

THE DEAN'S MESSAGE

Eli Adashi



April was a remarkably busy month here at the Medical School. Among many other activities, we welcomed Senator Max Cleland, who

lauded our Pathways to Recovery from Combat initiative. We honored longtime faculty member Edwin Forman at an extremely well-attended CME-run symposium on pediatric hematology/oncology. We heard from physician-author Ethan Canin on the importance and the power of words. And we held the ninth annual Scholarship Dinner, where students and donors had the chance to make each other's acquaintance, to thank and inspire each other.

Though we have much to accomplish before the end of the month, I am eagerly looking forward to my first Brown Medical School Commencement-Reunion Weekend. We have an amazing line-up of events, including teaching award ceremonies and forums by distinguished alumni, but the culmination, of course, will be the graduation ceremony of the Class of 2005.

I look forward to seeing all of you at some point in the coming weeks, and wish you all a wonderful spring.

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following award recipients

- ISIS BURGOS- *PLME Community Service Award*
- CARLA CHIBWESHA- *Jack and Edna Saphier Prize*
- FELICIA CHU- *Stanley Aronson Prize*
- STACEY CLEGG- *American College of Physicians Scholarship for Internal Medicine*
- AINE CLEMENTS- *Henry Randall Prize*
- JULIA FREW- *Dean's Prize*
- PAUL GEORGE- *Dean's Prize*
John J. Cunningham Mem. Family Medicine Award
- CHARLES HEBERT- *Isaac Ray Award in Psychiatry*
- JASON IANNUCCILLI- *The Radiological Society of Rhode Island Prize*
- BEVERLY JOHNSON- *Gerontology Center Prize*
- BRIAN KWONG- *Rhode Island Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians*
- KAREN LAW- *The David S. Greer Prize*
- LORRAINE NG- *New England Pediatric Society Prize*
- CHRISTINA RINCON- *Milton Hamolsky Prize*
- ELIZABETH SCHOENFELD- *The Society for Academic Emergency Medicine*
- DENNIS TANNER- *Humanism in Medicine Award*
- GEORGE TURNINI- *Babette and Peter Stewart Prize*
- SNIGDHA VALLABHANENI- *Al Senft Prize*
- STACEY WEINSTEIN- *Frederick Barnes Prize*
- ALEXANDER WESTPHAL- *Christopher Benedick Child Psychiatry Award*
- BEVERLY YOUNG- *Pierre M. Galletti Prize in Physical Sciences*

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Medical Student Affairs

ASSOCIATE DEAN
Steve Smith

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) reaccredited Brown Medical School for the full eight-year. Like almost all other medical schools, Brown was found in non-compliance with a few of the standards set by the LCME and we have been asked to work on these and provide a partnership for next May. We had already identified all of these areas through our self-study and had started the process of remedying the problems well before the report was actually received. I am pleased to say we are making excellent progress in all the areas related to medical education. I will briefly update you on each one.

The LCME adopted a new standard recently that requires medical schools to obtain specific, quantitative data on the types of patients that students encounter and to match those with the educational objectives of the course or clerkship. Our clerkship in family medicine has been doing that for some time by lending students a PDA that includes a tracking system program. The data are uploaded by the department and analyzed to make sure that every student in every preceptor site is seeing patients that match expectations. We need to do the same thing on all the clerkships and with the new doctoring program. Consequently, we will be expecting all first-year medical students to purchase a PDA for this purpose. Increasingly, students have found that owning a PDA is essential to their own education, especially when they reach the third year. New software allows students to essen-

tially carry a mini-library of medical resources in their pocket. The cost of a PDA will be included in students' budgets, so that financial aid may be provided.

A task force on improving the timeliness of clerkship grades issued its report to the dean last month. A new LCME standard requires that grades be submitted within six weeks of the end of a clerkship. We often fell woefully short of this goal. Beginning this summer, a new online system of evaluation will be implemented that should help considerably. The taskforce report also calls on increasing levels of sanctions for non-compliance.

Dr. Donald Coustan, Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, has been making the rounds of each clinical department to inform them about the findings of the taskforce on student mistreatment. The taskforce report sets clear expectations for the appropriate treatment of students and outlines new procedures to enhance the reporting of problems when they occur.

The LCME report requires us to move forward in our plans to create a more integrated curriculum. Plans are being drawn up to implement the curriculum committee's vision for curriculum transformation that will result in an integrated, patient-centered curriculum. Our hope is to implement the curriculum by the 2007-08 academic year.

Assuring that our physical facilities,

including classroom and laboratory space, are adequate for the size of the student body and assuring that appropriate faculty are available for teaching medical students were two other areas of noncompliance that need to be addressed. We are currently examining the space requirements to see what adjustments might be made to enhance teaching and study space for students. The taskforce that oversaw the self-study will be reconvened in May to examine all of the issues raised in the LCME report to assure that we respond fully to each of the concerns.

The accreditation process is, at its heart, a method for continuous quality improvement. This is exactly what's happening, as it should. I feel very good about the process and the eventual outcome.

I wish you all a very restful and enjoyable summer break!

Student News

Min Jung Park, MD '08, has been awarded a William J. von Liebig Summer Research Fellowship in vascular surgery research by Harvard Medical School!

Sarah Squire is the recipient of the Bertram V.A. Low-Beer Fellowship in The Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of California, San Francisco.

Congratulations!

Student & Curriculum Affairs

THE DIRECTOR Alexandra Morang

Graduation is right around the corner and plans for the commencement ceremonies are rapidly moving along! Seventy-seven students will receive their M.D. degree on May 29th. Our graduating students have chosen Dr. Dileep Bal to be their speaker. Dr. Bal is the former President of the American Cancer Society and is head of Public Health for the State of California and the architect of their very successful "In Your Face" anti-tobacco campaign. It should be a wonderful and enlightening day!

Class of 2007: GREAT NEWS!! I have reserved the Pembroke Cluster (3rd floor of Pembroke Hall, directly across from the BMC) as exclusive study space for medical students from May 16th through July 1st to help you prepare for the boards. The cluster will be open from 8:30am -2:00am Monday through Friday and 12:00pm-2:00am on the weekends. I hope you will find this helpful. In addition, the folks at the Sciences Library have generously agreed to extend their hours in order to offer you additional study space and resources. Beginning on May 30 through June 16, the Sci Li will be open from 8:30am-10:00pm Monday through Friday, 1:00-9:00pm on Saturday and 1:00-9:00pm on Sunday. Check the library web site for additional information <http://dl.lib.brown.edu/hours/index.php>.

A few reminders to the class of 2005: graduation rehearsal is at 11:00am on Saturday, May 28th at the First Unitarian Church. Breakfast will be provided. If you are not planning to attend graduation or the rehearsal, please let me know ASAP. The class photograph will be taken on Sunday, May 29th at 9:15 am at the Marcus Aurelius Statue. You can see Donna or Mary to order the class photo and/or your hooding photo. **REMEMBER!! You need to complete your AAMC graduation questionnaire prior to graduation! Just go to the Web at <http://www.aamc.org/gq>.** You will be receiving information from your classmates very soon on senior-week activities which is scheduled for the week of May 23rd. Have fun!

I wish you all the very best for a wonderful summer!

CURRICULUM AFFAIRS Dick Dollase

At its April 13, 2005 meeting, the Medical Curriculum Committee unanimously approved the course schedule for the Doctoring course for academic year 2005-06. During the fall semester, students will be observing and working in a physician's office on a Tuesday and developing their clinical skills and their professional-development competencies on Thursday. During the spring semester, they will continue their observations and work in the physician's office on a Tuesday but receive their clinical skills and professional-development training on Wednesday.

The pharmacology section of Bio 350-51: Integrated Pathophysiology/Pharmacology was reviewed on Monday, April 11, 2005. Dr. David Nierenberg, a clinical pharmacologist at the Dartmouth Medical School, served as the outside consultant. Based on his discussions with students, the course faculty and members of the Subcommittee on Years I & II, Dr. Nierenberg developed a set of recommendations to improve the teaching of pharmacology in the second-year curriculum. These recommendations will be presented to the curriculum committee at its May 4, 2005 meeting.

DEAN'S SCHOLARS INDEPENDENT STUDY FUND

THE DEAN'S SCHOLARS INDEPENDENT STUDY FUND
PROVIDES SMALL INDEPENDENT STUDY GRANTS TO
MEDICAL STUDENTS.

STUDY GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE UP TO \$850. FUNDS ARE
TYPICALLY AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE RESEARCH SUPPLIES.



REQUESTS FOR FUNDING SHOULD BE SENT TO

STEPHEN R. SMITH, MD, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR MEDICAL

EDUCATION AT STEPHEN_R_SMITH@BROWN.EDU

OR BOX G-A218.

PROPOSALS SHOULD FOLLOW A TRADITIONAL
SCIENTIFIC FORWARD INCLUDING BACKGROUND
AND LITERATURE REVIEW, METHODOLOGY, AND METHODS OF ANALYSIS.

The PLME Page

ASSOCIATE DEAN, Julianne Ip
PLME MANAGER, Hilary Sweigart

THANK YOU to all the PLME and medical students who were either panelists or minglers at A Day on College Hill on April 20. You provided important information and support to prospective Class of 2009 students who are trying to make their final decision about coming to Brown and the PLME. We appreciate your time and efforts!

This year, an unprecedented 45 proposals were submitted for the 2005 Summer Research Assistantship Program. The two review committees had difficult decisions to make in selecting the final 21 awardees. Congratulations to Albert Ahn, MD '08, Peter Chai, PLME '06, Tina Charest, PLME '07, Dina Gewaily, PLME '05, Christin Giordano, PLME '07, Michelle Glasgow, MD '08, Shilpa Gowda, PLME '08, Jeffrey Hoffman, PLME '08, Amanda Jacobson, PLME '07, Alexa LaFaunce, MD '08, Manuel Lam, MD '08, Syed Latif, MD '08, Nicholas Monu, PLME '06, Kai Morrison, PLME '07, Ami Parikh, MD '08, Chintan Patel, PLME '08, Emily Stopa, PLME '06, Anil Taner, PLME '05, David Washington, PLME '07, James Wilkerson, MD '08, and Leslie Wong, PLME '06. We are also very pleased to announce that Stacey Weinstein, PLME '05 has been awarded the 2005 Arts and Humanities Fellowship to complete a book that her physician father was unable to finish due to medical complications. "A Second Chance" tells a personal

story of his experiences as a patient-doctor, and examines ethical, moral, and social issues surrounding transplantation medicine.

To PLME Seniors: Curt Henn and Jessica Zerillo are helping to put together the program for your PLME Senior Reception in Leung Gallery on Saturday, May 28, 5:30-6:30 PM. We are excited to share this time with you and your families. Some of the class will be delaying entry into the medical school, so this is a great event to bring the Class of 2005 together one last time. CONGRATULATIONS to the following 2005-06 PLME awardees: Isis Burgos, Community Service Award, Christina Rincon, Milton Hamolsky Prize, George Turini, Babette and Peter Stewart Prize, Stacey Weinstein, Frederick W. Barnes Prize, Beverly Young, Pierre M. Galletti Prize.

Additional KUDOS to Beverly Young, PLME '05, who has been awarded an Emery Scholarship.

To all PLMEs: We wish you the very best for your final exams and papers. Then enjoy the summer! Anyone interested in visiting a physician in your home town, remember the Medicine In Action Program sponsors physicians all around the country. (<http://bms.brown.edu/students/miap/>) Continue your professional development journey while at home.

PLME SENATE
Isis Burgos

First of all, thank you to all of you who once again helped make Breeze Against Wheeze a successful event. If you are interested in being a part of the planning committee for next year's race, you can contact me at Isis_Burgos@brown.edu.

All of the new senate members, including Carly Seidman and Zachary Gordon (the new Senate co-Presidents) officially took over the senate on April 17th. They are a very ambitious group and I have no doubt in my mind that they will do a great job next year. If you have any ideas or suggestions about any sort of potential programming for next year, please do not hesitate to contact either Zach or Carly.

In closing, I wanted to take the time to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your senate co-President for the last two years. I have truly enjoyed getting the opportunity to meet and work alongside many of you and I hope that we can remain in contact. George: thank you for all the laughs and for always being so reliable your friendship truly means a lot to me. Lastly, I want to thank all of the Senate members for all of your dedication and hard work. You are all very talented individuals and I wish you nothing but the best of luck in all of your future endeavors. Best of luck on final exams. I hope that you have a safe and relaxing summer.

Office of Women in Medicine

STUDENT SENATE

Jonathan Greer

With Charles out of the country, I have had the fun of being acting senate president for the month. Charles definitely picked a busy month to be out of town in terms of senate events and here is a brief update:

I wanted to thank everyone on the social committee for all their hard work in organizing another excellent Ball and Socket Dance. Not only was it well attended, but everyone in attendance kept remarking what a great event it was.

The senate recently rewrote a large chunk of its antiquated constitution, and a large part of this was thanks to the constitution committee of James Wilkerson, Josh Honeyman, Grant Chu, Louai Razzouk, and Charles Hebert, who gave up multiple nights to do this intricate work.

The Community Service committee recently organized another successful Breeze against Wheeze, and I wanted to thank the whole committee for their hard work on this great Brown Med tradition.

The Senate is currently in the process of elections for next year, and I encourage any interested students to apply. Feel free to speak to anyone on the senate if you have questions.

Finally, I wanted to offer congratulations to all the MD05ers on a great match and I hope you are all enjoying your last month before graduation.

Hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather!

OFFICE OF WOMEN IN MEDICINE

Debra Abeshaus

Thank you to students who represented AMWA — *Sandy Chira, MD'08, Emily Clarke-Pearson, MD'07 and Sora Chung, MD'07* – and offered their great support for the *Women in Medicine Residency Fair* last month. Thanks too to everyone for their participation that evening.

Did you meet with a mentor through the *WIM Mentor Program* over the past year? If so, we welcome your thoughts on the experience [e-mail debra_abeshaus@brown.edu].

Also, if you're searching for a mentor, it's not too late to find someone. Feel free to stop by Arnold Lab 132, call x3-2450 or e-mail me with your interests.

The Network Advocates Training Program is sponsored annually by the Sexual Assault and Trauma Center of Rhode Island and the Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center. If you're interested in participating in a training program (usually held at the Miriam Hospital) this summer or serving as an intern, contact Fran Bolarinho (421-4100, x288) *as soon as possible*.

Upcoming events:
May 9, 2005 – Rhode Island Medical Women's Association – Annual Meeting, Brown Faculty Club. 6:30pm reception, 7:00pm dinner & program. Presentation to Michele Cyr, MD, Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Women in Medicine as the 2005

Rhode Island Woman Physician of the Year. For more information, call x3-2450 or contact the RIMWA Office at 331-3207.

May 10, 2005 – Rhode Island Public Health Association – 8th Annual Meeting – Sharon Marable, MD, MPH, Clinical Assistant Professor of Community Health, is the incoming president. Meeting location: Radisson Airport Hotel, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI. Contact Gillian_Paynter@brown.edu re: reservations.

May 16, 2005 – Rhode Island Medical Women's Association Physician Artists Exhibit Opening and new members reception. Location: Dryden Galleries/Providence Picture Frame Co. 27 Dryden Lane, Providence. RSVP - 331-3207.

Congratulations to the graduates!

***Class of 2007:
Reserved
Study Space
for Board Prep***

May 16th-July 1st

***Mon-Fri 8:30am-2:00am
Sat/Sun: 12pm-12am***

***Pembroke Cluster
(3rd Fl. Pembroke Hall
across from BMC)***

THE DIRECTOR Kathleen Baer

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING LOAN CONSOLIDATION: Last month, we conducted two meetings to brief students regarding **loan consolidation**. If you were not able to attend either meeting, please visit our web site for the details. (http://bms.brown.edu/admissions/financialaid/loan_consolidation.html). Loan consolidation enables you to refinance most Federal loans (including Stafford and Perkins loans) into a new, single loan with a **fixed rate**. The rate that you receive on a consolidation loan is based upon a weighted average of the interest rates for the loans that you include in the consolidation. The weighted average rate is then rounded to the nearest higher 1/8th of one percent.

All indications are that interest rates on Stafford loans will increase by at least 1.5 percentage points on July 1 of this year. Our office, therefore, strongly recommends that all students with Stafford loans consolidate these loans before July 1. You may consolidate Federal loans borrowed while at Brown as well as Federal loans borrowed for attendance at other schools.

For continuing students, the **only lender through which you may consolidate your loans during an in-school period is the William D. Ford Federal Direct Consolidation Loan Program**. For graduating students, you may consolidate through any consolidation lender. Additional information will be provided at your exit meeting.

We urge you to start the consolidation process now. Do not wait until you are finished with your exams. You will need to organize your paperwork and have your account numbers, current balances, contact information for your lender and other information available. The web site describes three methods for consolidating your loans (by telephone, via the web, or a paper application). Once you have your paperwork together, the process does not take more than about fifteen minutes.

Please let us know if you have additional questions. Do not miss this opportunity to refinance your loans at an historically low rate.

We were delighted to see so many fourth-year students at the annual **Financial Planning Workshops**. We hope that the presenters offered practical recommendations for addressing the financial decisions that you will face after graduation. Let us know if you have suggestions for

future topics or other recommendations. If you were unable to attend the workshops but would like the handouts, please call Filomena Zani at x31142.

If you are planning to be away for the summer, **please check with our office before you leave campus to be sure that your financial aid application is complete and that the summer address listed on your financial aid application is correct.** Financial aid awards will be mailed beginning in May.

All of us in the Admissions and Financial Aid Office offer our congratulations to the graduating MD Class of 2005. We wish you continued success in your medical careers! Please keep in touch and let us know how we can help you in the future.

To everyone else, we wish you a restful summer!

The Office of Financial Aid

strongly recommends
that all students with Stafford loans
consolidate these loans
before July 1, 2005



To learn more about loan consolidation visit:
http://bms.brown.edu/admissions/financialaid/loan_consolidation.html

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Monika Bolino

Sustaining A Healer's Heart - Update: Last month's dinner-discussion and screening of Ruth Yorkin Drazen's documentary, *The Choice Is Yours* (co-sponsored by the Office of Professional Development and the Center for Biomedical Ethics), was attended by more than 70 medical students, PLME students, administrators, faculty, and community members. Following the film, Ms. Drazen, who began her filmmaking career a decade ago, shared reflections on her personal spiritual journey through her own "aging," and as a wife who lost a husband to cancer. Conversations prompted by the film's themes were then guided by faculty facilitators and spiritual leaders, and extended past the event's closing time. Copies of the DVD are available for loan to students, faculty, and other members of the Brown Medical School community; Ms. Drazen also welcomes feedback. For more information, please contact Donna Goodnow in the Center for Biomedical Ethics (Donna_Goodnow@brown.edu).

Petersen Fund Spring 2005 Award Recipients: Congratulations to Christina Cinelli, MD '08 and Soyun Kim, MD '08, the Spring 2005 recipients of the Dr. Veronica Petersen '55 and Dr. Robert A. Petersen Educational Enhancement Fund. The Petersen Fund encourages students to undertake socially-relevant projects that both fosters their own professional development and gives back to the community at large. **Christina Cinelli, MD '08** and co-applicants **Roy Kao, MD '07** and **Bethany Stafford, MD '08** will use their grant to further develop and

implement the Magnet Club program at Nathan Bishop Middle School, a school for students living in underserved areas. In January 2005, Christina, Roy, and Bethany co-founded the club, which now has a membership of 20 eighth-graders and serves as an introduction to careers and professions in various health care fields, encourages healthy behavioral choices, and motivates students in their study of science fields. The Magnet Club's curriculum includes a field trip to a hospital, sessions on veterinary and forensic medicine, and the maintenance of a career portfolio. **Soyun Kim, MD '08** received a grant to develop her project concerning attitudinal factors of physicians that inhibit care to substance abusing patients. Soyun will draw upon several resources to develop a feasible action plan for addressing this issue. As part of her project, she will engage in an analysis of extant survey data that were collected as part of a joint American Medical Association and Center for Disease Control and Prevention study. In addition, Soyun will conduct a literature review, and will identify and develop approaches to present the issue to medical students and physicians. For more information about applicants and their projects, and about future funding deadlines, please contact Monika at Monika_Bolino@brown.edu (863-2881).

Student Project Presentations! Please join us on Wednesday, May

11 from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm (BMC Eddy Auditorium) for presentations by Fall 2004 Petersen Fund recipients **Suzette Brown, MD '07**, **Sora Chung, MD '07**, and **Tripler Pell, MD '05**. They will share updates about their projects, which range from assessing the effectiveness of an HIV/AIDS helpline in Johannesburg, South Africa to implementing a health awareness program for eighth and ninth graders in Providence and the founding of a mental health clinic for the uninsured. A reception will follow the presentations.

*The Seventh Annual
Physicians Artists'
Exhibit*

May 16, 2005

*Rhode Island Medical
Women's Association
Physician Artists
Exhibit Opening and
new members reception.*



*Dryden Galleries/
Providence Picture Frame Co.
27 Dryden Lane, Providence.
RSVP - 331-3207*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The New England Eye Center, Tufts University School of Medicine, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has an exciting and unique research opportunity for a highly motivated medical student. The research involves the clinical applications of ultrahigh resolution optical coherence tomography (OCT). The student will have the opportunity to design, initiate, and complete clinical studies on the utility of this device in retinal diseases and glaucoma. A background in engineering or computer science is preferred. This is a one-year, full-time commitment starting in July 2005. A stipend of \$25,000/year is available. Contact Jay Duker, MD at (617) 636-4677 for information or to apply.

Third Annual Mayo Clinic Medical Student Fellowship in Psychiatry. Must be entering the fourth year and applying for a Mayo fourth-year psychiatry elective. Participate in a one-month clinical rotation with one or more senior faculty members in our department, which is known for its "medical psychiatry" approach to patients. Will also receive a \$1,000 stipend to cover travel and expenses. For info contact J. Michael Bostwick at bostwick.john@mayo.edu. Application deadline is August 31, 2005.

Medical Spanish immersion classes

in Mexico for medical students who want to learn beginning medical Spanish and understand Latin American culture. July 30–August 6, 2005 in Tampico, Mexico. Cost to participate is \$495, includes Spanish classes and materials, lodging, food, visa and travel from McAllen, Texas. To download application or learn more go to www.seeinvases.com.

The Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic and The Department of Psychiatry of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine announce the Fifth Dr. Thomas Detre Senior Medical Student Award for advanced students planning a career within psychiatry. Awardees will have the opportunity to create a unique one-month clinical sub-internship or research experience with a faculty member of our department. This award includes a \$1,000 cash stipend to cover expenses. Application deadline is May 21, 2005. Additional info and application forms can be obtained from: Jason Rosenstock, MD, (412) 246-5122, or by email at rosenstockjb@msx.upmc.edu or <http://www.wpic.pitt.edu/PsychMedStudent/DetreAward.htm>

A six-week summer multi-specialty/multidisciplinary externship from July 12–August 19, 2005 at Coler Goldwater Specialty Hospital & Nursing Facility on Roosevelt Island.

The goals of the program include acquiring an understanding of chronic illnesses and the interdisciplinary team approach that is required to care for people with chronic illnesses. Free board and lodging will be provided at the hospital. Apply by May 3, 2005. For further info call Harvey Jolt, Ph.D. at (212) 318-4364.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia announce three scholarship opportunities: *The Albert Strickler Memorial Fund* provides an interest-free loan of no greater than \$1,000 to medical students, preferably of the Jewish faith, as an aid to their education. Students should demonstrate a significant need. It is a requirement of this fund that loan repayments begin within five years after graduation. *The Samuel F. and Sara G. Feinman Fund* was created to assist talented men and women pursue their legal or medical education. The fund provides an interest-free loan to medical and law students based on scholarship and need. *The Ida Foreman Fleisher Fund* provides scholarships for the purpose of permitting Jewish women to obtain professional educations. Grant distributions are administered by a local bank and customarily sent directly to the student's school to be used for tuition. Closing date for all three is May 31, 2005. For applications and info email emiller@philafederation.org.