Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff

For some time now, I’ve wanted a regular forum where we can share important news and celebrate the accomplishments of our students and faculty. This inaugural edition of The Pritzker Pulse is intended to be a new means for communicating with students, faculty and staff about significant and exciting changes in our school, recent notable accomplishments, and vital information about our programs and each other. Most importantly, this newsletter provides a welcome and long overdue medium to celebrate the accomplishments of our students. In this first issue, we feature several of the honors and accolades that our students have received over the past few months, but I know that this list is by no means comprehensive. I hope that from this time forward, students will begin to forward information to Dana Levinson, our Director of Program Development, so that she can maintain a complete record of the remarkable achievements of the Pritzker student body. We also welcome general feedback and comments regarding the newsletter and suggestions for features that you want to see included on a regular basis. Please feel free to send your ideas to Dana at dlevinso@bsd.uchicago.edu.

What are some of the major initiatives undertaken by the Pritzker School over the last year?

We underwent an 18-month institutional self-study and accreditation survey, culminating in a site visit in October 2004 by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education and continued full accreditation of our educational program for the full eight year term (see additional information on page 6 of this newsletter).

During the recent competitive renewal of our 37-year old Medical Scientist Training Program, the NIH commended the outstanding quality of the program and the strength of its director, Dr. Jose Quintans.

A major reorganization of the administrative structure of the Pritzker School of Medicine has included the addition of several faculty in new Associate and Assistant Deans positions:

Herbert T. Abelson, MD
George M. Eisenberg Professor Emeritus and Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Pediatrics, Associate Dean for Admissions (see additional information on page 7).

Vineet Arora, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Assistant Dean for Curricular Innovation

Halina Brukner, MD
Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean for Medical School Education

Gerard Mikols
Associate Dean for Medical Education Administration

Shalini Reddy, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Assistant Dean of Student Programs

Neil Shubin, PhD
Professor and Chairman of Organismal Biology and Anatomy, Associate Dean for Pritzker Basic Science Education.

These individuals represent a significant influx of dedicated and devoted faculty educators whose ongoing engagement in the Pritzker School of Medicine will yield important benefits for us all.
Other significant and gratifying events include the remodeling of the Ceithaml Lounge in the Medical Center and the refurbishing of the student computer facilities in the BSLC. Two important new admissions initiatives commenced. The first—the Dean's Promise Scholarships—provides $1 million for merit-based aid to new applicants. The second—the Accelerated Medical Scholars Program—replaces the Early Admissions Programs for University of Chicago undergraduates. Modeled on pre-existing professional options programs in the Harris School of Public Policy and the Graduate School of Business, the Accelerated Medical Scholars Program provides exceptional students with the flexibility to move forward in their medical education during their fourth year in College and obtain credit for both their undergraduate and their medical degrees. The program will benefit the medical school by bringing those University of Chicago undergraduates, who have potential to make important future contributions in science and medicine, into our community of scholars. It will benefit the students by shortening their application cycle, reducing their years in school and reducing their overall educational debt.

This spring, the Pritzker School of Medicine inaugurated several new programs to support and enhance the scholarly environment of our school. The Bowman Society, named to honor the first tenured African-American Professor in the Biological Sciences Division, will regularly feature presentations related to the health care of minority communities. The Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series will commence this week with an all-school event at the Museum of Science and Industry to view *Body Worlds: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies* and to hear a panel discussion featuring Dr. Gunther von Hagens, the creator of the exhibit and the inventor of the plastination technique. Other members of the panel include Scott Barrows, CMI, FAMI, Graduate Program Director and Clinical Assistant Professor of Biomedical Visualization at the University of Illinois at Chicago, The Reverend Alison Boden, Dean of Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, Bruce Gewertz, Dallas B. Phemister Professor and Chairman of Surgery, and Barbara Stafford, William B. Ogden Distinguished Service Professor of Art History. The panel will be moderated by Neil Shubin, Professor and Chairman of Organismal Biology and Anatomy.

These recent developments in the medical school mirror exciting changes in the Biological Sciences Division at large. Since arriving at the institution in 2002, our Dean, James L. Madara has appointed new Chairs in the Departments of Family Medicine, Human Genetics, Medicine, Neurobiology, Pharmacology & Physiology, Obstetrics-Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Radiology. A new Department of Microbiology has also been formed. The Comer Children’s Hospital has opened and the Interdivisional Research Building will follow soon, with plans for a new research building for the clinical departments which will be situated next to the Biological Sciences Learning Center and is slated for completion in 2007. The remarkable transfusion of new leadership, the creation of new resources to support education, research and clinical care, and the implementation of innovative new programs clearly demonstrate that we are engaged in an exciting process of transformation and growth that will define our institution for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Holly J. Humphrey
On February 23, Dean James Madara and Holly Humphrey met with the Pritzker student body for their quarterly Brown Bag lunch. During this session, Dean Madara provided an overview of how the US News and World Report rankings are organized and presented other metrics for evaluating our institution.

In 1993, US News and World Report began to evaluate institutional research success via aggregate research funding as opposed to per capita research funding dollars. As a relatively small institution, the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, with its 769 full time faculty members, cannot achieve the total dollars acquired by such institutions as Harvard Medical School (6,357 faculty members) or Johns Hopkins (2,057).

US News and World Report rankings are determined by the following factors:

- Peer assessment (the report of the Residency Program Directors and Council of Deans regarding the quality of the University of Chicago graduates)
- Research dollars (the level of NIH funding achieved by the school's faculty)
- Student selectivity based on MCAT and GPA averages
- Faculty to student ratios

The Influence of Aggregate NIH Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>1990 USNWR Rank</th>
<th>1990 NIH</th>
<th>2002 USNWR Rank</th>
<th>2002 NIH</th>
<th>% Increase NIH</th>
<th>Rank Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harvard</td>
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<td>258</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>958</td>
<td>271.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hopkins</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Duke</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>369</td>
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<td>(2)</td>
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<td>Yale</td>
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<td>97</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>152.3%</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<td>Wash U</td>
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<td>86</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>270.4%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>456.4%</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>209.4%</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>432</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>505.0%</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCLA</td>
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<td>63</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>459.6%</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanford</td>
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<td>98</td>
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<td>198</td>
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<td>Michigan</td>
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<td>72</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>255.1%</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baylor</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>529.6%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>111.0%</td>
<td>(7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

James L. Madara, MD
Sara and Harold Lincoln Thompson Distinguished Service Professor
Dean, Division of the Biological Sciences and the Pritzker School of Medicine
However, other evaluations of our institution demonstrate that the University of Chicago’s reputation and faculty research productivity are much stronger than *US News and World Report* rankings would indicate. For example, in a 2002-03 AAMC benchmark study of Academic Medical Centers, the University of Chicago ranked 6th in the country in terms of its per capita research funding and by peer evaluation alone, the University of Chicago is considered the 13th best school in the country.

This year, *US News and World Report*, after intense lobbying from smaller academic medical centers, began to use a blended research funding metric. Two-thirds of the research funding ranking is derived from aggregate research funding and one-third from per capita (faculty/dollars) funding. This change directly benefited the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine which rose from 22nd to 19th this year in the USNWR rankings, largely on the basis of our national per capita research funding (5th nationally in 2005). Other factors affecting this change include small but significant increases in student selectivity. This rise in the rankings reflects improved measurement of the programmatic distinction of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.
The Bowman Society

On March 11, 2005, the Office of Multicultural Affairs at the Pritzker School of Medicine held the inaugural lecture and reception for the Bowman Society. The society and lecture series are named in honor of Dr. James E. Bowman who is Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago in the Departments of Pathology and Medicine and senior scholar for the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics. Dr. Bowman’s legacy is one of excellence and distinguished service.

In addition to being an internationally recognized expert in pathology and geneics, Dr. Bowman has mentored and been a role model to many Pritzker students, including many current faculty members at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Bowman served as Assistant Dean of Students for Minority Affairs from 1986 to 1990, Principal Investigator of The University of Chicago’s Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, and continues to serve on the Committee on Genetics and the Committee on African and African-American Studies.

The Bowman Society seeks to honor Dr. Bowman’s living legacy by bringing the University community together to focus attention on scholarship that is important to the healthcare of minority communities and to provide support and career development to individuals at all levels of training and within the academy so as to improve the multicultural diversity within the Biological Sciences Division at The University of Chicago. Dr. Griffin Rodgers, Deputy Director of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) and Chief of the Molecular and Clinical Hematology Branch of the National Institutes of Health, served as the inaugural lecturer at the event, held at the Quadrangle Club. Dr. Rodgers is recognized for his continuing research on blood disorders, principally sickle cell disease. He also has been a pioneer in translating basic science discoveries in his field into clinical realities.

Dr. James E. Bowman

Dr. Griffin Rodgers

Walter Conwell holds his commemorative plaque from the AMA as one of ten Minority Scholar Award winners.
LCME Accreditation

In February, 2005, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education voted to continue accreditation of the educational program leading to the M.D. degree at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine for the full eight year term. This is the best outcome that the LCME bestows, and it was achieved through the hard work, diligent preparation, and commitment of the over 120 faculty, students, and administrators who participated either as members of the Steering Committee, as a member of one of the five Subcommittees (Institution, Educational Program, Medical Students, Faculty, Educational Resources), or through the Student Independent Analysis. In their report, the LCME made special mention of the remarkable quality of the Student Independent Analysis, the noteworthy level of participation of the student body, and the outstanding leadership of the four students who undertook that effort, Jesse Ehrenfeld ’04, Kristin Adams ’05, Jonathan Kohler ’05, and Alexander Langerman ’05. The dedication demonstrated by our faculty, students, and staff towards our institution and to education itself is clearly reflected in this best of all possible outcomes.

It’s A Match!

On Thursday, March 17th, the 102 graduating seniors of the Pritzker Class of 2005 opened their Match Day envelopes at 11 a.m. along with all 14,700 U.S. medical school seniors competing for residency positions through the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) this year—the highest number in almost 20 years. U.S. medical school seniors constituted 58% of the 25,300 applicants in the 2005 match, which also included foreign medical school graduates and graduates of osteopathic medical schools. Nationally, 78% of all applicants matched to a first-year residency program and nearly 83% of the matched applicants were paired with one of their top three residency program choices. As in previous years, U.S. medical school seniors enjoyed a higher success rate than other applicants; nearly 94% matched and more than 86% of those students were assigned to one of their top three choices.

The most popular career choice among Pritzker graduates continues to be Internal Medicine with 26% of the class matched to categorical programs, and Pritzker students continue to be highly sought after at the most competitive programs throughout the country.

2005 Match

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty Choices</th>
<th>% Pritzker Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Surgery</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopaedic Surgery</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residency Programs</th>
<th># Pritzker Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Chicago Hospitals</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard University Programs</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Washington Hospitals</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford University Programs</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern-McGaw Hospitals</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Michigan Hospitals</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnes-Jewish/Washington University</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYU School of Medicine</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Pennsylvania Programs</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCLA Medical Center Programs</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Associate Dean for Admissions:
Herbert T. Abelson

We are delighted to announce that Herbert T. Abelson, MD, George M. Eisenberg Professor Emeritus and Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Pediatrics, joined the Pritzker School of Medicine as Associate Dean of Admissions on April 1st, 2005.

Dr. Abelson will bring a wealth of experience in academic medicine as well as success in leading a large and complex department to the admissions process and to the medical school in general. Dr. Abelson has held academic appointments at Harvard Medical School, the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston Children’s Hospital, and the Center for Cancer Research at MIT. He served as Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine from 1983 to 1995, before becoming the George M. Eisenberg Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics at the University of Chicago—a position he held from 1995 through 2004. Dr. Abelson’s leadership resulted in the building of the Comer Children’s Hospital as well as a dramatic improvement in the quality of the pediatric residency training program.

As the students who worked with him as a Fourth Year Student Career Advisor already know, Dr. Abelson has a natural affinity with students and already serves as a superb role model and inspiring physician. As Associate Dean for Admissions in the Pritzker School of Medicine, Dr. Abelson will lead the faculty interviewing effort and the recruitment of students to the Pritzker School of Medicine. Further, Dr. Abelson will continue to serve as a Career Advisor for fourth year students and chair a special committee to recommend a comprehensive structure for student advising.

We also wish to extend our deepest thanks and gratitude to Dr. Eric Lombard, who served as Associate Dean for Admissions and Financial Aid from 2000 to 2005. Dr. Lombard will continue to teach, to conduct paleontology research and to pursue his diverse interests. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Abelson and wishing both him and Dr. Lombard the greatest of success in their new roles.
A Noteworthy Admissions Year at Pritzker

While the national applicant pool increased by 5%, the Pritzker pool increased by 13%—with 6,800 AMCAS applications and 3,827 completed secondary applications—a positive sign that more and more applicants are choosing Pritzker.

Special recognition for this successful admissions season should be given to our senior students on the Admissions Committee: Kristin Adams, Pat Basu, Ashish Bhimani, Erica Delgado, Manu Goyal, Mike Ogilvie, Geoff Oxnard, Cory Schulte, and Kate Thompson. These students took significant leadership roles for the interviews, including hosting lunches, leading tours, contributing to revisits from accepted students, and providing invaluable contributions to the admissions decision deliberations. In addition, the Co-Chairs of the Admissions Subcommittee on Student Hosting (Ed Gometz and Katie Beken) played a key role, as did the many students who opened their homes to overnight hosting and helped the applicants feel welcome and supported. Close to half of the total Pritzker student body participates in the admissions process; this year 193 students, drawn from all four classes, contributed by providing the applicants with an insightful look at life at Pritzker and supplying thoughtful and thorough feedback to the admissions committee. Finally, 84 faculty from a wide variety of academic and medical disciplines and at various stages in their careers participated in the interviews, demonstrating important institutional values and offering seasoned comments to aid deliberations of the Admissions Committee members, who thoughtfully considered and discussed each of the 532 interviewed applicants.

The result: another extraordinary group of future Pritzker students and alums!
O-Week Co-Chairs:

Jon Hron and Sonya Chawla were selected to serve as O-Week Chairs for the incoming Pritzker Class of 2009 after presenting a statement of interest and ideas to the O-Week Committee, which consisted of Dr. Holly Humphrey, Dr. Shalini Reddy, Lori Orr, and last year's O-Week Chairs, David Silver and Zoe Howard. Serving as O-Week Chair represents an enormous responsibility and as well as a significant and highly generous contribution made by these Chairs along with all the second year students who participate. O-Week will kick off on Monday, September 19th with the traditional welcome to the incoming class in the Biological Sciences Learning Center.

Best of luck to Jon and Sonya!

USA Today Feature Focuses on University of Chicago Faculty and Students

On March 27th, USA Today ran an article on medical school approaches to addressing the “door knob” phenomenon resulting from doctors’ rushed schedules and patients’ natural reluctance to reveal frightening or embarrassing symptoms until the very last moment. Dr. Will Harper, course director of the clinical skills course sequence for first and second year students, helps Pritzker students to avoid these situations. The article reads: “Often it happens because doctors, including myself, don't do a good job of getting a sense at the beginning of the medical encounter what the needs are of the patient,” said Dr. William Harper, an internist who teaches communication skills to University of Chicago medical students. Harper tells students that one remedy is simply asking patients: “Anything else?”

“Just asking that simple question, whether it be at the beginning or end of the encounter, can be enough to prevent the doorknob phenomenon,” he said.
Featured Awards and Honors Achieved by Pritzker Students

Grace Chong, a third year student, was awarded a Lambaréné Schweitzer Fellowship and will spend six months in Gabon, participating in a pediatric clinical rotation at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital. Before enrolling in the Pritzker School of Medicine, Grace served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Bénin, West Africa for two years where she developed programs in maternal-child health, including efforts to combat malnutrition as well as AIDS awareness and sex education efforts. In the summer following her first year of medical school, Grace traveled to Mali to participate in clinical and laboratory research studies on infectious and parasitic diseases such as malaria and schistosomiasis.

Justin Coffey, a third year student, was awarded a student scholarship to attend the Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum in Orlando, Florida in December 2004. The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) is a not-for-profit organization driving the improvement of health by advancing the quality and value of health care. The outstanding nature of Justin’s participation in the Forum this spring was recognized with an invitation to organize a session for medical students that will be held at the December 2005 Forum of the IHI.

Walter Conwell, a second year student, was one of 10 students nationally to receive the Minority Scholars Award from the AMA Foundation. Each medical school in the United States was invited to submit up to two nominees for these awards. Each winner received $10,000 scholarship in recognition of their personal commitment and scholastic achievement. The scholarship check was presented to Walter during the inaugural Bowman Society Lecture Series on March 11, 2005.

Robert Ellis, a second year student, successfully competed for one of the 50 student research fellowships awarded annually by the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. Working closely with his mentor, Elmer Abbo, MD, JD, in the Department of Medicine, Robert will assess if the increase in the number of lawsuits and total damage amounts against nursing homes has led to a concomitant improvement in quality of care, or if the resulting increased insurance premiums and litigation costs have a deleterious impact on care due to financial constraints. As a practicing health care attorney for three years prior to beginning medical school, Robert brings a unique skills set and perspective to this analysis.
John Hemmert, a first year student, is the recipient of a Medical Student Summer Research Fellowship from the American Academy of Neurology. John is the third student in the past several years to be sponsored and mentored for this award by Dr. Steven Roth, Associate Professor of Anesthesia and Critical Care.

Aaron Horne, Jr., a third year student, published an article in the fall 2004 edition of the *Journal for Minority Medical Students* on “Striving for Equitable Care The Role of Medical Education.” Aaron is completing his year as the 2004-2005 National President of the Student National Medical Association.

Jonathan Kohler, a fourth year student, tied for second place in the Arnold P. Gold 2004 Humanism in Medicine Essay Contest. Jonathan will receive a $500 cash prize and have his essay published in *Academic Medicine* this fall. Jonathan's essay, which was one of 300 received by the Foundation for this contest appears on page 13 of this newsletter.

Chad Ritch, who is currently completing his MBA training at the Graduate School of Business before returning to Pritzker as a fourth year student in July 2005, was selected to participate in the GSB’s International Business Exchange Program. Chad will spend the spring quarter at the Waseda University Graduate School of Commerce in Tokyo, Japan exploring issues related to the Japanese biotechnology economy.

Nirav Shah, currently a first year student at the University of Chicago Law School, received one of the 30 Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans awarded annually to naturalized citizens, resident aliens, or the children of naturalized citizens from a pool of 1,250 applicants. Nirav will receive one-half of his tuition costs for the next two years as well as a $20,000 annual maintenance grant. These funds will support Nirav’s return to Cambodia to continue work on institutional development within the health care sector of that country. Nirav will return to Pritzker as a fourth year medical student after he obtains his law degree.
**2004 Summer Research Program Follow-Up among the Class of 2007**

**Adam Devore** serves as first author on an abstract accepted for presentation at the National Meeting of Society of Hospital Medicine which will be held April 29-30 in Chicago, Illinois. Adam's work focuses on “The Prevalence and Recognition of Functional Limitations in Hospitalized Vulnerable Elders.”

**Diana Doeing** serves as first author on an abstract entitled “Pressure Ulcers in Hospitalized Vulnerable Elders: Quality of Care and Nurse/Physician Roles,” which was accepted for presentation during the Presidential Poster Session at the 2005 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society which will be held from May 11-15 in Orlando, Florida. Only those abstracts receiving the highest scores through the peer review process are included in the Presidential Poster Session.

**Brody Flanagin** served as first author on an abstract and poster presentation for the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology meeting in December 2004 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Brody’s abstract and poster were entitled “Responses to D-Amphetamine I Humans Related to a Polymorphism in the BDNF Gene.”

**Julie Kowalsky** presented her first-authored abstract on “Understanding Sign Outs: Conversation Analysis Reveals ICU Handoff Content and Form” at the Society of Critical Care Medicine National Conference in January 2005 in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Griffin Myers** and **Bonnie Kaplan** each served respectively as a first author and a co-author on one of two posters presented at the Society for Critical Care Medicine conference in Phoenix, Arizona in January, 2005. The posters were entitled “Parents’/Guardians’ Views of Organ Donation after Brain Death” and "Parents’/Guardians’ Views of Organ Donation after Cardiac Death.”

**Karoline Dmochowska** will attend the Southeastern Regional Society of Academic Emergency Medicine meeting held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina this April to present research on “Participant Experience in a Quality Improvement Collaborative: Observations from the Illinois Emergency Department Asthma Collaborative.” In addition, through her role as President of the Pritzker Medical School Chapter of the AMA, Karoline also attended the Midwestern Regional meeting of the Society for General Internal Medicine held this fall in Chicago in order to present work on “A Needs Assessment for a Health Literacy Curriculum in Medical School.”

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**The Pritzker School of Medicine Summer Research Program provides our students with a wide choice of opportunities for high quality, mentor-based research. The goal of the program is to encourage the development of future medical scientists who view biomedical investigation as an important part of their professional activities. The program provides a spring elective in research and 11 weeks training and research experience during the summer quarter.**

**For many students, the summer research program is the first step in longer term involvement in research and often results in national presentations and future publications. The Pritzker Class of 2007 is no exception and has added to an already impressive record of student achievement in research.**
At sixty-five, she was a thin woman with white hair and a face that was beginning to show the first true fissures of age. But her eyes were young, with vitality and kindness that attracted even the jaded staff of the ER. Her only real problem, she said, was that she was coughing. She had been coughing for some time. Why had she come in tonight? Well, her husband had made her. He explained: tonight, she had started coughing up blood.

Hemoptysis is cause for concern. The nurses got a resident, and the resident, without the usual hubris of self-sufficiency, got the attending. It was quickly decided that although she was not in serious condition, she should stay for a few hours of observation, maybe even be admitted to rule out the more serious diagnoses. All of this I heard in the whispers that made their way around the ER about the woman in Trauma One. I was in Trauma Three, standing around as another drunk patient from another MVA threatened us for touching him.

“Did you hear that Trauma Two has a guy with both hands amputated?”

“Whoa. Motorcycle?”

“Is there any other way?”

When something really terrible happened, it wasn’t heralded that way. The terrible cases were almost never the really ugly cases, the ones with a lot of blood and gore. The terrible cases usually did not have disfiguring, bloody things happen to them; they tended to be more sedate, because the worst ones for us were not the ones that came in through the door of the trauma bay. Traumas were usually drunk, or unconscious, or both, and if they were really seriously injured, they were usually quickly paralyzed by drugs and intubated, reduced to a manageable set of physiological processes. For a terrible case, one that caused a whisper, the patient had to be someone we couldn’t make ourselves forget was a real person.

The Pritzker Pulse, April 2005

Winner of Second Prize in the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Essay Contest

Burn In

By Jonathan Emerson Kohler, ’05

I began to hear of the woman in Trauma One in the whisper that made its way around the ER when there was a particularly terrible case. A terrible case was not the same as a gruesome trauma...those were often spoken of in loud, even boisterous tones:

But her eyes were young, with vitality and kindness that attracted even the jaded staff of the ER.

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All of this I heard in the whispers that made their way around the ER about the woman in Trauma One. I was in Trauma Three, standing around as another drunk patient from another MVA threatened us for touching him.

“There’s a bad one in Trauma One. Lady came in with hemoptysis, and she just crumped, right there in Urgent Care. She was just coughing, and there was this little bit of blood....” And then the drunk on the bed started to yell again, and his pulse oximeter fell off, and the alarms began, and when I had reattached the probe the whisperer was gone.
The room was filled with people, and cannot have been as dark as I remember. Still, it seemed as though she was there alone in the darkness, solitary in a pool of bright white light. The operating lamps, not usually on, drove away all shadow from her pale form, sitting straight up, struggling to breathe.

Her skin was ivory, a perfect white that erased the lines of age and blurred against the white sheet and her white gown. She was ethereal, intangible, beautiful. From her mouth pulsed a river of arterial blood, a crimson streak that ran down her chin at a leftward angle, arcing down her neck to stain a bright white towel.

Standing in the hallway, I looked at her. She, in the midst of it all, turned and looked at me. Her surprised eyes said, “Would you look at this? I never thought it would be like this. Here, like this.” And my eyes said to her, “I know. And I am sorry. And I would help you, if I could.” And then the doctors and the nurses moved in around her again, around that terrible case, and I moved down the hall to another trauma, where I could help; and I would.

As one of the winners in the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Essay Contest, Jonathan’s essay will be printed in Academic Medicine in fall 2005. The essay appears here with the permission of the AAMC and the Arnold Gold Foundation.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

6  CLARION NATIONAL INTERPROFESSIONAL TEAM CASE COMPETITION: UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO TEAM REHEARSAL
   12:00 p.m.  Wednesday, April 6
   BSLC 109

DEAN’S DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

   Inaugural Event: “Body Worlds” featuring Dr. Gunther Van Hagens, the exhibit’s creator
   6:30 p.m.  Wednesday, April 6
   Museum of Science and Industry

14  DEAN’S OPEN FORUM: MS I & MS II
   3:15 - 4:45 p.m.  Thursday, April 14
   TBA

   DEAN’S OPEN FORUM: MS III & MS IV
   5:00 - 6:30 p.m.  Thursday, April 14
   TBA

19  LOWELL T. COGGESHALL MEMORIAL LECTURE
   Crossing the Quality Chasm: The Compelling Role for Medical Education
   Speaker, Holly J. Humphrey, MD
   Professor of Medicine and Dean for Medical Education
   12:00 p.m.  Tuesday, April 19
   Billings P117

25  INFORMATIONAL SESSION ON THE PAUL & DAISY SOROS FELLOWSHIP FOR NEW AMERICANS
   Guest Speaker: Warren Ilchman, MD, Director
   12:00 p.m.  Monday, April 25
   Location: TBA

28  RESIDENCY PLANNING MEETING FOR JUNIOR STUDENTS
   4:00 p.m.  Thursday, April 28
   BSLC 115

MAY

5  SENIOR SCIENTIFIC SESSION
   8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Thursday, May 5
   BSLC 115

25  DEANS’ BROWN BAG
   12:30 - 1:30 p.m.  Wednesday, May 25

JUNE

8  SENIOR SHOW
   7:00 p.m.  Wednesday, June 8
   Mandel Hall

9  STUDENT/FACULTY RECOGNITION DINNER
   6:00 p.m.  Thursday, June 9
   Drake Hotel

10  DIVISIONAL ACADEMIC CEREMONY
   Speakers: Senator Barack Obama and Professor Olaf Schneewind
   10:30 a.m.  Friday, June 10
   Tent: 57th and Ellis Avenue

10  UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION
   3:30 p.m.  Friday, June 10
   Harper Court

22  INTRODUCTION TO THE CLINICAL BIENNIAL
   8:00 a.m.  Wednesday, June 22
   to 5:00 p.m.
   BSLC

23  INTRODUCTION TO THE CLINICAL BIENNIAL
   8:00 a.m.  Thursday, June 23
   to 5:00 p.m.
   BSLC

   STUDENT CLINICIAN CEREMONY
   5:30 p.m.  Thursday, June 23
   DCAM Fourth Floor Atrium

24  INTRODUCTION TO THE CLINICAL BIENNIAL
   8:00 a.m.  Thursday, June 23
   to 5:00 p.m.
   BSLC

SEPTEMBER

19  ORIENTATION WEEK
   to  BSLC
   23

19  WHITE COAT CEREMONY
   Speaker: Abraham Verghese, MD
   7:00 p.m.  Monday, September 19
   Rockefeller Chapel