



January 2010 E-Newsletter

What is NYCPM doing to remain a competitive podiatric medical school?

With nine podiatric medical schools nationwide, staying competitive is essential to attracting the premed students to our program. The New York College of Podiatric Medicine has invested in one of the most important areas of its medical education: the preclinical science faculty.

NYCPM has 6 full-time preclinical faculty members devoted solely to our podiatric medical students, in addition to the many adjunct professors who share their time at NYCPM with nearby medical schools such as Mount Sinai School of Medicine and Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons. Our full-time faculty members have their own offices on our campus, and they are available to meet with students individually to address any questions or problems a student might have. Many of NYCPM's preclinical faculty have degrees or teaching and research experience from very prestigious medical colleges such as Mount Sinai School of Medicine and Harvard Medical School. With a combination of PhDs, MDs, and DPMs, NYCPM offers its students a well-rounded, highly experienced preclinical science faculty.

NYCPM has also invested heavily in renovating the college. Renovations have been made to the lecture halls, the student lounge, and more. A new, completely modernized Anatomy Lab was created and features video cameras, plasma monitors and a computer system. A new, state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Center was also created on NYCPM's fifth floor. It has a full schedule of classes, CME courses and new-product demonstrations offering concentrated, hands-on training in the latest developments, techniques and innovations in both diagnosis and treatment. The Center optimizes the study environment for medical and surgical skills, as well as physical assessment and practice management techniques.

Finally, NYCPM has worked out an agreement with Mt. Sinai School of Medicine to start offering a dual-degree program. With this new agreement, NYCPM students will be able to earn a DPM and MPH degree in four years. The value of attaining both degrees lies in the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills needed for interdisciplinary public health practice while at the same time developing discipline-specific knowledge and skills applicable for advanced practice in public health settings and for training doctors in the practice of podiatric medicine.

Is it possible to work while in podiatric medical school?

Working full-time while in medical school is strongly discouraged. However, many students work part-time in the College using the federally-funded Work-Study Program. To apply for this program, you must fill out the FAFSA and be eligible. You can find out if you are eligible from the Financial Aid Office after you have matriculated.

Many offices within the College employ work-study students, and the pay is more competitive than off-campus part-time jobs. Most work-study positions involve simple tasks and most supervisors will work around the student's schedule. Work-study students can only work up to 20 hours per week, and a student should not rely on work-study income as a primary source for tuition payment. Positions are available based on the needs of an individual department. Students have worked as note-takers, tutors, research coordinators, IT assistants and more.

Dermatology Research Honors Program

Ten of the top students from the Class of 2011 recently participated in a week-long special Dermatology/Pathology Honors Clerkship at Weill Cornell Medical College in Manhattan. During this intense one-week experience, students, under the direction of Dr. Cynthia Magro (Chief of Derm/Path at Cornell) and Dr. Garrett Desman (Adjunct Professor at NYCPM), attended morning sign out rounds, derm/path educational lectures, teaching scopes and read histo-pathological slides and diagnosed approximately 100-150 cases. In addition, each student was given a research topic which they had to present on at the end of the week.

Giannin Perez, one of the ten students who attended the program, said that the week was challenging and intense, but working with Dr. Magro was a great learning experience.

2010 New York Podiatric Clinical Conference

The 2010 Podiatric Medical Conference promises to be a vibrant event bringing together 2,000+ Doctors of Podiatric Medicine, residents, students, and assistants from across the country and internationally.

The conference is being held January 29-31 at the Marriott Marquis in New York City. It will feature three days of intensive hands-on wet labs/workshops, scientific lectures, panel discussions and round tables with experts and peers. Education sessions will address a variety of subjects such as wound care, surgical techniques, biomechanics, and a variety of specialized areas of podiatric medicine that keep DPM's current and offer education in cutting edge technology to ensure quality patient care.

Also featured will be a two-floor exhibit hall with over 250 booths displaying products, services, and technology relevant to the field. Scheduled coffee breaks will make it easy to visit exhibitors who represent all aspects of podiatric practice and will be ready to discuss their products and services with you. Many exhibitors will also be offering free samples and giveaways.

The New York Clinical Conference will be running in conjunction with our January Open House and we welcome you to attend both of these (free) events. **To learn more about the conference and register, go to nycmp.edu/openhouse.asp.**

Meet a Student

Name: Akmal Atmar

Hometown: Nashville, Tennessee

Email: aatmar@nycpm.edu

Undergraduate College: Austin Peay State University

Medical School Class: 2011



What made you decide to pursue a career in podiatric medicine?

In undergraduate, I studied Visual Arts because of my passion to work with my hands.

I love to express myself creatively through the visual arts (especially sculpting).

Observing Dr. Gregory Eirich, a podiatrist, perform surgeries increased my interest in podiatric surgery. I love the idea of a specialty that allows a hands-on approach to treating patients in their physical, emotional, and psychological recovery. I realized that podiatric surgery would allow me to thoroughly integrate my passion for the Humanities, Sciences, and Arts in a framework of public service.

What made you decide to attend NYCPM?

This was an easy choice to make. NYCPM offered me the January program since I graduated early in December, which worked out great.

Before attending NYCPM, I have also heard excellent feedback from numerous students about NYCPM and the level of experiences obtained during their clinical years. My interest is largely due to the diversity of cases presented at Foot Clinics of NY, Lincoln Hospital, Harlem Hospital, and Metropolitan Hospital. Currently, I am able to see many patients of different backgrounds and different medical problems at these hospitals in my third year rotations. I am grateful that NYCPM has allowed me to fulfill my passion in promoting the wellness of others.

What activities are you involved in at NYCPM?

Currently, I am a Student Ambassador, Editor-in-Chief of S.L.A.M (Student Literary & Arts Magazine), & Senior Editor of Foot Notes. In the past, I have held positions such as the Vice President of the NYCPM Diabetes Club, Honor's Council Member, Education Committee Member, and Surgery Club Member. I have also been fortunate to volunteer at a number of podiatric-sponsored events.

What is your favorite part about being a student at NYCPM or in NYC in general?

NYCPM creates a friendly environment, which makes it easy to approach everyone for help. The diversity of both students and patients is also great.

I have been honored and privileged to work as the Editor-in-Chief of S.L.A.M (Student Literary & Arts Magazine). Through such experience, I have learned to connect with both the students and faculty of varying ages and social backgrounds. Having interaction with people of different cultures, I feel that I have gained more interpersonal communication skills and a cultural

awareness that is indispensable in today's diverse society. SLAM has also allowed me to continue to love my passion for the visual arts.

What advice do you have for incoming students?

Never hesitate to ask for help.

Meet a Professor:



Name: Thomas M. DeLauro, DPM

Hometown: Staten Island, NY

Email: tdelauro@nycpm.edu

Education: '72 Brooklyn College (B.S), '76 NYCPM (D.P.M.)

Subspecialty: Podiatric Medicine and Surgery

What are your responsibilities at NYCPM?

I currently serve as Chairman, Department of Medical Sciences at NYCPM. I administer the nearly twenty courses and clerkships that fall in these areas.

What made you decide to pursue a career in podiatric medicine?

Mostly opportunity, since the number of foot care providers is so limited within the nation.

What is your area of expertise?

Although surgically trained, my particular interests fall in the areas of podiatric medicine that encompass the dermatological, neurological, rheumatological, and vascular diseases. My

current interest is the chemical regulation of epidermal cell behavior, which I hope will reduce the formation of hyperkeratosis.

What advice do you have for incoming students?

The study of podiatric medicine and surgery requires a significant commitment of time and money, blended with a sense of compassion for suffering patients. There is no room for mediocrity – only an unending pursuit of excellence and life-long learning.