



SAINT JAMES
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
ANGUILLA • ST. VINCENT

For more information
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Saint James Student News

March 2016



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Congrats to Our 2016 Matches!

Another Match Day has come and gone, and Saint James is proud to announce 54 residency matches this month, an increase over 2015. Our students came from far and wide, and it is an honor to send them back out into the world as certified future doctors!

Our students' placements include the following:

| NAME | PROGRAM/LOCATION | SPECIALTY | CAMPUS |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Afsha Rais | UAMS-Regional Programs - AR | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Alejandro Zamudio | Newark Beth Israel Med Ctr - NJ | Pediatrics | St. Vincent |
| Anita V Goyal | U Illinois COM - Chicago | Emergency Medicine | Anguilla |
| Blessan Thomas | Heritage Valley Health System | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Carole Zouki | Advocate IL Masonic Med Ctr | Anesthesiology | Anguilla |
| Christopher Michael Ciccarelli | Excelsa Health Latrobe Hosp - PA | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Dalal Mazraeh | UPMC McKeesport - PA | Internal Medicine | Anguilla |
| Damon Huu-Dat Cao | Mercy Hosp & Med Ctr - IL | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Daniel Justin Rona-Hartzog | Providence Sacred Heart Med Ctr - WA | Internal Medicine | Anguilla |
| Denise Sakyi | Mercy Hosp & Med Ctr - IL | Internal Medicine | Anguilla |
| Feras Adnan Shalabi | Brandon Regional Hospital - FL | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Gurinder Sekhon | Forbes Family Medicine - PA | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Gurvinder Singh Dhaliwal | Wright Center for GME - PA | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Hannah Hamami | University of British Columbia CANADA | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Jason Taylor | U IL-St Francis Med Ctr | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Jay Babu Patel | University Hospital & Clinics - LA | Internal Medicine | Anguilla |
| Jessie Mae Simmon | Mercy Hosp & Med Ctr - IL | Obstetrics-Gynecology | St. Vincent |
| Joanne Maria Nazareth | Billings Clinic - MT | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Kali Genetta Castle | U IL-St Francis Med Ctr | Pediatrics | St. Vincent |
| Karen Preethi Barnabas | Howard Univ Hosp - D.C. | Family Medicine | Anguilla |
| Karthik Venkat Nune | Jackson Park Hosp - IL | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Kirolos Iskander | SUNY HSC Brooklyn - NY | Internal Medicine | Anguilla |
| Maude Richards | University of Sherbrooke CANADA | Family Medicine | Anguilla |
| Melanie Cheng | SUNY HSC Brooklyn - NY | Pediatrics | St. Vincent |
| Melissa Marie Massa Martins | University of Toronto CANADA | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Mohammad Sohail Rasool | New Hanover Reg Med Ctr - NC | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Nishant Chaudhary | Allegiance Health - MI | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Parth Shailesh Patel | Univ of MO-KC Programs | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Phong Thanh Vu | West Virginia University SOM | Neurology | Anguilla |
| Raathathulaksi Krishnamohan | McLaren Reg Med Ctr - MI | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Raja Ayyoub Rabadi | Detroit Med Ctr/WSU - MI | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Robert Monroe Kimmel | Waterbury Hospital - CT | General Surgery | Anguilla |
| Sakshi Jain | Mercy Hosp & Med Ctr - IL | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Shizhen Jia | SIU SOM & Affil Hosps - IL | Psychiatry | Anguilla |
| Shweta Martand Varade | Lehigh Valley Hosp - PA | Transitional | St. Vincent |
| Stephanie Bell | Dalhousie University CANADA | Family Medicine | Anguilla |
| Stephany Barreto | Roger Williams Med Ctr - RI | Medicine-Preliminary | Anguilla |
| Syed Muntajibuddin Quadri | U Kansas SOM-Wichita | Psychiatry | St. Vincent |
| Tarek Hassouna | Pinnacle Health - PA | Internal Medicine | St. Vincent |
| Thi Yen Linh Tran | McGill University CANADA | Family Medicine | Anguilla |
| Tristan Leopold Pasek | Mt. Sinai - IL | Internal Medicine | Anguilla |
| Zuhal Kadhim | Mt. Sinai - IL | Family Medicine | St. Vincent |



Welcoming Provost Dr. Hugh Duckworth

The Saint James School of Medicine community is thrilled to introduce you to our new Provost, Dr. Hugh Duckworth, MD. Dr. Duckworth has more than 30 years of experience working in a variety of high intensity, crisis intervention and emergency healthcare settings. He's also spent time working in medical management and leadership roles.

Dr. Duckworth has experience as Owner and CEO of Home Helpers, a one-on-one professional, compassionate in-home care service. He also has past experience as the Executive Dean at Saba University School of Medicine, along with working at St. Jude Incorporated, Methodist Health Care Systems, Henry County Medical Center and more.

SVG Dean of Basic Science

Dr. Duckworth has also led the charge in securing the position of Dean of Basic Science for the St. Vincent and the Grenadines campus, filled by Peter Tsivis MD. Dr. Tsivis will take his post starting May 2016.



Introducing Career and Residency Counseling

In order to better prepare students for residency and other careers in medicine, the school has adopted a Career and Residency Counseling program. Part of this process is free access for fourth-year students to AAMC's Careers in Medicine portal where students can get an abundance of information about the different careers in medicine, latest residency statistics and other useful information.

The school will also provide students with a few annual events, both in-person and online, to better prepare students for the what follows after graduation. Should students have any questions about the career or residency options they can always visit our [clinical webpage](#) or email us at careercounseling@mail.sjism.org and residency@mail.sjism.org.



Summer 2016 Tuition

Invoices for Summer 2016 Semester have been sent out and the tuition is due on Friday, April 8. Please contact our Finance Office or your MySJSJ – Student Portal for payment options.

New Saint James Trustee

SJSJ would like to welcome Mr. Richard Connor to our Board of Trustees. Mr. Connor has been involved with the school for many years on separate projects in the capacity of consultant. Shareholders have decided to nominate him to the Board effective March 2016.

Mr. Connor has a wealth of experience in management and marketing. He has been leading change in many organizations in Chicagoland and his knowledge and experience in the leadership capacity will bring additional strength to our Board. Mr. Connor holds an MBA degree from Northwestern University.



Exam Change: All Core Clerkships

In the beginning of the year the school introduced the NBME Family Practice Core Clerkship Exam administered at Prometric centers. This was introduced as a test with the ultimate goal of instituting the relevant NBME assessment to all six core clerkships, replacing the in-house exam. The administration of the school has found the test successful and has decided that students who start a core clerkship rotation on or after April 1, 2016 will be required to take the corresponding NBME subject exam.

The school feels that the NBME exams will offer a more accurate assessment of a student's progress in the core clerkship rotations. The NBME exam will be weighted at 25% of a student's final grade in the relevant core rotation. A \$150 exam fee will be applied for each core rotation NBME exam.



Prequal Exam Change

The Examination Committee of the school has approved the full exam change for the prequalification exam from an internal exam to a proctored NBME exam administered by the Prometric centers. The prequal will be the NBME Basic Science Comprehensive Exam and the passing score will be the equivalent of the USMLE Step 1 passing score.

Any student wanting to be certified after May 1, 2016 for the USMLE Step 1 will have to have a passing score from this exam that is not older than 30 days from at the time of the USMLE certification. The fee to take this exam will be \$150. The process of signing up will remain the same. Exams will be available every 2 weeks; however, the deadline to sign up will be more than 5 weeks prior to the exam, so plan accordingly!

To sign up [visit our website](#).



Phi Chi International Medical Fraternity Chapter Launches in SVG

This has been a very eventful semester for the student organizations on both of our medical campuses. One new association that has been developed in St. Vincent and the Grenadines is the new [Saint James chapter of Phi Chi International Medical Fraternity](#).

This was the inaugural semester for the Phi Chi-Alfa Tau chapter, and the organization has grown to more than 30 members. Phi Chi was involved with organizing the World Pediatric Project in February as they shadowed specialists in speech pathology for pediatric patients. Students had the opportunity observe elite and experienced physicians in the field, undertake chronicling patient history and interact with patients first-hand. The students also gave presentations to patients in the clinic to provide them with an introduction to speech pathology, language and pediatric developmental milestones outlined by the World Health Organization. Moreover, they covered intellectual disorders such as autism, as well as congenital abnormalities such as cleft lip and cleft palate.



These presentations were well received by the patients and physicians on-site and the students were commended for their involvement. Phi Chi has also had involvement with efforts regarding kidney dialysis and renal diseases. They volunteered with local organizations and physicians on World Kidney Day on March 10, and will continue these efforts in succeeding semesters.

The chapter has also fostered a culture of bonding with its members as students took a weekend after block exams to enjoy an evening at the local movie theatre, and also came together to enjoy the Super Bowl alongside members of G.I.V.E. (awesome way to de-stress after blocks!).



New and Improved AICM (now ICM)

SJSM is excited to announce the new and upgraded version of our already successful AICM program during the fifth semester at Jackson Park Hospital. In this program, students have access to a comprehensive review combining multiple experts. This semester, we brought in several talents from Kaplan, Dr. Francis from PASS and a very special lecture by the renowned .

This new and improved AICM program (now ICM), will better prepare students for the USMLE Step 1. Due to this exciting change, we will no longer offer the PASS program as a 6th semester option. Furthermore, because of the strong relationship we have established with Dr. Francis and his PASS program, SJSM students are now eligible for a discount for enrolling in PASS. Kaplan has also extended a discount program specifically for our students.

If you are interested in any of these, please contact them directly for the details. Students are free to take part in other Step 1 review programs of their choice as well if they deem necessary. For questions please contact our Clinical Department at: sjsmclinical@mail.sjasm.org.



USMLE Prep Club Updates

Late in 2015, the USMLE Prep Club was formed by two advisors and seven students. To date, the USMLE Prep Club has three faculty advisors, a strong executive board, and more than 60 paid club members. The club has implemented a solid USMLE curriculum, in which faculty members who are subject matter experts in their field(s) of concentration conduct 60-minute USMLE Focused Drill Sessions twice a month. In addition, the club has established a USMLE question bank for the use of all members needing additional study aids in preparation for their USMLE.

The club utilizes Facebook as another tool to display USMLE questions and suggested study materials to the student body with the intention of enhancing student awareness. Finally, the club is set and poised to form a USMLE Cloud Resource Library that would be accessible to current and past club members that have progressed on to ICM in Chicago. This would provide all members with a USMLE Curriculum Checklist Catalogue that will serve as a focused road map for all MD1's through MD5's as they buckle down for the USMLE.



G.I.V.E. Says Farewell and Hello Again

G.I.V.E. is nearly approaching its one-year event anniversary at Saint James School of Medicine on April 4 while continuing efforts within the community. Through our continued relationship with Saint Benedict's Children's Home, we have made monthly visits providing the children with mental and physical stimulation. Each visit has benefited the volunteers, staff, and most importantly, the children. G.I.V.E. has been able to provide the children with haircuts, dental education, hands-on activities and buddies to assist with play time. Volunteers have ensured that the lawn is mowed for outdoor play and that there is always an engaging activity to educate and entertain the kids.



With the fast approach of April, G.I.V.E. bids adieu to its original founding members. As these dedicated and caring individuals prepare for their move to AICM, the organization will continue to provide service efforts and strengthen its community relationship. We are proud to announce our plan for succession, enabling our organization to grow and develop new relationships as the philanthropic arm of Saint James' Student Government Association.



AMSA-SVG Chapter Report

AMSA had an exciting past semester! With prostate cancer being a growing killer for men, AMSA held Prostate Cancer Awareness events that included a no-shave contest. The students got a chance to see crazy mustaches all while raising awareness! AMSA also organized Skype calls for students that are transitioning to Chicago and got to ask MD5s questions about their experiences.

AMSA also partnered up with the SGA and St. Vincent's Lion Club South to help increase the community awareness during the Health Fair. Patient education pamphlets were distributed to the participants educating on lifestyle changes to control diabetes and hypertension.



Blood Pressure Measurement Skills in Hyperdynamic Circulation

by Dr. Crasta

Accurate blood pressure measurement is an important clinical skill that every medical student needs to learn. The SJSM MD2 students practiced these skills under the supervision of faculty in a novel method. The resting BP values obtained in a laboratory setup was compared to those values obtained after a heavy exercise for a half-hour in an open field near Arnos Vale, SVG.

The students got ample opportunity to practice and perfect these skills while understanding the common errors that creep in while doing so. The BP values obtained from electronic and manual methods were compared and the effects of posture on BP values were evaluated.



SJSM Women's Rugby Club Starts in SVG

SJSM-SVG is very excited to announce that they have created their first official sports team, Women's Flag Rugby. It all started with the International World Rugby Club (North America) launching a campaign to get schools in St. Vincent involved. In an effort to extend the awareness to the Caribbean, Team Manager Samantha Scoville was tasked by SVG's National Team Coach Mike Jackson to reach out to the ladies of our school. This team would then play Trinity in an exhibition match before the St. Vincent vs. Jamaica World Cup Qualifier this past Saturday.

The girls played at Arnos Vale Stadium where they were supported by fellow classmates and spectators while defeating Trinity 3-2. Teamwork is a big part of the medical community; a group of women from SJSM is demonstrating their teamwork abilities not only in the classroom, but also on the turf! Jessica Udeogu (Captain), Samantha Scoville (Manager), Stephanie Yala, Jeannie Sierra, Dieuvaldine Lamartiniere, and Victorine Etchu were truly stars, and they will continue their rugby training under Coach Kirk Stewart.



SVG Lions Club and SJSM Host Community Health Screening

The Lions Club of SVG (South) and SJSM students committed to a day of health awareness with the Arnos Vale community on March 12. This relationship was initiated by VP Lion Dr. José Davy,. Dr. Davy, a former professor at SJSM and local practicing infectious disease specialist, highlighted the growing relationship between both entities.

26 SJSM students from the American Medical Student Association, Phi Chi Medical Fraternity and MD3 and MD4 seniors supported the event's screening stations. Students also had the opportunity to receive some mentorship from Dr. Davy as she demonstrated follow-up consultations for patients that were marked as needing additional counseling based on their screening. The event saw many guests receiving screenings for HIV, blood pressure, blood glucose and blood hemoglobin.

"Hypertension continues to be a major concern for Vincentians," Dr. Davy remarked as the event progressed to an end. This initiative serves as the first of two health fairs this partnership intends on hosting over the next few months.

Special thanks to Dean Dr. Crasta and MD3 Jessica Udeogu for providing refreshers and training for the students who supported this event.

World Kidney Day Observed

The World Kidney Day event, hosted jointly by the SVG Kidney Dialysis Fund and SJSM's Phi Chi-Alfa Tau chapter, was a huge success. Members Jennaire Lewars, Chloe Waters, Sharjeel Qureshi, Cristy Miles, Fayyaz Ahmed and Lisa Babiak were present as the lead volunteers for the event. The team performed health screenings including blood pressure and blood sugar testing for more than 160 patients, one of which was an influential political figure.

Alongside a prominent nephrologist in the medical community of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the



team of Phi Chi medical students promoted awareness of kidney health and prevention of renal pathologies. The event had significant media coverage and was featured on the Ministry of Health website as well as the local evening news with some members being interviewed.