paul Payne, whose preceptorship involved the social rehabilitation of senior citizens in Wakulla County, said the Bridge Program helped him prepare, both mentally and emotionally, for medical school.

"I think I'll be a better medical student overall because of the experience," Payne said.

The other Bridge students and their projects are Sandy Ruiz; who conducted a needs assessment on diabetes education among minorities in Gadsden County; Esther Vildor, who shadowed the medical staff at the Gadsden County Health Department; and Danielle Stewart, who studied teen pregnancy prevention programs in Palm Beach County.



LUIS IZQUIERDO IS ONE OF FIVE STUDENTS IN THE CLASS OF 2006 WHO CAME THROUGH THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE'S POST-BACCALAUREATE BRIDGE PROGRAM.

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#### **Presentations**

Helen Livingston, Ed.D., spoke on "Developmental Issues in Women's Health" at the Women Extinguishing Barriers Conference sponsored by the FSU Women's Center.

Joseph E. Scherger, M.D., M.P.H., was on a plenary session panel titled, "Implementation Strategies for Curricular Innovations," at a March invitational meeting in Baltimore titled, "Improving the Quality of Health Care Through Changes in Medical Education." David Steele, Ph.D., was on a plenary session panel titled, "Computer-based Innovations in Teaching: How Well do They Work?" at a March invitational meeting in Baltimore titled "Improving the Quality of Health Care Through Changes in Medical Education."

## Medical Assisting Program opens doors for future doctors

Inaki Bent feels like he's got a jump on the competition when it comes to applying to medical school.

That's because Bent already has acquired a wealth of clinical skills and experience through a new Medical Assisting Program offered by the FSU College of Medicine and Lively Technical Center.

"We gained a lot of skills in phlebotomy, EKG operation, small X-ray procedures, vaccinations and administering medications," Bent said. "But the most important thing we learned was how to communicate with patients."

Bent was among the first seven students to graduate from the joint FSU/Lively Technical Center Medical Assisting Program in January. He and his classmates completed Lively's medical assisting course in the evenings while maintaining a full academic courseload at FSU. During the summer, the students completed preceptorships at Patients First on Appleyard. Susan Corely, L.P.N., served as instructor and Tina Rose as facilitator at Lively Technical Center. A new class of 11 students will be placed in clinics and physicians' offices this summer.

The Medical Assisting Program, which is funded with assistance from Big Bend Area Health Education Center, was the brainchild of Thesla Berne-Anderson, director of college and pre-college outreach programs at the College of Medicine.



MEDICAL ASSISTING STUDENT INAKI BENT DRAWS BLOOD FROM A PATIENT AT THE PATIENTS FIRST CLINIC ON APPLEYARD.

"Through my advising work I realized that clinical experience was difficult for students to coordinate on their own, and yet it's an important component of being a well-rounded medical school applicant," Berne-Anderson said.

"The Medical Assisting Program is just one of the services we provide, but I think it's a valuable one for undergraduate students. We have to make them as competitive as they can be."

Dominique Kirkland, who also earned her medical assisting certificate through the program, plans to take postbaccalaureate courses this year and apply to the FSU College of

MEDICAL ASSISTING STUDENTS (LEFT TO RIGHT) MEGAN SMALL, NIKI WILKES AND KERLINE ST. NATUS LOOK AT URINE SAMPLES UNDER THE MICROSCOPE. Medicine next year. She hopes to become a gynecologist.

Kirkland was offered a medical assisting job at a gynecologist's office in her hometown of Jacksonville after volunteering there over the winter break as a class assignment. Meanwhile, she's been getting hands-on experience volunteering in Dr. Terence McCoy's Tallahassee family practice through the College of Medicine's Physician Partnership Program.

"I don't think students realize the type of opportunities that are out there through the medical school's outreach programs," Kirkland said. "I'm glad to be a part of the program because I wouldn't have my MA certificate now if I wasn't, and it has confirmed what I want to do."





## Calendar/Events

ORIENTATION Class of 2006 May 13-17

#### WHITE COAT CEREMONY Class of 2006 May 17, 6:30-8 p.m.

Longmire Hall

SUMMER SEMESTER ENDS Class of 2006 July 26

FALL SEMESER BEGINS Class of 2005 August 19

#### FALL SEMESTER BEGINS Class of 2006

August 26

### Welcome to the world Aidan!

The Class of 2005 has a new addition.

#### Dear Friends:

Aidan is proving to be quite a happy and now healthy handful! After a very tough two and a half weeks, we are resting much easier since leaving Shands NICU. Thanks to everyone from the FSU College of Medicine for thoughts, prayers, gifts, and for making Aidan feel welcome as the newest member of the FSU COM family. He sure has had his hand in medicine at an early age. Future doctor?

- Mark and Anmarie Bochey

P.S. Looking for a few good FSU COM students or staff to babysit. 😳

Dr. Joseph E. Scherger, Dean College of Medicine

Best Medicine

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

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JOSEPH "AIDAN" BOCHEY BORN: 3/5/02 7:22AM WEIGHT: 6 LB. 7.5 OZ. LENGTH: 21" HAPPY PARENTS: ANMARIE AND MARK BOCHEY