New York College of Podiatric Medicine Welcomes Class of 2014 with Annual White Coat Ceremony

On Tuesday, September 14, NYCPM welcomed the 110 students in the Class of 2014 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. Following remarks by Stanley R. Kalish, DPM, Medical Director of the Atlanta Foot and Leg Clinic and the Clayton Outpatient Surgical Center, and Adjunct Professor of Surgical Sciences at NYCPM, Steven J. Walerstein, MD, Executive Vice-President for Medical Affairs and Medical Director, Nassau University Medical Center, delivered the keynote address to the assembled College community and guests. Two members of the NYCPM Board of Trustees, Bob S. Biller, DPM, and Rock G. Positano, DPM, M.Sc., MPH, also offered words of welcome to the new students.

In his keynote address, Dr. Walerstein spoke about how medicine has changed in the past few decades, through technological advances as well as new ways of delivering health care. He urged the students to be part of the debate on the direction of medical care, and he spoke about some of the changes currently taking place.

Stanley R. Kalish, DPM, a world-renowned podiatric surgeon, teacher and lecturer, welcomed the new students to podiatric medicine, and suggested to them that the White Coat Ceremony is, in essence, all about the realization of a dream -- their dream of becoming a doctor.

Some Facts about the NYCPM Class of 2014
Forty-eight percent of the Class of 2014 is female, and fifty-two percent is male. The members of the Class of 2014 come from nearly twenty states and Puerto Rico, as well as from Canada, Korea, and Thailand. The students’ average age is twenty-five.
The New York College of Podiatric Medicine has announced the establishment of an Academic Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the College. The department is the result of the support and effort of Rock Positano, DPM, MSc, MPH, one of NYCPM’s Board members.

The department will be charged with as-needed didactic instruction for students and in CME programs in contemporary aspects of orthopedic surgery. The department will be an extension of the College’s relationship with the NewYork-Presbyterian Healthcare System. Along those lines, it will be staffed with orthopedic surgeons who maintain their practice at the Hospital for Special Surgery.

Joshua Dines, MD, a noted and well-respected orthopedic surgeon, has accepted appointment as the founding chair of the department. Dr. Dines is a fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon specializing in Sports Medicine. He has a particular interest in arthroscopic and reconstructive surgery of the shoulder, elbow, knee, and ankle. He was at Dartmouth as an undergraduate, and attended medical school at Cornell. He then went on to do his residency at Hospital for Special Surgery.

Dr. Dines is very active in both clinical and laboratory research, with a particular interest in tendon healing and injuries to overhand athletes (baseball, tennis). His novel research on the use of growth factors to enhance tendon healing has resulted in several national awards. Additionally, his work has been published in numerous journals and textbooks, and has been presented at both national and international meetings. Currently, Dr. Dines is editing two textbooks, one on Sports Medicine of the Foot and Ankle and the other on the Sports Medicine of Baseball.

On a recent Friday, the faculty of the New York College of Podiatric Medicine gathered in one of the College’s large lecture halls for its annual, all-day Faculty Retreat. Traditionally, the Faculty 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 one or two guest speakers who address issues at the heart of what is most important to fulfilling the College’s mission.

Guest speakers this year included Sister Annelle Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sociology and Behavioral Medicine at St. John’s University, who spoke about what cultural clues can be gleaned from faculty encounters with students or patients. Ann Fenichel, Ph.D., a psychologist who serves as a consultant to the NYCPM Dean of Student Services, discussed how to identify and manage students with high stress levels.

In addition, Khurram Khan, DPM, Assistant Professor of Podiatric Medicine, and faculty advisor to NYCPM’s Pi Delta National Podiatry Honor Society, Gamma Chapter, conducted the Chapter’s pinning ceremony, at which eight students from the Class of 2011 were initiated into the Chapter.

Other speakers during the Faculty Retreat included Louis L. Levine, President and CEO, and S. William Sigler, Executive Vice-President, who discussed various aspects of the state of the College; Michael J. Trepal, DPM, Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Dean, who addressed academic climate and other issues; Lisa K. Lee, Associate Dean, Student Services and Admissions; and Anthony V. D’Antoni, D.C., Ph.D., who spoke on Gross Anatomy: Innovations in Instruction and Assessment.
Stanley R. Kalish, DPM, Lectures and Conducts Cadaver Surgery Workshop for NYCPM Residents

Stanley R. Kalish, DPM, a renowned Atlanta, GA-based podiatric surgeon and distinguished NYCPM alumnus who has lectured and taught widely, recently gave a well-received student lecture and resident surgical workshop on ankle fusions using tibial nails. The lecture, entitled “Complex Ankle/Hindfoot Arthrodesis Utilizing the Phoenix nail”, was supported by an educational grant from Biomet, Inc., a company that designs, manufactures, and markets products used primarily by musculoskeletal medical specialists in both surgical and non-surgical therapy. Dr. Kalish first presented a didactic lecture to third- and fourth-year students, and then conducted an intensive workshop that utilized fresh cadavers in the College’s recently-renovated, state-of-the-art Anatomy Lab and Skills Center.

Thirty-Six Podology Students and Seven Professors from Spain, and a Second Group of Ten Students from Italy, Spend a Week at NYCPM Honing Their Skills in Anatomical Dissection in College’s Bako Anatomy Lab

The New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM) recently hosted thirty-six podology students and seven professors from Spain in cooperation with the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, providing them the opportunity to attend a challenging week-long course on anatomical dissection and surgical skills taught in the College’s state-of-the-art Bako Anatomy Lab. The following week, ten students from several universities in Italy arrived at NYCPM for a similar week-long course.

Michael J. Trepal, D.P.M., Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean at NYCPM, directs this semi-annual program of visiting students, now in its nineteenth year, on behalf of the College. Professors Ricardo Becerro de Bengoa Vallejo, D.P.M., Ph.D., a graduate of NYCPM, and Marta Losa Iglesias, Ph.D., work closely with Dr. Trepal to direct the Spanish program.

NYCPM has a longstanding affiliation with the podology community in Spain that was initiated by the late Professor Anthony Hernandez of NYCPM and is carried on in his memory. Teaching the students from Spain were professors Ricardo Becerro de Bengoa Vallejo and Marta Losa Iglesias, as well as NYCPM faculty members Michael J. Trepal, D.P.M., Kevin Jules, D.P.M., and Daria Dykyj, Ph.D. The course work involved lower extremity cadaver dissection as well as videotaped demonstrations. Teaching the Italian students were faculty members Anthony V. D’Antoni, DC, Ph.D., Daria Dykyj, Ph.D., and Maria C. Moschella, Ph.D. Tara Giorgini, DPM, MD was a guest lecturer.

The Bako Anatomy Lab at NYCPM is state-of-the-art in terms of technology, environmental features, and aesthetics. It has five twenty-two-inch, ceiling-mounted, flat-screen TV monitors, one fifty-inch, flat-screen LCD monitor, and one forty-two-inch, flat-screen LCD monitor. The lab also has video cameras and a computer system to assist with instruction. The lab is divided into two distinct sections, allowing for two separate courses to be run simultaneously. The sections can also be combined. Forty-eight students, at six per table, can work in the larger of the two rooms, and twelve students can work in the smaller one. There is a large adjoining room for the storage of cadavers.
Four New Trustees Elected to NYCPM Board

Halina M. Semla-Pulaski, DPM
Susheel Bathla, DPM

Research Group in NYCPM’s Division of Preclinical Sciences Publishes Paper in the Journal Clinical Anatomy

This month, a research group led by Anthony D’Antoni, D.C., Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Division of Preclinical Sciences at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, and Director of Anatomy at the College, published a paper entitled, “Anatomic Study of the Suboccipital Artery of Salmon with Surgical Significance” in the journal Clinical Anatomy.

The paper highlights the clinical relevance of the angiology of the V3 segment of the vertebral artery, and therefore, has great relevancy to orthopaedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, and other clinicians who treat disorders of the cervical spine.

The study was a collaborative effort between several NYCPM faculty members, including Fortunato Battaglia, M.D., Ph.D. (a neuroscientist) and Anthony DiLandro, Ed.D. (an anatomist). The group also included Mr. Garrett Moore, a first-year podiatric student at NYCPM. According to Dr. D’Antoni, “This study was not only an interesting and clinically-relevant investigation, but also demonstrated how NYCPM students can get involved in research.”

The abstract can be obtained online at: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ca.21037/abstract

Seven Members of the NYCPM Class of 1960 Honored on 50th Anniversary of their Graduation

The hundredth anniversary of the College’s founding will be here in 2011, and we have established a Centennial Scholarship Fund to help support the students of tomorrow. Over the past three years, NYCPM has awarded over $1,500,000 in scholarship grants.

We need your support to meet our scholarship goals!

Please make a donation to the NYCPM Centennial Scholarship Fund today! Go to www.nycpm.edu/alumni.asp and click on the “Donate Now” link.