New Classes/Reopening of Anguilla

SJSM would like to welcome all of our new MD1 students who started class this semester! This semester was especially important as it marked the re-opening of the Anguilla campus which was forced to close in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma in early September 2017. Our campus faculty and staff, as well as the Anguillian people worked hard to restore housing, businesses, utilities, and services that allowed SJSM to re-open. We thank everyone for their hard work and would like to issue a warm welcome to all of our new and returning students!

UPCOMING OPEN HOUSES

The Saint James School of Medicine Admissions Team is coming to a city near you! We’ve updated our Open House webpage with all of our upcoming events.

- February 24 @ 1:30 PM, Atlanta, GA
- March 8 @ 6:30 PM, Boston, MA
- March 10 @ 1:30 PM, Brooklyn, NY
- April 7 @ 1:30 PM, Houston, TX
- April 21 @ 1:30 PM, Orlando, FL
- May 5 @ 1:30 PM, Rosemont, IL
- June 9 @ 1:30 PM, Toronto, ON
- June 23 @ 1:30 PM, Arlington, VA
Library Renaming in Honor of Dr. Jay K. Pandit

SJSM has dedicated the campus library in Anguilla in loving memory of one of our beloved professors and Dean, Dr. Jay K. Pandit. Dr. Pandit had been with SJSM from the very beginning when SJSM was a mere concept. The Dr. Jay K. Pandit Memorial Library will enrich the minds of many aspiring physicians. The SJSM family will always fondly remember Dr. Pandit for his fatherly advice, his witty jokes, and his bright smile. He was our pillar of strength and positivity, and his memory will live on in the hearts and minds of the hundreds of students, professors and staff whose lives he has touched.

Dean of Student Services - Dr. Davidson Retires

Dr. Bruce Davidson, our long time Dean and Professor of Biochemistry retired as of January 2018. Dr. Davidson joined SJSM in 2009 at our Bonaire campus and quickly moved up in the ranks and became a Dean of Student Affairs. Dr. Davidson earned the respect of the students, fellow faculty members, and members of administration through his excellent work ethic, dedication to teaching, research, and great administrative abilities. He is the only member of faculty in SJSM’s history to have taught in all of the SJSM’s campuses at some point of his career as well as the only member of faculty who held a position as Dean of Basic Sciences, Dean of Administration and Dean of Student Affairs. At retirement the school administration elevated Dr. Davidson to the position of Dean of Administration Emeritus. Dr. Davidson will remain engaged with the school on special projects as and when necessary. We wish him all the best in his retirement and his new home in Belize.
SJSW WELCOMES NEW FACULTY

The Saint James School of Medicine has recently welcomed new faculty members in Anguilla. Dr. Ramakrishna Manda (MBBS, MD) (who has re-joined and been with us for almost 5 years earlier)

Dr. Soumitra Chakravarty (M.D), Dr. Shafali Singh (MD) joined the Anguilla campus in June and August respectively. Dr Manda is teaching Pathology, Dr. Chakravarty is teaching Biochemistry/ Genetics and Dr. Singh is teaching Physiology.

SVG: We welcome our new faculty members Dr Dmitri Bolgov (PhD) and Dr Andreas Reymann (MD) in SVG. Dr Bolgov is teaching Physiology and Dr Reymann is teaching Pharmacology.

All of our new faculty members come to us with several years of teaching, clinical practice and/or research experience. Warm greetings to them all!

Fall 2018 White Coat

On December 14th, 2017, our St. Vincent campus held a White Coat Ceremony to celebrate the conclusion of the Basic Sciences for our 5th semester students. The event was held at Mangoez Restaurant and honored the students who have completed the first half of the MD program with personalized white lab coats to take with them back to the United States for the 2nd half of SJSW’s MD program, Clinical Sciences.

For more information, call 800 542 1553 or email info@mail.sjsm.org
SJSM – Research

This Fall some of our students attended various conferences around the United States and SJSM would like to recognize their accomplishments:

Emmanuel Ravichandar, Amir Talab, Jeswin Oommen, and Ashraf Zaitouna were awarded Best Poster and Best Oral Presentation at the Neglected Tropical Diseases Conference: Current and Future Challenges held in Chicago in early November for presenting their poster titled “Analysis and Interpretation of the Circulating Chikungunya Virus Specific Anti-IgM and Anti-IgC Antibody Prevalence on the Island of St. Vincent and the Grenadines”


Cristy Miles attended the 2017 SACNAS Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in October. The conference was sponsored by the USDA, CIA, NSA, and NSF and is geared towards minority students in science/medicine programs with chapters all of the US and was attended by over 5,000 people.


On November 8th, Benjamin Mori won first place in the research competition at the ACP Northern Illinois Chapter; ACP Residents’ and Medical Students’ Day 2017.

CLINICAL DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Process For Starting Clinical Rotations After Md5

The student participates in patient care while rotating through various medical specialties in affiliated hospitals. This system of rotational training is also known as “clinical clerkships”, which is synonymous with clinical rotations. Training includes history taking, physical examination, laboratory analysis, case presentations, clinical workshops, and conferences. After passing Step 1, students are required to complete a short online Pre-Clinical Webinar administered through MySJSM. Registration for this webinar is done by the Clinical Department upon receipt of your Step 1 results. These results must be sent to SJSM by the student as they are not automatically sent by ECFMG. Following the completion of the webinar, students will have to submit paperwork and receive help in registering for clinical rotations which comprise of 80 weeks in total: 48 weeks of mandatory core rotations; and 32 weeks of elective rotations. In order to begin this process after passing Step 1, please contact the Clinical Department at sjsmclinical@mail.sjsm.org.

Change in Minimum Passing Score for NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Exam

On December 4, 2017, NBME announced that the minimum passing score for the USMLE Step 1 exam would increase from 192 to 194. This is effective for all examinees who test on January 1, 2018 or later. As a result, the Saint James School of Medicine Examinations Committee has voted to increase the minimum passing score for the NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Exam (CBSE).

• Students Applying for the USMLE Step 1 for the First or Second Time:  The previous minimum passing score was 67 (equivalent to 192 on Step 1)
  • The new minimum passing score is 68 (equivalent to 195 on Step 1)
• Students Applying for the USMLE Step 1 for the Third or Fourth Time:  The minimum passing score will remain 73 (equivalent to 207 on Step 1)

EFFECTIVE DATE: The new minimum passing score will be in effect for anyone who attempts the NBME CBSE on January 22, 2018 or later.

To view the full USMLE application policy please visit: https://www.sjsm.org/clinical/usmle

March 1, 2018 at 12:00 (noon) ET

MATCH DAY

Match results for the first iteration of the 2018 R-1 Main Residency Match are available through CaRMS Online.

For U.S. Applicants:  the Rank Order List Certification Deadline for the Main Residency Match is 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, February 21st. The NRMP recommends that participants do not wait until the last minute when servers may be busy. Match Day will be March 19th at 11:00 a.m. ET At 1:00 PM ET. Friday, March 23rd is when applicants and programs learn the results of the Match. Match results are sent by email, and applicants also can use a mobile device to access their results in the R3 system.

Things to Know For Registering for Step 2 CK and CS

Since September 1st when the new certification policy was enacted for Step 2 CK/CS, many students have had questions regarding when they can register and the requirements needed for these exams. The formal policy is listed in the Saint James Catalog as well as online: https://www.sjsm.org/clinical/usmle/. However, SJSM has implemented an exception to this policy in order to assist students in obtaining testing appointments for these exams in advance, particularly for CS, which tends to fill up several months ahead of time. The exception is that you can register for Step 2 CS six months before your last core rotation ends as long as you are registered for all of your cores. The other requirement of submitting your research proposal must still be met. The additional requirement passing the Prequalification Exam is for Step 2 CK. This can be taken up to 1 month prior to the end of a student’s last core rotation. Please note, the deadline to register for this exam is six weeks in advance.
Tuition Update

Saint James School of Medicine reviews the tuition rates for the MD program on an annual basis. While we pride ourselves on maintaining a high quality education at a low cost to students, tuition increases are necessary to keep up with increasing costs. In order to improve the overall experience of our students, this year, the administration has approved the first tuition increase in over two years.

Effective February 1, 2018, tuition rates for Saint James School of Medicine will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SJSM-Anguilla</th>
<th>SJSM-SVG</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Science Tuition</td>
<td>$8150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Science Repeat Course charge</td>
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<td>Clinical Science Tuition</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Science Repeat Course charge (per week)</td>
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<td>$571.88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SJSM has also instituted a new Student Referral Program, where students can get attractive benefits by referring friends and family for the MD program at SJSM. More information can be found at https://www.sjsm.org/student-referral-program/.