Match Day 2014

On March 21, fourth-year medical students gathered to learn where they will begin their residency training following graduation this spring. Nearly 200 students, including the second cohort of 29 students in the Maine Track program, eagerly opened their envelopes to find the results of the national “Match.”

Among the most popular specialties this year were internal medicine (41 students), family medicine (21 students), emergency medicine (20 students), and pediatrics (20 students). Eighty-four students, representing 46% of the class, will pursue potential careers in primary care.

A total of 81 students will join residency programs in New England, including 43 who will remain in Massachusetts. Other popular destinations include New York (17 students) and California (21 students). Tufts medical school graduates will join residency programs in a total of 27 states, and the District of Columbia.

Twenty-eight of the Maine Track students will enter residency programs. Four matched in Maine, along with six regular track students. The 24 others matched in 13 other states, including Colorado, Maryland and Alaska. Thirteen (46%) of the Maine Track students will pursue residencies in primary care fields. Another five students will pursue surgical specialties. Twenty students have pursued residencies in Maine since the first cohort graduated in 2013.

Tufts Receives Gift from Sackler Foundation

TUSM and the Sackler School have received a generous gift from the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Foundation to advance an interdisciplinary model of research to address pressing health and biomedical problems. The funding will support research, led by Charlotte Kuperwasser, PhD, in the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Laboratory for the Convergence of Biomedical, Physical, and Engineering Sciences at Tufts. “We are honored to receive this generous gift from the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Foundation. This funding will foster scientific innovation through interdisciplinary research and enrich the faculty and student experience at Tufts through a collaborative approach to learning, research, and discovery,” said Dean Harris Berman, MD.
Sackler Foundation Gift, cont’d

Under the direction of Kuperwasser, whose work focuses on understanding the various aspects of breast cancer development, the gift from the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Foundation supports research that bridges the work of laboratories in the life sciences, physical, and engineering sciences. The funding may be used to support postdoctoral researchers using an interdisciplinary research approach; a working group of Boston-area researchers drawing on their strengths in physical, quantitative, engineering, and biological sciences; and a symposium designed to foster collaboration among researchers in different scientific fields. “Collaborating with scientists across different fields leverages our strengths and enhances the outcomes of biomedical science research. I am grateful that this funding will support these collaborative and potentially transformative research efforts, which we hope will help address major health challenges, such as cancer,” said Kuperwasser.

The Raymond and Beverly Sackler Foundation’s funding of science around the world fosters collaborative and interdisciplinary research that aims to improve health for all people.

TUSM Strategic Planning

The medical school is launching a focused strategic planning process in 2014. This effort responds to a request from Provost David Harris and VP for University Advancement Eric Johnson for all schools to develop academic priorities with corresponding financial goals by June 13 in early preparation for a possible university fundraising campaign.

The planning effort at TUSM will concentrate on four areas: research, education, financial aid, and infrastructure. In each of these four areas, faculty/administration committees have begun a series of discussions in which they conduct an assessment of current efforts, strengths and gaps. Following this assessment these groups will develop recommendations for priorities and programmatic objectives that will bring these priorities to fruition.

To receive broader feedback on the committee reports, a retreat has been scheduled for June 6, during which faculty and staff will engage in conversations on the committees’ work. Immediately following the retreat, a consolidated document will be prepared to share with Provost Harris and Vice President Johnson by June 13. The purpose is to frame an overall vision for the school that can be translated into initial campaign goals. A more comprehensive tactical plan will be develop over the summer and fall.

View details on each area’s purpose and progress at go.tufts.edu/tusmstrategicplan.

Executive Leadership Academy

TUSM is introducing a new Executive Leadership Academy, offered under the auspices of the Tufts/Brandeis MD/MBA program, to develop the competencies that current and future leaders require to be successful in a challenging environment. Developed by a group of highly successful senior leaders in Boston-area health care institutions, the Academy offers a combination of experiential learning grounded in theory and taught through a range of active learning modalities, including case studies, simulations, and team projects. The program focuses on team-based learning and is personalized through individualized assessment and executive coaching.

The dates for the first Executive Leadership Academy are: June 26-28, October 10-11, and December 19-20. All sessions will be held on Tufts’ Boston Health Sciences Campus. For additional information: go.tufts.edu/healthcareleadership.

MS–Development & Regulation of Medicines & Devices

Offering a breadth and detail not found in other programs, the MS–DRMD provides a deep and extensive learning experience in the development and regulation of human therapeutics and medical devices, preparing graduates for job opportunities in the biotech, pharma, and life sciences sectors. The program is tailored for working professionals who want to attend classes on a part-time basis in the evening, and consists of twelve credits to be completed over two academic years. For more info, visit: go.tufts.edu/ms-drmd.

2014 Summer Institute

The Health Communication Program is offering three professional development courses for those seeking to keep pace with the latest in communication trends and innovations. These courses are open to all faculty and staff.

Mobile Health Design (online): May 21–June 18
Design evidence-based health apps that incorporate mobile user experience, predictive analytics, and big data.

Health Literacy Leadership Institute: June 9–13
Learn how health literacy can improve patient-provider communication and healthcare quality.

Digital Strategies for Health Communication: July 20–25
Develop skills to use the web, social media, and mobile technologies to strategically deliver effective health messages.

Register before April 20 to receive an early bird discount: go.tufts.edu/summerinstitute.