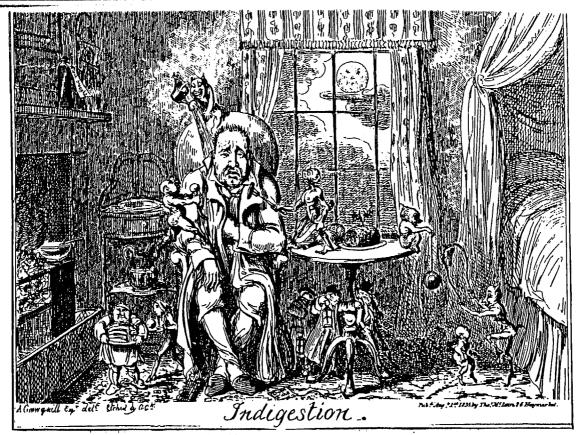


December 1990 / January 1991
Shifting Dullness



amputations.

## December in Medical History

- On December 6, 1537, Andreas Vesalius, at the age of twenty-two, received his medical degree at Padva; the following day he was named chair of surgery and anatomy at the University. His anatomical studies then began in earnest, culminating six years later with the publication of his *De Humani Corporis Fabrica*.
- Theobald Smith, an American pathologist and pioneer in the study of infectious microbiology, died December 10, 1934. He was the first to prove the transmission of a disease (Texas fever, or bovine babesiosis) by an arthopod vector, the tick. It should be noted, however, that ancient observers in Egypt suspected insect transmission of disease.
- On December 18, 1802, the Boston Columbian Sentinel published the results of the first carefully controlled series of vaccinations against smallpox. Despite early success, this new method of disease prevention was not accepted universally at first.

• December marks the aniversary of the death of Ambroise Paré (b. 1510, d. December 20, 1590). One of the great names in the history of surgery, he is known chiefly for introducing the use of gentle salves — rather than cautery — to treat wounds. He should also be credited for the idea of forced delivery in cases of extended labor, artifical legs, and the use of ligatures in

Chris Tharrington

- Ephraim McDowell, frontier surgeon in Kentucky and a former pupil of John Bell in Edinburgh, performed the first ovariotomy on Christmas Day, 1809.
- Diptheria antitoxin was first used in human cases on Christmas Day, 1891, at the Dergmann Clinic in Berlin.
- On December 31, 1865, John Shaw Billings, just discharged from service as a surgeon in the Civil War, began work on what was to become one of the finest medical libraries in the world: the Library of the Surgeon General in Washington, D.C.

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"Diarrh life and hed developing

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"...Parapropertion

Only or in the ward plugged in physicians ward. "...Sin

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Across first row c on intrave with scree moving, v multipurp

"...In ately, it is diarrhea tions, and

The plattentively professor available behind the group decopresentati

The presentation was the culmination of two years' work.

"Diarrheal disease remains the major threat to the life and health of children in the world, especially in developing countries such as this one..."

There was no outlet for the overhead projector: the European-type plug with two round pins did not fit the African-type outlets with three square holes. We decided an x-ray viewing box would be adequate to illuminate my carefully prepared transparencies.

"...Parasitic intestinal infections cause a large proportion of these cases of diarrhea..."

Only one electrical outlet worked and it was located in the ward itself, where the light box was already plugged in. My audience was small—only the staff physicians and nurses of ward 17, the pediatric diarrhea ward.

"...Since the advent of this era of HIV infection, the distribution and manifestations of infectious diseases are changing. Certain pathogens are associated with the immunodeficiency state caused by HIV and increasing evidence of the importance of cell-mediated immunity in host defense against others..."

Across the aisle in which we were standing was the first row of cribs, those of the sickest children, the ones on intravenous fluids. The nearest crib was surrounded with screens, and a tiny form on the mattress, not moving, was covered with a *kanga*, the traditional multipurpose cloth.

"...In order that these patients are treated appropriately, it is essential that we learn which agents cause diarrhea in this environment, their clinical manifestations, and how best to diagnose..."

The physicians and nurses stood and listened attentively to my results while the head of the ward, a professor of pediatric gastroenterology, sat in the only available chair taking notes. Despite the dead child behind the screen only a few feet away, an unpoken group decision had been made to proceed with my presentation. I was to return to the United States in a

few days, and this was my only chance to present these data to the very people to whom they mattered most, the ones who could put the information to use. Yet the screens were a grim spotlight of awkwardness.

"Fifty percent had intestinal parasites detectable by our techniques: 20% to 40% were diarrheogenic pathogens and the remainder, mostly hookworm and ascaris, contribute in important ways to the anemia and malnutrition of these children. Sixty percent of these patients had marasmus or marasmic-kwashiorkor, while another 35% had frank kwashiorkor or were underweight. The mortality rate was 40% in the HIV-seropositive group and 15%..."

Suddenly a cry erupted from the next aisle, a hysterical, keening wail of anguish: "My child! My child! My baby! Dear God, my baby! EEEEEEeeeeeee..." At that instant yet another infant had been taken from its mother because of malnutrition and diarrhea. At the very moment I had been expounding on my thousands of hours of research dedicated to helping solve this worldwide problem, its reality flew up before me, flapping its wings in my face. We watched silently as one of the nurses comforted the bereaved mother. Tears filled my eyes and my skin crawled, as I once again witnessed this all-too-familiar tragedy. What did it mean that this child had died now, at this moment? Had all my work just been nullified by this one of the ten-per-minute deaths from diarrheal disease that occur all over the world? Was it time simply to shred my data forms and pack my bags? Or time to cancel my flight home and redouble my efforts here?

The still-weeping mother was led outside. We stood for a moment, each with his or her own thoughts and feelings. "That's what it's all about," the professor sighed quietly. "That's why we're here." Then, turning to me, he said, "Go on."

Reprinted with the author's permission from The Journal of the American Medical Association (1990) **264**: 2689.

# Second Opinions

# The Future of the Fourth Year and the Question of Elective Time

Mary Amato

The student curriculum committee meets on a monthly basis to review proposals being discussed in the various subcommittees of the medical school curriculum committee, and to facilitate access to information regarding student data was tallied regarding time of completion of opinion, as well as to obtain objective data pertinent to required credits, time during fourth year spent on third the various proposals.

Recently there have been some proposals made which would directly or indirectly impact on the fourth year curriculum. Currently students enjoy the benefit of electively scheduling 36 clinical units during their fourth year. Proposals which advocate lengthening of the first and/or second year curriculum would do so by absorbing some of the non-clinically scheduled time during the existing fourth year. Also, it has been suggested that certain clinical courses should be required during the fourth year at the expense of current elective units, to insure proper selection of courses by fourth year students. Given the potential impact of these proposals, the student curriculum committee felt it important to survey current fourth year students on several related aspects.

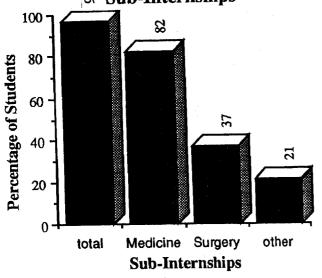
Seventy-six students scheduled for graduation in May 1991 were contacted by phone during November and

year research projects, and the field of medicine for which residency applications were being made.

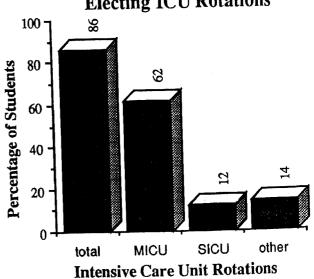
With regard to electives taken, 97 percent of fourth year students will have taken at least one sub-internship prior to graduation, and 86 percent will have taken at least one intensive-care-unit rotation. Eighty-nine percent will have taken at least two of these rotations and 41 percent will have taken three or more. (Please see accompanying graphs for breakdown.) It should be noted that Surgery Advanced Clerkships, which are not technically called sub-internships, were included as

Eighty-two percent of students surveyed spent time during their fourth year working on research projects from the previous year. Furthermore, most students will not complete their courses until March, April and May, following the trends set by previous classes.

### **Percentage of Students Electing** & Sub-Internships



### **Percentage of Students Electing ICU Rotations**



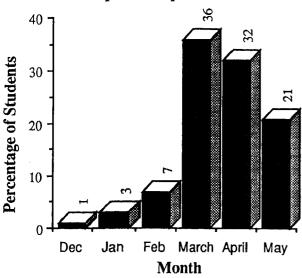
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# Months in which students will complete requirements



The following is a breakdown of residency applications for those students surveyed:

Internal Medicine - 29% General Surgery - 14% OB/GYN - 8% Ophthamology - 8% ENT - 6% Orthopedics - 5%

Pediatrics - 5% Radiology - 5%

Dermatology - 5%

Psychiatry - 4%

Pathology - 3%

Med/Peds - 1% Neurology - 1%

Urology - 1%

Family Medicine - 1%

Anesthesia - 1%

Research - 1%

during their fourth year working on research projects from the previous year. Furthermore, most students will not complete their courses until March, April and May, following the trends set by previous classes.

In general, the student curriculum committee feels that changes determined to replace clinical electives with clinical requirements are both superfluous and inappropriate. There is a wide variability in the curriculum needs of students entering diverse careers. Duke students, being both intelligent and motivated, are well-equipped to select appropriate electives, particularly with the advice and support of advisory deans, and the input provided by clinical and basic science mentors. The above data supports this contention.

When considering proposals that will encroach on the free time available during fourth year, it is important to note that this extra time is often well spent continuing research projects initiated during the third year, completing applications and interviews for residencies, studying for the boards or flex, and not in the least, catching their breaths before beginning rigorous internships and residencies,

First year medical students have recently joined the student curriculum committee and are working on the

development of a short survey form for evaluating aspects of the first-year curriculum.

The committee invites all interested students to attend the next meeting, scheduled for January 21, 1991 in Duke North Room 2253. It is important for students to work together toward the common goal of an optimal medical school curriculum, not only for the present class, but for the students and faculty to follow.

Shifting Duliness accepts letters of opinion from all members of the medical school community which encourage responsible dialogue. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial staff. Sinfting Duliness reserves the right to edit letters for length and style. Submit responses in the Staffting Duliness box in the Alumni Affairs Office, the Duke North student lounge, or mail to PO Box 2765 DUMC

# **Davison Council**

Dean Graham is setting up a task force to decide how the medical school curriculum should be altered to include a review for the new National Board Exam that the first year class is required to take. Natilie Cvijanovich and Chris Hasty, who are both members of the curriculum committee, volunteered to serve on the

GPSC has adopted a resolution in support of higher prioritization of library funding, a resolution on computing, and a resolution on biking. For details of these resolutions, contact Betsy Hilton, VP GPSC.

Diane DeMallie and two council members are going to discuss the revisions in the Appeals System with Dean Graham. Diane reported the news from the MED PAC meeting, a monthly meeting of all department heads. First, the Nearly New Shoppe, run by wives of medical faculty, gives all its profits to scholarships for Duke Medical students. The shop gave \$2000 scholarships to 50 students this year. Diane encouraged all to take old clothes to the shop located on Douglas St. which extends from Research Drive as you cross over Erwin Rd. Second, construction will begin on two buildings: in the Pratt St. H lot, a large complex will be built that includes outpatient clinines and a garage; in the engineering parking lot the Science Research Initiative (SRI) will bring together multiple science departments (and likely house the new Environmental Studies Department). You may be wondering where all these people are going to park, since the current system sells 10,500 decals for 6,000 spots. Options that have been considered include building more parking, park and ride, and incentives for carpools.

Sharon Castellino is heading a service project which involves once per month helping nurses with preventative medicine interviews and blood pressure checks for people in low income housing. She will solicit volunteers from the student body both to help write scripts for people who go to the clinics as well as volunteers to go to the clinics. Three to five students are needed each

month.

Ann Sharpe asked for comments on the new Budget Policy. In item III, a statement may be added that requires people who submit proposals for money not serve on the committee, in attempts to keep the committee unbiased. The American Red Cross's free basic disaster training course on Oct. 27, 9-12am or Oct. 29, 7-10pm was well attended. Those people interested in attending other more advanced courses should contact Ann Sharpe. Another basic course may be offered next semester.

### **Nearly New Shoppe**

615 Douglas St. (behind the Brownstone Inn) receiving donations 10AM-1PM

The Nearly New Shoppe gives \$100,000 yearly for medical school scholarships. Bring us your unwanted clothes and household items to convert into Duke scholarships.

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Betsy Hilton

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## December and January Calendar

Freewater Films

7 & 9:30 pm, Bryan Center; free with ID

Dec 1 - Arabian Adventure (10:30 am)

- 4 City of Women (6:45 & 9:30 pm)
- 5 It's a Wonderful Life
- 6 Hamlet (6:30 & 9:30 pm)
- 7 My Left Foot (7 & 9:30 pm)

Quad Flix

3 pm (Sun.) & 8 pm (Sat. & Sun.), Bryan Center, \$3 Dec. 1,2 - Always

Special Events

- Dec 4- Holiday Treelighting, 5pm, West Campus Quad 7- "Share your Christmas" semiformal and buffet, 9 pm, 4522 American Drive. Donate \$1 at the door. Proceeds and decorated tree go to two local families.
- Jan 20 Campus-wide Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.
  - 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Page Aud.

Duke Drama

Dec. 4,8,9 - "Second Shepherd's Play" at Duke Chapel.

Music

- Dec 1,2 Messiah by G.F. Handel, 2 pm (Sat.) & 3 pm (Sun.), Duke Chapel. Call Page Box Office.
  - 5 Duke Symphony Orchestra, 8 pm, Baldwin.
  - 6 Christmas Concert, 7 pm, Duke Chapel
  - 7 Holiday Pops Concert, NC Symphony
  - 8 Ciompi Quartet, 8 pm, Nelson Music Room,\$8. Music by Schubert, Hensel, and Mozart,with Walter Trampler, violinist.
- Jan 10 Duke Artists Series: Nicholas Kitchen, violinist, Ella Fountain Pratt Young Artist for 1990-91.
  - 19 Chamber Arts Society presents the Melos String Quartet, 8 pm.

Theater

- Dec 4,8,9 Duke Drama: Second Shepherd's Play, Duke Chapel.
- Jan 23-27, Jan 29-Feb 2 Hoof 'n' Horn: Cabaret, all shows 8 pm except Feb 2 at 2 pm.
- Jan 26 Broadway at Duke Sarafinal 3 pm and 8 pm Page Audi.

Rowena Dolor

Dance

Jan 12 - Institute of the Arts presents Dan Hurlin "A Cool Million," 8 pm, Reynolds Theater.

Art

Duke Univ. Museum of Art (DUMA), East Campus, Tues-Fri 8-5 pm, Sat 11-2 pm, Sun 2-5 pm.

ends Dec. 30 - R. Crumb Comix. Recent work, DUMA

Nov. 16-Dec. 30 - collage and sculpture: the Art of Irwin Kremen, DUMA

Jan 11-Feb 24 - Soho at Duke III: Charles Cowles Gallery.

### Duke Basketball Home Games

Dec 1 - vs. UNC-Charlotte

8 - vs. Michigan

29 - vs. LeHigh

Jan 2 - vs. Boston U

9 - vs. Georgia tech

14 - vs. Wake Forest

19 - vs. UNC

Meetings

Dec 3 - GPSC 7 pm, 105 Teer Bldg.

5 - Davison Council, 5:30 pm, Dean's conference room,

For tickets to music, theater, and dance events call Page Box Office at 684-4444.

Stellar Stories

Friday noon, M133 Dean's conference room
Call Cedar Koons, 684-2027, for copies of stories
Dec 7 - Melissa Lentriccia reading one of her short

stories

14 - a reading by novelist and Professor of Religion C. Eric Lincoln

28 - "What a Sky" by Edna O'Brien

### I Want to Read You a Poem

Friday noon, M133 Dean's conference room

Dec 21 - open reading - emerging poets (you!) will
read

Expires
January 31, 1991

# FREE ENTREE

Not Valid With Other Specials Or Takeaways

Buy Any Dinner Entree and Get One of Equal or Lesser Value FREE

15% gratuity on price of both dinners

Present this coupon when ordering

VALID DINNER
Sun-Thur
5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Happy Holidays tijuana fats' Does not include: dinners for 2/3/4 appetizers or beverages

800 West Main St. Durham 688-5558

Expires January 31, 1991

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800 West Main St. Durham 688-5558

### **AMSA**

Events to look for Christmas par Look for flyers for

Health care pa against a national I views and conduct aged to attend. Lo Contact Chris Still for more informati

#### AOA

Congratulations to Duke Chapter of t Alpha Omega Alp

#### <u> M\$III</u>

Donald Heck Mark Henry M
Charles Hoops A
Tom Noonan L
Ted Steiner Je
Tim Young Ja

### MSIV New

Good luck to a students! In plan refer to the medi Office and the in Duke alumni wh them for information, Northwest discounts to inte Unfortunately, a stipulations on the Northwest, your count of 5% off

# Clubs Med

#### **AMSA**

Events to look forward to in December:

Christmas party: Date and time to be announced. Look for flyers for more information.

Health care panel discussion: Physicians for and against a national health care system will present their views and conduct an open discussion. All are encouraged to attend. Look for flyers for date and time. Contact Chris Stille (MS4) or Steven Morefield (MS4) for more information.

#### **AOA**

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the Duke Chapter of the national medical honor society, Alpha Omega Alpha:

MSIII	<u>MSIV</u>	House Staff
Donald Heck Mark Henry	James Alspaugh Mary Amato	Greg Fontana Sonny Santos
Charles Hoops Tom Noonan	Addams Dudley	Jim Schwarz
Ted Steiner	Lisa Gangerosa Jennifer Gage	Faculty
Tim Young	Janice Gault Scott McKee	Dr. G.Van Bennett
	Tom Oetting	Alumni
	Robin Patty	Angus McBryde
	Richard Sater Debbie Shih	Joseph Warshaw

#### **MSIV News**

Good luck to all those interviewing fourth-year students! In planning your trips please do not forget to refer to the medical alumni list in the Medical Alumni Office and the index cards in the Dean's Office for Duke alumni who are willing to have you either call them for information or stay with them. Also, as you know, Northwest, TWA, and USAir are offering discounts to interviewing senior medical students. Unfortunately, after talking with Northwest, the many stipulations on that discount became apparent. For Northwest, your trip may be only two days and the discount of 5% off the full fare is only on a limited number

Debbie Shih

of seats. So keep your eyes open for other airline discounts and supersavers.

Don't forget to send in your ballots for the Student Speaker, Ideal Physician Award, etc.!

- Congratulations to Tim Oury and Charlene Chu on their engagement!
- Congratulations to Wendy Olivier on her recent engagement!
- Good luck to Edwin and Pam Page on their impending delivery!
- Best wishes to Katherine Liu and Chris Suhr who will be married in January!

S	taff
Editors	Kenny Boockvar
	Stefano Cazzaniga
	Susan Roque
	Holly Lisanby
	Greg Lucas
Davison Council	Betsy Hilton
Clubs Med	Debbie Shih
Events	Rowena Dolor
Writers	Mary Amato
	Peter Čegielski
	Rowena Dolor
	Chris Tharrington
Comics	John Armitage
	Jill Levy
	Susan Roque
Business Manager	Melissa Corcoran
Graphics and Layout	Kenny Boockvar
	Hólly Lisanby

# Announcements

# Wizard of Gauze The 1991 Student-Faculty Show

Meghan Brady

The planning for this year's student-faculty show is well underway. The talent on the writing team is phenomenal, promising to make Wizard of Gauze unforgettably fun. But we still need you! There is more writing to be done and independent skits are still welcome. Unfortunately, time is getting short. Auditions will be held on Sunday, Jan. 20 from 1-5pm and Monday, Jan. 21 from 7-9pm in the MSI auditorium (yellow zone, Duke South). We need as many dancers, actors, and singers as possible. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come. No preparation or experience is necessary and you may audition on either of the above dates. If you have any questions or conflicts, please call Meghan Brady at 383-5778.

Besides performing, there are many other tasks to be done including stage managing, technical directing, set painting and building, and fundraising. Call Herb Chen at 382-0107. Jeff Byers, the music director is looking for more musicians. Please contact him at 382-0581.

Wizard of Gauze will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 8pm in Cameron Indoor Stadium. The show will be the main event of Parents' Weekend, bringing together students, faculty, staff, and parents, so mark your calendar. All proceeds will go to charity. It will be a night to remember. Until then we encourage you to get involved and buy T-shirts which will benefit the show.

#### National Boards

The Dean's office has copies of the 1991 editions of the Examination guidelines and Sample Items. See Sheba Vaughan, rm. 121 Davison.

Eye Center Art Gallery

The Eye Center Art Gallery is located in the Cornea and Glaucoma waiting areas of the Duke Eye Center. Numerous knowledgeable docents have been scheduled and they make the gallery an informative and vital place to visit. Contact Joy Javits Stewart for more information, 684-2027 or write to Box 3017, DUMC.



### Restaurant & Wine Bar - Now Open

2200 W. Main St.

First Union Plaza - Erwin Square (Two blocks from East Campus)
-Take Outs Welcome-

#### **FEATURING**

Virginia Baked Ham
with melted Swiss cheese . . . seasoned with
our own spicy mustard and special herb butter
Regular \$4.75 Large \$5.75

Duke Student & Employee December Special 10% Discount On Your Meal

With Duke ID from 4:00 p.m. 'til closing

286-6699

Serving hours: Mon-Sat., 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.



- A. Argon cutting beam

  B. Heljum toasting beam
- C. Spread selection disc

### BRUEGGER'S TO BAGEL BAKERY

That's right! Bruegger's wants to say thank you to all the hard-working folks at our local institutions of higher learning: just bring your employee I.D. and this coupon to any Triangle location of Bruegger's Bagel Bakery and we'll

give you a

FREE HOT BEVERAGE! small coffee hot chocolate mulled cider

with the purchase of any bagel sandwich.

Offer good through January 11, 1991. Offer valid with coupon only. One coupon per customer per visit. Not to be combined with other offers!



# FACULTY AND STAFF APPRECIATION MONTH!

626 Ninth Street

286-7897

Chapel Hill: 104 W. Franklin • Cary: 122 S.W. Maynard Rd. Raleigh: North Hills Mall, Pleasant Valley Promenade, and 2302 Hillsborough St.

OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

The Bagelmaster II

# Getting Organized for the FLEX

Rowena Dolor

Now that residency applications are over, it's time to start thinking about taking the FLEX, the Federation Licensing Examination. This year the exam will be held on June 12-14.

Where to take the exam: We are not obligated to take the FLEX in North Carolina, however many students do so for convenience. Others take the exam in their home state or the state in which they will do their residency, but this is not always possible since some application deadlines are before the match results are back. The exam is usually held in the state capitals. Only two states, New Hampshire and North Dakota, do not administer the test.

Requirements: These vary from state to state. Most require documentation of education and credentials from high school up to medical school in the form of diplomas or transcripts. Some states require reference letters, photos, fingerprints, interviews, or character references. Also some states require some postgraduate training for eligibility.

Cost: This, too, varies in each state, ranging from \$150 to \$800. It is not always an advantage to take the exam where it is cheaper because some states require additional fees for licensure while other states offer licensure at no additional cost. Also it is possible to

# You really do have time... to get involved with Shifting Duliness.

Join the staff as a writer, editor, artist, or just an occasional contributor. The February issue deadline is **Jan. 21**. We are accepting editorials, letters, essays, fiction, art, and poetry from all members of the Duke Medical community. So get creative over the holiday break and contribute to Shifting Dullness.

Contact Holly at 688-7347. Place submissions in the Candy room box, the envelope in the Duke North student lounge, or mail to Box 2765 DUMC. transfer your exam scores from one state to another for an additional fee. There are, however, three states (AL, IL, and LA) that do not endorse scores from exams taken outside their state.

Deadline: Although it may be convenient to take the exam where one is doing residency, this is not always possible. The deadline for submitting the application materials is usually before or a few days after the NRMP match. Those taking the early, Colenbrander, match will not have this problem. All application material must be received in their office by the deadline, not just postmarked by that date. It is best to allow 10-14 days for delivery. Any material sent later than that should be sent by express mail or hand-delivered. The exam fees are usually nonrefundable. If the application is late, a late registration fee may be charged.

North Carolina requirements: Exam cost is \$670 for both components, \$470 for Component I only, and \$525 for Component II only. The deadline is March 28, 1991. Passing the FLEX exam (scores 75 or above) means automatic licensure to practice in North Carolina. The application requires the following:

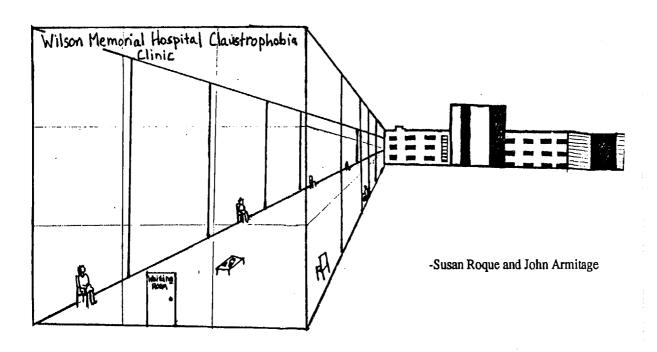
1) certification of graduation from the Dean of the medical school, or a notarized copy of the medical school transcript. The registrar or Deborah in CTL can notarize documents for free.

2) a certified photograph (2 1/2" x 3 1/4"); this can be done by the registrar's office.

3) three letters of recommendation: one from someone who has known you for the last ten years (not a relative) and two from physicians. The latter two can by obtained from the Dean's office - one from your advisory dean and the other from Dean Graham. Linda Chambers coordinates these letters. Please make a definite decision of where you will take the exam before requesting these letters from Linda.

Things to do now: Look at the EXCHANGE book which contains detailed information about the FLEX and licensing requirements. This is printed by the Federation of the State Medical Boards. Only the 1989-1990 edition is available. The next edition will not be available until late February / early March. There is one book in the reference section of the library and another will be purchased by the Dean's office and will be placed above the copier in the Dean's hall. The last section of this book contains addresses and phone numbers or the individual state boards. Now is a good time to write or call to request an application.





Cover Front and back cover drawings by Holly Lisanby.

