



College of Medicine
Parents & Family Association
Newsletter



**PFA
Presidents'
Message**

I am pleased to report that we had a very successful

Family and White Coat Day! It was great to use the Joslyn Museum as our location for White Coat Day and we have had 48 new family members from the M1 class join the PFA this year already!

This July, our son Joel became an M3! For those of you with M1 or M2 students, please help them hang in through these tough academic years. Once they start their clinic rotations, it's very exciting to see their transformation. They start right off seeing real patients and start to function like a clinical physician. They will put into practice much of the dry academic information they spent hours memorizing their first two years. It's great to see their excitement and enthusiasm.

It's already time to start planning for our next activity – support for Match Day 2012 for the M4s. This will be their most exciting day since they received their admission letter from medical school. If you don't know what Match Day is, it's the day the members of the M4 class (around the country) get to know and announce to their classmates and family what advance training program they have been accepted into and where they will spend the next few years in advance training. Our organization will provide food and volunteers for the pre-program reception.

A huge thank you to Bonnie Maresch (an M3 parent and active PFA Board member) for making our newsletters possible! Also thanks to the Office of Alumni Relations staff for providing administrative support and serving as our liaison to the College of Medicine.

It's has been great being a member of the PFA Advisory Council--- you get to meet other parents and stay abreast of the medical school's activities for each class. If you would like to help and be a member of the Advisory Council, please call us at 402-330-4289 or Roxanna in the Alumni Office at 402-559-4385. We only meet 4 or 5 times a year and it's more fun and less work than any other organization I have ever been involved with! We could certainly use your help for all our activities and to make sure there is ongoing continuity for your students as they progress in their medical education!

Sincerely,

Jeff and Sandy Passer
Fall 2011

2011 Upcoming Calendar of Events

Thanksgiving (M3-M4)	Nov 24
Thanksgiving (M1-M2)	Nov 24 - 25
Winter Recess (M1-M4)	Dec 17, 2011 – Jan 2, 2012

2012 Upcoming Calendar of Events

Classes Resume (M1-M4)	Jan 03
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Jan 16
Spring Recess (M1-M2)	Mar 12 – 18
Spring Recess (M3-M4)	Mar 26 – Apr 1
Match Day (M4)	Mar 16

For a full list of events, visit:
www.unmc.edu/alumni/153.htm

Find Information on the PFA Website Reminder

Use the www.unmc.edu/alumni link and click on the "Chapters" tab. "COM PFA" is the next to last link listed on the left hand side of the page that comes up.

Once you're on the COM Parents and Family page, you'll find links to the current year's Academic Calendar (and more especially the M1's and M2's Exam Schedules).

If you can't find some information that you think would be helpful to all families, please email one of the Advisory Council members and we'll try to get that posted on the web site as well.

Ruth & Bill Scott Student Plaza

The UNMC Ruth & Bill Scott Student Plaza was dedicated on September 13, 2011.



The plaza is named for the generous donors who made it possible; Omaha philanthropists Ruth & Bill Scott. The plaza features a large green space, a new public art feature entitled "Hope,"



several other pieces of public art, places for students to study and eat lunch, and also includes the UNMC ice rink.

The dedication featured music by "Scotty & The Grateful Meds,"



Warren Buffett himself passed out ice cream bars to the students,



and both the Scotts and UNMC Chancellor Harold M. Maurer, MD spoke about the significance of UNMC's new student plaza.

Thanks to the UNMC Public Relations Department for providing many of the images seen in this newsletter!

Fall Fest

While UNMC students had the opportunity to play broom ball on the UNMC ice rink last winter, this fall, students were able to compete for the "golden football" during UNMC's Fall Fest on October 14 at the student plaza.



With former college athletes on their team, the M1 team was the runner-up in the tournament!



Fall Fest also offered lunches served for \$5 on a UNMC Frisbee, free caramel corn, and hot apple cider. This is just one of many activities for students happening on campus; next up is Spirit Week held December 5-9. This year's Spirit Week will include an ugly sweater contest, the second annual broomball tournament, a campus scavenger hunt, a free week at the Center for Healthy Living, and more!

UNMC Ice Rink Season

November 28-February 28

UNMC Bookstore Offerings for the Holidays

UNMC Mom/Dad items, items for your student, and holiday ornaments are now available at the Bookstore. Check out the following link or call 402-559-4455 or 800-454-2665. Be sure to ask if they still offer their Wednesday "red bag" discount.

http://www.unmcbookstore.com/shop_product_list.asp?catalog_group_id=MO&catalog_group_name=R2VuZXJhbCBNZXJjaGFuZGlzZO&catalog_id=106&catalog_name=R2lmdHMvSW5zaWduaWE&sort=0&all=1

2011/2012 PFA Advisory Council

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name(s)</u>	<u>Stdnt Yr</u>
Co-Presidents	Jeff & Sandy Passer	2013
Vice President	Tom McKnight	2013
Secretary	Bonnie Maresch	2013
Treasurer	Duane Maresch	2013
Board Member	Tracy McKillip	2013
Board Members	Mike & Susan Westcott	2013
Board Members	Craig & Rita Osborn	2014
Board Members	Sheldon & Kim Gallner	2015

JOIN US!

Send an e-mail to Roxanna Jokela at rjokela@unmc.edu or call (402) 559-4385 to learn how you can get involved with the Parents & Family Advisory Council.

FUN FACTS:

2011/2012 School year has begun – What's going on???

What's happening in each class by now?

M1's: A brand new class of M1 students were welcomed with their families on Parents and Family Day Friday, August 19th,



followed by their impressive White Coat ceremony held this year at Joslyn Art Museum. Major photo ops! Did you know that this jacket length white coat is just the first that the student will receive? Once reaching the status of an "attending", the coat will be at about knee length.



Find links to more pictures on the PFA web page.

Demographics on M1 class - gender and geography:

Class of 2015

- 1,526 applicants, class of 130
- 41% women
- 10% increase in class size for last 2 years
- 86% Nebraska residents - others came from: Kansas, Michigan, South Dakota, Utah, Oregon, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, New York, Colorado, Arizona, & Texas
- 39 attended undergrad schools outside Nebraska
- Average entering GPA is 3.75, MCAT 30.2
- 29 undergraduate majors

The M1s already have had several of their large Saturday exams, OSCEs, and the ICE midterm was just taken. Be sure to congratulate your student for "surviving" through this first wave of studying.

M2's: M2s are back in the classroom for a second rigorous year of studying and tests. Eyes might also be already focused on trying to get a little studying started towards their Step 1 Board exam which will be taken at the end of Spring semester. "Grad school on steroids" is now a phrase well understood by these students.

M3's: The M3s won't be as visible on campus as during the previous two years. This is the beginning of their exploration of various specialties in order to make a more informed decision next year when applying to Residency programs.

Now well into their third rotation, the M3s are finally getting to put into practice, in clinics and hospitals, some of the interviewing skills and procedures that they have been studying in class. It's not unusual, for example, to learn how to do stitches on Monday and be invited to do them on a patient on Thursday!

M4's: The end is in sight, but there is no slowing of pace. The M4s are still going through more and more rotations, but are also traveling around the country applying to and interviewing for Residency programs in their chosen specialty. For some, this could be their last year in Omaha for a while, whether by choice or by necessity. **Follow-up on Class of 2011, now Residents:**

- **109** -- the number of students who matched;
- **28** -- the number of states that this year's graduating UNMC medical students will travel to for residencies;
- **72** -- the number of students who will do a first-year of primary care training; and
- **40** -- the number of students who accepted residencies in Nebraska.
- Class of 2011 Choice of Specialties:
 - Primary care – 60%
 - Hospital based – 22%
 - Surgical specialties – 14%
 - Other - 4%
- Internal Medicine Residents (100% pass rate for 13 consecutive years)