Security at UB

As you probably are aware, new security measures will go into effect at the SMBS in mid-January. These measures include one main entrance to the school after 6pm on weekdays and all day on weekends. Security aides will be at the main entrance located on the first floor of Sherman and will ask to see your UB ID (so be sure to have it with you whenever you're on campus). You can also gain access to the medical complex with your ID at any of the entrances equipped with a swipe card system.

Other security enhancements to be implemented include additional lighting and emergency telephones around campus as well as door alarms. Door alarms will sound whenever a door is propped and are intended to discourage this behavior. For everyone's safety, members of the SMBS community are asked to discard materials that are clearly being used to prop doors.

Students are urged to exit the medical complex from the main entrance at night since security aides will have a clear view of the Sherman lot and will be available for escorts upon request.

Please see your Polity Reps and/or OME administrators with concerns or suggestions you may have regarding security.

CME: A Learning and Formative Experience for Medical Students

UB medical students are encouraged to attend UB-sponsored Continuing Medical Education (CME) programs. CME activities offer students opportunities for learning and interacting with practicing physicians and other health professionals.

Most clinical departments and programs have grand rounds and lecture series that are free and open to students. These programs are normally held at a regularly scheduled time and place each week in hospitals or other clinical facilities. The CME web site lists the current grand rounds locations and on-site departmental contact persons.

A few departments hold grand rounds quarterly, e.g., Department of Medicine Grand Rounds, January 10, 2002, “Update in Infectious Diseases”, 3:30-6 p.m. at the Marriott. These quarterly grand rounds feature several speakers on hot topics or the latest advances in prevention, diagnostics and therapy.

In addition, students may attend conferences on specific topics, e.g., a Headache Symposium on January 26; Update in Gynecology on April 8 and Geriatric Psychiatry on April 12. Full-day or half-day programs like these require pre-registration. Interested students must pre-register in the CME Office, which will pay the registration fees for pre-registrants.

Students are urged to visit the CME Office in 111 Cary Hall or call 829-3714 for more information. Information about UB programs can also be found at the following web site:
http://wings.buffalo.edu/smbs/calendar/cal.cgi

Please note: Registration in some CME programs may be limited due to facilities restrictions or academic pre-requisites.

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Blood Drive
January 29

The American Red Cross will be conducting a blood drive on campus Tuesday, January 29 from 11am-4pm in the Student Lounge. Please sign up in advance by visiting Jim Rosso in the Office of Admissions, BEB 45.
$ Financial Aid & Scholarship Resources $

Extended Hours
Extended Financial Aid hours in January will be held on Tuesday, January 29 from 5:30-7:30pm. Please arrange an appointment in advance by calling 829-3724.

Internet Resources
Various financial planning and scholarship resources are available to you on the Internet. Below you will find a listing of popular financial aid sites:

- www.aamc.org/md2
- www.aamc.org/stloan
- www.finaid.org
- www.wiredscholar.com
- www.freshinfo.com
- www.fastweb.com

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
For the 2002-'03 academic year, students can mail in a completed FAFSA anytime after January 1. As always, the Office of Financial Aid's priority date for campus-based aid (work study, Perkins Loans, Economically Disadvantaged Tuition Waiver, etc.) is March 1. Students who have completed FAFSA's on file with the processing center by March 1 will receive priority for campus-based funds.

If you've filed a FAFSA in the past, you can file on the web by selecting the renewal form. The web address is www.ed.gov/offices/ope/express.html. If you have any questions you can email TC Rzepecki, trzepecki@sfr.buffalo.edu or Janessa Givens-Daniels, jegd@buffalo.edu in Financial Aid.

Emergency Loans

Medical students in good standing are eligible to apply for an emergency loan should a personal financial crisis occur. Loans are distributed in the amount of $500 and a student has three months to pay off the loan without accruing any interest or fees; only one loan per student per semester. Please see Philippa in the OME to complete the appropriate application forms.

* Second semester seniors are not eligible nor are students who have an outstanding balance with the Emergency Loan Program.

Class of 2002:
Please watch your mailbox for information and instructions about completing the AAMC Graduation Questionnaire and entering your rank order list to the NRMP via the web.

See page six for dates and details about important upcoming events for your class and information regarding honors at graduation.

In March, you will receive details about nominating a clinical faculty member for the Humanism in Medicine Award sponsored by the Health Care Foundation of NJ to be presented at the White Coat Ceremony in August. Please begin thinking about the clinical faculty who have had an impact on you.

Class of 2003:
Be sure to nominate outstanding residents you meet this year for the Arnold Gold Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards that will be presented at the new Student Clinician Ceremony in August. See page four for more details.

If you intend to enter a family practice residency, please see page five for information about a special scholarship opportunity.

Class of 2004:
Mark your calendars for a special career planning session being held for your class on Friday, January 25 from 12:00-1:00pm in Butler. Look for more details as the date approaches.

Class of 2005:
A career planning presentation will be held for your class on Wednesday, January 9 from 12:00-1:00pm in Butler. Please plan on attending this important session.

This summer is a perfect time for you to explore your interests and take advantage of opportunities that you may not have time for later. Think about doing research or shadowing a clinician in a specialty you’re considering. To learn more about what’s available be sure to attend the information session on January 10 at noon in Butler.
**A Note from Dr. Coyne**

I hope your holidays and vacation were pleasant and happy. More importantly I hope you're handling life well and not getting beat up too badly. Please remember that if I can be of any assistance to you in your life struggles, i.e. depression, overwhelmed, dependency or addictions - don't hesitate to call.

I can be reached at anytime day or night by beeper at 642-8686. I can arrange to see you almost any time and anything I do for you is under the strictest confidence and I'll be your conduit to make sure that it is maintained.

Work hard and enjoy this new year!

Jack Coyne, MD

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### Summer Opportunities

A brown-bag lunch session will be held on **Thursday, January 10** at noon in Butler to provide medical students with information about domestic clinical and research opportunities this summer. Second-year students will talk about their experiences last summer.

You can also visit the OME's opportunities web site at: [http://wings.buffalo.edu/smb/sme/ome/student/summer.htm](http://wings.buffalo.edu/smb/sme/ome/student/summer.htm). The site provides students with a concise, efficient means to obtain information about potential summer experiences. A binder containing information about these activities is also available for review in the OME.

### 2002 NHLBI Summer Minority Student Research

Applications are available for the 2002 National Heart Lung and Blood Summer Minority student research program. This short term research training experience is available to selected minority undergraduate and pre-clinical medical students. Students will work in laboratories of distinguished senior faculty investigators and will participate in didactic conferences addressing developmental physiology and research methodology.

For additional information, contact: Dr. Carolyn Hamilton, Assistant Dean for Minority Affairs, OME at 829-2802 or Jill Uebelhoer, Senior Staff Assistant, Department of Pediatrics at 878-7339.

### Research at UB

If you would like to learn about research activities at UB or find a potential research mentor, please see the faculty research profiles at [http://wings.buffalo.edu/smb/frp/](http://wings.buffalo.edu/smb/frp/).
**CAREER PLANNING**

There are a variety of career planning resources available to you on the internet. We encourage you to spend time conducting research at these web sites and with other tools as you explore career opportunities.

**www.aamc.org/medcareers/**
The Careers in Medicine web site is the AAMC's comprehensive resource to assist you in understanding your options for choosing a specialty and applying to residency programs. You can obtain information about specialties and get links to specialty organizations from the site.

**http://www.aamc.org/hlthcare/coth-hss/**
Information about residency salaries and benefits.

**http://www.nmp.org/**
The National Residency Matching Program web site provides information to assist you in navigating the match.

**http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/2997.html**
The Fellowship and Residency Electronic Interactive Database (FREIDA) web site contains information on approximately 7,500 graduate medical education programs as well as on 200 combined specialty programs.

**http://www.smbs.buffalo.edu/ome/ome_advisement.htm**
OME Career Advisement web page with a listing of career advisors.

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**New Student Clinician Ceremony**

The Professional Conduct Committee is pleased to announce the first annual Student Clinician Ceremony on Sunday, August 18, 2002 at the Center for the Arts on UB's North Campus.

The event is being held to celebrate the transition from the basic sciences to the clinical years. The class of 2004 will be the first to participate in this event and, as rising third years, they will be presented with a book and will hear a selected speaker discuss the role of humanism in medicine. Six residents, nominated by the class of 2003, will be honored at the ceremony with Humanism in Medicine Awards. Families of the class of 2004 are invited to attend and a dessert reception will follow.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 2003: Please nominate outstanding residents that you encounter this year. Nominations can be entered on the Professional Conduct Committee web site: http://wings.buffalo.edu/smbs/ome/PCC/index.html or contact Liz Bourke via e-mail at elbourke@buffalo.edu. The final due date for nominations is May 10. The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards will be presented to six UB residents at the ceremony in August and include: a certificate of recognition, specialty designed gold lapel pin, and a $250 cash prize.

Nominees should be evaluated using these guidelines:

1) Demonstrates ideal ethical behavior: please describe a situation;
2) Serves as a role model- illustrates professional behavior by example for students and colleagues;
3) Demonstrates cultural sensitivity;
4) Shows compassion and empathy towards patients and their families;
5) Approachable and welcoming to students and staff;
6) Shows compassion for students and colleagues;
7) Sincere commitment to teaching.

Include in your written response why you think this resident should be given an award. Please write about your personal experience working with this individual and describe how he/she interacts with patients. It is important to write a comprehensive nomination so the most outstanding residents can be recognized.

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**Don't check your UB e-mail regularly?**

E-mail list servs are a major avenue for communication between students and the UB administration. If you choose to use an account other than your UB e-mail, maintain your account but have the mail forwarded to your preferred account by following the online instructions at:

http://ldap.buffalo.edu/forward.html
Elections for the 2002-'03 Polity Executive Board will be held during the spring semester. Watch for more details.

* Check out the Polity Web Pages at http://wings.buffalo.edu/smbs/polity/ announcing exciting upcoming events that the numerous Polity Organizations are providing. It also provides links to sites that are important to you.

* Community Physician’s Lecture Series will continue this spring. Please watch your e-mail for more details.

* Interested in writing an article for the Buffalo Physician?

Buffalo Physician is the quarterly magazine of the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. It is distributed to students, alumni, residents, faculty, area health-care administrators and select state and regional legislators.

In each issue, the magazine publishes a Student Perspective column written by your fellow classmates. In the past, topics have ranged from involvement in national organizations, student support groups musings on admission to medical school, indecision about career choices, internship experiences, recovery from cancer, studies abroad, and controversies in health care.

The articles average 1,200 words in length, do not involve tight deadlines, and are accompanied by a photograph of the author. If you would like to write a Student Perspective column, e-mail your suggested topic to Stephanie Unger, editor of Buffalo Physician, at bp-notes@buffalo.edu.

"The Boards"

CLASSES OF 2002 & 2004:

Remember to apply for the Step I or II exam on-line at nbme.org or usmle.org per instructions on the NBME web site. Once your application is accepted by the National Boards, you can arrange an exam date up to six months prior to the date you wish to sit for the exam. As in the past, verification signatures need to be obtained in the OME.

The 2002 Pisacano Scholars Leadership Program

The Pisacano Leadership Foundation (PLF) has announced that applications for the 2002 Pisacano Scholars Leadership program are available on-line at www.fpleaders.org.

The PLF seeks to advance the field of primary care by providing well-educated, community-minded leaders in the primary care movement. By aiding students who demonstrate the highest levels of commitment to Family Practice, scholarship, character, interpersonal skills, and community service.

The Pisacano Scholars program is designed to reimburse a portion of medical school related debt for outstanding medical students who have made a commitment to Family Practice. Scholarships will be awarded to outstanding medical students for a four-or five-year period. The PLF will award up to 10 scholarships with a maximum value of $28,000 each for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Students who have made a commitment to the field of Family Practice and will be entering their fourth year in medical school in the fall of 2002 may apply. Applications must be received by March 1, 2002 to be considered. Please refer to the web site for more information.
The Medical School Parents' Council

The Medical School Parents’ Council is a group of parent volunteers whose main goal is to "assist toward contributing to the quality of a developing professional life for our medical students." They work closely with the Offices of Medical Education and Development in an effort to supplement the academic resources available to students with a personal touch and material support.

Some programs the Parent’s Council has supplemented in the past include:

- White Coat Ceremony
- Graduation Dinner Dance
- Student Lounge furnishings
- Student travel to scientific meetings
- Scholarship support
- Summer Externships

The Council meets monthly and students are welcome to attend. For more information see Dr. Dennis Nadler in the OME or contact co-chairs Paul and Jan Bermel at 741-8363 or janbermel@yahoo.com.

Celebrate the Class of 2002!

Special Dates:

Match Day is Thursday, March 21.

The Graduation Dinner Dance is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, May 23 at Adam’s Mark downtown. Invitation will be mailed to seniors, inviting all family members and friends to the celebration; the graduate’s meal is free, compliments of the Parents’ Council.

Graduation will take place at 2pm on Friday, May 24 at the Center for the Arts (CFA) on the North Campus. There are no tickets for graduation and no limit on the number of guests each student can invite. Seniors should plan to arrive at the CFA by 1:00pm and follow signs to the robing room in the basement to prepare for line-up.

Graduation Honors

Students may qualify for latin, research or thesis honors at graduation.

Candidates for Summa Cum Laude Latin honors must complete a thesis and candidates for Magna Cum Laude must show evidence of scholarly activity. In the absence of these scholarly requirements, Cum laude is the highest latin honor that will be granted.

Students have the opportunity to apply for both research and thesis honors prior to graduation. Candidates interested in thesis honors must write a thesis for review by a special committee. Research honors simply require evidence of continuous research that has resulted in either publication(s) or presentation(s) at national meetings.

Please see the web site www.smbs.buffalo.edu/ome/ome_academic.htm for more information and applications for graduation honors.

In addition to the above, an awards ceremony is held on the morning of graduation to recognize seniors for outstanding achievement and service during their tenure as medical students. Invitations will be sent to award recipients prior to the ceremony in May.

The Olympic Torch

Steve Turkovich, Class of 2003, was selected to carry the Olympic Torch during its appearance in Buffalo. Steve ran with the Torch on New Year’s Eve at 8:00 p.m. on Englewood Avenue and said of his selection "This is an unbelievable honor … I am especially proud to represent the United States in an event that stands for peace and unity."
Fellowship Awards and Writing Competitions

**Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship Program**
The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation has selected ten medical schools to host this program established in 2000. Fellows receive a stipend of $20,000 and take a year off to receive didactic and hands-on clinical training at one of the schools. This program is the first in the US to focus exclusively on clinical research at academic medical centers. It is anticipated that 50 fellows will be supported in 2002. Additional information can be found at http://ddcf.aibs.org/crf2000.

**American Society of Nephrology Student Scholar Grant**
The ASN offers a grant with a stipend of $21,000 plus $5,000 for mentor's research expenses, $4,000 to the medical school, and $1,200 for student travel. This is an opportunity to spend a full year doing research in nephrology with a mentor of your choice at the institution of your choice. More information is available at http://www.asn-online.org/grants/ssg.cfm. No prior research is necessary and students in all four years may apply. The deadline for submitting an application is February 15, 2002.

**American Medical Student Association Year-Long Student Positions:**
AMSA has several paid year-long student positions available. Most programs have early January deadlines. See the web site for more information, http://www.amsa.org/resource/positions.cfm

**Essay Contests:**

1. **Contest #1**
   "How are you different now compared to when you started medical school?"

2. **Contest #2**
   Humor in Medicine

Prize for each contest is $50 and the deadline is February 15. See the web site for more information http://www.amsa.org/meded/essays.cfm

**South Campus Shuttle**
The south campus shuttle can get you from the Main/Bailey or Parker Lot to the Medical Complex. The hours are 7:40AM - 7:40PM, Monday through Thursday and 7:40AM - 5:40PM on Friday. It runs every 20 minutes and the schedule is on-line at: www.ub-parking.buffalo.edu/scampus.shtml

**Important OME Info**
The OME web page was revamped this fall. Please visit the site for helpful information: www.smbhs.buffalo.edu/ome

Office phone: 829-2802