

A Word from the Dean



For my first time as dean, I have the great pleasure of welcoming you to campus to kick off what is sure to be an academic year full of exciting change and discovery. I'd like to extend an especially heartfelt greeting to the Class of 2009.

Here's what transpired over the summer. As you may know, Philip A. Gruppuso was named Brown Medical School's new associate dean for medical education. I could not be more pleased with the knowledge that Phil is taking the reins in this all-important realm. Phil and I, along with many dedicated administrators and faculty members, have been hard at work assessing and progressively redesigning our school's curriculum. One of the most immediate manifestations of that work is the new "Doctoring" course, which will place first-year students in clinical settings one half-day each week, an exposure beginning with the very first week of classes. This course is the harbinger of many more curricular developments, including an increased emphasis on organ/system- and problem-based learning, seminars, and instructional IT. Dean Smith, as you also know, is already hard at work devising future "virtual" elements of our curriculum.

Continued on page 8



Medical Student Affairs

Philip Gruppuso

Associate Dean for Medical Education

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Brown if you are starting your first semester here, or, as is the case for most of you, welcome you back for a new academic year. Most of you have already met me as the co-director of the medical biochemistry course, but you may not know what brought me to my new position. I came to Brown in 1977 to do my pediatric residency, then stayed on as a research fellow in metabolism. In 1983 I moved to College Hill where I worked in the biochemistry department for the next five years. I returned to Rhode Island Hospital to direct the pediatric endocrinology division in 1988, a position that I held until last month.

A central focus of my career has been the care of children and adolescents with diabetes. In thinking about my charge from Dean Adashi to oversee major curriculum change, I realized how valuable the collective wisdom of patients or, in my case as a pediatrician, parents can be in defining our goals for medical education. Here is how I imagine a parent of a child with diabetes might answer the question, "What do you look for in a doctor?"

Doctors should be smart. It shouldn't matter if I'm asking you why my child hates injecting insulin or what the latest research is on stem cell transplants. It's your job to know enough to be able to answer my questions.

Doctors should be compassionate and caring. I know that sometimes I get much too upset about little things, but taking care of my child's diabetes is really hard. It's important to me that you care and that you

want to understand.

Doctors have to be good communicators. When you're trying to figure out why my kid isn't doing well, you have to be able to ask me questions and hear my answers. And when you tell me that we have to switch to a new treatment that I know will be really hard on my child, I need an explanation that I can understand on how to do it and why.

Doctors should work hard and be dedicated to the welfare of their patients. I know you're busy, but when I'm talking to you about my child, I need to know that you're willing to give me the time I need.

In my mind, these characteristics translate into the following: As doctors in training, you should strive to be both knowledgeable and intellectually curious. We should help you become compassionate and caring through our own example. The same is true for learning how to effectively communicate with your patients and colleagues.

inside

Admissions and Financial Aid	3
Associate Dean	1
Calendar	3
Center for BioMedical Ethics	5
Curriculum Affairs	2
Dean's Message	1
Medical Student Affairs	2
Minority Medical Affairs	3
Office of Women in Medicine	6
Opportunities	4
PLME	6
Professional Development	5
Senate	7
Student Health Council	8

You should work hard, have passion for your work, and be dedicated to the welfare of your patients.

What I've written isn't new. In fact, you'll find much of it embodied in Brown's Nine Abilities. But I hope that what I've written will help you understand what motivates me as I take on my new challenge.

Student Affairs

Alexandra Morang

Director

A hearty welcome to the Class of 2009! And a very warm welcome-back to our returning students. On Tuesday, August 30, the Class of 2009 started their three-day orientation to the medical school with a variety of activities and programs. On September 6, these 72 men and women will begin their formal medical education at Brown Medical School. Forty-three students received their undergraduate education at Brown University. The remaining members of the class hail from Amherst College, Columbia University, Duke University, Kalamazoo College, Lewis & Clarke University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, Providence College, Rhodes College, Tougaloo, University of California–Berkeley, University of Massachusetts, University of Michigan, University of Notre Dame, University of Pennsylvania, University of Rhode Island, University of Virginia, University of Washington, Williams College and Yale University. Eleven students are Rhode Island residents. Of the class, there are 32 men and 40 women. In terms of routes of admission, we have 42 PLMEs, 1 Brown Avenue, 11 Standard Admission, 10 Postbac students, 5 EIPs, and 3 MD/PhD students. Welcome, one and all!

I am currently planning new programs and workshops for the year and would welcome any suggestions or ideas for programs that would be of interest to you.

Virtual Curriculum

Stephen R. Smith, MD

Associate Dean of Medicine V.C.

I'm excited about my new responsibility to lead the development of a virtual curriculum for Brown Medical School in conjunction with plans to implement a new integrated curriculum. For the last three years, I've been working with an international consortium of medical schools in a project we call the International Virtual Medical School, or IVIMEDS. I created a virtual practice for the project that consists of 69 virtual patients. The virtual patients "visit" their student-doctors 266 times over the course of the first two years of medical school. This patient-centered learning approach stimulates students to explore the basic sciences related to the clinical problems that the virtual patients present with. Online tutoring guides the students through the cases. Students will be able to discuss the cases in both face-to-face small groups and through virtual small group conferences.

The other part of the IVIMEDS initiative is the curriculum map, which is a database of high-quality e-learning content contributed by the partner medical schools as well as commercial publishers. Students can search the curriculum map for specific topics or simply browse each of the organ-system nodes. Faculty can use the content in the curriculum map to create their own mini-courses for students.

I would welcome student input on the project as it develops. Please let me know if you would be interested in exploring the IVIMEDS website; I can send you the user id and password to do so.

I also hope to develop collaborative relationships with other medical schools who are developing innovative approaches to medical education using virtual learning. If you hear of particularly interesting projects at other medical schools, please let me know. If you have interesting ideas

along these lines yourself, please come in and let's talk.

Curriculum Affairs

Dick Dollase

Director

On June 8-9, 2005, a team of ten faculty and administrators visited the University of California—San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine to review its innovative curriculum. In redesigning our curriculum to become more "integrated, interdisciplinary and coherent," the Medical Curriculum Committee has also examined other curriculum models at Johns Hopkins University Medical School and Northwestern Medical School.

student news

Monica Lucero, MD '06 has been awarded the John Gibbons' Medical Student Award from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Nicole Herschenhous, MD'07 received an honorable mention for her crayon on masonite portrait of nursing-home resident "Florence" from The New Physician's 11th Annual Creative Arts Contest.

Four Brown fourth-year medical students, Grant Chu, MD '06; Nicole Grenier, MD '06; Yasmin Metz, MD '06 and Gregory Dadekian, MD '06, were first authors of presentations given at the 2005 American College of Gastroenterology annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Parag Butala, MD'06 has received an American Association for the Surgery of Trauma Medical Student Scholarship to attend the annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

Participants were Harlan Rich, MD, chair, Medical Curriculum Committee; Randy Rockney, MD, chair, Subcommittee on Curriculum Strategic Planning; Edward Hawrot, PhD, chair, Department of Molecular Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biotechnology; Chi-Ming Hai, PhD, course leader, Bio 117: Physiology; Lundy Braun, PhD, course leader, Bio 186: General Pathology; Elaine Bearer, MD/PhD, course leader, Bio 280: Systemic Pathology; Luba Dumenco, course section leader, hematology section of Bio 279: Systemic Pathology; Alicia Monroe, associate course leader (Professional Development), Bio 360/61: Doctoring; Stephen Smith, former associate dean, Medical Education; Richard Dollase, EdD, director, Office of Curriculum Affairs.

The UCSF Medical School case-based curriculum model was successfully put into place over a three year period. At UCSF Medical School, there were a number of working groups and oversight committees that managed the curriculum reform. One result of the new curriculum model was a 50% decrease in didactics at the medical school. Another outcome was that the first clinical clerkship begins by April of the second year. In regard to student performance, the USMLE Step 1 board scores remained the same, student satisfaction with the medical curriculum increased, and both students and clerkship faculty felt that students were better prepared for the third year clerkships.

The preclinical curriculum of the UCSF School of Medicine consists of an essential core of nine sequential instructional blocks. Each block constitutes an interdisciplinary course organized around a central theme or organ systems. Most blocks are about eight-weeks long. Foundations of Patient Care (FPC) is a longitudinal course similar to our new Doctoring course. It runs concurrently with the other instructional blocks during years one and two.

Admissions and Financial Aid

Kathy Baer
Director

The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid would like to extend a warm welcome to all medical students – new and returning! We hope that you had a wonderful summer and that you feel refreshed for the start of the year.

As you know, for the first time in more than nearly twenty years, Brown Medical School is welcoming eleven, first-year students through our new, standard admission route. This group, which includes five women and six men, is an average age of 26 and represent eleven undergraduate institutions. Four have graduate degrees. To all of our standard admits, we are delighted that you have selected Brown and we extend an especially hearty welcome!

Change in Brown Medical, Casperson and Kaplan Loan Terms: I am delighted to announce that at its May meeting, the Brown Corporation approved a proposal by the Medical School to improve the terms of three institutional loan programs. The principal improvements are a reduction in the interest rate for Medical, Casperson and Kaplan loans (from 9% to 7%) and a longer residency deferment (three years rather than one year). These loans will continue to be interest-free during the entire in-school period and for three years thereafter during a residency training period. Many thanks to Linda Gillette, Barbara Fuller and the Loan Office who worked so diligently on these revisions!

MD '08 Students: If your financial aid award included a Medical, Casperson or Kaplan loan award, please be sure to sign the promissory note for this loan in the Loan Office (Brown Office Building, 2nd floor). The notes are ready for your completion.

Best wishes for a productive year!

september calendar

September 6
Opening Convocation
The College Green
12 noon

September 12
"A Preview to Medical School" with
OMMA/SNMA
Gregorian Quad, 5:00 p.m.

September 14
"Pass it Down" Ceremony for
2nd-year students OMMA/SNMA
Eddy Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

September 20
Celebrating Diversity, OMMA
Faculty Club, 5:30 p.m.

September 22
"No Place Left to Go...Ethical
Dilemmas in R.I. Free Clinic"
Chancellors Dining Room, 8:00 a.m.

September 23
3rd-year White Coat Ceremony
Faculty Club, 5:00pm

September 27
2nd-year
Integrated Exam

September 28
Anatomy Exam I
in Physical Sciences

Minority Medical Affairs

Alicia Monroe
Associate Dean of Medicine

The Office of Minority Medical Affairs would like to introduce you to our new Administrative Coordinator, Fiona Greenlaw. Fiona hails from Scotland where she received a Master of Arts (Honors) in Hispanic Studies from the University of Aberdeen. After having taught Spanish in community colleges in Jackson, Missis-

opportunities

The National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Fogarty International Center (FIC), in partnership with The Ellison Medical Foundation, offers a one-year clinical research training experience for graduate level U.S. students in the health professions. This is an opportunity for highly motivated individuals to experience 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. For students with a strong interest in, and potential for, a career in international health activities and/or clinical research. Each Fellowship will be for a one year period. The term will begin with an intensive orientation program on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD in July 2006. This will be followed by 10+ months of intense research training at the foreign site. Applications are due: December 28, 2005. To access the application and to learn more, please visit: www.aamc.org/overseasfellowship.

R.I. Governor's Commission on Disabilities \$2,500 Fellowships. The Governor's Commission on Disabilities Fellowships provides semester long part-time placements with the Commission in Cranston, RI, working on disability policy and research. Must have the ability to participate in the semester-long program in Rhode Island for at least 240 hours during the semester. Fall semester applications must be submitted by September 7th, Spring semester applications by January 20th, and Summer by July 1st. For additional information to apply call 401-462-0100 or email disabilities@gcd.ri.gov

The American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) is offering an award for the best paper on preventive medicine written by a medical student. The winning paper will be published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine. The author will receive a \$1000 prize and will be honored at the ACPM's annual meeting. All prevention-related topics will be considered. Submissions must be received by September 20. For information contact Erica Frank, M.D., at efrank@emory.edu.

American College of Surgeons 91st Annual Clinical Congress October 16-20, 2005 in San Francisco, California. The Clinical Congress is a five-day meeting held each year featuring hundreds of hours of educational sessions and activities for general and specialty surgeons. Scientific sessions include named lectures, general sessions, multidisciplinary sessions, specialty sessions, skills-oriented and didactic postgraduate courses, presentations of Surgical Forum papers, and video sessions. Technical and scientific exhibits complement the other activities. For a complete listing and to learn more go to www.facs.org.

Interested in Surgery? Attend the Medical Student Program American College of Surgeons Division of Education, October 16-18, 2005 in San Francisco, CA. A special program for medical students is being held during the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons (more info above). Activities designed specifically for medical student will be offered and will provide a variety of perspectives regarding issues faced by prospective surgery residents. To learn more go to www.facs.org or contact Emily Burke at 312-202-5119 or eburke@facs.org

American Diabetes Association Medical Scholars Award. Our goal is to identify students interested in patient-oriented research, place them in a suitable laboratory for a year, create access to a group of clinical scientists and peers who share common research interests, expose the student to a relevant clinical experience, and to support the student with a stipend. Students will spend one afternoon a week in a clinical experience related to the research problem being addressed. The Medical Scholars Program provides support for 12 months in a clinical or basic science research environment. The award will be in the amount of \$30,000 per year, with a maximum of \$20,000 for the salary stipend, which may include health and social security benefits. The remaining \$10,000 of the award is to be allocated to tuition and/or lab materials and supplies, as well as grant-related travel. Deadline is January 15th. To apply contact Angela Christopher, ref@rheumatology.org, 404-633-3777 or www.refawards.org.

issippi, she moved to Providence in 2004 in order that her husband could pursue a PhD in Hispanic Studies at Brown.

"A Preview to Medical School": OMMA and SNMA are currently planning some interesting events for September 2005. On Monday, September 12 from 5:00-7:00pm the OMMA and the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) will co-sponsor a "Preview to Medical School" dinner and discussion hosted by Director of Academic Enhancement and Learning Strategies, Phil Tetreault. The evening will enable the class of 2009 to learn more about the Medical School from Phil and from second-, third-, and fourth-year students.

"Pass it Down" Ceremony for Class of 2008: On Wednesday, September 14 from 7:00-9:00pm the OMMA and the SNMA will hold a special "Pass it Down" ceremony for second-year students. Dinner, course materials and some handy advice will be shared with the class of 2008. There will be a panel discussion with third- and fourth-year students, with ample time for questions. See you there!

"Celebrating Diversity" Reception: For the second year in a row, the OMMA and SNMA along with the Department of Family Medicine will host their popular "Celebrating Diversity" reception at the Faculty Club on Tuesday, September 20 from 5:30-7:30pm. Students, members of the Brown faculty, physicians and members of the Providence community will have the opportunity to socialize and network.

Fiona is very much looking forward to meeting all of you over the course of the year. Please do not hesitate to contact her (Fiona_Greenlaw@brown.edu or at 863-3335) if you need any assistance. On behalf of everyone at the OMMA, we wish you a great start to the 2005/6 academic year!

Professional Development

Monika Bolino
Coordinator

The Office of Professional Development welcomes all returning and new students! We invite you to stop by and share your thoughts and suggestions regarding programming, events, and ways we can assist you in your journey through medical school.

Funding Available for Community-Based Projects: The Veronica Petersen '55 and Dr. Robert A. Petersen Educational Enhancement Fund is accepting applications from medical students undertaking socially-relevant projects. The Petersen Fund encourages proposals that allow students to foster their own professional development while giving back to the community at large. Application deadline: Friday, November 4. For more information and application packets, please contact Monika_Bolino@brown.edu.

Please join us for the Professional Development Annual Book Forum! This year's book forum and dinner, which is open to all medical students, PLME students, faculty, staff, and other members of the Brown Med community, will be held on Thursday, November 10 from 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm at 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, a powerful exploration of "the interaction of politics, wealth, social systems, and disease" through the story of physician Paul Farmer. Complimentary copies of *Mountains Beyond Mountains* are available to medical students and PLME students while supplies last; stop by the Office of Professional Development (Suite 222, Arnold Lab) to pick up a copy. RSVPs are required (contact Monika_Bolino@brown.edu, 401-863-2881).

Enhance Your Skills for Stress Reduction: Please join us for "Mindfulness Meditation and the Mindfulness Based

Stress Reduction Program (MBSR)" on Wednesday, September 14 from 5:00–8:00pm at Andrews Dining Hall. Guest presenter David Monsour, MD (UMass Medical School) will introduce students to meditation techniques they can incorporate into their own schedules to reduce stress via an interactive program (wear comfortable clothing for easy movement). Light dinner will be served; RSVPs are requested (Monika_Bolino@brown.edu, 401-863-2881). Co-sponsored by Professional Development, Women in Medicine, Student Affairs, the Alternative Medicine Interest Group and the Psychiatry Interest Group.

Center for Biomedical Ethics

Donna Goodnow
Coordinator

Please join us on Thursday, September 22 from 8:00-10:00 a.m. in the Chancellor's Dining Room for "No Place Left to Go ... Ethical Dilemmas in R.I. Free Clinic," a panel discussion presented by the Ocean State Ethics Network and co-sponsored by the Office of Continuing Medical Education.

Call for Tour Guides

Do you love to talk with prospective applicants about your life as a medical student at Brown? Would you enjoy showing applicants around our hospitals? If the answer to either question is "yes", and you are in your 3rd- or 4th-year, we would like to talk with you. We are planning to hire several medical students to give one-hour, hospital-based tours to admissions applicants throughout the academic year. If you are interested, please contact Susan Browne (Susan_Browne@brown.edu; 863-2149) for more details.

PLME: Important Websites

<http://bms.brown.edu/plme/hand-book> — info on PLME academic requirements, evaluation of academic progress, and leave taking.

<http://bms.brown.edu/students/miap> — Medicine In Action Program (MIAP) provides shadowing experiences with area physicians and Brown alumni across the country.

<http://www.brown.edu/Administration/OIP> — Office of International Programs provides info on studying abroad.

http://bms.brown.edu/research/arts_medicine.htm — One Summer Fellowship for the Arts in Medicine will be offered for next summer. Additional information will be mailed to you during the semester.

<http://bms.brown.edu/research/summer.html> — Approximately 20 Summer Research Assistantships will be offered for next summer. Additional information will be mailed to you during the semester.

Rhode Island Free Clinic (RIFC) opened in 1999 as our State's only clinic dedicated to providing primary health care exclusively to uninsured adults.

Consider that free access doesn't imply open access. Can we identify justifiable criteria relevant to the decision of who gets the appointment? What is meant by "medical need?" Can a fair decision be made in the face of overwhelming need?

Dr. Jay Baruch will moderate, and will be joined by guest panelists from RI Free Clinic. We will talk about how RI Free Clinic is different than community health centers and how lacking health insurance can have non-health related conse-

quences. We will discuss the challenges faced by caregivers who offer free care, and discuss strategies to ensure access and high-quality care to the community of uninsured persons when resources are limited. Breakfast will be served.

Call 863-3969, or email Donna_Goodnow@brown.edu to RSVP

Brown Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Brown Medical School designates this educational activity for a maximum of 2 category 1 credits towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity.

Office of Women in Medicine Debra Abeshaus Director

A warm welcome to all and best wishes for the new academic year. The Office of Women in Medicine is located in Arnold Lab, Rooms 130 and 132. We invite you to contact us [Michele Cyr, MD, associate dean for women in medicine, Michele_Cyr@brown.edu, 863-2512, and Debra Abeshaus, OWM director, Debra_Abeshaus@brown.edu, 863-2450] about your interests.

Watch for a flier on the 2005 Women in Medicine Mentor Program. The mentor program promotes connections between

women medical students early in their educational and professional studies, with women physicians and housestaff at Brown affiliated hospitals and with community-based physicians. More information is available at <http://bms.brown.edu/wim/mentor.html>. Send us your preferences for "mentor match." Later in the fall, we will hold a reception to introduce mentors and mentees.

We welcome you to visit the Office of Women in Medicine web site at <http://bms.brown.edu/wim/> that links to many organizations related to women in medicine, women's health and women in leadership. One of the Office's primary goals is to promote the career advancement of women in medicine at all levels.

Also, Drs. Alison Heru, Gerard Gagne and Patricia Recupero are consultants to the Office on issues of gender equality and sexual harassment. For more information, visit <http://bms.brown.edu/wim/policy.html>.

We all look forward to seeing you and to meeting with representatives of this year's AMWA group.

PLME

Julianne Ip, Associate Dean
Hilary Sweigart, PLME Manager

A very warm welcome to all PLME students, veterans and new. It is very exciting to begin a new year and we hope that you will make full use of the PLME Office

student senate opportunities

Attend the first senate meeting to participate in elections!

PLME Senate
Sunday, September 11
5:00pm
Faunce House 201

Medical Student Senate
Tuesday, September 13
7:30pm
BMC 202

as a resource. We are here to support you in any way we can and our door is always open. Be sure to remind your families that Parents Weekend is scheduled for October 14-16.

Freshmen: The first Whole Patient program is to be held on September 14 at 5:45pm in Chancellor's Dining Room (adjacent to the "Ratty"). The speaker will be Dr. Jeffrey Borkan, chair of Family Medicine at Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island. Check out the PLME Senate section for more info. All freshmen are expected to attend and dinner will be provided.

Sophomores: The PLME Senate is putting together the first Whole Physician program. More information will be forwarded to you by email as plans are firmed up.

Seniors: Be on the look out for a Continuation Letter from Juli Ip requesting information on your plans for next year.

All Students: Please return the "Student Directory" sheet as soon as you receive it with updated contact information.

PLME Senate

Carly Seidman
Co-President

On behalf of the PLME Senate, we would like to welcome all returning classes, as well as the incoming Class of 2009! Congratulations on all of the accomplishments that brought you to Brown and the PLME!

Over the past year, the PLME Senate has been very busy planning Whole Patient and Whole Physician Programs, community service events (such as visits to Hasbro Children's Hospital), social events (such as ER Night and study breaks), and study groups. We are in the midst of planning various events for the upcoming year—we are looking forward to host-

ing our own semi-formal in the fall! Also, all first-years: save the date for the first Whole Patient Program of the 2005-2006 year. It will be held on Wednesday, September 14 at 5:45 pm in the Chancellor's Dining Room (in the Ratty).

As always, we encourage you to come take part in the Senate! Our first meeting of the year is scheduled for Sunday, September 11 at 5:00pm. It will take place in Faunce House 201—all are welcome. We will be discussing our plans for the upcoming year, as well as electing representatives to the Class of 2009. All first-years interested in running for this position should come prepared with a short "campaign." In addition, new members are always welcome on our Community Service and Social Committees. We would love to have your input.

Also, plans for new and improved PLME apparel for 2005 are underway. If you have any artwork or logos that you would like to appear on the new gear, please share it with us! You can bring any ideas to our first meeting, notify a class representative or Senate member, or send an email to co-presidents Carly_Seidman@brown.edu and Zachary_Gordon@brown.edu.

Finally, listed below are the Senate chairs for the 2005-2006 year—feel free to contact any of us with questions or concerns!

Community Service: Annie Wang, Will Perez, Nedim Durakovic
Social: Brian Huang, John Molina, Ed Cheung, Kai Morrison
Whole Physician Program: Paul Bixenstine and Jenna Kahn
Whole Patient Program: Larry Kwon and Lawren Wellisch
Class of '06 Representative: Whitney Eng
Class of '07 Representative: Albert Lin
Class of '08 Representatives: Kumar Vasudevan, Shilpa Gowda, Jeff Hofmann
Treasurer: Thomas Kim
Secretary: Joelle Karlik
Medical School Liaison: Jon T. Lin

Student Senate

Neel Shah
President

For first- and second-year students, September marks the beginning of a new academic year. Third- and fourth-years may feel less of a sense of renewal...at least not until they suddenly remember what had been missing from their lives during those long summer days—the September issue of the Pulse! Regardless of whether you were backpacking in South America, tackling boards, or impressing attendings, I hope your summer was stimulating and fun.

This year promises to be unlike any other in the history of Brown Medical School. We begin with a new Dean, our most diverse first-year class to date, and on the heels of a \$1.3 billion University-wide capital campaign. Clearly we are poised for some important changes to come.

As our school prepares to take the next step, the focus for the Medical Student Senate will be advocating for medical student interests to various constituencies of the university. This will include meetings with BMS administrators and faculty, senior University officers, and for the first time, members of the Brown Corporation. As always, we will also manage funds allocated for student groups, school-wide social functions, and conference travel.

This year, your executive committee is:

President: Neel Shah, MD '08
Vice-President: Jeffrey Cheng, MD '06
Treasurer: Joshua Honeyman, MD '07
Secretary: Jennifer Kim, MD '08

The first general body meeting of the Medical Student Senate will be on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:30pm in BioMed 202 and is open to all. At this meeting, we will fill vacant committee positions and discuss elections for MD '09 class advocates. In the meantime, feel free to

check out <http://bms.brown.edu/students/senate/> to learn more about the Senate. I hope to see you then!

The Dean's Message Continued

Finally, I would like to urge you to attend our Medical School's Convocation this Thursday, September 8. On that occasion, I will have the pleasure of sharing with you additional updates. Please join me for a discussion of things to come and for an upbeat, informal get-to-know you gathering.

I sincerely hope that you, like me, are looking forward to a truly remarkable year.

Best,
Eli

P.S. In the spirit of new traditions, Toni and I are holding a reception at our home in honor of the Class of 2009. First-years, please save the date (September 9 at 5:30p.m.) and look for an invitation in your orientation packets.

Student Health Council Pebble Kranz, MD'07

Announcing the "Northeast Conference on Healthcare Student Wellness," October 29, 2005 10:00am to 5:00pm on the Brown Campus

The Student Health Council is organizing a one-day regional conference for individuals and groups interested in the mental health and wellness of students in health professions. The conference's goal is to provide opportunities to learn and exchange information. The morning will feature a keynote address by Dr. Julia Reade of the Law and Psychiatry Dept of Mass General Hospital entitled

"Doctors in Trouble: Pathogenesis and Context for Disruptive Behavior in Physicians." Following Dr. Reade's address, we will hear the personal account of a physician in recovery. In afternoon workshops students from medical, nursing, and pharmacy schools from all over the northeast will discuss strategies to improve student health and wellness. Registration is open to everyone and is required if you plan to attend the whole day. The morning keynote is open to the entire Brown Medical Community, registration is requested, but not required. To register, please email Pebble_Kranz@brown.edu.

special opportunity

MD '07 and '08 Students: Are you interested in serving on the Admissions Committee?

Students share responsibility for interviewing candidates for admission, and for reviewing applicant files, with particular emphasis on the standard, post-bac and EIP admission routes. In addition, students are expected to participate in Admissions Committee meetings, roughly two per month from October through April. This is an enjoyable and worthwhile activity. If you would like more information, please contact me (Kathleen_Baer@brown.edu, 863-2149).

the pulse

The Brown Medical School Student Affairs Newsletter
<http://bms.brown.edu/students/pulse/>

Published by the
Brown Medical School
Student Affairs Office
Rose Bell, editor
401-863-1618
Rose_Bell@Brown.edu
Box G-A2, Providence, RI 02912

