DEAN’S CORNER

What Will Be Your Impact?

Dear Students, Alumni, Faculty, and Staff:

Throughout the spring months, the Pritzker School of Medicine had multiple opportunities to be in the presence of greatness. In early April, we hosted Dr. Regina Benjamin, the U.S. Surgeon General, as our Bowman Society Lecturer. Later that month, we welcomed back to campus one of our own alumni, Dr. Bruce Beutler, a member of the Class of 1981 and the 2011 Nobel Prize Winner in Physiology or Medicine. We were honored to welcome such distinguished visitors to our campus, but even more so, we were inspired – inspired by their passion, their integrity, their brilliance, and their profound impact on science, medicine, and humanity.

As the Class of 2013 prepares to venture out across the country to begin residency training, I invite them to think about the kind of impact they would like to make. This class of graduates will mark the first to complete the longitudinal Scholarship and Discovery curriculum, a curriculum that asks students to conduct scholarly work in one of five distinct tracks ranging from scientific investigation to quality and safety to global health. Dr. Beutler made a tremendous impact in the area of basic science with his discovery concerning the activation of innate immunity. In her role as “America’s Doctor,” Dr. Benjamin plays an integral role in addressing the health needs of our national community.

To the Class of 2013, I hope that you will reflect on where your impact and your contributions are meant to be. Perhaps it will be your innovation that will make a noteworthy change in the way technology is utilized within the hospital. Or perhaps you will provide a unique perspective on addressing a pervasive international health issue. Maybe you will be the next Nobel Prize winner for your scientific discoveries. In the midst of such possibility, though, I challenge you to be mindful that – in many instances – the most powerful and significant impact you will make will be in those quiet moments, shared simply, but deeply, between you and your patient.

Whatever its challenges, the field of medicine is a noble profession. As scientists and physicians, we are in the special position to help, in a multitude of ways, those who are at their most vulnerable: our patients.

Congratulations to our graduates! You have already made many substantial contributions to medicine, and I wish for you continued years of fulfilling service, invigorating discoveries, and meaningful contributions that propel you to your own definition of greatness.

Sincerely,

Holly J. Humphrey, MD’83, MACP
Ralph W. Gerard Professor in Medicine
Dean for Medical Education

Holly J. Humphrey, MD’83, MACP

Match Day

67th Annual Senior Scientific Session

Honorary Speakers

Honors and Awards

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**Beware the Ides of March? Not for the Class of 2013**

By Abby Cutler, MS4

Every year, across the country, senior medical students approach Match Day with emotions that run the gamut – from excited anticipation to sheer panic. Indeed, “Beware the Ides of March” seemed an appropriate mantra for this year’s fourth-year class, whose Match Day fell on March 15. Fortunately, the Pritzker School of Medicine Class of 2013 had little to worry about.

“I am happy to announce that the Class of 2013 is 100% matched!” exclaimed Dean for Medical Education Dr. Holly J. Humphrey, whose introductory remarks were met with exuberant cheers from a packed Billings Auditorium. “I’d never seen a fourth-year class so excited,” noted Dr. Vineet Arora, Associate Professor of Medicine. “Usually, the room is much quieter, and you can feel the nerves. This year, everyone was hugging and celebrating even before they opened their envelopes!”

To be sure, members of the Class of 2013 were primed for celebration. After a long week of pre-Match Day festivities – which included a trolley ride around the city, bar trivia in Lincoln Park, and an evening listening to Chicago blues at Kingston Mines – Friday’s Match Day opened with a video featuring fourth-year students reflecting on our time at Pritzker as well as a photo slide show that spanned our four years together.

“The most meaningful part of making the video was seeing the love that I have come to feel for all of my classmates reflected back to me through the camera lens,” said Brittany Betham, MS4. “When you watch it all together – the interviews and the slide show – it’s very moving. Being able to create that experience was really a joy.”

“It was so fun seeing the growth that everyone has undergone in just three and a half years,” added Anne Toledo, MS4, who, with Brittany, produced the video. “The love for each other was so palpable.”

As our beloved Dr. Joel Schwab called out the names of the fourth-year students in random order, feet tapped anxiously on the floor. According to one visiting observer, the temperature in P117 rose a discernable 15 degrees. Last, but not least, Atul Kapila,
MS4 joyfully claimed the money prize traditionally bestowed upon the student who must wait the longest for his or her envelope. With all the envelopes distributed, Dr. Humphrey shouted a 10-second countdown to the nationally designated 11:00 a.m. (CST) hour when it is permissible to open the envelopes.

Gabrielle Schaefer, MS4 was the first to jump up and announce her match. “I brought a letter opener,” she explained. “I have watched the Match every year I’ve been at Pritzker and I have seen people fumble and tear. I just wanted to get it open.”

Marcia Faustin, MS4 was less graceful. “I ripped mine because I got nervous!” she laughed, displaying her letter in two pieces.

It took mere seconds for the entire room to erupt in joyful shrieks, cries, hugs, and high-fives. Students embraced family members and other loved ones – many of whom had traveled long distances for the special occasion.

The upward trend of applicants in the Match continued this year, topping 40,000 registered – the largest number to date. The Pritzker School of Medicine followed these record-breaking national trends toward primary care: this year, the most popular specialties chosen by Pritzker students were Internal Medicine (21), Pediatrics (11), Family Medicine (6), and Obstetrics-Gynecology (6). In June, some of us will stay in Chicago, but many of us will leave the Midwest for our residency training. The hospitals accepting the most Pritzker recruits to their categorical/advanced programs were University of Chicago Medical Center (13), Northwestern-affiliated hospitals (4), Duke University Medical Center (3), Harvard-affiliated hospitals (3), UCLA Medical Center (3), University of California-San Diego (3), University of California-San Francisco (3), University of Colorado-Denver (3), University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (3), University of Utah (3), University of Washington (3), and Yale-New Haven Hospital (3).

This year’s Match Day represented yet another year of tremendous success for Pritzker students – a culmination of four wonderful years marked by a day we will not soon forget.

“You know that amusement park ride, the Tower of Terror?” said Anne, who will start a residency in Family Medicine at Boston University later this year. “Well, Match Day was like that moment when you reach the top and the window is thrown open – anticipation of an imminent shock that’s as exhilarating as it is stomach lurching. And at the same time, a breathtaking view of what’s to come.”

You can watch highlights of the day here: youtube.com/watch?v=HRpe2qmrQd0

All Pritzker Match results can be found here: pritzker.uchicago.edu/about/news/2013_Match_Results.shtml
Introducing Mr. Darrell Nabers, Director of Multicultural Affairs

By Carrie Kuhn, MS1

Darrell Nabers and Carrie Kuhn, MS1

Transitioning to be the new Director of Multicultural Affairs is seemingly the perfect way for Mr. Darrell Nabers to blend his interests in building diversity and inclusion, giving back to the community, and sharing his passion for the Pritzker School of Medicine. For Darrell, leading a life of service and mentorship with passion and commitment has always been important.

Darrell has a strong background in education and started out teaching in an underserved school after he graduated from college. He was one of the first teachers to build the Youth Engaged in Service curriculum, a national program that empowers youth to volunteer in their communities. After completing his master’s degree, he transitioned to a role within the administration, working to recruit and support international students, and then became a financial aid director for an independent school in Seattle.

Darrell moved to Hyde Park with his wife and son in 2006 to join the Pritzker School of Medicine Office of Admissions and Financial Aid. During his time in Admissions, he enjoyed the one-on-one conversations with students, and his background in teaching helped him in his ability to convey the unique learning environment that is Pritzker during recruitment trips. He was able to advocate for the benefits of a small class size, the accessibility to professors, and the ability to work both independently and collaboratively, because he had seen how important those aspects were in his own classroom. “The flexibility of not having the anxiety and pressure over grades is very empowering and uplifting for a lot of students, and whenever that’s the thing that you’re telling people about, it makes it really fun,” said Darrell.

Over the past eight years in Admissions, Darrell has watched Pritzker transform: “When I started here, the Health Care Disparities course was just an optional workshop, and now it is an essential foundation. Now students have the freedom and flexibility to take on a new challenge – one that is immediate – and unveiling it from day one is very illuminating.” With a special interest in History, he also appreciates and has reflected on how his own community of Woodlawn has overcome adversity and worked together with the University to create a symbiotic relationship.

In his new role, Darrell is excited to actualize what he has been communicating through admissions and recruitment. Learning about students in a more balanced, longitudinal relationship, instead of in an admissions setting, is what Darrell is most looking forward to as the Director of Multicultural Affairs. “This transition will be very natural for me, but I also hope that the students grow to realize that there is a distinction in those roles.” Darrell is enthusiastic to encourage students to realize their autonomy to take full advantage of the opportunities at Pritzker.

During his first year, Darrell is specifically interested in making the Office of Multicultural Affairs “more available to all students, because every student on our campus represents some aspect of culture that could be of value to their classmates.” He is also curious to discover what is missing from the landscape of opportunity, programming, and affiliation, and to tap into the larger dialogue of diversity happening around campus. “The idea of diversity is very important because it means that we are building a very heterogeneous class, but we also want to be inclusive,” said Darrell. In addition to his role working with Pritzker students directly, Darrell will continue supporting the traditions of the Office of Multicultural Affairs by managing the three pipeline programs for high school and undergraduate students, as well as advising the Bowman Society.

Darrell hopes to build and sustain an environment that helps students reflect on what is learned in the classroom and compels them to give back to the community: “Being in an environment like this, you can’t help but feel the synergy.” Darrell has always had an open-door policy and hopes to continue to communicate with students regarding any concerns they may have. He is excited to collaborate with faculty members who share the mission that has been the focus of the Office of Multicultural Affairs over the years, and looks forward to helping faculty and students build a more diverse and inclusive environment at Pritzker.
On a cloudy Wednesday, April 17, 2013, twelve Pritzker students, accompanied by Dr. Mari Egan, Director of Medical Student Education in the Department of Family Medicine, traveled down to the Illinois state capital of Springfield to partake in “Spring Into Action.” This event, held over the course of three days, was sponsored by the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP). It provided a unique opportunity for medical students, residents, and attending physicians to learn about political advocacy through the lens of health care. Pritzker’s involvement was organized by Gabrielle Liu, MS1, one of three leaders of the Family Medicine Interest Group. Other Pritzker students included Leslie Mataya, MS1, Marie Perrone, MS1, Scott Goldberg, MS1, Ashley Tsang, MS1, Emily Lu, MS3, Katie Richards, MS3, and Camille Petri, MS3. Additionally, several Family Medicine residents in the University of Chicago-NorthShore program also attended.

The morning began with an introductory welcome from Gordana Krkic, the Deputy Executive Vice President of External Affairs of the IAFP. Welcoming the group, she stressed the important role of medical professionals in advocating on behalf of their profession and their patients. Participants received a packet containing information about relevant pending legislation in the Illinois Senate and House of Representatives. Such legislation included bills regarding expanding Medicaid in accordance with the Affordable Care Act; implementing abstinence-based, medically-accurate, age-appropriate, complete sexual health information in schools; banning tanning beds for people younger than 18; clarifying that glee club cannot be used as a physical education exemption; and a highly controversial bill which would allow psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medications. Participants engaged in discussion about the IAFP’s stance on these issues, learning about the nuances and consequences of each piece of legislation. As both the House and the Senate were nearing a recess, there was pressure to vote briskly; it was the IAFP’s goal to make sure those ballots were cast in a manner informed by expert medical opinion.

Next, Pritzker students were given the opportunity to put their newly-minted advocacy skills into action! Armed with talking points and a prioritized approach, students traveled to the nearby capitol building. IAFP, in cooperation with lobbyist representatives from Cook-Witter, Inc., facilitated in-person meetings with legislators from a variety of districts. Students met with Democratic Majority Leader Representative Barbara Flynn Currie of the 25th district (which includes Hyde Park and Kenwood), and spoke with her about supporting the Medicaid expansion bill. Next, students had the opportunity to see Senator Kwame Raoul, who holds President Barack Obama’s former seat, in action on the Senate floor. Students had a bird’s eye view of both the Senate and the House of Representatives in session, debating and voting on several pieces of legislation, giving life to the dynamic process of law-making.

Being exposed to the intersection of politics and medicine proved to be an enlightening experience, as all students learned to appreciate the significant influence they have as developing professionals with burgeoning energy and expertise.
Members throughout the Pritzker community gathered on Thursday, May 16, 2013 to celebrate the culminating research of many of our graduating fourth-year students during the 2013 Senior Scientific Session. This year’s session, chaired by Vineet Arora, MD, MAPP’03, Assistant Dean of Scholarship and Discovery and Associate Professor of Medicine, recognized the outstanding scholarship of almost half of the senior class. This year’s event was particularly significant, as the participants represented the first class of students to complete all four years of Pritzker’s new curriculum, conceived of as the “Pritzker Initiative.” This curriculum includes the longitudinal Scholarship and Discovery program, designed to provide enhanced training in fundamental concepts and skills to ensure students’ success in one of five scholarly tracks: Scientific Investigation, Community Health Scholarship, Medical Education Scholarship, Global Health Scholarship, and Quality and Safety Scholarship. This 67th Senior Scientific Session impressively highlighted the breadth and depth of our students’ scholarly endeavors.

The annual Senior Scientific Session was founded by Dr. Leon Jacobson in 1946 to provide Pritzker’s fourth-year students with the opportunity to showcase their research through formal presentations. The event is also supported by the Marjorie and Dallas Glick Endowment, the Calvin Fentress Fellowship, and, for the first time, the John D. Arnold, MD’46 Scientific Research Prize.

Congratulations to all who participated, and to the following students for their noteworthy scholarship!

THE AWARD FOR THE BEST POSTER DESCRIBING APPLIED SCHOLARSHIP

ELIZABETH GREENSTEIN
Interruptions During Resident Handoffs on Labor and Delivery: A Mixed-Methods Multi-Site Study
Faculty Mentor: Jeanne M. Farnan, MD, MHPE; Department of Medicine, Section of Hospital Medicine

THE AWARD FOR THE BEST POSTER DESCRIBING BASIC SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION

YELENA KOLDOBSKAYA, PHD
A Portable RNA Sequence Whose Recognition by a Synthetic Antibody Facilitates Structural Determination
Faculty Mentor: Joseph A. Piccirilli, MS, PhD; Department of Chemistry

THE AWARD FOR THE BEST POSTER DESCRIBING SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION IN CLINICAL OR SOCIAL SCIENCES

JORDAN YODER
Are All Vital Signs “Vital”? A Prospective Study of Nighttime Vital Sign Frequency and Risk of Clinical Deterioration
Faculty Mentor: Vineet Arora, MD, MAPP; Department of Medicine; Section of General Internal Medicine

Annual Senior Scientific Session Celebrates the Culmination of Student Scholarship
THE CATHERINE DOBSON PRIZE, for the best oral presentation given by a student in the area of scientific investigation in the clinical or social sciences

TARAK TRIVEDI
Hospitalizations and Mortality Associated with Norovirus Outbreaks in Nursing Homes, 2009-2010
Faculty Mentor: Benjamin Lopman, PhD; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

THE LEON O. JACOBSON BASIC SCIENCE PRIZE, granted to the MD/PhD student whose basic science research is judged to be the most meritorious from among session participants

WILLIAM ZEIGER, PHD
Ca2+ Influx through Store-Operated Calcium Channels Reduces Alzheimer’s Disease Aβ Secretion
Faculty Mentor: Gopal Thinakaran, PhD; Department of Neurology

THE LEON O. JACOBSON BASIC SCIENCE PRIZE, for the best oral presentation given by a non-PhD student in the area of the basic biological sciences

NIKITA ALEXIADES
Evaluation of VEGFR2 Signaling and MMP14 Activity in Human Neural Stem Cell Glioma Tropism
Faculty Mentor: Maciej Lesniak, MD, MHCM; Department of Surgery, Section of Neurological Surgery

THE MEDICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRIZE, for the best presentation made by a student in the area of applied scholarship

RACHEL STORK
Simulation: A Novel Modality for Improving Physician Knowledge and Confidence with Recombinant Tissue-Type Plasminogen Activator for Acute Ischemic Stroke
Faculty Mentor: Jeffrey Frank, MD; Department of Neurology

THE FRANKLIN MCLEAN MEDICAL STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD, granted to the non-PhD student who has performed the most meritorious research in the medical field

MARCIA FAUSTIN
A Randomized Controlled Pilot of a Novel Parent-Directed Language Intervention in Children of Low SES: The Thirty Million Words Project
Faculty Mentor: Dana Suskind, MD; Department of Surgery, Section of Otolaryngology
The Pritzker Community was given the great honor of hosting the United States Surgeon General, Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA, as the Bowman Society Lecturer on Thursday, April 11, 2013. As “America's Doctor,” she provides the public with the best scientific information available on how to improve their health and the health of the nation. Dr. Benjamin focused her talk on the topic of national prevention strategy, highlighting national health initiatives that she has implemented, as well as a credo for care that acknowledges “health is not just in the hospital or doctor’s office, but also where we live, learn, work, play, and pray.”

The visit was one enjoyed not only by those in the immediate Pritzker community; Dr. Benjamin’s visit coincided with “Revisit Weekend,” a time for accepted applicants to take a second look at Pritzker before making their final decision about where to begin their medical training. Many of our revisiting students had the great privilege to hear Dr. Benjamin speak and to engage with her during the question and answer session following her talk.

With a background in Family Medicine, Dr. Benjamin demonstrated a keen awareness of the impact a physician can make on the wellness of a patient throughout his or her life: “Care about your patients, and they’ll know it.”

“I have been to many lectures in P117,” began Dr. Kenneth S. Polonsky, Dean of the Division of the Biological Sciences and the Pritzker School of Medicine, “but I have never seen the auditorium as full as it is today.”

Indeed, University members ranging from undergraduate students to medical faculty came out in droves on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 to welcome the 2011 Nobel Prize Winner in Physiology or Medicine, Bruce Beutler, MD’81, as the 2013 Lowell T. Coggeshall Memorial Lecturer. Amidst the more than 80 Nobel Prize winners who have been affiliated with the University of Chicago, Dr. Beutler is the first Pritzker graduate to receive the noteworthy distinction.

Dr. Beutler addressed the audience with a talk entitled “How We Sense Microbes.” The talk highlighted his discoveries concerning the activation of innate immunity – the topic for which the Nobel Prize was awarded.

At the closing of the 2013 lecture, Dr. Mark Siegler, Director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics, which co-sponsored the event, asked Dr. Beutler, “if you had to do it all over again, would you choose to go to medical school?” Dr. Beutler’s answer was a resounding yes.
Dr. Si-hoi Lam’s words reflect years of experience in clinical medicine on a path that has led him from urban health to AIDS research and back to primary care. Born and raised in Hong Kong, Dr. Lam received a scholarship at the age of eighteen to study physical chemistry at the University of Chicago. He liked science, but it soon became clear that he enjoyed his student employment at Billings Hospital more than his work in the lab. Furthermore, his own father had suffered a stroke in his early forties, and the intimate insight into chronic illness and patient care at an early age confirmed what he had already suspected: he wanted to care for patients.

After college, Dr. Lam attended medical school at Pritzker, graduated in 1980, and went on to the internal medicine track of the Residency Program in Social Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center in New York. He found himself most interested in primary care, urban medicine, and serving the underserved, and his residency further developed those interests, teaching him to look at medicine in light of its social and political dimensions. His subsequent career led him into AIDS research, to serve as Chief of Internal Medicine at Hill Health Center in New Haven, and now back to primary care, as Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at Yale University. He is a member of the Medical & Biological Sciences Alumni Senate and the UCM Visiting Committee.

An Interview with Si-hoi Lam, AB’76, MD’80

By Annie Lauer, MS2

“Medicine is like playing the piano: to be good, you have to do a lot of it.”

Dr. Lam, how did you choose Pritzker?

I was taken in by the intellectual atmosphere of the whole school. The philosophy of discovery and knowledge is very strong here, and there is support for independent thinking: to read a hypothesis, consider the data, and then draw one’s own conclusions before looking at the conclusions that others have offered. That kind of thinking is superb; it encourages us to be better doctors.

How did you become involved in research?

Actually, I may be a bit of a black sheep in that respect, because I had always enjoyed my clinical training and didn’t feel too much push toward research – but when I went to work in New Haven in the early 1980s, I stumbled into the AIDS epidemic.

We were among the first providers to use AZT (anti-retroviral therapy) in that area, and I became involved in clinical trials through the NIH and the American Foundation for AIDS research. We didn’t have the word for it back then, but what we were doing was “translational research” – making clinical needs, patient rights, and public health concerns the foci of what we were doing. I ended up spending half of my time in research for eight to ten years, and I enjoyed that part of my career – although I have always primarily remained a clinician.

How do you approach clinical medicine?

I find clinical medicine to be very exciting and rewarding, both emotionally and intellectually. Each patient is so different, with unique personalities and needs, and when you get to know them well – and earn their trust, so that they tell you what is going on – I think that you are able to provide more efficient and effective care. I am somewhat concerned that in this current trend toward shift work, young doctors will not understand the joy of following the same patients longitudinally, which is both very rewarding and also an opportunity for lifelong learning.

Also, patients are not machines; they are much more complex. We need to be aware of both the mind and body when we treat them. Sometimes we are too close-minded and arrogant, limited to a mechanistic model, but if we ignore patients’ mindsets, we lose important tools to understand their needs and achieve better clinical outcomes.

What is your advice to current medical students?

1. Medicine is a fast-moving field, and the change is hard to predict. Just choose something that interests you, and do your best.

2. Keep the focus on the patient, and get to know them genuinely. Good medicine should be based on long-term relationships.

3. Use the textbook as a guideline – but textbooks can be rewritten. Think of people like Marshall and Warren, who were willing to question the dominant theory of peptic ulcers and ultimately won the Nobel Prize for their discovery of H. pylori. Good clinicians are willing to question what is “known” and learn from individual patient cases instead of blindly following the textbook. This makes clinical medicine a tremendous and invigorating challenge.

4. Different doctors will have different strengths. When you see a good clinician, learn from them.

5. Be humble. We have to learn from our own mistakes. Master clinicians are very humble; they know that body and mind are complex, and that there is always more to know. They focus care on the patient. These are the hallmarks of greatness in medicine.

Pritzker Students Chosen for National and Institutional Fellowships

Ramin Morshed, MS2 and Kirk Cahill, MS2 have been selected to participate in the prestigious Howard Hughes Medical Institute Medical Research Fellows Program. Throughout the 2013-14 academic year, Ramin will work alongside his faculty mentor, Dr. Maciej Lesniak, to develop a system to deliver chemotherapeutic agents while allowing for MR tracking of neural stem cell carriers. Kirk will work with Dr. Bakhtiar Yamini on a project involving targeting Bcl-3 in glioblastoma.

Liese Pruitt, MS3 has been named as an award winner by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) with support for a Clinical Research Mentorship. Throughout the 2013-14 academic year, Liese will work closely with her faculty mentor, Dr. Funmi Olopade. These competitive grants are intended to support the development of a mentoring relationship between a DDCF clinical scientist and a medical student with an interest in becoming a future clinician investigator.

Kunmi Sobowale, MS3 has been selected to receive support from the Fogarty Fellowship and from the Pritzker Fellowship for his project “Barriers to Care and their Role on Effectiveness of Task-shifting Mental Health Care in Vietnam.” With the project, Kunmi will focus on barriers to care with the broader goals of ensuring proper delivery of depression treatment. Kunmi will be working closely with Dr. Bahr Weiss from Vanderbilt University on this project.

Kimberly Clinite, MS3 has also been selected to receive the Pritzker Fellowship. Throughout the 2013-14 academic year, Kimberly will conduct research on her project entitled “INSPIRE: Investigating Specialty Preferences In Trainees,” with the goal of determining how medical education impacts students’ perception of physician lifestyle. She will be working with faculty mentor Dr. Shalini Reddy.

Marie Adachi, MS3 published a first author paper in the April issue of Journal of Hospital Medicine. The paper, titled “Perceived Control and Sleep in Hospitalized Older Adults: A Sound Hypothesis?” emanated from her work in the Summer Research Program and through Scholarship and Discovery. She was mentored by Dr. Vineet Arora. Claire Beveridge, MS2 also contributed to this research.

Kareem Agunbiade, MS2 delivered an oral presentation, titled “Are Preemptive Deceased Donor Kidney Transplants Equitable?” at the American Transplant Congress (ATC) Meeting, held in Seattle this May. This research stems from his Summer Research Program and Scholarship and Discovery work, which he is conducting with Dr. Lainie Ross.

Michael Allain, MS2 presented two posters at the International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS) Conference, held in San Diego this May. The research, “The Relationship Between Bispectral Index and Preoperative Memory Formation,” was conducted as a part of the Summer Research Program and continued as a part of the Scholarship and Discovery curriculum. The pre-operative poster won the Best in Category for abstracts in Technology, Computing, and Simulation. Michael has been mentored by Dr. David Glick. Xiwen Zheng, MS3 also contributed to the research.
HONORS AND AWARDS

Anthony Aspesi, MS3 and Gregory Kauffmann, MS4 served as co-first authors on a paper titled “IBCD: Development and Testing of a Checklist to Improve Quality of Care for Hospitalized General Medical Patients,” which was published in the April issue of *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*. The research stems from their work through the Summer Research Program and Scholarship and Discovery curriculum. They were mentored by Dr. Vineet Arora.

Maureen Beederman, MS4 delivered an oral presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Plastic Surgery Research Council, held in Santa Monica, CA this May. Her project, entitled, “Further Defining the Role of RANK/RANKL/OPG Axis in Cranial Suture Biology,” was conducted with faculty mentor Dr. Russell Reid as a part of Scholarship and Discovery. Additionally, Maureen was selected to receive a 2013 Alpha Omega Alpha Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship. Maureen will use this funding to support her continued work on her research with Dr. Reid.

Rachel Chen, MS2 participated in the 2013 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS), held in Dallas, TX this May. At the meeting, Rachel presented a poster, on which she is the first author, entitled “National Prevalence of Vision Impairment in the Home and Vision Pessimism in Older Adults.” This research stems from her Scholarship and Discovery project, which she is conducting with faculty mentor Dr. William Dale.

Christopher Chesley, MS3 delivered both an oral and a poster presentation of his first author research, entitled “Intended and Unintended Consequences of Share 35,” at the American Transplant Congress, held in Seattle in May. He was mentored by Drs. Lainie Ross and J. Richard Thistlethwaite, Jr. on this project, which emanated from his Scholarship and Discovery research.

As a result of her experience as an Albert Schweitzer Fellow in Gabon, Laura Blinkhorn, MS4 wrote an article, entitled “Tackling The Weight Of The World: What One African Woman Taught Us About Global Obesity,” which was published online in *Health Affairs*. The article discusses the nutrition transition and the problem of global obesity through the story of this young woman.

Noura Choudhury, MS2, Adam Vohra, MS2, and Ashoke Khanwalkar, MS2 presented the poster “MS4s Provide a Unique Role to MS1s in Student-Run Free Clinics” at the 2013 Innovations in Medical Education Conference, held at the Keck School of Medicine in Los Angeles in February. The poster won the First Place Prize amongst the posters at the conference. Jennifer Kraninger, MS2 was also an author on the poster, as well as contributions by Jennifer Jones, MS2, Camil Correia, MS2, and Robert Sanchez, MS2.
The Pritzker Pulse, Summer 2013

HONORS AND AWARDS

Student Achievements

Christopher Choi, MS3 delivered an oral presentation titled “Allergen Exposure Affects Sinonasal Microbiota” at the 2013 American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology Annual Meeting. Christopher has been working with Dr. Jayant Pinto, his mentor, on this project as a part of his Scholarship and Discovery work, as well as his Summer Research Program project.

Kimberly Clinite, MS3 and Stephanie Kazantsev, MS2 presented an abstract at the AAMC Physician Workforce Research Conference, held in Alexandria, VA this May, entitled “Investigation of First Year Medical Students’ Career Preferences.” They have been mentored by Dr. Shalini Reddy on this project, which is related to their Scholarship and Discovery study of the process of specialty selection among medical students.

Scott Goldberg, MS1 has been awarded a Campaign for America’s Kids (CFAK) Summer Fellowship from the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. Dr. Scott Hunter and Dr. Niranjan Karnik will be co-mentoring Scott on their Homeless Youth Research Project this summer.

Emily Guhl, MS3 was selected to present a poster of her research, entitled “Other Side Effects Include... A Case of a Rare Drug Side Effect,” at the Medical Student Poster Competition. The competition was part of the American College of Physicians’ 2013 Internal Medicine Meeting, held in San Francisco in April.

Joseph Lamplot, MS4 has published a significant amount of work as a result of the research he conducted with the support of the Pritzker Fellowship. He has been working with faculty mentors Drs. Tong-Chuan He and Hue Luu.

Joseph served as the first author on a paper, titled “Multimodal Pain Management in Total Knee Arthroplasty: A Prospective Randomized Control Trial,” which was accepted by the Journal of Arthroplasty. He also co-authored “IGFBP5 Domains Exert Distinct Inhibitory Effects on the Tumorigenicity and Metastasis of Human Osteosarcoma” accepted by Cancer Letters. Other first author papers published early this year include “The Current and Future Therapies for Human Osteosarcoma,” published in Current Cancer Therapy Reviews and “BMP9 Signaling in Stem Cell Differentiation and Osteogenesis,” published in the American Journal of Stem Cells.

Additionally, Joseph was the first author on a book chapter titled “Major Signaling Pathways Regulating the Proliferation and Differentiation of Mesenchymal Stem Cells,” which appeared in the book Essentials of Mesenchymal Stem Cell Biology and its Clinical Translation, published by Springer Publishing.

Joseph has also had the opportunity to present his research. In April 2013, he delivered a poster presentation at the Arthroscopy Association of North America Annual Conference, titled “Reversibly Immortalized Articular Chondrocytes Retain Chondrogenic Phenotypes.” This project emanated from his Summer Research Program project and was completed through the Pritzker Fellowship. At the Orthopaedic Research Society (ORS) Annual Conference held in January 2013, Joseph presented the poster “Methylation of IGFBP5 Promoter Regulates Human Osteosarcoma.” This project emanated from his Scholarship and Discovery project and was completed through the Pritzker Fellowship.
Melissa Mott, MS4 delivered an oral presentation at the Annual Assembly of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, held in New Orleans this March. The presentation, titled “Who Says Med Students are Useless? Student Perspectives and Leadership in Palliative Care Education,” is a part of Melissa’s Scholarship and Discovery project looking at a pilot program in palliative care education for first-year medical students. Her faculty mentor is Dr. Stacie Levine.

Molly Naunheim, MS4 was the first author of “Pharyngoceles: A Photo-Anatomic Study and Novel Management,” which was published in the January issue of *Laryngoscope*. Molly conducted this research with Dr. Alexander Langerman.

Manas Nigam, MS2 submitted an abstract to the American Urological Association 2013 Annual Meeting that was chosen to be included in the AUA Press Program. His project, entitled “The Rising Incidence of Testicular Cancer in the United States from 1992 to 2009,” was one of fewer than 25 abstracts (of more than 2,300 accepted) selected for presentation to the media. As part of this honor, Manas was invited to speak to reporters during the meeting, which took place in San Diego this May. He has been mentored by Dr. Scott Eggener on this project, which began during the Summer Research Program.

Manas presented this same research at the 2013 Genitourinary Cancers Symposium, held in January in San Francisco.

Alisha Ranadive, MS2 was selected as a research finalist for the poster competition at the Society of Hospital Medicine’s Annual Meeting, held in National Harbor, MD in May. Her poster, titled “Blind Spot: Assessing and Correcting Vision Among Hospitalized Patients,” emanated from her Summer Research Program project, which she conducted with Dr. Valerie Press.

Fady Riad, MS3 participated in the “Featured Posters Session” at the Heart Rhythm Society Scientific Sessions Meeting, held in Denver in May. Fady’s poster, titled “In-Hospital Risk in Patients with Prolonged QTc on High Risk Medications,” emanated from his Scholarship and Discovery project, which he conducted with faculty mentors Dr. John Beshai and Dr. Andrew Davis.

Alexander Sheppe, MS3 was first author on a paper entitled, “Providing Guidance to Patients: Physicians’ Views about the Relative Responsibilities of Doctors and Religious Communities,” which has been accepted for publication in *Southern Medical Journal*. He was mentored by Dr. Farr Curlin on this project, which he began during the Summer Research Program.
**Student Achievements**

Sandra Shi, MS3 contributed to “Genome-wide Survey of Interindividual Differences of RNA stability in Human Lymphoblastoid Cell Lines,” which was published in *Scientific Reports*, a publication of *Nature*. In their research, the group performed a genome-wide survey of mRNA stability and its contribution to variation of gene expression between individuals. This paper is from research conducted as a member of the Gejman Lab at NorthShore University HealthSystem.

Matthew Stutz, MS3 published a first author paper, titled “International Examples of Undocumented Immigration and the Affordable Care Act,” which appeared in the April 2013 issue of *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. The research emanated from a health policy project Matthew conducted with Dr. Arshiya Baig.

Joshua Williams, MS4 was selected as one of five national winners for the Clinical Vignette Competition, held at the American College of Physicians’ 2013 Internal Medicine Meeting. His abstract, entitled “Eat Your Heart Out: An Atypical Cause of Stroke in a Young Male,” is based on a case encountered during his PICU sub-I. Dr. Vineet Arora served as the faculty mentor on the project.

Matthew Stutz, MS3 contributed to “Genome-wide Survey of Interindividual Differences of RNA stability in Human Lymphoblastoid Cell Lines,” which was published in *Scientific Reports*, a publication of *Nature*. In their research, the group performed a genome-wide survey of mRNA stability and its contribution to variation of gene expression between individuals. This paper is from research conducted as a member of the Gejman Lab at NorthShore University HealthSystem.

**Pritzker Students Selected to Receive Funding from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation**

Aubrey Jordan, MS1 received funding from the Gold Foundation’s Student Summer Research Fellowship. Together with Dr. Alexander Langerman, Aubrey plans to investigate the communication between surgeons and their patients, as well as the families of these patients. Because family members often become the care takers for those who undergo surgery, strong communications, during which time the expectations of the patients’ families are met, are valuable to the healing of the patient.

Carrie Kuhn, MS1 also received support for her project, titled “Impact of a Theory-based Video Intervention on Immediate Postabortal Long-acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC) Uptake: a Randomized Controlled Trial.” She will be working throughout the summer with her faculty mentor, Dr. Melissa Gilliam. Their intervention aims to raise consciousness of the benefits of LARC, address perceived pros and cons of usage, and bolster self-efficacy, thus helping women move towards action (LARC uptake), with the ultimate goal of preventing repeat unintended pregnancy and abortion.

Kunmi Sobowale, MS3 is the third recipient of this fellowship, which he received for his project, titled “Barriers to Care and their Role on Effectiveness of Task-shifting Mental Health Care in Vietnam.” Kunmi will be working closely with Dr. Bahr Weiss from Vanderbilt University on this project.
Holly J. Humphrey, MD’83, Dean for Medical Education at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and a nationally recognized leader in medical education scholarship, has been named the Ralph W. Gerard Professor in Medicine.

Dr. Humphrey served as director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program for 14 years before moving to her current position in 2003. She has launched numerous initiatives at Pritzker, including a sweeping curriculum reform effort, new advising and mentoring programs, and the Bowman Society, which explores issues of health care disparities and provides mentoring for minority students, residents and faculty. Dr. Humphrey was also instrumental in the development of new pipeline programs focused on preparing underrepresented minority students for careers in medicine.

She is the editor of *Mentoring in Academic Medicine* (2010), a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation, former president of the Association of Program Directors of Internal Medicine (APDIM) and a Master of the American College of Physicians.

At the University of Chicago, in an atmosphere of interdisciplinary scholarship and discovery, the Pritzker School of Medicine is dedicated to inspiring diverse students of exceptional promise to become leaders and innovators in science and medicine for the betterment of humanity.

Arshiya Baig, MD, MPH

Arshiya Baig, MD, MPH was the recipient of the Taller de Jose Companion Award. The award is given each year to a person who “exemplifies the vision of accompanying the dear neighbor without distinction.” Taller de Jose, a nonprofit organization based in South Lawndale, presented Dr. Baig with the award at their Builder’s Day Celebration held in April.

James Woodruff, MD

The University of Chicago Medicine has been awarded the 2013 Visionary Award for its instrumental involvement in the establishment and success of the CommunityHealth Englewood site. The medical center staffs internal medicine residency clinics three times a week and provides critical financial support for initiatives that have helped CommunityHealth expand its role as a medical home on Chicago’s South Side.

In addition, many Pritzker medical students help provide care to patients who visit the clinic. Pritzker’s Associate Dean of Students, Dr. James Woodruff, was a key figure in establishing the initial relationship between the CommunityHealth Clinic and the University of Chicago Medicine.

Pritzker students attend the awards ceremony where the University of Chicago Medicine was recognized.
We welcome all those who have “joined” the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine family. Congratulations to all!

Share Your Good News!

If you would like your recent achievement to be highlighted in the next issue of the Pritzker Pulse, please visit the Pritzker website at pritzker.uchicago.edu and click “Submit Your Pulse Update!”

If you would like to share weddings or births with your fellow Pritzker students, please email Caroline Kraft, ckraft@bsd.uchicago.edu.

Calendar of Events

MAY
29  Senior Skit
30  Student/Faculty Recognition Dinner for Class of 2013 (Drake Dinner)
31  Divisional Academic Hooding Ceremony for MD candidates

JUNE
10  Summer Research Program Begins
14  Divisional Academic Hooding Ceremony for PHD candidates
15  Spring Convocation
19-21 Introduction to the Clinical Biennium
20  Student Clinician Ceremony

AUGUST
8   MS1 Orientation Begins
11  White Coat Ceremony
21-22 Summer Research Program Research Forum
23  Summer Research Program Closing