1. **IMPORTANT COMMENCEMENT/CONVOCATION: PLEASE READ AND REPLY!!!**

2. **SWP “DROP-IN” COUNSELING SERVICE**

3. **AMA-SPONSORED MED PLUS ADVANTAGE DISABILITY INCOME COVERAGE ACCESS CODE**

4. **STUDENT WELLNESS PROGRAM / INFORMATION**

5. **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FOR 2011 ANNUAL STUDENT SYMPOSIUM**

6. **MARCH 15 DEADLINE FOR DELILL NASSER STUDENT AND TRAINEE TRAVEL AWARDS PROGRAM**

7. **OFFICE OF SPECIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: INSTRUCTOR POSITION RECRUITMENT FOR 2011**

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**1. Important Commencement/Convocation: Please Read and Reply!!**

It's time to celebrate all your hard work with your family, friends and fellow students!!!

Plans for the Commencement Ceremony are underway for MS, MBS and PhD students. If you have defended, or plan to defend, before May 1, 2010 or are an MS student, you are invited to attend the commencement and convocation ceremonies. Please fill out the attached and return to me as soon as possible, no later than March 1, 2011.

The Pre-Commencement reception will be held on May 22, 2011 at the Bridgewater Marriott, the Convocation Ceremony will be the evening of May 23, 2011 at the State Theatre in New Brunswick. The Commencement Ceremony will be the morning of Wednesday, May 25, 2011 at the Izod Arena/Meadowlands Sports Complex.

If you have any questions, please contact Tina Cicoletta cicolettm@umdnj.edu (Please see attachments)

**2. SWP “Drop-In” counseling service**

The Student Wellness Program (SWP) has instituted a new “Drop-In” counseling service for our students who participate in academic programs on our Piscataway, Newark and Stratford/Camden Campuses. Please note, this arrangement is envisioned as a reserved time period allocated for students; not a crisis scenario. As such in an effort to accommodate our student population, the designated days and times have been established:

**Piscataway:** 501 Hoes Lane. Suite# 202; 732-235-5933

Jim Walker, Ed.D. / Mondays @ 4:00 p.m.
Sarah Ben Younes-Millot, LSW / Tuesdays @ 1:00 p.m.

**Newark: Behavioral Health Sciences Bldg. (183 So. Orange Ave.): 973-972-4529**

Mark Chernin, Ph.D. / Thursdays @ 4:00 p.m. (Rm. # 1501)
Regina Mantarro, MA, MFT / Mondays @ 1:00 p.m. (Rm. # 1502)

**Stratford/Camden:** 227 Laurel Rd. # 1 Echelon Plaza; 856-770-5750

**3. AMA-Sponsored Med Plus Advantage Disability Income coverage access code**

We would like to inform you that all students covered by the AMA-Sponsored Med Plus Advantage program at UMDNJ now have unlimited access to their AMA-Sponsored Med Plus Advantage coverage benefits information and member ID numbers from the Med Plus Advantage website at www.medplusadvantage.com.
The students will need to enter their program ID number **644211** in the “My Med Plus Advantage” portion of the site in order to access the following:

- Disability Income Certificate
- Stress & Wellness Program Member ID
- Global Emergency Travel Service Member ID
- Life Insurance AD&D and EAP (if applicable)

The students may simply click on the "learn more" under "My Med Plus Advantage" in the center of the home page and enter the access code **644211**.

We strongly suggest that you post a link to this site on your internal site and email it to your students not only to keep them informed of these important coverages should they need them, but also in order to help you comply with LCME guidelines:

MS-28. Health insurance must be available to all students and their dependents, and all students must have access to disability insurance.

b. Indicate whether disability insurance is available to medical students. If yes, describe the means by which medical students are informed of its availability.

In an effort to continue to address specific needs of medical students as an AMA-Sponsored program we have added a **Stress & Wellness** program at no charge for your medical students. We strongly recommend that you encourage your students to take full advantage of this free program and all of its valuable services. Students may access all the information and services available through the Stress & Wellness program on the website also.

If you have any questions please contact me directly and thank you for your continued participation in the AMA-Sponsored Med Plus Advantage program.

Brian
**Brian Farmer**
National Account Executive, Brokerage Marketing
AMA Insurance Agency, Inc.
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Chicago, IL 60654
T: 312-464-5460
M: 317-432-7656
F: 317-245-2474
e-mail: brian.farmer@amainsure.com

4. **Student Wellness Program / Information**

*Getting Things Done in Academia: Breaking the Procrastination Habit*

Everybody procrastinates. But the most productive and creative individuals learn to manage it so that it doesn’t become counter-productive to their academic goals. Here’s how you too can create a win-win scenario (Please see attachment)

5. **Abstract submission for 2011 Annual Student Symposium**

Dear Graduate Students,

It is my great pleasure to announce JMBGSA’s 5th Annual Student Symposium which will be held on April 20th, 2011. We encourage all students to showcase their work and gain exposure to other areas of research done by their peers on our campus. Last year we had outstanding talks and poster presentations by students of various life science departments. We hope you would support us in continuing this tradition by submitting your abstracts.

abstract submission deadline is March 31st. Abstracts can be e-mailed to patelfb@umdnj.edu or submitted online at http://www.eden.rutgers.edu/~jmbgsa/abstract_subm.html

We look forward to receiving your abstracts.

Sincerely,
Falshruni Patel

6. **March 15 Deadline for DeLill Nasser Student and Trainee Travel Awards Program**

Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows are reminded that March 15 is the deadline to apply for a $1,000 DeLill Nasser Award for Professional Development in Genetics that provides support for travel costs to attend a national or international meeting or a laboratory course.
The application is available at http://www.genetics-gsa.org/pages/awards/delill_application.shtml. Up to 15 awards will be made this spring for travel to a meeting, conference or laboratory course taking place from July through December 2011. This is a competitive award and recipients will be announced by April 30.

The Board of Directors of the Genetics Society of America has recently expanded the DeLill Nasser Awards Program to include two application cycles -- one in the spring and one in the fall. The fall application will be for meetings, conferences or courses that will take place the following January 1 – June 30. Up to 25 $1,000 travel grants are given annually to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to help defray the costs of travel and lodging expenses.

The awards are named in memory of DeLill Nasser. Prior to her untimely death in 2000 DeLill was the Program Director for Eukaryotic Genetics at the National Science Foundation for more than 22 years. Nasser played a critical role in expanding federal funding for basic research in genetics, and was particularly supportive of young geneticists, especially those working in then novel genetic systems such as Arabidopsis and C. elegans. Many of today’s most prominent and successful geneticists feel strongly that Nasser’s unwavering support for “doing genetics” was essential to the development of their careers.

GSA Past President Scott Hawley calls Nasser the “patron saint” of genetics. In a remembrance of Nasser that was published in GENETICS in 2001, Hawley wrote “In the 1980’s and 1990’s, DeLill encouraged people to work on seemingly obscure genetic problems, giving them the time and the resources to build a story.” Moreover, her foresight and support led to the development of Arabidopsis as a model system, the use of Drosophila to study the genetic basis of behavior, and many other successes in the field.

The staff and Board of Directors are pleased to be able to honor the memory of DeLill Nasser through these awards.

**Application:** [http://www.genetics-gsa.org/pages/awards/delill_application.shtml](http://www.genetics-gsa.org/pages/awards/delill_application.shtml)
**Deadline:** Tuesday, March 15, 2011

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### 7. Office of Special Academic Programs: Instructor Position Recruitment for 2011

The Office of Special Academic Programs is currently seeking graduate level students for teaching opportunities, and we would appreciate your recommendation of candidates for the following instructor positions:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Instructor Position</th>
<th>Program Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BCP I</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>BCP II</td>
<td>Physiology, MCAT (Science)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCP III</td>
<td>Neuroscience, Technical Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3A</td>
<td>Physiology, BioPharm, Anatomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEP A/B</td>
<td>Math, Expository Writing</td>
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**Program Descriptions:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEP:</td>
<td>Rising sophomores and juniors from financially and educationally disadvantaged school systems interested in careers in medicine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S3A:</td>
<td>Rising gifted and talented high school seniors or recent graduates who are interested in science and medicine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCP II:</td>
<td>Rising college juniors who are prepared to preview physiology lecture and laboratory and are reviewing for the MCAT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCP III:</td>
<td>Rising college seniors or students preparing to apply to medical or other health professional schools. Students are offered a clinical experience, as well as immunology or neuroscience, technical writing seminars and MCAT review as necessary.</td>
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**Program Dates:** Scheduling will vary with each program.

- **Science Enrichment Program** (SEP 6/27/11 to 7/22/11)
- **Summer Science Scholars Program** (S3A 6/27/11 to 7/22/11)
- **Biomedical Careers Program** (BCP 6/06/11 to 7/15/11)

Salary is commensurate with experience and duties.

CVs should be emailed to my attention by Monday, March 7, 2011.

Thank you.
Phyllis Sica
Office of Multicultural Affairs & Special Academic Programs
Kessler Teaching Labs C-223
(732) 235-2143 [Phone]
(732) 235-3972 [Fax]