New York College of Podiatric Medicine Commencement Features Keynote Speaker Karel Bakker, M.D., Chair of the International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot and of the International Diabetes Federation Consultative Section

Hon. Inez E. Dickens, New York City Council Member and Majority Whip, and Israel Goldstein, D.P.M., Adjunct Associate Professor of Podiatric Medicine at NYCPM, Also Honored for Service to Community and to the College

Karel Bakker, M.D., Chair of the International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot and of the International Diabetes Federation Consultative Section, delivered the keynote address to the graduating class of the New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM) and received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters-Honoris Causa, during the College’s 97th Commencement Ceremony at Avery Fisher Hall in New York City on Wednesday, May 28th.

Louis L. Levine, President and Chief Executive Officer of the College, presided at the commencement ceremony. Dr. Bakker addressed the 79 graduating seniors—who received their Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degrees—and an audience of nearly 1,000 faculty members, parents, family and friends. In addition, Hon. Inez E. Dickens, New York City Council Member and Majority Whip, and Israel Goldstein, D.P.M., Adjunct Associate Professor of Podiatric Medicine at NYCPM, were also honored. Council Member Dickens received an honorary doctorate, and Dr. Goldstein received the College’s Distinguished Service Award.

In his keynote address, Dr. Bakker described the threat that diabetes mellitus posed to the world. He called diabetes “the epidemic of the twenty-first century,” and cited projections that by the year 2025, the number of people with the disease worldwide, currently at 250 million people, would increase to 380 million, a fifty-five percent increase.

After citing additional statistics, Dr. Bakker described how several factors—including an aging population, a large increase in the percentage of the population that is obese, and the lack of physical activity in the lives of a large number of people—had contributed to the problem of diabetes.

New York College of Podiatric Medicine Welcomes Class of 2012 With Annual White Coat Ceremony

Rock G. Positano, D.P.M., Director of the Non-Surgical Foot and Ankle Service at New York’s Hospital for Special Surgery, Delivers Keynote Address

Ross Taubman, D.P.M., President of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA), Welcomes New Class to the Profession • Steven Goldman, D.P.M., Chief of Podiatry, Manhattan Veterans Administration Medical Center, And Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at NYCPM, Receives College’s Distinguished Service Award

NYCPM recently welcomed its Class of 2012 at the College’s annual White Coat Ceremony, in which the future Doctors of Podiatric Medicine symbolically don their white coats and together recite the Hippocratic Oath. Rock G. Positano, D.P.M., Director of the Non-Surgical Foot and Ankle Service at New York’s Hospital for Special Surgery, and Adjunct Professor, External Programs at NYCPM, delivered the keynote address to the members of the College community and guests assembled for the event at the New York Academy of Medicine. Ross Taubman, D.P.M., President of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA), welcomed the new class to the profession, and Steven Goldman, D.P.M., Chief of Podiatry at the Manhattan Veterans Administration Medical Center, and Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at NYCPM, received the College’s Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Positano is a 1988 graduate of NYCPM. He has been on staff at New York’s Hospital for Special Surgery since 1991, and is nationally known for his non-surgical approach for the treatment of foot disorders. In addition to his appointment at the Hospital for Special Surgery, Dr. Positano serves as Director of the Foot Center, Sports Medicine section, at the Orthopedic Trauma Service, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Weill Medical College of Cornell.
NYCPM Holds Inaugural Planning Dinners to Begin Involving Alumni in Upcoming Celebration Marking 100th Anniversary of College’s Founding

In little over two years, the New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM) will be marking the 100th anniversary of its founding in 1911. And while there will certainly be gala events celebrating the College’s centennial, NYCPM also plans to enlist its alumni and friends in an initiative aimed at strengthening the College and enhancing the contributions of podiatry to the future of medical care in this country and around the world.

To get the ball rolling, and to begin involving alumni, the College recently held inaugural planning dinners in its newly-created Bruce J. Frankel, DPM Conference Center. The attendees included a number of leaders of past graduating classes, as well as other leaders of the profession, including representatives from the New York State Podiatric Medical Association. In attendance from NYCPM were President and CEO Louis L. Levine, Michael J. Trepal, DPM, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, Mark H. Swartz, MD, Professor of Podiatric Medicine and Vice President, Medical and Professional Affairs, Howard Rusk, Jr., Director of Alumni Affairs, and Harold Wolochok, Special Consultant, Centennial Planning.

Mr. Rusk opened each evening by describing the initial planning for the celebration of NYCPM’s centennial. He expressed the hope and expectation that NYCPM alumni would be key to the success of the celebration and would be leaders in taking podiatry into the future.

Next, other members of the administration described very positive recent developments at NYCPM, including innovations within the curriculum, both from the standpoint of material covered as well as in the way it is taught and assessed; the recent hiring of several outstanding new faculty members in the Pre-Clinical Sciences; newly-completed renovations and upgrades to several classrooms and to the computer labs, as well as the creation of new spaces for several College departments; and the recently-instituted CAPSTONE Assessment Program, which uses standardized patients (actors trained to simulate particular disease states and to perform as a patient would during an exam) to assess how well third-year students interview patients and perform a physical exam.

BOB S. BILLER, D.P.M., ELECTED TO NYCPM BOARD OF TRUSTEES; ROCK G. POSITANO, M.S., M.P.H., D.P.M., NOMINATED FOR BOARD

Bob S. Biller, D.P.M., was elected to the NYCPM Board of Trustees in August. Dr. Biller, a 1978 graduate of NYCPM, has been a member of the New York State Board for Podiatry since 1999, and has served as its Chairman since 2006. He has had a private practice in Long Beach, New York since 1979, and from 1981 to 1997 he also maintained a practice in Oceanside, New York.

Born in the Bronx, Dr. Biller earned a B.A. degree in Psychology from New York University. He is licensed to practice podiatry in both New York State and Florida. He has served as Director of Podiatric Medical Education and as Chief, Section of Podiatric Surgery, at Long Beach Medical Center since 1991, and has been an Attending Surgeon there since 1990. Dr. Biller has also been an Adjunct Associate Professor of Orthopedics at NYCPM since 1992.

Rock G. Positano, M.S., M.P.H., D.P.M., a 1988 graduate of NYCPM, has been nominated for the NYCPM Board of Trustees. Dr. Positano has been on staff at New York’s Hospital for Special Surgery since 1991, and currently serves as Director of the Non-Surgical Foot and Ankle Service. He is nationally known for his non-surgical approach for the treatment of foot disorders. Dr. Positano also serves as Director of the Foot Center, Sports Medicine section, at the Orthopedic Trauma Service, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Weill Medical College of Cornell University; an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Applied Biomechanics, Albert Nerken School of Engineering, at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art; and he is an Adjunct Professor of External Programs at NYCPM.

DIABETICA SOLUTIONS DONATES INFRARED TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT DEVICES TO NYCPM AS PART OF PURCHASE OF VPT METER FOR THE COLLEGE BY NYCPM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Diabetica Solutions, formerly known as Xilas Medical, a privately-held medical device company based in San Antonio, Texas that focuses on the development of medical device products for people suffering from diabetes and susceptible to foot-related problems, donated ten TempTouch® infrared temperature measurement devices for use by the students at NYCPM, in conjunction with the purchase of a VPT Meter (biothesiometer) for the College by the NYCPM Alumni Association. According to Ruben G. Zamorano, President of Diabetica Solutions, the company gave the Alumni Association a generous discount on its purchase of the VPT Meter. Both the purchase and donation were announced at the Diabetica Solutions booth at the recent New York Clinical Conference.

The VPT Meter is a clinical assessment instrument designed to help healthcare professionals evaluate peripheral sensory neuropathy of the lower extremities. Through use of the VPT Meter, the amount of loss of sensation can be quantified. The doctor can also establish baseline data for peripheral sensation and monitor the progression of established pathology. The TempTouch® infrared temperature device provides patients with an “early warning” of inflammation and potential ulceration. The product is designed as a non-invasive, predictive, self-management tool to be used at home by the patient on a daily basis. TempTouch has been proven highly effective in NIH-sponsored clinical trials in detecting inflammation that occurs before an ulcer actually breaks the surface of the skin. Once the inflammation has been detected, patients are able to off-load and/or reduce activity levels to avoid more serious problems such as ulceration.
Accreditation of the College Extended Through October 2012

President Louis L. Levine announced to the NYCPM community in early November that the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) had commended NYCPM on the quality of the College’s Interim Progress Report, and had notified the College that full accreditation of the New York College of Podiatric Medicine had been extended through October 2012.

The CPME noted that the College’s progress report included all requested information, and no further reports were due at this time. The next comprehensive onsite visit by the CPME for purposes of accreditation will take place in the spring of 2012.

Accreditation is a public statement acknowledging that the College is in full compliance with all educational and other standards set for the colleges of podiatric medicine by the CPME. Full accreditation is also an affirmation that the College is achieving its stated mission, namely to provide, to students seeking careers as doctors of podiatric medicine, a comprehensive medical educational program specializing in the medical and surgical management of the lower extremity, with the ability to diagnose systemic diseases and their lower extremity manifestations. The College will thus prepare these students for licensure, entry into graduate medical education, and ultimately practice. Furthermore, it is the College’s mission to promote state-of-the-art patient care in affiliated facilities, and to pursue research to continuously advance the art and science of podiatric medicine.

President Levine said in his announcement, “I want to take this opportunity to thank all who contributed to the report. Leading the effort were Bill Sigler, in his role as head of the Strategic Planning Committee of the Board of Trustees; Dr. Michael Trepal, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean; Howard Rusk, Jr., Director of Strategic Planning at NYCPM; and Dr. John Fitzpatrick, Assistant to the Dean, and Director, Office of Outcomes Studies. I also want to acknowledge and to thank the other members of the NYCPM Strategic Planning Committee: Dr. Eileen Chusid, Dr. Randy Cohen, Dr. Robert Eckles, Dr. Anthony Iorio, Dr. Laurence Lowy, and Dr. Mark Swartz, as well as Mr. Richard Beecher, Mr. Joseph Erazo, Mr. William Graham, Mr. Roger Greene, Ms. Lisa Lee and Mr. Joel Sturm. The efforts of this group contributed immeasurably to our successfully securing full accreditation from the CPME.”

S. William Sigler Named Executive Vice President of NYCPM

The New York College of Podiatric Medicine has named S. William (“Bill”) Sigler to the newly-created position of Executive Vice President of the College.

Prior to his appointment at the College in late October, Mr. Sigler served on the NYCPM Board of Trustees for more than four years as Treasurer of the Board. In that capacity, he helped guide the College’s strategic planning initiative, and oversaw many of the very positive changes that have recently taken place at NYCPM. He has also had a hand in developing plans for the College’s upcoming centennial celebration.

Mr. Sigler is a business executive and entrepreneur with a successful record of identifying business opportunities, establishing profit centers and generating revenues, both as a manager and as a consultant. He was until recently Chief Operating Officer of DigitalPhoneUSA, headquartered in Stamford, CT, which he founded in 1989 and which became one of the first indirect channel partners for AT&T, Lucent and, most recently, Avaya Communications.

Mr. Sigler served with the U.S. Army’s Special Forces in Vietnam as a detachment commander and regional operations officer. He received awards and decorations that included the Combat Infantryman’s Badge; Silver Star Medal; Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm; the Army Commendation Medal for Valor; and the Parachutist Badge.

Mr. Sigler received a B.S. degree in Economics from the University of Connecticut. He joined the Dean Witter Corporation on Wall Street as an Account Representative and, due to his success, was soon recruited by S.D. Cohen, where he served as Vice President, Mortgage-Backed Securities, and set up and managed its mortgage-backed securities block trading operation. He then joined Phillips Appel & Walden, where he served as a Vice President, heading its Mortgage-Backed Securities division. From 1987 to 2002, Mr. Sigler was President of VoiceMailUSA, a voice messaging company he founded. After building the company’s client base to 5,000-plus customers and securing a strong niche in the lucrative Fairfield County market, he successfully sold the company.

Mr. Sigler is a former Secretary and Treasurer of the Stamford Exchange Club, a member of the Tamarack Country Club, and a member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association. He was awarded the Key to the City of Stamford in 1972.

Insurance industry and health care executive Stanley S. Mandel, President and Chief Executive Officer of Arista Investors Corporation and former Chairman of the Board of Kingsbrook Holding Corporation and Executive Vice President of Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, was elected in May as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of NYCPM. Mr. Mandel has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the College for the last five years. His one-year term of service as Chairman became effective on July 1, 2008.

Stanley S. Mandel holds Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees, in both mathematics and economics, from Brooklyn College. Mr. Mandel has served as a senior executive in the insurance industry, in a series of increasingly high-level positions. Early in his career, he was an Assistant Vice President at the Northeastern Life Insurance Company and at the United States Life Insurance Company. Subsequently, he was a Vice President at the Eastern Life Insurance Company. Beginning in 1971, he served as Executive Vice President and Partner at Serv- Co Administrators Inc. In 1980, he joined Mutual of Omaha/Companion Life Insurance Company as Group Vice President, and in 1983 he became President and Chief Executive Officer of Arista Investors Corporation and Arista Insurance Company.

In 1993, Mr. Mandel became a Trustee at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, becoming Chairman of the Board in January 1998. He was then appointed Executive Vice President and Chairman of Kingsbrook’s holding company KHCF and Executive Vice President of the Medical Center.

President and Chief Executive Officer of Arista Investors Corp.
Brings Extensive Leadership Experience in Industry and Health Care To Chairmanship of the College
New York City Council Grant Enables NYCPM to Conduct “Healthy Feet for Healthy Living” Screenings In Public Schools

NYCPM, having received a sizable grant from the New York City Council, conducted a pilot “Healthy Feet for Healthy Living” screening program at nine public schools in Manhattan, the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens. The program was sponsored in the City Council by Councilmember and Majority Whip Inez Dickens and strongly supported by Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn. The program’s primary objective was to identify children who might be at risk for decreased activity and mobility because of foot dysfunction or ill-fitting shoe gear. The project also examined the connection between foot health and obesity, and identified risk factors that could lead to other chronic health issues, such as diabetes, that can also impact children’s physical activity and learning.

In addition to foot screenings performed by NYCPM faculty members and students, the Healthy Feet for Healthy Living program evaluated foot gear in terms of wear, structural materials, proper shoe size and function, fit and degree of comfort. Adult caretakers of the schoolchildren (parents, grandparents, guardians, etc.) were also given the opportunity to participate on a limited basis in the screenings provided by NYCPM. Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine also took part in these adult screenings, providing adult basic primary medical care screenings.

NYCPM brought in a nationwide, disease-focused company of health care products and services, Better Living Now, to provide support (workshops, seminars, counseling and training sessions in diabetic prevention, proper nutrition, fitness, and wellness objectives), follow-up services and educational and other materials, including free glucometers for adults who choose to participate in the foot screening project.

NYCPM faculty and staff who took part in the program include Laurence J. Lowy, DPM; Loretta M. Logan, DPM; Thomas M. DeLauro, DPM; Russell G. Volpe, DPM; Donna M. Alferi, DPM; Sharon Barlizo, DPM; Nancy Clark, DPM; Carl F. Harris, DPM; Mark A. Kosinski, DPM, FIDSA; Barbara Resseque, DPM; Susan M. Rice, DPM; Thomas Vitale, DPM; Stanley H. Kornhauser, Ph.D.; Lisa Gengo, N.D., P.A.; Victor Jimenez; and Walter Pagan.

NYCPM ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY HONORS THIRTY MEMBERS OF CLASSES OF 2010 AND 2011 WITH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

On Tuesday, November 18, members of the Classes of 2010 and 2011, along with faculty, administration, proud parents and other relatives, as well as several distinguished guests, gathered in one of the large lecture halls at NYCPM to honor thirty high-achieving members of the two Classes with scholarship awards and certificates.

Robert Eckles, DPM, Dean of Clinical Studies and Graduate Medical Education, opened the ceremony by introducing Louis L. Levine, President and CEO, and Michael J. Trepal, DPM, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, both of whom offered brief remarks. Dr. Eckles also introduced the distinguished guests, who included Robert D. Rampino, DPM, Immediate Past President of the New York State Podiatric Medical Association (NYSPPMA); Christian A. Robertozzi, DPM, Past President of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA), who presented the Jonathan Robertozzi Foundation Memorial Scholarship; Lawrence Santi, DPM, Past President of the NYSPPMA, whose son, Joseph, was one of the students being honored; Len Thaler, Executive Director of the NYSPPMA; and Israel Goldstein, DPM, Adjunct Instructor of Primary Podiatric Medicine at NYCPM, who has endowed the Maimonides Award for Academic Aff airs and Dean, both of whom off ered brief remarks.

All told, NYCPM awards more than $550,000 in scholarships annually, including awards to graduating seniors. Many of the scholarships are endowed by NYCPM alumni or are sponsored by organizations such as the APMA and the NYSPPMA. The awards ceremony itself was generously supported by Alterna LLC, makers of Kerasal® and JointFlex®.

NYCPM Pi Delta Honor Society, Gamma Chapter Launches 2008-9 Lecture Series With Lecture by Bryan C. Markinson, DPM; Earlier Speakers This Year Included Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM, Lawrence A. Lavery, DPM, MPH and John S. Steinberg, DPM

The NYCPM Pi Delta National Podiatry Honor Society, Gamma Chapter, opened its 2008-9 lecture series recently with a lecture on pedal melanoma by Bryan C. Markinson, DPM, Chief of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and Adjunct Professor of Podiatric Medicine at NYCPM. Dr. Markinson’s lecture, which was co-sponsored by the American Society of Podiatric Dermatology, was the first in a planned six-lecture series, with Dr. David Armstrong scheduled to lecture via video teleconference later this year. Khurram H. Khan, DPM, Clinical Assistant Professor of Podiatric Medicine at NYCPM, is the faculty advisor for the Pi Delta chapter at the College.

Earlier speakers in the Pi Delta lecture series at NYCPM included Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM, Founding Dean of the College of Podiatric Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences, who shared some of his renowned expertise on the diabetic foot; Lawrence A. Lavery, DPM, MPH, Professor of Surgery at Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine whose morning lecture, “Diabetic Foot Risk Prevention Program”, was followed by several workshops in the afternoon; and John S. Steinberg, DPM, Assistant Professor at Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C., who spoke on “Advanced Technology in Diabetic Wound Healing”.

The Pi Delta lecture series is a series of lectures from some of the top doctors in their respective fields, and is meant to help bring the most up-to-date and innovative evidence- based medicine to the students and to expose them to the quality and level of information in the profession.
RENOVATIONS TRANSFORM NYCPM CLASSROOMS, COMPUTER ROOMS, LABS, & MORE

NYCPM has undergone a remarkable physical transformation during the last two years. Classrooms have been renovated, and their equipment, seating, and educational resources upgraded. Many other rooms and areas have also undergone renovation and upgrading. Here are just some of the most important and most visible changes and improvements.

- Four of the largest classrooms at the College have been modernized and upgraded. Alterna LLC, the makers of Kerasal® generously donated funds to create the Kerasal Education Center at the College. The Center offers students a modern learning center with state-of-the-art audio visual equipment, hardwood floors and new furniture.

- The New York State Podiatric Medical Association made a generous donation of $21,000 toward the renovation of a classroom, Room 213. The renovation included installing state-of-the-art A/V equipment.

- A new, state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Center was created and is now fully operational 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. The physical layout and the equipment were created to best accommodate individuals and small groups working together. The Center features skills work stations and customized teaching programs of applied medical skills; examination rooms for physical assessment training employing trained actors who accurately portray symptoms of a disease or a multitude of conditions; a program of focused instruction and practice sessions with new products, treatment procedures and other innovations; a mock operating theater; and a state-of-the-art audiovisual system, including high-definition cameras and screens. Several enlightened donors who grasped the enormous importance of the Center have already given it their support. Chief among these donors has been Dr. Abe Lavi, President of Vilex, whose pioneering and most generous lead gift has helped the College remain in the forefront of medical teaching excellence.

- The Bruce J. Frankel, D.P.M. Conference Center was dedicated in mid-2007. The Center is a state-of-the-art, multifunctional space designed to be an executive conference room seating twenty-two people and a classroom seating fifty students. It is equipped to enable teleconferencing. The Center is controlled by a control panel allowing PowerPoint presentations projected on the screen or shown on the 42-inch plasma monitor, or any combination of presentations on either device, including cable TV. Electric window shades and an electric drop-down screen can be operated remotely by the lecturer from the front of the room, along with spot lighting for reduced illumination presentations. The Center is also equipped with a refrigerator and sink for special events.

- A new, central computer room was created adjacent to the College Library to house 46 computers for use by students. One of the old computer labs was converted to a student locker room. Nearly all faculty and staff at the College have also received new or upgraded computers.

- A new surgical classroom and a new Medical Records area were created near the two operating rooms on the lower level of the Foot Clinics building.

- A new, completely modernized Anatomy Lab is nearing completion. The lab features video cameras, plasma monitors, and a computer system.

- The Foot Clinics is investigating an Electronic Medical Records system and an updated Electronic Billing Service company.

- Pedinol Pharmacal, Inc., recently renewed its generous donation to enable the College to renovate the Pedinol Lounge.

- A new, more imaginative and quality-oriented foodservice provider was recently hired to upgrade the food in the cafeteria, as well as the overall ambience.

- The NYCPM Business Office moved from a remote location in leased space, into completely renovated offices in the College building.

- A new, modern entryway to the College and the Foot Clinics was created at the southeast corner of the Clinics building.

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New plasma monitors in one of the college’s large lecture halls. New lecture hall entrance. New Kerasal® Classroom features new displays and ergonomic chairs.

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NYCPM HOSTS GROUPS OF STUDENTS FROM SPAIN AND ITALY

The summer months were busy and productive ones at NYCPM. In addition to regularly-scheduled classes for first-, second- and third-year students, groups of visiting podologists from Spain and Italy spent time studying at the College.

NYCPM hosted ten podologists from Spain in cooperation with the Universidad Complutense de Madrid for several days at the end of July, providing them the opportunity to attend a challenging course on anatomical dissection and surgical anatomy taught in the College's Clinical Skills Center by members of the NYCPM faculty.

Following the visit by the Spanish podologists, thirteen podologists from Italy, all members of the Società Italiana di Pedologia, along with Luca Avagnina, President of the Society, spent thirteen days working in the Skills Center under the tutelage of several NYCPM faculty members, and attending specially-arranged lectures.

Almost immediately after the Italian podologists, a second group of eleven podologists from Spain spent a week at the College, following the same program of study as the first group.

Michael J. Trepal, D.P.M., Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean at NYCPM, directs the semi-annual program of visiting students from Spain, now in its fifteenth year, on behalf of the College. Professors Ricardo Becerro de Bengoa, D.P.M., a graduate of NYCPM, and Marta E. Losa Iglesias, D.P.M., work closely with Dr. Trepal to direct the program. The two also served as course directors and professors for all three programs.

Teaching the groups of students were NYCPM faculty members Daria Dykyj, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Morphological Sciences; Johanna Godoy, D.P.M., Instructor of Surgical Sciences; Kevin T. Jules, D.P.M., Professor and Chair, Department of Surgical Sciences, as well as Guest Speaker Tara Giorgini, D.P.M.

Delegation From People’s Republic of China Visits NYCPM

On Monday, December 8th, a delegation of six doctors, engineers and administrators from the West China Hospital of Sichuan University, in the People’s Republic of China, visited NYCPM. Their objective was to gain greater knowledge about podiatric medicine, while touring the facility to see how the programs of medical education and clinical services are integrated.

The recent major earthquakes in China caused thousands of deaths, and a considerably greater number of severe injuries. Because many of these injuries involved the lower extremity, the podiatric expertise at NYCPM was a particularly significant part of the delegation’s mission. Another focus of their visit dealt with the architectural design and physical layout of facilities to appropriately handle the treatment and rehabilitation of a huge influx of injured patients.

The delegation’s trip also included visits to the Rusk Institute at NYU Medical Center, the Magee Rehabilitation Hospital of the Jefferson Health System, in Philadelphia; Johns Hopkins University Hospital, the National Institutes of Health, and the Kessler Rehabilitation Center, in New Jersey. The delegation’s visit to the U.S. was arranged by Mark A. Young, MD, MBA, and Bryan J. O’Young, MD, chair and co-chair, respectively, of the Faculty Student Educational Exchange Committee of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM). Dr. Mark Young is also an Adjunct Professor of Orthopedics at NYCPM.

NYCPM President & CEO Louis J. Levine presents course co-director and professor Marta E. Losa Iglesias, D.P.M., with a Certificate of Appreciation for her participation in the international courses held at the College.

For Fourth Year in a Row, NYCPM Holds Combined Residency Match and Senior Awards Ceremony

For the fourth year in a row, NYCPM combined two of its most highly anticipated events for fourth-year students, holding them on the same day, one right after the other.

Anticipation and excitement were rampant on March 11th as NYCPM’s fourth-year students heard their names called to receive merit-based scholarships and awards. More than $60,000 in scholarships and awards was given out. All told, across all four classes, NYCPM annually awards more than $550,000 in financial aid.

Immediately following the Senior Awards Ceremony, the students’ names were drawn, one by one, for the Residency Match. As in the past, each student put a dollar in a jar at the front of the room as he or she picked up his or her Residency Match envelope and drew the next name. The mounting suspense was finally broken as the last student whose name was drawn – Naomi Blatt – strode purposefully up to the front of the room and claimed the entire jarful of dollars.

Two NYCPM Faculty Members Lecture in Spain At Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Michael J. Trepal, D.P.M., Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, and Professor of Surgical Sciences, at NYCPM, and Kevin T. Jules, D.P.M., Professor and Chair, Department of Surgical Sciences at the College, traveled to Madrid, Spain in mid-November and delivered two days of lectures on bunion surgery to nearly 130 European podologists from Spain, Italy, France and Portugal.

Held in the impressive lecture hall of the University’s Faculty of Medicine, the lectures were co-sponsored by NYCPM and the University, and were coordinated by Dr. Trepal and Dr. Ricardo Becerro de Bengoa Vallejo, a professor at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and a 1995 graduate of NYCPM who is the only podologist in Spain and in Europe with the earned D.P.M. degree. Dr. Trepal and Dr. Becerro de Bengoa Vallejo also coordinate a semi-annual, week-long visit to NYCPM by Spanish podologists, who study podiatric medicine and surgery in a program begun in 1991.

Visiting delegation from China (center) and members of the NYCPM faculty and administration watch a film about the recent earthquakes in China.

NYCPM annually awards more than $550,000 in financial aid.
NYCPM Tests Third-Year Students’ Clinical Skills With Newly-Instituted ‘Capstone Assessment Program’ Employing Trained Actors As ‘Standardized Patients’

On two successive Fridays at the end of the semester in June, every third-year student at NYCPM took part in the newly-instituted CAPSTONE Assessment Program, spending nearly 20 minutes apiece in examination rooms at Foot Clinics of New York with each of two different standardized patients – actors trained to simulate particular disease states and to perform as a patient would during an exam. Each student took his or her patient’s history, performed a physical examination, and reached a diagnosis of the complaint when possible.

The focus of the CAPSTONE Assessment Program is on the process of interviewing and performing a physical exam, rather than on treatment. NYCPM faculty members Thomas M. DeLauro, DPM, Professor and Chair, Department of Podiatric Medicine, and Kevin T. Jules, DPM, Professor and Chair, Department of Surgical Sciences, each developed one of the two cases, and drew up a checklist of the minimum competent things students were expected to ask their patients about during the course of each of the two exams. Each standardized patient would then note and report back to the faculty examiners which and how many of these key things the student touched upon during the encounter.

This type of clinical assessment program is a standard method of assessing students in allopathic and osteopathic medical schools. In 2008, the program at NYCPM was essentially a trial run. In debriefing sessions several days later, students received feedback from the faculty as to how they performed during the assessment, but were not graded. In future years, third-year students will be required to pass the exam in order to be promoted to the fourth year.

Other NYCPM faculty members who participated in the CAPSTONE assessment were Michael J. Trepal, DPM, Dean and Associate Professor of Pre-Clinical Sciences, and Director of Institutional Research; Laurence J. Lowy, DPM, Dean for Student Services and Associate Professor of Pediatrics; Zev Leifer, Ph.D., Professor of Microbiological Sciences; Zhiyong Han, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Metabolic Sciences; Khurram Khan, DPM, Clinical Assistant Professor of Podiatric Medicine; and David Gitlin, DPM, Instructor of Surgical Sciences.

NYCPM staff who participated were Sandra Joseph, Tenee Hall, Denise Martell, Audrey Negron, Nakeema Reeves, and Claribel Salas.

The nine trained actors who served as the standardized patients were part of a team assembled by the C3NY, the Clinical Competence Center of New York, an educational organization offering medical schools, international medical graduates and doctors a variety of curricula geared to improving excellence in clinical and communication skills. Mark H. Swartz, MD, Professor of Clinical Medicine and Vice President, Medical and Professional Affairs at NYCPM, is the President/CEO of C3NY, and has worked with standardized patients for nearly two decades. He was assisted in the CAPSTONE case development by Anna Lank, the Managing Director of C3NY, who did the casting and training of the standardized patients. Ms. Lank is a theatre professional and a fifteen-year veteran in the standardized patient field.
White Coat, con’t. from pg. 1

University, as well as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Applied Biomechanics, Albert Nerken School of Engineering, at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, and an Adjunct Professor, External Programs at NYCPM.

In addition to his D.P.M. degree from NYCPM, Dr. Positano has a Master of Public Health degree from the Yale University School of Medicine, and a Master of Science degree from the NYU School of Medicine.

In his keynote address, Dr. Positano spoke about the significant role of podiatry in the overall care of patients, and about the profession’s ability to make important contributions to the diagnoses and efforts of other medical specialists, especially since podiatrists are often the first health care specialists that people will see. He described how he had come to choose the profession of podiatric medicine, and concluded by urging the Class of 2012 to take full advantage of the outstanding education available to them at NYCPM.

Dr. Ross Taubman, President of the APMA, spoke to the new class about their contributions to health care in America. He urged them never to lose their inquisitiveness, nor ever to allow themselves to be distracted while with a patient. He told them to make sure they did not neglect their own families. He then concluded by briefly describing the importance of the APMA to the profession, and urged them to join the Association at the appropriate time.

NYCPM Student Association president Rafael Ramirez, Class of 2010, offered his congratulations to the new class, and spoke briefly about how their efforts as doctors would also ripple through their patients’ families, and how – as doctors – they would have the power to help a patient who had arrived in pain, leave in relief.

Next, Steven Goldman, D.P.M. was awarded the College’s Distinguished Service Award. President Levine said Dr. Goldman truly merited the award for his many years of outstanding and devoted service to the College and to podiatric medical education, and for going far beyond the call of duty in giving generously of both his time and his expertise.

Following Dr. Positano’s keynote speech, beaming family members watched as each member of the NYCPM Class of 2012 in turn strode across the stage and was helped into his or her white coat by members of the NYCPM Admissions Committee. When all the students had returned to their seats, Michael J. Trepal, D.P.M., Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, spoke briefly about the power and responsibility of the white coat. He then asked the students of the Class of 2012 to rise and recite the Hippocratic Oath with him.

NYCPM received generous support for the White Coat Ceremony from the following sponsoring companies: Dermpath Diagnostics* Institute for Podiatric Pathology; Podiatry Insurance Company of America (PICA); and Citibank Harlem Financial Group.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE NYCPM CLASS OF 2012

Forty-one percent of the Class of 2012 is female, and fifty-nine percent is male. Members of the Class of 2012 come from such top universities as Brown, Emory, Georgetown, NYU, Stanford, Tulane, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and William & Mary. One student has a medical degree from India, one has a D.P.M. degree from the United Kingdom, and a total of six have advanced degrees. Several students come from as far away as Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Texas and Utah. The average age of the members of the Class of 2012 is twenty-five.
NYCPM Holds Third Annual Residency Fair

In mid-September, NYCPM held its third annual Residency Fair, at which representatives from forty-four hospitals, from sixteen states, talked with students about their hospitals’ externships and residency programs. Virtually all second- and third-year students attended, as did many first- and fourth-year students. The Residency Fair was organized by Douglas Doxey and Bradley Hart, both of the Class of 2010. The NYCPM Alumni Association provided lunch during the four-hour Fair. According to both students and the hospitals’ representatives, the Residency Fair was an extremely successful and informative event.

NYCPM students and American Podiatric Medical Association staffers braved the early-morning chill in late October to join the crowd outside the Today Show’s windows to publicize the APMA’s Diabetes campaign.

Jenzabar Foundation Awards Grant to NYCPM Class of 2010

The Jenzabar Foundation, the charitable arm of Jenzabar, Inc., has awarded a Student-Club Grant in the amount of $250 to the NYCPM Class of 2010. Although these grants are typically given to a particular student club or activity that has made a difference through service to the community, Dr. Laurence Lowy, NYCPM Dean of Student Services, recommended to the Foundation that it give the grant to the class as a whole, in recognition of the many community activities and charities that the Class of 2010 has supported through both deed and monetary contribution.

Throughout the academic year 2007 – 2008, the Class of 2010 has raised money on behalf of various charities. Kurt Rode conceived of and administered a drive to collect sporting goods that were donated to deserving children in the New York metropolitan area for Christmas 2007. Ayan Goswami conceived of and spearheaded a food drive at NYCPM for City Harvest, an organization that provides food to the less fortunate in New York. The Class of 2010 was a major contributor to both these efforts. Additionally, Rotem Ben-Ad and Brittany Korn organized and implemented a blood drive and oversaw donations to the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation on behalf of NYCPM.

NYCPM Students Host First Annual Inter-Podiatric College Student Research Symposium

The First Annual Inter-Podiatric College Student Research Symposium (IPCSRS) was held at NYCPM in February, 2008. The IPCSRS was hosted by students Samir Lalani, Kurt Rode, Rafael Ramirez, and Nicholas Giovincio along with faculty advisor Dr. Anthony Iorio. This conference was the first student-run event to offer members of all the 8 American podiatric medical colleges and the Canadian Podiatric Medical College in Quebec the opportunity to present research posters in a constructive arena.

Benjamin Carelock, with his poster titled “Osseous Changes in the Forefoot of Indoor Rock Climbers,” earned the Arizona Podiatric Medical Program the honorary first place trophy, while second place was awarded to Christy King and James Johnston from the California School of Podiatric Medicine, and the 3rd place prize went to Krupa Patel from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

The conference itself kicked off with a keynote address about “Vision 2015" by Dr. Ross Taubman (APMA President-Elect). Conference-goers were then welcomed to attend numerous lectures and presentations ranging from topics such as Diabetic Wound Care, Biopsy Techniques, Vascular Intervention, and Surgical Innovations. These lectures were accompanied by several hands-on workshops from a variety of specialty tracks. By breaking guests into smaller rotation groups, these sessions offered attendees the opportunity to experience a wide sampling of the most current advancements in podiatric medical care.

With over a dozen corporate sponsors and participants, the First Annual IPCSRS proved to be a “one of a kind” event in podiatric medical education. “We are grateful to have received such participation from our sponsors,” said Samir Lalani in his closing remarks. The NYCPM Student Association President then went on to say, “However, this event could not have been possible without the amazing support we received from Dr. Anthony Iorio. Without his help and guidance, this symposium would never have happened.”
a tremendous increase in the incidence of diabetes.

Dr. Bakker next addressed one of the most feared complications of the disease, namely, the diabetic foot problem. He described how a diabetic foot problem could lead to an ulcer, which in turn could lead to the amputation of a toe, a foot, or even the lower or upper leg, and he described the costs of amputation to both the individual and society.

Dr. Bakker then said that, in 1996, a group of experts came together as the International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot to develop a set of guidelines for reducing and preventing amputations, and for implementing a multidisciplinary team approach to diabetic foot care. He spoke about the launch of the first guidelines in 1999 at the third International Symposium on the Diabetic Foot, and about their success. He described how a team consisting of a diabetologist, a podiatrist, a nurse, a vascular/orthopedic surgeon, an orthotist, a rehabilitation specialist and an educator could have a tremendous impact on reducing the number of amputations worldwide, particularly in developing countries. He then concluded by outlining the key role of podiatry in this team approach, and by wishing the graduates well and urging them to volunteer at a local free clinic or, if possible, in the developing world.

Karel Bakker, M.D., is chairman of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) Consultative Section and the International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot (IWGDF). In 1999, the IDF Consultative Section and the International Working Group on the Diabetic Foot published, with contributions from experts in the field from all over the world, the International Consensus and Practical Guidelines on the management and prevention of the diabetic foot. Translations of this document have appeared in 26 languages, and more than 80,000 copies were distributed globally. It was fully updated in 2007.

Dr. Bakker was responsible for, and chaired, the very successful World Diabetes Day 2005 on diabetic foot care, and the “Year of the Diabetic Foot” campaign to raise awareness of the problem throughout the world, an initiative of the IDF supported by the World Health Organization. He is, on behalf of the IWGDF, an active promoter of improving diabetic foot care in developing countries. He is a tireless lecturer on the subject of the diabetic foot, and has visited every continent to create more awareness of the problem.

For 30 years, Council Member Inez E. Dickens has taken an active role in the economic development and political landscape of New York’s celebrated “village” of Harlem. A lifelong resident of the 9th Council District that includes Central Harlem, Morningside Heights, parts of the Upper West Side and part of East Harlem, including NYCPM, Ms. Dickens is highly respected as a tireless and dedicated leader, completely committed to improving the quality of life for everyone in her community and in the City of New York. She has been recognized for her work in economic development and community life. She has received the Distinguished Service Award from the New York State Association of Black and Latino Legislators, the Sojourner Truth Award from the National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women, the American Red Cross Achievement Award, the Public Education Award from the American Diabetes Association, the Women Who Make a Difference Award from the NAACP, and the Heritage Award from the Greater Harlem Real Estate Board.

Israel Goldstein, D.P.M., received his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine Degree from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine in 1980. He completed his postgraduate training in Foot and Ankle Surgery at NYCPM and Affiliated Hospitals. He is a Diplomate, American Academy of Pain Management; Diplomate, American Academy of Wound Management; Fellow, American Professional Wound Care Association; and a Certified Wound Care Specialist.

Dr. Goldstein has lectured internationally and is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Podiatric Medicine at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine. He has been instrumental in negotiating and bringing the College’s externship agreement with the Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer, in Israel. Dr. Goldstein has also brought NYCPM a number of significant research opportunities, and he has always been a steadfast and enthusiastic supporter of the College.

NYCPM and Alterna LLC Dedicate Kerasal® Education Center

Alterna LLC, the makers of Kerasal®, and NYCPM dedicated the Kerasal Education Center at the College in late May.

The Kerasal Education Center was renovated earlier in 2008, and now offers students a modern learning center with state-of-the-art audio visual equipment, hardwood floors and new furniture. Kerasal, for which the center is named, is a clinically-proven formula for treating dry feet and cracked heels. It is safe for diabetics and is approved by the American Podiatric Medical Association.

“We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with NYCPM and its distinguished faculty and staff,” stated Steve Cagle, President, Alterna LLC, makers of Kerasal. “NYCPM is one of our nation’s most prestigious educational institutions and we are honored to have the opportunity to support it.”

“We are extremely grateful to Alterna for its very generous donation, which has enabled us to create the Kerasal Education Center here at NYCPM,” said Louis L. Levine, President and CEO of the College. “Our students have already begun to benefit from the enhanced learning environment created by this state-of-the-art education center.”

Located on the second floor of the school, the Kerasal Education Center was already being put to good use by faculty and students as the spring semester came to a close.
Helping the Needy During the Holidays: NYCPM Class of 2010 Donates Socks, While NYCPM International Podiatry Club Donates Shoes

Two groups of NYCPM students demonstrated their holiday spirit toward the end of the year by collecting and donating socks and shoes for the needy. The Class of 2010 held a Sock Drive, collecting 96 pairs of socks, which were then donated to New York City’s Bowery Mission Homeless Shelter. The student-run International Podiatry Club at NYCPM conducted a Shoe Drive to donate new and used shoes to needy people around the world through the organization Soles4Souls. More than 270 pairs of footwear were donated, coming from students, NYCPM and Foot Clinics of New York faculty, as well as administration and staff.

Annual NYCPM Faculty Retreat Features Workshops on Developing State-Of-The-Art Written Assessment Instruments

On Friday, June 13th, the NYCPM faculty gathered off-campus for the annual Faculty Retreat. Traditionally, the retreat has been more than just a time for reviewing the state of the College, hearing updates from the various departments and taking care of academic and administrative housekeeping items. A substantial block of time during the day is given over to guest speakers who address issues at the heart of teaching and learning, issues central to what is most important to fulfilling the College’s mission.

This year, after a welcome by Michael J. Trepal, DPM, NYCPM’s Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, the entire four-hour morning session was given over to Susan Jacovino, Ph.D. and David Swanson, Ph.D., psychometricians from the National Board of Medical Examiners, who gave presentations and conducted workshops on current concepts in medical written examinations and on developing state-of-the-art assessment instruments. Interest in these topics ran high, and NYCPM faculty members became active participants in the ensuing dialogue.

During lunch, Andrew Shapiro, DPM, a member of the Board of Trustees of the New York State Podiatric Medical Association, spoke briefly about the importance of membership in the state and national associations. NYCPM President Louis L. Levine spoke next, welcoming everyone. He and Joel Sturm, VP Administration, then gave out faculty and administration service awards for those with service anniversaries ranging from five to thirty years.

In the afternoon, Mark H. Swartz, MD, Professor of Clinical Medicine and Vice President, Medical and Professional Affairs at NYCPM, spoke about the assessment of clinical competencies. After discussing the importance of good doctor-patient communication skills, he provided a detailed description of the recently-instituted CAPSTONE assessment program at NYCPM, in which all third-year students were required to conduct examinations of two standardized patients – actors trained to simulate particular disease states and to perform as a patient would during an exam – and to reach a diagnosis of the complaint when possible.

Following Dr. Swartz’s presentation, the day concluded with a presentation by a lecturer from New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, on the effective use of PowerPoint presentations.

The major sponsor for this year’s retreat was KCI, which provided a charitable grant. Breakfast was sponsored by PICA, and sponsorship funds were also contributed by ecv3.

NYCPM IN THE COMMUNITY

NYCPM Volunteers Perform Free Screenings For Peripheral Artery Disease at Harlem Church

Six NYCPM student volunteers, supervised by Anthony R. Iorio, D.P.M., M.P.H., Assistant Dean for Continuing Medical Education at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM), conducted screenings for Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) and associated diseases at All Saints Church in Harlem. The screenings included the calculation of each person’s ankle-brachial index, using a device supplied by ev3 Inc., in addition to an assessment of a dozen risk factors for PAD. More than fifty people were screened, the majority of whom were found to have symptoms of PAD. Over half were also found to have undiagnosed podiatric pathologies, including bunions and hammertoes. Where appropriate, follow-up appointments were made at NYCPM’s affiliated Foot Clinics of New York. The volunteers also discussed with many of those screened the interrelationships between diabetes, obesity and PAD.

Warren Chiodo, DPM, NYCPM Class of 2008, received the Michael L. Stone, DPM Outstanding Professional Conduct Award for 2008 from the American Board of Podiatric Surgery. Shown in the photo (left to right): Sharon Barlizo, DPM, Assistant Professor of Podiatric Medicine and Director, FCNY Wound Care Clinic; Dr. Chiodo; Charles T. Arena, DPM, Immediate Past President, ABPS.
NYCPM WELL-REPRESENTED AT ACFAOM CONFERENCE IN FLORIDA

Faculty and students from NYCPM attending the first Annual Clinical Conference of the American College of Foot and Ankle Orthopedics & Medicine (ACFAOM) in Lake Buena Vista, Florida recently were (left to right) Anthony Iorio, DPM, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Community Health and Medicine, and Assistant Dean for Continuing Medical Education; Alon Kol (‘09); Shane Baker (‘10); Michael Moi (‘10); and (not in photo) Jeff Robertson (‘09).

The NYCPM attendees presented three abstracts at the Conference: “Application of Apligraf Skin Graft Substitute along with Autologous Platelet Derived Growth Factors in the Treatment of Diabetic Foot Ulcer” (Shane Baker, BS, Anthony R. Iorio, DPM, MPH); “Applications of Unite Skin Graft Substitute with MTF Autologous Platelet Growth Factors in Treating Foot Ulcers” (Michael Moi, MS, BS, Anthony R. Iorio, DPM, MPH); and “A New System for Ultrasonic Bone Assessment” (Alon Kol, Brad Levitt, Jeff Robertson, and Mark Kosinski, DPM, FIDSA). The abstracts were published in the November issue of “The Foot”, the official ACFAOM peer review journal. Each abstract presented by the students received a generous grant of $1,000 from ACFAOM to help defray the cost of the students’ attendance at the Conference.

Maj. Gen. William F. Ward, A.U.S. (Ret.), Former NYCPM Board Chair, Receives Service Award from the College

At the September meeting of the NYCPM Board of Trustees, newly-installed Chairman Stanley S. Mandel (at right) presented Maj. Gen. William F. Ward, A.U.S. (Ret.), former Chairman of the Board, with a Crystal Eagle Award from the College, in recognition of his many years of distinguished service to the College. Inscribed on the base of the crystal eagle was the following quotation: “The quality of a leader is reflected in the standards he sets for himself.”

General Ward continues his service to NYCPM as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He originally joined the Board of the College in September, 2000 and was elected Chairman in June, 2004.

General Ward was appointed by the President of the United States to be Chief, Army Reserve, effective December 1st, 1986, and served until retirement in August, 1991.

He is a 1950 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy commissioned in the Cavalry. He subsequently earned an M.B.A. degree from Harvard Business School and a Bachelor of Law degree from LaSalle University.

General Ward's civilian activities include: Controller of the Ansco-Ozalid Division of GAF; Corporate Director of Marketing Service of GAF; Vice President for Finance and Administration, Grosset & Dunlap, Inc.; Vice President-Controller, Dun & Bradstreet; Chairman and President, Dun-Donnelley Publishing Corporation; and President, Gestam, Inc., a real estate investment enterprise. He has been a Director, Trustee, or consultant with numerous private and public corporations, as well as civic associations.