



Newsletter - January 2020

Spring 2020:



Welcome to our Spring 2020 class. We are happy to have you as part of the SJSM family and wish you the best.

SJSM Announces a new Dean of Student Affairs at Anguilla Campus:

SJSM would like to announce and welcome Dr. Samira Abdul Wajid as our new Dean of Student Affairs at the Saint James School of Medicine Anguilla campus. Dr. Wajid joined us in Jan 2019 to teach Microbiology/ Histology as an Associate Professor and has several years of both teaching and administrative experience. We would like to wish her best of luck and much success in the new position. Congratulations once again.

Medical Imaging Challenge 2019:

The medical imaging challenge was developed by Dr. Iliou and Dr. Schultz in 2016 and initially launched as radiological images posted once a month where SJSM Anguilla students can submit diagnoses within that 1 month window. Each month begins with a new radiological image. The student who has submitted the most correct answers within the calendar year receives a prize.

Starting in 2019, the postings and submissions were done through MySJSM Anguilla. All Basic Science students at this campus are enrolled. Prizes are sought via donations from Walden University and local establishments. Images are provided by Dr. Iliou and Dr. Schultz. Congratulations to the winners.



First place – Conrad Chouinard won a Sunset cruise for two on Traditions Sailing Charters



Second Prize – Arash Nasajpour won a \$150 gift certificate to Ember Restaurant



Third Prize – John Delgado won a \$50 gift certificate to Malliouhana resort

USMLE Step 2 CS- New Criteria for Certification:



Over the past few years, SJSJ has been carefully observing the changes that are taking place relative to the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills Examination and the performance of our students on the same. As the examination became increasingly more difficult, it became evident that students need more guidance and preparation to successfully overcome this challenge on their way to residency. After careful analysis of the data the school's academic leadership has made a clear correlation between students' performance on other standardized examination and their chances of successfully clearing the USMLE Step 2 CS exam.

As such, the Examination Committee of the school has made a change to the USMLE Application policy that will require all students who have scored 214 or below on the USMLE Step 1, and who are looking to become certified for the USMLE Step 2 CS, to take an approved Step 2 CS review course within 6 weeks before the examination date. This new requirement will go into effect April 1st 2020. The new policy will be visible in the latest version of the SJSJ Catalog on the school's website.

Weekly Webinar:

Our USMLE counselors, Dr. Erblin Qosaj and Dr. Alison Zheng, have started a weekly 1-hour webinar to discuss high yield cases that are likely to be asked on the NBME CBSE and USMLE Step 1. These webinars are usually held every Friday at 4:00 PM (Central Time). The counselors select topics that students are collectively struggling with and set up a few cases and a presentation pertaining to the topic. The goal of these sessions is to generate a better understanding of the topic being covered, and how to apply the knowledge gained from studies and use it to tackle questions.

This is an interactive experience where students join confidentially and are able to participate in answering questions along with asking their own questions throughout the session. The counselors have created a comfortable learning environment and students who have attended have given overwhelmingly positive reviews. We welcome all students

in basic and clinical science to benefit from these webinars. Please email usmle@mail.sjsm.org to register for the webinar.

Clinical Research Elective:

Fourth year students have the option to explore clinical research as one of their elective choices. SJSM currently has an affiliation with Lemah Creek Clinical Research in Melrose Park, IL under the supervision of Dr. Kathleen Ward, who has nearly 40 years of specializing in Cardiovascular Disease and Internal Medicine. The mission of her team is to advance the science of chronic disease prevention by conducting clinical trials. They focus on all aspects of the clinical trial process, from patient recruitment, patient outreach, patient retention, and network referrals to the completion of the PSSV, SIV, IMV, and COV. In this rotation, students will conduct trials with the highest ethical standards, making patient safety the number one priority. All of this is done with one goal in mind – to accelerate the process by which revolutionary treatments are developed. Students who are interested in strengthening their research skills and CVs can inquire about scheduling this rotation with the Clinical Department.

Alumni/ Board of Trustee – Dr. Devang Gujarathi's campus visit:



During the beginning of this semester, we had the pleasure to have Dr. Devang Gujarathi, an SJSM graduate, member of our Board of Trustees, an internal medicine practitioner with UNC HealthCare and head of their Residency Program. He visited both the St. Vincent and Anguilla campuses and also interacted with our students. He enjoyed visiting the campuses with his personal favorite being Anguilla. Dr. Gujarathi was impressed with the overall infrastructure in both the islands as well as the campuses and was excited to try his hands on the new Anatomage table that was installed last year. He liked seeing such advanced technology sitting in his alma mater waiting to be used by the students. His talks to the students included giving our PDCM class a presentation on the life threatening disease "Sepsis". The students actively participated in the lecture, asked questions and got important information on the treatment of sepsis in hospitals. He enlightened them about preparation for USMLE exams, Clinical rotations, Residency application process, doing elective rotations at UNC Healthcare and career development of Doctors in the United States and Canada.

The Administration and students of SJSM are grateful to Dr. Gujarathi for imparting his knowledge, sharing his experience as a graduate of SJSM and how SJSM helped him to be a successful doctor.

Updates to the Core Syllabi:

Changes and updates have been approved and added to all Core Rotation Syllabi for the 2020 calendar year. One change to highlight is in regards to the logbook remediation. Students are required to enter every patient encounter that they have while in rotation, documenting every procedure and diagnosis that is presented. If and when there are certain conditions that are not encountered, students are required to complete remediation; however, there is a new cap of 15% of the entire list of conditions that can be remediated per rotation. Any rotation experience that provides less than 85% exposure of the required list of conditions will have to be repeated. One other update to the syllabi includes...

As a reminder, all clinical students are required to maintain 100% attendance in each of their rotations. Excused absences must be documented with the SJSM Clinical Department and acknowledged by the attending physician.

SJSM Annual Integration Meeting 2020:



On 1/16/2020, the Clerkship and Site Directors met with SJSM Faculty and Administration at the Rolling Green Country Club in Arlington Heights, IL for the Annual Integration Meeting (AIM). Deans from Basic Sciences were in attendance via Skype, while the Office of the Dean of Clinical Sciences was present in person. The meeting included a review of events and changes that have transpired on the campuses as well as in Clinical Sciences. The AIM gave new Clinical Faculty an opportunity to learn more about the entire scope of the MD program, and at the same time, share experiences about the activities that they engage clinical students in. The Provost, Dr. Benjamin Lumicao, presented the current state of affairs, which included the primary directive of 2020 to incorporate more bedside teaching in Clinical Sciences.

Faculty Appointments:

- Jovan Vasiljević (MD, PhD, MCAP, FESC, FRCPath) has been appointed as a Professor of Pathology at SJSM-Anguilla.
- Rajni Rathore (MD) has been appointed as an Assistant Professor of Pharmacology at SJSM-SVG.
- Shahid Baksh Rangrej (MD) has been appointed as an Assistant Professor of Anatomy/ Histology in SVG.

Please welcome our new faculty members in Anguilla and Saint Vincent, who joined SJSM in Spring 2020.

Congratulations Dr. Santhosh:

We would also like to congratulate Dr Santhosh in Saint Vincent who was recently promoted to the rank of a full Professor. Dr Santhosh has been with SJSM for over 5 years and we wish to see her continue to grow with SJSM.

Virtual Reality (VR) apps for Medical Education:



We are excited to announce that the VR Viewers are now available at both our campuses. Students can borrow a VR viewer from the Library to learn more. The library has posted a short list of Medical VR apps at <https://www.sjsm.org/library/virtual-reality-vr-apps/>

Please email Oscar Andrade at oscar@mail.sjsm.org if you have any feedback/suggestions.
