

The Graduate

The Newsletter of the College of Medicine Office of Graduate Studies



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As September 11, 2002, approaches, take a moment to reflect on the anniversary date of the tragedy that affected us all so deeply on that morning a year ago. Remember the families of the ones lost on that date and continue to show your appreciation for military personnel as they serve this country and keep our freedoms intact.

From the Director

A warm welcome is extended to the new graduate students entering the Core Program Fall Semester, 2002. Eleven students matriculated into the Graduate Program on August 12th. This group is diverse, with undergraduate degrees from 9 institutions. The new matriculants are Elizabeth Benton (University of Mobile) Kathy Bonness (Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA), Jennifer Clark (University of South Alabama), Judy Creighton (University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL), Haley Fancher (University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS), Kyla Frohlich (Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC), Christina LaCaze (University of South

Alabama), Jiancong Liang (Sun Yat-sen University of Medical Sciences, Guangzhou, China) Lee Miller (University of South Alabama), Jessica Nordstrom (Troy State University, Troy, AL), and Darla Reed (Newberry College, Newberry, SC). Orientation was held for these students on the morning of August 12th. In addition to their orientation experience, the students were given several other opportunities to get acquainted with one another and with senior graduate students and faculty during the week of August 12-16. Dr. Townsley hosted a dinner at her home on the evening of August 13th. Also, the BMSSO hosted an afternoon cookout and volleyball game for all BMS graduate faculty and students. The usual trimmings of a cookout (hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, sodas, and watermelon) were enjoyed by those attending, prior to the start of the volleyball games. Ms. Benton withdrew August 30th for personal reasons. The 2002-2003 class is shown below.



Kathy M. Bonness



Jennifer E. Clark



Judy R. Creighton



Haley A. Fancher



Kyla M. Frohlich



Christina L. LaCaze



Jiancong Liang



Lee N. Miller



Jessica L. Nordstrom



Darla J. Reed

The Graduate

A Graduate Faculty meeting was held on the afternoon of August 12th. Faculty met in the College of Medicine Conference Room. Agenda items discussed included the new core curriculum, the new lab rotation plan form, and recruitment. Faculty received copies of the syllabi for the three core classes (Fundamentals of Basic Medical Sciences I - IDL 580, Interdisciplinary Literature Reports - IDL 576, and Introduction to Research Methods - IDL 577) offered Fall Semester, 2002. Also, the new poster and brochure highlighting the program were presented and the new recruitment video shown. An election was held to select a member for the at-large position on the Executive Committee and a new Secretary and Parliamentarian for the Graduate Faculty. Dr. Scammell was elected as member-at-large to replace Dr. Stevens, whose term expires in December, 2002. Dr. Hester will serve as Secretary and Dr. Aldes was elected to serve as Parliamentarian.

From the Executive Committee

At the July meeting, Executive Committee members reviewed and voted to implement a new Student Lab Rotation Plan Form as part of the packet of forms documenting completion of requirements in the graduate program. The approved form is available on the BMS Graduate Program web site. New students will be responsible for interviewing faculty and filing a rotation plan prior to the Spring semester. The issue of health insurance for students was discussed. The Graduate Office will coordinate insurance for students in the core program, and it was agreed health insurance coverage for students pursuing advanced study will be covered by the Department with which the student's mentor is affiliated.

From the University Graduate Council

Students completing requirements Fall term should complete their closed and open defense prior to the first submission deadline to the Graduate School for written dissertations, which is October 24, 2002. The deadline for final completion of written dissertations (with signature sheet, microfilming form, etc.) is November 7, 2002.

Funding for Graduate Training

For possible funding opportunities, go to: <http://grantsnet.org> There are over 100 funding programs in the GrantsNet database, and they are still adding programs.

A new page focusing on funding for graduate education has been added to the BMS Graduate Program web site. Go to: <http://southmed.usouthal.edu/com/bmsphd/studentresources.htm>

BMSSO

Thanks to Sarah Sayner and the BMSSO for hosting a cookout and providing the opportunity for the new students to meet current students and graduate faculty. The BMSSO will hold elections in the next few weeks. Stay tuned for details on that meeting.

Volunteer Opportunities

Women in Science will host the second Expanding Your Horizons Conference for middle school girls on Saturday, October 19, 2002. The group anticipates that 250 girls will register for the Conference. Volunteers are needed to help with workshops and logistics on that date. Contact Dr. Townsley (460-6815) or Dr. Zimmer (460-7056) for additional information and/or to volunteer your services.

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