



SHIFTING DULLNESS

DAVISON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Box 2889, DUMC

October 26, 1976

Special-For Y'all

FIRST YEAR ELECTIONS

The results of the First Year class elections are as follows: President, Harry Severance; Representatives, Billy Andrews, Barbara Hall, Michael Rocco, and Hadley Wilson. Congratulations!

MED SCHOOL STUDENT DIRECTORY

The Directory is available in Room 603 Davison for all those students who did not receive one in their mail boxes.

REMINDER FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

A. Spending Guidelines

1. Each of the four classes shall be allocated an equal amount of money in the Annual Fall Budget. Additional class funds may be requested by individual class presidents throughout the year.
2. Funds shall be allocated to the Social VP for financing of Davison Society functions.
3. Funds shall not be allocated to individual groups or organizations for functions which are primarily social.

- B. Travel Expenses may be allocated to any requesting party eligible in accordance with fund requesting guidelines.

FIRST ANNUAL GRADUATE HALLOWEEN PARTY sponsored by the Duke Bar Association

The party is Friday night, October 29 at 9:00 pm at the Jordan Center on Oregon Road. Beer, wine, and munchies will be provided. Costumes encouraged. All this for only \$1.00.

MEDICAL CENTER CABARET

Come to the Medical Center Cabaret, Saturday, November 13 at 7:00 & 10:00 pm, and Sunday, November 14 at 3:00 & 7:00 pm in Fred Theatre (West Union Building). Entertainment \$1.75, beer-free!! Tickets go on sale November 1 outside the Hospital Cafeteria at lunchtime (12:00-1:00).

SUBJECTS WANTED

The Health Services Consortium Inc. is interested in contacting students to serve as a testing population for the purposes of evaluating self-instructional programs. Students will be paid \$4.00 for achievement above the 90% and \$2.00 for achievement below 90% on each program tested. The average reimbursement for a student's time is in the area of \$6.00-\$8.00 an hour. Interested students in Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, etc. should contact Jerry Haynes, Coordinator, Education Systems, Health Services Consortium, Inc. 200 Eastowne Drive Suite 213, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. 914-942-8731.

D.S. DUES FOR COMBINED DEGREE STUDENTS

The Davison Council reconsidered the resolution passed last spring regarding mandatory payment of Davison Society dues by combined degree students. The Council reaffirmed its position and established a combined committee of: Ed Buckely, chairperson, Anthony Limberakis, Sid Gospe, Gail Geier, and Dave Schlossman to investigate and report back to Davison Council on improved means of representation of combined degree students on the Council.

class notes

FIRST YEAR: Shifting Dullness, explained

"Shifting dullness" is a physical sign in the abdominal exam produced by free fluid. The examiner percusses the level of dullness in the flanks with the patient supine and again after the patient turns on one side for a minute. Considerable shift indicates the probability of greater than 500 ml free fluid, but fat in the mesentery and feces in the bowel may give similar results. Also it's difficult to elicit this in an obese patient.

FOURTH YEAR: NIRMP directories may be obtained from Marilyn's office, room 136 Davison

Symposium

JOINT LAW & MEDICAL ALUMNI PROFESSIONAL SYMPOSIUM: "Professional Malpractice: Liability, Insurance and Alternatives"

The symposium will be held in the Moot Court Room at the Law School, Saturday, October 30 at 9:00 am. Speakers are: John Strong, J.D., Dean-elect, University of Nebraska Law School; Malcolm C. Todd, M.D., past-President of the AMA; Jeffrey M. Smith, J.D., Emory University Law School; Clark C. Havighurst, J.D., Duke Law School; John R. Ball, M.D., J.D., 1st graduate of Duke's MD-JD Program.

contest

La Leche League International announces the 1977 PAUL GYORGY ANNUAL AWARDS. A \$500 first prize, and a \$200 second prize will be awarded for the best original papers on breastfeeding submitted by currently enrolled medical students. The deadline is March 1, 1977. Further information available in the Davison Society office.

residencies

Information on the following internship and residency programs is available for review in the Davison Society office, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-1.

Family Practice

The Trover Clinic Foundation Madisonville, Kentucky
Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center Anniston, Alabama

Medicine

Booth Memorial Medical Center Flushing, New York
Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital Cleveland, Ohio

Pediatrics

The Children's Medical Center Dayton, Ohio

Surgery

West Virginia University Medical Center Charleston, West Virginia

4TH YEAR STUDENTS:

CLASS PARTY: After the Duke- State game, there will be a class party at Jackie's. Beer and grain punch will be available. This Saturday, January 22, at around 10:00 pm. 319 W. Trinity.

GRADUATION SPEAKER NEEDED: Each year, one member of the graduating class serves as speaker at the Hippocratic oath ceremony held in Duke Chapel. Anyone interested in speaking this year should contact Mike Magill, Box 2818 or phone 286-3575.

FREEBIE: All 4th year students wishing to receive a small notebook entitled "Cardio-Vec" see Marilyn, Room 136 Davison.

contests

THE TRENT PRIZE IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

An award of one hundred dollars is offered for the best essay on any subject in the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences by a Duke Med Student. Completed papers due before April 15, 1977. Further information available on the bulleting board or in the Davison Society office.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Attention Residents of Baltimore City, Maryland. The Baltimore City Medical Society Foundation, Inc., has recently created a modest scholarship fund for the purpose of financially aiding students who are residents of the city of Baltimore and are attending or have been accepted by a recognized School of Medicine or Osteopathy. Criteria for awarding the scholarship are residence in Baltimore City, financial need and academic achievement. Deadline for applications is April 1, 1977. A "Sample" application form is on file in the Office of Financial Aid, 123 Davison.

Joseph Collins Award for Financially Needy Medical Student: If you have an interest in specializing in neurology, psychiatry, or becoming a general practitioner, and are interested in being nominated for this award of not more than \$1,500 per year, please contact the Office of Financial Aid, 123 Davison.

Senior Medical Students: Information on the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Scholarship, \$2,500, for a senior medical student with a demonstrated interest in scientific communication to be selected from among nominees proposed from Deans of AMA approved medical schools. Recipient to be named in March of this year. Financial need is not a criteria. Nomination to be made no later than February 15, 1977. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid, 123 Davison.

Female Medical Students: Procedures and application forms for the Alpha Epsilon Iota Scholarship have been received. Grant of \$2,000 per year for unmarried female student or \$5,000 per year for married female student whose husband is a full time student. Awards based on financial need and academic merit. For more information, contact the office of Financial Aid, 123 Davison.

Externships, etc.

The following information has been received by the Davison Society and is available for review in the reserve room in the med school library, in a book entitled "Electives Away From Duke".

Psychiatry Opportunity: Experience in psychiatry at the Menninger School for Psychiatry

for medical students is offered for periods up to 3 months any time during the year; a stipend of \$300 per month is offered. Contact Ms. Kay Stoner, Registrar, Menninger School of Psychiatry, P.O. Box 829, Topeka, Kansas 66601 or 913-234-9566, ext. 3619.

Interdisciplinary Student Rural Health Teams: Medical Care Development, Inc. offers a 6-8 week program in Maine in six rural primary care settings throughout the state. The program offers student team development activities in addition to a traditional preceptorship. Room and board are provided, and funds are available to help defray the cost of travel expenses. Further information on this program is available from Dr. Shirley Osterhout.

Cerebrovascular Disease: The American Heart Association has established a 3 month traineeship in cerebrovascular disease at the Mayo Clinic and Mayo Medical School for a 3rd or 4th year medical student with prior experience in internal medicine and neurology. The traineeship is for 3 months during the summer (July-August) or fall (Sept.-Dec) of 1977 and carries a \$1,000 award. During this period of time, the trainee will receive in-depth exposure to the diagnosis, management and pathogenesis of cerebrovascular disease. Application deadline April 1. Further information available from Gerald M. Needham, Ph.D. Mayo Medical School, Rochester, Minn. 55901.

Research Training: The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine offers a summer training program in the biomedical sciences. Each student conducts an original research project within the scope of the on-going program of a member of the Research Staff. Participants are charged for room, board, and services, but receive a stipend of \$900. Application deadline is March 7, 1977.

Migrant Farmworkers and Rural Poor: The University of Colorado Medical Center is accepting applications for the 1977 Student Health Program for Migrant Farmworkers and Rural Poor. The purpose of the program is to increase the availability of health services and health education for migrant farmworkers and rural poor of Colorado, and to offer students experience in rural community medicine and community health planning, and an opportunity to work in an interdisciplinary health care team. Stipends of about \$100 per week and some reimbursement for local travel are available. Credit may be arranged too (academic credit). Check the book in the reserve room for more info.

Radiation Oncology: this externship is sponsored by the University of Florida, and is open to 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year students. It's objective is to provide students with an intimate exposure to the examination, diagnosis, and treatment of the cancer patient, with an emphasis on a multidisciplinary approach to cancer management. For further information, write Kenneth E. Ellingwood, M.D. Division of Radiation Oncology, Box J-385, J. Hillis Miller Health Center, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32610.

Pediatrics: The Marshall University School of Medicine at Huntington, W. Va. is offering 2 pediatric electives for 4th year students in Care of the Newborn (4 weeks) and Training in Management of Pediatric Outpatients. (4-6 wks). Further information available in the "Electives Away from Duke" book in the library.

Fellowship in Clinical Cardiology: the San Francisco Heart Association offers a student fellowship in Clinical Cardiology. This 8 week opportunity is under supervision in an accredited Medical Center or Hospital in San Francisco. Fellowships may be initiated any 8 consecutive weeks between July 1, 1977 and June 30, 1978. 4th year students are eligible. A stipend of \$600 for the 8 week period is provided. Applications due Feb. 15. Further information in the library in "Electives away from Duke" (on reserve).

health care. Most disturbing of all are persistent reports from the nation's capital that National Health Insurance is likely to be proposed by this administration after the election: the President has already asked once for National Health Insurance, shortly after taking office in 1974, and it's good fortune alone that the habitual inertia of the partisan Congress saved us from it on that occasion. Moreover, the present Administration must share a large part of the responsibility for the dubious record of Federal regulatory agencies in the field of health inspection and food and drug surveillance.

In essence, the difference between Carter and Ford is, in many respects, that between an anaconda and a king cobra; the former is quite immediately dangerous, while the latter may well prove dangerous in the long run. There is not much that the American medical profession can do about being bitten, but it will have to struggle as well to avoid being crushed. This, I am afraid, is the choice which we presently must make.

-Miles Edward Drake, MSIV

Editor's Note: The preceding article does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the medical student body or editorial staff. It was included to stimulate interest in the U.S. health care system. Replies are welcomed at Box 2889 or at Room 603, Green Zone. Tuesday, 9:00 am is the deadline for inclusion in any Thursday's issue.

RESPONSE TO PART ONE

This is in response to Miles Edward Drake's article condemning Governor Carter's health care proposals. The tone of that piece, which can be discerned clearly despite the author's fatuous and irrelevant "humor", reflects the negativistic, ostrich-like philosophy which is so typical of conservative thought. Particularly illustrative of this is Mr. Drake's horror at the prospect of the government "drawing the medical and allied health professions...into the Roman arena of socioeconomic politics..." Any thoughtful person must recognize that the health of individuals is an important social parameter, and that any area on which our society spends billions of dollars each year is economically significant. It is therefore inescapable that health care will continue to be an important political issue -- the AMA recognized this years ago.

The real issue in this election concerning the medical profession is not whether the health care system should or should not change -- it is changing and will continue to do so. What is important is how these changes will be accomplished. The Republican approach, embodied in Gerald Ford, is to do as little "tampering" as possible. Hit and miss, patchwork programs, without any unifying organization or concept, invariably produce unsatisfactory results and thus fulfill the prophecy that nothing should have been done in the first place. Mr. Drake reflects this specious philosophy: "What is not clear is how this (improvement of the health care system) can be accomplished by an additional, unified, centralized program when existing limited programs have failed to solve the problems." Under a Ford administration we can expect the continuation of policies on health care reflective of the same Republican attitudes which allowed the Hoover administration to ignore the problems which lead to the Great Depression.

Governor Carter does not profess to have all the answers to the myriad of problems concerning health care in the United States. He does, however, offer the hope of innovative and dynamic leadership in this important area. His record on health issues in Georgia is a good one; most notably he reorganized the State Health Department to allow more efficient utilization of resources -- the number of separate overlapping programs was reduced, and bureaucrats were replaced wherever possible with case workers. The effects of this reform are just beginning to be felt, and the response among health professionals is positive. (In this regard it is important to point out one of Mr. Ford's most flagrant distortions of the campaign when he declared that the present Georgia governor, George Busby, testified that he found the state Medicare/Medicaid

system "in shambles" when he took office. What Mr. Busby was referring to was the administration of the program on the federal level.)

The health care system in this country is one of the best in the world for persons who can afford it. However, middle income families are spending more and more of their incomes for health care, and rural and poor citizens often cannot obtain high quality or even adequate care. Society in general and the medical profession in particular must shoulder the responsibility in this area. If physicians are dragged kicking and screaming into the 21st century, opposing every reform to maintain their own special interests, the health care system which will develop despite their opposition will be worse than the one that would evolve with their leadership and technical expertise. A Carter administration offers the prospect of meaningful reforms to improve health care for those who deliver it as well as for those who receive it.

-Clint Joiner, MD-PhD student in the Dept. of Pharm. & Phys.

smile awhile

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