

# The Endeavor



A Bulletin from the NYCPM Office of Enrollment



*September 2015*

**The New York College of Podiatric Medicine September  
Admissions Presentations & Events:  
Find Us Near You!**

**NYCPM Current Events: A Visit from International Lecturer Dr.  
Michael Curran, University of Northampton**

**Frequently Asked Admissions Questions:  
We Discuss the New MCAT and How it Affects You**

**The Class of 2019 Participates in the Annual 'Welcome Cruise'  
Around Manhattan**

**NYCPM Class of 2018 Student Spotlight:  
Meet Traci Bologna-Jill**



# Admissions Presentations & Events



Each fall and spring, our Assistant Directors for Enrollment Management make visits to various colleges to speak with prospective students about a career in podiatric medicine as well as introduce NYCPM. For those interested in speaking with an Assistant Director on the road, here is a list of the schools that have been scheduled for a presentation this Fall. Please note that this list is subject to change and schools may be added to the schedule. For the most up to date list, and specifics regarding the times, dates and locations of presentations, please email [enrollment@nycpm.edu](mailto:enrollment@nycpm.edu)

St. Joseph's University	Hunter College	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Brandeis University	Boston University	City College
Wagner College	St. John's University	St. Peter's University	NJIT	Johns Hopkins University	Queens College
Rutgers U - New Brunswick	Monmouth University	Pace University	Roberts Wesleyan College	University of Rochester	John Jay College

**SAVE THE DATE:** NYCPM is also holding a webinar for prospective students about podiatric medicine and NYCPM admissions policies on **October 29th at 4PM**. Please email [enrollment@nycpm.edu](mailto:enrollment@nycpm.edu) to sign up and gain access to the webinar.



## NYCPM Current Events

Dr. Michael Curran, an Associate Professor at the University of Northampton in the United Kingdom and a leader in the field of forensic podiatry, visited NYCPM on August 11. Dr. Curran delivered a lecture to students, staff and faculty in which he spoke about his randomized control treatment research in cryotherapy for the treatment of verrucae.

Dr. Curran's visit was sponsored by one of our many student organizations, the Forensic Podiatry Club. The purpose of the Forensic Podiatry Club is to create awareness of the use of podiatry in the field of forensic science. The club looks in-depth at current criminal cases that have used forensic podiatry.



# FAQ:

## What should I know about the new MCAT exam? Why has it changed at all?

Stated plainly, the MCAT exam has changed fully in response to how the average population wants doctors to practice. Our society has a larger aging population and people are beginning to live longer. New surveys show that doctors who are customer service savvy and highly communicable are inching ahead in patient preference. [Most patients in the United States polled would rather be treated by a doctor who is better prepared to treat in a holistic way versus a doctor who has the most clinical knowledge.](#)

This changing philosophy has ushered in a new expectation in terms of what the MCAT tests, what is taught at medical school and of course how physicians are expected to practice following residency.

[Outside of an aging population, more concern is being placed on public health knowledge and the diversity of the current patient population.](#) Much more sociological and psychological construct awareness is necessary for new medical students and doctors alike. Researchers are taking note that the social environment in which we grow up with certainly correlates with our mental and physical well-being and the possibility of health problems later on. It is argued that doctors should not only be aware of this change, but actively acknowledge this with their patients in order to give them the best care possible.

In essence, as a medical professional you are not only expected to have impeccable clinical knowledge, but also certain soft skills and an interpersonal nature.

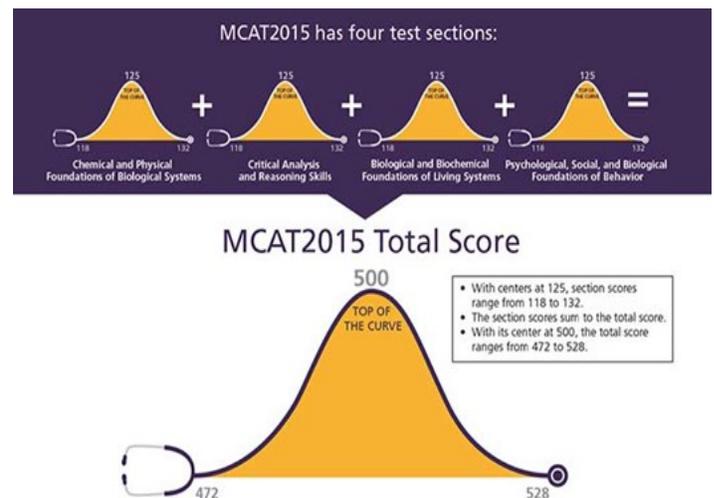
So, from a purely organizational stand point – what do you need to know as a test taker?

- There is no longer an essay portion on the new MCAT
- In addition to the **Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems** & **Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems** sections that were similar to sections in the old MCAT, there are two more subsections:

the **Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills** & the **Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior**. These sections exist to test how students comprehend and analyze what they read, how they draw inferences, and apply arguments and ideas to new situations.

- The new MCAT is a much longer test. The test in total takes 7 1/2 hours, including breaks.

For those of you who took the old MCAT, the average score was a 24. At NYCPM, we do require all applicants take the MCAT. Since the test has been re-written, so too have the scoring scales. Here is a helpful graphic of how the test is now scored:



The “top of the curve” scores are scores that, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges, project students who have a potential for success in med school. Therefore, the higher your score above the “top of the curve” scores, the more potentially successful your med school career will be. For each test section, you will receive a score ranging between 118-132 with 125 being the “top of the curve” number. **Your overall MCAT score for the entire exam will range between 472-528, with 500 the magic “top of the curve” number.**

With all this new knowledge, we hope you are better prepared to understand the changes between the old and new MCAT tests. NYCPM wishes you best of luck as you prepare for your MCAT!



# The Annual 'Welcome Cruise' Around Manhattan



Each year, the new incoming class kicks off the weekend before orientation and first week of school with a Welcome Cruise. The cruise takes place on the *Bateaux* charter, over a relaxing 3-course lunch. The *Bateaux* sails by major Manhattan monuments such as the Freedom Tower, the Brooklyn Bridge, Governors Island and the Statue of Liberty. Students from out-of-state marveled at the popular sights, while local students took the time to re-appreciate the beauty of the Manhattan isle and its surrounds.

The annual cruise is an excellent chance for students to casually bond with their peers before the demanding pre-clinical curriculum begins. At the Welcome Cruise, the 4-year communal relationship of the Class of 2019 officially commences. We hope to see you on a Welcome Cruise in the near future!



# Meet Traci Bologna-Gill, Class of 2018

## Describe the moment when you decided to pursue podiatric medicine.

I first discovered the field of podiatry when my 8<sup>th</sup> grade class took a career aptitude test. Oddly enough, based on my personality, likes, and dislikes, podiatry was my number one match. At the time I did not think much about it and decided to explore other branches of medicine instead. I revisited the field of podiatry while working with Hartwick's athletic trainers, who were seeing many injuries from the knee down. After shadowing one of the local DPMs in my area, I was drawn fully into this field. From working with diabetics and wound care to pediatrics and orthopedics, I found the opportunities within podiatry are endless.

## What made you decide to attend NYCPM?

There are so many reasons to love NYCPM. First of all its location, New York City. There is much to do between nightlife, theater, parks, restaurants—you can find everything here. Secondly, it is a melting pot. Our school body is very diverse. We have people from all ages, countries, and backgrounds. We are not only learning in the classroom, but we are able to learn through each other.

## What has been your favorite class at NYCPM thus far and why?

My favorite class so far has been Lower Extremity Anatomy. This is the basis of what our careers are built on. We are privileged enough to be taught by Dr. Daria Dykyj along with expert guest lecturers. What we learn in lecture is reinforced in our cadaver labs, where we take 5 months to do an in depth dissection of the lower limb. This class is taught extremely well and we learn the material in impeccable detail.

## Talk about your best moment at NYCPM or living in NYC so far:

Living in New York City is such a wonderful experience. My favorite days are those that had no plans. A group of us will just go out and wander around. You never know what you might stumble upon—parades, underground comedy shows, farmers markets, cafes, boutiques. No one is kidding when they say NYC has everything!

## Name one piece of advice you have for incoming students:

Get your hands dirty. The school has so much to offer and you should take advantage of these opportunities. Go talk to professors about a topic that interests you, get involved in clubs, sign up for foot screenings, or volunteer at events held at the school. All of us are going to be future colleagues in our small niche of podiatry. By participating in these activities I have met many people and many of them will be lifelong friends.



**Hometown: Guilderland, NY**

**Alma Mater: Hartwick College**



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