

the pulse

The Brown Medical School Student Affairs Newsletter



<http://bms.brown.edu/students/pulse/>

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November 2005

A Word from the Dean



As we reach the midpoint of the first semester of the "Doctoring" course—a first-ever opportunity for our first-years to begin building and honing their physical examination skills and to gain first-hand familiarity with the clinical environment—I am happy to recap some of the highlights thus far.

The first week of the course got under way with guest lectures by Professor Vincent Mor, chair of our Department of Community Health and a national authority on health care systems, and by Dr. Mark H. Swartz, a renowned professor of medicine at Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

So far, "Doctoring" students have completed two hospital-based patient interviews, another being planned for November 10. These students have benefited from the assistance of fourth-year students, who have helped teach them clinical skills in these hospital settings.

By now, most "Doctoring" students have also made five visits to their community mentor's offices—an experience so positive that some have elected to increase the number of hours they spend there.

All along, "Doctoring" students have been documenting their clinical experiences using personal digital assistants (PDAs). On September 30, the students downloaded data into the course database. More recently, students attended demonstrations at the Rhode Island Hospital Medical Simulation Center.

All in all, the "Doctoring" course is off to a great start. As with any program that is just beginning there have been growing pains, but with continued feedback from students – at the scheduled town meetings, for example – and the continued dedication of the co-directors and physician mentors, I am confident that we will soon hit our stride.

I wish all of you a happy and bountiful Thanksgiving.

Medical Student Affairs Philip Gruppuso, MD Associate Dean for Medical Education

I have spent the last month on what can only be described as a very steep learning curve. Becoming familiar with the administrative structure of the medical school, student affairs policies, the organization and funding of student-led initiatives and the committee organization for which I am responsible has been a considerable challenge. At the same time, I have been working with faculty and students to start the process of redesigning our curriculum.

Student involvement in curriculum redesign will take several forms. In the near future, we will be forming the seven working groups that I described in this column last month. These groups will be relatively small, each consisting of four or five faculty members plus two or three students. But each committee will also draw on the expertise and energy of a much larger group. The involvement of students at levels ranging from strategic planning to details of curriculum design will be important to achieving our goals for both the quality and breadth of the final product.

I hope that student-initiated programs can become a central part of the new curriculum. Existing programs, such as MOMs, CARE and others, are examples of the kind of student-initiated activities that can become key contributors to the scholarly enrichment of our curricu-

lum.

A proposal is now being considered, in consultation with faculty, administration and students, to reorganize the MD Curriculum Committee so that its composition suits the process of curriculum redesign. The reorganized committee may include the faculty heads of the working groups along with the chairs of standing subcommittees. There will continue to be student representatives on the committee.

As the process of curriculum redesign and implementation takes shape, the scope of the task will expand. Its success will depend on the broad involvement of students from all four years of the medical school. So, please take the initiative to become involved, if not as a full member of one of the seven working groups then as an active contributor once the real planning starts. I am sure that there will be plenty of work to go around.

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book forum

Book Forum - Mountains Beyond Mountains

All medical students, PLME students, faculty, and staff are invited to participate in the Professional Development Annual Book Forum (Thursday, November 10, 6:00pm – 8:30pm, Andrews Dining Hall). Our selection this year is Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World by Tracy Kidder. RSVPs are requested. Complimentary copies are available to PLME and med students while supplies last; stop by to pick up a copy or contact Monika_Bolino@brown.edu or call (401-863-2881).

Student Affairs

Alexandra Morang
Director

Class of 2006: Congratulations on the completion of all those residency applications and best of luck with the interviews! If you would like to schedule a mock interview, just call 863-2441 to make an appointment. We will be co-sponsoring an Interview Workshop with Drs. Tamaro, McGarry and Cyr on Thursday, November 3, from 6:30-8:00 pm at the BMC. Dinner will be provided and more details will follow via the class listserv. The Graduation Committee will be meeting this month to discuss plans for commencement 2006. If you would like to get involved in this exciting committee, please call 863-2441.

Class of 2008: SAVE THE DATE!! The Brown/Dartmouth Orientation Weekend will be held on November 18th and 19th to welcome the Dartmouth students in the MD Class of 2008. The clerkship coordinators from all site and specialty areas will present information on their clerkships on Saturday morning. We will host a welcome dinner on Friday night and hospital tours on Saturday afternoon. More details to follow!

Class of 2009: Did you enjoy orientation this year? Do you have ideas for future orientations? The Committee for Orientation 2010 will be meeting in late November to discuss plans for next year. Please call 863-2441 if you would like to get involved.

Curriculum Affairs

Dick Dollase
Director

At its October meeting, the Subcommittee on Years I & II reviewed all the preclinical course evaluations. It also considered several proposals for changing the second-year course schedule for academic year 2006-07.

The Fourth-Year Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) was held from June to mid-October. 90 Brown medical students and 174 Tufts medical students completed the 8-station OSCE. In addition, the OCA staff worked with the Doctoring course faculty in administering the mid-term OSCE for first-year students. Throughout the semester, standardized patients were available for first-year students to interview and to take vital signs.

Beginning in late October, second-year students will undertake an integrated hematology course—which will incorporate pathophysiology, pharmacology and systemic pathology. It is the first attempt—in many years—to fully integrate these three courses. The course leaders report that by presenting the material in a cohesive and integrated manner, they have attempted to eliminate redundancy and to smooth the flow of information. There is also a single syllabus that incorporates material from the three sections. Course leaders are Alan G. Rosmarin, MD and Edward G. Wittels, course leaders of Bio 350: Pathophysiology; Luba Dumenco, MD, section leader, Bio 279: Systemic

Pathology and Robert Patrick, PhD and Wayne Bowen, PhD, co-course leaders of Bio 350: Pharmacology.

Admissions and Financial Aid

Kathy Baer
Director

Our annual Post-Baccalaureate Visiting Day, held on Friday, October 14, was a terrific success, drawing close to thirty students from the post-baccalaureate programs at Bryn Mawr College, Goucher College, and Columbia University. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated in this year's schedule of events. We received extremely favorable evaluations from these prospective applicants. One visitor wrote, "Thank you so much for such a well-organized and helpful session! The information we've received here will really play a central role in our decisions." Another praised Professor Luba Dumenco's Systemic Pathology "mini-lecture," noting, "Dr. Dumenco's lecture was fan-

new library hours

The University Library is pleased to announce the following changes in library hours: the Sciences Library will now be open until 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday (the Rock will continue to be open until 2 a.m.) and both libraries will provide basic library services from midnight to 1:45 a.m.

In addition, both libraries will now open at 10 a.m. on Sunday instead of noon. For a listing of hours for all campus libraries, please go to: <http://dl.lib.brown.edu/hours/academic.pdf>

For more information check out: <http://dl.lib.brown.edu/hours/index.php>

tastic; it was great to see in person what a session might be like. The information about the Doctoring course was also very useful, as it seems to be a key difference in the curriculum." Feedback from the visiting students strongly reflects the appreciation of student participation in Post-Bac Day; one visitor wrote, "The hospital tours and the breakout sessions with BMS [students] were the most valuable. Exposure to the students and facilities helped to present the environment and culture of the school." Again, many thanks to all of you who shared not only part of your day but your experience of Brown with the visiting students. We also welcome any feedback you may have about this year's Post-Bac Day, or suggestions for improving the event in upcoming years.

PLME and EIP Seniors: Last month, the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid hosted two sessions focusing on AMCAS application procedures for PLME and EIP seniors. Susan Browne, our Assistant Director of Admissions, presented a step-by-step overview of the application process. If you were not able to attend one of these sessions, please contact Susan for the handouts. They also will be available on our web site later this month, including deadline dates and other details. Unless you have made definite plans to defer your matriculation until the Fall of 2007, please remember that all PLME or EIP seniors must complete the AMCAS application.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Minority Medical Affairs

Alicia Monroe, MD

Associate Dean of Medicine

Fashion Show and Clothes Drive: The Office of Minority Medical Affairs and the Student National Medical Association would like to thank all those who supported their clothing drive for Urban League of Rhode Island and their "The Look of Success" fashion show, which

was held on Friday, October 7 in the List Auditorium. Presenters, Jeff Ogbara and Jennifer Jenkins did an outstanding job welcoming medical student models on to the runway. The students donned an array of outfits as they modeled appropriate and inappropriate attire for working on the wards. A fun time was had by all and we would like thank those who donated professional clothes to the Urban League.

Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference – Friday, March 10 and Saturday, March 11 2006, The Boston Park Plaza Hotel: The conference encourages medical students (amongst others) to pursue and complete advanced studies. In addition to keynote addresses, students will attend panel discussions and workshops designed to lead them through the process of applying and gaining acceptance to competitive, advanced training programs. Participants will be matched with advisors/role models from academia, hospitals/medical centers, the federal government, and the biotechnology industry. There is no registration fee, but pre-registration is required. To obtain an application, or for more information, contact Lise D. Kaye at lise_kaye@hms.harvard.edu or (617) 432-0552.

New England Science Symposium – Sunday, March 12, 2006, Conference Center at Harvard Medical School (77 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Boston): The aim of the symposium is to encourage post-doctoral fellows and students, particularly underrepresented minority individuals, involved in post-doctoral, graduate and undergraduate biomedical or health-related scientific research, to present their research projects through oral presentations or at a poster session and to exchange ideas to further their career development. Awards will be presented to the first (\$300), second (\$200), and third (\$100) place winners of both the oral presentations and poster presentations. Abstracts must be submitted electronically by December 2, 2005 electronically to Janine M. Mathó at: Janine_matho@hms.harvard.edu The abstract must in-

november calendar

- November 1
Med Student Senate Meeting
BMC 217 at 7:30pm
- November 3
Interview Workshop & Dinner
BMC (Rm TBA), 6:30pm
- November 3
"Dissent on Informed Consent"
Salomon 003 at 6:00pm
- November 4
Histology Exam II
- November 6
PLME Student Senate Meeting
Faunce 201 at 5:00pm
- November 10
"Mountains Beyond Mountains"
Andrews Dining Hall at 6:30pm
- November 11
Hurricane Relief Semiformal
Leung Gallery at 9:00 pm.
- November 14
Whole Physician Program
Location TBA, 7:00pm
- November 14
Reading day.
No classes in Bio 350 or Bio 262.
- November 15
Physiology Exam II
Integrated Exam
- November 16
Renal-Nutrition section begins
- November 18-19
Brown Dartmouth '08 Orientation
- November 23-27
Thanksgiving recess
- November 24
Thanksgiving Day

opportunities

The Summer Training on Aging Research Topics - Mental Health (START-MH) Program, funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and administered by the University of California San Diego, is a unique national program that offers competitive scholarships to undergraduate, graduate and medical students who may be interested in aging and mental health research. Undergraduate students will be awarded a stipend of \$5,000 and graduate and medical students receive \$6,250 stipend. The program gives selected students an opportunity to gain research experience and work closely with established mentors/investigators in the field of aging and mental health research. During the 10-week summer experience, students will work on specific projects developed by, or in conjunction with a mentor. The training is designed for students at all research levels. Training may occur in a variety of institutions all across the country. Applications are due January 20, 2006. Please visit: <http://startmh.ucsd.edu> for program details and application forms or 858-642-3966 with questions.

The AAMC is seeking applicants for an international clinical research training fellowship for graduate level health professions students. The program is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Fogarty International Center, in partnership with The Ellison Medical Foundation, the NIH National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the NIH National Institute on Drug Abuse. The AAMC and the Association of Schools of Public Health manage the program, which is in its third year. This one-year program provides students with mentored research training at top-ranked NIH-funded research centers in countries including: Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, China, Haiti, India, Kenya, Mali, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, and Zambia. Applications are currently available and are due by December 28, 2005. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.aamc.org/overseasfellowship>.

The CDC Experience is a one-year fellowship in applied epidemiology for medical students designed

to increase the pool of physicians with a population health perspective. Eight competitively selected fellows spend 10-12 months at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offices in Atlanta, GA, where they carry out epidemiologic analyses in areas of public health that interest them. This challenging and intellectually stimulating environment provides multiple opportunities to enhance skills in research and analytic thinking, written and oral scientific presentations, and preventive medicine and public health. Graduates of The CDC Experience will have an appreciation of the role of epidemiology in medicine and health, and be able to apply their knowledge and skills to enhance their clinical acumen and to work within the larger health system. Applications for next year's fellowship class must be postmarked by December 5, 2005. For more information, visit www.cdcfoundation.org/theccdc-experience. Questions may be addressed to Cathy McCarroll, Program Coordinator at: cmccarroll@cdc.gov. A recent article in AAMC Reporter highlights this fellowship: www.aamc.org/newsroom/reporter/oct05/fellowships.htm

FIC/Elison Overseas Fellowship Program, an exciting clinical research training experience sponsored by the NIH's Fogarty International Center. The program offers a one-year clinical research training experience to qualified students. This is an opportunity for highly motivated individuals to experience mentored research training at top-ranked NIH funded research centers in a diverse group of countries. To learn more go to www.aamc.org/overseasfellowship. Application deadline: December 28, 2005.

The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology's Annual Meeting is being held in Miami Beach, Florida from March 3-7, 2006. The Chrysalis Project is designed to introduce medical students to existing networks of allergist/immunologists and explores various career paths. Accepted applicants will be paired with a Fellow-in-Training mentor who will serve as a role model and guide. Accepted applicants will receive travel arrangements and accommodations. To learn more go to www.aaaai.org. Applications are due November 15, 2005.

clude: Name of the author(s); Contact information: mailing and e-mail addresses – phone numbers; institution, academic level and expected year of graduation; Research title and research sponsor(s); and statement summarizing the work to be presented (not to exceed 400 words). All abstracts will be reviewed and applicants will be notified of acceptance by the end of January 2006. There is no registration fee for the symposium but pre-registration is required. Please contact Fiona Greenlaw at Fiona_Greenlaw@brown.edu for a registration form.

Office of Women in Medicine

Debra Abeshaus
Director

The Women in Medicine Mentor Program: We invite you to take part in the WIM Mentor Program. There are excellent opportunities to meet with physicians from areas as surgery, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, psychiatry, child psychiatry, emergency medicine, family medicine, dermatology and infectious disease. We welcome you to visit <http://bms.brown.edu/wim/mentor.html> for a copy of the Student Mentee form. Send us your interests by e-mailing <debra_abeshaus@brown.edu, michele_cyr@brown.edu>, dropping your mentee form in the mail to WIM Mentor Program, Office of Women in Medicine, Box G-A1, or stopping by the Office of Women in Medicine (Arnold 130-132) to create your mentor/mentee match!

A Special Issue of *Medicine and Health Rhode Island*, Vol. 88, No. 10, October 2005, is devoted to "Women's Health." A copy of the journal is available in the Sciences Library. Guest editors for this edition are two Brown medical faculty: Sharon Marable, MD, MPH and Maureen G. Phipps, MD, MPH.

A new Directory of Women's Health Fellowships and Residencies is available online at <http://www.liebertpub.com/jwh>

Center for Biomedical Ethics

Donna Goodnow
Coordinator

Different culture, new perspective. On Thursday, November 3, the Center for Biomedical Ethics will welcome Professor William LaFleur, a Senior Fellow and Professor of Japanese Culture and Bioethics in the Center for Bioethics at UPenn. Professor LaFleur has extensively written and researched the Japanese approach to medical ethics, which often contrasts strongly with our own. Resistant to the American insistence that patient autonomy requires that medical decisions be made by individuals, some Japanese bioethicists are trying to articulate a "family based" approach. How this plays out in decisions about therapy selection, organ transplantation, and the use of stored tissue will be analyzed. Professor LaFleur will present "Dissent on Informed Consent: Socio-Philosophical Aspects of Japanese Efforts to Forge an Alternative Path in Bioethics" at 6:00 pm in Salomon 003. Please join us! Call Donna at 863-3969 or email Donna_Goodnow@Brown.edu for more information.

PLME

Julianne Ip, MD, Associate Dean
Hilary Sweigart, PLME Manager

Sophomores mark your calendar for the EDUCATIONAL PLAN MEETING on Wednesday, November 30, 12:00–1:00pm in Chancellor's Dining Room.

ALL STUDENTS: Beginning with the MD class entering in 2006 (PLME Class of 2006), statistics and biochemistry are no longer PLME competencies. Please discuss the educational value of these courses in your individual educational plan with your PLME advising dean.

Whole Physician Program — THE BUSINESS OF MEDICINE: a panel discussion and question time will be presented by

Dr. Anne Cushing-Brescia (private practice), Dr. Dan Halpren-Ruder (Urgent Care Center), and Dr. Peter Hollmann (Blue Cross & Blue Shield of RI), on Monday, November 14, 7:00–8:30 PM. Location to be announced.

The Undergraduate Student Scholars Program in the NIH Center for Molecular Studies in Digestive and Liver Disease at the University of Pennsylvania, provides an organized program of summer lectures and presentations combined with basic research experience in the laboratory of an expert investigator, with curriculum designed specifically for undergraduate students with an interest in biomedical research, with the eventual goal of MD, PhD, or MD/PhD degrees. More info and an application may be obtained from www.uphs.upenn.edu/moleculr/summer_program/index.shtml or contact Daphnie Jolly at djolly@mail.med.upenn.edu or 215-898-0850. Deadline is February 1, 2006.

Feeling a little low? Tired? Tapped out?

Sure, you and thousands of other medical students... but that doesn't mean that you shouldn't do something about it!

Finding balance and taking care of yourself is notoriously difficult in medical school and it continues to be difficult in life beyond school – for residents, for doctors, for everyone. Start experimenting now with ways to tend your own internal garden. Who knows? You may discover and develop self-care habits for a lifetime. This will payoff—not just for you—but for your patients, colleagues, families, and friends.

Check out the Student Health Council website at: <http://bms.brown.edu/students/shc/> to learn more!

“Dissent on Informed Consent: Socio-Philosophical Aspects of Japanese Efforts to Forge an Alternative Path in Bioethics”

Thursday, November 3, 2005
Professor LaFleur will present
at 6:00 pm in Salomon 003.

The Center for Biomedical Ethics welcomes Professor William LaFleur, a Senior Fellow and Professor of Japanese Culture and Bioethics in the Center for Bioethics at UPenn. Professor LaFleur has extensively written and researched the Japanese approach to medical ethics, which often contrasts strongly with our own.

Call Donna at 863-3969 or email Donna_Goodnow@Brown.edu for more information.

New England Science Symposium at Conference Center at Harvard Medical School, March 12, 2006. Abstracts are being sought from medical and college students (particularly African American, Hispanic American and American Indian/Alaska Native individuals) involved in biomedical and health-related research to share their work. Deadline for submission of abstracts is December 2, 2005. Copies of registration and abstract submission form are available on the PLME bulletin board, or by emailing Hilary_Sweigart@Brown.edu.

Medicine In Action Program (MIAP) has recently added several radiologists to the list of Rhode Island physicians available for shadowing experiences. Additional anesthesiologists, cardiologists, and ob/gyn docs are also in the process of signing up. Check out the list at <http://bms.brown.edu/miap>.

PLME Senate

Carly Seidman '07
Co-President

As the semester continues, the members of the PLME Senate are hard at work in the planning of an array of academic, social, and community service events.

We are excited to announce that we are less than a month away from our Hurricane Relief Semiformal on Friday, November 11 in Leung Gallery at 9 pm. The event will be open to the entire Brown community. The evening will feature music, dancing, and an assortment of good food, including Kabob and Curry and gelato from Roba Dolce. Tickets for the event will cost \$5 at the door and all proceeds will be given to the American Red Cross. Bring all of your friends and join us for what promises to be a fun-filled evening, for a good cause!

All first-years—our next and final Whole Patient Program of the fall semester will be held on Wednesday, October 26, at 5:45 pm in the Chancellor's Dining Room (in the Ratty). Our speaker will be cardiologist Dr. Kenneth Korr. Bring all of your pre-registration questions to discuss with your PLME Advising Dean and your Meiklejohns. Contact co-chairs Lawrence Kwon, Lawren Wellisch, or Bo Wang with any questions or suggestions for programs for the spring semester.

Our Whole Physician Committee has scheduled its first program for Tuesday, November 1 at 7 pm (location in Wilson to be announced). Our panel of speakers will be providing you with much useful

information regarding the featured topic of “The Business of Medicine.” Contact co-chairs Jenna Kahn or Paul Bixenstein with any questions regarding the program.

Finally, keep on the lookout for an email announcing the arrival of the long-awaited new PLME apparel! We will be offering the same hooded sweatshirts and t-shirts as we have in the past, but new for this year, we will be offering some cozy PLME sweatpants!

As always, we encourage your participation, comments, questions, and concerns. Feel free to send an email to Zach or myself (Carly_Seidman@brown.edu; Zachary_Gordon@brown.edu), or to your class representative. If you would like to help out with the semiformal, let us know! Our next meeting, prior to our semiformal, will be November 6 at 5:00 pm in Faunce 201; all are welcome. We hope to see you at all of our upcoming events and wish you continued success as the semester progresses!

Student Senate

Neel Shah MD'08
President

October was a big month at the medical school!

- First years received their white coats at one of the most well-attended Commitment to Medicine Ceremonies to date. Many thanks to the BMAA for sponsoring the event.

- After a fresh coat of paint and some new plants, the Medical Student Lounge was dedicated on October 15th as the Aronson Lounge, in honor of the first dean of BMS. Dean Aronson and other members of the first BMS class were in attendance to mark the occasion, and shared their experiences with current students.

- Flavio Casoy, National Student Debt

Coordinator of AMSA, and a member of MD '08, presented national issues of medical student indebtedness to the BMAA Board of Directors. Because 40% of the BMS Annual Fund goes directly to financial aid, Bethany Solomon (Interim Director of Alumni and Parent programs) reported that fundraising goals will be substantially increased this year and for years to come.

- Student leadership met with Dean Adashi, President Simmons, and Provost Zimmer, and will meet later in October with members of the Medical School Committee of the Corporation. The idea behind establishing these meetings was to build important bridges between

medical student governance and decision-making bodies at the University. These and other meetings, have prompted several new initiatives for November:

- The Senate will solicit and review applications from students who are interested in participating in one of the "working groups" that Dean Gruppuso anticipates will construct the new BMS curriculum.

- The Senate, under the guidance of Dean Gruppuso, will form a task force to examine the status of professional advising at the medical school.

- At the advisement of Dean Adashi, the Senate will ask students to participate in a process that will comprehensively evaluate teaching.

- Student leadership will periodically brief the Office of the President, Dean Adashi, and Dean Gruppuso on our progress.

We're looking forward to a productive month and excited to report back to you in the December Pulse.

Cancer Action and Reflection Elective (C.A.R.E.)

Christina Cinelli, MD'08
Gita Suneja, MD'08

On a routinely busy day at work in your internal medicine practice, you see a new patient recently diagnosed with cancer. He is currently under the care of the surgeon who resected his tumor, an oncologist for chemotherapy, and a radiation oncologist for potential radiotherapy following his chemo treatments.

A former Christian Scientist, the man's wife passed away several years ago from breast cancer. He reports feeling tired and lethargic, has recently lost 10 lbs, and has had difficulty sleeping. He is in tremendous pain, and finding no relief from the pain medications he has

been prescribed, he comes to you asking if God has punished him for abandoning his religious traditions when his wife was diagnosed with cancer. He has decided to withhold further treatment until he is able to work through these issues that trouble him.

How would you go about treating and counseling this patient? What are the issues involved in his mood, spirituality, and pain management? Is it your responsibility as a physician to ensure that he resumes his treatment? Do you know the resources available to you and your patient to help guide and direct financial, ethical, and end-of-life decision making?

The Cancer Action and Reflection Elective (C.A.R.E.) attempts to address these and other issues, while providing pre-clinical medical students a forum to investigate "non-medical" management of cancer. Centered around the bio-psycho-social model of cancer, the didactic lecture series includes talks on depression, epidemiology, spirituality, complementary and alternative medicine, ethics, end-of-life care, and hospice. Additionally, students are paired with members of the Providence community living with cancer, so they can learn about the positive and negative impacts of medical treatment of cancer from the patient's perspective. Students will find themselves in a position to provide support and resources to patients, as well as experience first-hand what it means to be a patient advocate.

"I wanted a perfect ending. Now I've learned, the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme, and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle, and end. Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next."

- Gilda Radner, actress and comedian who passed away from ovarian cancer

workshop

Clinical Faculty Workshop Patient Safety

(Or What Keeps You Up At Night)

Wednesday, November 2, 2005
4:15 pm – 8:45 pm

Keynote Address

James P. Bagian, M.D., P.E.,
Director VA National Center
for Patient Safety

"Patient Safety – Why Bother?"

Breakout sessions with clinical
relevance will follow the keynote
address.

Providence VA Medical Center
830 Chalkstone Avenue
5th Floor Auditorium
For details contact 863-1672
Office of Medical Faculty Affairs

This faculty workshop is jointly sponsored by the Providence VA Medical Center, the Offices of Medical Faculty Affairs, Curriculum Affairs and Continuing Medical Education.

creative opportunities

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Essay Contest

The contest is open to any student of an accredited school studying to practice medicine. Write an essay or story of 1,000 words or less on the following: Providing at least one real-life share how you feel humanism medicine is impacted by service. First prize \$1000 cash Second prize \$500 cash Third prize \$250 cash. In addition, the AAMC's Academic Medicine will continue its tradition of publishing the top three winning essays in their fall issues. To enter complete entry form (available at www.humanism-in-medicine.org; click on "Programs/Medical Students & Faculty/Essay Contest") and essay. E-mail both as attachments to essaycontest@gold-foundation.org Please note that no essay will be accepted without an accompanying entry form. Do not include your name on the essay; only include your name on the entry form. Entries should be sent no later than November 30, 2005.

3rd Annual Michael E. DeBakey Medical Student Poetry Award.

Submission of original poetry by medical undergraduates currently enrolled in accredited United States medical schools is welcome. Only original poetry. Each medical student may submit only one poem, not to exceed 2 pages. Entries must be postmarked by December 31, 2005. Poems may be of any general or specific theme. In English; no translations from other languages. First prize \$1,000. Second prize \$500. Third prize \$250. The first-prize poem will be submitted to a major medical periodical for consideration for publication. For more information, email massey@bcm.edu

William Carlos Williams Poetry Competition.

The editors of the Journal of Medical Humanities will review the winning poems and consider them for possible publication. Entries must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2005. Each participating student is permitted three entries. Poems must be written in English and can reflect medical as well as non-medical subjects. Winning poetry will be selected on the basis of craftsmanship, originality and content. Each poem must be original, unpublished (except for college publications), and must not have won a contest at the time of submission. Each poem is not to exceed 750 words. The editors of the Journal of Medical Humanities will review the winning poems and consider them for possible publication. The top three poets will be awarded \$300, \$200, and \$100 respectively. In addition, the three winners will be invited to visit NEOUCOM on April 28, 2006 to read their poems. All travel expenses will be paid by the Human Values in Medicine Program. Entries should be mailed to: Human Values in Medicine Program, P. O. Box 95, Rootstown, OH 44272-0095 Phone: 330-325-6125 www.neoucom.edu

the pulse

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