

# shifting dullness

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## NEW FACES ARRIVE

Shifting Dullness would like to recognize the students who entered Duke School of Medicine from other medical schools. They include Cheryl Hillery from the Washington University School of Medicine, Karen Moore from the Howard University School of Medicine, Preston Reynolds from the Cincinnati College School of Medicine, and Tom Winter from the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

## N.R.S.F. ANNOUNCES AVAILABLE AWARDS

The National Reye's Syndrome Foundation of Bryan, Ohio, in an effort to support Reye's Syndrome research, announces the following:

- 1) An annual research award
- 2) An N.R.S.F. essay prize
- 3) An N.R.S.F. research laboratory award

For more information contact Dr. Shirley Osterhout.

## ISOTRETINOIN: NEW ACNE THERAPY INTRODUCED AT DUKE

Isotretinoin (Accutane) is an oral vitamin A derivative which is indicated for the treatment of severe recalcitrant cystic acne. Accutane has been shown effective in this disease. Prolonged remissions after a single course have been observed in many patients. Isotretinoin temporarily suppresses sebaceous gland activity and reduces sebum production by 80-90%.

Adverse reactions to Accutane have mainly been limited to the skin and mucous membranes. Cheilitis, which occurs in over 90% of the patients, is the most frequent adverse reaction. There is a 40% incidence of conjunctivitis also associated with therapy. The cost for an average 16 week course of therapy is \$400 - \$500.

## SMITHKLINE BECKMAN INFORMATION ARRIVES

For those interested in the 1983 Smithkline Beckman Medical Perspectives Fellowship Program previously reported in Shifting Dullness, further information has been received. Please see Dr. Shirley K. Osterhout about the application forms.

## SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED

Applications are now being accepted for the Wilbert C. Davison Scholarship, which was established by student government to commemorate the contributions of Dr. W.C. Davison, our first dean. The annual award is \$1,000.00 going toward a program of study that is clinically oriented, preferably in an area of primary care. Forms will be available in Dr. Shirley K. Osterhout's office.

#### RESEARCH AWARDS

The ninth annual Eastern Student Research Forum will be hosted by the University of Miami School of Medicine during March 2-4, 1983. The ESRF is one of a national and three regional forums set up across the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico to give medical students, residents, and graduate students associated with medical schools the opportunity to present their research for critique and to compete for cash research awards.

Participants in the Forum will be selected on the basis of the quality of their research. Each applicant will be required to submit a written abstract to be reviewed by a minimum of four faculty members from the School of Medicine. Those applicants invited to the Forum will give oral presentations of their research and will once again be judged by several faculty members. The results of both the written and oral evaluations will determine who receives the cash awards. For more information, see Dr. Shirley Osterhout.

#### N.C.I. OFFERS TRAINING AWARD

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is seeking applicants for 1983 Summer Training Awards funded by the NCI Gift Fund. The Fund receives donations from persons who wish to further the National Cancer Program, often from relatives and friends of patients treated in the NIH Clinical Center.

Applications will be accepted from students who are currently enrolled in medical school or who are in the second year of a doctoral program leading to research in the fields of epidemiology, carcinogenesis (particularly chemical), the nutritional sciences, or cancer control. Awards will be for two or three months each and will offer research training in an intramural laboratory or branch at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. The awards will include a monthly stipend of approximately \$1000, with some adjustment for the level of the trainee.

Applications will be judged by a Selection Committee of senior NCI scientists. Awards will be approved by the Executive Committee of the NCI on the basis of demonstrated academic excellence, evidence of serious intent to pursue a career in research, and the availability of placement at the NCI congruent with the applicant's abilities and area of interest.

All applications must be received by December 31, 1982. Awards will be announced by March 15. It is anticipated that approximately 10 awards will be made for the summer of 1983. To apply, please see Jeanne Lee for details.

#### NEW FRESHMAN MEMBERS OF DAVISON COUNCIL

Tony Coles, President  
John Barton  
Pat Duffy  
Jennifer Ruh  
David Spach

#### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS, FRESHMAN CLASS

Bill Crone  
Joe Howard  
Scott Howell

#### WORK IN AFRICA NEXT SUMMER

For the past several summers Operation Crossroads Africa has sent from three to six medical teams to work on community based health projects in Africa. Each project was successful in providing needed medical services to the community as well as serving as a tremendous opportunity for first hand exposure of our participants to the medical problems that rural African communities are faced with.

Medical students and students of biology, chemistry, nursing, and nutrition work on two basic types of health projects: primary health care and preventive health care. Team members on primary health care projects assist in diagnosing and treatment of tropical illnesses, first aid, pediatrics, and Ob-Gyn. Team members in preventive health care projects are primarily involved in general health education, pre and post natal care, nutrition surveys and in some cases, immunization programs. For information on participation, please see Jeanne Lee.

#### CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Of the six entries to the contest about the name of the student newsletter, the following was judged to be the best:

"Naming a newsletter Shifting Dullness is not, much to the pleasure of certain cynical colleagues, any reflection on the rotating phantasmagory of instructors, methods, courses, clerkships, and transitions we encounter at Duke. Though arguably slightly defamatory, this title is really a challenge to medical students to preserve their creativity, warmth, and personalities despite temptations to simply react to new, yet similar routines with a world-weary attitude not atypical for workaholics on the health-care team. It is thus an appropriate title for a student newsletter which encourages the addition of extracurricular dimensions to student life!"

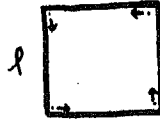
Bruce Morgan, MS I

Correct answers to last week's puzzle were submitted by J. Martin Johnston, Mark W. Scroggs, Mark Rosenberg, Kip Benyunes, Brian Mitchell, Adele Mitchell, and K. Logan Porter. Mark Scroggs won the draw, and Mark (What, me study?!) Rosenberg won the bonus for being the only MS I to submit a correct solution.

PUZZLE

This week's puzzle is in honor of W.G.

There is a square room with sides of length  $l$ . There is a nasty old spider in each corner. The spiders begin walking toward each other.



How far does any one spider walk before it meets the others? (Hint: They meet in the center.)

Now once you have the answer to this one, for a bonus solve the problem for six spiders at the corners of a regular hexagon with sides  $l$ .

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Mutual Association for Professional Services

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