

# CLAS Academic Advising Center

Academic advising for students pursuing majors and/or minors offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Call Us: (616) 331-8585 • Visit us On-line: [www.qvsu.edu/clasadvising](http://www.qvsu.edu/clasadvising)

## Pre-Professional E-Bulletin

### Week of November 9, 2009

Click to view our: [CLAS Academic Advising Center Pre-Professional Webpage](#)

1. Open Houses
2. Program Opportunities
3. MCAT Information
4. Other Useful Information
5. Upcoming Events at Grand Valley

The purpose of this newsletter is to share information that may be of interest to you. By posting information, it does not mean that we endorse the organizations or services enclosed.

#### 1. Open Houses

##### **Ferris State University College of Pharmacy**

There will be an information night on **November 18, 2009** from 7-9pm in the Pharmacy Building Room 101 located at Ferris State University, 220 Ferris Drive, Big Rapids, MI 49307.

Stop in and learn about the career of pharmacy, including developments in many and varied career paths that pharmacists can embark on. We will also discuss the new admission policies and procedures. New and transfer students are encouraged to attend to learn more about the exciting profession.

RSVP to: [pharmadmiss@ferris.edu](mailto:pharmadmiss@ferris.edu)

#### 2. Program Opportunities

##### **Medicine and Dentistry**

**The Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP)** is a free six week summer academic enrichment program for college freshman and sophomore students who are interested in a career in medicine or dentistry. The goal of the program is to prepare aspiring freshman and sophomores to become competitive applicants to medical and dental school.

SMDEP is implemented at the following 12 program sites across the nation.

- Case Western Reserve University Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine
- Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and College of Dental Medicine
- David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and UCLA School of Dentistry
- Duke University School of Medicine
- Howard University Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Dentistry, and Medicine
- The University of Texas Dental Branch and Medical School at Houston
- UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical and New Jersey Dental Schools
- University of Louisville Schools of Medicine and Dentistry
- University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Medicine and Dentistry
- University of Virginia School of Medicine
- University of Washington Schools of Medicine and Dentistry
- Yale University School of Medicine

\*Application opens: **November 1st**  
Application deadline: **March 1st\***

\*All applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early!

For additional information and to access the online application, visit [www.smdep.org](http://www.smdep.org)  
<<http://lists.aamc.org/t/35751/170728/236/0/>>.

### **University of Queensland-Ochsner**

If you did not get into medical school in the previous cycle, here is an opportunity for you. You could begin medical school in January 2010, and we want to alert you to an excellent opportunity to obtain a superb medical education.

The University of Queensland-Ochsner program allows students to complete their first two years at the University of Queensland's medical school, which is ranked number 32 in the world, according to a "Times" of London survey of international medical schools, and which is located in Brisbane, Australia. Students then complete their second two years of clinical rotations at the Ochsner Clinical School in New Orleans. They are supported by the faculty at Ochsner in their residency applications and participate in Match Day.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students who are committed to a career in medicine and who have otherwise solid applications but who have struggled a bit with the MCAT. We are looking for MCAT scores of 8, 8, 8, M and a B average.

If you have questions, please do call us at 877.777.0155 ext.104 and we'll be happy to explain the program to you. The url of our website is: [www.mededpath.org](http://www.mededpath.org)

### **M.D./Ph.D**

#### **NIH-Oxford-Cambridge Fully-Funded Doctoral Program in Biomedical Research**

We would like to bring your attention to a groundbreaking biomedical research doctoral program-the National Institutes of Health-Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program. This innovative program grew from the realization that the next generation of research scientists will increasingly need to adopt interdisciplinary approaches as they strive to produce high impact research outcomes whether basic or clinical.

This is an accelerated program, and students typically receive a doctoral degree in approximately four years. There is no standard curriculum or required coursework. Rather, each student pursues an individualized course of study in which thesis work is initiated at the beginning of the first year. The thesis project is carried out as a collaboration between two labs, with half the research undertaken at NIH and half at one of the UK universities and each student being mentored by a senior scientist at each location. The program takes advantage of the superb resources and training environments at Oxford, Cambridge, and the NIH, the world's largest biomedical research facility, the main campus of which is located in Bethesda, Maryland where a diverse community of scientists conduct their research in over 1000 laboratories and the world's largest clinical research center conducts more than 1000 clinical research protocols.

From its first class that matriculated in 2001, NIH-Oxford-Cambridge Scholars have achieved at the highest levels of biomedical research, publishing first-author papers in journals such as Nature, Nature Medicine, Nature Immunology, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, and The Journal of Experimental Medicine. Graduates have gone on to do post-doctoral training in top academic institutions and industry labs, and a few have gone directly to faculty positions.

All students are fully funded by the NIH for the duration of their doctoral work at both research sites and receive a stipend, health insurance, and travel assistance. Through the NIH M.D./Ph.D Partnership Training Program, we also offer funding for combined M.D./Ph.D. training in collaboration with over twenty U.S. medical schools participating in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP). For details about the M.D./Ph.D. options and training tracks please consult <http://gpp.nih.gov/Prospective/InstitutionalPartnerships/MSTPatNIH/>.

The application deadline for Ph.D. and M.D./Ph.D. candidates is **January 4th, 2010**. The free application is available online through the program website at <http://oxcam.gpp.nih.gov> <<http://oxcam.gpp.nih.gov/>> via the "Apply Now" button. On our web site you will find additional program details, FAQs, student biographies, descriptions of some of the exciting research projects underway, and more. We would also like to invite you to participate in a teleconference call to learn more about our programs.

Please email us at

[oxcam@mail.nih.gov](mailto:oxcam@mail.nih.gov) <[file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/schulmanr/Local%20Settings/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/OLK1C\oxcam@mail.nih.gov](mailto:oxcam@mail.nih.gov)> or

[mdphd@mail.nih.gov](mailto:mdphd@mail.nih.gov) <[file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/schulmanr/Local%20Settings/Temporary%20Internet%20Files/OLK1C\mdphd@mail.nih.gov](mailto:mdphd@mail.nih.gov)> if you would like more information or would like to participate in a conference call.

Please take a look at the flyers through the links below. We hope to hear from you soon!

<http://oxcam.gpp.nih.gov/prospectiveStudents/documents/OXCAM2010Flyerwdeadline.pdf>

<http://oxcam.gpp.nih.gov/prospectiveStudents/documents/MSTPflyer2010.pdf>

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCIENTIST TRAINING PROGRAM PRE-MSTP SUMMER BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM** (10 weeks: June 7 - August 13, 2010)

The University of Michigan Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) is accepting applications for its Pre-MSTP Program. The program will provide an opportunity for highly motivated and talented undergraduates to participate in a ten week summer research-focused program in the University of Michigan Medical School. The MSTP is an NIH-funded combined M.D./Ph.D. training program; it takes students approximately 8 years to earn the two degrees. MSTP graduates typically establish careers in academic medicine focused on basic research relevant to human diseases. Clinical medicine generally is a small component of the M.D./Ph.D. career and serves primarily to inform and enhance the research.

For undergraduates potentially interested in the above career path, the Pre-MSTP summer program provides biomedical research experience and exposure to clinical medicine. This may help you decide if this is the right career for you, and could enhance your competitiveness when applying to M.D./Ph.D. programs.

A stipend of \$4200 and university housing will be provided. The program will cover transportation costs to and from Ann Arbor up to \$200. Students are responsible for providing their own meals.

#### PARTICIPANTS CAN EXPECT TO:

- Perform full-time research in a faculty laboratory
- Attend bi-weekly luncheon presentations where faculty discuss their research
- Give short presentations of their summer accomplishments at the conclusion of the program
- Obtain clinical exposure opportunities in the form of physician shadowing
- Attend the three-day MSTP annual retreat at Higgins Lake
- Attend formal MCAT instruction over an 8 week period by the Stanley Kaplan Review Center

#### ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible for the UM Pre-MSTP Program, an applicant must:

- Be from an under-represented minority group (African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Alaskan Native, Hawaiian Native, Native of the U.S. Pacific Islands) **OR** from a socio-economically disadvantaged background **OR** be a student with disabilities
- Be a current undergraduate (excluding those applying to Med/Grad School for 2010)
- Be a US citizen or permanent resident
- Have completed a science course with laboratory

Application Receipt Deadline: **February 12, 2010**

#### Contact:

University of Michigan Medical Scientist Training Program  
Phone (734) 764-6176  
1150 West Medical Center Drive  
2965 Taubman Medical Library  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5619  
E-mail: [mstp@umich.edu](mailto:mstp@umich.edu)  
<http://www.med.umich.edu/medschool/mstp/>

### **Post-Baccalaureate Programs**

#### **Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine**

We have a one year post-bac enhancement program which does not require the MCAT to be taken prior to entering and has an MCAT prep component. Here is the link to the program. For more information, please contact Jean Herndon, Director of Post-Baccalaureate Programs at [jherndon@vcom.vt.edu](mailto:jherndon@vcom.vt.edu)

The program is new this year and going very well. We have 26 in the program and plan to expand to up to 40 next year.

<http://www.vcom.vt.edu/post-baccalaureate/index.html>

#### **Drexel University College of Medicine**

The Medical Science Preparatory (MSP) program does not require an incoming MCAT score and does include MCAT preparation. Our MSP program can be viewed at [www.drexelmed.edu/ims](http://www.drexelmed.edu/ims).

### **Podiatry**

#### **American Podiatric Medical Association**

Today's podiatrist does it all; that's what a new video developed by the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) is promoting. Set to a driving musical backbeat, the "MTV-style" video shows clips from educational, surgical, and practice settings and drives home the point that a career in podiatric medicine is challenging, diverse and rewarding. Students can view the video and then choose to learn more at their leisure. The video can be viewed on the APMA website at [www.apma.org](http://www.apma.org) or on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/theAPMA#p/a](http://www.youtube.com/theAPMA#p/a)

The APMA has recently created exciting, informative, and new ways for students to learn about careers in podiatric medicine. Last month, another new "testimonial" video was released. This short video has interviews with podiatrists, students and residents and explores the reasons why they each chose a career in podiatric medicine and what they like best about the profession. This video can also be viewed on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/theAPMA#p/a/u/1/fvDu7oeAzRE](http://www.youtube.com/theAPMA#p/a/u/1/fvDu7oeAzRE) or on the APMA career page at [www.apma.org/careers](http://www.apma.org/careers).

For more information, feel free to contact the APMA at [careerinfo@apma.org](mailto:careerinfo@apma.org)

#### **Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine**

Pre-Professional Internship Program offered every January, June and July. More information is available on our website: [http://www.ocpm.edu/departments/student\\_affairs/admissions/intership.asp](http://www.ocpm.edu/departments/student_affairs/admissions/intership.asp). Cost for the internship program would be the applicant's transportation to Cleveland, Ohio; most other expenses are covered except for perhaps some meals. This program provides an opportunity for prospective students to visit our college, meet our current students, observe in our clinics, and overall determine for themselves if podiatric medicine is something they would like to pursue as a career. The dates are as follows: January 4-8, January 11-15, June 7-11, June 14-18, July 12-16 and July 19-23. If students are unable to participate in the internship program, they can contact a podiatrist and/or current podiatric medical student through the D.P.M. Mentors Network: [www.aacpm.org/careercenter/index.asp](http://www.aacpm.org/careercenter/index.asp). On this website, the student enters their state of residence; and what follows is a list of podiatrists practicing in the particular state along with contact information for current student mentors. If you have any other questions Contact: Aaron Berger ([aberger@ocpm.edu](mailto:aberger@ocpm.edu)) or Lorie Franck ([lfranck@ocpm.edu](mailto:lfranck@ocpm.edu))

### 3. MCAT Information

\$300 OFF MCAT PREP COURSES!  
Sign up before November 24th, 2009!

Hyperlearning MCAT Course Benefits:

- \* 105 hours of LIVE classroom instruction
- \* 5 Separate Instructors. Bio, O-chem, G-chem, Physics, Verbal.
- \* Free Super Bio Reviews - \$299 Value - 5 Hours
- \* Free Verbal Accelerator - \$299 value - 15 hours
- \* 17 CBTs, all AAMC tools provided
- \* 4,300 pages of course materials
- \* Satisfaction Guaranteed\*

Sign up for a FREE Super Bio Review, FREE MCAT class, or a FREE MCAT strategy session. Go to our website:  
<http://www.princetonreview.com/medical/mcat-free-events.aspx>  
<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?ThePrincetonReview/8446d1e3b3/7b6efa660b/8ea76715d6>

Take a FREE MCAT practice test anytime at:

<http://www.princetonreview.com/medical/free-mcat-practice-test.aspx>  
<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?ThePrincetonReview/8446d1e3b3/7b6efa660b/36e2b67a27>

On average, our MCAT students improve their score by 10 points!

The top quarter average a 33 and a 12 point score increase

Preparing for the 2010 MCAT in March, April, May or June?

Here are some of our course options.

More course options online at [www.PrincetonReview.com](http://www.PrincetonReview.com)

<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?ThePrincetonReview/8446d1e3b3/7b6efa660b/eed674de20>

Course #	Start	End	Days and Times	Location
5115-09	11/15/09	4/14/10	Sun 2-4:30; 5-7:30, Wed 5-7:30; 7:45-10:15	Albion
5015-34	1/11/10	3/23/10	Sun-Thu 7-9:30	East Lansing
5015-29	1/11/10	4/1/10	Mon-Thu 7-9:30	East Lansing
5015-32	1/17/10	4/15/10	Sun 12-2:30 3-5:30 Tue/Thu 7-9:30	East Lansing
5015-33	1/17/10	5/12/10	Sun 4-6:30 7-9:30 Wed 7-9:30	East Lansing
5025-06	2/7/10	5/14/10	Sun 4-6:30 7-9:30 Wed 7-9:30 Fri 7-9:30	East Lansing
5025-07	2/8/10	5/13/10	Mon-Thu 7-9:30	East Lansing
5015-30	1/11/10	4/1/10	Mon-Thu 7-9:30	Grand Rapids
5025-08	2/8/10	5/13/10	Mon-Thu 7-9:30	Grand Rapids
5015-31	1/11/10	4/1/10	Mon-Thu 7-9:30	Kalamazoo

If you don't have your University spring class schedule set you should still sign up now so you don't miss out on \$300 off! If you do have to transfer later there is NO TRANSFER FEE as long as you tell us a week before your scheduled course runs. Make sure you tell us about the transfer early so you make sure you can get a spot in the right course.

\*Please see our website for details

Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University

\$300 Off only valid on new enrollments between October 16th – November 24th, 2009. \$300 Off can not be combined with any other offers.

## 4. Other Useful Information

### New Inspiring Story: A Passion for Service

Okey Enyia shares his story <http://lists.aamc.org/t/36542/170728/1921/0/> with AspiringDocs.org, discussing his path to medical school, overcoming challenges, and his experiences as a medical student: "...Pace yourself, work with the end goal in mind...and enjoy the journey." Okey is a second-year medical student at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

### International Health Teams

I would like to let you know about \*international health teams\* through \*International Service Learning\* planned for this December and January to Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Africa.

Teams starting Dec 26, Jan 2, and Jan 10.

Last year we utilized over 1,200 pre-health students (and med students) from over 100 universities on our teams. To view a printable flier with more information on these health trips, \*click here [http://www.islonline.org/flyers/ISL\\_Jan\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.islonline.org/flyers/ISL_Jan_flyer.pdf) \* (PDF file). For additional information, please visit our web site at [www.islonline.org](http://www.islonline.org)

Additionally, we are looking for students to be representatives on campus as a way of earning a free trip. We can also set up a trip for your school or organization. If you are interested in being a rep or setting up a team or putting a group together please contact Kyle Winston at [kyle@ISLonline.org](mailto:kyle@ISLonline.org) 361-334-9690.

\*We still have space available on the following teams: \*\*\*

#### Before Christmas (for quarter schools)

\*Dec. 12-20 - Costa Rica, Nicaragua\*

\*Dec. 12-22 - Costa Rica/Nicaragua, Costa Rica\*

\*Dec. 13-21 - North Central Mexico\*

#### After Christmas (for semester schools)

\*Dec. 26- Jan. 3 - North Central Mexico\*

\*Dec. 26-Jan. 8 -Costa Rica/Nicaragua, Costa Rica/Panama, Dominican Republic\*

\*Dec. 28-Jan. 17 - Tanzania\*

#### January 2010

\*Jan 2-10 - Panama, Belize, Costa Rica/Nicaragua\*

\*Jan. 3-11 - Mexico\*

\*Jan. 4-13 - Costa Rica - Globalization (see [www.ISLonline.org](http://www.ISLonline.org))

\*Jan. 10-18 - Panama\*

To view a printable flier with more information on these health trips, click here (PDF file).

[http://www.islonline.org/flyers/Dec\\_teams\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.islonline.org/flyers/Dec_teams_flyer.pdf) For more information or visit our website at [www.ISLonline.org](http://www.ISLonline.org) Financial aid is available for all trips. Contact ISL about setting up a team and reducing your trip cost.

Our 2009-2010 Schedule is available on our website at [www.ISLonline.org](http://www.ISLonline.org) Just click on Team Schedule. We have teams scheduled throughout the year. If you have any questions please contact Pepper Tucker at [Pepper@ISLonline.org](mailto:Pepper@ISLonline.org).

### Celebrating National Native American Heritage Month

In recognition of Native American Heritage Month, the AspiringDocs.org Campaign is spotlighting content on the Web site contributed <http://lists.aamc.org/t/37535/170728/2050/0/> by Native American physicians and medical students.

The highlight is a new podcast with LeeAnna Muzquiz, M.D. <http://lists.aamc.org/t/37535/170728/2075/0/>, a member of the Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation in Montana. She discusses her experience as a family medicine physician and the importance of clinical research to the Native American community. Dr. Muzquiz is a family medicine physician with the Tribal Health Systems on the Flathead Reservation.

## 5. Upcoming Events at Grand Valley

### **Interview Workshop**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2009** from 4-6pm in Loutit Lecture Hall 103. In the first hour, join us for interview strategies with Ginger Lange from Career services. In the second hour hear a panel of your colleagues talk about their interviewing experiences. *Current applicants are especially encouraged to attend.*

### **GVSU Pre-Professional Day**

**Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

10am-4pm

Students must pre-register for the event. Below is the link for the registration form. You can also pick on up at the CLAS Academic Advising Center in C-1-140 MAK. We look forward to seeing you on November 14! We will have professional schools from across the State of Michigan in attendance, a dynamic keynote and breakout sessions of relevance to you!

<http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/clas-advising-center-events-worshops-for-students-140.htm>

### **Preparing for the Application Process**

**Tuesday, November 17 from 4-6pm & Wednesday, November 18, 2009 from 3-5pm**

Any student who plans to apply to professional school *this year* (medical, dental, chiropractic, pharmacy, optometry, podiatry, veterinary medicine) is strongly encouraged to attend this workshop to help you start preparing for the upcoming process.

These sessions are the same and you only need to attend one of the two.

Location: **Tuesday – LTT 103 or Wednesday – LOH 167** -Please check our events website for updates and more information:

[Upcoming CLAS Events and Information](#)

### **LIFE UNIVERSITY CHIRPRACTIC INFORMATION SESSION**

**Thursday, November 19 4:00 pm** B-1-116 Mackinac Hall

Representative from Life University will be available for questions & answers about their Chiropractic Program.

***The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will.***

***-Vince Lombardi***