



SHIFTING DULLNESS

DAVISON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Send announcements to
Box 2889 DUMC

January 21, 1976

Did You Know...?

...that Duke has a student representative to the AAMC and that the students in this organization have recently challenged its position on several important issues (see page)...

...that the Medical Center Library maintains a large file of information about internships and residencies? (ask the reference librarian to show you where it is)...

Special-For Y'all

NEW DAVISON SOCIETY OFFICE HOURS

The Davison Society Office will now be open Mondays and Wednesdays, from 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm. If you have any announcements for the Shifting Dullness, they must be brought in by Monday of the week you want them printed.

USE OF MEDICAL SCHOOL FACILITIES

Everyone should be aware of the fact that campus police have been instructed that all Medical School facilities (including the Med Student Lounge, 4th floor labs, etc.) are for the use of staff, medical students, and their escorted guests only. Anyone not meeting the above criteria will be asked to leave by the security officer making regular rounds throughout the building. Please note that any guests waiting to meet you may be asked to leave unless they are in an area not restricted to med students (such as the hospital lobby). This policy is intended for your protection.

XEROX MACHINES IN HOSPITAL

Thanks to the efforts of Marilyn Pietrantonio, Mr. Robert Newton, director of the Hospital Business Office has agreed to allow medical students to use his Xerox machine for a one-month trial period.

Location: Hospital Business Office, next to information desk in the main lobby. Cost: 5¢ a copy. Please try to have correct amount of change, though not necessarily nickels. Hours: 24 hours a day. But after 11 p.m. only one person is in the office and the door is kept locked. Students will have to knock on the door to be let in to use the machine. Mechanism: Pay member of office staff for copies and you will be given the audiotron to run the machine.

(continued)

This will be a great convenience for those students with late-night workups to copy or for a quick copy of notes, etc when you're not headed for the library. WARNING: If the use of the machine is excessive, however, or becomes a big hassle to the office staff, we will lose the privilege. A word to the wise...

PSYCHIATRY DEPARTMENT GUIDE

Copies of the new guide to research and academic interests of the members of the department of Psychiatry are available in the student lounge or from Bonnie in Dr. Brodie's office (4th floor, white section)

NEEDED: CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION LIASON

The Clinical Pastoral Education Advisory Committee of the Medical Center would like a representative member of the Davison Society. Qualifications: "an interest in the overall health of patients broad enough to include that real but somewhat elusive dimension called the 'spiritual' or 'religious'." Quarterly meetings last approximately 1 1/2 hours. First meeting: Thursday, Jan. 29 at 2:30. Please contact Linda Bishop, Box 2737 or 383-5989, if interested.

NEEDED: STUDENTS FOR COMMITTEE ON HUNGER

President Sanford has established a university wide "Presidential Committee on Hunger" for which we need medical student representatives. The responsibility of this committee will be to report to President Sanford recommendations of ways in which Duke U. can respond to the problems of local and global hunger. The scope of this committee will be defined by the unique possibilities available to a university community. Initially, he is asking the committee to look at three major areas: 1) the development of an inter-disciplinary curriculum and ways of highlighting the hunger problem in existing courses: 2) the possibility of orienting research to serve the multiple issues of hunger, and 3) an evaluation of the University's policies and practices as an institution functioning in a world of limited resources. If interested, contact Dwight Robertson, Box 2842.

class notes

1ST AND 3RD YEAR: CLASS PARTY

In an attempt to put some creativity in the social arena, we will have an ice skating party for the 1st and 3rd year med students at the Daniel Boone Ice Skating Rink in Hillsborough on Wednesday, Feb. 4. We can only rent it late (from 10 pm - 1 am), so get your studying done early. Skates, beer, and hot chocolate are all free.

2ND AND 3RD YEAR: IMPORTANT MEETING THIS THURSDAY

The 3rd year students will present their views of 3rd year. Students will be there who have participated in all facets of 3rd year - study tracks, research, courses, tutorials- to give you some advice before you have to plan 3rd year. Thursday nite, Jan. 22 at 7:00 pm in the amphitheatre. All 3rd year students are urged to attend, too.

THE POLICY MAKERS

(The following is the conclusion of a two-part article by Bob Cassell, Duke's representative to the OSR. -ed)

The most recent meeting of the Organization of Student Representatives was held during the first week of November in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the national meeting of the AAMC. The major issue at the meeting concerned the role and influence of the OSR within the AAMC. The precipitating factor was a brief filed by the AAMC Executive Council urging the National Labor Relations Board not to allow housestaff to form unions. The OSR was not consulted in the formulation of this policy and strongly disagrees with it. In addition, the OSR feels that many of the arguments used by the AAMC (basically, to prove that housestaff are students and not employees) are factually incorrect. Although, traditionally, the AAMC speaks with a single voice, the OSR considered the issue of such importance and the disagreement so fundamental that it voted to express its dissent publicly, and thus to defy the Council of Deans and the Executive Council. So far, this "rebellion" has been rather mild, taking the form of an article in The New Physician and a letter to the NLRB.

Other major issues dealt with by the OSR included health manpower legislation, licensure exams, and student scut work. In the legislative area, the OSR recommended legislation that would increase the number of Public Health Service scholarships and low-interest student loans, establish more primary care residency programs in community hospitals, and eliminate capitation grants in favor of special funds designed to expand primary care training of medical students. (The elimination of capitation grants is contrary to current AMC policy).

On the subject of examinations, the OSR recommended that passage of a standardized examination be required for entry into a residency training program (such exams would be Parts I and II of the National Boards or FLEX): that these exams should be reported to schools and residency programs only as "pass" or "fail" and that full licensure should be allowed after one year of residency. The final two provisions were voted down by the AAMC.

The OSR took a stand that "scut work" by medical students should be considered secondary to education. In keeping with this, night call and hours per week in the hospital should be limited and there should be a minimum of 5 - 7 hours per week of teaching on the students' level.

The most interesting portion of the meeting was a program on "Stress in Medical Education." A panel of experts discussed the stresses placed upon medical students by schools, instructors, friends and families, and themselves, and how students might avoid, lessen or cope with these stresses.

For further information on OSR or AAMC, contact Bob Cassell, Box 2738, 489-4284, or 684-5122.

Externships

Information on the following programs has been received in the Davison Society Office, and is available for review in the library reserve room in a book entitled, "Electives Away from Duke."

The City of New York traineeships in Public Health, for 1976.

The 1976-77 NIH Clinical Electives for Medical Students Program.

residencies

Information on the following program is available for review Mondays and Wednesdays, from 12:30 -- 3:30, in the Davison Society Office.

The McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University Chicago, Illinois

etc.

The bulletin of Postgraduate Courses from the American College of Physicians has been received and is available in the Davison Society Office.