Change Blooms in April

After a long and cold winter, the warm breeze of spring air signifies big changes ahead. It felt like it was just yesterday that I first arrived at Peoria for Second Look Day, my eyes wide and full of curiosity towards the place I would soon call home. But after meeting the incredible new students of the class of 2023, I realized just how far I and my fellow classmates have come since our first arrival to UICOMP. The M2 class has been working incredibly hard to tackle the USMLE Step One exam and preparing to put that learning into practice during their clerkships. Our M3’s are starting to decide which specialties feel the most like home to them. And the M4’s have discovered their new homes for the next few years after Match Day and are preparing to move on from Peoria in pursuit of their dreams. After reflecting on all of these changes, I hope that we all continue to grow in our journeys towards becoming incredible physicians.

Anna Kolasa, M1
Upcoming Events

UICOMP Health Disparities Forum
Saturday, April 13th
8 AM – 12 PM; UICOMP
UICOMP’s 2nd Annual Health Disparities Forum, with topics including trauma-informed care awareness; homelessness, transiency and health; approaching disability and ableism; taking ownership of sexual health; multidisciplinary approaches to food insecurity; and overdose and violence prevention. More information, and the link to sign up, here: https://sites.google.com/view/2019-uicomp-health-disparities/home

Picnic at Farmdale Reservoir
Sunday, April 14th
12 PM – 3 PM; Farmdale Reservoir
Come enjoy the warm weather with us at Farmdale Reservoir. Make sure you bring your walking shoes, a dish to share, and any outdoor games you enjoy!

Retirement Reception for Dr. Sara Rusch, UICOMP Regional Dean
Monday, April 15th
5 PM – 7 PM; UICOMP Lobby
Join us in honoring Dr. Sara Rusch, whose leadership has paved the way for growth in medical education, quality healthcare, and innovative research. Click here to RSVP by April 10th or contact Kim Deets at 309-671-8613 or kdeets@uic.edu

14th Annual UHP Year End Awards Celebration
Tuesday, April 16th
6 PM – 8:30 PM; UICOMP
The UICOMP Urban Health Program presents its 14th Annual Year End Awards Celebration recognizing the outstanding achievements of Latino, African American and Native American Medical Students and Physicians. Dinner with RVSP to Janice Tamplin: Tamplin2@uic.edu

American Women Physicians in WWI
Monday, April 29th
5:30 PM and 6:45 PM; UICOMP A200-A
Showing of the Short Documentary “At Home and Over There: American Women Physicians in WW1” sponsored by the American Medical Women’s Association Student Interest Group. There will be a discussion about female physician leadership hosted by Dr. Christison in between.

UICOMP Research Day
Wednesday, May 1st
All Day, UICOMP Lobby
Come learn about all the research happening at UICOMP, as well as listen to keynote speeches on providing compassionate support and palliative care. Complete agenda here: https://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/research/uicomp-research-day/

Class of 2019 Graduation
Saturday, May 4th
2 PM; Peoria Civic Center

Riverfront Museum
Don’t forget that you have free admission to the Peoria Riverfront Museum. Take a break and enjoy the new exhibit that just opened – “10 Medical Inventions that Changed the World.” Check out their website – https://www.peoriariverfrontmuseum.org/ All you need to do is show your student ID!
UMSC Introduces New Leadership

*Peoria adds three new students to executive board*

Once a quarter, representatives from each of UIC’s four campuses -- Peoria, Rockford, Chicago, and Urbana -- gather together as the student organization University Medical Student Council (or UMSC for short) to discuss the various aspects and challenges that face medical students. This past March 9th, we gathered to discuss changes in clerkship grading; phase 2 and 3 curricular changes; introduced the new director of medical student learning environment: Dr. Tim Lacy; and elected a new executive board, with Matthew Durst from Chicago as President, and Peoria students Alex Matelski, Kyler Shin, and AJ Heaps as Vice President, Secretary, and Director of Communications, respectively. Everyone is welcome to attend future meetings, so be on the lookout for the next UMSC meeting in Summer 2019! All information discussed, as well as information regarding UMSC and its affiliated organizations can be found on there website: [https://umsc.org.uic.edu/](https://umsc.org.uic.edu/)

AJ Heaps, M3
Match Day 2019

Congratulations to our 50 amazing fourth-year medical students who discovered where they matched for residency training on March 15! Students opened their assignment letters at 11 am with friends and family at the Gateway Building, and later celebrated at The Warehouse on State. UICOMP had a very impressive match list this year, with students going into Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Internal Medicine-Pediatrics, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Pediatrics, Diagnostic Radiology, Interventional Radiology, General Surgery, and Orthopedic Surgery. Though members of the Class of 2019 are headed to 20 different states, 12 will be in Illinois and 6 here in Peoria. For the full list and more photos, please visit: https://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/match-day-2019/

Victoria Lu, M3
As big exams approach for both the M1 and M2 classes, stress and anxiety levels can tough to tackle on our own. But with the mood boosting power of mankind's best friend, we can hopefully alleviate that stress and provide a relaxing reprieve from studying. That's why on March 8th, UICOMP was greeted with the friendly and furry faces of the K9Crew therapy dogs. Students were able to play with six dogs of breeds ranging from Pomeranian to Alaskan Malamute, as well as speak with their handlers about the process of training a therapy dog. After seeing the excited and smiling faces of my fellow students with the dogs, I can tell this event was paws-itively a great success!

Anna Kolasa, M1
On March 30th, UICOMP students volunteered at Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center with Go Baby Go to help re-wire and modify toy cars for children with cerebral palsy and other mobility disabilities. In addition to improving mobility, these modified ride-on vehicles help children socialize and have fun! Toy Mercedes Benz CLA45 AMG vehicles ranging from black, red, white, and purple in color were customized and modified so that acceleration was controlled via a steering wheel button instead of the foot pedal. This enables children who cannot use their legs to operate the car independently. A safety switch for parents was also installed, just in case their speedsters get too fast and furious out on the road. Though some of the young drivers were suspicious of their new whips, they were soon happily zooming around with their peers. To learn more about Go Baby Go, please visit: https://www.yourcpf.org/cpproduct/go-baby-go-the-ultimate-toy-hack/

Victoria Lu, M3
The Leadership Certificate

The Leadership Certificate of 2018-19 is due August 2nd 2019. Please make sure to read the email from Angela Delano, Class of 2020, if you are interested in participating, and please contact her with any questions. There's still plenty of time to complete a passport!

THE LIST OF STUDENT INTEREST GROUPS AND CONTACT INFO
Click here

THE LIST OF ELECTED STUDENT LEADERS 18-19
Click here

YOUR PMSC 2018-19
* Not pictured: Ian Magruder, Austin Rim, Nam Dao, Sean Park, Angela Delano, Matt Schaeffer
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