

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL
S A M A NEWSLETTER

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Stephen Clark, Editor

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BROMBERG VISITING PROFESSORSHIP
ANNOUNCED

Dr. H. P. Wolff, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Homburg has been named the sixth person to hold the Mr. and Mrs. I. G. Bromberg Memorial Visiting Professorship in Internal Medicine. The Professorship is sponsored annually by Miss Mina Bromberg and Mrs. Essie Bromberg Joseph.

Dr. Wolff will deliver his lecture on "Potassium Depletion of Psychogenic Origin." In addition he will spend the week of October 8-15 at SWMS, participating in teaching sessions, ward rounds and residents' conferences. All interested students are cordially invited to attend his lecture.

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INDEX

Contents	Page
Bromberg Visiting Professorship Announced	1
Dr. Adams is New Student Dean	1
Student Research Forum Again???	1
SWMS Has Second Endowed Chair	2
Short Notes	2
Intramural Schedule Announced.	2
Site Plan Projection	2
Comings and Goings	3

FOR THE FRESHMEN

SAMA at Southwestern	3
Some Reflections on Entering Medical School .	4

DR. ADAMS IS NEW STUDENT DEAN

Dr. Reuben H. Adams, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology has been named Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. This position was previously held by Dr. Robert Lackey and Dr. Kemp Clark.

Well known to the upperclassmen for his teaching ability, Dr. Adams was presented the Best Teacher of the Year Award by the Juniors at last year's Student-Faculty Banquet. Dr. Adams attended S.M.U. and obtained his medical degree at Duke University. We are very happy to welcome Dr. Adams to his new post and greatly appreciate his interest in our student body.

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STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM AGAIN???

For the past six years SAMA has sponsored the Annual Student Research Forum at which Southwestern's outstanding student research is presented. The object of this forum is to honor students who have done research projects over the past year.

Why go to the Research Forum? First, to learn of the variety of research interests and scientific discoveries of students and faculty at SWMS. Secondly, to learn about research techniques and methodologies that you might apply to a research project of your own. Thirdly, to hear Dr. Jules Hirsch, a former SWMS student who is now Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Physician at The
(continued on page 2)

FORUM (continued)

Rockefeller Institute who will be speaking on the topic of "Behavioral and Metabolic Studies of Human Obesity." Dr. Hirsch is a distinguished scientist whose own areas of research include human behavior, internal medicine and the biochemistry, physiology and metabolism of lipids.

You are strongly encouraged to attend this session. In the past equally renowned speakers have entertained and enlightened the Forum with their research experiences and endeavors. Once again SAMA can promise a very interesting Forum for your edification.

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SWMS HAS SECOND ENDOWED CHAIR

During the past summer the Margret Milam McDermott Chair of Anesthesiology was established at SWMS. Dr. M. T. Jenkins, Professor of Anesthesiology and Chairman of the Department of Anesthesiology has been named the first holder of this chair.

Dr. Jenkins has been Chief of the Department of Anesthesiology at Parkland Memorial Hospital since 1948. He has held his present position at SWMS since 1951.

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SHORT NOTES

*The contract for the Xerox copying machine has been signed and within the next couple weeks the machine will again be in operation in the Union. Inflation-free copying still available at 10¢ a sheet.

SHORT NOTES (continued)

*Theft insurance is now available for medical instruments such as students carry about in their black bags. (Sandwiches and Ritalin not covered) For more information see brochure on SAMA bulletin board across from registrar's office.

*If you are one of those quiet, angry (depressive?) types who has been forgotten by the circulation department of The New Physician, please contact Jerry Bane who will get your name back on the mailing list.

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INTRAMURAL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The intramural touch football schedule has been announced by Mike McClung, SAMA intramural sports coordinator. All games will be played at 3:00 p.m. at the S.M.U. playing fields.

Oct. 2	Phi Chi vs Theta Kappa
Oct. 9	Phi Rho vs Phi Chi
Oct. 16	Phi Rho vs Theta Kappa
Oct. 23	Phi Rho vs Phi Beta
Oct. 30	Theta Kappa vs Phi Beta
Nov. 6	Phi Beta vs Phi Chi

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SITE PLAN PROJECTION

The site plan projection for development of the SWMS campus has been approved by the consulting architects of the University of Texas. A wall copy is being prepared and will be displayed on the first floor of the Basic Science Building later this fall. The Newsletter hopes to print a copy in the next issue.

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COMINGS AND GOINGS

Dr. David Daly has become the Chairman of the newly created Department of Neurology at SWMS. He was formerly Chairman of the Division of Neurology at the Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, Arizona. The Newsletter hopes to have an interview with Dr. Daly in one of its next editions.

Dr. Carleton Chapman, Professor of Internal Medicine at SWMS and past president of the American Heart Association, has recently become the Dean of Dartmouth Medical School.

Dr. Charles LeMaistre, Professor of Internal Medicine and Associate Dean at SWMS, has recently been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Health Affairs of the University of Texas. In his new position he will be coordinating the biomedical divisions of the University which include SWMS, the Medical Branch, South Texas Medical School, The Dental School, The M. D. Anderson Hospital and Cancer Research Institute and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

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SAMA AT SOUTHWESTERN

At Southwestern Medical School the Student American Medical Association (SAMA) acts as the students' official voice in the school. The main difference between the SAMA student government and student governments in colleges and universities is that SAMA acts on a professional level. Thus SAMA has a voice in all aspects of the life of the medical student--scholastic, cultural, and social. On the scholastic level SAMA sponsors the Student Research Forum in which original

SAMA (continued)

student research can be recognized. SAMA also sponsors scientific competition which allows the student to compete on a national level with other medical students. On a cultural level SAMA strives to make known to the students the cultural opportunities found in Dallas and the surrounding area. Many of these events are available to the student at reduced rates, and SAMA is especially eager to make these opportunities known. In the social realm SAMA in conjunction with the Faculty Wives Club sponsors the Dean's Coffee Hour. This occasion gives the entering freshmen the opportunity to meet the Dean and the faculty members socially. In the spring SAMA and the Student Wives Club sponsor the Student-Faculty Dinner Dance. The dinner dance is an excellent occasion for the students and faculty to mix socially and enjoy good fellowship. This occasion also allows both the students and the faculty to spoof each other's views of medical education.

SAMA also has a voice in the medical school by such activities as evaluating specific courses through the curriculum evaluation committee, consulting with the faculty and administration in regular discussions, and helping to attract prospective students by participating in the interview sessions. In summary, SAMA functions on the local level not just for the sake of functioning but where there is a definite service that needs to be rendered.

SAMA is fortunate to be affiliated nationally with groups from approximately seventy-six other medical schools. This affiliation allows medical stu-

(continued on page 4)

SAMA (continued)

dents as a group to have a voice that speaks authoritatively on issues of interest to medical students. The authority of the voice comes from resolutions passed by the house of delegates at the national convention each year by elected representatives. Resolutions discussed each year deal with such varied topics as medicine, liberalization of abortion laws, and a program similar to the intern matching program for choice of medical school. Affiliation of medical students in a large national group allows other advantages such as publication of a widely read medical journal, group insurance, nationwide competition in scholastic areas in addition to serving as a national voice for medical students as mentioned previously.

SAMA is proud to serve the medical students on both a local and national level and encourages your participation in any of its varied activities.

Jerry Bane
President
SWMS SAMA Chapter

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SOME REFLECTIONS ON ENTERING MEDICAL SCHOOL

For the next four years you will be identified as a very special type of student--a medical student--one engaged in intensive study consuming most of his time and much of his energy. What is the nature of a medical education and why is it considered so difficult and demanding? What is your relationship--your opportunities, your responsibilities and your school's challenge?

Medical school is, first of all

REFLECTIONS (continued)

and primarily, graduate level education. As a graduate student you are required to become competent in every area of study in which you participate. Indeed, the pursuit of excellence is the very essence of graduate education. This is your primary responsibility as a medical student and this is what will give rise to your appreciation of the demanding nature of such study.

There are no introductory level courses here. Biochemistry, Physiology, and Anatomy are complete and intensive courses. While there may be times when they seem to you to be unrelated to the actual practice of medicine, you will learn, as have upperclassmen, that the material covered will have considerable relevance in not only later courses such as pharmacology, pathology and medicine, but also your approach to the patient. Because of this you must be thorough and exacting in applying your newly acquired knowledge; remembering, always, that it will become critically relevant in diagnosis and treatment in your clinical years.

Research is one of the major functions of a graduate school. You will find that research is highly encouraged in this medical school and the opportunities are plentiful for medical students to participate in research, especially during summers. If you have had no experience doing a research project, SWMS provides encouragement and stipends for students to design and complete a research project. A full-time faculty member is the supervisor for the project. Doing such a project provides a student with experience in design of experiments and critical
(continued on page 5)

REFLECTIONS (continued)

evaluation of the medical literature. It also provides the opportunity to work closely with a mature faculty member and often allows the student experience in laboratory procedures he otherwise would not acquire.

Many students here have done research significant enough to be published in the scientific literature. Many others have had the opportunity to present their findings at the Annual Student Research Forum where the best examples of student research are presented.

If during your first year you find some aspect of your studies stimulating your curiosity, seek out a faculty member and express your interest. He will be able to direct you to relevant scientific articles that can help you to define a problem for a research project.

At the present time SWMS does not include a required research project in any of its courses but it should be emphasized that research is highly encouraged by the faculty and that space and funds are available for a large number of students.

This is an appropriate place to emphasize another facet of graduate school that differs greatly from undergraduate education. Many of you have come from schools where competition in pre-med courses was intense and where professors at times appeared to be erratic or punitive especially with regard to grades. This usually elicits a defensive caution on the part of the student which if carried to an extreme is commonly termed "paranoia." Many freshmen at medical school are inhibited enough in their rela-

tions to the faculty to suggest that they may be slightly "paranoid." This is really an unnecessary posture; your professors are seriously concerned about what you are learning from their courses and you are expected to go and see them if particular aspects are difficult to comprehend or if you are having problems with a particular course. You will find, with time, that teachers who may seem the most unapproachable are actually very open and very helpful and will take any amount of time to help you.

In short, there is less distance between you and the faculty here than there is in most colleges. You are considered to be more mature and you will find that openness in a mature student is greatly appreciated by your instructors. Being unnecessarily inhibited simply deprives you of the valuable opportunity to know your teachers who are very competent, knowledgeable and often very sympathetic.

Lastly, while a graduate education by definition involves focusing down on one subject and becoming an expert in that particular area, Medical School is unusual in that its subject is the most encompassing and the most complex of all; namely, man himself. Thus your subject of study requires utmost intensiveness. You will be required to understand not only man's chemistry and anatomy but also his psychology and sociology. You will be required to deal not only with all aspects of your patient's overt medical problems but will also be expected to understand both patient and family. If you believe this comprehensive approach to man is

(continued on page 6)

REFLECTIONS (continued)

a long way off you should be reminded that SWMS students during their clinical years are given great responsibility in patient care and that you may be as close to your patient as any of the attending staff.

The easier it is for you to analyze your patient's particular and often peculiar psychological make-up and his socio-economic background, the easier is your task in understanding and sympathizing with all his medical problems and thus improving your accuracy of diagnosis and range of treatment possibilities.

In choosing SWMS you have given yourself the advantage of working with people from all walks of life--faculty--staff--fellow students--patients and hospital personnel. The opportunity to learn from them awaits your attention, your grasp, your dedication. You will soon find this to be another important strength of this school contributing greatly in the process of your development as a fine doctor.

The task before you is both demanding and challenging. The four years in Medical School will likely seem long and often frustrating, as it has for those who have gone before, but the rewards will justify your effort. The greater your interest and curiosity about medicine the less will be the struggle. When you arrive at that point of awareness of certain confidence in the possession of knowledge and the skills to use in serving mankind you will experience a deep and abiding inner-satisfaction. Such will be the solid reward for you and for your teachers. It is at this point you will have met and engaged the challenge of your

medical school.

As a parting suggestion, it is evident that the study of medicine, like most other endeavors, requires some variety to provide balance. We must remember that life goes on outside the confines of Medical School and to cut-off all usual non-medical interests may hurt more than help in securing an education. Dallas has many diversions and entertainments for just about all tastes and often at reduced prices for medical students.

Finally, season your dedication with good humor and have four great good productive years ahead.

Stephen Clark