



**SAINT JAMES**  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
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**call 800 542 1553**  
info@mail.sjism.org

# Saint James Student News

July 2017



**SAINT JAMES**  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
ANGUILLA • ST. VINCENT



## Celebrating 18 Years!

This year, SJSM is celebrating its 18th anniversary! Saint James School of Medicine was founded on June 21st, 1999, with the signing and approval of our first charter on the island of Bonaire. We are grateful to be able to mark off our 18th year of providing a quality, affordable and accredited medical education to our students. As we grow, we expect great things in the coming years!



## St. Vincent AMSA Health Fair Report

*By Lauren K. Turich, MD3*

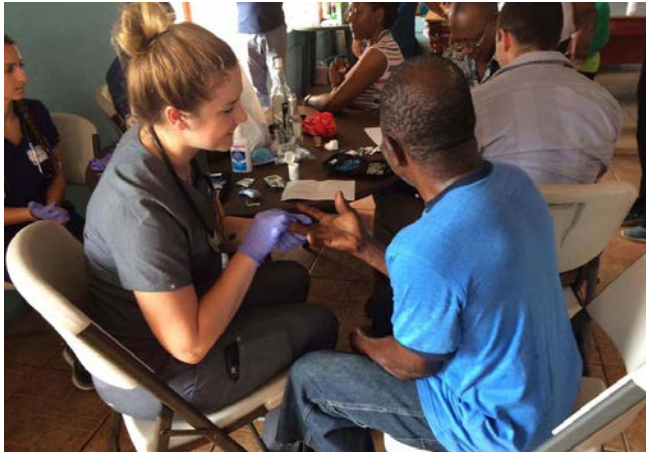
*Vice President of SJSM SVG AMSA*

The American Medical Student Association (AMSA) at SJSM in Saint Vincent is proud to host a health fair every second Saturday of the month. AMSA provides free preventative screening services to the community of Calliaqua, a population-dense suburb-type setting at the southern most point of the island. The AMSA health fair provides free blood pressure screening, blood sugar testing, BMI and visual acuity evaluations to interested community members. In addition, AMSA collaborates with local physicians and community leaders to provide free breast cancer screenings for women. Free health education and counseling are also important components of these

health fairs. SJSM AMSA is also proud to collaborate with students from other medical schools on the island to create new and innovative ways of serving the Calliaqua community.

The AMSA health fairs have become so successful that community members and health fair organizers have been working to provide a special health fair to the island of Bequia. Bequia is one of the many beautiful neighboring Grenadines. It is home to over 4,000 people and about a one hour ferry ride from Saint Vincent. The July 2017 Bequia Health Fair will be the first health fair SJSM SVG AMSA has provided to a neighboring island.



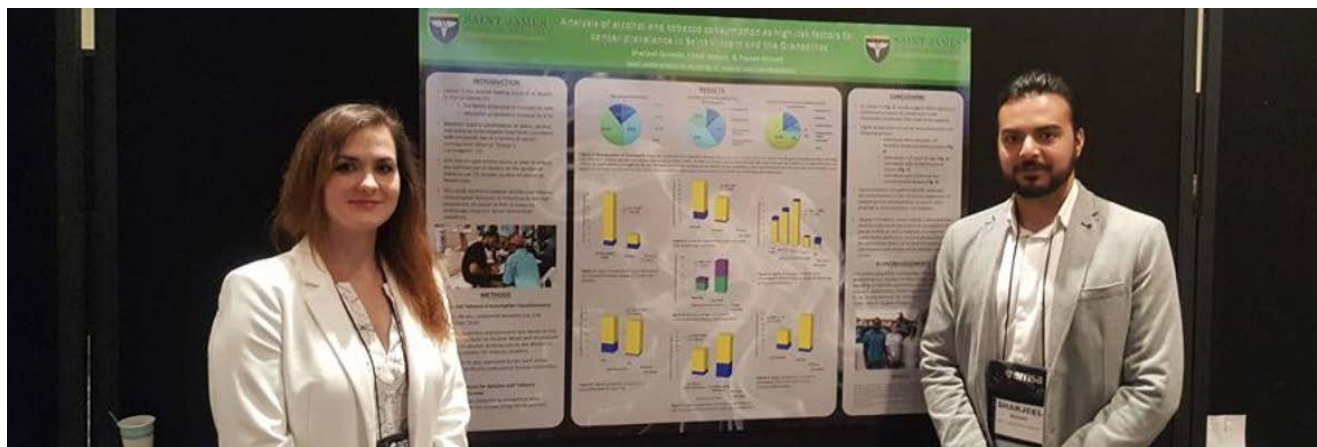


# CAAM-HP Visits St. Vincent

By Dan Cuckovic

On June 8, 2017, SJSM welcomed a CAAM-HP survey team led by Prof. Michael J. Branday to its St. Vincent campus. During the six hour visit, the survey team discussed the school's operations and performance with members of the faculty, administration, student Government and staff.

Saint James School of Medicine would like to thank everyone who assisted with preparation for the visit, as well as those who participated in the actual discussion with members of the CAAM-HP team. The results of the visit are expected to be announced on the CAAM-HP website sometime in early August. SJSM looks forward to a positive review from the survey team.



## Spring 2017 Science Day Summary

On March 31, 2017, fourth semester medical students at the Saint James School of Medicine St. Vincent campus conducted original research projects in partial fulfillment of their Research in Health and Medicine course (RHM 3) requirements. Nine projects were developed by student teams under the supervision of seven faculty mentors. All proposals were approved by the campus Research Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Sujin Bao. On Science Day, student teams delivered 12-minute oral presentations and displayed their posters on-screen during the 3-minute Q&A sessions that followed. The presentations were evaluated by nine faculty judges.

**First Place** was awarded to five students for their presentations of the following two projects:

1. "Correlating Blood Glucose Levels and Body Mass Index Status to Range of Motion in Sedentary Adults" by Michael Massei, Alyssa Fairservice, Lindsey Burton and Melvin Riggs (Project 3)

2. "Spinal Stabilization Protocols in Traumatic Injury, A Review of the Literature" by Gisselle Bustillo (Project 8)

**Second Place** was awarded to eight students for their presentations of the following two projects:

1. "Evaluating the Efficacy of Caribbean Heart Care Medcorp Ltd. in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Patients in Trinidad and Tobago" by Vedprakash Maharajh, Mohamed Shareef-Hasim, Simran Sandhu, Erica Spano and Raquel Acciavatti (Project 2)
2. "Opportunistic Infections of HIV/AIDS Patients on the Island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: A Survey to Indicate Most Common Prevalence" by Nara Park, Vanessa Florival and Molly Jain (Project 4)

**Third Place** was awarded to eight students for their presentations of the following two projects:

1. “Prevalence of Infectious Pathogens Responsible for Bacterial Endocarditis in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines” by Zonash Zainab, Anum Sahibzada, Yewande Adeniyi, Victory Okorie and Esther Oludimimu (Project 5)

2. “A Functional Study to Relate the Prevalence of Helicobacter Pylori Infection to Starchy Diet on the Island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines” by Maurissa Harris, Melissa Brown and Taslima Jaby (Project 6)

The Spring 2017 Science Day coordinator was Dr. R. Zeine. Faculty judges were Dr. P. Tsivis, Dr. M. Milutinovic, Dr. V. Minakova, Dr. A. Pryakhin, Dr. S. Bao, Dr. H. Siddiqui, Dr. A. Hamad, Dr. S. Jain and Dr. S. Sharma. Dean Tsivis presented the achievement awards.

Project	Project Title	Students	Mentors
<b>Project 1</b>	The Impact of Health-Related Internet Searches on Cyberchondria, Patient Compliance and the Emergence of Non-expert ‘Cyber-doctors’	Mary Pennington Melody Theodore	Dr. A. Dusic & Dr. R. Zeine
<b>Project 2</b>	Evaluating the Efficacy of Caribbean Heart Care Medcorp Ltd. in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Patients in Trinidad and Tobago	Vedprakash Maharajh Simran Sandhu Erica Spano Raquel Acciavatti	Dr. A. Pryakhin  Collaborators: Dr. Kamal Rampersad Dr. Gyaandeo Maharajh
<b>Project 3</b>	Correlating Blood Glucose Levels and Body Mass Index Status to Range of Motion in	Michael Massei Alyssa Fairservice Lindsey Burton Melvin Riggs	Dr. R. Zeine
<b>Project 4</b>	Opportunistic Infections of HIV/AIDS Patients on the Island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: A Survey to Indicate Most Common Prevalence	Nara Park Vanessa Florival Molly Jain	Dr. D. Santhosh
<b>Project 5</b>	Prevalence of Infectious Pathogens Responsible for Bacterial Endocarditis in	Zonash Zainab Anum Sahibzada Yewande Adeniyi Victory Okorie Esther Oludimimu	Dr. D. Santhosh
<b>Project 6</b>	A Functional Study to Relate the Prevalence of Helicobacter Pylori Infection to Starchy Diet	Maurissa Harris Melissa Brown Taslima Jaby	Dr. D. Santhosh
<b>Project 7</b>	Islet Xenotransplantation in Treating Type 1 Diabetes:	Sunny Ratnani Montgomery Chang Sanjay Cherala John Cabezas Thomas Burphy	Dr. S. Bao
<b>Project 8</b>	Spinal Stabilization Protocols in Traumatic Injury,	Gisselle Bustillo	Dr. R. Zeine & Dr. H. Siddiqui
<b>Project 9</b>	Forced Expiratory Volume in One Second (FEV1) and Forced Vital Capacity (FVC) Dependence on Age, Body Mass Index and Gender among Healthy Students	Melika Saberi Mohammadreza Aminpour Hussein Faraj Matthew Ramos Ahmed Mahamud Gardel Eliazair Derek Carter	Dr. A. Dusicv & Dr. S. Sharma

# SCIENCE DAY WINNERS

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## ACHIEVEMENT AWARD #1



**First place**



**Second place**



**Third place**

## ACHIEVEMENT AWARD #2



**First place**



**Second place**



**Third place**

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## Student Referral Program

Interested in saving on your semester tuition? If you know someone who is interested in Saint James School of Medicine, provide us with their basic contact information by completing this short referral form. If your referral enrolls at SJSM, you'll get 25% off your next semester tuition, and he/she will receive \$500 towards their first semester's tuition.

Now that's a win-win!

Please fill out the referral form and send it back to [info@mail.sjsm.org](mailto:info@mail.sjsm.org)

Download the form here [SJSM email referral form](#)



# POLICY UPDATES

## Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS Certification Policy Update Reminder

### Current Requirements:

In order for SJSM to approve any Step 2 CK or Step 2 CS application under the current requirements, students must meet **ALL** of the following by the dates provided:

1. USMLE application must be **RECEIVED** by **September 1, 2017**. This means you must submit your application through ECFMG at least 1-2 weeks prior to ensure we receive it on time.
2. Must complete Family Medicine, Internal Medicine AND Surgery core rotations by **September 1, 2017**.
3. Must submit a proposal for the graduation paper to the Research Committee by **September 1, 2017**. Not all proposals are accepted by the Research Manager to be submitted to the Research Committee. Please allow additional time for edits and submit the initial proposal prior to September 1.
4. **FOR CK ONLY:** Pass the required pre-qualification exam (NBME Comprehensive Clinical Science Exam) by **September 3, 2017**. In order to meet this requirement, students must register for one of the following testing windows:
  - Aug 7 - Aug 20  
(deadline to register is 3:00PM CST **June 29**)
  - Aug 21 - Sept 3  
(deadline to register is 3:00PM CST **July 13**)
  - Visit [www.sjsm.org/prequal](http://www.sjsm.org/prequal) to register

**Updated Requirements Effective September 1, 2017:**

If a student does not meet the above stated requirements by the deadlines, they must meet the new requirements that go into effect September 1, 2017, before a Step 2 CS or Step 2 CK application will be approved. Please see the updated requirements below.

1. **FOR CK ONLY:** Pass the required pre-qualification exam (NBME Comprehensive Clinical Science Exam). Registration deadlines are roughly six weeks in advance of the testing window, so be sure to consider this when planning out when you will test.
2. Must complete Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Surgery, OBGYN, Psychiatry, AND Pediatrics core rotations before taking the pre-qualification exam. Students will be allowed to register for the pre-qualification exam ahead of time, but they will only be approved for testing windows that start after the end of the last core rotation. For example, if the last rotation ends on October 1, the student can register by August 10 for the testing window that is October 2 – October 15.
3. Must submit a proposal for the graduation paper to the Research Committee. For CK applicants, the proposal does not need to be submitted before the pre-qualification exam; however, it must be submitted before the application will be approved.

**Please be advised. There are two separate applications for Step 2 CS and Step 2 CK. If a student is approved for Step 2 CS, they will not automatically be approved for Step 2 CK.**





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## 2018 Residency Application Season Has Started

ERAS 2018 is now open, and students are able to purchase their 2018 Token to begin their residency applications. SJSM requires all new applicants to complete an MSPE Request Form and submit supplemental documentation that will be used to construct the MSPE or Medical Student Performance Evaluation.

Please visit <http://www.sjsm.org/clinical/residency/> to download the form. Other resources are available here, including an in-depth timeline, guidelines for the new Noteworthy Characterizes sections, and a page of resources that can help you understand all that goes into the application and how to ensure yours is the best it can be.

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## Who Should Apply for 2018 Match?

Will you be applying for the 2018 Match? We recommend that students have at least 60 weeks of rotations completed (included AICM) by July 1, 2017 if they intend to apply for the 2018 Match. Most programs start the first week of July. In order to ensure enough time to complete the ECFMG certification and licensure paperwork, students must have their degree conferred by May 1, 2018.

There may be borderline students who have 53 to 59 weeks completed by July 1, 2017. They can reach 96 weeks by May 1, 2018 if they rotate every single week between July and May. However, they must consider the following:

1. Application process is time consuming; has been compared to a full-time job by some
2. Will need time off to interview
3. Will need time to study and complete Step 2 CS/CK
4. Will need time to complete the graduation paper
5. May not be able to schedule rotations back-to-back